



# PUBLIC HEALTH MEMO

## COVID-19

This is a stakeholder update for the week of March 1 to March 7, 2021.

Submitted on March 8, 2021.

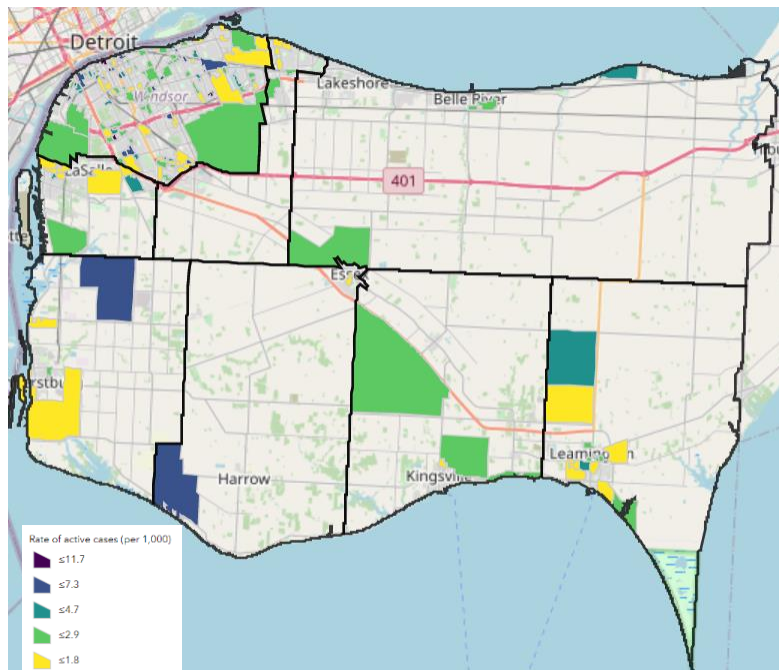
### Current Statistics

For all up-to-date data and information, please visit the [Local Updates](#) page on our website, which includes the local COVID-19 Dashboard. Daily local public health live updates and weekly summary reports can also be found on the [WECHU YouTube Channel](#).

#### Case Counts in Windsor and Essex County

<div>Confirmed Cases</div> <div>13,200 (↑51)</div>		<div>Deaths</div> <div>393</div>		<div>Resolved Cases</div> <div>12,545</div>	
<div>Current LTC &amp; RH Outbreaks</div> <div>2</div>		<div>Current Workplace Outbreaks</div> <div>5</div>		<div>Current Community Outbreaks</div> <div>3</div>	
				<div>Current School Outbreaks</div> <div>2</div>	

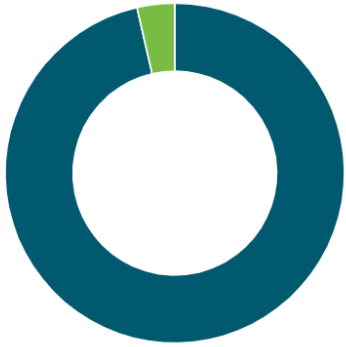
#### Confirmed Active COVID-19 Cases in Windsor and Essex County



*The map reflects the number of active positive COVID-19 cases per 1000 residents. Please note that this does not reflect where the cases were infected, but rather where they reside. Cases may have been exposed to COVID-19 outside of their home or in other settings.*



## Variant of Concern (VOC) Cases



- Cases with Preliminary Positive VOC Tests
- South African Variant (B.1.351)
- United Kingdom Variant (B.1.1.7)
- Brazilian Variant (P.1)

**Note:** Interpret VOC data with caution due to the time delay between specimen collection, preliminary screening, and confirmation of the strain.

## Federal, Provincial and Local Guidelines and Recommendations (Updates)

### Federal

- On March 7, Dr. Theresa Tam provided an update on the new vaccines offered in Canada; Visit the [CPHO Sunday Edition: Canada's Two New COVID-19 Vaccines: What You Should Know](#)
- A [Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada](#) on March 6, 2021 highlighted the number of vaccine doses administered thus far, along with vaccine safety information.
- Government of Canada provided a [COVID-19 Update for Indigenous Peoples and communities](#) on March 5.
- The [Janssen COVID-19 vaccine](#) was authorized by Health Canada vaccine on March 5.
- On March 4, a news release [Modified COVID-19 vaccines for variants to be fast-tracked](#) was issued. Health Canada announced new guidance describing what information regulators would need to approve any modifications to authorized COVID-19 vaccines, should virus mutations make them less effective at preventing COVID-19.

### Provincial

- The Ontario government is preparing to move into [Phase Two of its COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan](#) next month, with a focus on vaccinating populations based on age and risk. This approach is designed to save lives, protect those at risk of serious illness and to stop the virus from spreading.
- Premier Doug Ford and his fellow Premiers renewed calls for the federal government to increase its share of funding for provincial and territorial health care to 35 per cent. The March 4 news release is here [Ontario Renews Calls for Ottawa to Provide Fair Share of Health Care Funding](#).

### Windsor-Essex

- As of March 8, 2021, there are two long-term care and retirement home outbreaks, five workplace outbreak, three community outbreaks, two school outbreaks, and one hospital outbreak in the Windsor-Essex region. For more information on outbreaks, please visit the [WECHU website](#).
- The WECHU has issued a public exposure notification for the following locations: Ouellette Avenue Pharmacy on Ouellette Ave and Starbucks at 6638 Tecumseh Road East. Although the potential exposures listed on the WECHU's



Public Exposure Notification page are considered low risk, individuals who visited these locations on the identified dates are asked to monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days from the date of exposure.

- The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) began administering the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to residents of Windsor and Essex County 80 years of age and older at the Nature Fresh Farms Recreation Centre (formerly Leamington Kinsmen Recreation Complex) in Leamington.
  - News release: [Leamington Targeted Vaccination Clinic Begins on Monday for Residents 80 Years and Older](#)
- Windsor Regional Hospital will [no longer provide COVID-19 testing for the purposes of international travel](#) at its two COVID-19 Assessment Centres effective March 8th. Three local options are available.
- The Media was invited to attend a [Walk-Through of COVID-19 Targeted Vaccination Clinic at WFCU Centre](#) on March 3.
- Dr. Saad, Chief of Staff and Vice President of Medical Affairs at Windsor Regional Hospital, [encouraged COVID-19 long haulers should bring symptoms to the attention of their doctor](#).

### **Vaccine Updates**

## **Vaccinations Administered to Windsor-Essex Residents**

# of WEC Residents Vaccinated with 1 Dose	# of WEC Residents Vaccinated with 2 Doses	Total Doses Administered
8,553	11,615	31,783

- A second vaccination clinic for residents 80+ is taking place at the Nature Fresh Farms Recreation Centre Vaccination Clinic in Leamington. It is by appointment only and drop-ins are not permitted. The clinic will operate from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, pending vaccine supply.

### ***Guidance Documents***

A list of all guidance documents from the Province of Ontario, and the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) can be found on the [Guidelines](#) page of the WECHU website. The following guidance documents have been updated:

- [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance](#) has been updated (V. 11.0) as of March 5, 2021
- [COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#) Version 13.0 - March 5, 2021
- [COVID-19 Guidance: Considerations for Privately Initiated Testing](#), Version 2.0 March 5, 2021
- [COVID-19 Guidance: Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing](#) Version 3.0 March 5, 2021
- [Point-of-Care Testing Use Case Guidance](#), Version 3.0, March 5, 2021
- [Appendix 9: Management of Individuals with Point-of-Care Testing Results](#), Version 3.0 March 5, 2021