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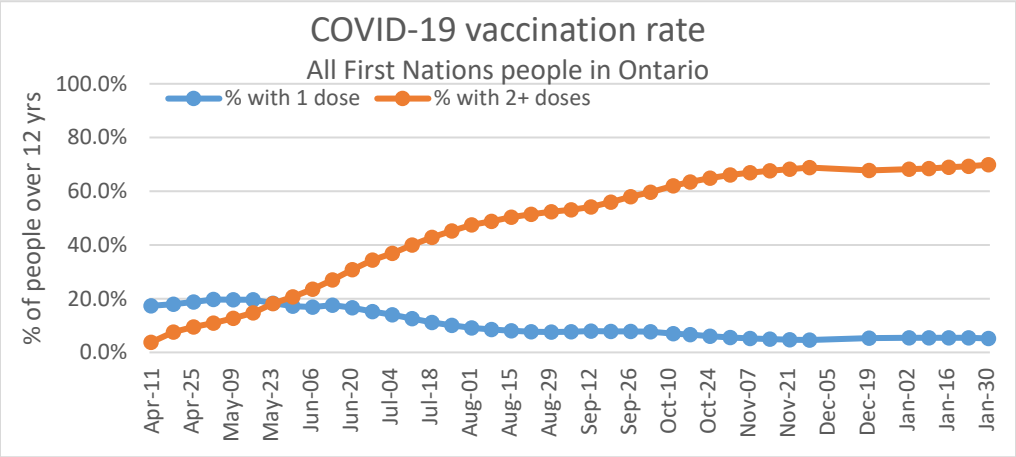
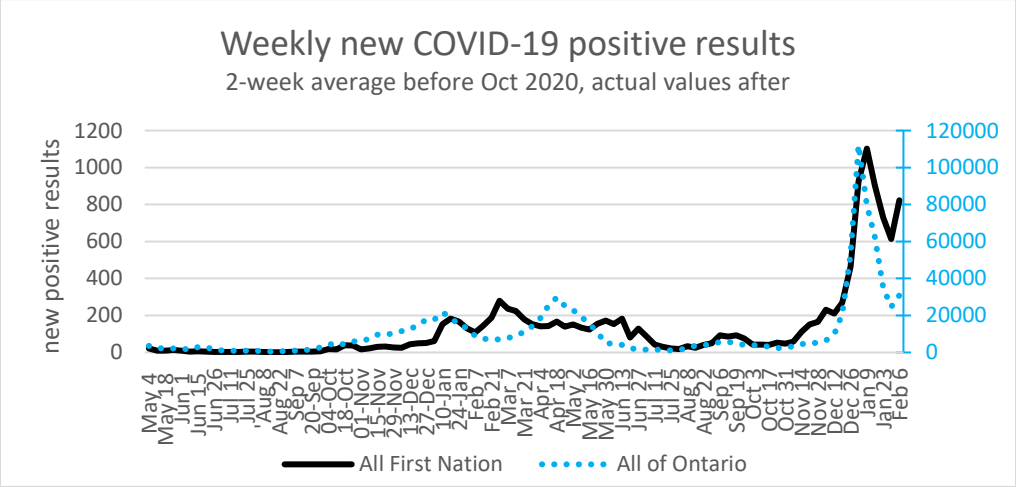
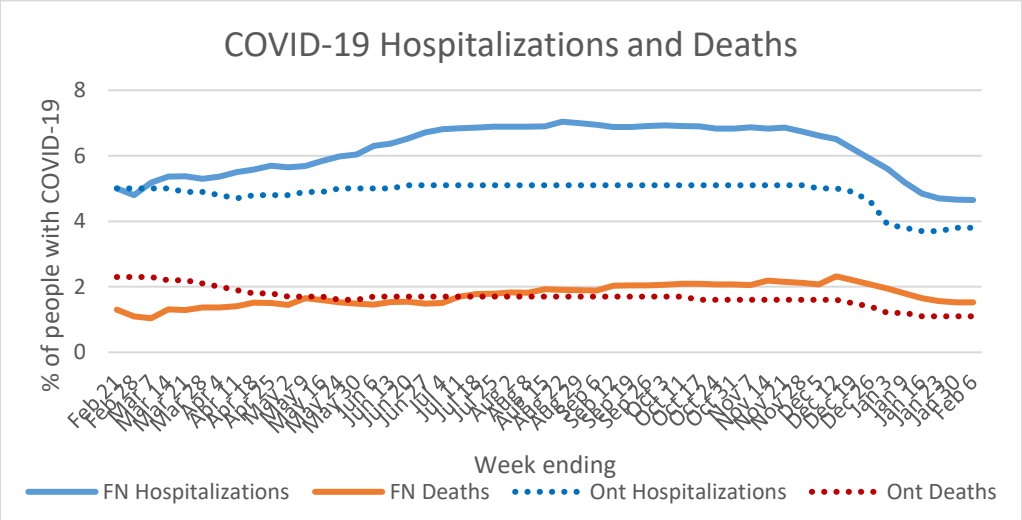
First Nations COVID-19 testing and vaccination in Ontario: Weekly report 93



Since late Nov 2021, there has been ***no change*** in the proportion of people vaccinated (as of Jan 31, 2022).



New positive test results ***increased*** among First Nations as of Feb 6, 2022. Ontario numbers remained low. ***These numbers underestimate actual positive results due to testing changes.***



Rates for hospitalization and death ***held steady*** among First Nations and across Ontario as of Feb 6, 2022.

Key messages

- ***Since late Nov 2021**, there has been **no change** in the proportion of First Nations people with 2 or more doses or with those receiving 1 dose in the week ending Jan 31, 2022.*
- *The number of new positives results **increased** among First Nations in the week ending Feb 6, 2022. The number of positive results among First Nations to date is 12,174. Ontario numbers remained low in the past week. **Note that counts of positive results since Dec 31, 2021 underestimate the true number due to changes in eligibility for testing.***
- *Hospital admission and death rates **held steady** among First Nations and across Ontario.*

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Testing in Registered First Nations People in Ontario**

WEEKLY UPDATE

Tuesday, February 8, 2022 (covering tests completed January 31, 2022 to February 6, 2022; vaccinations between January 25, 2022 to January 31, 2022)

N=455	
Number and % of people in the group who were newly tested for COVID-19	
141 (0.29%)	314 (0.30%)
in a First Nations community***	outside of a First Nations community
N=824	
Number and % of people in the group newly tested who were positive for COVID-19	
304 (1.04%)	520 (0.96%)
in a First Nations community***	outside of a First Nations community
N=870	
Number and % of people in the group newly fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (2 doses, 12 yrs +)	
322 (0.66%)	548 (0.53%)
in a First Nations community***	outside of a First Nations community
NUMBERS TO DATE (covering tests completed January 15, 2020 to February 6, 2022; vaccinations between December 15, 2020 to January 31, 2022)	
N=83,140	
Number and % of people in the group who were tested TO DATE for COVID-19	
29,250 (60.1%)	53,890 (52.2%)
in a First Nations community***	outside of a First Nations community
N=12,174	
Number and % of people tested in the group TO DATE who were positive for COVID-19	
4,437 (15.2%)	7,737 (14.4%)
in a First Nations community***	outside of a First Nations community
N=106076	
Number and % of people in the group who were fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (2 doses, 12 yrs +) TO DATE	
33,776 (69.4%)	72,300 (70.1%)
in a First Nations community***	outside of a First Nations community

Key geographic areas (See appendix)	Tested	Positive cases	Fully vaccinated	FN population
North West	23,179 (60.2%)	2,620 (11.3%)	27,687 (71.9%)	38,525
North East	19,688 (56.6%)	2,656 (13.5%)	25,111 (72.2%)	34,783
Southwest	21,462 (52.4%)	4,433 (20.7%)	27,458 (67.0%)	40,958
Southeast	10,454 (48.1%)	1,337 (12.8%)	14,752 (67.9%)	21,723
Central	8,176 (54.1%)	1,106 (13.5%)	10,966 (72.6%)	15,108

* suppressed for privacy. ** 151,802 Registered First Nations people in Ontario with a health card; *** based on the residence on the Health Card files. ^ Note: only data for individuals 7+ were available (due to IRS data only up to 2014)

Technical notes

- ***Data source:*** Characteristics of COVID-19 diagnostic test recipients among the Ontario First Nations population, ICES. As of July 18, 2020, the data sources for test volumes and results expanded beyond the original Ontario Laboratory Information System to include data from the Public Health Information System (IPHIS), Distributed Labs (DL), and Public Health Ontario Laboratory (PHOL) databases. Ontario hospitalization and death rates from the Ontario COVID-19 Data Tool. COVID-19 vaccination data are from COVAXON via ICES. They include all First Nations people who are registered in the IRS and live in Ontario, regardless of whether they live within First Nations communities or not. (Exclusions are: people less than 7 years old, people who declined data entry and members of KCA communities and and a small number of communities who decided against entry into COVAXON).
- ***Intervals in the reported data***: Data are as of the week ending on the date shown with the exception of June 20, Jun 26 and Jul 4 for which data for First Nations are for the previous 5, 6 and 8 days, respectively, due to changes in reporting period. Subsequently, data for Ontario and First Nations are reported as rates for 7-day periods, pro-rated as necessary when report intervals are 6 or 8 days, due to the impact of holidays on the reporting process.
- ***Weekly new positive results:*** Prior to Oct 2020, each week's total is the average of the current and previous week to mask values of less than 5, in compliance with data suppression rules. After that, actual numbers were used because the volume of new results per week was consistently (and unfortunately) more than 5. Data for Jul 18 and Aug 1, 2020 are based on averages of the previous and following weeks of both dates, to correct for known data quality issues.
- ***Boundaries of "areas":*** Test results of individuals are reported for the LHIN associated with the postal code on the individual's Ontario health card. LHINs included in each "area" for this report are: Northwest: LHIN 14; Northeast: LHIN 13; Southwest: LHINs 1-4; Southeast: LHINs 9-11; Central: LHINs 5-8, 12. Follow this link to view maps showing LHIN boundaries.
- ***Suppressed data:*** Data suppression is done at ICES. When data for one category in a series are suppressed, at least one of the results based on these categories must also be suppressed. Hence totals greater than 5 may be suppressed for one or more areas when at least one of the LHINs included in the calculation of area totals has less than 5 cases.