

COVID-19 Briefing Webinar

Webinar 3 in the COVID-19 Briefing Series
September 24, 2020

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THIS MEETING WILL BE RECORDED

Please note this meeting will be recorded.

- During this meeting, you will have the opportunity to contribute or ask questions
- Questions will be gathered and sorted to avoid duplication and ensure the best response
- Although your name will not appear on the screen to attendees, producers and presenters may have access to that information
- If you have questions about the recording of this webinar, please contact HEOCLiaison@york.ca

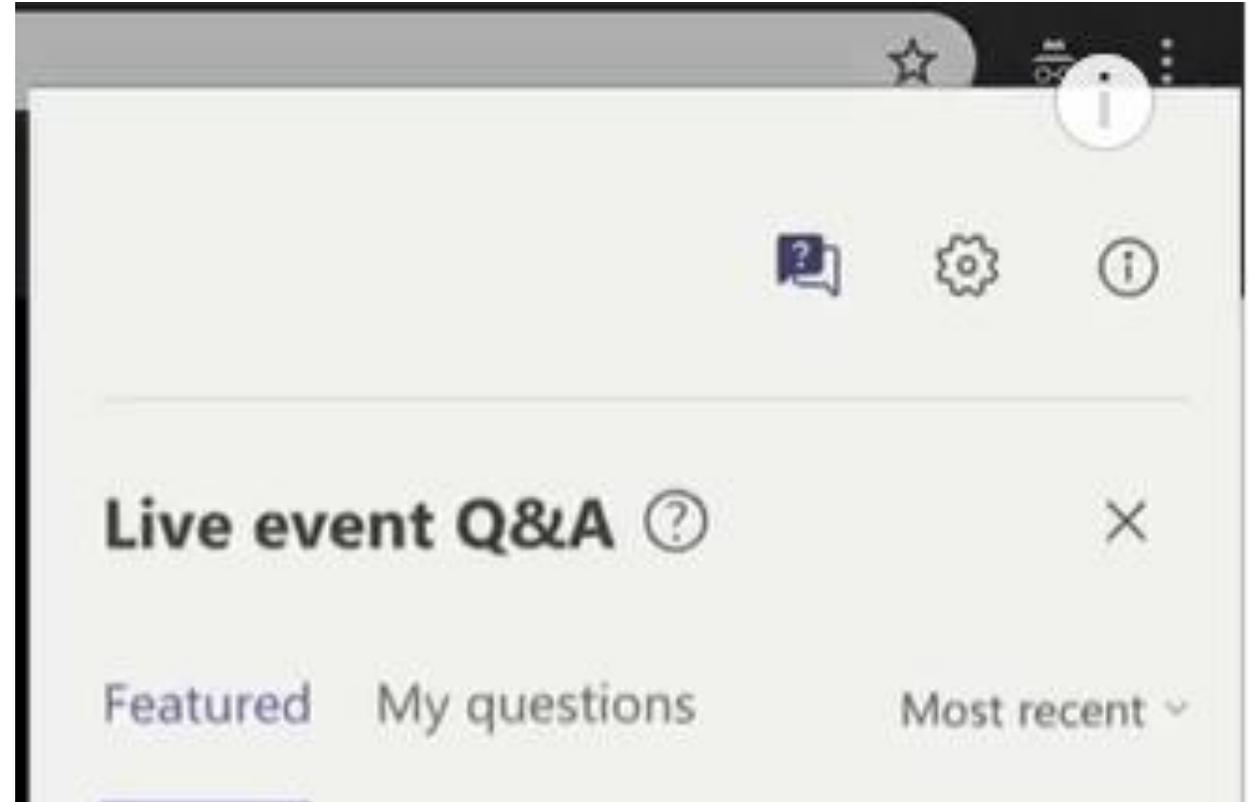
DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION?

To ask a question:

Select **Q&A** on the right side of the screen.

Type your question in the compose box, and then select **Send**.

Questions will be screened by the moderator and posed to the presenters.



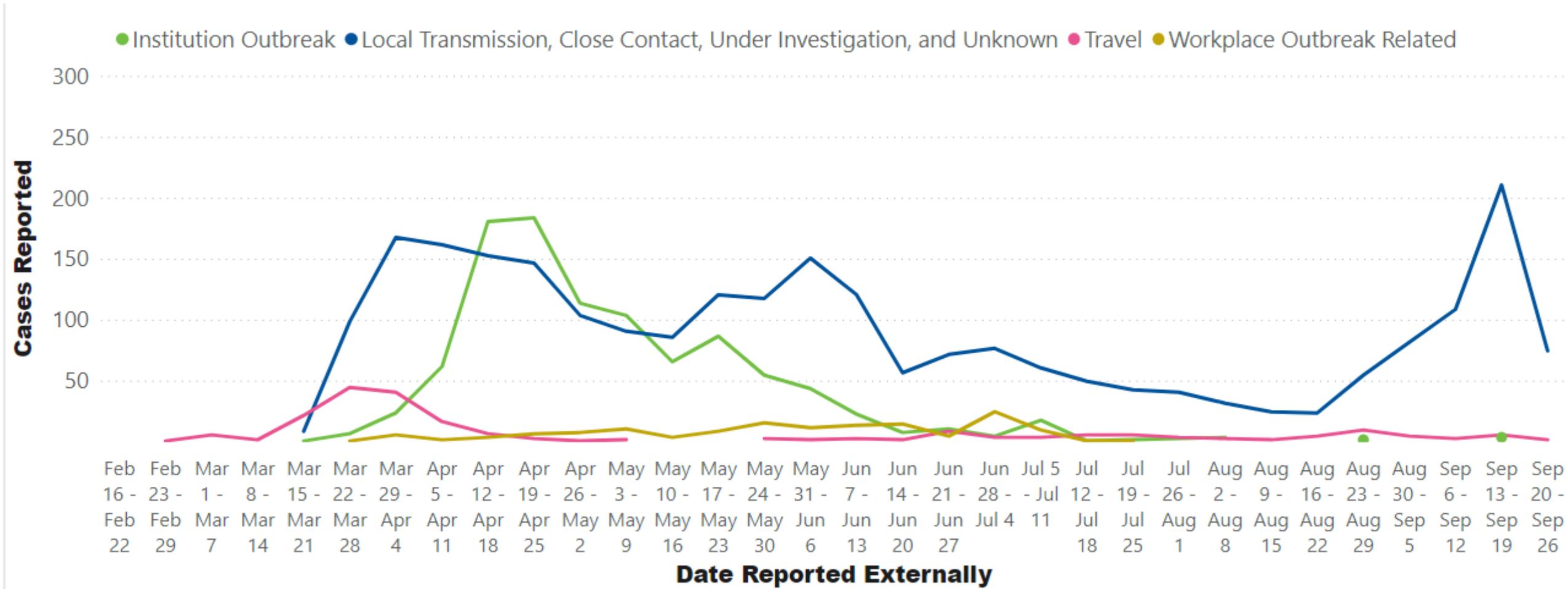
POLL RESULTS

CONTENT

1. COVID-19 epidemiological updates for York Region
2. Immunization updates and resources:
 - Influenza, Grade 7 immunizations (and Grade 8 catch up),
Immunizing during COVID-19
3. School re-opening

COVID-19 EPI UPDATES FOR YORK REGION

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF COVID-19 IN YORK REGION



Data current as of September 23 at 5:00pm

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF COVID-19 IN YORK REGION

Confirmed Ongoing Outbreaks

2

Child care Center Outbreaks

3

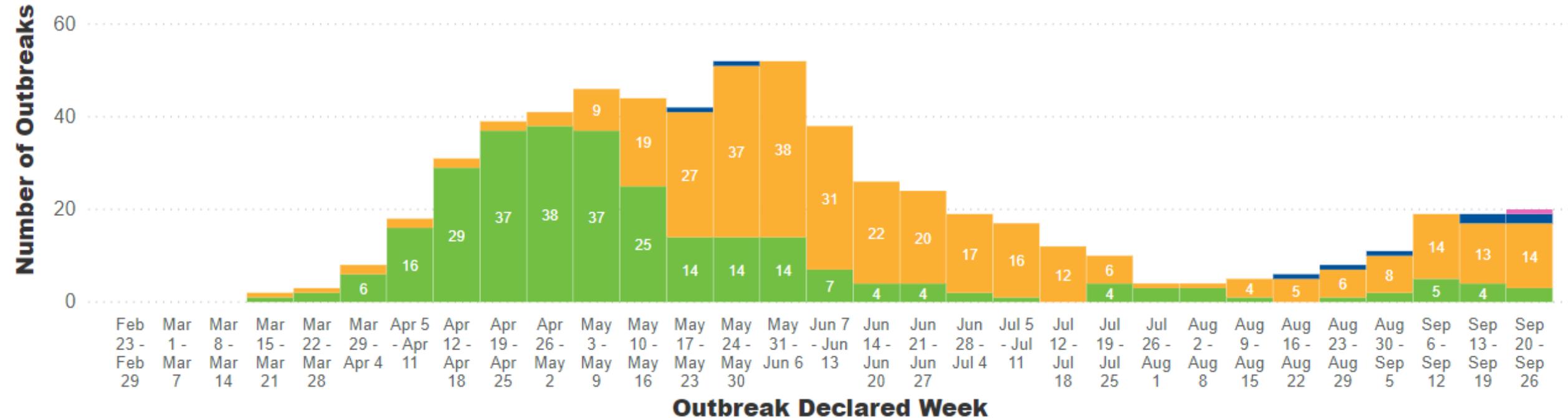
Institutional Outbreaks

1

School Outbreaks

14

Workplace Outbreaks



Data current as of September 23 at 5:00pm

IMMUNIZATION UPDATES

INFLUENZA SEASON 2020-21

- Southern Hemisphere influenza experience so far:
 - Australia – increase uptake of flu vaccine (approx. 50-60% uptake)
 - COVID-19 public health measures in place (similar to measures here)
 - Significant decline in influenza cases compared to last season
- Anticipate similar for Ontario for 2020-21 flu season
 - COVID-19 public health measures in place, reduced flu/respiratory viruses – had truncated 2019-20 flu season, increased flu vaccine demand, flu vaccination and surveillance important
 - Ontario government has ordered more flu vaccine doses; large flu vaccine campaign announced
- Flu vaccination especially important this season to:
 - Protect individuals
 - Reduce influenza illness impact on health care system
 - Decrease illness (hard to distinguish – COVID-19, flu, other resp. pathogens) - decreased need for testing if well
 - Decrease chance of co-infection in individuals and outbreaks with both viruses

INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION ON A LOCAL LEVEL

- In York Region:
 - YRPH requested from Ontario government increased flu vaccine dose allocation
 - New challenges will require innovation in our vaccine administration approach
 - YRPH works with HCPs to distribute and provide guidance on immunization
- Influenza vaccination should be offered to all eligible patients 6 months and older
- Distribution – vulnerable and high risk individuals and settings; community HCPs and practices; working to have availability of flu vaccines ASAP and through season
- Ministry – HCPs can vaccinate on demand to increase uptake and administration
- YRPH also planning to administer flu vaccine to support overall efforts to immunize

UIIP – INFLUENZA VACCINE AVAILABILITY AND ORDERING

- YRPH expects to receive influenza vaccines from the Ontario Government pharmacy (OGPMSS) and have them available to order early in October.
- YRPH will send out a communication and flu vaccine order forms to HCPs at the start of October.
- HCP flu orders are received and processed by YRPH's Vaccine Inventory team as quickly as possible. Vaccine orders are then sent to various YRPH office locations* where HCPs will then be contacted to pick up their orders.
- ****REMINDER:** YRPH's main vaccine depot moved to 17150 Yonge Street. Vaccine pick up and drop off times have changed at some locations due to COVID-19 response. See [here](#) for details.*
- Pharmacies get their flu vaccines from Ministry-contracted distributors (not YRPH)

PUBLICLY FUNDED INFLUENZA VACCINES AVAILABLE FOR 2020-21

	Quadrivalent Inactivated Vaccine (QIV) (for all adults and for children per indicated ages)			High-Dose Trivalent Inactivated Vaccine (HD-TIV) (for individuals 65+ years)
Vaccine Product	FluLaval Tetra	Fluzone® Quadrivalent	Flucelvax® Quad	Fluzone® High-Dose
Age indication	≥ 6 months	≥ 6 months	≥ 9 years	≥ 65 years
Format	Multi-dose vial	Multi-dose vial Pre-filled syringe	Pre-filled syringe	Pre-filled syringe
Influenza Strains covered	Two Influenza A Strains Two Influenza B Strains			Two Influenza A Strains One Influenza B Strain
Most common allergens	Egg protein*, Thimerosal	<u>Multi-dose vial:</u> - Egg protein*, -Thimerosal <u>Prefilled syringe:</u> - Egg protein*	Does NOT contain egg protein	Egg protein*

* Per the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI), egg allergy is not a contraindication for influenza vaccination and egg-allergic individuals may be vaccinated against influenza using the full dose of any age-appropriate product.

FluMist® (LAIV) is not part of UIIP this year; HD-TIV will also be available in pharmacies this year

IMMUNIZING DURING COVID-19

- Challenges in administering vaccines during COVID-19
- Influenza immunization clinic planning checklist to assist HCPs; can also consult with YRPH on flu shot clinic plans (email vaccineinformationline@york.ca)
- Recent HCP communication re: [Ministry of Health Guidance for Immunization Services During COVID-19](#)
- Government of Canada's [Guidance for Influenza Vaccine Delivery in Presence of COVID-19](#) – including adaptations to usual immunization procedures

GRADE 7 IMMUNIZATIONS (& GRADE 8 CATCH UP)

- Recent HCP communication re: delivery model change (no longer in-school) for this year for grade 7 immunizations (meningococcal, Hepatitis B, HPV)
- YRPH community clinics across YR municipalities to enhance grade 7 immunization opportunities for students
- Grade 7 students – and grade 8 students who missed their second dose last spring due to COVID-19 related school closures – will be able to book an appointment online at york.ca/immunizations
- School boards will be notified to disseminate program details to parents
- Eligibility period extended; see: [Ministry of Health Guidance for Immunization Services During COVID-19](#)

PROVISION OF CATCH-UP VACCINES FOR MISSED DOSES

- If vaccine dose has been delayed, immunize at the earliest appropriate opportunity; maximum protection generally not attained until complete vaccine series received
- Interruption of a vaccine series generally does not require restarting the series
- Interrupted schedules for the following vaccines are more complex: tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, polio, and Hib, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine
- Other vaccines in the [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario](#) more straightforward when providing catch up doses
- For assistance determining intervals between vaccine doses when delayed or off-schedule, consult [Ministry of Health Guidance for Immunization Services During COVID-19](#), [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario](#), YRPH

IMPORTANCE OF VACCINATIONS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Ontario's Publicly Funded Routine Immunization Schedule										
Vaccine	Age									
	2 Months	4 Months	6 Months	12 Months	15 Months	18 Months	4-6 Years	Grade 7	14-16 Years	Adults
Diphtheria ¹										
Tetanus ¹									✓	✓
Pertussis (Whooping Cough) ¹	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓
Polio ¹										
Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib)										
Pneumococcal										
• Conjugate 13	✓	✓		✓						
• Polysaccharide 23										✓ ⁸
Rotavirus (oral vaccine)	✓	✓	✓ ⁶							
Measles ¹										
Mumps ¹				✓			✓			
Rubella ¹										
Varicella (Chickenpox) ²					✓					
Meningococcal Disease: ¹										
• Type C				✓						
• Type A, C, Y, W135 ³								✓		
Hepatitis B ⁴								✓✓		
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) ⁵								✓✓(✓)		
Herpes Zoster (Shingles)										✓ ⁹
Influenza (flu) ¹⁰ – Every year in the fall; for those six months of age and older.										



IMMUNIZATION RESOURCES

Influenza and Universal Influenza Immunization Program

- [Influenza Clinic Planning Checklist](#)
- [Guidance for Influenza Vaccine Delivery in Presence of COVID-19](#)
- [Public Health Ontario – Influenza page and resources](#)
- [Public Health Ontario – Fact Sheet on Flu Vaccines for 2020-2021](#)

General Immunization

- [Ministry of Health Guidance for Immunization Services During COVID-19](#)
- [Publicly Funded Immunization Schedules for Ontario](#)

Vaccine Inventory, Storage and Handling

- [Cold Chain Maintenance Inspections Restart Notice](#)
- [Vaccine Storage and Handling Guidelines](#)
- [Vaccine Pick-up & Drop-off times by Location](#)

For more information please feel free to:

- Contact York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73452 or via email at vaccineinformationline@york.ca
- Visit our York Region Public Health websites at york.ca/vaccineinventory and york.ca/flu

SCHOOL RE-OPENING

HOW ARE WE DOING SO FAR?

Schools in COVID-19 Outbreak

An outbreak is declared in schools with two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases within a 14-day period, with at least one case which could have been acquired in the schools.

Blue Willow Public School	 1
	 1

Schools Under Surveillance

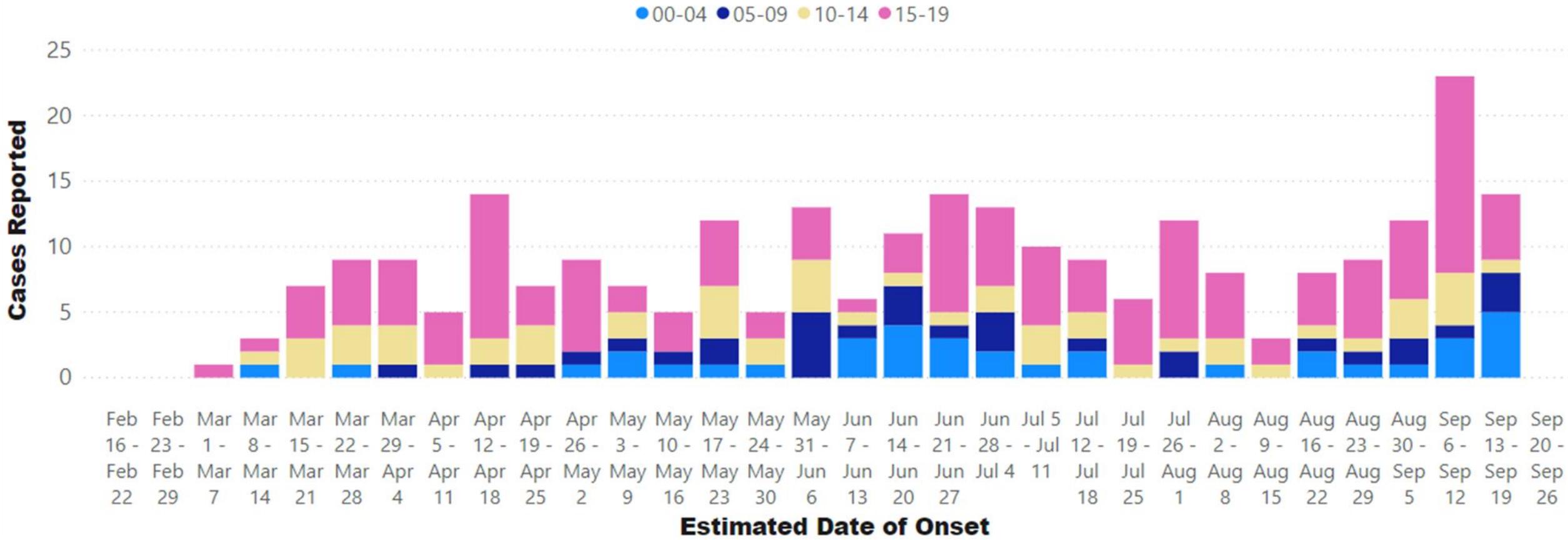
Schools with a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 case among staff, students or visitors, where there is currently no evidence of transmission within the school.

Case totals may include students or staff who reside outside of York Region, therefore the totals in this list may not match case reporting based on place of residence. One laboratory-confirmed case can be associated with multiple schools.

Carrville Mills Public School	0	 1
Dr. Roberta Bondar Public School	 1	0
J Addison Private School	 1	0
Little Rouge Public School	 1	0
Maple High School	 1	0
Our Lady of Fatima Elementary School	0	 1
Sir Wilfrid Laurier Public School	0	 1
St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Elementary School	0	 1
Tommy Douglas Secondary School	 1	0

Daily updates on cases in schools are available at:
york.ca/covid19data

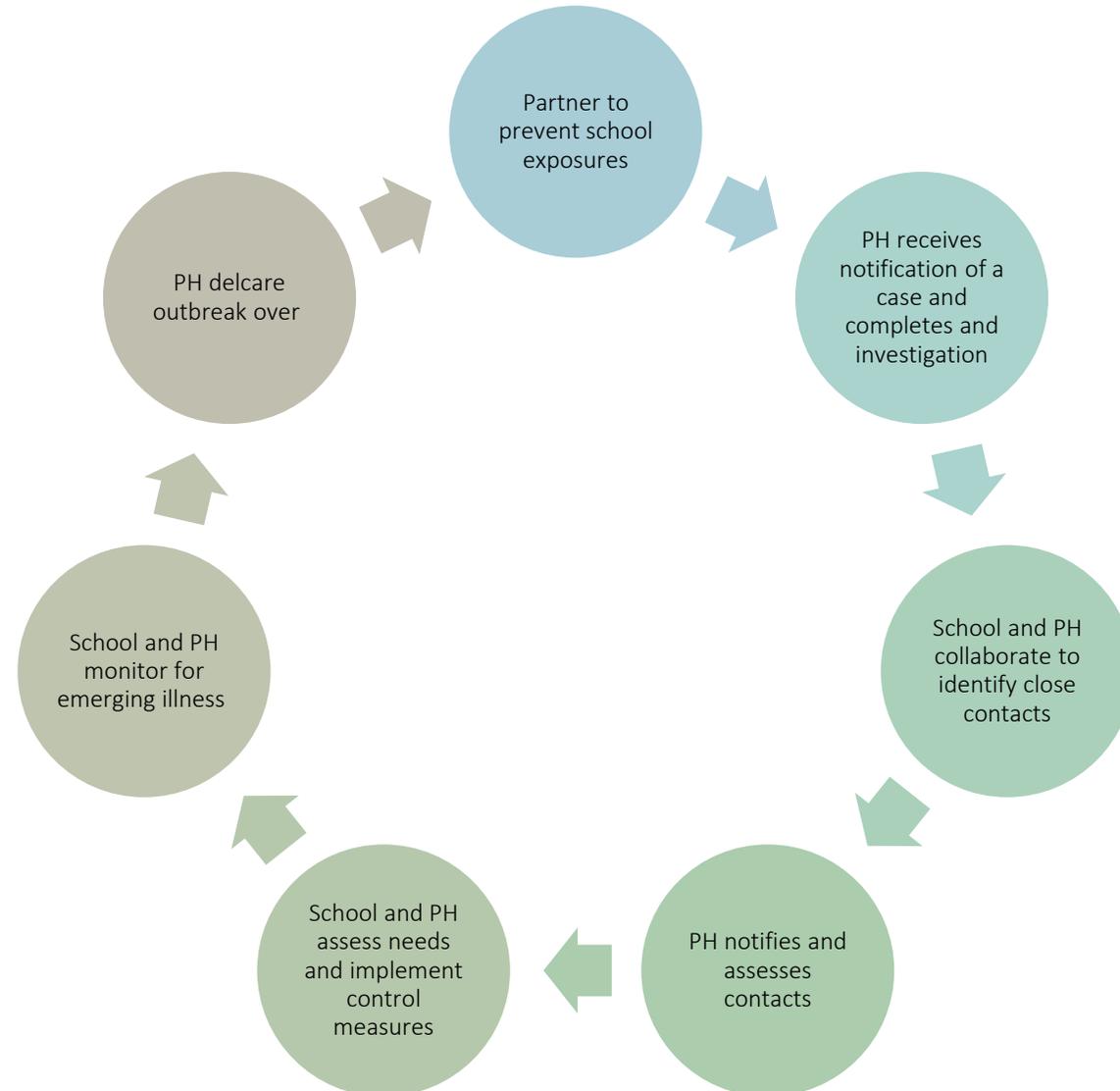
CHILDREN AND COVID-19



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

York Region Public Health	Ministry of Health	School Boards and Principals
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case and contact management• Outbreak assessment and management• Surveillance• Coordination and Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue guidance to local public health on management of cases, contact and outbreaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report suspect cases to York Region Public Health• Maintain records of staff and student attendance• In partnership with York Region Public Health, communicate proactively with the school community about COVID-19

OVERVIEW OF SCHOOL OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT



COVID SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN

Based on data from Ontario from January to July 2020, the following symptoms are most common in children:

- Asymptomatic (23.9%)
- At least one symptom (70.3%)
 - Fever, chills and/or sweats (36.4%)
 - Cough (28.4%)
 - Respiratory (7.2%)
 - Upper respiratory (29.7%)
 - Gastrointestinal (13%)
 - Headache (24.9%)
 - Neurologic (3.2%)
 - Loss of taste/smell (9.9%)
 - Cardiac (2.7%)
 - Pain and/or fatigue (17.4%)
 - Other (17.9%)

(Data Source: Public Health Ontario, iPHIS plus)

According to the [CPSP](#), there have been 10 467 reported cases of SARS-CoV-2 among children 0-19 years of age

- 149 hospitalizations (1.3% of all hospitalizations for COVID19 in Canada)
- 29 ICU admissions (1.2% of all ICU admissions for COVID-19 in Canada)
- 0 deaths

Acute COVID-19 in Canadian children is mild in severity compared to adults

BENEFITS OF CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

- School disruptions due to public health measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 have caused unintended mental health decline in many children and youth.
- Studies are increasingly showing an increase in children experiencing anxiety, depression, mood and behavioural changes, difficulty sleeping, etc. Children and youth with pre-existing mental health issues have been particularly vulnerable to worsening mental health status.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics, the Canadian Paediatric Society, and The European Academy of Pediatrics have issued statements emphasizing the importance of children and youth returning to school.
- The Hospital for SickKids has [COVID-19 Guidance for School Reopening](#)

COVID-19 SCREENING & TESTING IN SCHOOLS

Screening	Testing
Students and staff to self-screen at home before school	Symptomatic staff/students should be referred to an Assessment Centre for testing
Schools do not need to notify York Region Public Health for a failed screen or a symptomatic student	Mobile testing may be considered in an outbreak scenario
York Region Public Health will follow up with the school directly if a positive case is linked to a school or if possible exposure to staff/students	

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ROLE WITH PARENT/CHILD SELF-ASSESSMENT

CHECK YOUR CHILD DAILY FOR SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

Complete this self-assessment daily before sending your child to school, child care or before/after school care

Before sending your child to school, child care or before and after school programming, assess your child for NEW, WORSENING or UNEXPLAINED symptoms related to COVID-19. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, consult your health care provider. If your child has pre-existing symptoms or underlying health conditions, not related to COVID-19, share this information with your school, child care or before and after school programming so they are aware of possible related symptoms.

Do you/the child or any member of your household have any of the following common symptoms of COVID-19:

 FEVER (temperature of 37.8°C or greater) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 NEW OR WORSENING COUGH <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 SHORTNESS OF BREATH <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 SORE THROAT OR DIFFICULTY SWALLOWING <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
 ALTERED SMELL OR TASTE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 NAUSEA/VOMITING, DIARRHEA, ABDOMINAL PAIN <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	 RUNNY NOSE, OR NASAL CONGESTION (unrelated to seasonal allergies, post nasal drip) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Other less common symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Tiredness, feeling unwell or muscle aches | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Red/purple discolouration to hands, fingers, feet and/or toes, and skin may peel (COVID-toes) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Worsening of chronic conditions | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Increased tiredness/fatigue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Chills | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Difficulty feeding in infants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Headaches | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Croup | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Pink eye | |

*These symptoms are less common and may occur in children or people living with a developmental disability

For an up-to-date list of all symptoms, visit york.ca/covid19

In the last 14 days has your child:

- Had close contact* with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case? Yes No
- Had close contact* with a person with acute respiratory illness who has been outside Canada, including the United States? Yes No

If you answered yes to any of the symptoms or questions above:

- Stay home. Your child should not go to school, child care or before and after school programming
- Seek assessment and testing as early as possible at a COVID-19 Assessment Centre and self-isolate while waiting for result
- If test result is negative, self-isolate for 24 hours after symptom resolution, unless you have been a close contact* of an existing COVID-19 case in which case please follow instructions from York Region Public Health and isolate for 14 days since last contact
- If test result is positive or test is not completed, self-isolate for 14 days (including any members of your household or people you had close contact* with from 48 hours before symptom onset) and contact York Region Public Health

Travel

If your child has travelled outside of Canada, including the United States in the last 14 days your child must self-isolate for 14 days. If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 while in self-isolation, seek assessment and testing at a COVID-19 Assessment Centre.

*A close contact is a person who has been within 2-metres of someone positive for COVID-19 or with symptoms of COVID-19 for greater than ten minutes.

- Parents and staff must complete a self-assessment daily before attending or sending child to school
- Self-Screening tool is available at york.ca/safeatschool

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER ROLE IN TESTING

- Healthcare providers may be consulted to determine whether a symptomatic child needs to be tested for COVID-19. This determination is based on the provider's clinical judgement
- York Region Public Health recommends that individuals with COVID-19 symptoms and no known alternative diagnosis undergo testing prior to returning to school
- York Region Public Health recommends that providers have a low threshold for recommending testing for patients with symptoms consistent with COVID-19

REQUESTS FOR MEDICAL NOTES

- York Region Public Health does not require health care providers to provide notes to confirm that child has an alternate diagnosis that can explain symptoms or that COVID infection has been "ruled out"
- Health care providers could support the parent/guardian to make appropriate declarations when completing the school self-assessment and to help the parent declare that the child meets the criteria to return to school after an illness or contact with a confirmed case
- Medical notes or proof of a negative test are not required for staff or students to return to school following an illness or high-risk contact

SCHOOL NURSE PROGRAM

Dedicated school nurses assigned to publicly funded schools

- Providing support to schools and school boards with the development and implementation of COVID-19 health and safety plans
- Providing COVID-19 related support for:
 - Infection prevention and control measures;
 - Surveillance, screening and testing requirements;
 - Case and contact management; and
 - Outbreak management
- Supporting communication and engagement activities with parents and local communities, as well as the broader health care sector

KEY MESSAGES

- All symptomatic individuals should be excluded from the school environment
- If child has symptoms and tests positive OR if child has symptoms and meets the probable case definition (I.e. had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, travelled outside or Canada in the last 14 days or are connected to a setting in COVID-19 outbreak) household contacts should also self-isolate
- Public Health does not follow-up with low risk symptomatic individuals (no known exposure or recent travel)
- Health Care Providers should notify York Region Public Health of probable cases (symptoms compatible with COVID and high risk exposures)

SCHOOL RESOURCES

- [Operational Guidance: COVID-19 Management in Schools](#) (For schools)
- [COVID-19 Guidance: School Outbreak Management](#) (For public health)
- [Daily Self-Screening Checklist](#)
- [York.ca/safeatschool](#)

Q&A PERIOD

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

YORK.CA/HEALTHPROFESSIONALS

- CANCER
- COVID-19
- DENTAL
- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
- FOOD SAFETY
- HEALTH AT WORK
- HEALTH INFORMATION LINE
- HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
- Announcements and Resources
- Cannabis
- Child Growth and Development
- COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals
- Early Years Support Services Registry
- Ebola Virus Disease for Health Professionals
- E-Newsletter for Health Care Professionals
- Health Statistics and Reports
- Infectious Diseases and Outbreak Management
- Information for Dental and Healthcare Providers
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Opioids
- Quitting Smoking
- Tuberculosis
- Vaccination Information for Healthcare Professionals



Announcements and Resources

York Region provides important public health updates and offers events and resources, like the Public Health Matters newsletter, to support health care providers



COVID-19 Information for Health Professionals

York Region Public Health continues to provide support for health professionals related to COVID-19 (formerly referred to as novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV)



Cannabis

Cannabis, also known as marijuana, weed or pot, can be consumed for medical and non-medical purposes. Find out more about legalization and the health effects of cannabis use in adults and youth.



Child Growth and Development

Find tools and resources for parents to help children grow and develop. When parents know what to expect at each stage of development, it can be easier to meet their child's needs and understand their behaviour.



E-Newsletter for Health Care Professionals

Sign up to receive the quarterly Public Health Matters E-Newsletter for health care professionals.

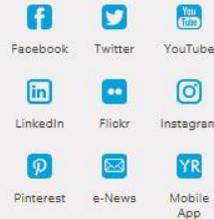


Early Years Support Services Registry

This is a resource for health, early learning and child care professionals in York Region who wish to refer a young child or their family for support services. It provides information about programs and services available including details regarding eligibility and

NEWSROOM

Connect With Us!



Campaigns & Projects



Radon: Test Your Home

You can't see, taste or smell radon but it is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Learn more about radon and the York Region study.

[More Campaigns & Projects >>](#)

Contact Us

Health Connection

EMAIL

LINKS TO BOOKMARK

- **York Region's webpage**

- york.ca/healthprofessionals → is a health care provider specific page
- york.ca/covid19data → our York Region data dashboard

- **Public Health Ontario's COVID-19 page**

- <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus> → evidence briefs, synopsis of key articles, etc.

- **Ministry of Health's webpage for health care providers, specifically**

- http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx#symptoms

REMINDER: HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PHONE & WEB RESOURCES

- If you have any questions, call the dedicated health professional COVID-19 line at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 77280 (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday)
- After hours call 905-953-6478
- Visit:
 - [York.ca/healthprofessionals](https://york.ca/healthprofessionals)
 - [York.ca/covid19](https://york.ca/covid19)
 - [Ontario.ca/covid19](https://ontario.ca/covid19)

THANK YOU

Remember to sign up to [Public Health Matters](#) for:

- Today's slides
- Follow up FAQs and
- Future webinar information

