

## Epidemiologic Summary

# COVID-19 in Ontario: January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020

This report includes the most current information available from the integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) as of **4 p.m. April 15, 2020**.

## Purpose

- This daily report provides an epidemiologic summary of COVID-19 activity in Ontario to date.

## Highlights

- There are 8,961 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ontario reported to date in iPHIS. This represents an increase of 514 confirmed cases from the previous report.
  - 43.0% of cases are male, 56.3% are female.
  - 41.7% of cases are 60 years of age and older.
  - Greater Toronto Area public health units account for 54.8% of cases.
  - 12.7% of cases were hospitalized.
- 423 deaths have been reported (please note there may be a reporting delay for deaths in iPHIS). This is an increase of 38 deaths from the previous report.
- One hundred four outbreaks have been reported in long-term care homes.

## Case Characteristics

**Table 1. Summary of cases of COVID-19: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**

	Number	Percentage
Number of cases*	8,961	N/A
Change from previous report	514	6.1% increase
Gender: Male	3,855	43.0
Gender: Female	5,046	56.3
Ages: 19 and under	204	2.3
Ages: 20-39	2,091	23.3
Ages: 40-59	2,929	32.7
Ages: 60-79	2,093	23.4
Ages: 80 and over	1,639	18.3
Number of cases in health care workers	980	10.9

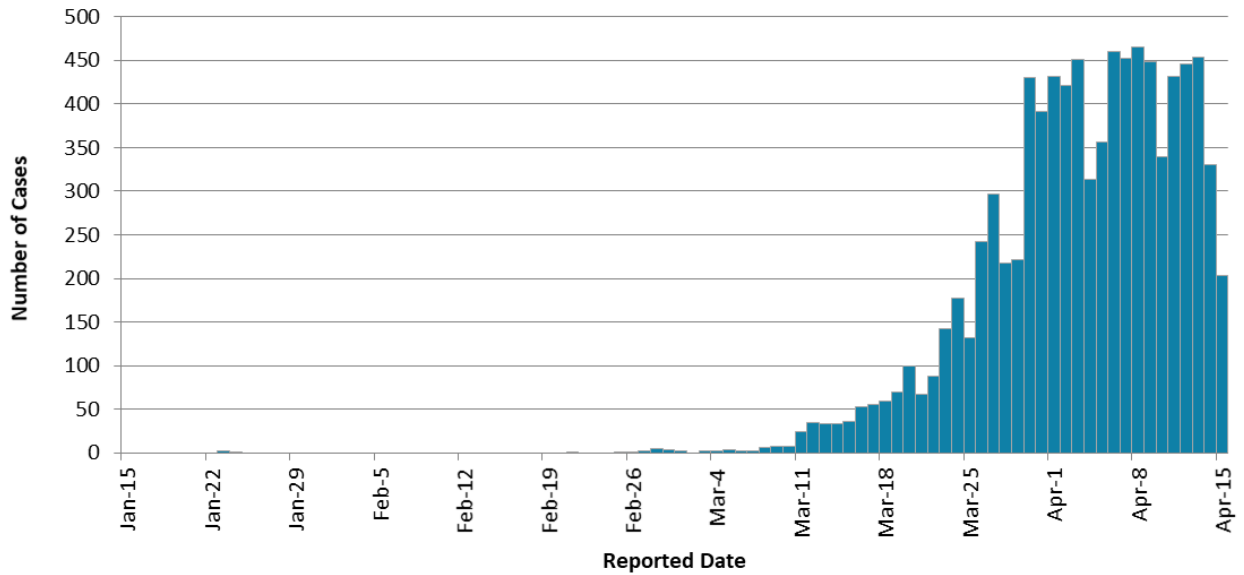
\* Cases and rates by public health unit is provided in [Appendix A](#).

**Note:** 60 cases did not specify male or female. Five cases had an unknown age.

**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database

# Time

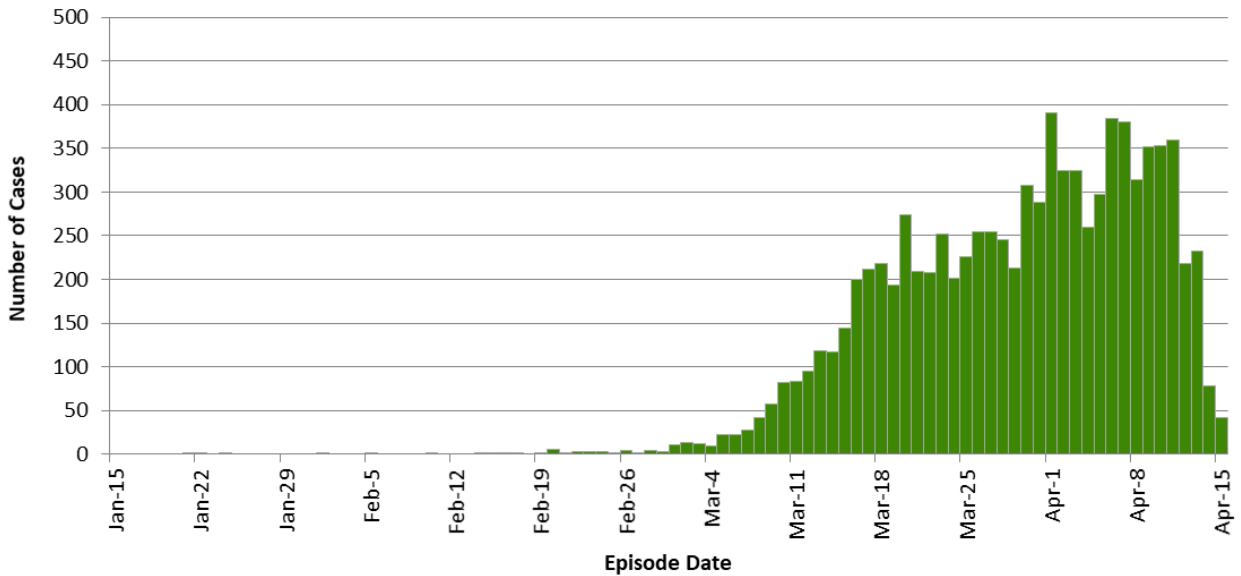
**Figure 1. Confirmed cases (n=8,961) of COVID-19 by reported date: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020\***



\*Interpret case counts for the most recent days with caution due to reporting lags.

**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database.

**Figure 2. Confirmed cases (n=8,961) of COVID-19 by an approximation of symptom onset date\*: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020\*\***



\*This date, referred to as episode date, is intended to approximate symptom onset date. It is calculated based on either the date of symptom onset, specimen collection/test date, or the date reported to public health.

\*\*Interpret case counts for the most recent days with caution due to reporting lags.

**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database

## Exposure

**Table 2. Confirmed cases (n=8,961) of COVID-19 by exposure type: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**

	Number	Percentage
Travel*	1,188	13.3
Close contact of a confirmed case	1,541	17.2
Community transmission	2,270	25.3
Information pending	3,962	44.2

\*Travel within the 14 days prior to becoming ill; travel locations are provided in [Appendix A](#).

**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database

## Severity

**Table 3. Confirmed cases (n=8,961) of COVID-19 by severity: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**

	Number	Percentage
Cumulative deaths reported (please note there may be a reporting delay for deaths in iPHIS)	423	4.7
Change from previous report	38	9.9% increase
Deaths reported in ages: 19 and under	0	0.0
Deaths reported in ages: 20-39	1	0.0
Deaths reported in ages: 40-59	26	0.9
Deaths reported in ages: 60-79	130	6.2
Deaths reported in ages: 80 and over	266	16.2
Cumulative intensive care*	313	3.5
Cumulative hospitalized*	1,137	12.7
Number of resolved** cases	4,194	46.8

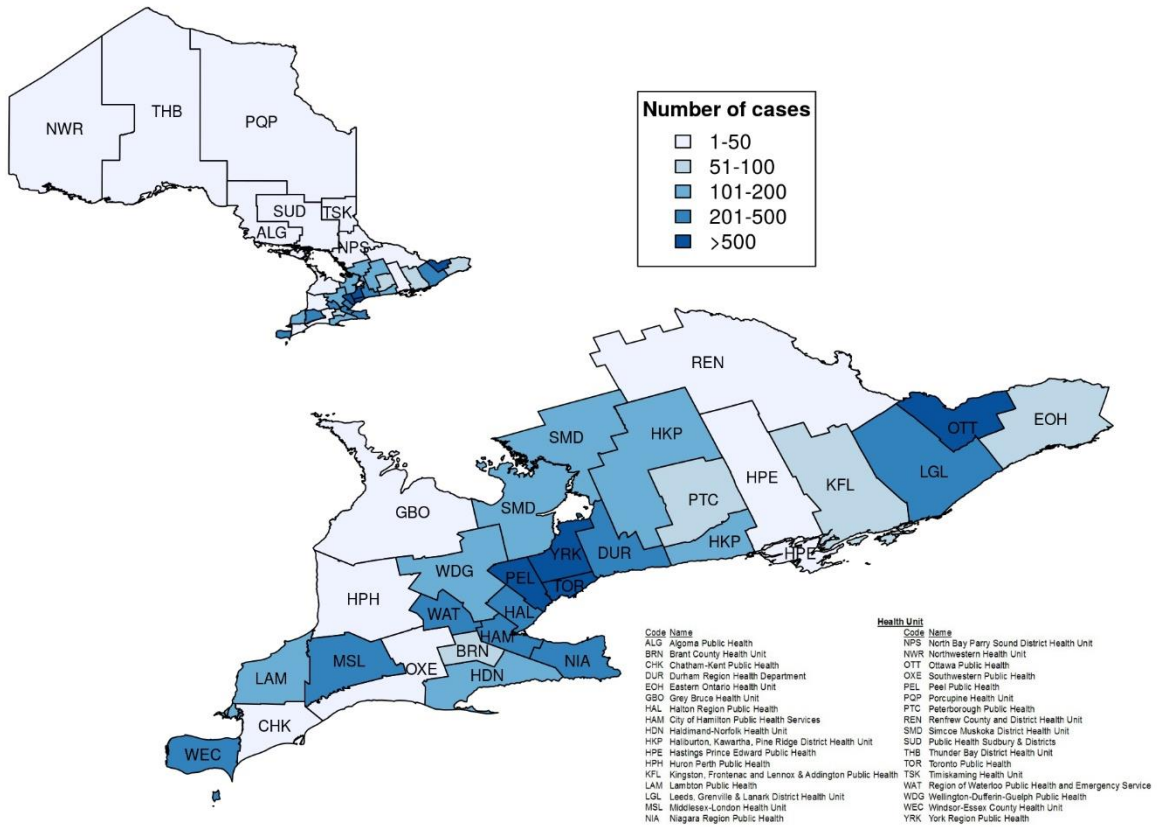
**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database

\* These refer to all hospitalized or ICU admitted cases, not cases that are currently hospitalized or in ICU.

\*\* Cases that are 14 days past symptom onset (if available) or 14 days past the episode date (for cases for whom the public health unit investigation is complete) are classified as resolved for non-fatal cases that are not currently listed as hospitalized. Cases are also classified as resolved if the case is reported as “recovered” in iPHIS.

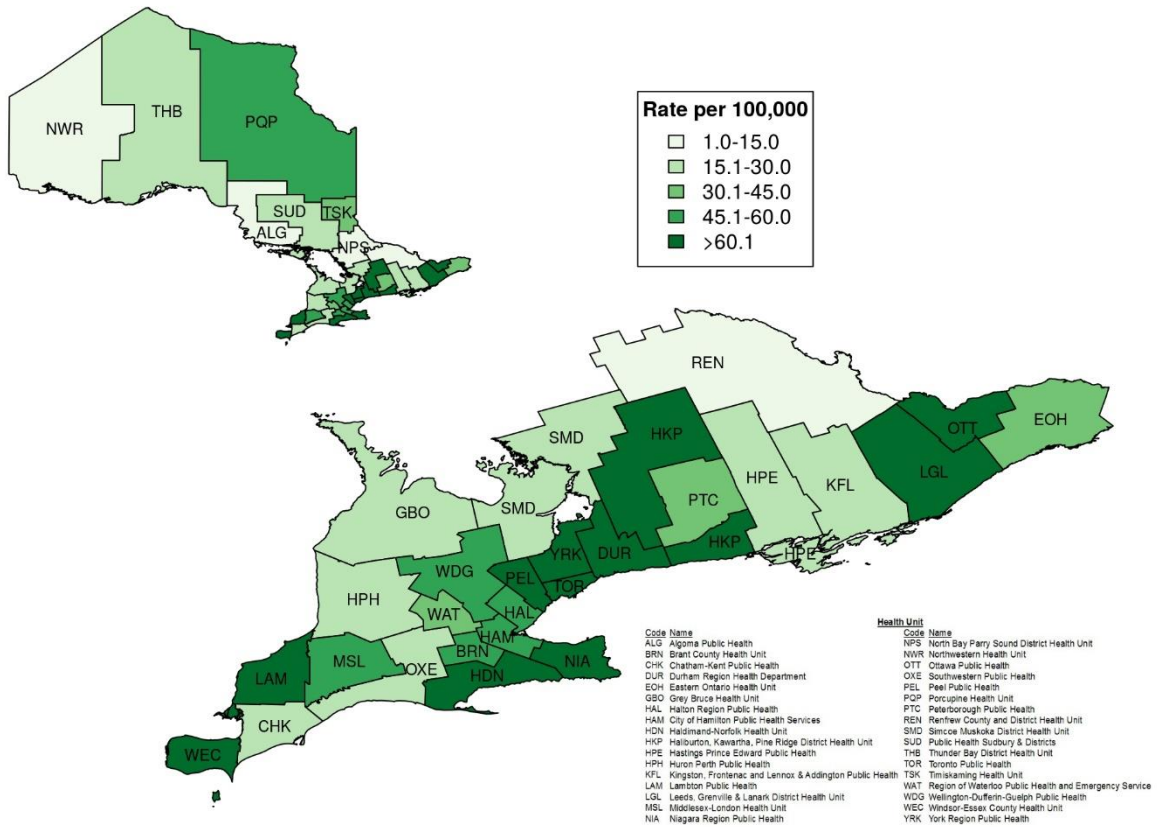
# Geography

**Figure 3. Confirmed cases (n=8,961) of COVID-19 by public health unit: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**



**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database

**Figure 4. Rate of confirmed cases of COVID-19 by public health unit: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**



**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database



## Outbreaks in Institutions and Public Hospitals

**Table 4. Confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks reported in long-term care homes and hospitals and total number of associated cases: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**

Indicator	Long-Term Care Homes	Hospitals
Number of confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks	104	29
Total number of cases*,** reported as part of the confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks	1,467	146
Cases reported among residents/patients	933	87
Cases reported among staff	530	58
Total number of deaths*,** reported as part of the confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks	163	9
Deaths reported among residents/patients	162	9
Deaths reported among staff	0	0

**Data Source:** integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database

\*Includes all outbreak-related cases and deaths reported in aggregate outbreak summary counts, regardless of whether the case was laboratory confirmed (deaths among non-laboratory confirmed cases reported here are not included in Table 3).

\*\*May include cases and deaths other than residents/patients or staff, such as volunteers. As a result, the total number of cases and deaths may be greater than the number of cases and deaths reported in residents or staff.

# Technical Notes

## Data Sources (Case Data)

- The data for this report were based on information extracted from the Ontario Ministry of Health (MOH) integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database, as of **April 15, 2020 at 4 p.m.**
- iPHIS is a dynamic disease reporting system, which allows ongoing updates to data previously entered. As a result, data extracted from iPHIS represent a snapshot at the time of extraction and may differ from previous or subsequent reports.
- Ontario population projection data for 2020 were sourced from Ontario Ministry of Health, IntelliHEALTH Ontario. Data were extracted on November 26, 2019.

## iPHIS Data Caveats:

- The data only represent cases reported to public health and recorded in iPHIS. As a result, all counts will be subject to varying degrees of underreporting due to a variety of factors, such as disease awareness and medical care seeking behaviours, which may depend on severity of illness, clinical practice, changes in laboratory testing, and reporting behaviours.
- Lags in iPHIS data entry due to reduced holiday and weekend staffing may result in lower case counts than would otherwise be recorded.
- Only cases meeting the confirmed case classification as listed in the MOH [COVID-19 case definition](#) are included in the report counts.
- Case episode date is based on an estimate of the best date of disease onset. This date is calculated based on either the date of symptom onset, specimen collection/test date, or the date reported to public health.
- Orientation of case counts by geography is based on the diagnosing health unit (DHU). DHU refers to the case's public health unit of residence at the time of illness onset and not necessarily the location of exposure. Cases for which the DHU was reported as MOH (to signify a case that is not a resident of Ontario) have been excluded from the analyses.
  - GTA health units include: Durham Region Health Department, Peel Public Health, Toronto Public Health and York Region Public Health
- Exposure type is determined by examining the exposure and risk factor fields from iPHIS to determine whether a case travelled, was a contact of a case or neither. A hierarchy has been applied as follows: Travel-related > Close contact of a confirmed case > Community transmission > Information pending.
- Deaths are determined by using the outcome field in iPHIS. Any case marked 'Fatal' is included in the deaths data. Deaths are included whether or not COVID-19 was determined to be a contributing or underlying cause of death as indicated in the iPHIS field Type of Death.

- Cases for which the Disposition Status was reported as ENTERED IN ERROR, DOES NOT MEET DEFINITION, DUPLICATE-DO NOT USE, or any variation on these values have been excluded.
- To provide a measure of the impact of COVID-19 on long-term care homes and hospitals, the number of outbreaks and the associated cases are reported. To obtain the case and deaths data for these outbreaks, the aggregate counts recorded by public health units in the outbreak's summary counts section of iPHIS is used. This information is presented in table 4.
  - Previously only a select number of persons in institutional outbreaks would be tested for COVID-19, and there could still be circumstances where not all individuals end up being tested (e.g., the person dies before they can be tested).
  - These counts may not be updated as frequently as the information for laboratory-confirmed cases.
  - The information in the aggregate counts can not necessarily be reconciled with the laboratory-confirmed case data.

## Appendix A

**Table 1. Confirmed cases (n=8,961) of COVID-19 by public health unit: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**

Public Health Unit Name	Cases	Rate per 100,000 population
Northwestern Health Unit	10	11.4
Thunder Bay District Health Unit	34	22.7
<b>TOTAL NORTH WEST</b>	44	18.5
Algoma Public Health	10	8.7
North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	12	9.2
Porcupine Health Unit	42	50.3
Public Health Sudbury & Districts	39	19.6
Timiskaming Health Unit	10	30.6
<b>TOTAL NORTH EAST</b>	113	20.2
Ottawa Public Health	650	61.6
Eastern Ontario Health Unit	64	30.7
Hastings Prince Edward Public Health	28	16.6
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health	54	25.4
Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit	248	143.2
Renfrew County and District Health Unit	14	12.9
<b>TOTAL EASTERN</b>	1,058	54.9
Durham Region Health Department	463	65.0
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit	131	69.3
Peel Public Health	1,195	74.4

Public Health Unit Name	Cases	Rate per 100,000 population
Peterborough Public Health	53	35.8
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit	169	28.2
York Region Public Health	842	68.7
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL EAST</b>	<b>2,853</b>	<b>63.7</b>
Toronto Public Health	2,414	77.4
<b>TOTAL TORONTO</b>	<b>2,414</b>	<b>77.4</b>
Chatham-Kent Public Health	25	23.5
Grey Bruce Health Unit	40	23.5
Huron Perth Public Health	33	23.6
Lambton Public Health	126	96.2
Middlesex-London Health Unit	250	49.3
Southwestern Public Health	37	17.5
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit	398	93.7
<b>TOTAL SOUTH WEST</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>53.8</b>
Brant County Health Unit	71	45.7
City of Hamilton Public Health Services	292	49.3
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit	145	127.1
Halton Region Public Health	347	56.1
Niagara Region Public Health	314	66.5
Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services	234	40.0
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health	167	53.5
<b>TOTAL CENTRAL WEST</b>	<b>1,570</b>	<b>55.1</b>
<b>TOTAL ONTARIO</b>	<b>8,961</b>	<b>60.3</b>

**Table 2. Confirmed cases (n=1,188) of COVID-19 with travel history\* by location: Ontario, January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020**

Location travelled to**	Cases
United States	393
United Kingdom	124
Cruise	72
Mexico	68
Spain	48
Quebec	42
France	41
Germany	37
Portugal	30
Austria	22
Philippines	20
Switzerland	20
Iran	19
Egypt	18
India	16
British Columbia	14
Cuba	13
Ireland	13
Netherlands	12
Dominican Republic	11

Location travelled to**	Cases
Peru	11
Colombia	10
United Arab Emirates	9
Italy	8
Australia	6
Bahamas	6
Brazil	6
Ecuador	6
Morocco	6
Pakistan	6
China	5
Costa Rica	5
Jamaica	5
Turkey	5
Alberta	3
Argentina	3
Aruba	3
Barbados	3
Bolivia	3
Denmark	3
Israel	3
Jordan	3

Location travelled to**	Cases
New Zealand	3
Nova Scotia	3
Panama	3
Saint Martin	3
Singapore	3
Cayman Islands	2
Haiti	2
Manitoba	2
Russian Federation	2
South Africa	2
Trinidad And Tobago	2
Viet Nam	2
Antigua And Barbuda	1
Bangladesh	1
Belgium	1
Botswana	1
Bulgaria	1
Burkina Faso	1
Cambodia	1
Central African Republic	1
Chile	1
Côte D'Ivoire	1



Location travelled to**	Cases
Grenada	1
Hong Kong	1
Iceland	1
Japan	1
Lebanon	1
Malta	1
Qatar	1
Saskatchewan	1
South Korea	1
Sri Lanka	1
State of Palestine	1
Sweden	1
Tahiti	1
Uganda	1
Yukon	1

\*Travel within the 14 days prior to symptom onset.

\*\* Cases may report travel exposures for more than one country, or may report travel as a risk factor without specifying the location. Because of this, the sum of the counts in this table may not add to the number of cases with travel exposure.

## Disclaimer

This document was developed by Public Health Ontario (PHO). PHO provides scientific and technical advice to Ontario's government, public health organizations and health care providers. PHO's work is guided by the current best available evidence at the time of publication.

The application and use of this document is the responsibility of the user. PHO assumes no liability resulting from any such application or use.

This document may be reproduced without permission for non-commercial purposes only and provided that appropriate credit is given to PHO. No changes and/or modifications may be made to this document without express written permission from PHO.

## Citation

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Epidemiologic summary: COVID-19 in Ontario – January 15, 2020 to April 15, 2020. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2020.

## For Further Information

For more information, email [cd@oahpp.ca](mailto:cd@oahpp.ca).

## Public Health Ontario

Public Health Ontario is a Crown corporation dedicated to protecting and promoting the health of all Ontarians and reducing inequities in health. Public Health Ontario links public health practitioners, front-line health workers and researchers to the best scientific intelligence and knowledge from around the world.

For more information about PHO, visit [publichealthontario.ca](http://publichealthontario.ca).

