

COVID-19: Update for TDSB Trustees

January 18, 2022



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- Spreads more easily than previous variants
- Each infection can spread to 3 to 4 more people compared to Delta
- Less severe illness compared to Delta, but can still cause serious illness – especially in unvaccinated, or vulnerable
- Children 5-17 - lower risk of disease, hospitalization; further reduced by vaccination

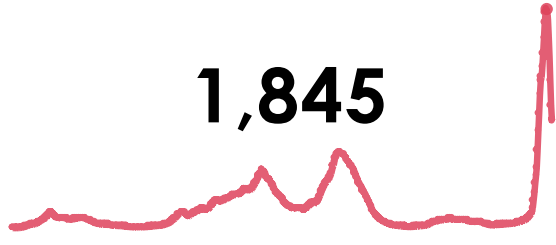
[Early Dynamics of Omicron in Ontario \(publichealthontario.ca\)](https://publichealthontario.ca)

Monitoring dashboard – Jan 12*, 2021

Virus Spread and Containment

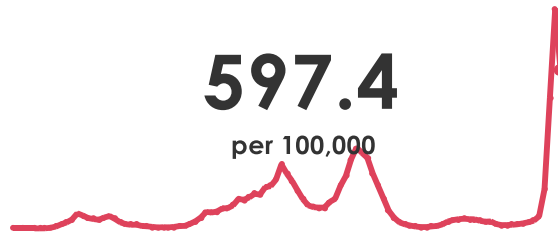
New COVID-19 cases, 7 day moving average¹

1,845



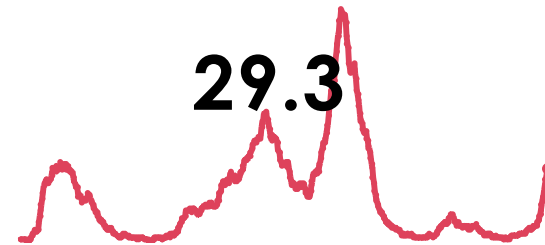
New COVID-19 cases, weekly incidence rate¹

597.4
per 100,000



New Hospitalizations, 7 day moving average¹

29.3



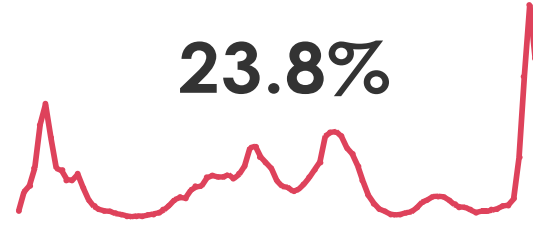
Active daily COVID-19 outbreaks in institutions¹

234



COVID-19 Laboratory Tests Percent Positivity, previous week average³

23.8%



Vaccination coverage 12+ (at least one dose)⁵

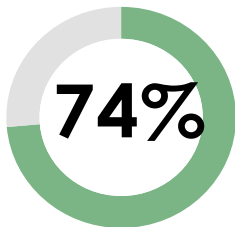
89.6%



Health System Capacity

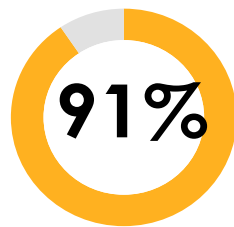
ICU bed occupancy rate⁴

74%



Acute bed occupancy rate⁴

91%



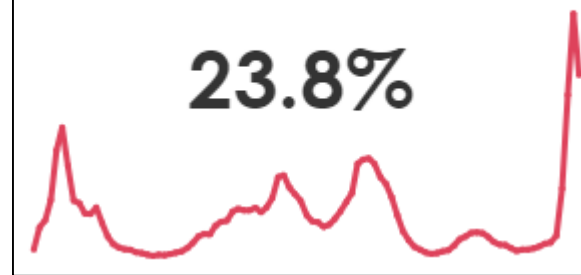
COVID-19 related critical illness (ICU) occupancy rate⁴

19.5%



COVID-19 Laboratory Tests Percent Positivity, previous week average³

23.8%

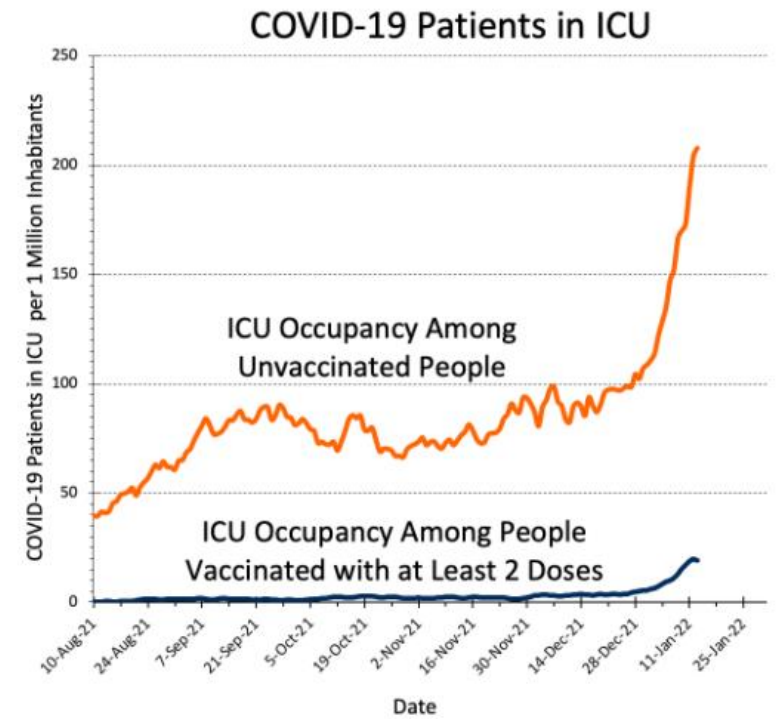
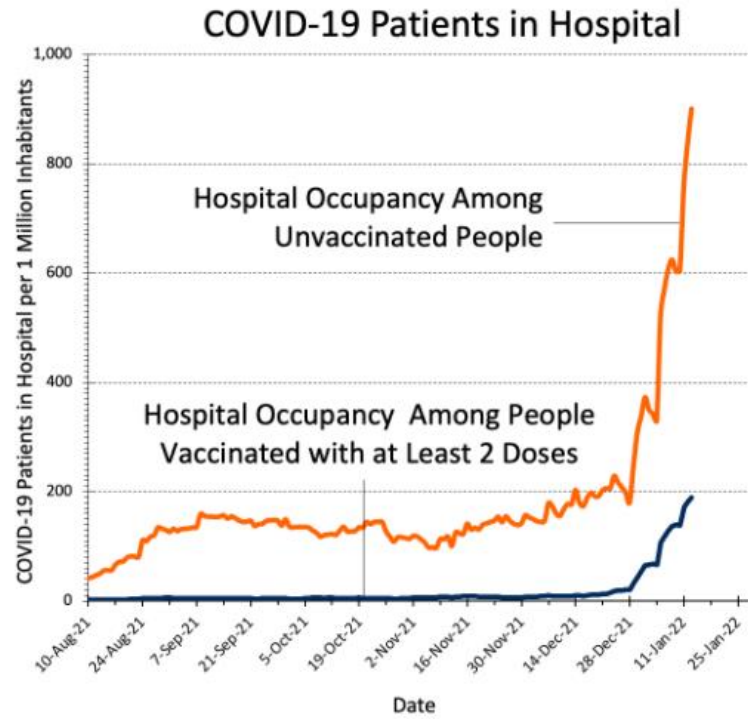
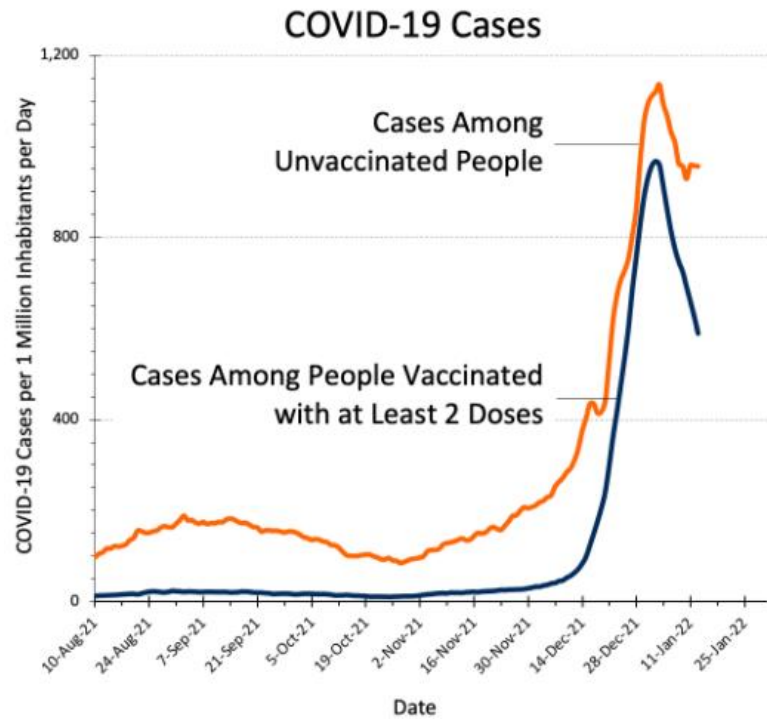


Due to changes in eligibility for testing driven by increasing COVID-19 cases related to the Omicron variant, case counts are an underestimate of the true number of individuals with COVID-19 in Toronto. Changes in trends should be interpreted with caution.

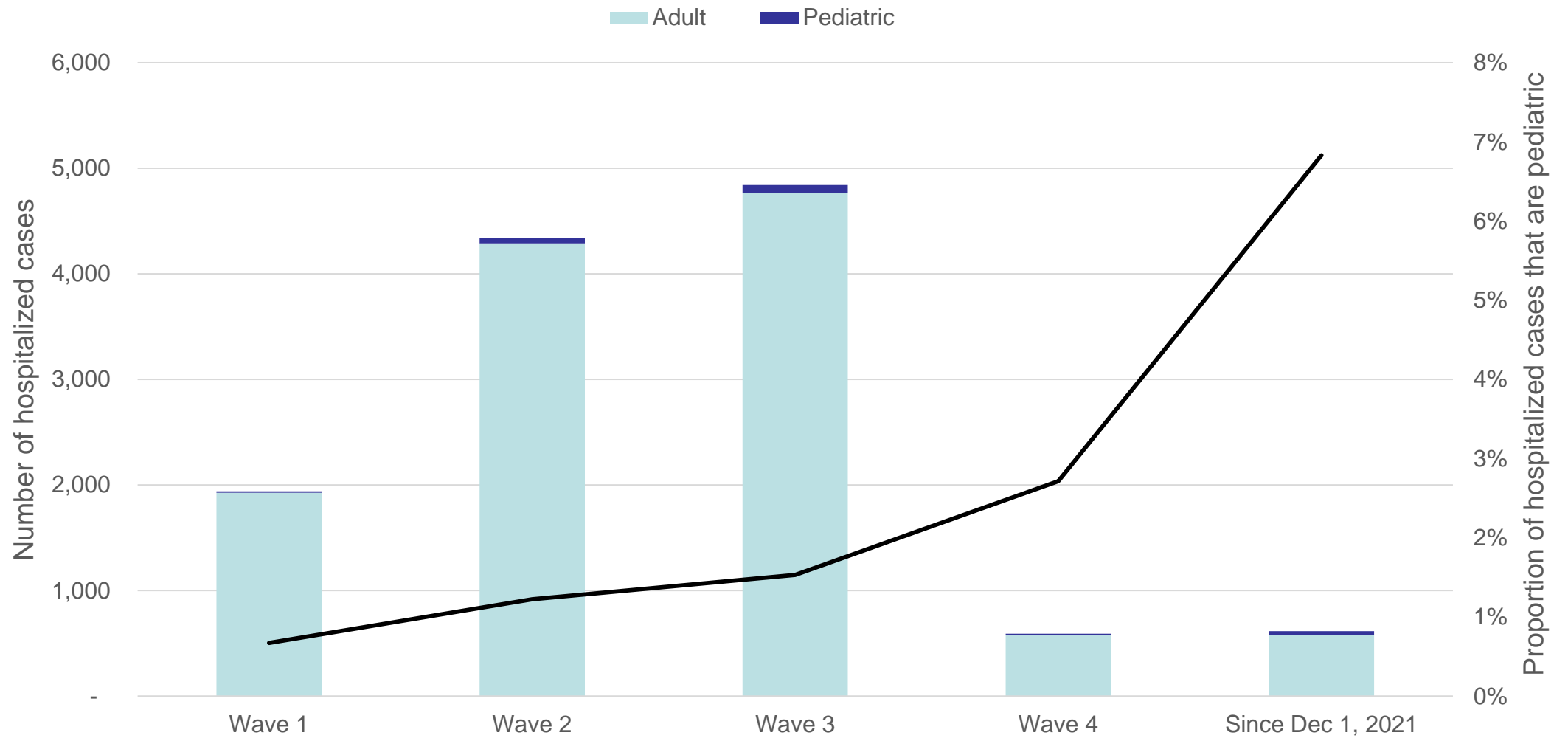
- Hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and outbreaks continue to rise
- While early evidence suggests Omicron is less severe than Delta, it can still result in serious health outcomes
- A third dose is effective in reducing the risks related to infection, hospitalization, and death from Omicron



COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and ICU occupancy by vaccine status



While the number remains low, the proportion of all hospitalized cases that are pediatric has increased



TPH role under changing Provincial COVID-19 school and child care guidance

Local Public Health Role	Fall 2021 Provincial Guidance	Winter 2022 Provincial Guidance
Liaison Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided recommendations, education and advice on infection prevention and control and measures to prevent and mitigate COVID-19 transmission • Answered questions and provided resources to schools, Directors of Education and School Board members 	Continue previous activities
Vaccine Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided vaccine education to school communities • Promoted school based vaccine clinics 	Continue and enhance previous activities
Vaccine Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered mobile school-based vaccine clinics focussed on 12-17 year population 	Continue and enhance delivery of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile school-based vaccine clinics for school community and expand focus on students to 5-17 year population
Case, Contact and Outbreak Management	Based on testing resources in Fall 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated COVID-19 cases, conducted contact and outbreak management 	Based on testing resources in Winter 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited role for case, contact and outbreak management by local public health in school • Support and provide guidance to schools and school boards if the absenteeism > 30 per cent above baseline.

COVID-19 Screening :

Children / Students/Staff (child care / JK-12 school setting)



Updated tool(s)

- TPH Child/Student and Staff/Visitor Screening tools
- Same symptoms & questions on both tools

STOP COVID-19 Screening for children/students
Please complete before entering the child care/JK-12 school setting.
Updated January 10, 2022

1. A) Does the child/student or anyone in the household have 1 or more of these new or worsening symptoms, today, or in the last 5 or 10 days*?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Fever > 37.8°C and/or chills	Cough	Difficulty breathing	Decrease or loss of taste/smell

B) Does the child/student or anyone in the household have 2 or more of these new or worsening symptoms today, or in the last 5 or 10 days*?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Sore throat	Headache	Feeling very tired	Runny nose/nasal congestion	Muscle aches/joint pain	Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

- If the symptom is from a known health condition that gives them the symptom, select "No". If the symptom is new, different or getting worse, select "Yes".
- If there is mild tiredness, sore muscles or joints within 48 hours after a COVID-19 vaccine, select "No". If longer than 48 hours, select "Yes."
- Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.

If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate. Your household including siblings must self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status.

② If child/student has one symptom from Part B stay home until symptoms improve for at least 24 hours or 48 hours if nausea/vomiting/diarrhea.

2. Has the student/child or anyone in the household had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 5 or 10 days*, or has the student/child been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes
No

If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.

3. In the last 10 days has the student/child been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, or received a COVID Alert notification? Yes
No

- If the person is not a household member AND the student/child is fully vaccinated** or public health has told you that you do not need to self-isolate, select "No"

If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.

4. In the last 14 days, has the student/child travelled outside of Canada? Yes
No

If "YES": Follow federal quarantine [travel rules](#).

*Use 5 days: If the person is fully vaccinated or 11 years or younger. Use 10 days: If they are 12 years or older and not fully vaccinated; or immune compromised.
** Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine series, or as defined by the Ontario Ministry of Health.

TORONTO.CA/COVID19

STOP COVID-19 Screening
for staff/visitors/adult learners at child care & school settings
Updated January 11, 2022

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

1. A) Do you or anyone in your household have any of the following new or worsening symptoms today or in the last 5 or 10 days*?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Fever > 37.8°C and/or chills	Cough	Difficulty breathing	Decrease or loss of taste/smell

B) Do you or anyone in your household have 2 or more of these new or worsening symptoms today or in the last 5 or 10 days*?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Sore throat	Headache	Feeling very tired	Runny nose/nasal congestion	Muscle aches/joint pain	Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

- If the symptom is from a known health condition that gives them the symptom, select "No". If the symptom is new, different or getting worse, select "Yes".
- If there is mild tiredness, sore muscles or joints within 48 hours after a COVID-19 vaccine, select "No". If longer than 48 hours, select "Yes."
- Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.

If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate. Your household must self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status.

② If staff/visitor has one symptom from Part B stay home until symptoms improve for at least 24 hours or 48 hours if nausea/vomiting/diarrhea.

2. Have you or anyone in your household tested positive for COVID-19 today or in the last 5 or 10 days* or have been told to stay home and self-isolate? Yes
No

If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.

3. In the last 10 days have you been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, or received a COVID Alert notification? Yes
No

- If the person does not live with you AND you are fully vaccinated** or public health has told you that you do not need to self-isolate, select "No"

If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.

4. In the last 14 days, have you travelled outside of Canada? Yes
No

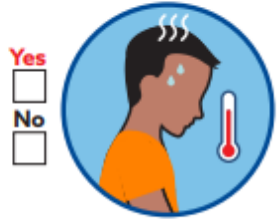
If "YES": Follow federal quarantine [travel rules](#).

*If the person is fully vaccinated or 11 years or younger use 5 days. If they are 12 years or older AND not fully vaccinated or immune compromised, use 10 days.
** Fully vaccinated means 14 days or more after a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine series, or as defined by the Ontario Ministry of Health.

TORONTO.CA/COVID19

SYMPTOMS on the COVID-19 School Screening tool

1. A) Does the child/student or anyone in the household have 1 or more of these new or worsening symptoms, today, or in the last 5 or 10 days*?



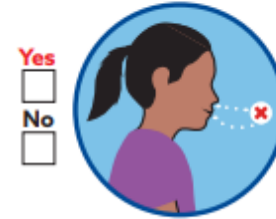
Fever > 37.8°C and/or chills



Cough



Difficulty breathing



Decrease or loss of taste/smell

B) Does the child/student or anyone in the household have 2 or more of these new or worsening symptoms today, or in the last 5 or 10 days*?



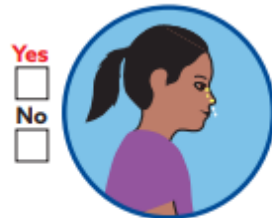
Sore throat



Headache



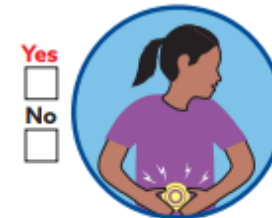
Feeling very tired



Runny nose/
nasal congestion



Muscle aches/
joint pain



Nausea, vomiting
or diarrhea

- If the symptom is from a known health condition that gives them the symptom, select "No". If the symptom is new, different or getting worse, select "Yes".
- If there is mild tiredness, sore muscles or joints within 48 hours after a COVID-19 vaccine, select "No". If longer than 48 hours, select "Yes."
- Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed.



If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.



Your household including siblings must self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status.



If child/student has one symptom from Part B stay home until symptoms improve for at least 24 hours or 48 hours if nausea/vomiting/diarrhea.

- **Use 5 days:** If the person is fully vaccinated or 11 years or younger.
- **Use 10 days:** If they are 12 years or older and not fully vaccinated; or immune compromised.

2. Has the student/child or anyone in the household had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 5 or 10 days*, or has the student/child been told to stay home and self-isolate?

Yes

No



If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.

3. In the last 10 days has the student/child been notified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, or received a COVID Alert notification?

Yes

No

- If the person is not a household member AND the student/child is fully vaccinated ** or public health has told you that you do not need to self-isolate, select "No"



If "YES": Stay home & self-isolate.

4. In the last 14 days, has the student/child travelled outside of Canada?

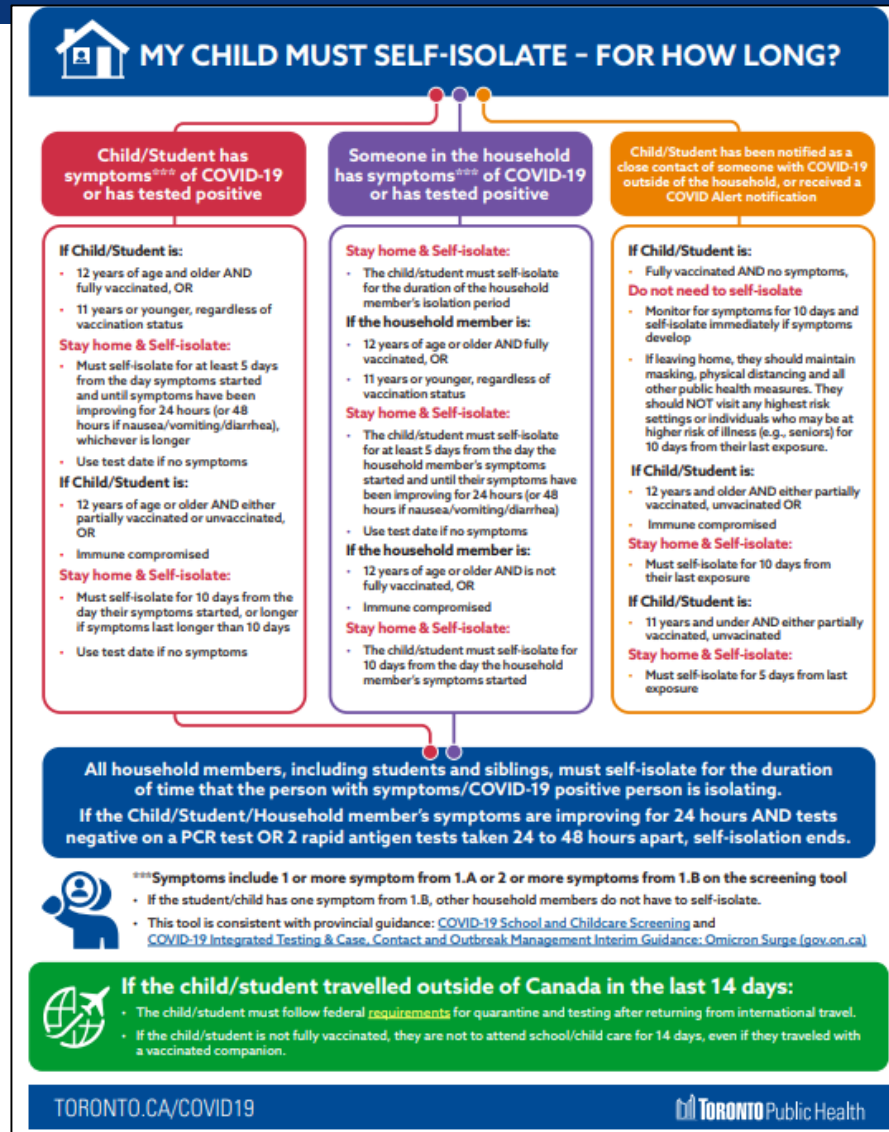
Yes

No



If "YES": Follow federal quarantine [travel rules](#).

See page 2 of the TPH COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire for what to do next



Everyone in the household must stay home and self-isolate if the student/staff or another member of the home has:

- Symptoms of COVID-19 or
- A positive PCR test or
- A positive rapid antigen test

How long to self-isolate if symptoms or COVID-19 positive

**Omicron Surge
Guidance**

If the student/staff has symptom(s) they will have to self-isolate for:

- ❑ **5 days:** If they are 12 years of age and older and fully vaccinated; or 11 years or younger regardless of vaccination status
- ❑ **10 days:** If they are 12 years or older and not fully vaccinated; or immune compromised.

- ❖ **All household members must self-isolate for the same** amount of time as the person who is symptomatic/COVID-19 positive. This includes siblings.

The student/staff who has symptoms/COVID-19 positive can return to school:

When symptoms are **improving** for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if nausea/vomiting/diarrhea) AND:

- They complete the required self-isolation time, OR
- They have a negative PCR test, OR
- They have two negative rapid antigen tests 24 to 48 hours apart

A close contact in the community is anyone who the person with symptoms/COVID-19 positive:

- Spent at least 15 minutes of time with outside of the classroom/school AND
- Where the contact was within two meters for at least 15 minutes, or multiple shorter lengths of time.

Contact occurred in the 48 hours before the symptoms began (or the positive test result) or while had symptoms.

e.g. at an indoor gathering, playdate, indoor activity

Person with symptoms/covid-19 positive:

- is to notify **all close contacts in the community**

Classroom cohorts – not considered close contacts

- Based on the new provincial guidance, being in the same classroom cohort is not considered a close contact because preventive and protective measures are in place.
- Continue to monitor for symptoms every day and can attend school as long as they don't have symptoms/test positive for COVID-19.

Student/Staff School Decision Guide to Assist School Administrators

**Updated and
Combined into One**

HTML: <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-reopening-recovery-rebuild/covid-19-reopening-guidelines-for-businesses-organizations/covid-19-guidance-elementary-secondary-schools/?accordion=school-student-staff-decision-guide>

PDF: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/9858-COVID-19-Decision-Guide-for-Schools.pdf>

French version coming Soon! Will be posted [here](#)

COVID-19 Decision Tool for School Students, Staff, and Visitors

For elementary and secondary school (JK-Grade 12) students and staff
Version 4.3. Updated January 14, 2021

Please note: that the terms *listed in the definition below* are referred to in this document. Their definitions for the purpose of this document are listed below and should only be interpreted exactly as defined.

Definitions:

- **Fully vaccinated:** [Fully vaccinated](#) means 14 days or more after getting a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine series or as defined by the [Ontario Ministry of Health](#).
- **Symptoms:** The [daily screening tool](#) lists ten symptoms to screen for each day. The symptoms are: fever/chills, cough, difficulty breathing, decrease or loss of taste or smell, sore throat, runny nose/nasal congestion, headache, feeling very tired, muscle aches/joint pain, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea.
- **Positive for COVID-19:** for the purposes of daily screening, an individual is considered to be positive for COVID-19 if they have received a positive COVID-19 result (eg. PCR, rapid antigen) or if they have symptoms of COVID-19.
- **[5 or 10] days:** For the screening questions below, if the student/staff is fully vaccinated OR 11 years old or younger, use 5 days. If the student/staff is 12 years of age or older and not fully vaccinated OR if they are immune compromised, use 10 days.
- **Close contact:** Means being in close proximity (less than 2 meters) with someone who tested positive or has symptoms of COVID-19, for at least 15 minutes or for multiple short periods of time without appropriate measures as masking and use of personal protective equipment. Being in the same classroom cohort is not considered close contact.

COVID-19 symptom screening:

All [students](#) and [staff](#) must complete a self-screening questionnaire before going to school each day. Students/staff with a chronic health issue that is medically diagnosed and unrelated to COVID-19, should look for **new, different or worsening symptoms**.

A) Does the student/staff or anyone in the household have 1 or more of these new or worsening symptoms, today, or in the last [5 or 10] days on the symptom screener?



Fever >37.8°C and/or chills



Cough



Difficulty breathing



Decrease or loss of taste or smell

B) Does the student/staff or anyone in the household have 2 or more of these new or worsening symptoms today, or in the last [5 or 10] days on the symptom screener?



Sore throat



Headache



Feeling very tired



Runny nose/nasal congestion



Muscle aches joint pain

We continue to update and post resources on our:

[COVID-19 JK-12 School Webpage.](#)

Check back often

COVID-19 Guidance: Elementary & Secondary Schools

Last updated: January 14, 2022 at 4:47 p.m.

Resources for this page are currently being updated and will be posted as they become available.

Expand All +

Collapse All -

- School Screening Tools +
- School Student & Staff Decision Guide +
- TPH Contact List & How to Report a Positive Case +
- Student Nutrition Programs +
- Liaison Public Health Nurses +
- Information for Parents +
- COVID-19 & Oral Health +
- COVID-19 Vaccines +

TPH School Liaison Public Health Nurses:

A team of TPH school liaison public health nurses will be contacting schools soon to provide dedicated support to schools to help implement public health and prevention measures, including:

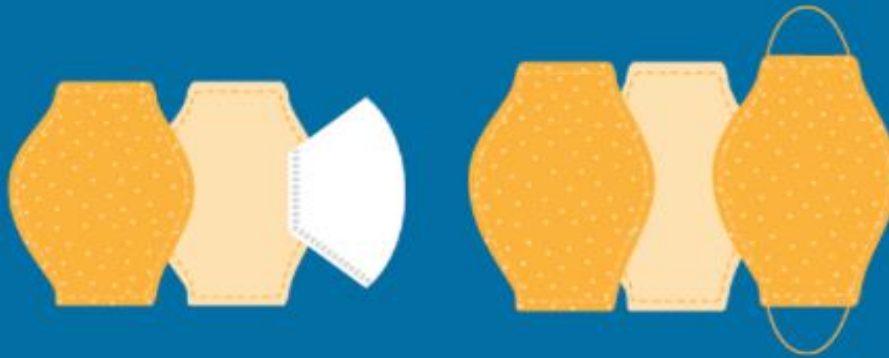
- Assessing and consulting with schools as it relates to COVID-19 prevention measures;
- Providing resources and supports to school staff, parents/caregivers on COVID-19 prevention and vaccination, and mental health & well-being promotion; and
- Assisting school communities in navigating TPH COVID-19 supports and services

Choose a high quality mask that fits well



Snug fit, breathable
& comfortable

At least 3 layers of
tightly woven fabric,
or 2 layers with a filter



Consider a medical mask
or respirator for even
better protection

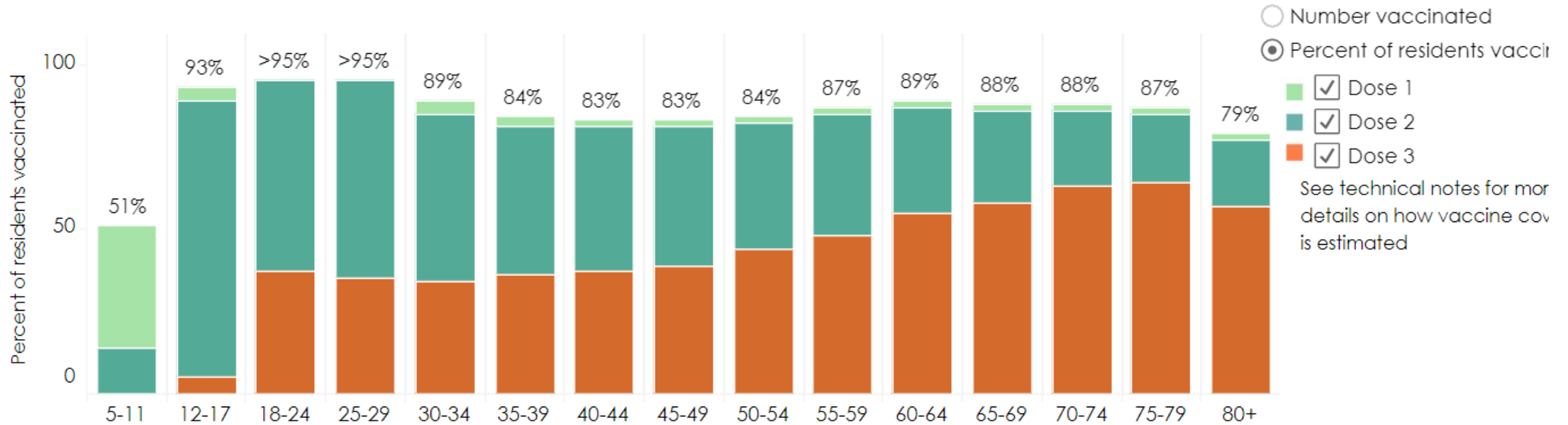


Change it when it
gets wet or dirty

Always wear a mask indoors, and outdoors if you can't keep a physical distance.

51% of Toronto residents 5-11 years old have received their first dose

Vaccination by age group Data as of: Jan 17 2022 8:00 am



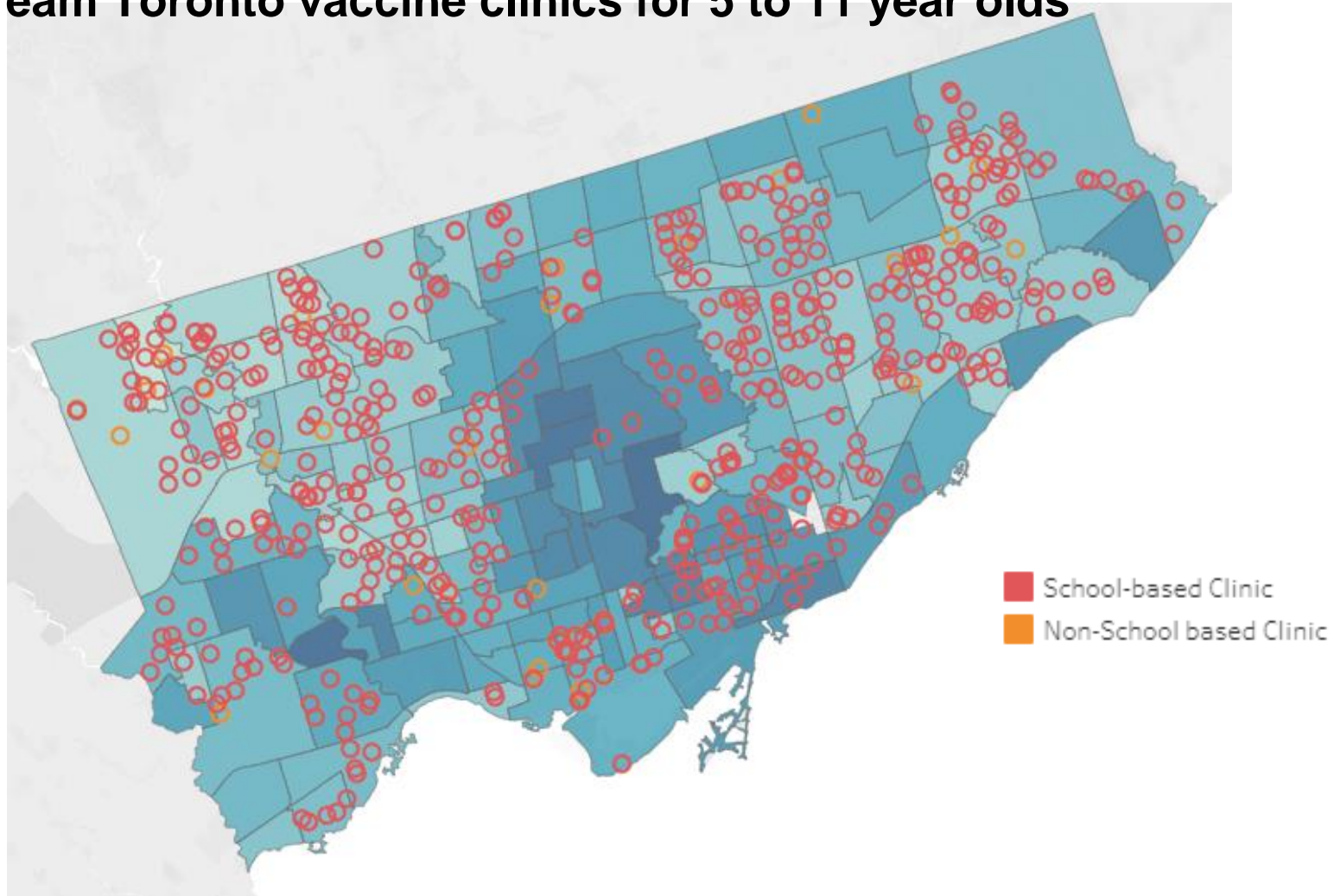
51% of Toronto residents 5-11 years old have received their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine, with a large disparity by neighbourhood emerging

- Since mid-December 2021, TPH and partners have worked to rapidly expand the number of vaccination appointments and walk-ins available at MICs, pop-ups, mobile clinics, pharmacies and physicians.
- Team Toronto is working to ensure equitable vaccine access for communities that are most disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and bringing vaccines to where people live, work, and learn through:
 - hyper-local vaccination clinics,
 - school-based clinics,
 - dedicated appointments and clinics for focused neighbourhoods,
 - special event vaccination clinics, and
 - extensive community-based outreach

- Toronto Public Health and its partners continue focused efforts to vaccinate 5-17 year olds
- Over 250 school based clinics delivered since November
- Pop-up and mobile clinics in neighbourhoods with low vaccine coverage among children and youth

Team Toronto clinics for 5-11 year olds focused in areas with lowest vaccination rates

Locations of Team Toronto vaccine clinics for 5 to 11 year olds



Posters that can be used in schools



Let's get **T.O. KIDS**
VACCINATED

Protect your loved ones.
Get the COVID-19 vaccine for 5-11 year olds.

[Find out more](#)

 TORONTO toronto.ca/COVID19



Let's get **T.O. KIDS**
VACCINATED

COVID-19 vaccine now available for 5-11 year olds

 TORONTO toronto.ca/COVID19



Let's get **T.O. KIDS**
VACCINATED

COVID-19 vaccine now available for 5-11 year olds

 TORONTO toronto.ca/COVID19



Let's get **T.O. KIDS**
VACCINATED

COVID-19 vaccine now available for ages 5-11

[Learn More](#)

 TORONTO

- ❖ Toronto Public Health survey for parents/guardians of children between the ages of 5 to 11 years to gain a better understanding of:
 - Parents' intent to vaccinate their children and
 - How/where they would prefer to have their children receive their COVID-19 vaccine

- ❖ Between **October 28, 2021 and November 7, 2021**
- ❖ Open online survey link emailed by school boards and schools to parents/guardians.
- ❖ No personal information was collected and all responses were confidential.
- ❖ The survey was available in 12 languages.

- ❖ Two-thirds of the respondents were either certain (56%) or somewhat certain (10%) to have their children vaccinated against COVID-19.
- ❖ 15% were vaccine hesitant (either somewhat unlikely or unsure/undecided)
- ❖ 19% were opposed to their children being vaccinated.

For those hesitant or opposed, the top three reasons were:

- 1) worried about long-term effects of vaccines
- 2) worried about children experiencing side-effects from vaccines
- 3) think vaccines were developed and approved too quickly.

- ❖ Preferred vaccination location: family doctor's office, child's school (during school hours & after school hours)
- ❖ 62% were comfortable with child being vaccinated with a signed consent form, at their school, by a medical professional and overseen by school staff.

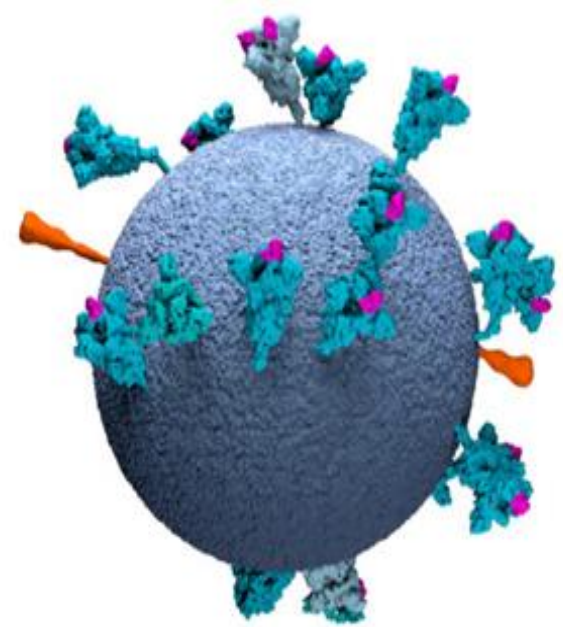
Go to the TPH Website: To view [survey results](#)

- Vaccines protect against hospitalization and severe illness, but 2 doses are not enough against getting infected with Omicron.
- Vaccine effectiveness of booster dose can be seen as early as 7 days post vaccination.
- All adults, aged 18+ are now eligible to book booster dose 84 days after their second dose.
- No booster dose recommendations for 5 to 17 year olds.

What is a booster and how does it work?

A booster dose:

- Is another dose of vaccine that helps to increase protection that may have decreased over time.
- Re-teaches our immune system to make antibodies that protect us – it boosts the immune system
- Helps protect against getting & spreading Omicron



Moderna boosters in 30+ year olds



Similar & interchangeable to Pfizer & approved as a booster



Can provide longer lasting antibodies & may be more effective than Pfizer



Boosters provide better protection from the Omicron variant



Boosters are available at City clinics, hospital or mobile clinics, pharmacies and some doctors' offices



Ontario Education and Child Care Staff Vaccine Appointments

Click to book appointment times exclusive
for Education and Child Care Staff

[Book Now](#)

[BOOKING LINK](#)

I am fully vaccinated and got COVID-19, do I still need a booster?

- Yes, natural immunity may not last very long
- People who have gotten COVID-19 before are getting re-infected with Omicron.
- Wait until self-isolation is completed and your symptoms have gone away to get the vaccine
- Getting a booster is the best way boost natural immunity and stay protected

Thank You!



Merci

**Thank for working to help keep
schools as safe as possible.**