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**NEWS** 

## Why did Ontario COVID-19 rates surge after Christmas? New cellphone mobility data offers some clues

By Jennifer Yang Health Reporter Sunday, January 10, 2021

On Friday, exactly two weeks after Christmas, Premier Doug Ford appeared before television cameras looking shaken.

"This is the most serious situation we've ever been in ever, ever, since the start of this pandemic," he said of the province's latest record-breaking COVID-19 numbers.

But this "desperate situation" is one many experts say they could have predicted in the days and weeks before Christmas, when they urged stricter and broader

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