

# REPORT #3

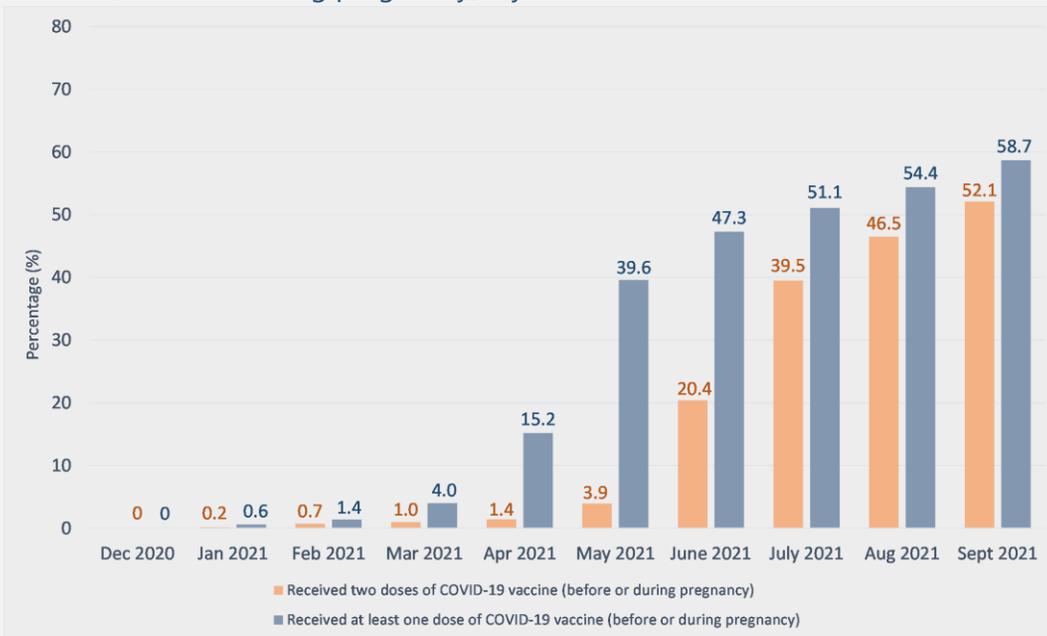
## COVID-19 VACCINATION DURING PREGNANCY IN ONTARIO

December 14, 2020 to September 30, 2021

### BACKGROUND:

Pregnant individuals are considered a high-risk population for COVID-19 complications, based on higher rates of COVID-19 hospitalization, ICU admission, and death compared with non-pregnant individuals. Since late April 2021, pregnant people in Ontario have been prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination as part of Phase 2 of the COVID-19 vaccine program implementation. To-date, vaccine coverage in pregnant individuals has remained lower than in the general population<sup>a</sup>. The **Better Outcomes Registry & Network (BORN) Ontario** ([www.bornontario.ca](http://www.bornontario.ca)) is evaluating COVID-19 vaccination in pregnant individuals in Ontario. **This report shows data on vaccine coverage among individuals who were pregnant at any point between December 14, 2020 and September 30, 2021.** During this period, there were **64,234** pregnant individuals who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy.

**FIGURE 1.** Estimated percentage of pregnant people who had received COVID-19 vaccine (before or during pregnancy), by calendar month



\*Pregnant people in Ontario were prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination on April 23, 2021.

### WHAT THE DATA SHOW:



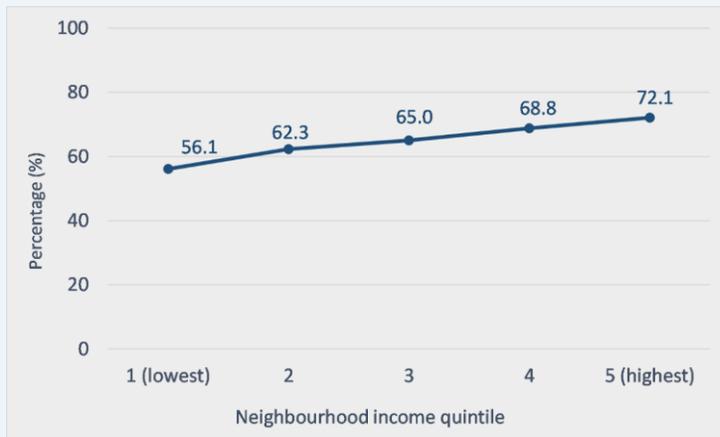
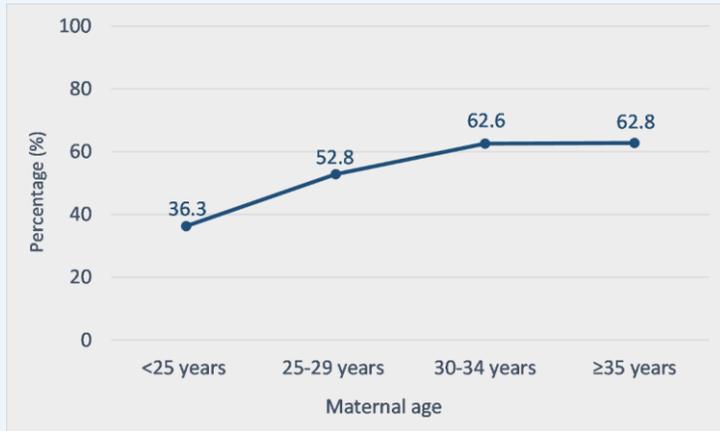
#### Among people who were pregnant in September 2021:

- **58.7%** had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy.
- **52.1%** had received two doses of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy.
- **41.3%** still had not received any doses of COVID-19 vaccine.

This work is supported by the **Public Health Agency of Canada**, through the **Vaccine Surveillance Reference Group** and the **COVID-19 Immunity Task Force**. The report is based on data extracted from the Ontario Ministry of Health's COVaxON and from the BORN Information System (BIS).

Disclaimer: the results of this report may differ from other reported estimates due to differences in data sources and data processing lag times.

**FIGURE 2.** Estimated percentage of people who were pregnant in September 2021 and had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine (before or during pregnancy), by age and neighbourhood income quintile



## WHAT THE DATA SHOW:



### COVID-19 vaccination rates differ by age:

- Among pregnant people ≥35 years of age, **62.8%** had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy.
  - **37.2%** of pregnant people in this age group had not received any doses of COVID-19 vaccine at any time.
- Among pregnant people <25 years of age, **36.3%** had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy.
  - **63.7%** of pregnant people in this age group had not received any doses of COVID-19 vaccine at any time.

### COVID-19 vaccination rates differ by income quintile:

- There was a gradient in the percentage of people who had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before or during pregnancy by neighbourhood income quintile, ranging from **56.1%** among individuals in the lowest income quintile to **72.1%** among those in the highest income quintile.

\*Among those individuals who were pregnant in September 2021.



## VACCINATION POSTPARTUM:

Among people who were unvaccinated before or during pregnancy, and gave birth by July 31, 2021, about **32%** still remained unvaccinated as of September 30, 2021.

## BIRTH OUTCOMES:

Public health and obstetric organizations recommend that pregnant people, and those planning pregnancy, become vaccinated to prevent the risk of COVID-19 infection during pregnancy, which tends to be more severe in pregnant people<sup>b,c</sup>. We are conducting several studies to monitor pregnancy and birth outcomes following COVID-19 vaccination in all trimesters of pregnancy; this information will be used to inform pregnant individuals, health care providers and public health policy makers.

References: a) Public Health Ontario: COVID-19 vaccine uptake in Ontario: December 14, 2020 to October 17, 2021. Toronto, ON; b) <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-vaccines-pregnancy> c) [https://soqc.org/common/Uploaded%20files/Latest%20News/SOGC\\_Statement\\_COVID-19\\_Vaccination\\_in\\_Pregnancy.pdf](https://soqc.org/common/Uploaded%20files/Latest%20News/SOGC_Statement_COVID-19_Vaccination_in_Pregnancy.pdf)