

Tkaronto (Toronto) Land Acknowledgement

This meeting is being hosted on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13, signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

COVID-19 Vaccines: Building Trust and Confidence

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Outline

- ❑ Vaccine Development, Approval and Safety Monitoring in Canada
- ❑ mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna)
- ❑ Vaccine Side Effects
- ❑ Informed Consent and Vaccination with Youth 12+
- ❑ Vaccine Hesitancy

Vaccines Were Carefully Reviewed Before Approval

Vaccine development and approval in Canada

Vaccine development



Scientists develop a potential vaccine



Scientists conduct lab and animal studies before testing on humans




10s of volunteers 

Phase I

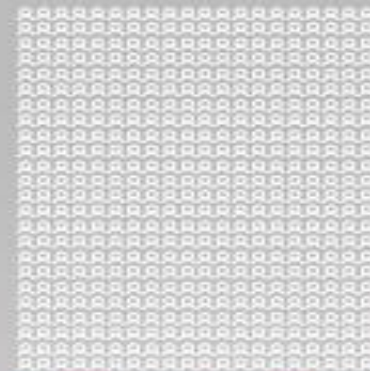
- Is the vaccine safe?
- What is a safe dose?
- Are there any side effects?




100s of volunteers 

Phase II

- How well does the vaccine work?
- Is it safe on a larger number of people?
- Safest and most effective dose?



1000s of volunteers 

Phase III

- Does the vaccine prevent disease?
- What are the side effects?



Manufacturer submits application to Health Canada for review

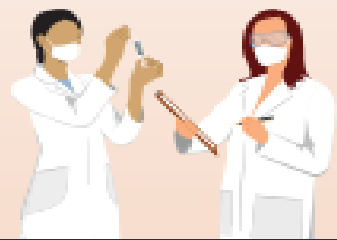
Exploratory →

Preclinical →

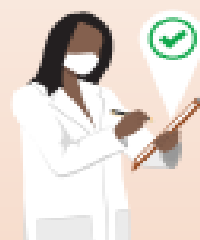
..... Clinical Trials

..... → Application

Review and approval of vaccines



Teams of Health Canada experts conduct a thorough and independent review of all vaccine data *



Health Canada approves a vaccine if it is safe, it works, it meets manufacturing standards, and the benefits outweigh the risks



Governments coordinate the purchase, logistics and distribution of vaccines across Canada



All Canadians have access to the vaccine



Continuous monitoring and review to confirm the safety of the vaccine, and that benefits outweigh risks

Scientific Review

Approval

Distribution

Vaccination

Ongoing Monitoring and Review

* For COVID-19 vaccines, Health Canada is using a fast-tracked process that allows manufacturers to submit data as it becomes available, and for Health Canada experts to start the review process right away. Vaccines will only be authorized once we have all necessary evidence.

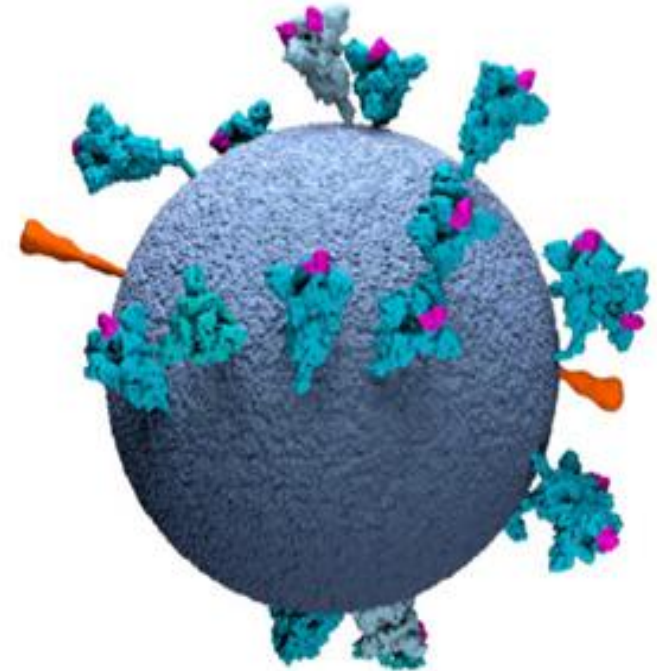
Vaccines Are Safe



- For those with autism, ADHD, heart or kidney conditions, diabetes, auto-immune disorders, asthma, allergies or are pregnant and/or breastfeeding.
- For those with addictions or occasional users of alcohol, cannabis/marijuana or recreational drugs.
- Do not impact puberty, menstruation, growth or fertility.
- Specific medical conditions and concerns should be discussed with your primary health care provider and/or specialist prior to your vaccination appointment.

COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines

- mRNA vaccines teach the immune system to recognize the spike proteins on the surface of the coronavirus.
- Once you are vaccinated, your immune system will be able to make antibodies to fight a COVID-19 infection if you are exposed.
- mRNA breaks down and is removed from the body within days of being vaccinated.
- It takes two weeks after your second dose to be fully vaccinated.



Vaccines Are Interchangeable

MODERNA & PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINES ARE INTERCHANGEABLE



Both use mRNA
to make an
immune response



Both require two
doses of either vaccine
for best protection



Both provide
excellent protection
against COVID-19 &
the Delta variant



Both are safe
& approved by
Health Canada for
use in Canada

Vaccine Side Effects

- Most vaccine side effects are mild and last 1 to 3 days:
 - Pain/discomfort, redness, itching & swelling where the injection was given
 - headache, feeling tired, muscle ache, joint pain
 - mild fever, chills, nausea or vomiting
 - swelling & tenderness in the armpit / enlarged lymph nodes
- Remain for at least 15 minutes after vaccination for monitoring and treatment, if needed.
- Report side effects to your healthcare provider that last longer than 3 days.

Myocarditis and Pericarditis

- Reports in Canada are rare and being investigated to determine if they are related to mRNA COVID-19 vaccination.
- Cases had mild illness, responded well to treatment and symptoms improved quickly.
- Contact your healthcare provider or 911 if experiencing chest pain, shortness of breath or palpitations within a few hours or days of vaccination.
- Vaccination continues to be recommended when considering the long term effects and serious complications related to a COVID-19 infection.

<https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccine-safety/summary.html>

<https://healthycanadians.gc.ca/recall-alert-rappel-avis/hc-sc/2021/75959a-eng.php>

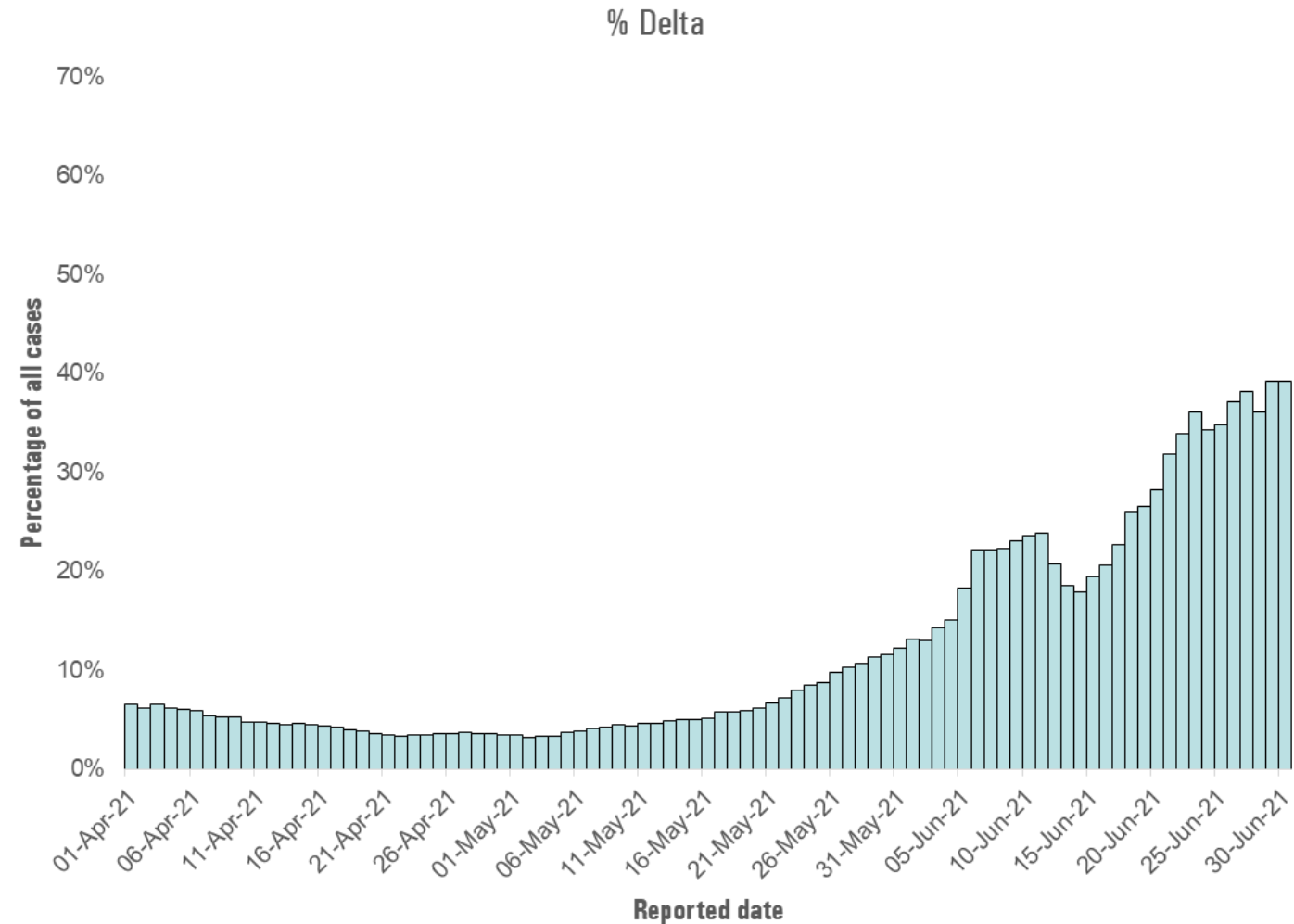
COVID-19 in Toronto

As of July 26 2021:

- 170,599 active COVID-19 cases.
- 4.2 million vaccine doses given.
- **Over 70% of youth 12 –17 years old have received their first dose and 40% are fully vaccinated.**
- All 9 City-run clinics are now accepting walk-ins from noon to 7 pm everyday.

Delta Variant Continues to Grow and Accounts for Approximately 40% of All Daily Cases

- The Delta variant is currently the dominant variant in Toronto
- Spreads more easily than other variants of concern, including the UK (B.1.17) variant which was the dominant variant of concern in the 3rd wave
- Being **fully vaccinated** (2 weeks after your 2nd dose) is the best protection against the spread of variants and serious illness, including hospitalization or death.



Data extracted from Ministry of Health CCM Solutions, July 7 2021

Reported COVID-19 cases April 1st to June 30th

Vaccines and the Variants

VACCINES OFFER PROTECTION AGAINST NEW VARIANTS



Vaccines have been used successfully in countries with variants



Vaccines can provide protection even when viruses change

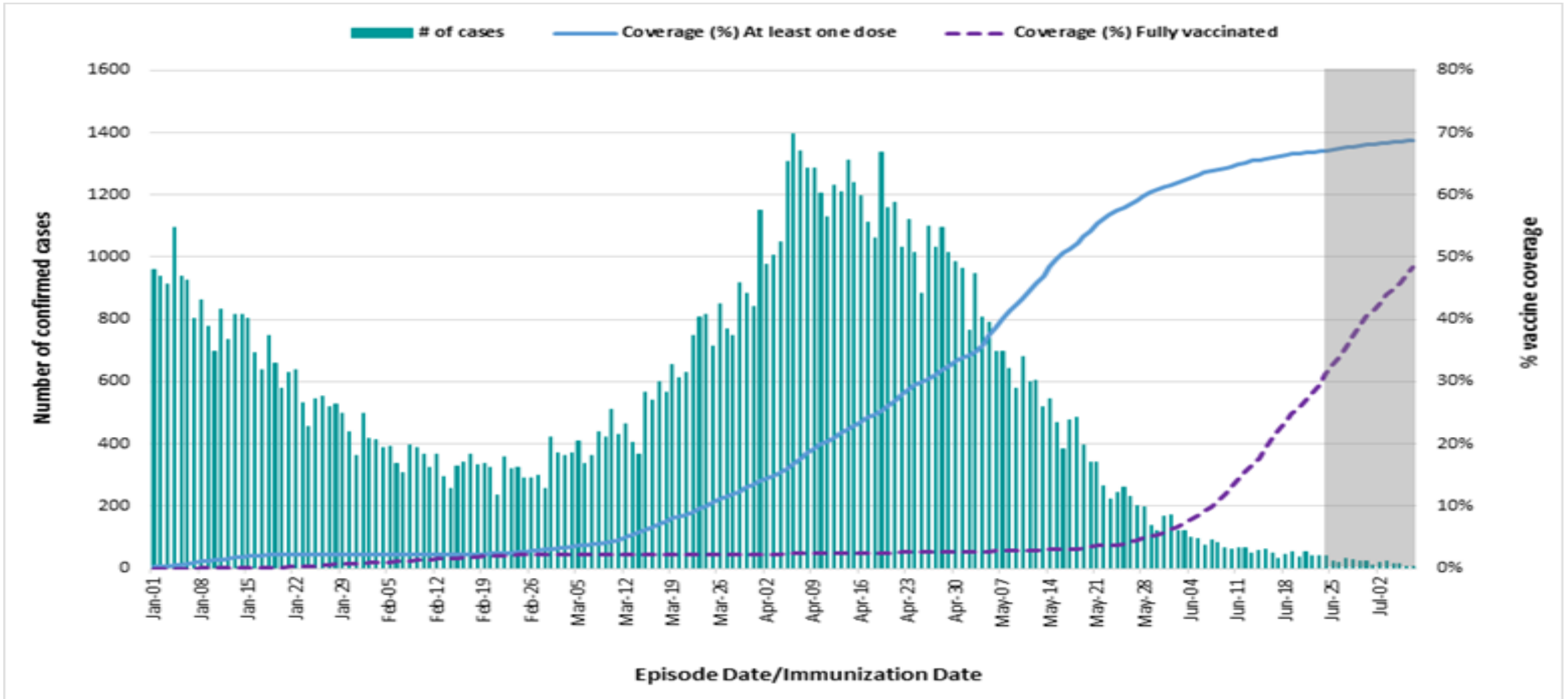


Protection offered by vaccines is important as variants can spread more easily



Booster doses may be used in the future for specific variants

Vaccines Work and Make a Difference



COVID-19 Cases and Vaccination Rates in Toronto, January 1 2021 – July 2 2021

COVID-19 Cases in Ontario

(from December 14 2020 to June 26 2021)

- More than **95% of cases were unvaccinated.**
- 4% had received only 1 dose of the vaccine.
- **Less than 1% were fully vaccinated.**

2 doses provide the best protection against COVID-19, the variants and serious illness, hospitalization or death

Previous COVID-19 Infection & Vaccination

I ALREADY HAD COVID-19, DO I NEED THE VACCINE?



Yes, we are still learning how long immunity from natural infection lasts



Natural immunity may not protect against COVID-19 variants



It is possible to get the COVID-19 infection again



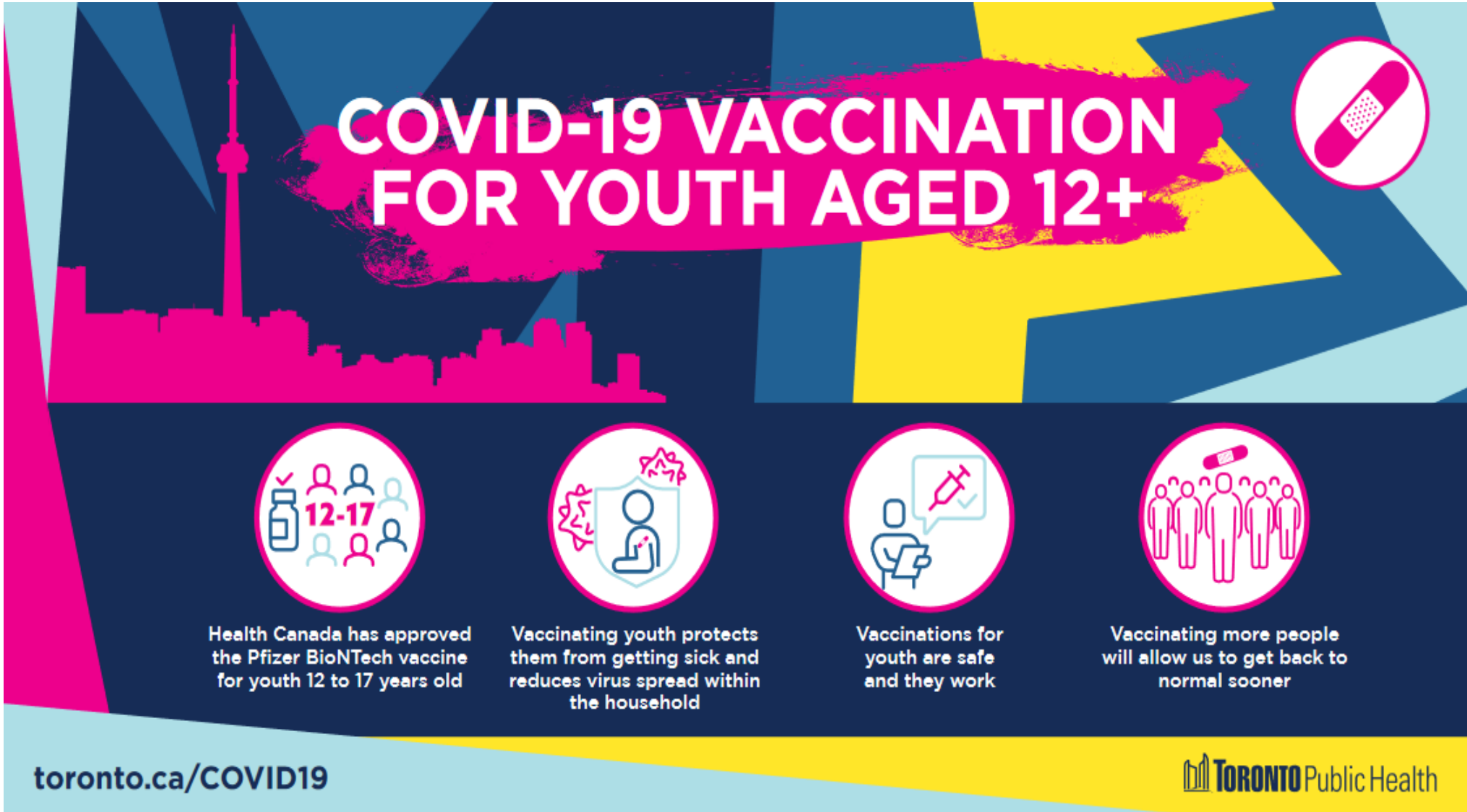
Wait until self-isolation is completed and your symptoms have gone away to get the vaccine





It is best to get the vaccine to stay protected

Youth Vaccination


- ✓ Youth 12+ are eligible now for vaccination
- ✓ Minimum time between Pfizer doses is 28 days
- ✓ 1st dose now for full vaccination (2 doses) before returning to school




COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR YOUTH AGED 12+




Health Canada has approved the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine for youth 12 to 17 years old



Vaccinating youth protects them from getting sick and reduces virus spread within the household




Vaccinations for youth are safe and they work



Vaccinating more people will allow us to get back to normal sooner

toronto.ca/COVID19

 TORONTO Public Health

Vaccination and Informed Consent

- Ontario's Health Care Consent Act has **no minimum age to provide consent** for medical treatment(s), including vaccination.
<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/96h02>
- Individuals of all ages must be capable of providing informed consent by showing an understanding of the COVID-19 information provided, including, the risks of a COVID infection and the benefits of being vaccinated.
- Consent from a parent or guardian may not be needed if the youth can show they are able to make an informed decision.

Acknowledging History & Hesitancy

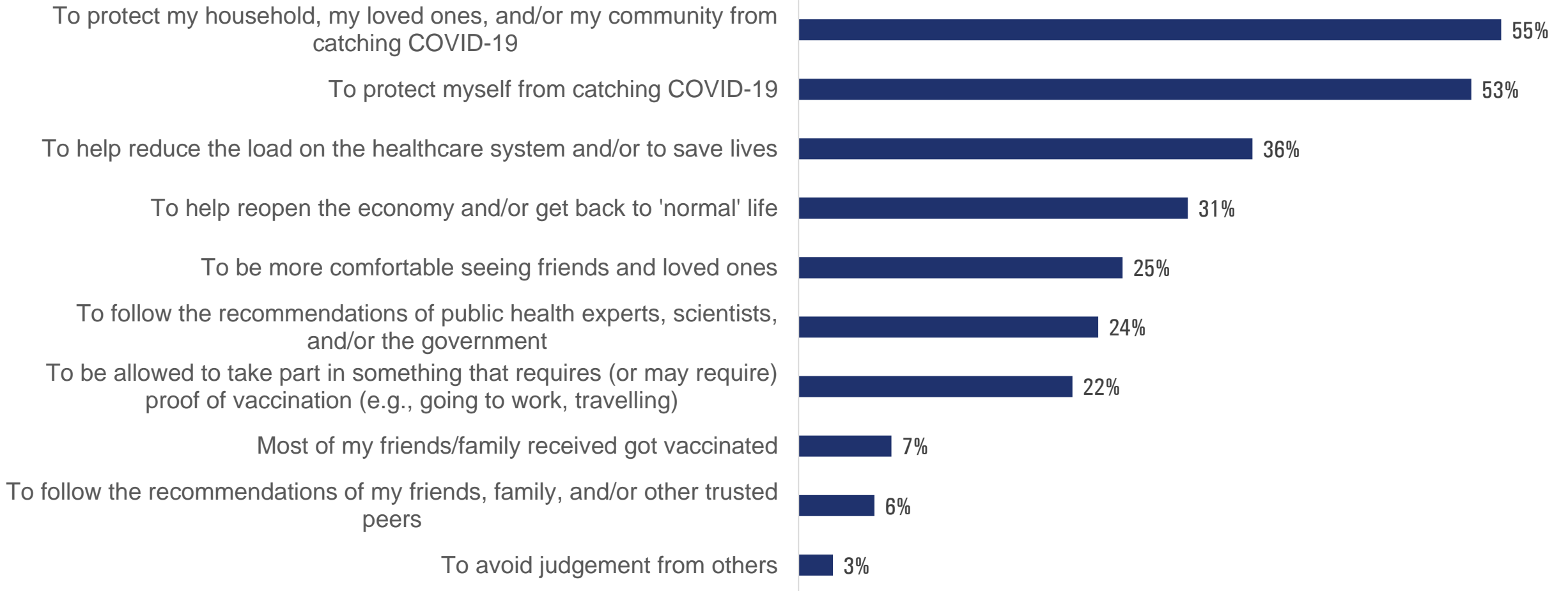
- Historical and recent experiences of discrimination within healthcare, and other government regulated systems, has contributed to hesitancy and a lack of confidence in the COVID-19 vaccines.
- Particular consideration is to be made for Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) populations.
- Hesitancy is complex, extremely personal and contextual.
- Conflicting and unreliable sources are circulating myths and misinformation, mainly on social media, regarding COVID-19 and/or the vaccines.

Vaccination is not mandatory and is a personal choice

Addressing COVID-19 Vaccination Hesitancy

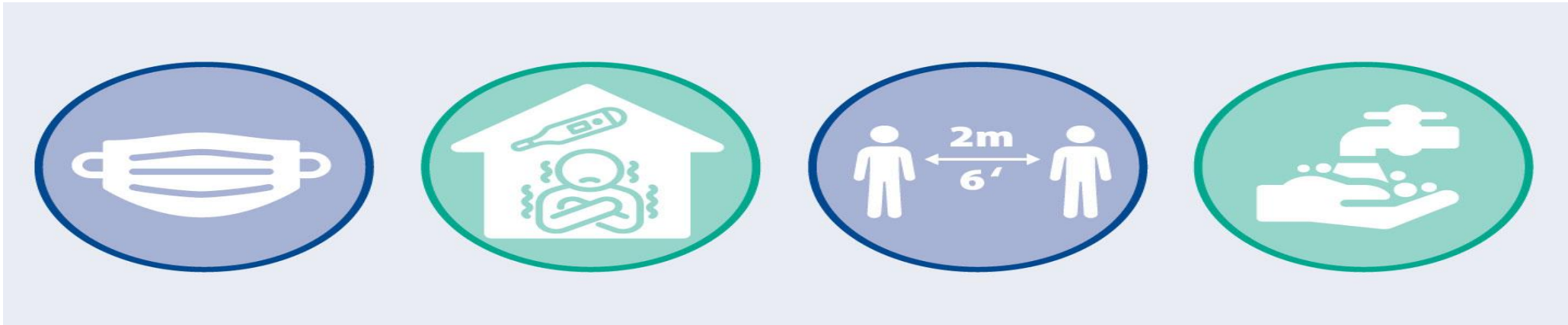
- Listen to concerns and questions without judgement or assumptions.
- Don't try to dispute misinformation or dispel myths.
- Do emphasize facts and current data/information from credible sources.
- Be open to sharing positive personal experiences and stories.
- Be available to address follow up questions and concerns. It may take several conversations to develop trust.
- It's ok to not have the answer(s). Refer client to primary care provider or local public health unit at any time.

Top 10 Reasons To Be Vaccinated



Public Health Measures Continue

Vaccines are one of many tools we have to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. Public health measures continue until enough people receive their 2nd dose.



- Wear a Mask or Face Covering Where Required
- Stay Home When Sick and Get Tested if You Have COVID-like Symptoms
- Maintain Physical Distancing
- Sanitize and Wash Your Hands Regularly

Questions? Need More Information?

Call Toronto Public Health

416-338-7600

8:30 am to 8:00 pm / 7 days a week

Text the word VACCINE to 1-833-750-0888 to be connected with resources including appointment bookings & information on vaccines

Follow TPH on Instagram/Twitter (@TOpublichealth)

Visit toronto.ca/covid19

Additional Slides

- Community (Herd) Immunity
- Ways to Get Vaccinated in Toronto
- Vaccine Eligibility & Worker Benefits
- Preparing for Your COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment
- Residents Without OHIP Cards
- You Are Not Alone – Mental Health Supports

Community Immunity

WHAT IS HERD IMMUNITY?



Herd immunity protects our community from infection when many people are vaccinated.



It is another way to protect others by reducing COVID-19 spread.



It also protects people who can't get vaccinated like newborn babies.



Until we have herd immunity, we need to wear our mask & keep a distance from people we don't live with.

Ways To Get Vaccinated

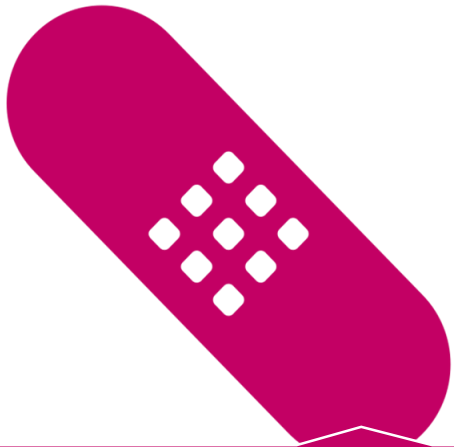
Red & white or no health card?
Register using telephone #

City clinics <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>
Or call: 1-888-999-6488
(TTY 1-866-797-0007)

Hospital clinics www.vaccineto.ca
Or call: 1-888-385-1910

Visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/> to find a **pharmacy**
Or call your local pharmacy / website

Mobile & pop-up clinics
Host organizations will promote clinics directly to the target community



Mass Immunization Clinics



Hospitals / Ontario Health Team Immunization Clinics



Pharmacies and Primary Care Providers



Mobile Teams & Pop-up Clinics

Interactive map available online:
toronto.ca/covid19vaccinemap

Vaccine Eligibility & Worker Benefits

Currently Eligible

- Anyone 12+
- Book your accelerated 2nd dose now.
- OHIP or health insurance not required.
- Local hotspot neighbourhoods continue to be prioritized for outreach and vaccination.

Worker Benefits

- Up to 3 paid sick days for absence related to COVID-19 testing, self-isolation, vaccination or illness
(www.ontario.ca/COVIDworkerbenefit or call 1-888-999-2248)
- Income support for individuals and families impacted by COVID-19
(<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html#individuals>)

Preparing for your COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment



Eat & drink water
before coming to the
clinic & bring water



Wear a
loose-fitting
top or t-shirt



Re-book your
appointment if you
have any COVID-19
symptoms



Tell clinic staff if
you've fainted
before or are
feeling anxious



At the clinic,
let staff know if
you need help
or feel unwell

Residents Without OHIP Cards

HOW TO GET VACCINATED WITHOUT AN OHIP CARD



Call our partner agencies to book an appointment



You can use other forms of ID to book your appointment



You can also book at our hospital partners' clinics at vaccineto.ca



Pharmacies accept other gov't issued IDs

toronto.ca/COVID19

 TORONTO Public Health

FCJ Refugee Centre

416-469-9754 ext. 230 or 232

WhatsApp: 437-217-3786

Access Alliance Multicultural Health & Community Service

416-760-8677

Toronto Public Health Hotline

Telephone: 416-338-7600; TTY: 416-392-0658

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture

Telephone: 416-306-4319

You Are Not Alone

You are not alone. Support is available.

Call 211 if you are having a hard time. Through 211 anyone be connected to free mental health supports, including including kids, seniors, racialized, Indigenous, Black and LGBTQ2S communities.

Language interpretation is available if you don't speak English.



These are stressful times.
Reach out for help to find
mental health support.
**Call 211, 24 hours a day,
7 days a week.**