



Public Health
Santé publique
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

Public Health Sudbury & Districts: Briefing on COVID-19

Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Medical Officer of Health

November 8, 2021

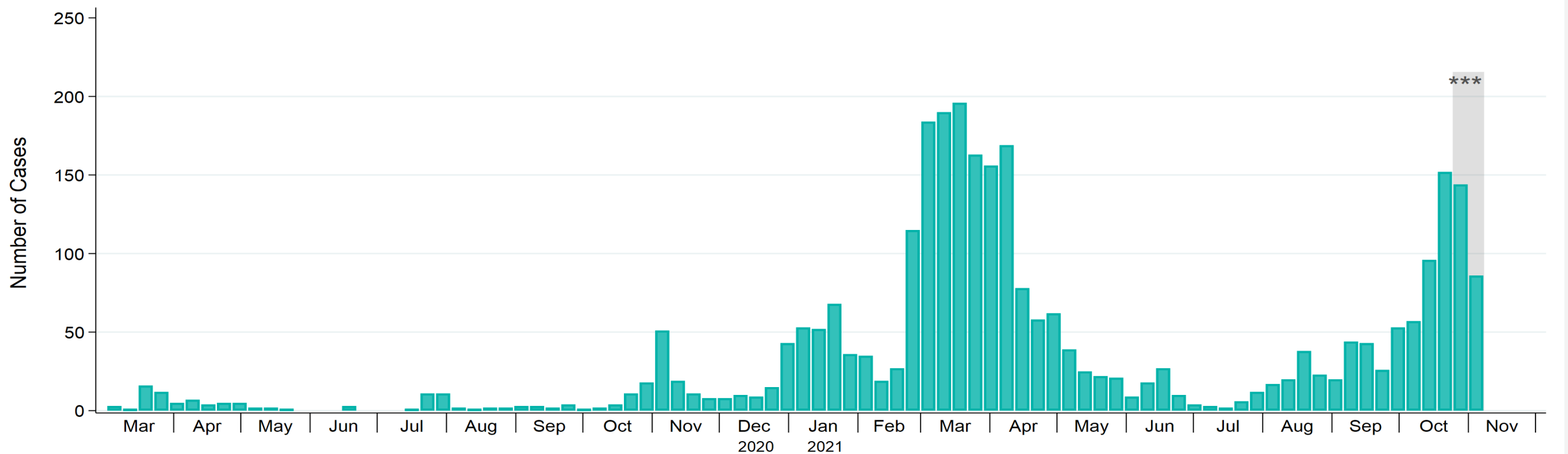
Key messages

- COVID-19 case counts are **rapidly rising** in Greater Sudbury
- Timing of case increases **aligned with lifting of provincial protections**, beginning October 9, 2021
- Currently have the **highest case rates in the province** by far
- In response, Public Health Sudbury & Districts' Medical Officer of Health is **reinstating provincial protections** to limit the spread of the virus and protect the health system in Greater Sudbury, effective 12:01 am November 10, 2021
- These **time-limited** additional measures combined with a recommitment to **individual COVID-safe behaviours** will protect people, the health system, and in-person learning

COVID-19 in Sudbury & Districts

- As of November 7, our region has seen **3061 reported cases** of COVID-19.
- **25% of all of the COVID cases to date have occurred since the start of September.**

Confirmed COVID-19 cases, by week, Sudbury and districts

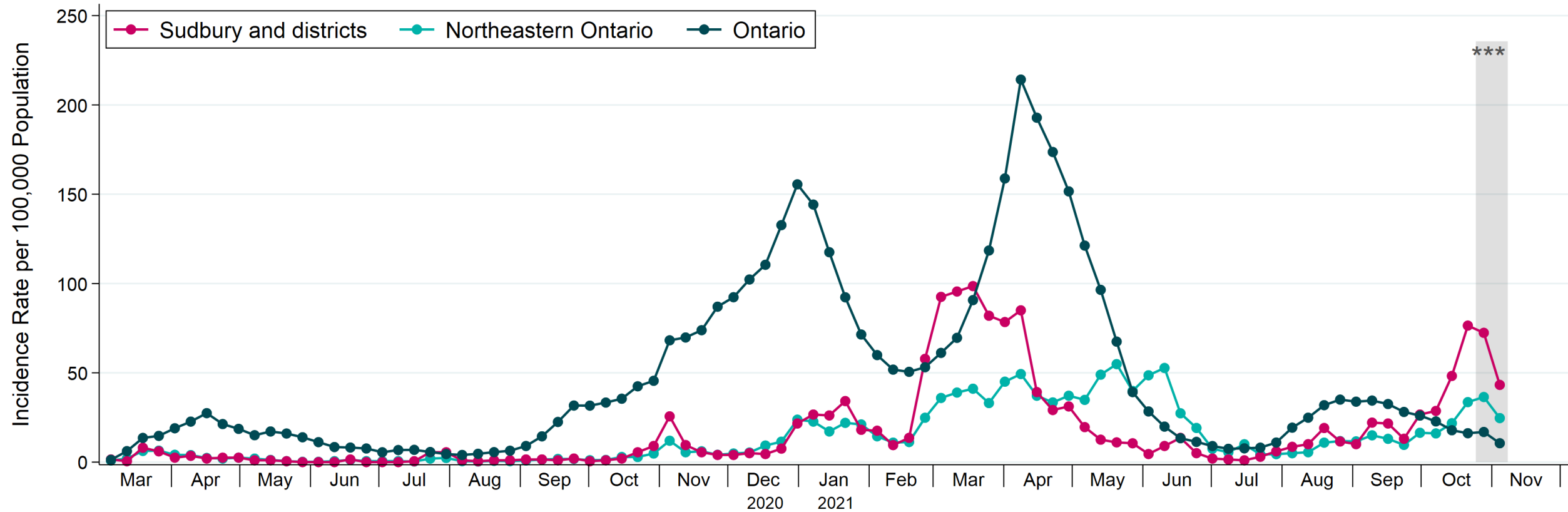


Impact of Delta Variant

- Currently, 99% of whole genome sequenced samples are positive for Delta.
- There are **no indications of anything different** with locally circulating strains as compared with those in the province overall.
- The Delta variant is highly transmissible, which means that it can spread and impact our health system despite high levels of vaccination.
- These risks can be mitigated by increasing **vaccine uptake** and **public health measures** such as capacity restrictions, masking, distancing, testing, remote work, and staying home if even mildly unwell.

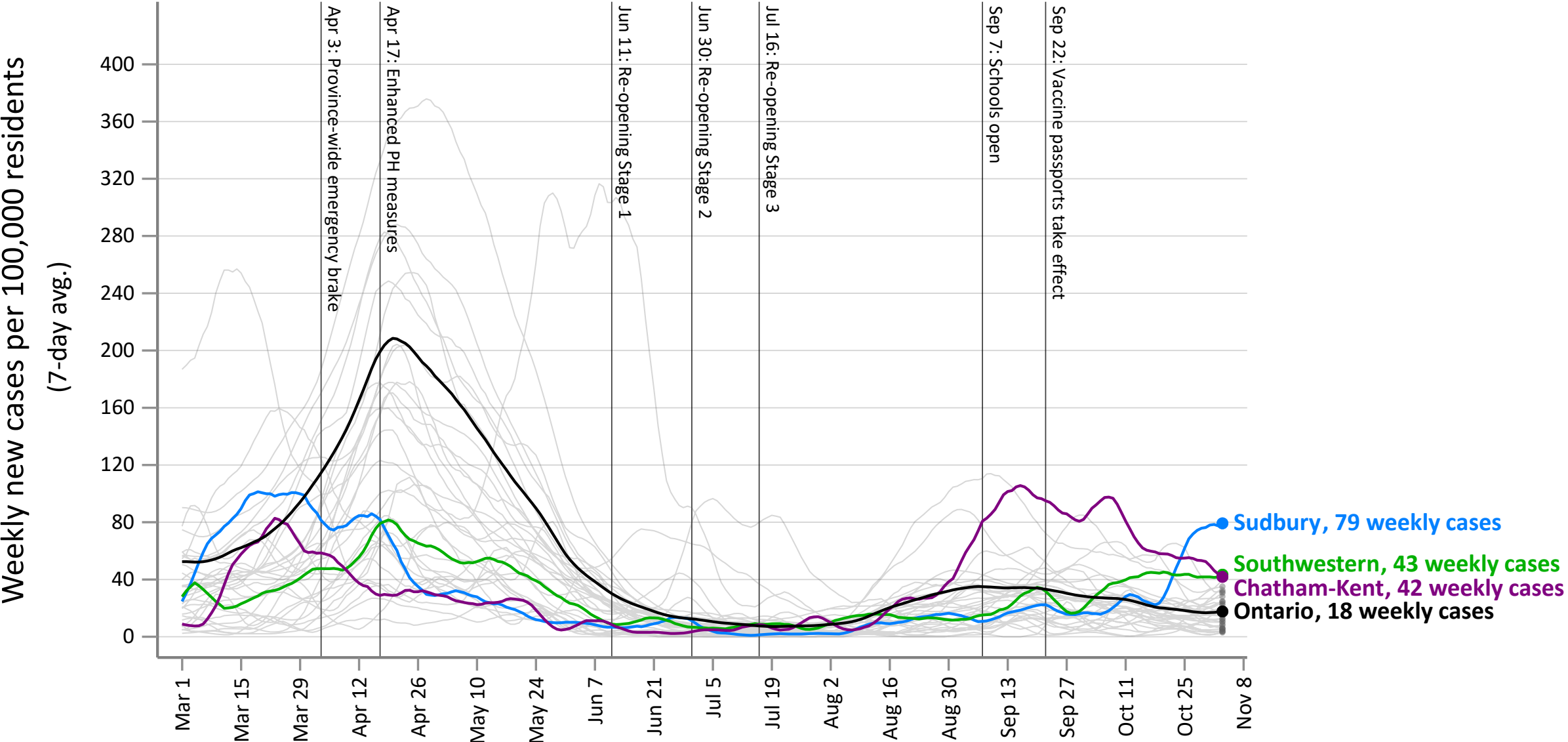
PHSD vs. the Rest of the Province

Incidence rate of COVID-19 per 100,000 population, by week and geographic region



Weeks start on Monday and are the earliest of the following: the case's date of symptom onset, their date of testing, or the date the case was reported to public health. *** Infections occurring during this period may not yet be detected and/or reported. Data Source: Ontario Treasury Board Secretariat, Data Catalogue, Confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Ontario. <https://data.ontario.ca/dataset/confirmed-positive-cases-of-covid-19-in-ontario> (Access Date: November 06, 2021) and Population Projections 2020, Ontario Ministry of Health, IntelliHEALTH Ontario, Access Date: April 21, 2021

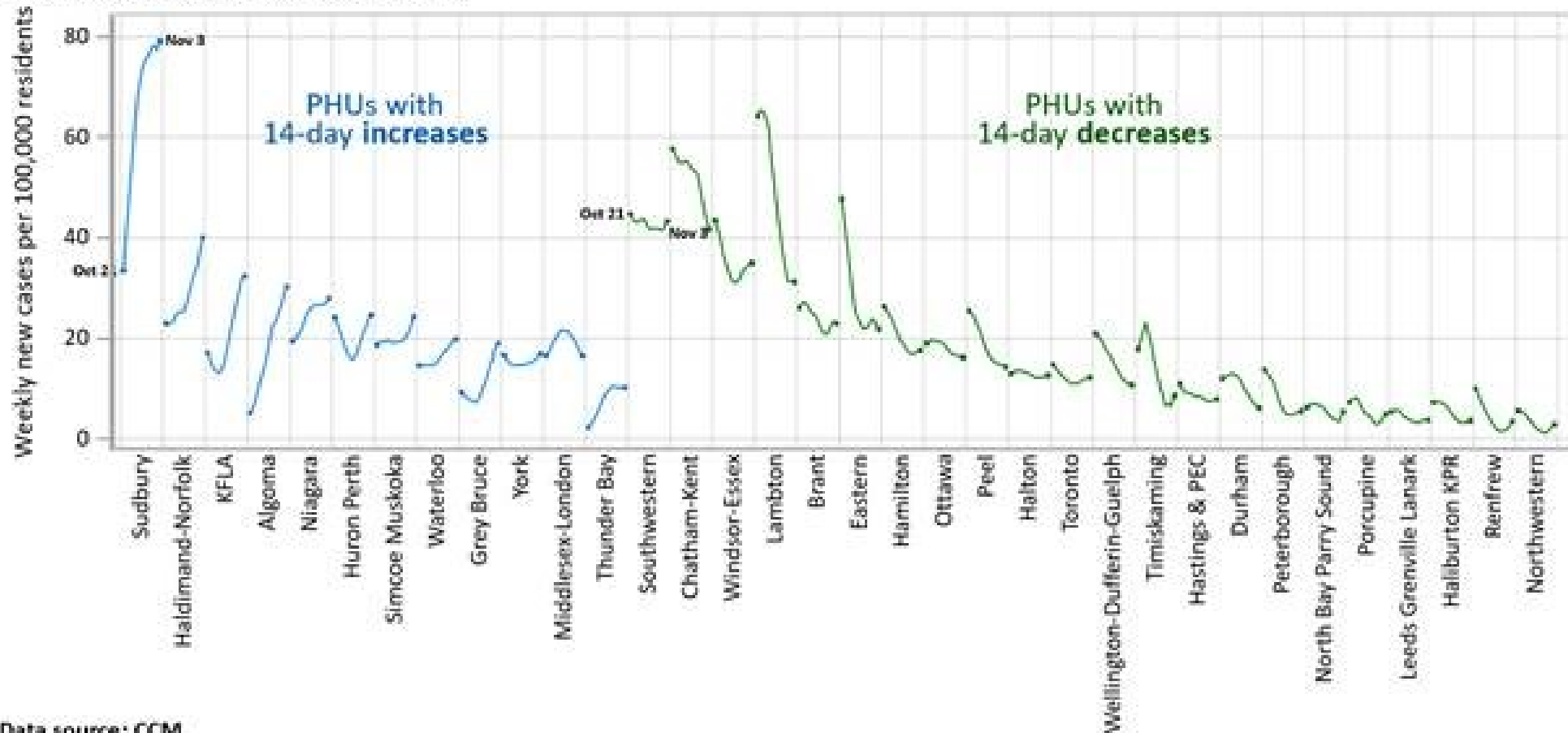
Total new cases per 100,000 residents per week across PHUs



Recent Case Trends Across Health Regions

Average weekly cases across Public Health Units

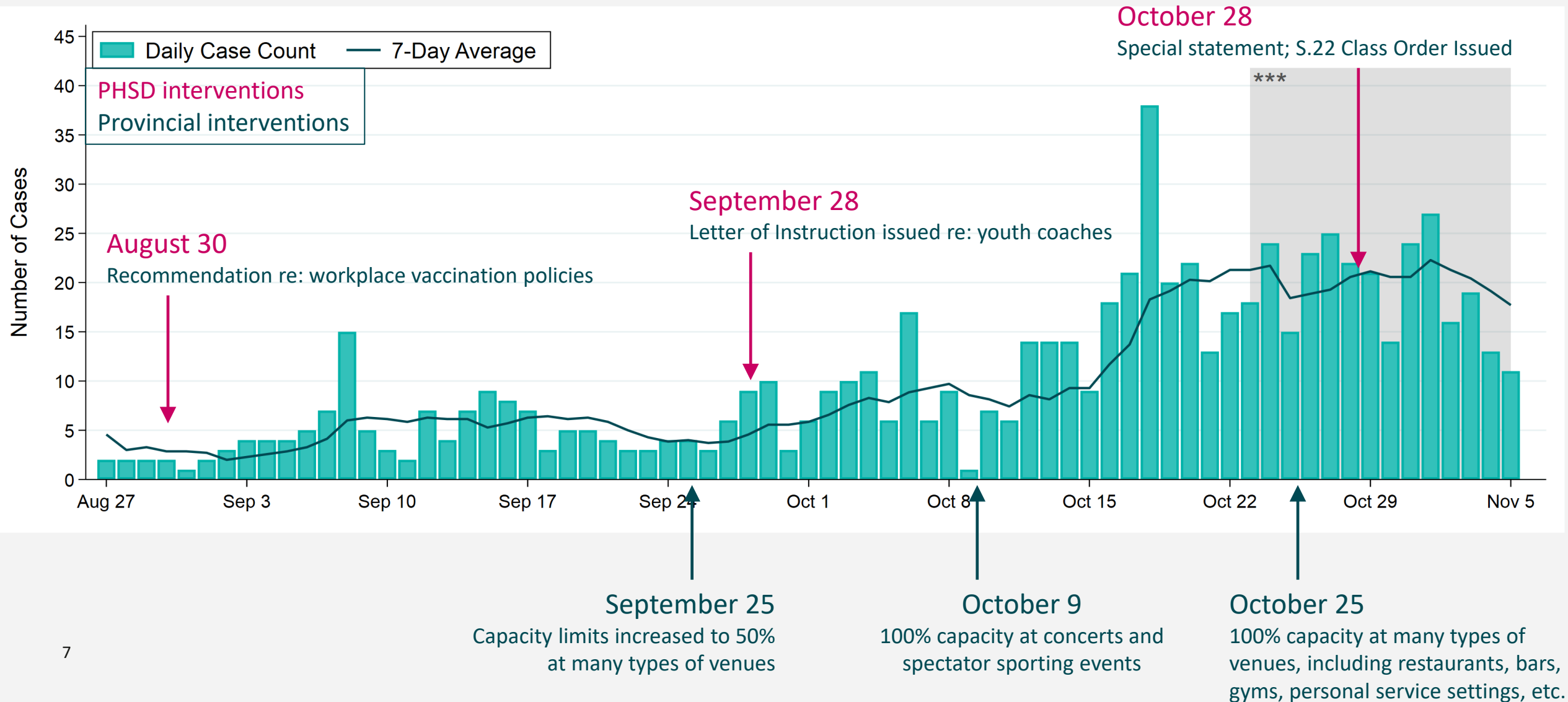
14-day trend (October 21 to November 3)



Data source: CCM

Data note: Data for the most recent day have been censored to account for reporting delays

Recent case counts and public health measures



The Impact of Vaccine Coverage on Case Rates

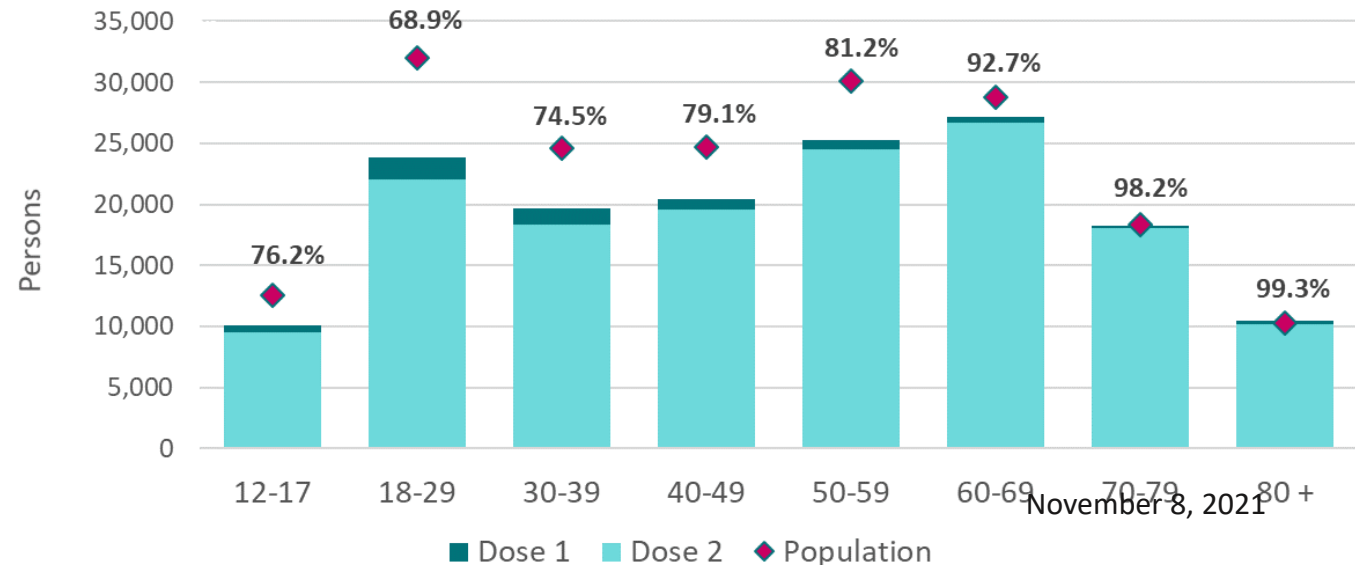
Highest local **case** incidence rates among those in their **20's** and **30's** for the 28-day period ending November 7.

Lowest dose-2 **vaccine** coverage rates among those in their **20's** and **30's** as of November 4.

28-day Incidence Rate / 100k Pop

Age (groups)	Incidence Rate
19 and under	189.8
20s	600.0
30s	590.9
40s	326.5
50s	151.8
60s	94.7
70s & 80s & 90s	94.5
Total	274.3

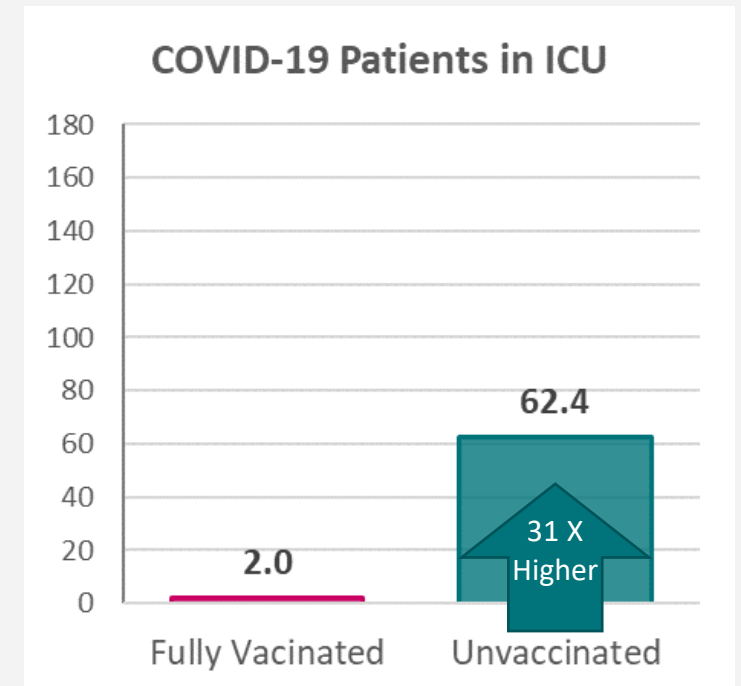
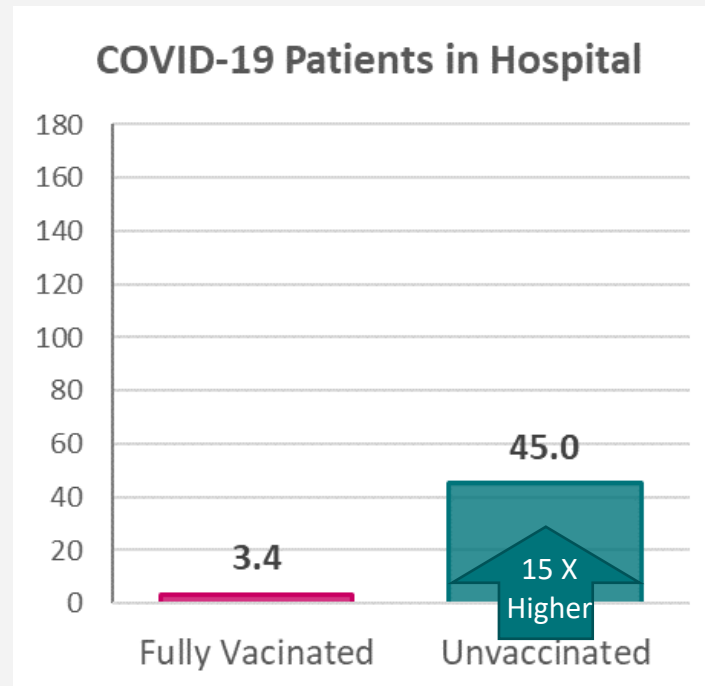
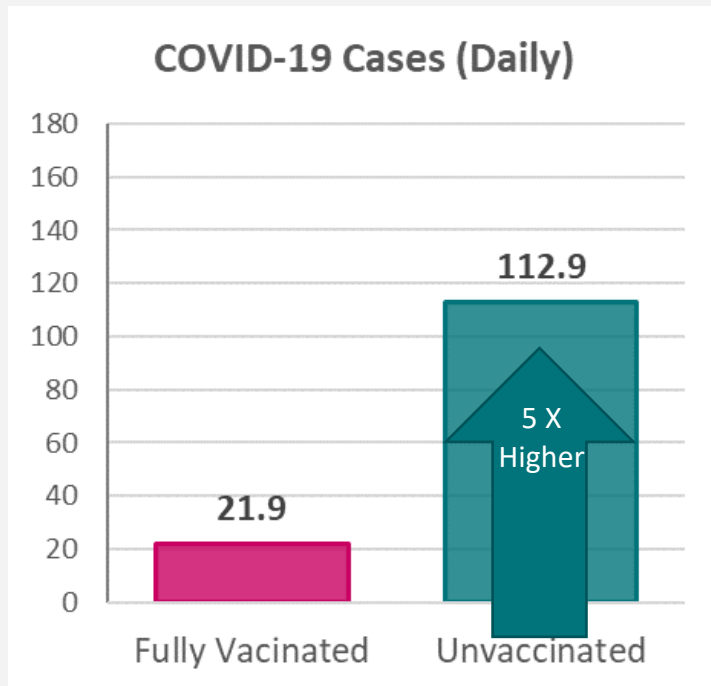
Dose 2 Coverage by Age-Group as of November 7, 2021



Vaccines Are Working ...

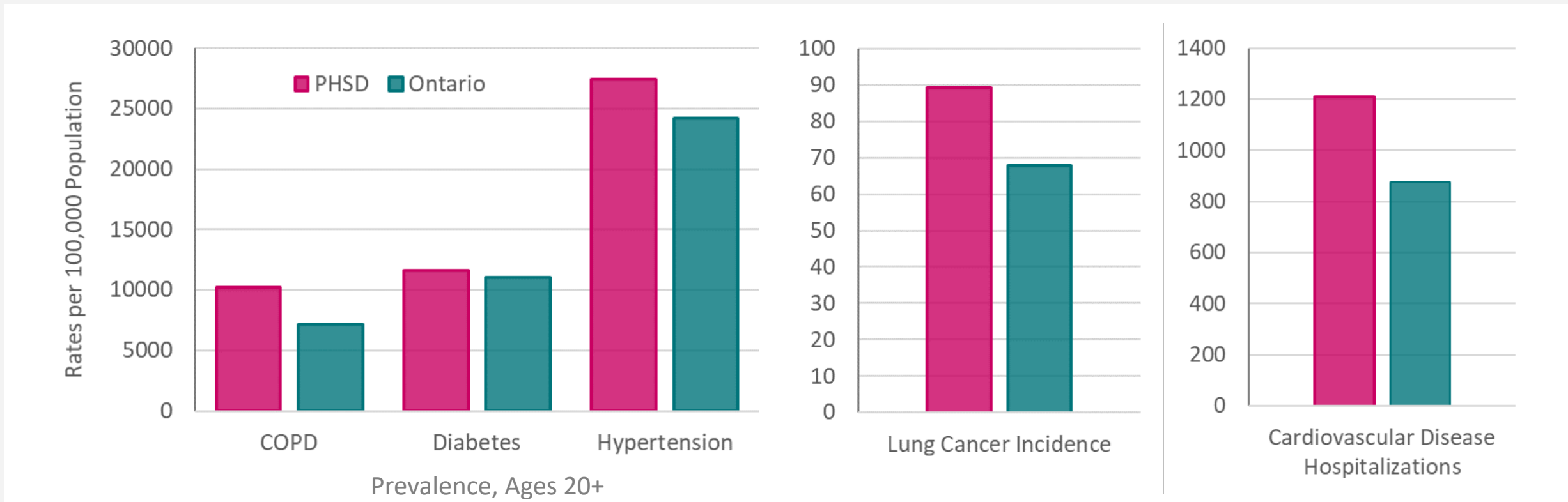
Generally, vaccines are working. Vaccination decreases the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19, as well as the risk of hospitalization or ICU admission for COVID-19.

Rates per Million Inhabitants, by Vaccination Status, November 7, 2021



Our community is vulnerable due to higher underlying rates of chronic disease

Age-standardized rates of various chronic disease outcomes, Sudbury and districts vs. Ontario



Taking further action to limit the spread of the virus and protect community health and the health system

- Instructions issued under the provincial *Reopening Ontario Act* require **Greater Sudbury businesses and operators to reinstate protections recently lifted by the province:**
 - Reinstatement of **capacity limits** and **physical distancing requirements** at premises that require proof of vaccination, while preserving their proof of vaccination requirements.
 - Businesses and organizations to **ensure masking at organized public events held indoors and outdoors** where participants are within 2 metres of individuals not part of their households.
 - Anyone 12 years of age and older who **actively participates** in **organized sports** (not just coaches, officials, etc.) will be **required to provide proof of vaccination** unless a medical exemption applies.
- In addition to personal public health measures, everyone is asked to:
 - Work from home where possible
 - Minimize outings to what's really essential
 - Get tested even if mildly unwell
 - Take all precautions possible in face-to-face interactions (including consideration of the number of people and the vaccination status of potential contacts)
- **Exploring Rapid Antigen Testing** with school board partners given elevated community transmission

Key messages recap

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