

CEO/Registrar COVID-19 Update

Stay Prepared

BAO

Bereavement
Authority of
Ontario

Carey Smith
CEO/Registrar

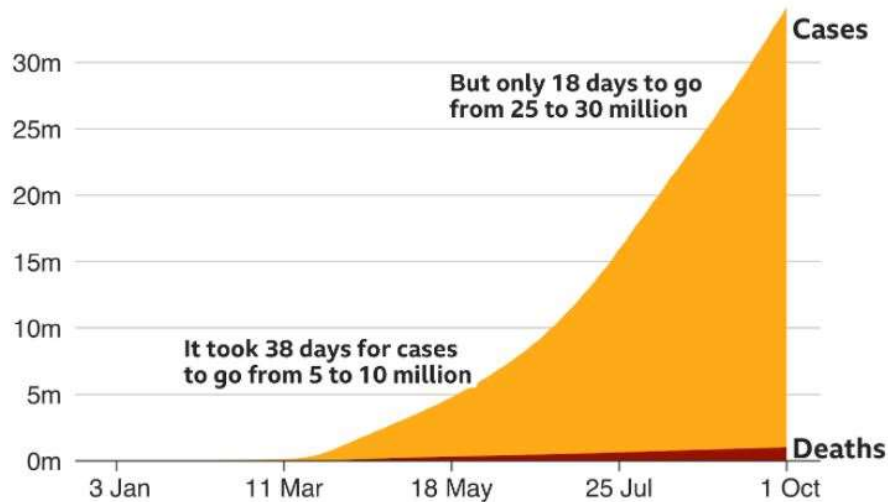
Oct. 2, 2020



The 2nd Wave is no time to be complacent

The case numbers are at record levels – *The EU ‘predicts’ our future*

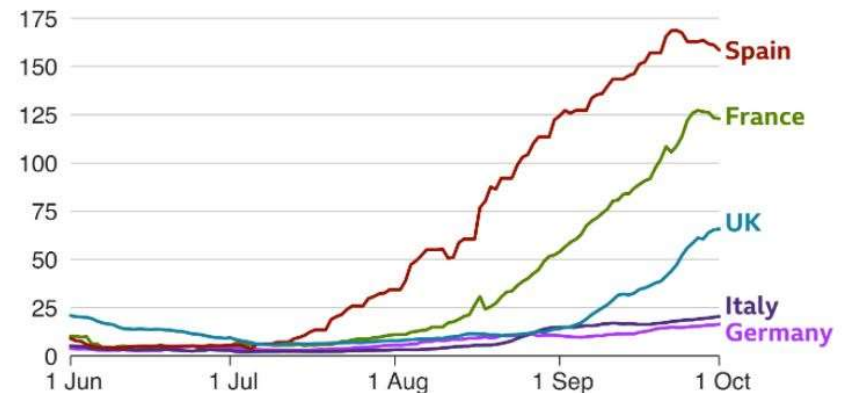
Global coronavirus cases still rising quickly



Source: Johns Hopkins University, national health agencies, data to 1 Oct **BBC**

Coronavirus cases increasing in European countries in recent weeks

Total cases per 100,000 people by week up to 01 October



Note: Countries do not always release figures every day, which may explain some of the sharp changes in the trendlines

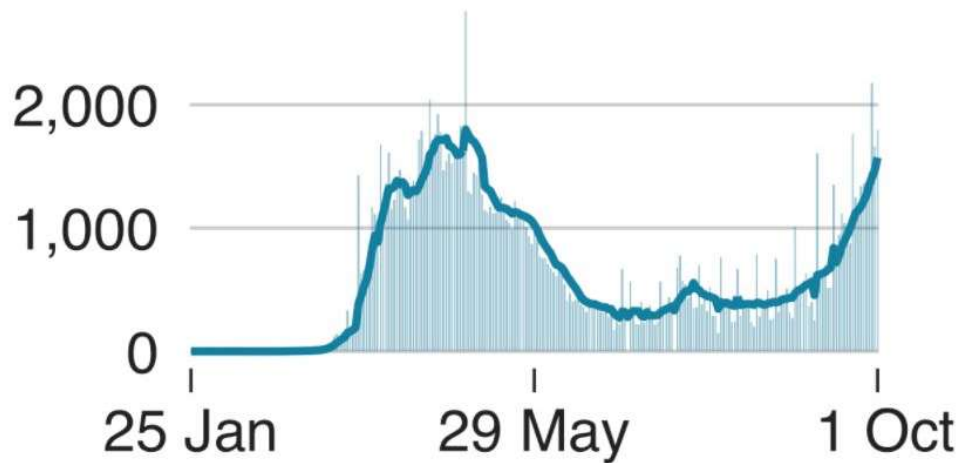
Source: ECDC, data to 1 Oct

BBC

Unfortunately – we are trending more like France and the UK, and not Italy and Germany

No time to be complacent – here's why

Canada



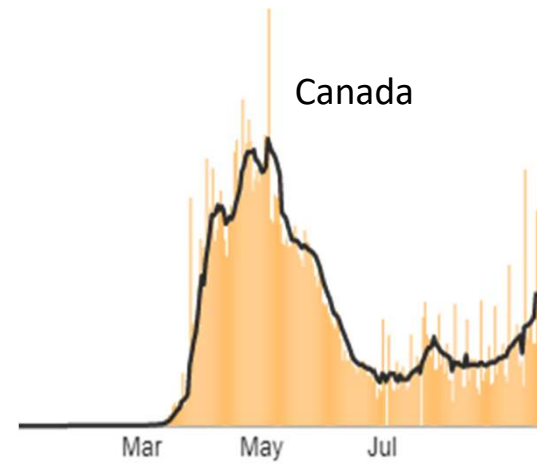
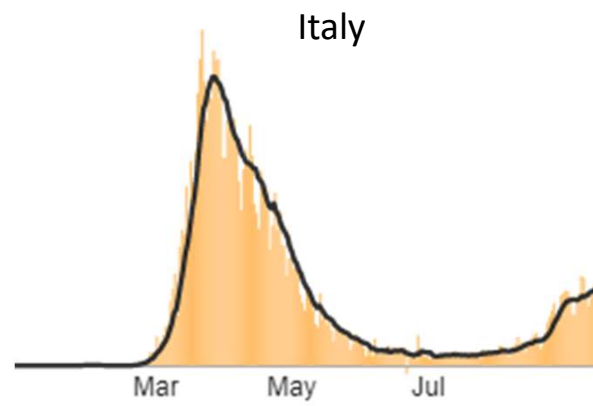
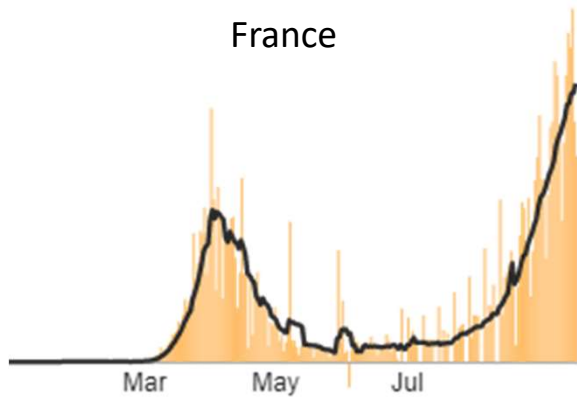
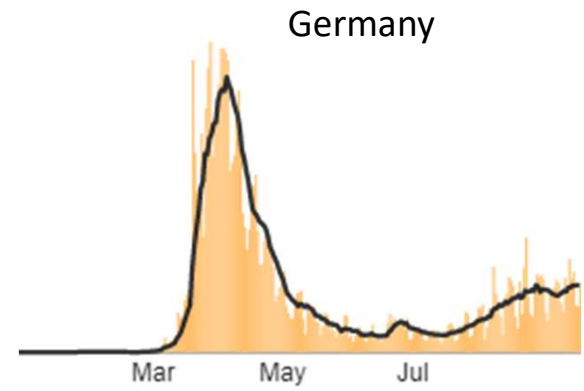
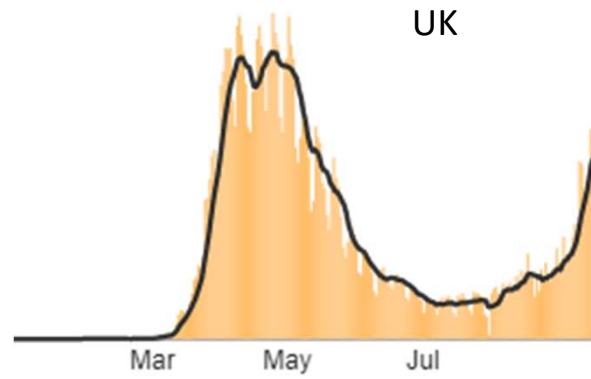
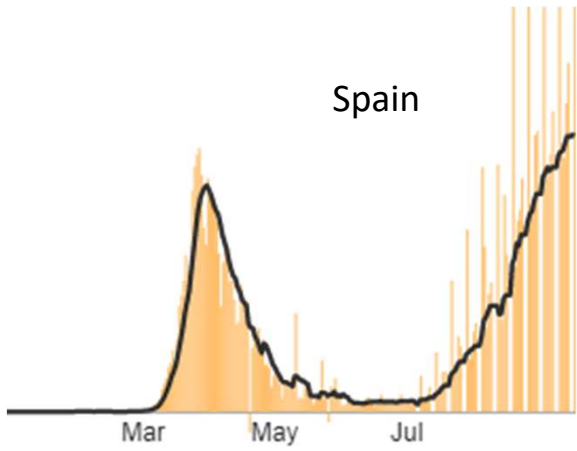
Source: ECDC, data to 1 Oct

Cases per 100,000 people

Ontario

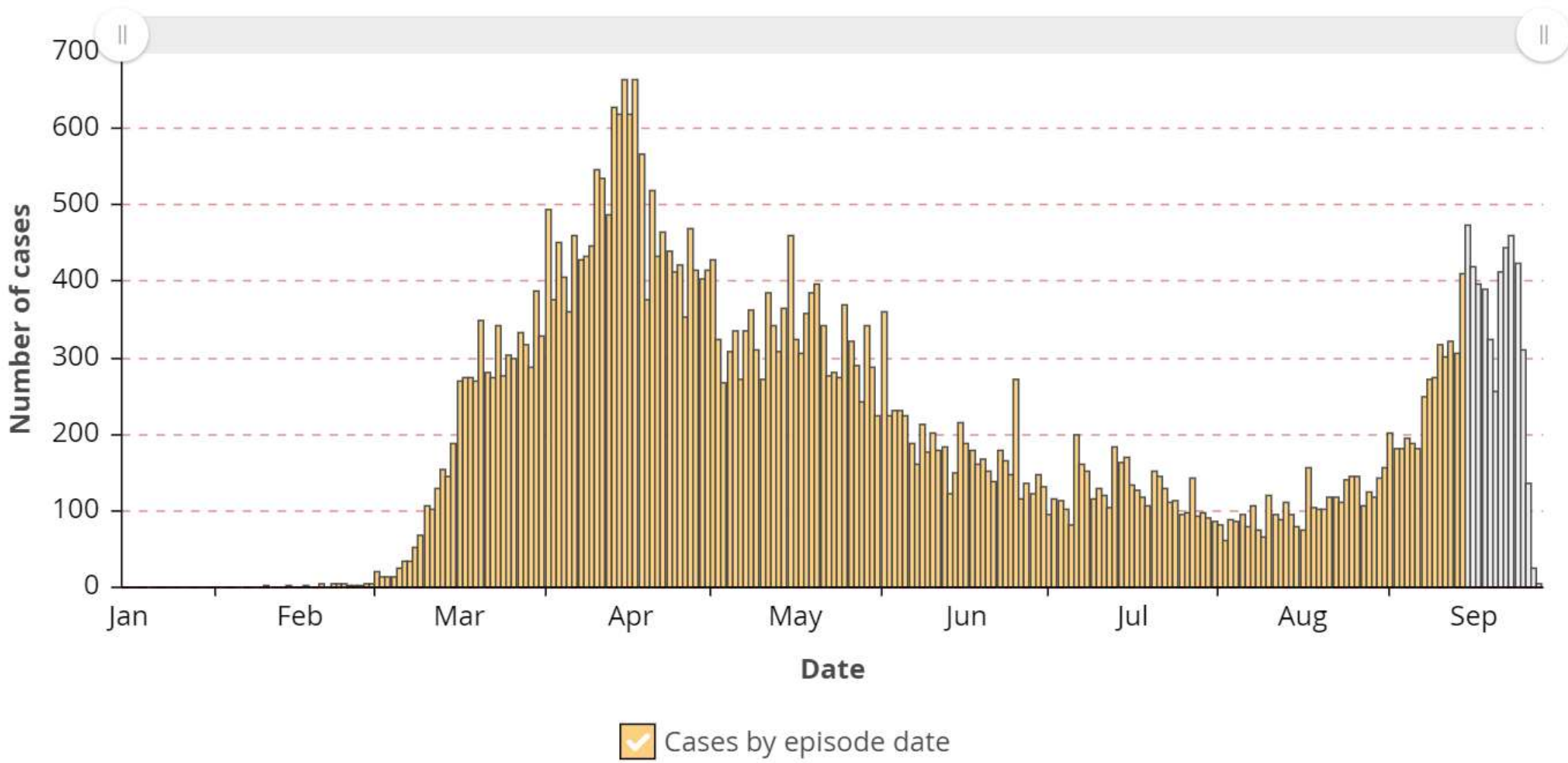


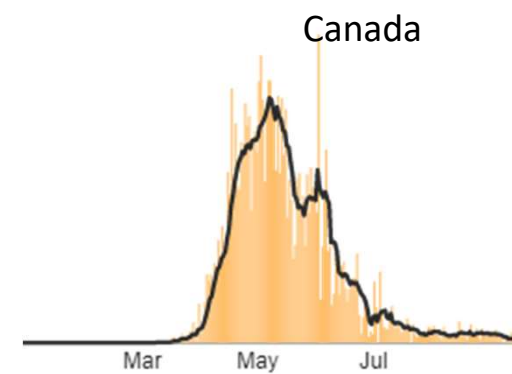
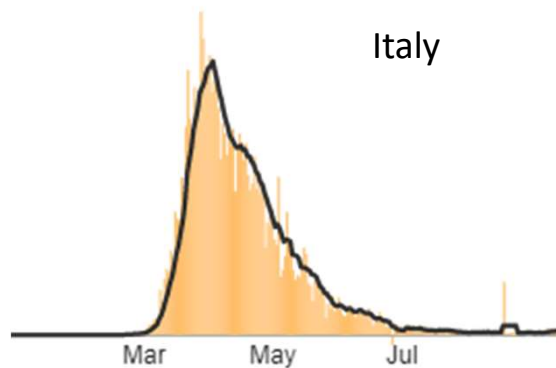
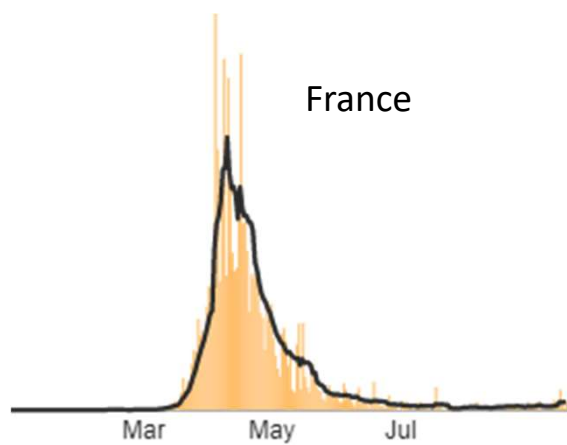
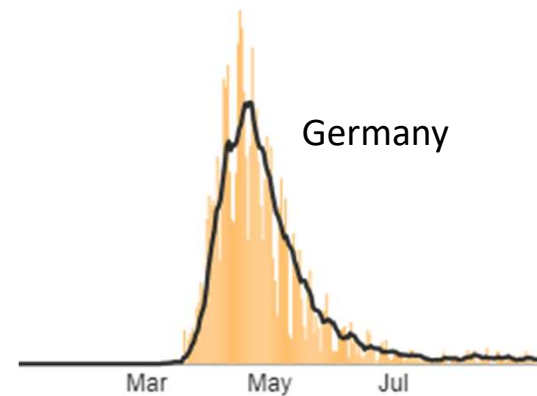
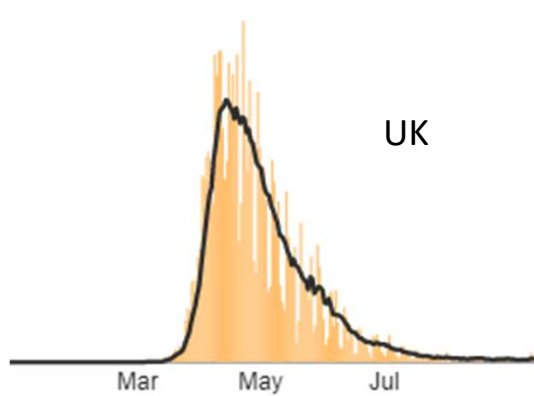
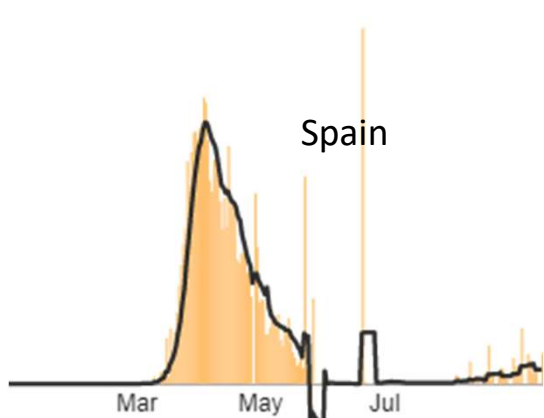
Source: Government of Ontario, data 1 Oct
Total cases



Year 2020 – Infection Rate

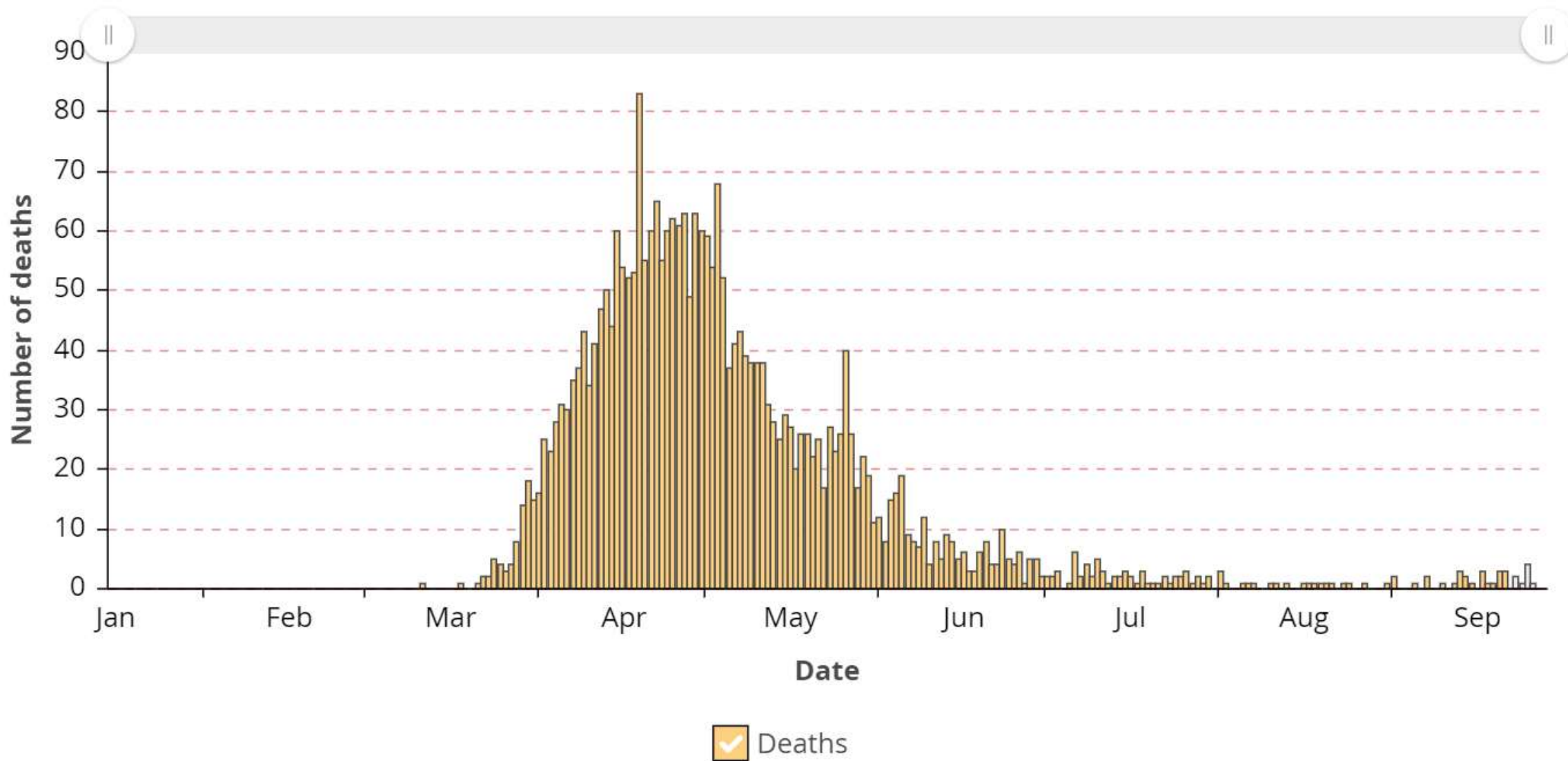
Count of COVID-19 cases by episode date in Ontario





Year 2020 – Death Rate

Count of COVID-19 deaths in Ontario

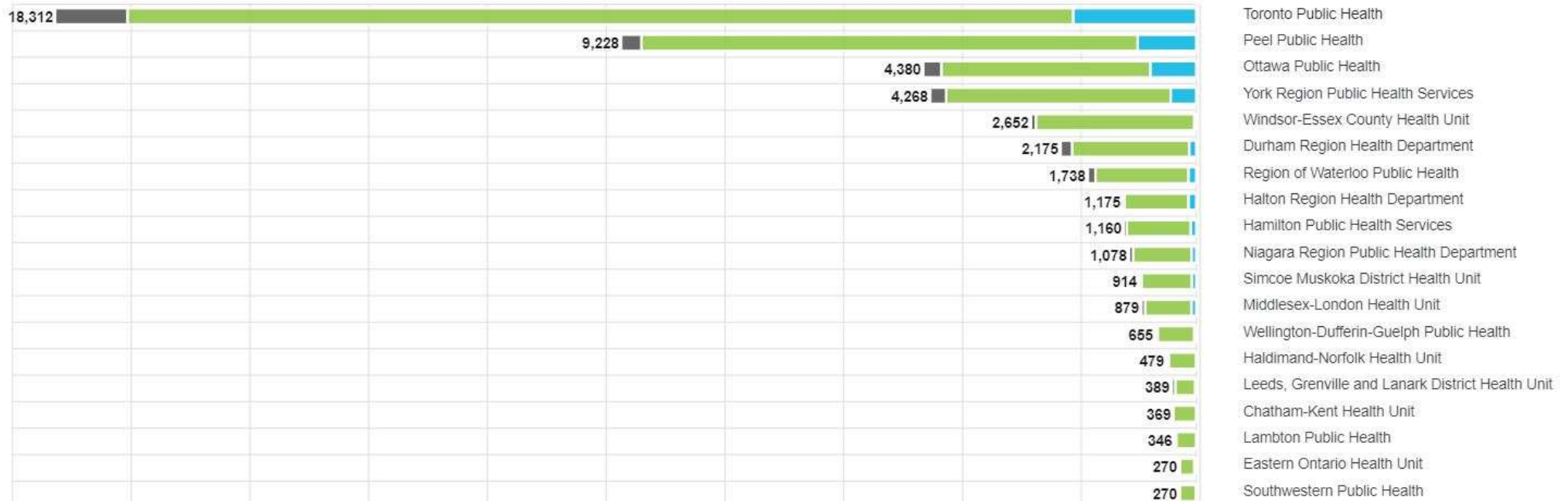


A regional approach makes sense - for future BAO Directives, Guidance...

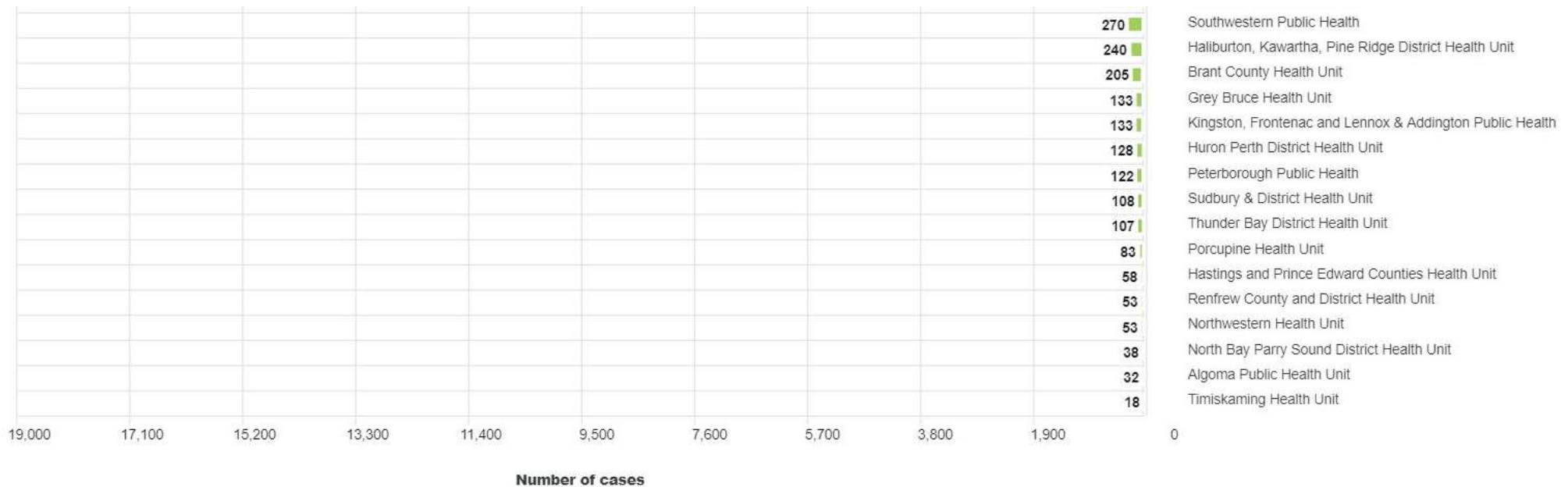
Active Resolved Deaths

Government of Ontario – Oct. 1, 2020

Active Resolved Deaths



A regional approach makes sense - for future BAO Directives, Guidance...



Return of the Expedited Response Plan (EDR)

Discussions with Office of Chief Coroner:

- ❖ Loads on hospitals expected, but not deaths.
- ❖ Hospitals should be able to manage their decedents until pickup by Funeral Home/Transfer Operator within tradition timelines or within 24 hours.
- ❖ OCC can reinstate the Coroner's call centre to issue eMCODS quickly if necessary.
- ❖ We can reinstate the EDR plan if necessary – but likely on a regional basis.

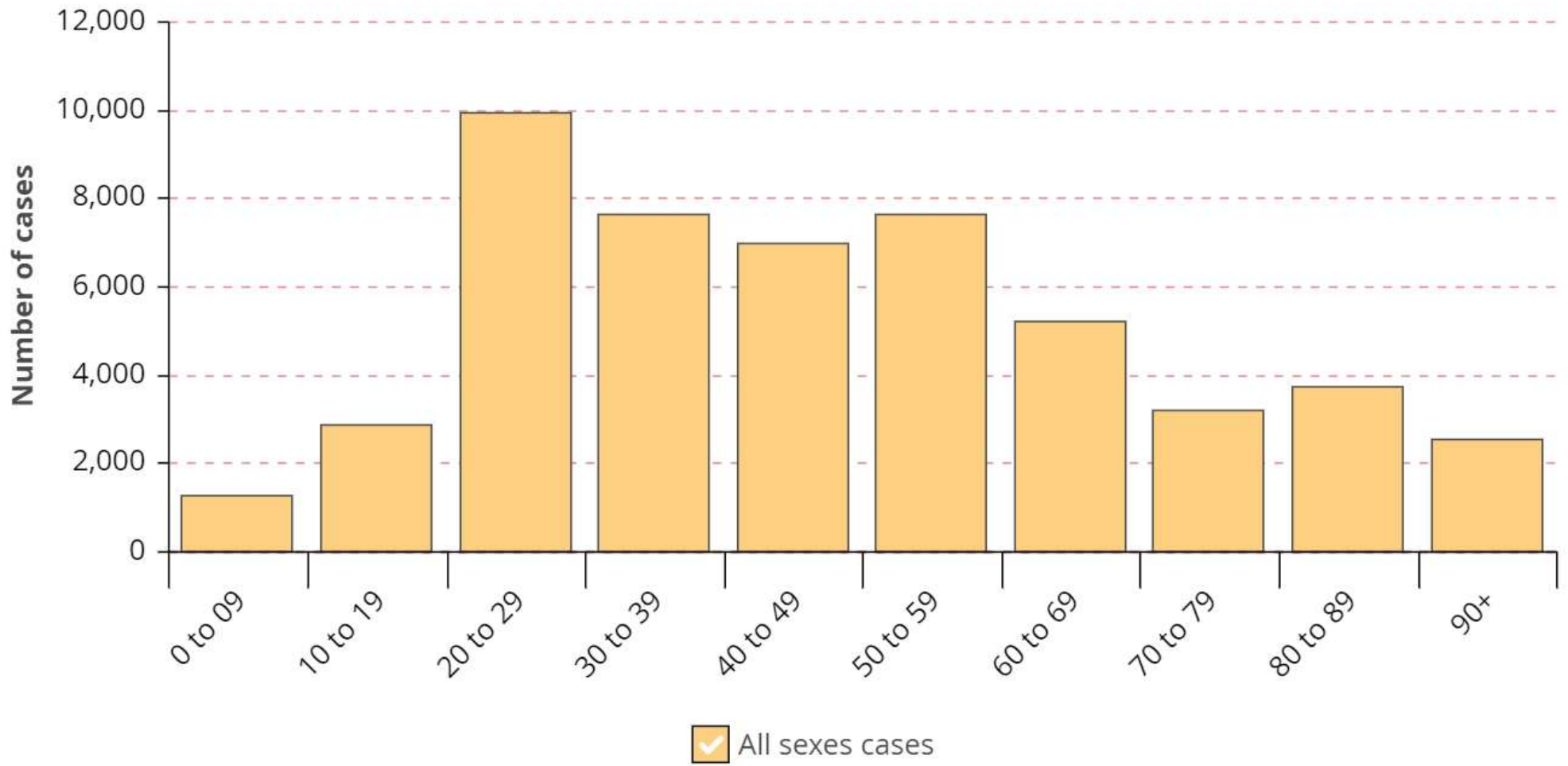
Discussions with Associations

- ❖ Agreement that routine response is probably sufficient.
- ❖ If return to EDR – should be regional.

Anticipate that “anti-stockpiling” directives will be re-issued.

Expedited dispositions for cemeteries and crematoriums may be directed if deaths increase.

Counts of COVID-19 cases by age group in Ontario



Protect your staff – stay open

Keep staff from becoming infected ...

Keep staff from infecting others.

- ❖ Where have they been and with whom outside of work? ...ask them...staff behavior after hours can put everyone at risk.
- ❖ Encourage flu shots for everyone – we're entering flu season
- ❖ Be vigilant – monitor the data for trends/outbreaks in your area.
- ❖ Assign staff in teams or shifts to limit their contact with each other
- ❖ Monitor your staff for symptoms
- ❖ Be ruthless about enforcing prevention measures – regularly reinforce the importance

- ❖ We know what is effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19:
 - ❖ Hand hygiene
 - ❖ Wear mask
 - ❖ Distancing
 - ❖ Respiratory etiquette
 - ❖ Avoid crowds, crowded spaces and poorly ventilated areas

Protect your staff – stay open

Wear a mask

- ❖ Masks should be worn by everyone
- ❖ Funeral services involve hugging, consoling, tears, runny noses – which add to the risk of infection

Cleaning

- ❖ Cleaning thoroughly at your establishment
- ❖ Remember that – there have been 2 funeral homes where an attendee was later found to be COVID-19 positive. Fortunately, the funeral home staff members were diligent in adhering to the preventive measures mandated by the BAO
 - The cases were contained, and the funeral homes were permitted to stay open



Use your head – DON'T PUSH THE LIMITS on numbers

Protect your staff – stay open



Required Screening Questions

1. Do you have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms or signs? *Symptoms should not be chronic or related to other known causes or conditions.*

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fever or chills | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Cough | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Sore throat, trouble swallowing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Runny nose/stuffy nose or nasal congestion | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Decrease or loss of smell or taste | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Not feeling well, extreme tiredness, sore muscles | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

2. Have you travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?

- Yes No

3. Have you had close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19?

- Yes No

Results of Screening Questions:

- If the individual answers **NO to all questions from 1 through 3**, they have passed and can enter the workplace.
- If the individual answers **YES to any questions from 1 through 3**, they have not passed and **should be advised that they should not** enter the workplace (including any outdoor, or partially outdoor, workplaces). They should go home to self-isolate immediately and contact their health care provider or Telehealth Ontario (1 866-797-0000) to find out if they need a COVID-19 test.

Adapting to this new normal

- ❖ This is the new normal until a vaccine is widely available.
 - ❖ We're unlikely to see an end of restrictions any time soon
 - ❖ The second wave is here – severity?
-
- ❖ Plan & prepare now – Change will continue to be a constant
 - ❖ Keep your supply of PPE stocked and use supplies wisely in case there's a shortage
 - ❖ Stay ready
 - ❖ **Thank you for your commitment to safety and adhering to Directives & measures.**