

For the third day in a row, Ontario is reporting a record increase of COVID-19 cases, with 1,575 new cases today — breaking yesterday’s record of 1,426 new cases. This is the seventh straight day of more than 1,000 new daily cases, with the average number of daily cases over the past week now standing at 1,299.

At a media conference at Heddle Shipyards in Hamilton, Ontario Premier Doug Ford urged Ontarians to follow public health advice, including staying home if you’re sick and avoiding large gatherings.

“We’re seeing the numbers all over the world, all over Canada, and right here in Ontario — they’re climbing, and they’re going in the wrong direction,” Ford said. “It’s concerning, it’s alarming, and we have to stay on high alert.”

“I’m asking people to be responsible,” Ford added. “We’ve now learned that eight sick people all attended two separate weddings. No-one is immune to this virus, but a small chance to see friends and family led to 17 confirmed cases. When we do the contact tracing and follow-up, some of these people have been in contact with 50 people. Do the math — that’s 850 people.”

“This is how the virus spreads when we don’t follow simple public health advice,” Ford added. “We’ve implemented new protocols to keep people safe, protocols that allow us to celebrate life’s special moments like weddings, but they depend on each of us doing our part. If you’re sick, please stay at home and get tested. Keep two metres apart. Wear a mask. And please don’t gather in large groups. I know we’re all tired of this pandemic, but we need to stay strong, we need to stick together. That’s how we’ll get through this.”

Most of today’s new cases are in Toronto (472), Peel (448), and York (155), with smaller increases in Ottawa (91), Durham (61), Waterloo (58), Halton (54), Windsor-Essex (39), Hamilton (30), Niagara (27), Middlesex-London (23), Simcoe Muskoka (20), Southwestern Public Health (14), Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (14), Chatham-Kent (13), Eastern Ontario Health Unit (12), Huron Perth (10), and Sudbury (8).

The remaining 16 health units are reporting 5 or fewer new cases, with only 5 health units reporting no new cases at all.

Of today’s cases, 51% are among people 40 years of age and older, but the highest number of cases (533) are among people ages 20 to 39. With 917 more cases resolved since yesterday, the percentage of resolved cases has dropped by 0.4% to 83.8%. The positivity rate has decreased by 0.8% to 4.3%, meaning that 43 out of every 1,000 tests performed were positive for COVID-19 on November 11.

For the tenth day in a row, there has been a double-digit increase in the number of deaths, with 18 new deaths reported today, 12 of which were in long-term care facilities. Hospitalizations have increased by 7 to 431, with 10 more patients with COVID-19 in ICUs