

Public Health Update

July 7, 2022

By Dr. James Brooks



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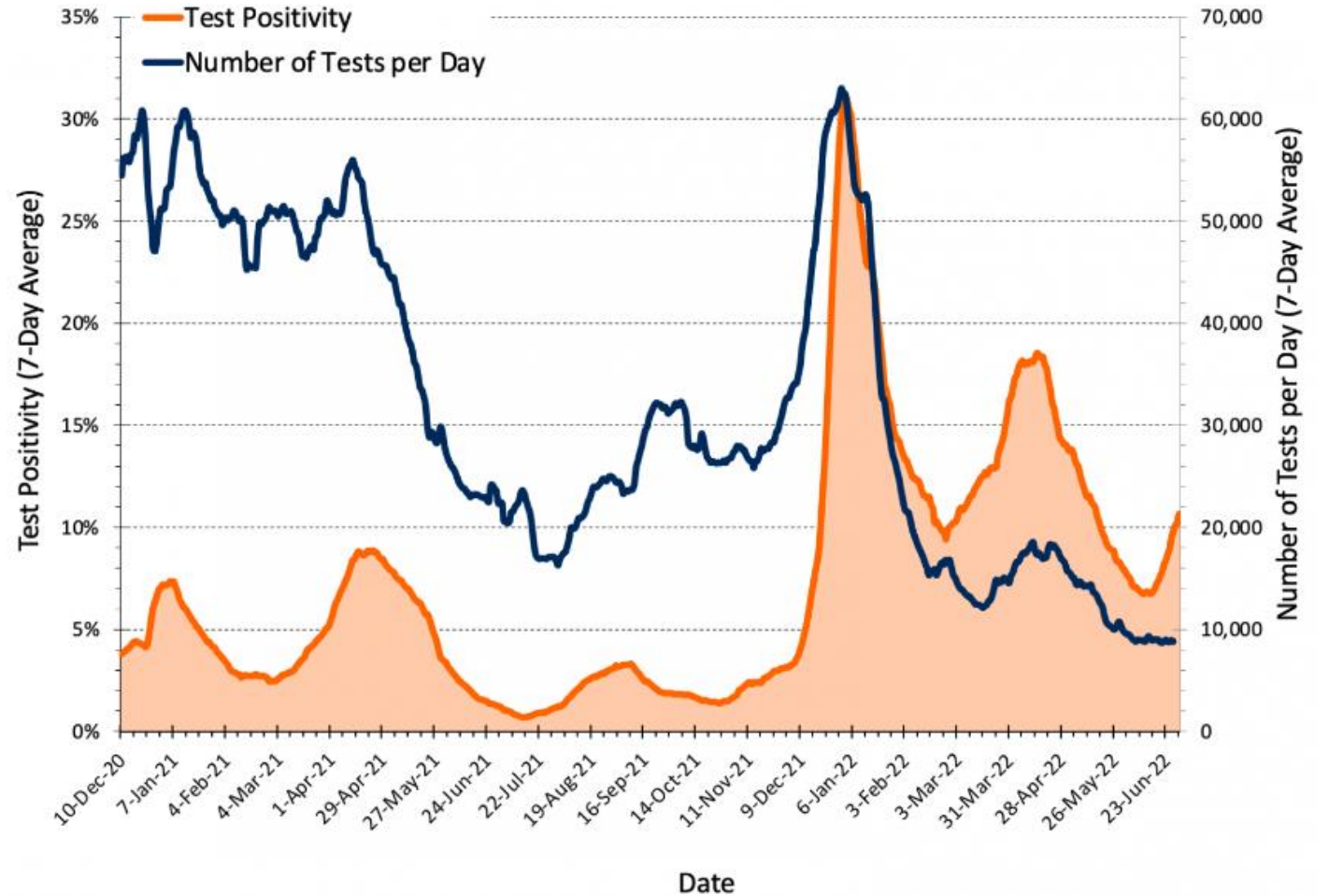
Topics for Today

- COVID-19 Update
- Monkeypox update



COVID in Ontario

- Ontario has officially entered its seventh wave of COVID-19, driven this time by the Omicron BA.5 subvariant

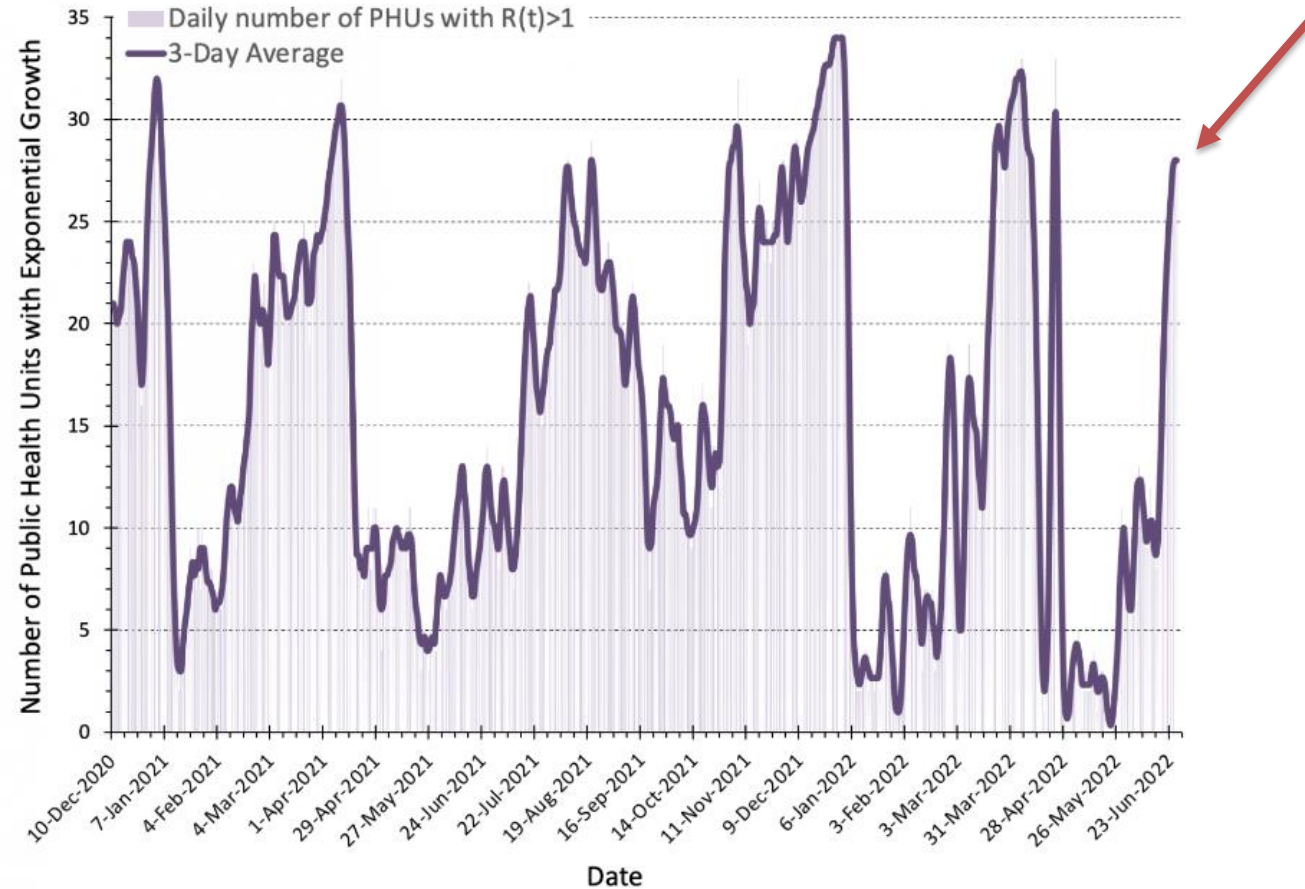


Source: Ontario Dashboard - Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table (covid19-sciencetable.ca)



COVID in Ontario

- ~80% of PHU reported exponential COVID-19 growth

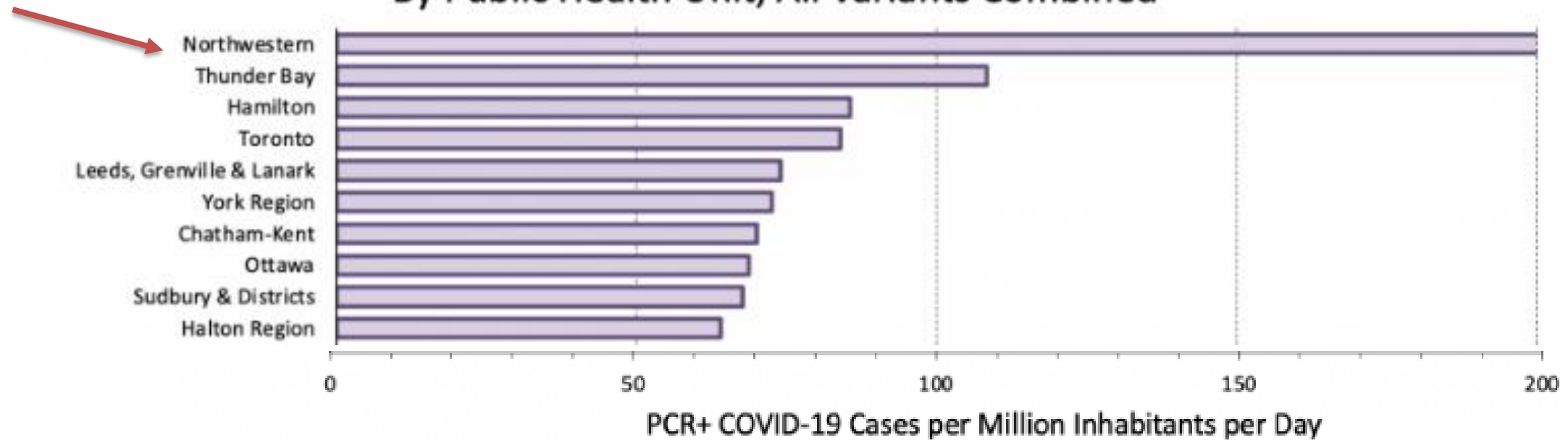


Source: [Ontario Dashboard - Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table \(covid19-sciencetable.ca\)](https://covid19-sciencetable.ca)



Estimated Rate of COVID-19 Cases per 1 Million Inhabitants per Day in Ontario

By Public Health Unit, All Variants Combined



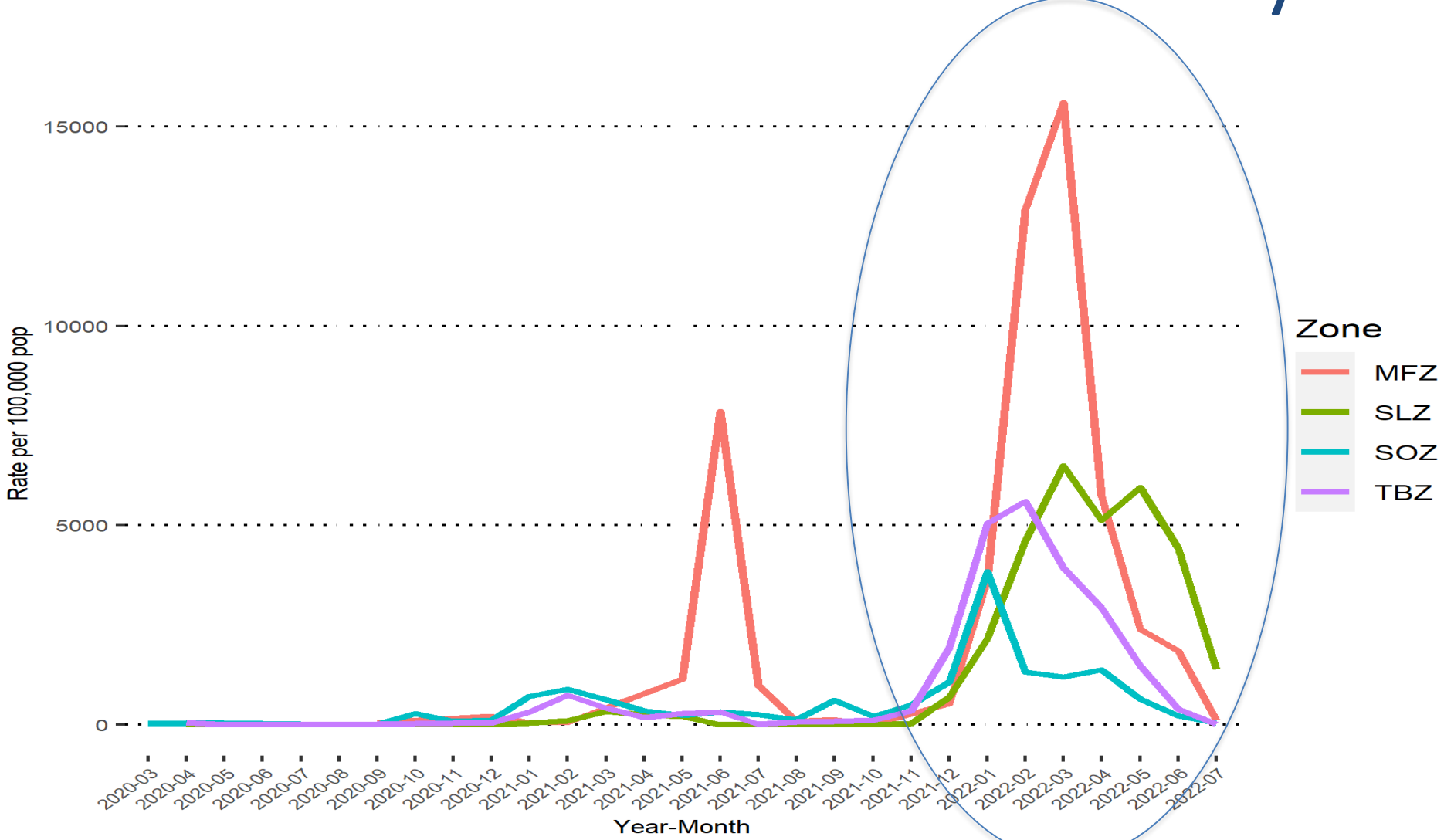
COVID in FN Communities

- As July 5th
 - 492 cases were active in 24 First Nations communities
 - 10 FN communities account for 93.7% of active COVID-19 cases
 - 89% of active COVID-19 cases were reported for communities located in Sioux Lookout Zone (SLZ)
 - No new death reported since May, 2022

Source: FNIHB-OR- COVID-19 Data set; July 6 2022.



COVID cases in FN Communities by Zone



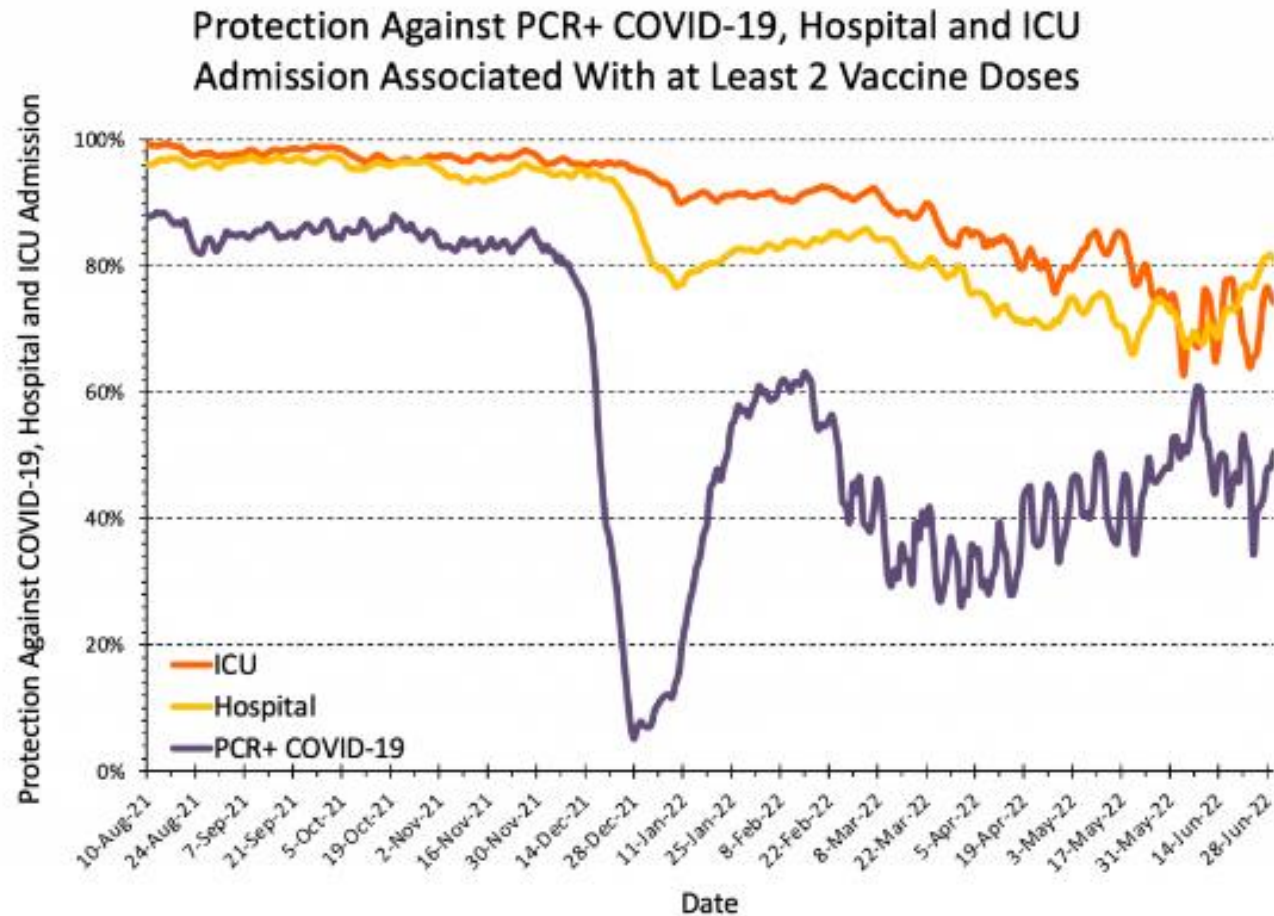
Source: FNIHB-OR- COVID-19 Data set; July 6 2022.



Importance of Staying Up To Date With Vaccines



Current COVID-19 Risk in Ontario by Vaccination Status



Vaccine Protection Against BA.4/BA.5

- Without a booster dose there is a minimal amount of protection against infection with BA.4/BA.5
- After boosting, there is measureable protection but it is 20x less than with the original COVID-19 virus
- Vaccination combined with previous Omicron infection doubles protection with antibodies against BA.4/BA.5 but it is still much lower than against the original COVID-19 virus

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc2206576



Association Between COVID-19 Vaccination and Long COVID After Infections in Health Care Workers

- Long COVID was found less frequently with each wave
- Vaccination was associated with lower risk of long COVID:
 - 42% with no vaccine
 - 30% with one dose
 - 17% with two doses
 - 16% with three doses

Rescigno, et al., July 1, 2022. doi:10.1001/jama.2022.11691



Summary

- BA.5 is the dominant VOC causing the seventh wave
- Cases will continue to increase in the short term
- Cases may appear later in the north (?)
- You can become infected with BA.5 even if you have had previous COVID-19 infections
- Receiving your booster dose is the best way to prevent serious infection and long COVID.
- Wear a mask if you are indoors with lots of people who are not your family – especially if you have health issues



Monkeypox update

[Source: Monkeypox in Ontario: May 20, 2022 to July 4, 2022 \(publichealthontario.ca\)](https://publichealthontario.ca)



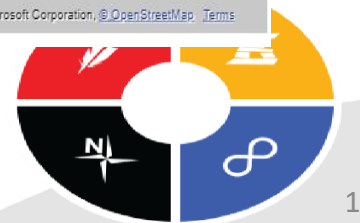
Monkeypox World Map

As of July 6,

- **7,243 cases of monkeypox were reported in 54 countries**
- **~80% of monkeypox cases are in EU**
- **324 confirmed cases of monkeypox in Canada**
- **604 confirmed cases of monkeypox in the US**



Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/response/2022/world-map.html>; [Monkeypox: Outbreak update - Canada.ca](#); [Multi-country monkeypox outbreak: situation update \(who.int\)](#)



Monkeypox in Canada

As of July 6,

Province or Territory	Confirmed cases
British Columbia	4
Alberta	8
Ontario	101
Quebec	211
Total	324

[Source: Monkeypox: Outbreak update - Canada.ca](#); [Monkeypox in Ontario: May 20, 2022 to July 4, 2022 \(publichealthontario.ca\)](#))



Monkeypox in ON

As of July 4th:

- 101 confirmed cases
- 85 (84.2%) confirmed cases were reported by Toronto Public Health
- 11 PHUs are reporting monkeypox cases
- No monkeypox cases have been reported in ON-FN communities

- Health Protection Unit has offered online education sessions to CHNs, NiCs and other health professionals

- Educational materials are available for healthcare workers on OneHealth portal (<https://www.onehealth.ca/on>)

Source: [Monkeypox in Ontario: May 20, 2022 to July 4, 2022 \(publichealthontario.ca\)](https://www.onehealth.ca/on)



Summary of Monkeypox Infection

- Close contact, sexual or otherwise, with someone who has monkeypox
- Anyone can get monkeypox if they come in contact with the lesions
- At present, the risk of exposure to monkeypox for the general population is low
- There are ongoing efforts to vaccinate those who are at risk to limit transmission
- Need to be careful with medical waste to prevent monkeypox becoming endemic in domestic animals



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