

Response to COVID-19: December 2021 Update

Presentation to the Board of Health

December 6, 2021





Status of the COVID-19 Epidemic in Toronto

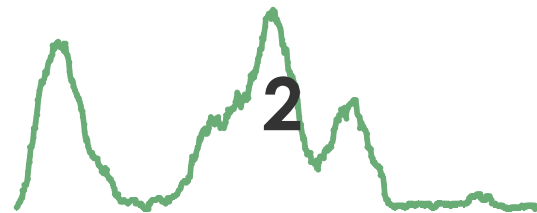
Monitoring dashboard – Dec 1*, 2021

Virus Spread and Containment

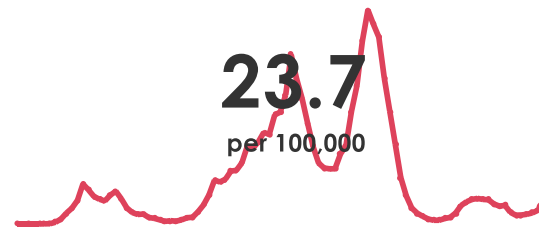
New COVID-19 cases, 7 day moving average¹



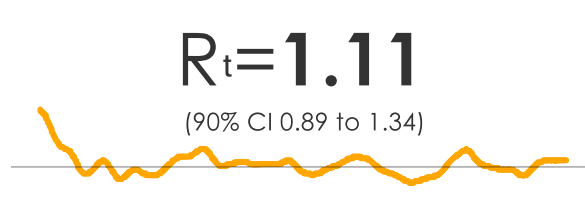
Active daily COVID-19 outbreaks in institutions¹



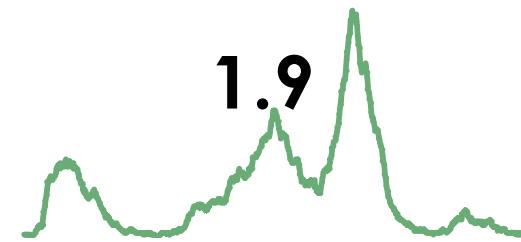
New COVID-19 cases, weekly incidence rate¹



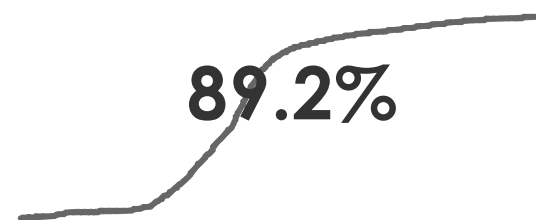
Effective reproductive number, COVID-19 cases²



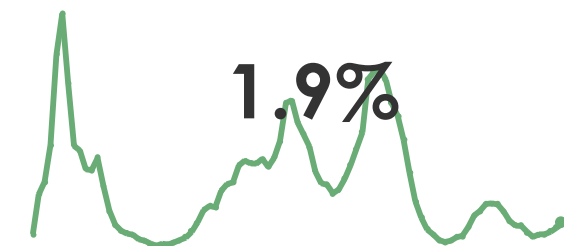
New Hospitalizations, 7 day moving average¹



Vaccination coverage 12+ (at least one dose)⁵

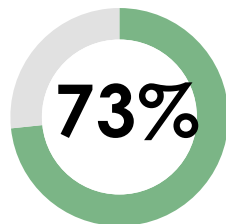


COVID-19 Laboratory Tests Percent Positivity, previous week average³

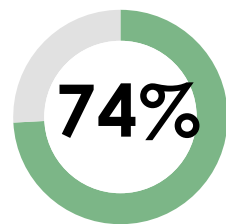


Health System Capacity

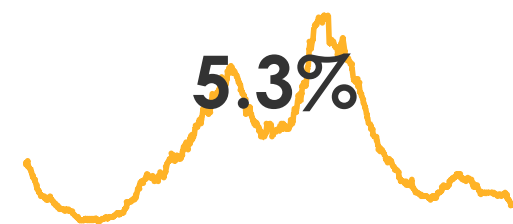
ICU bed occupancy rate⁴



Acute bed occupancy rate⁴



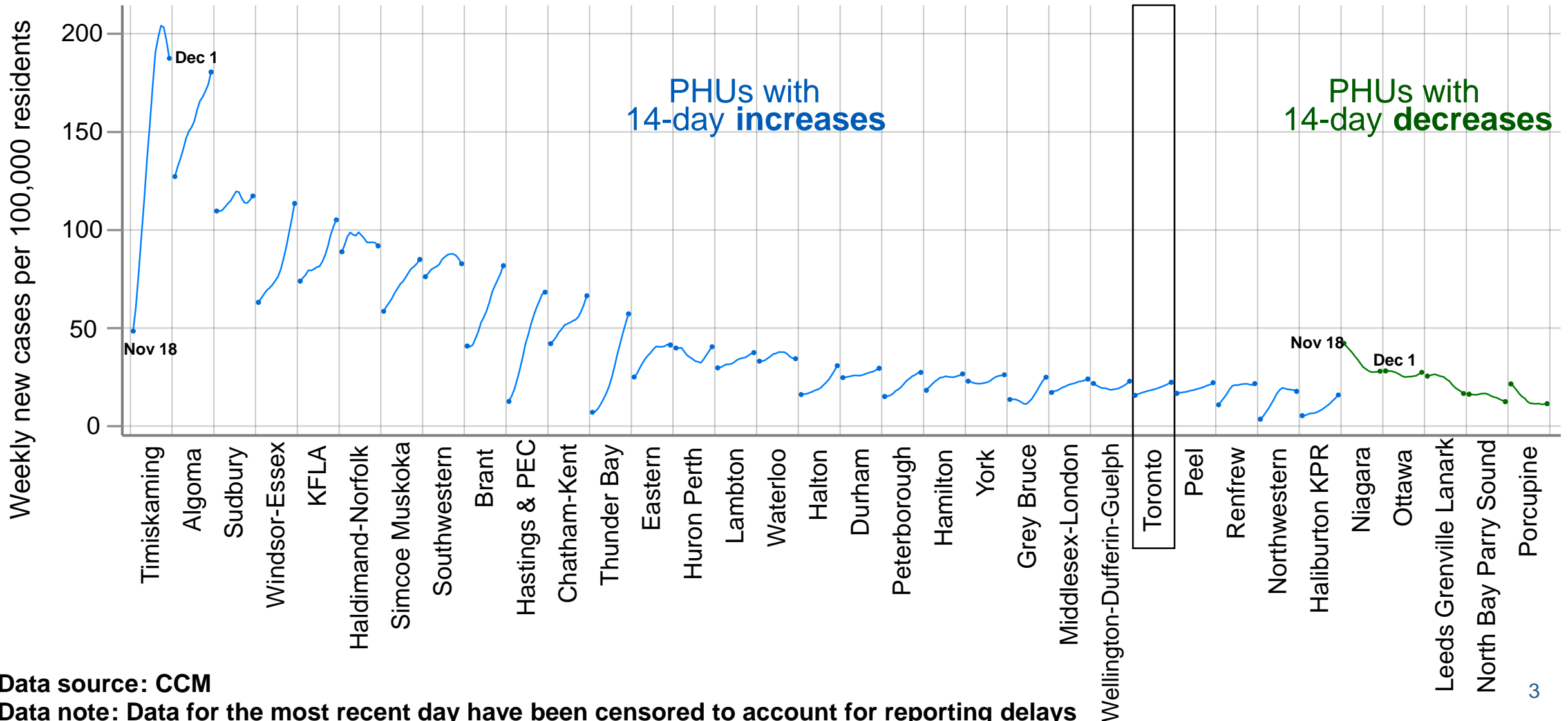
COVID-19 related critical illness (ICU) occupancy rate⁴



Notes: 1) Data as of: November 30, 2021 2) R_t calculated by date of infection using confirmed case data from August 1, 2020 to November 21, 2021 3) Data as of: Week ending November 27, 2021* 4) Data as of November 28, 2021 5) Data as of: Nov 29 2021 6) Data for September, 2021

Average weekly COVID-19 cases across Public Health Units

14-day trend (November 18 to December 1)

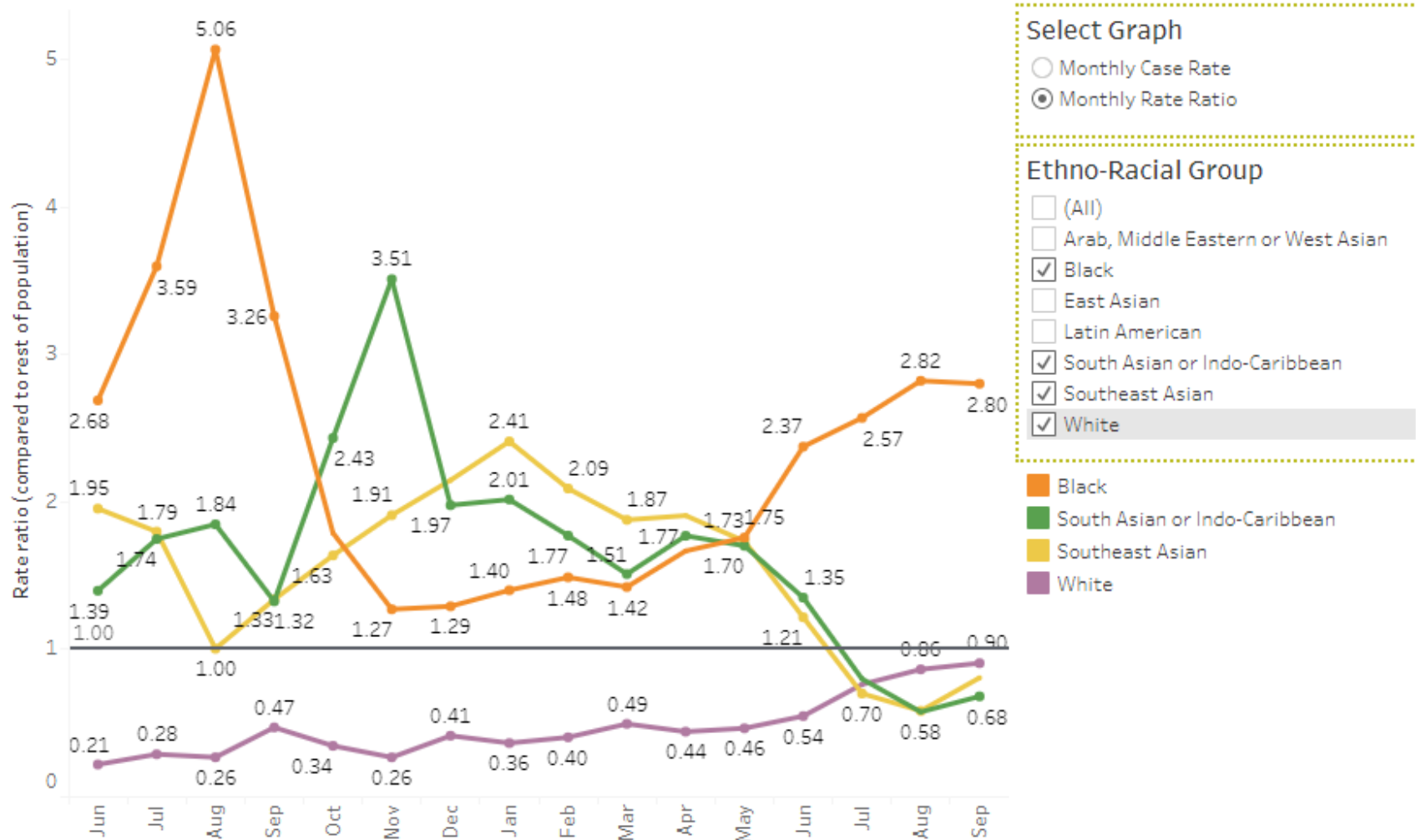


Data source: CCM

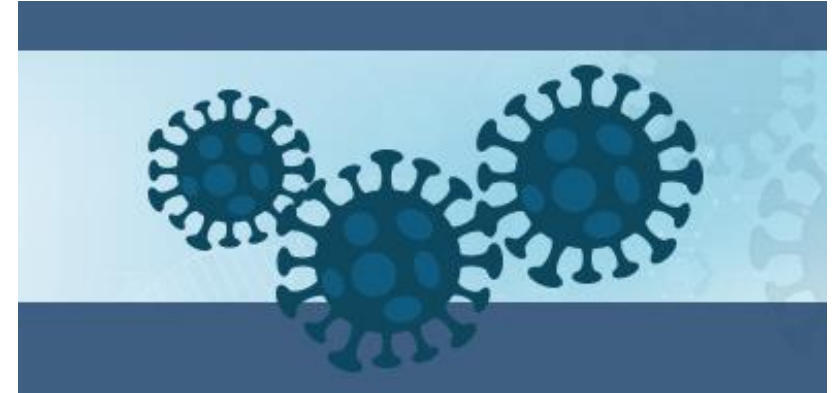
Data note: Data for the most recent day have been censored to account for reporting delays

COVID-19 case rates increasing among some ethno-racial groups and decreasing among others

Rate ratio of reported COVID-19 infection among ethno-racial groups compared to the rest of the population in Toronto, by month (N=92,228)



- Breakthrough COVID-19 cases
- Emergence of the Omicron variant



Over 85% of Toronto residents 12+ are fully vaccinated against COVID-19

Vaccine Uptake

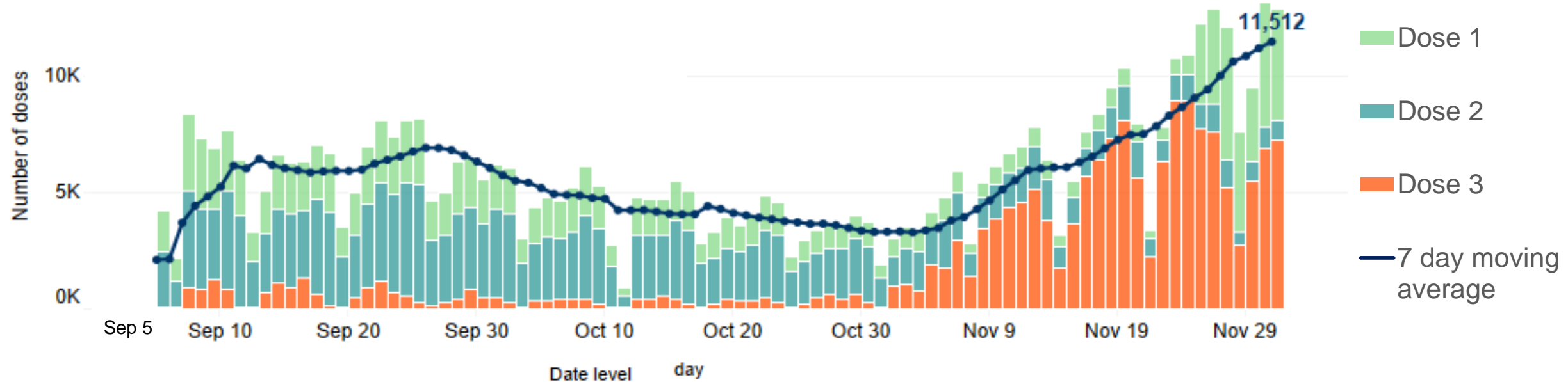
Share of Toronto residents vaccinated

79.7% initiated vaccination*
76.3% completed vaccination

Share of Toronto residents 12+ vaccinated

89.7% initiated vaccination*
85.8% completed vaccination

Doses administered over time



Progress on COVID-19 vaccinations for 5-11 year olds

- Vaccinations for 5-11 year-olds began on November 23
- At the end of last week, nearly 40,000 doses had been administered to Toronto residents aged 5-11
- 5-11 vaccination through fixed, mobile and school-based clinics

- Vaccine Engagement Teams are one strategy to promote equitable COVID-19 vaccine uptake across Toronto
- Preliminary findings from an independent evaluator show that Vaccine Engagement Teams are:
 - an effective strategy for increasing vaccine confidence, access, and uptake among diverse communities
 - an effective model for place-based strategic planning, engagement, collaboration
 - an effective approach to developing community member skill development
- City oversight, funding and governance has helped community agencies better share information and resources
- Vaccine Engagement Teams will extend six more months from January 1 to July 1, 2022

- Expanded third dose eligibility to individuals aged 50 and older
- Preservation of in-person learning in schools
- Provincial testing opportunities

- Toronto Public Health's pandemic response and immunization campaign has benefited from additional medical expertise
- There is an ongoing need for this expertise throughout COVID-19 response and recovery

Recommendation 1: City Council authorize the Medical Officer of Health to negotiate, enter into, execute, and extend any agreements with physicians providing medical services and advice to Toronto Public Health as part of the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic until December 31, 2023, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Medical Officer of Health and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Tips for a safe and festive holiday season



SAFELY CELEBRATING THE HOLIDAYS WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

- 

Keep gatherings to 25 people or less indoors & 100 people or less outdoors
- 

Wear a mask & keep your distance if vaccination status is unknown
- 

If everyone is vaccinated, you can take off your mask if everyone is comfortable
- 

Wash your hands frequently before, during & after preparing & serving food / drinks
- 

Stay home & get tested if you have any COVID-19 symptoms

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