



COVID-19 AND PUBLIC HEALTH FALL 2023 UPDATE

Presented to
York Regional Council

Presented by
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Medical Officer of Health

Presented on
September 14, 2023



COVID-19 FALL 2023 UPDATE

Global and Local Pandemic Status

- Increasing indicators – wastewater, institutional outbreaks, hospitalizations, percent positivity, new variants (EG5.1, BA 2.86). Deaths stable
- Southern Hemisphere flu and COVID
 - Early season, moderately severe, under 15 affected, <5 severely
 - Good flu vaccine match (98-99% match; 52% effective against hospitalization)

We are Prepared

- Integration of COVID-19 work into infectious disease division
- Vaccine clinics at the ready – COVID and Flu – five fixed sites; RSV in LTC
- Proactive support and audits of LongTerm Care and congregate settings (88% done)
- Local, interdepartmental, health care and Provincial outbreak exercises

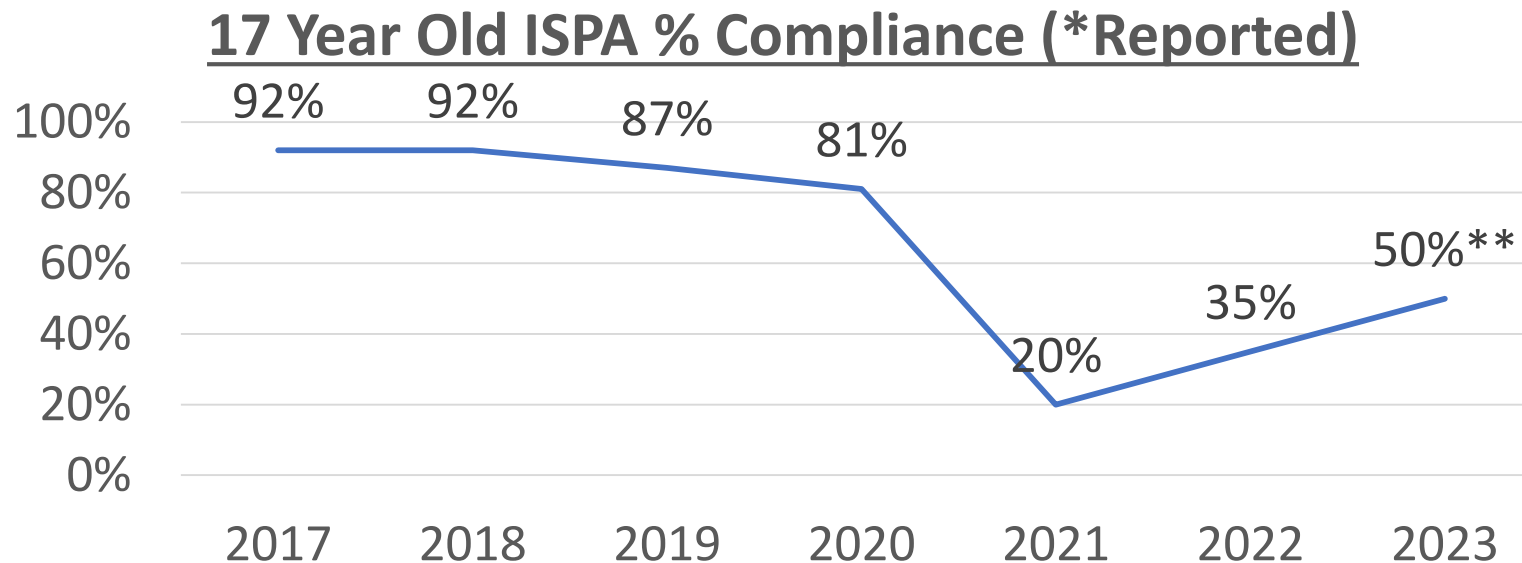
What to expect

- Increased activity for public health and acute care
- Unlikely any mandatory measures

PUBLIC HEALTH POST-PANDEMIC CATCHUP

Infectious Diseases

- Immunization Catchup – in-school, community clinics, engagement campaign
- Immunization of School Pupil Act (ISPA) enforcement (seven-to-eight years of age)
- Immunization Connect Ontario (ICON) online reporting



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PUBLIC HEALTH POST-PANDEMIC CATCHUP

Health Protection

- Food safety (new online portal), personal service setting, water – pre-covid
- Tick, WestNile surveillance, tobacco enforcement – pre-covid
- Infection Prevention and Control – augmented

Healthy Living

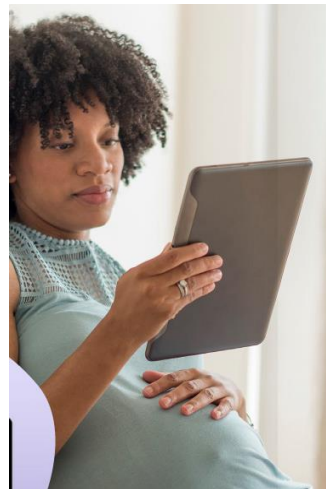
- Updated Opioid Action Plan, Harm Reduction services – resumed
- School programming – augmented mental health focus
- Sexual Health Clinics – outreach, in-person, virtual care, HIV, MPOX – augmented



PUBLIC HEALTH POST-PANDEMIC CATCHUP

Child and Family Health

- Virtual and in-person infant feeding clinics, Healthy Babies Healthy Children home visiting, parenting groups – exceeding pre-pandemic levels
- Oral health screening in schools, children preventive clinic – pre-covid service
- Senior emergency dental backlog – resolved
- Innovation – pre-natal mental health app, CBT transition to parenting



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QUESTIONS

For more information:

Dr. Barry Pakes

Medical Officer of Health

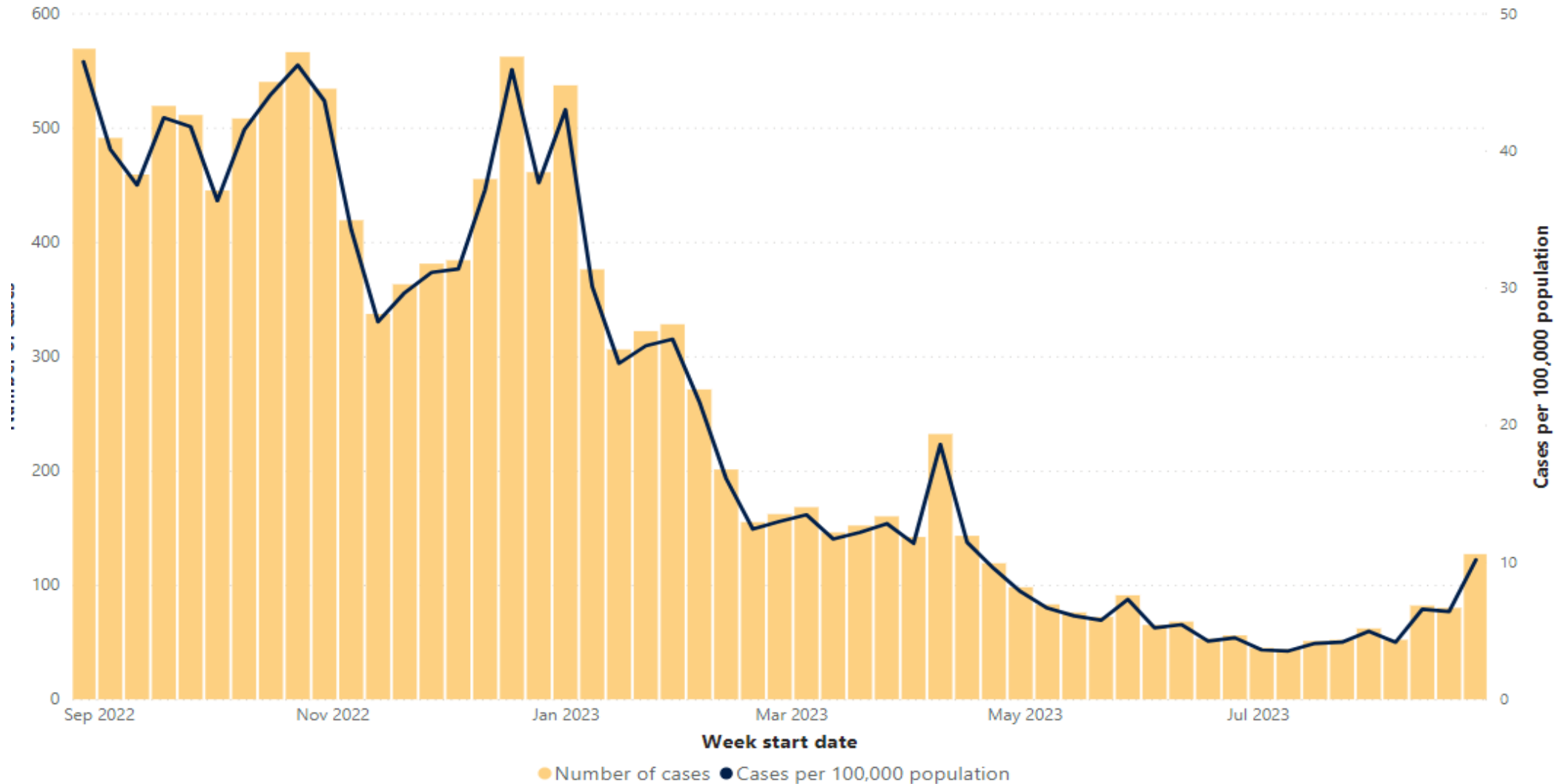
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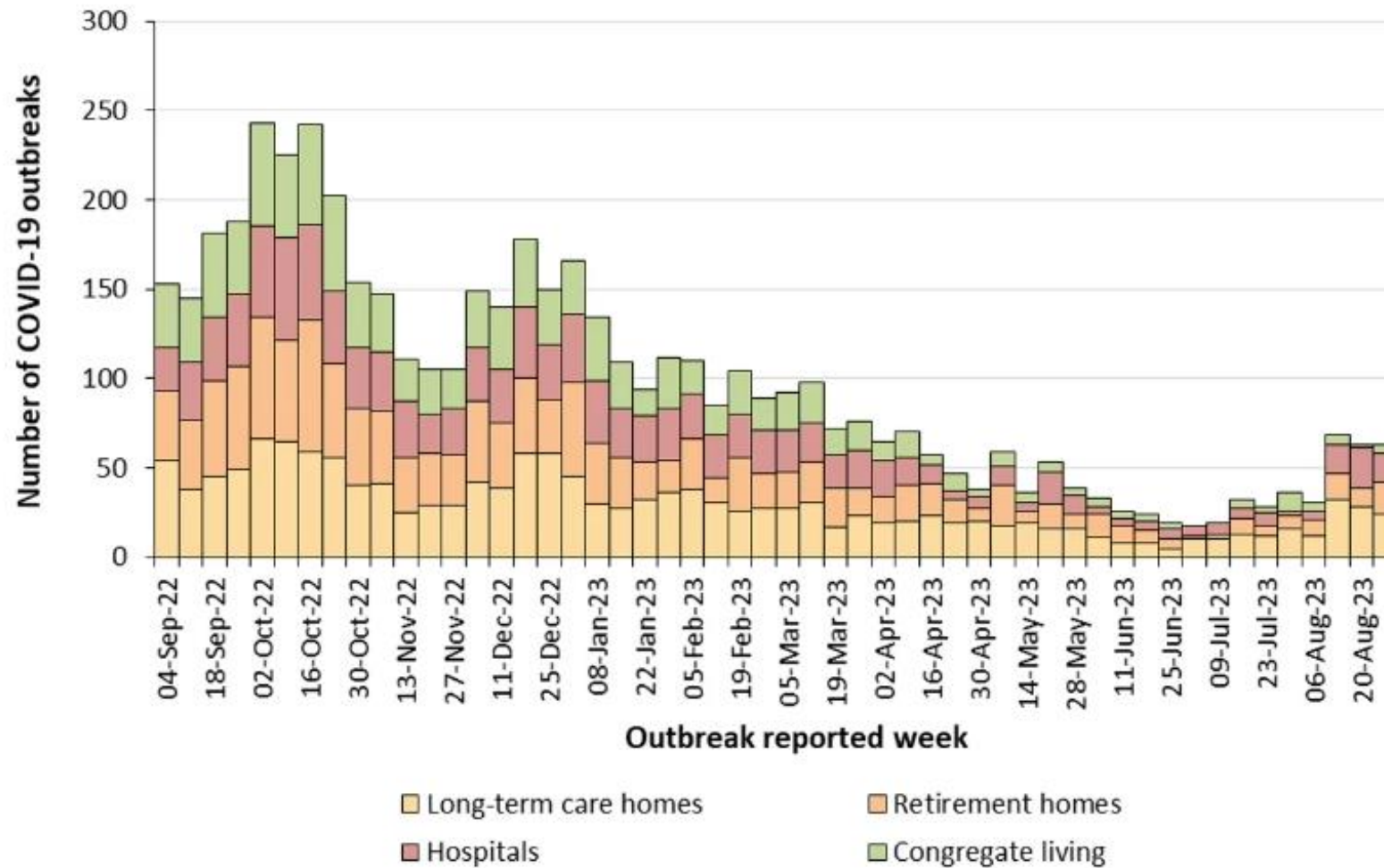
COVID-19 IN YORK REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

Laboratory confirmed weekly case counts and rates of COVID-19 in York Region Public Health

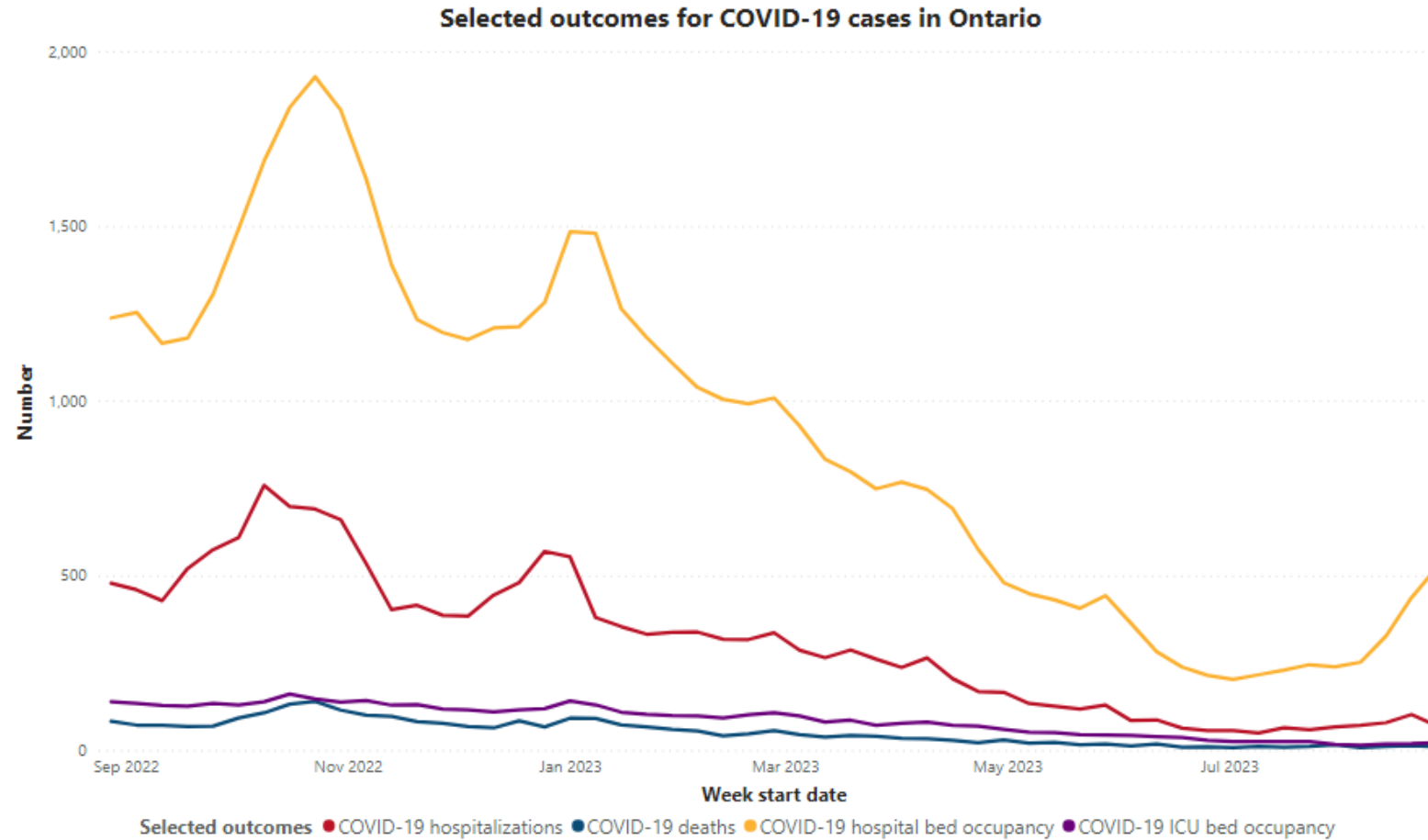


COVID-19 OUTBREAKS

COVID-19 outbreaks



SELECTED OUTCOMES FOR COVID-19 CASES IN ONTARIO



Notes:

COVID-19 hospital admissions are placed in time by hospital admission date. COVID-19 deaths are placed in time by date of death. COVID-19 deaths in cases 0 to 19 years of age are not stratified by public health unit and are only presented at the provincial level within this tool. Results by public health unit and age group are not available for bed occupancy data. For further details, please refer to the technical notes.