

## COVID-19 Update for Partners

May 5, 2021

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### Key messages from Dr. Gardner, Medical Officer of Health

There is no media briefing scheduled for the week of May 3, 2021. Dr. Gardner's next media briefing will take place on Tuesday, May 11. Previous media briefings are on the SMDHU [Facebook](#) page and [YouTube](#) channel.

### Simcoe Muskoka COVID-19 Case Status *(As of May 5, 2021 14:00)*

Total Cases	Active Cases	Recovered	Deaths
10,773	1,381	8,680	230

#### In the last day:

- 75 people tested positive, 205 people recovered, and there were 4 new deaths.
- There were 59 new variant cases\* identified.

#### Currently:

- There have been 186 new cases reported to the health unit for the current week.
- 38 Simcoe Muskoka residents are hospitalized with COVID-19.
- There are 1,040 active variant cases\*.
- There are 17 ongoing outbreaks (workplaces: 9, congregate settings: 3, institutions: 3, community settings: 1, educational settings: 1), including 11 active outbreaks with known variant cases.

#### Since the last Partner Update:

- We have reported 532 new cases, 444 recoveries, and 7 new deaths.
- There are 47 more active cases compared to the same day last week.
- There are 3 fewer active outbreaks compared to the same day last week.
- During the week of April 25, there were 548 new cases reported to the health unit, which was 14% lower than the 638 cases reported the week prior.

For more local data, see: SMDHU [COVID-19 HealthSTATS page](#), [COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard](#), [Provincial COVID-19 Response Framework – Status of Simcoe Muskoka](#)

\*Variant cases encompass confirmed VOC cases and positive screens for a VOC. Caution should be taken when interpreting these data due to potential sampling biases and delay between sample collection and sequencing in recent weeks.

## Simcoe Muskoka COVID-19 Vaccine Data *(As of May 5, 2021 14:00)*

Total first doses administered	Total second doses administered
206,252	20,581

### Highlights:

- 26,752 immunizations have been provided since the last Partner Update.
- Over 206,200 people have received their first dose, representing 33.1% of the population in Simcoe Muskoka. This includes:
  - 25,891 adults 80 years of age and older (87%);
  - 45,035 adults 70-79 years of age (82%);
  - 25,636 adults 65-69 years of age (66%).
- Over 32,800 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine have been administered by primary care settings and pharmacies in Simcoe Muskoka.
- Nearly 20,600 people have received both required doses of the vaccine, representing 3.3% of the population in Simcoe Muskoka.

## Local Media Updates *(Since April 28, 2021 Partner Update)*

- Health unit starts standby list for leftover vaccine doses ([article](#))
- ICU, ventilator bed capacity nearing limit in Simcoe Muskoka, health unit says ([article](#))
- 22 people from Simcoe Muskoka have died at home with COVID-19 ([article](#))
- Barrie woman who spent time in ICU calls COVID deniers 'infuriating' ([article](#))
- Forced to find new location, Barrie anti-lockdown protest attracts smaller crowd ([article](#))
- ICU staff at Barrie hospital stretched thin more than a year into pandemic ([article](#))
- Committee recommends having employer-run vaccine clinics in Bradford ([article](#))
- More than 90,000 swab tests, 53,000 vaccines given at Sperling Dr. site ([article](#))
- Anti-lockdown group marches in Collingwood ([article](#))
- Hospital visitor restrictions difficult on patients, families, health-care providers ([article](#))

## Provincial, National and Global COVID-19 Case Status

Ontario <i>(As of May 5, 2021, 10:30)</i>			
Total cases	Active Cases	Recovered	Deaths
479,633	34,976	436,470	8,187

### As of today:

- There were 2,941 new cases, 4,361 resolved cases, and 44 deaths in the last day.
- There is a total of 80,511 confirmed cases of the U.K. variant, 317 cases of the South African variant, and 1,001 cases of the Brazilian variant.
- A total of 2,075 people are hospitalized for COVID-19, 882 people are in intensive care units (ICU) and 620 people are on ventilators.
- There are 728 ongoing outbreaks (workplaces: 255, schools and childcares: 161, health care settings: 108, other settings: 105, congregate living: 99).

### Since the last Partner Update:

- There have been 24,027 new cases, 27,705 recoveries, and 199 deaths.
- There are 3,877 fewer active cases compared to the same day last week.
- There are 206 fewer people hospitalized, 5 more people in the ICU, and 15 more people on ventilators compared to the same day last week.
- The 7-day average number of new daily cases is 3,432.

Vaccine status:

- A total of 5,599,723 vaccine doses have been administered to date, with 132,603 doses administered yesterday. 381,123 people in Ontario have been fully vaccinated.

Regional updates:

- Areas with the highest number of active cases per 100,000 population: Peel (580.28), Toronto (433.96), Niagara (281.54), Durham (266.62), and York (252.63).
- Areas with the highest number of active cases: Toronto (11,854), Peel (8,018), York (2,804), Ottawa (1,867), and Durham (1,722).

Weekly Epidemiological Summary highlights: April 18-24, 2021:

- During the week of April 18, there were 27,736 cases reported, representing a 10.2% decrease compared to the week prior. Cases decreased across all age groups.
- While most health unit regions saw a decrease in cases compared to the previous week, the North West region saw a 48.9% increase in cases.

For more provincial data, see: [Ontario COVID-19 case data](#), [Public Health Ontario Data Tool](#), [Daily Epidemiologic Summaries](#) and [Weekly Epidemiologic Summaries](#)

Canada (As of May 4, 2021 at 19:00 EDT)			
Total Cases	Active Cases	Recovered	Deaths
1,249,950	82,700	1,142,854	24,396

Yesterday:

- Canada reported 6,689 new cases and 56 deaths.
- New cases were reported in all provinces and territories except YT.
- New deaths were reported in BC, AB, SK, MB, ON, QC, and NS.

Since the last Partner Update:

- In the last week, 54,961 people tested positive for COVID-19, 331 people died, and 56,243 people recovered.
- There are 1,613 fewer active cases of COVID-19 than there was a week ago.

Between April 19 and April 26, 2021:

- The number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized decreased from 3,205 to 3,182.
- The number of COVID-19 patients in ICU beds increased from 1,215 to 1,365.
- The number of COVID-19 patients mechanically vented increased from 747 to 788.

Weekly epidemiology update: April 18-24, 2021:

- New cases decreased by 5% compared to the previous week, with an average of 8,279 new cases reported every day.
- New deaths increased by 17% compared to the previous week, with an average of 49 deaths reported every day.
- The number of weekly hospitalizations and ICU admissions continued to increase, with an 18% increase in hospitalized cases and a 19% increase in ICU admissions compared to the week prior.
- Daily case rates remain highest among those 20-39 years of age and lowest among those 80 years and older.
- According to forecasting, between 1,260,540 to 1,305,380 cumulative reported cases and 24,450 to 25,200 deaths are expected by May 9, 2021.

Key vaccine updates as of April 24, 2021:

- 29.31% of the population has received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, including: 88.06% of adults aged 80 or older and 84.34% of adults 70-79 years of age.
- 2.55% of population have received both required doses of the vaccine.

For more national data, see: [Daily epidemiology updates](#) and [Weekly epidemiology report](#)

<b>Global</b> (As of May 5, 2021 at 12:18 CET)	
<b>Confirmed Cases</b>	<b>Confirmed Deaths</b>
153,738,171	3,217,281
<u>In the last day:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There were 632,531 new cases and 10,713 deaths.</li><li>• India, Turkey, Brazil, Iran, and Argentina reported the most new cases and India, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, and Turkey reported the most deaths.</li></ul> <u>In the past week:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Over 5.6 million new cases and 92,376 deaths were reported.</li><li>• India, Brazil, the U.S., Turkey, and France reported the most new cases and India, Brazil, the U.S., Colombia, and Argentina reported the most new deaths.</li></ul> <u>Highlights from Weekly Epidemiological Summary as of May 2, 2021:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For the second consecutive week, the number of global cases remains at the highest level since the beginning of the pandemic, with over 5.7 million weekly cases reported.</li><li>• The number of reported new deaths increased for the seventh consecutive week, with over 93,000 deaths reported.</li><li>• India accounted for 46% of global cases and 25% of global deaths reported this week.</li></ul> <p>For more international data, see: <a href="#">WHO COVID-19 Disease Dashboard</a> and <a href="#">Weekly Epidemiological and Operational Updates</a></p>	

## Provincial, National and Global Updates *(Since April 28, 2021 Partner Update)*

### **Provincial Updates**

The Ontario Government:

- Launches mobile vaccine units in hot spot workplaces ([news release](#))
- Responds to high vaccination rates, modifies restrictions in long-term care ([news release](#))
- Unveils plan to keep schools safe and support learning recovery, renewal ([news release](#))
- Expands COVID-19 vaccination booking for more people ([news release](#))
- 40 per cent of Ontario adults have received at least one vaccine dose ([statement](#))
- Is donating critical lifesaving medical equipment to India ([statement](#))
- Prepares to accelerate rollout as vaccine supply increases ([news release](#))
- To introduce paid COVID-19 leave ([news release](#))

Public Health Ontario published:

- Updated: Trends of COVID-19 Incidence in Ontario ([surveillance report](#))
- Updated: COVID-19 Regional Incidence and Time to Case Notification ([epi summary](#))
- Updated: COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake in Ontario ([surveillance report](#))

Other Provincial News:

- ON to offer remote learning next year, no details on return to class this spring ([article](#))
- Outdoor recreational facilities to stay closed until cases drop: Minister ([article](#))

- Court tosses lawsuit alleging Ontario's vaccine rollout was discriminatory ([article](#))
- Ford ramps up campaign to tighten COVID border controls despite low numbers ([article](#))
- Ontario may shorten interval between vax doses as more supply expected ([article](#))
- Thousands book vaccine appointments within hours of expanded eligibility ([article](#))
- Health Minister says Ontario is now unlikely to have to resort to triage protocol ([article](#))
- Ontario failed to act on surveys of LTC homes ahead of deadly second wave ([article](#))
- Educators worry about absences as challenges persist for parents, students ([article](#))
- Don't let your guard down after first vaccine dose, Toronto's top doctor warns ([article](#))
- Case counts are 'cresting' but ICU numbers will remain high for some time ([article](#))
- Ford's paid sick leave unanimously passed despite concerns of inadequacy ([article](#))
- Group of Ontario police officers launch charter challenge of pandemic restrictions ([article](#))
- Ontario to expand COVID-19 vaccine eligibility to all adults by end of May ([article](#))
- Province not developing mass screening tool for COVID variant devastating India ([article](#))

### ***National Updates***

#### The Government of Canada:

- Is sending medical supplies to support COVID-19 response in India ([news release](#))
- Health Canada authorizes use of Pfizer vaccine in children 12 to 15 years old ([statement](#))
- Health Canada on Janssen COVID-19 vaccines and Emergent Biosolutions ([statement](#))
- COVID-19 update for Indigenous Peoples and communities ([news release](#))
- Funds two new projects to encourage vaccine uptake in Canada ([news release](#))
- Statements from the Chief Public Health Officer: [April 29](#), [May 1](#), [May 2](#), [May 3](#), [May 5](#)

#### Other National News:

- 'Preferred vaccines' messaging from federal panel sparks concern, criticism ([article](#))
- Trudeau seeks to dispel advisory council's vaccine concerns ([article](#))
- Alberta reports country's second known death due to AstraZeneca vaccine ([article](#))
- We probably won't reach herd immunity any time soon, but it's OK, experts say ([article](#))
- Canada working on standardized vaccine certification for international travel ([article](#))
- J&J vaccine recommended for Canadians 30+ despite risk of rare blood clots ([article](#))
- Relatively few cases reported after receiving first vaccine dose, data show ([article](#))
- More than 500 air passengers fined for defying hotel quarantine rules ([article](#))
- AB releases emergency triage plan for health care system amid surge in cases ([article](#))
- Quebec and Ontario to make COVID vaccinations available for all adults in May ([article](#))
- Guidance for what Canadians can, and can't do after vaccines coming 'shortly' ([article](#))
- Even in hot spots, newcomers to Canada are missing out on COVID-19 vaccines ([article](#))
- Hundreds of travellers to Canada test positive for COVID-19 variants ([article](#))
- Doctors team up with Ryan Reynolds, other celebs to tackle vaccine hesitancy ([article](#))

### ***Global Updates***

#### The World Health Organization (WHO):

- WHO, Germany launch new hub for pandemic and epidemic intelligence ([news release](#))
- Calls for better hand hygiene and other infection control practices ([news release](#))
- Special Focus: Update on SARS-CoV-2 variants ([Weekly epidemiological update p.7-9](#))
- WHO, UN Global Pulse build radio tool to aid COVID infodemic response ([news release](#))
- Director General highlights that "More cases of COVID-19 have been reported globally in the past two weeks than during the first six months of the pandemic... What is happening in India and Brazil could happen elsewhere unless we all take these public health precautions WHO has been calling for since the beginning... Vaccines are part of the answer, but they are not the only answer." ([Remarks at May 3 media briefing](#))
- Addressing gender barriers in COVID-19 vaccine rollout ([departmental news](#))
- Lists Moderna vaccine for emergency use ([news release](#))

#### Other International News:

- Opposition chief calls for national lockdown as India's cases cross 20 million ([article](#))
- One dose of Pfizer still leaves recipients vulnerable to variants: U.K. study ([article](#))
- India launches effort to inoculate all adults against COVID-19 ([article](#))
- Moderna to provide up to 500M doses of its vaccine to COVAX initiative ([article](#))
- Biden sets new goal of vaccinating 70 percent of adult Americans by July 4 ([article](#))
- COVID-19 pandemic accelerating, WHO Americas office warns ([article](#))

### **SMDHU Resources**

#### **SMDHU [website](#) – recent changes include:**

##### **Main COVID-19**

- Posted [Class Order for Grace Baptist Church](#) under '[Class Orders and Letters of Instruction](#)' expander bar

##### **Getting your Vaccination**

- Added new expander bar: '[COVID-19 vaccine standby list for those who are eligible](#)'
- Updated age eligibility to reflect that [those who are turning 55 or older](#) are now eligible
- Updated [hot spot eligibility](#) to reflect that anyone turning 18 or older living anywhere in Bradford West Gwillimbury and/or in the L3Z postal code area is now eligible to book
- Moved those in the [high-risk health condition category](#) to the list of groups who can book an appointment directly via the provincial system
- Updated main content to reflect that pre-registration is no longer required
- Updated list of groups that will soon become eligible and anticipated dates of eligibility

##### **After your appointment**

- Created new webpage with information on rare side effects of the vaccines, how to report an adverse event, and other things to know after getting vaccinated

##### **Learn more about vaccines**

- Created new webpage to house information about COVID-19 vaccines

##### **Operating your Business Safely**

- Updated main content to reflect the extension of the stay-at-home order and provincial shutdown measures
- Added new expander bar with information on how businesses can order and donate [personal protective equipment](#)
- Posted revised [FAQ document](#) for [licensed child care settings](#)

##### **Enforcement**

- Added three new charges issued to the 'Summary of Enforcement Actions' table

#### **New Public Health Alerts:**

- **April 28, 2021:** [COVID-19 Vaccine: Update #18: Licensed Child Care Staff Eligible for Vaccine and Hot Spot Eligibility Update](#)
- **April 30, 2021:** [COVID-19 Vaccine: Update #19: Vaccine Eligibility Update](#)
- **May 3, 2021:** [COVID-19 Vaccine: Update #20: Vaccine Eligibility Update](#)

#### **Additional SMDHU resources:**

- SMDHU [COVID-19 HealthSTATS page](#)
- [SMDHU Vulnerable Populations for COVID-19 Response Interactive Map](#) highlights vulnerable populations in Simcoe Muskoka.

- SMDHU Health Connection responds to calls and emails about COVID-19. Contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 ext. 5829 or via [email](#).  
**Health Connection Hours:** Monday-Friday - 8:30am-6pm; Saturday - 8:30am-4:30pm

### Credible Sources of Information

- [Ontario Ministry of Health](#)
- [Public Health Ontario](#)
- [Centre for Effective Practice COVID-19 Resource Centre](#)
- [Government of Canada](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)