

Response to COVID-19: September 2021 Update

Presentation to the Board of Health

September 27, 2021



This presentation includes:

1. Status of COVID-19 Epidemic in Toronto
2. Update on Team Toronto Vaccination Campaign
3. Update on Vaccination Policy
4. Update on Safer Reopening in Schools

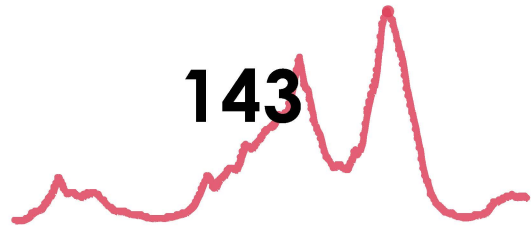


Status of COVID-19 Epidemic in Toronto

Monitoring dashboard

Virus Spread and Containment

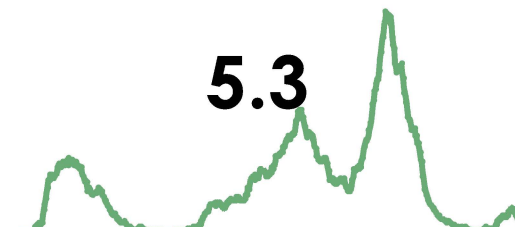
New COVID-19 cases, 7 day moving average¹



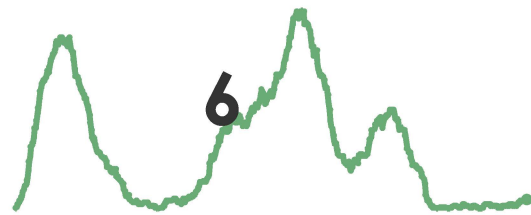
New COVID-19 cases, weekly incidence rate¹



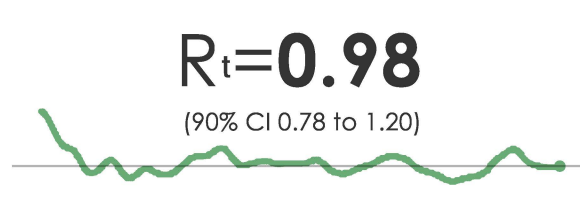
New Hospitalizations, 7 day moving average¹



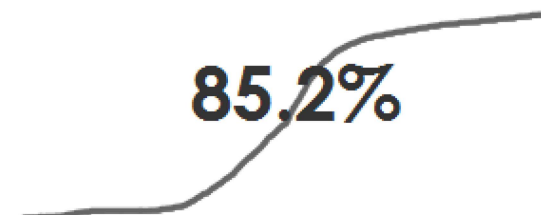
Active daily COVID-19 outbreaks in institutions¹



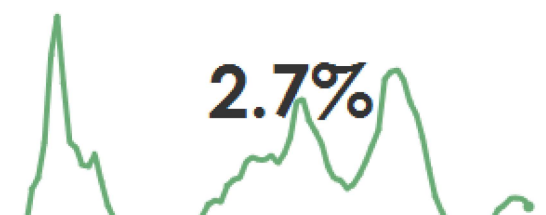
Effective reproductive number, COVID-19 cases²



Vaccination coverage 12+ (at least one dose)⁵

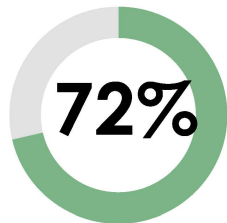


COVID-19 Laboratory Tests Percent Positivity, previous week average³

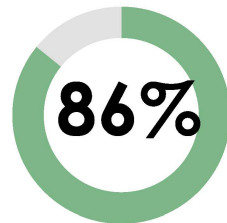


Health System Capacity

ICU bed occupancy rate⁴



Acute bed occupancy rate⁴



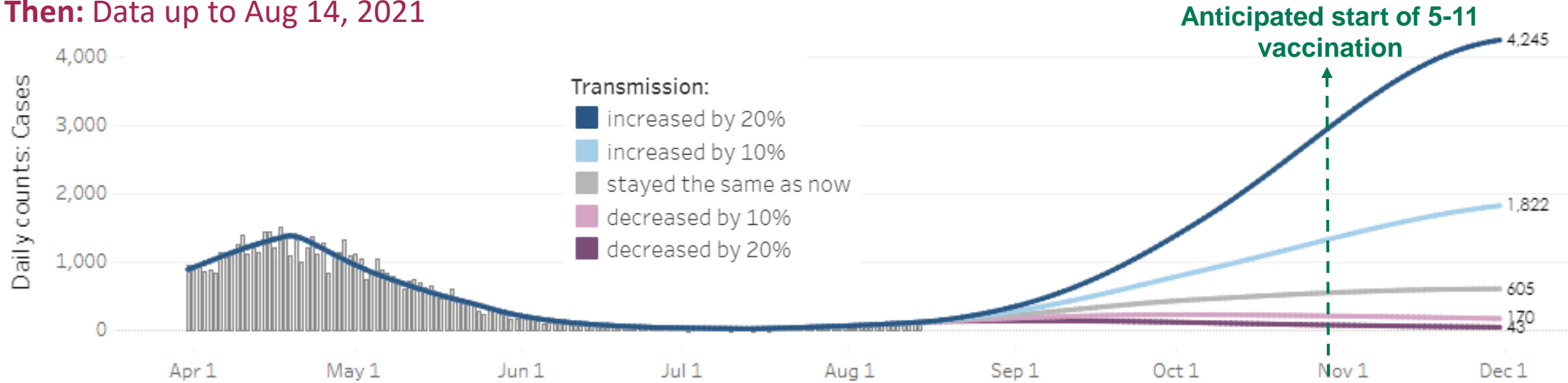
COVID-19 related critical illness (ICU) occupancy rate⁴



* **Notes:** 1) Data as of September 21, 2021 2) Rt calculated by date of infection using confirmed case data from August 1, 2020 to September 19, 2021 3) Data as of: Week ending September 18, 2021 4) Data as of September 19, 2021 5) Data as of: Sep 23 2021 6) Data for May, 2021

Longer-term projections: Cases – then and now

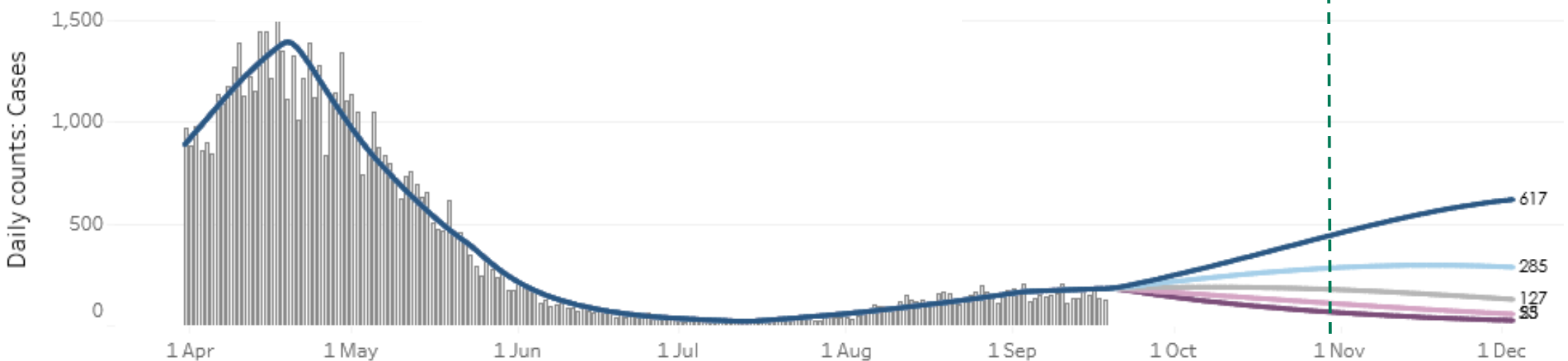
Then: Data up to Aug 14, 2021



If transmission stays the same (grey line) then:

~600 daily cases by beginning of December

Now: Data up to Sep 18, 2021



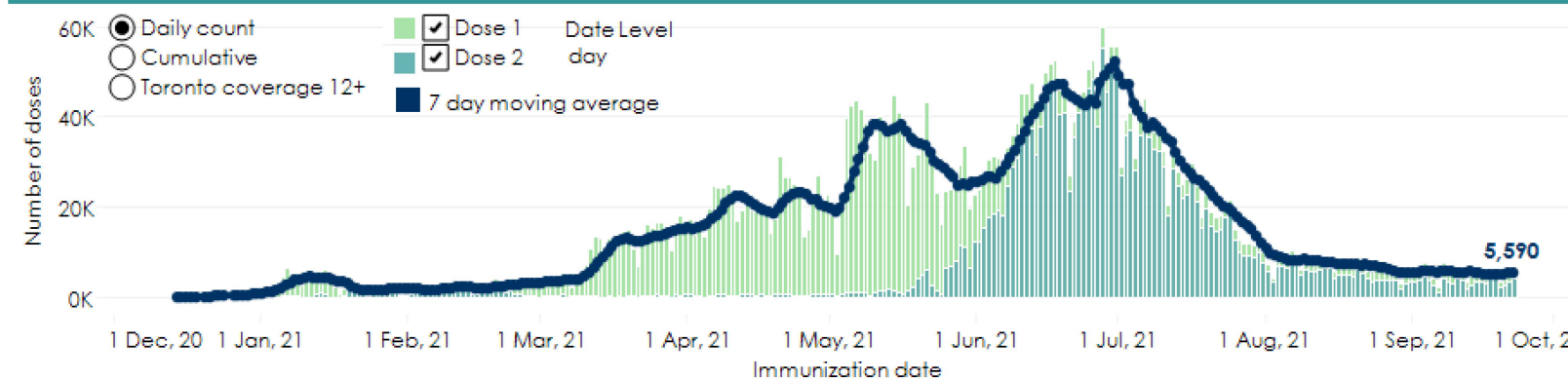
NOW, if transmission stays the same (grey line) then:

~130 daily cases by beginning of December

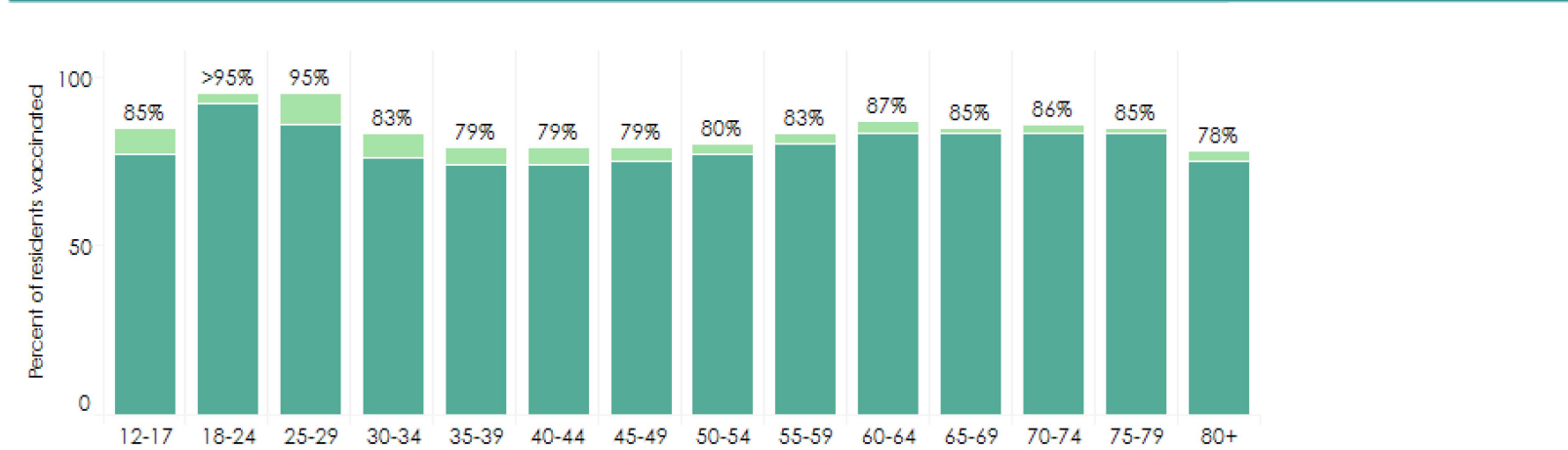
Vaccination status: Toronto residents

<p>Share of Toronto residents vaccinated</p> <p>75.7% initiated vaccination*</p> <p>70.8% completed vaccination</p>	<p>Share of Toronto residents 12+ vaccinated</p> <p>85.2% initiated vaccination*</p> <p>79.7% completed vaccination</p>
---	---

Doses administered over time: Daily count Data as of: Sep 23 2021 8:00 am



Vaccination by age group Data as of: Sep 23 2021 8:00 am



Data sources:
CoVAXON: Vaccine administration,
as of September 23, 2021

Making progress towards 90% fully vaccinated (of the eligible 12+ population)

August 28, 2021

360,000 people to be vaccinated to reach 90% of the eligible population.

Of these, **170,000** already had one dose.

September 23, 2021

278,000 people to be vaccinated to reach 90% of the eligible population.

Of these, **147,000** already had one dose.



Update on Team Toronto Vaccination Campaign

Team Toronto Vaccine Strategy

- Team Toronto continues to adjust its Vaccine Rollout Strategy and is focusing on maximizing access to vaccines through a new hyper-local vaccination strategy and Vaccine Engagement Teams.
- The City is also focused on delivering third vaccine doses to eligible individuals, as determined by the Province.
- Toronto Public Health is also supporting residents who have received vaccines in other provinces or countries to ensure that they are properly documented in Ontario's system.



- 5 vaccination clinics
- Hyper-local Strategy brings vaccination clinics to:
 - Workplaces
 - Retail spaces
 - TTC stops
 - Faith groups
 - Schools and post-secondary institutions
 - Child care facilities
 - Other public spaces.

- 14 geographic and population based consortiums made up of over 155 organizations
- Vaccine Engagement Teams use a variety of approaches to increase vaccine confidence and access:
 - Vaccine education and awareness building campaigns
 - Targeted outreach strategies
 - Mobilization of over 200 multi-lingual community ambassadors



Update on Vaccination Policy

- Vaccine certificate program came into effect on September 22nd
- Proof of full vaccination is required in settings and facilities such as:
 - bars
 - restaurants
 - gyms
 - Indoor meeting spaces
- Individuals with a recognized medical exemption and children under the age of 12, are exempted from the program.
- The Province will launch a digital vaccination certificate and a smartphone app on October 22

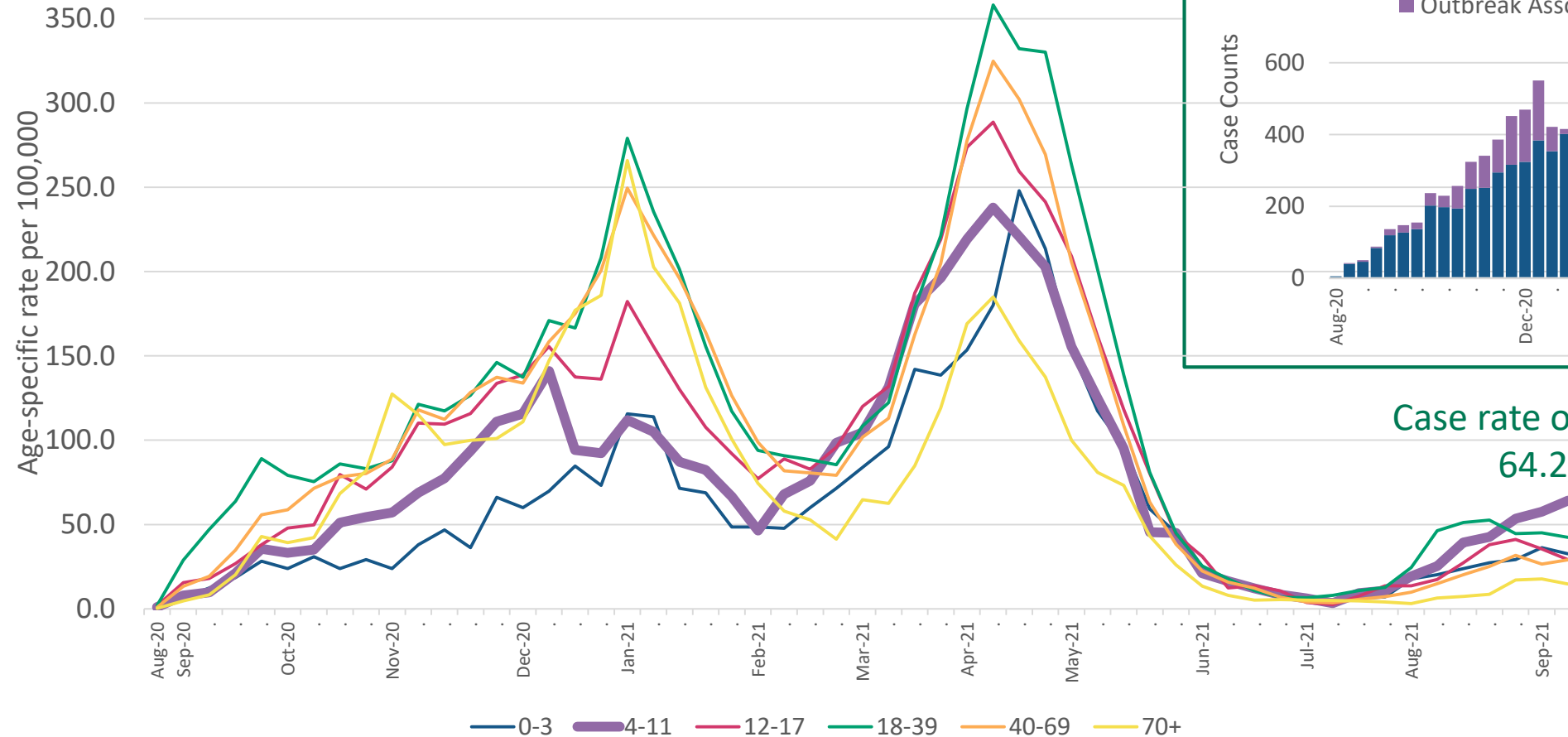
- The Province has announced that certain employers will be required to have COVID-19 vaccination policies for staff e.g. health care, child care
- The MOH strongly recommends that local employers institute a workplace vaccination policy
- Toronto Public Health has provided resources to help employers create workplace vaccination policies on the City's website
- The City is implementing a policy that requires all employees to receive two doses of a vaccine by October 30, 2021, and to provide proof of vaccination.



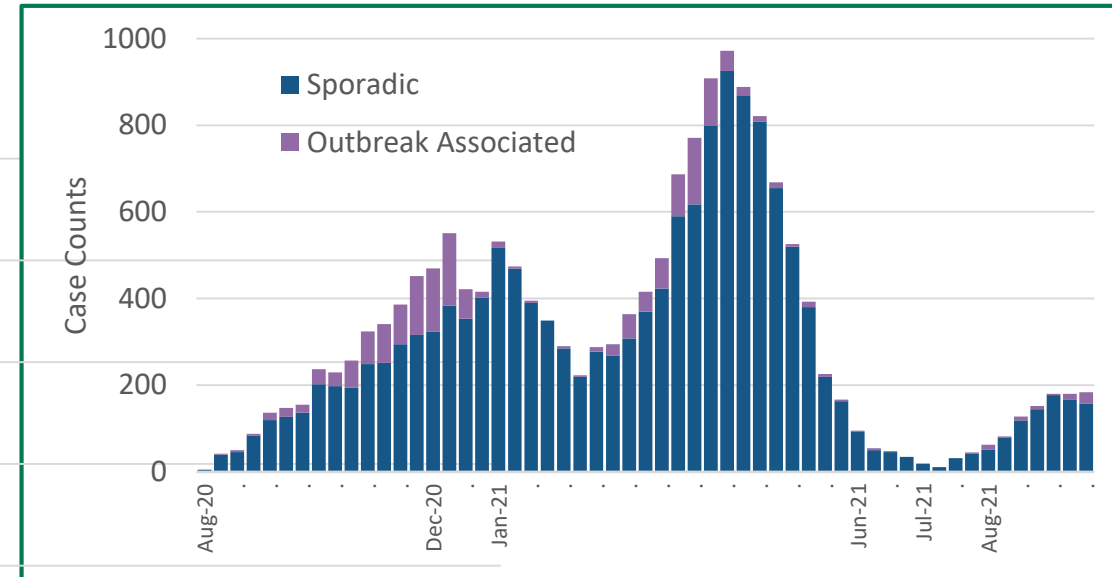
Supporting Safer Re-Opening of Schools

Case rates increased in the 4-11 year age group in the most recent three weeks

Case rate of COVID-19 per 100,000 population by age group and reported week, Toronto



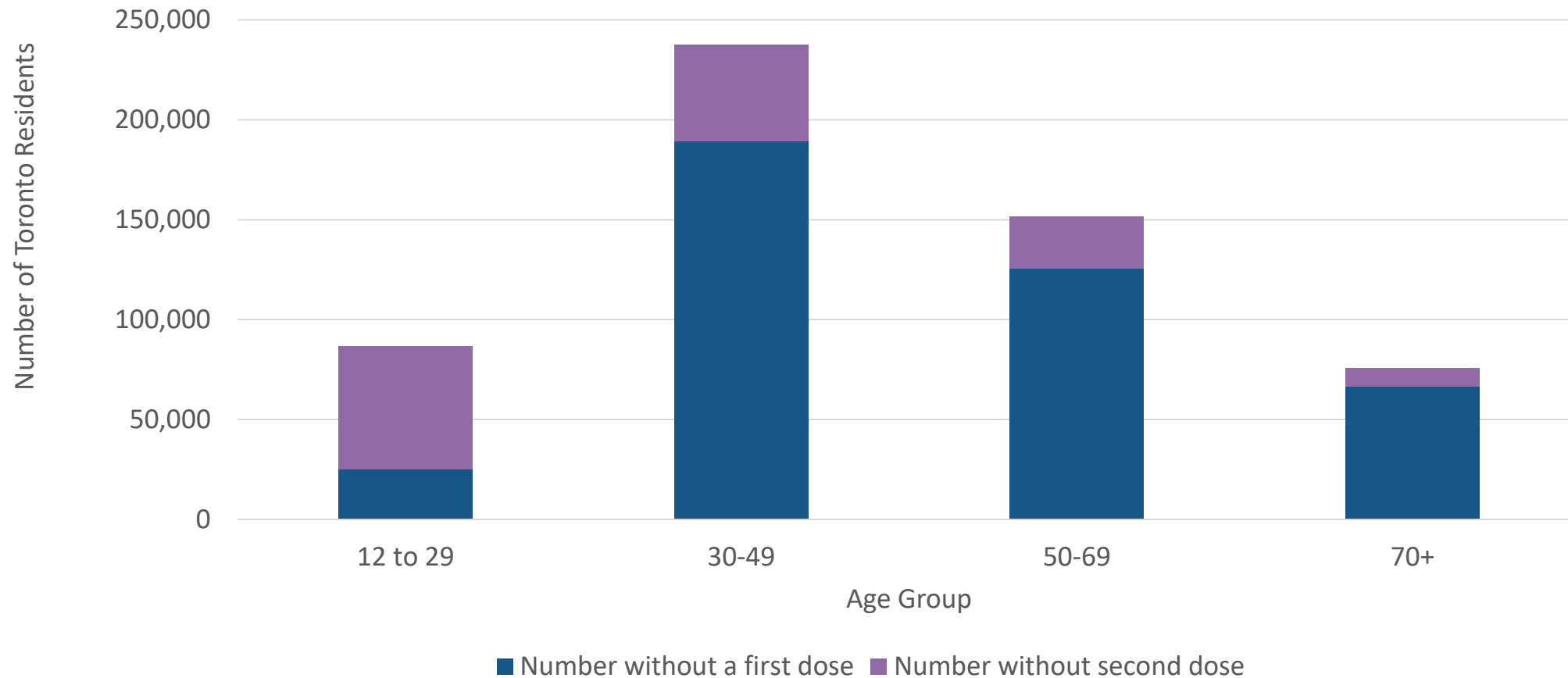
COVID-19 cases in school-aged children (4 to 17 years) by outbreak type and week, Toronto



Case rate of 4-11 year olds
64.2/100,000

25% of Toronto Residents Aged 30-49 are not Fully Vaccinated

Number of Toronto residents not vaccinated, by age groups



- Toronto Public Health continues to support elementary and secondary schools by:
 - Investigating COVID-19 cases and providing support with contact and outbreak management
 - Providing education on the COVID-19 vaccine
 - Information for students, teachers, and parents to access COVID-19 testing
 - Working with partners to support a lower-barrier take-home testing kit program
- Toronto Public Health will support schools in implementing new provincial guidance:
 - infection prevention and control,
 - COVID-19 screening,
 - masking protocols,
 - physical distancing,
 - promotion of the COVID-19 vaccine.



Reflections on the Last 612 Days