

# Manitoba Vaccine Team Thanksgiving Town Hall



Moderator: Lynda Tjaden, Executive Director, Population and Public Health, VITF

## Panelists:

- Scott Sinclair, Deputy Minister of Central Services
- Carla Loepky, Director of Epidemiology and Surveillance
- Dr. Joss Reimer, Medical Lead, VITF

Use the GoTo “Questions Box” to send us your questions throughout the presentation.

October 7, 2021

# AGENDA



## Manitoba Vaccine Team Thanksgiving Town Hall, October 7, 2021

Welcome and Overview

Lynda Tjaden, Executive Director, Population and Public Health, VITF

Thank you message and review of vaccination effort

Scott Sinclair, Deputy Minister of Central Services

Update on the province's epidemiology

Carla Loeppky, Director of Epidemiology and Surveillance

Vaccination impact on Public Health and future initiatives

Dr. Joss Reimer, Medical Lead, VITF

Next Steps

Lynda Tjaden, Executive Director, Population and Public Health, VITF

Questions

Use the GoTo “Questions Box” to send us your questions throughout the presentation.

Wrap Up

Lynda Tjaden, Executive Director, Population and Public Health, VITF

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# WELCOME AND OVERVIEW



**Lynda Tjaden,**  
Executive Director, Population and Public Health, VITF

October 7, 2021



# REVIEW OF VACCINATION EFFORT AND THANK YOU



**Scott Sinclair,**  
Deputy Minister of Central Services

October 7, 2021



- Thank you
- Congratulations - 2 million dose milestone!
- New programs yet to implement
- Looking ahead: transitioning to the new normal with enhanced infrastructure



# UPDATE ON MANITOBA EPIDEMIOLOGY



**Carla Loeppky,**  
Director of Epidemiology and Surveillance

October 7, 2021



# Arming yourself with good data!

An Epi Update on both COVID and Vaccines

C. Loeppky

October 7, 2021

## How one **sincere** conversation changed the mind of this self-proclaimed anti-vaxxer



Jason Lerato recently received 2nd dose after years as 'poster child or flag holder for all things anti-vaxx'



[Bryce Hoyer](#) · CBC News · Posted: Oct 05, 2021 9:13 PM CT | Last Updated: October 6



It took some time and convincing, but Jason Lerato is now vaccinated, something he attributes to the **patience** and **persuasive efforts** by two of his family members who work in health care. (Submitted by Jason Lerato)

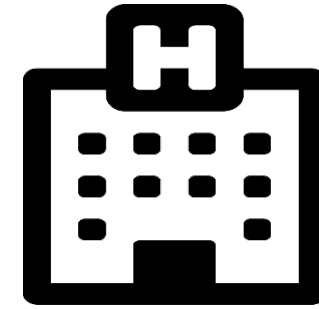


# Data you need for critical conversations:

- What is going on in the world of COVID right now?
  - Why are the waves different?
  - What are the current drivers?
  - What does the model tell us?
  - What might change?
- What is going on in the world of Vaccines right now?
  - How do vaccines make a difference?
  - Are vaccines effective?

COVID-19

# Key Messages

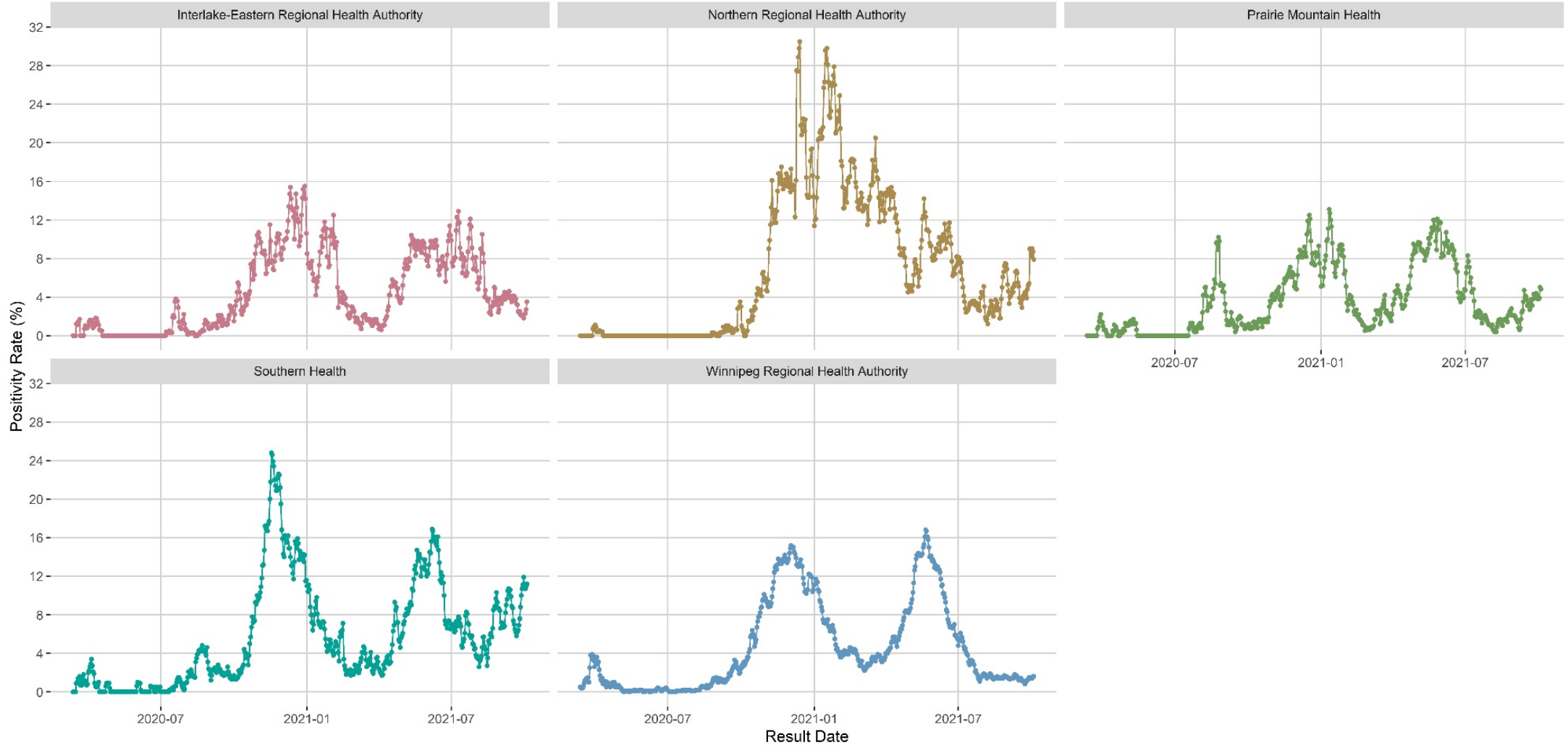


- ↑ **Test Positivity:** The provincial 5-day test positivity rate has increased to 3.8%, up from 2.8% a week ago (35% increase).
  - Winnipeg's 5-day test positivity rate remains stable at 1.2%.
  - **Rural RHA's are experiencing high and rising test positivity rates** (Southern 11.2%, Prairie Mountain 4.8%, Northern 7.9%, Interlake 3.5%).
- ↑ **Case Counts:** The 7-day daily case count average (as of Tuesday Oct.5/21) is 99.6 new cases per day, up from 72.6 cases per day the previous week (**37% increase**).
- ↑ **Hospitalization and ICU Admissions:** Over the past week (as of Oct. 5/21), there have been 62 new COVID-related hospitalizations (47.6% increase) and 14 new ICU admissions (27.3% increase).
  - In Wave 3, when ICU cases exceeded the 14 cases/week threshold, ICU cases immediately began to rise to unsustainable levels. For two weeks in a row (epi-weeks 38 -Sept. 19 to 25 and 39 -Sept. 26 – Oct. 2) there have been 13 COVID-related ICU admissions.
- **Although Southern currently has the second-highest rate of COVID cases and the highest number of ICU admissions, Winnipeg has potentially greater vulnerability:**
  - Winnipeg has double the number of individuals 12+ not fully immunized as compared to Southern.
  - In Wave 3, the majority of ICU cases came from Winnipeg. If this occurs again in Wave 4, the number of ICU admissions may quickly become very high and unsustainable.



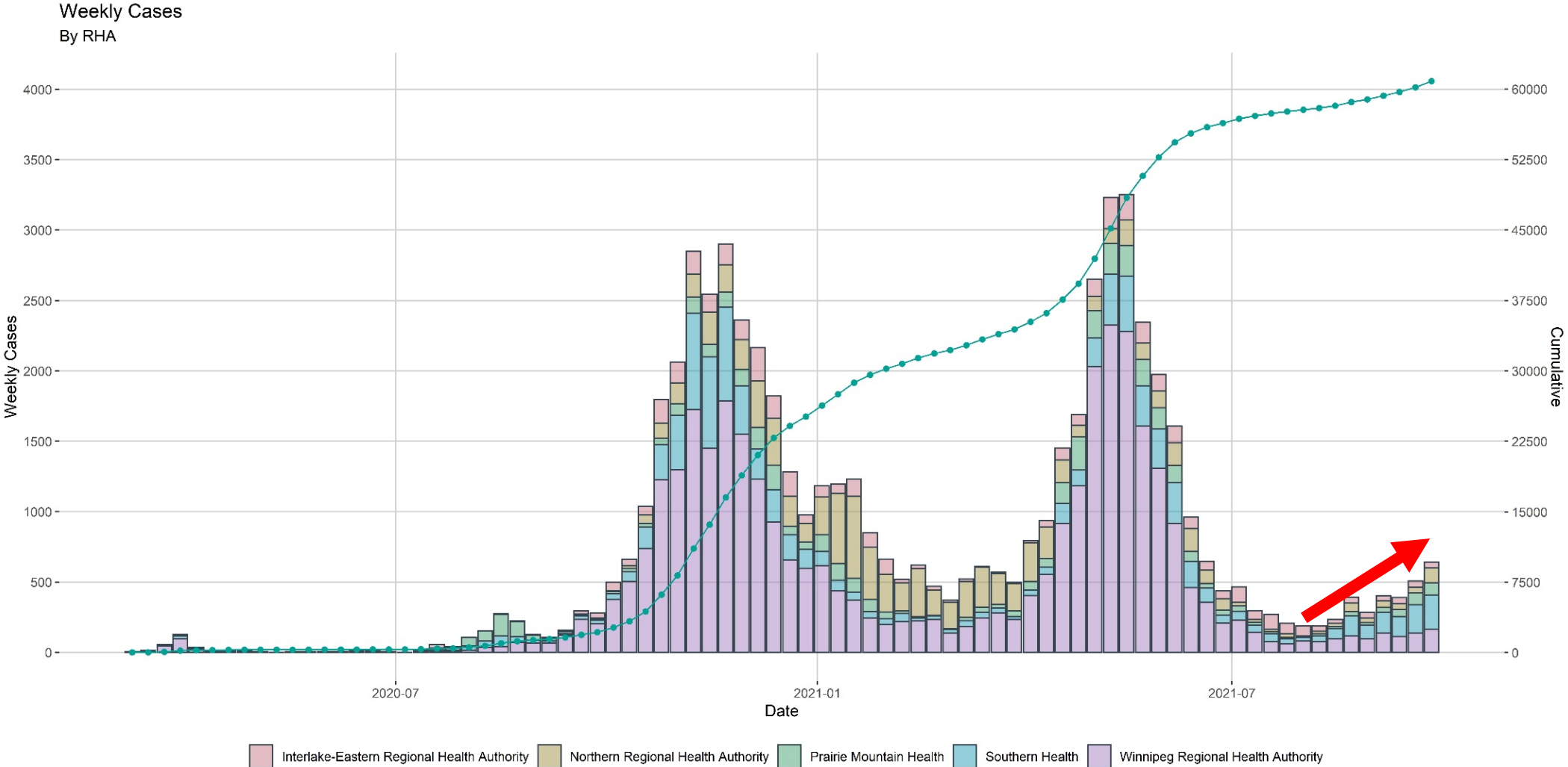
# Positivity Rates Vary Between Different Regions

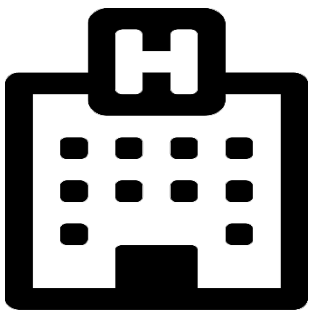
Positivity Rate - By RHA





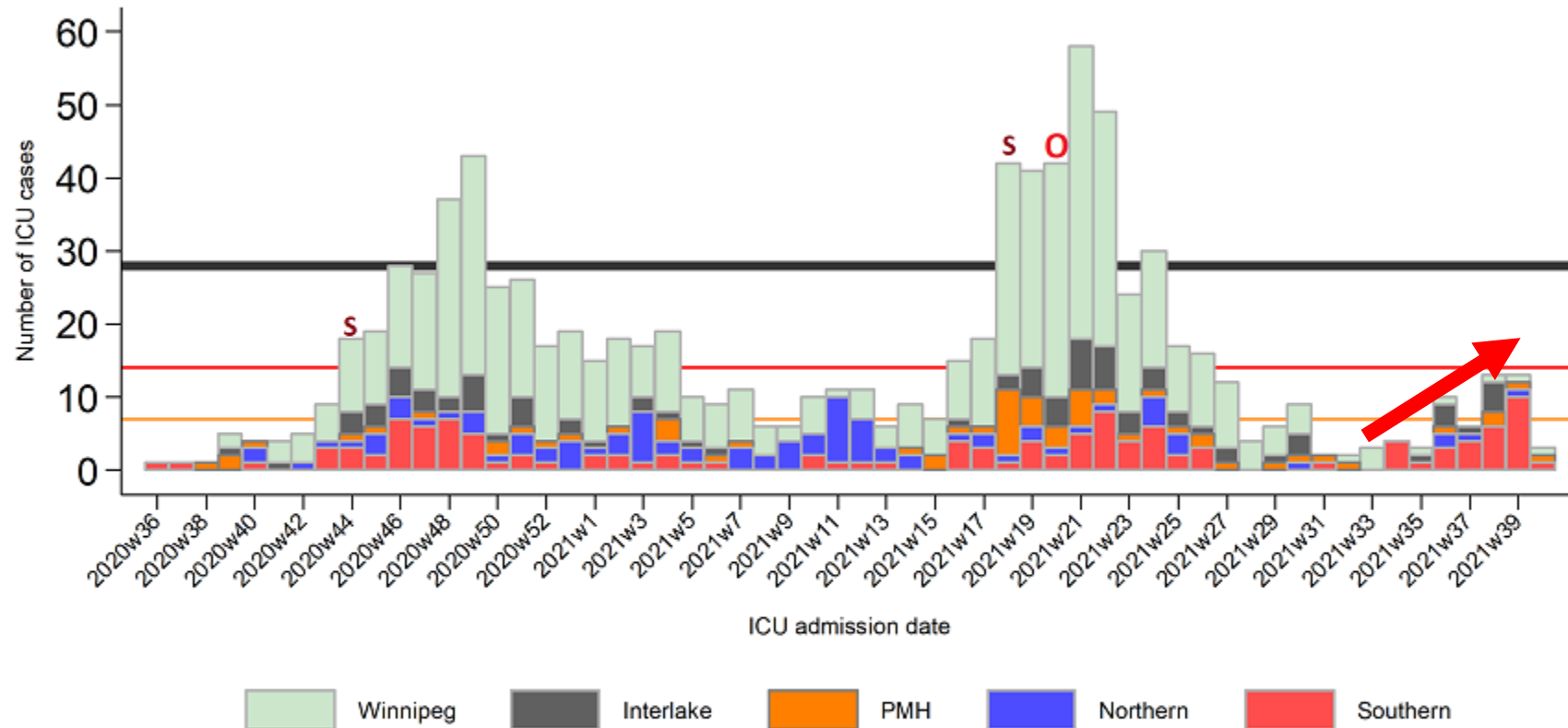
# Weekly COVID Cases Continue to Increase





ICU Admissions have approached a dangerous threshold (13 weekly admissions) 2 weeks in a row

New ICU admissions in Manitoba (Aug 30, 2020 - Oct 05, 2021)



Note: Orange line, 7 ICU admitted per week = 1 ICU per day  
Red line, 14 ICU admitted per week = 2 ICU per day  
Black line, 28 ICU admitted per week = 4 ICU per day  
O refers to the week when first ICU case was sent out of province, May18, 2021  
S refers to the week when elective surgeries were postponed  
\*Data only up to Tuesday (Oct 05) for week 40

- Why are the waves different?
- What are the current drivers?
- What might change?
- What does the model tell us (**AKA What could the future hold**)?

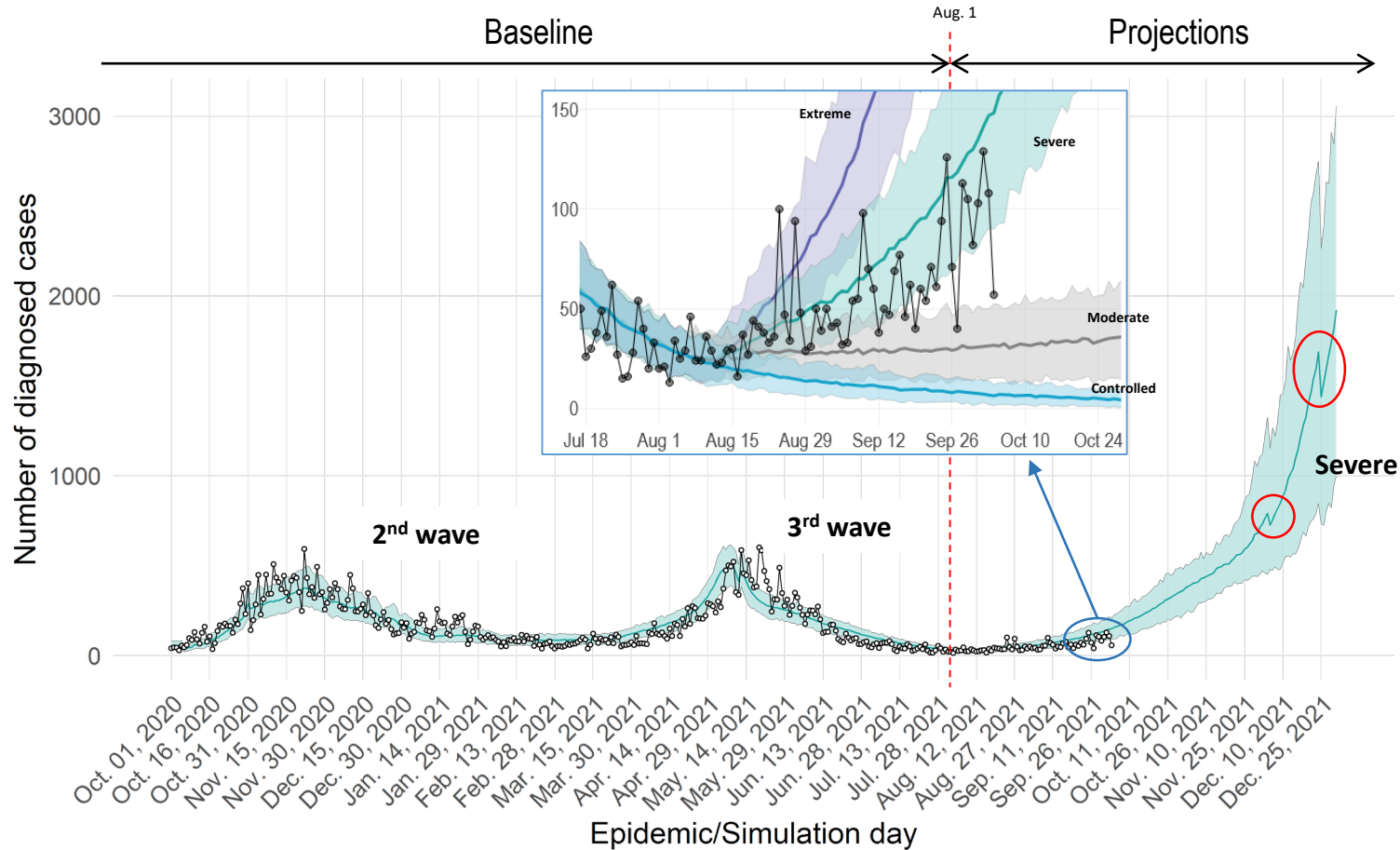


- Manitoba is now following the **Severe scenario** in terms of number of diagnosed cases and in ICU patients. At this pace, Manitoba is expected to reach 50% (40 patients) of its COVID ICU capacity between October 9 and 22, and reach 100% (80 patients) between October 30 and November 11.
- **As a reminder:**
  - The model has been revised to include the Alpha, Delta, Gamma, and wild types of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It also accounts for vaccine eligibility and hesitancy.
  - The model shows that, **a large fourth wave can happen despite current levels of immunizations.**
  - Under the **Extreme scenario** the model shows that **COVID-19 could overwhelm the acute care system within a month.** The province exceeded the extreme scenario in both second and third waves.
  - If Influenza (which has historically shown to overwhelm the acute care system) and RSV hit the province at the same time as the fourth wave of COVID-19, the health care system could be overwhelmed in a matter of one to two weeks.



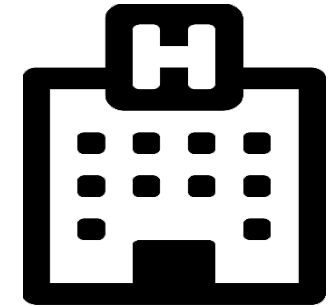
# Projected Number of Diagnosed Cases (daily number of new cases)

Information from October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021. Manitoba data extracted: 2021-10-05.

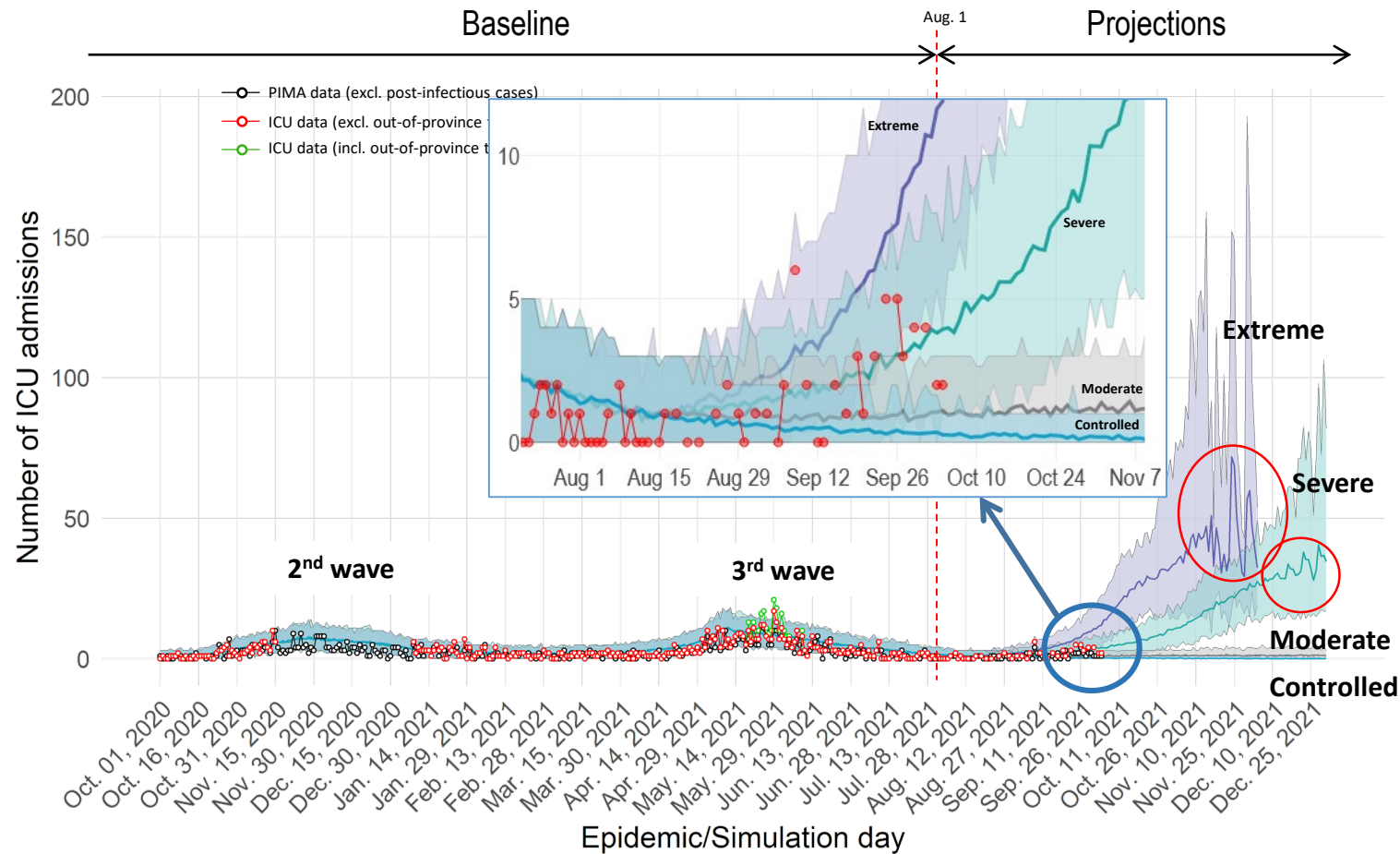


Manitoba: actual data    **Projected:** average number of cases    Range of possible number of cases

# Incident Number of COVID ICU Admissions (daily number of admissions)



Information from October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021. Manitoba data extracted: 2021-10-05.



Manitoba: actual data **Projected:** average number of cases Range of possible number of cases

Vaccines

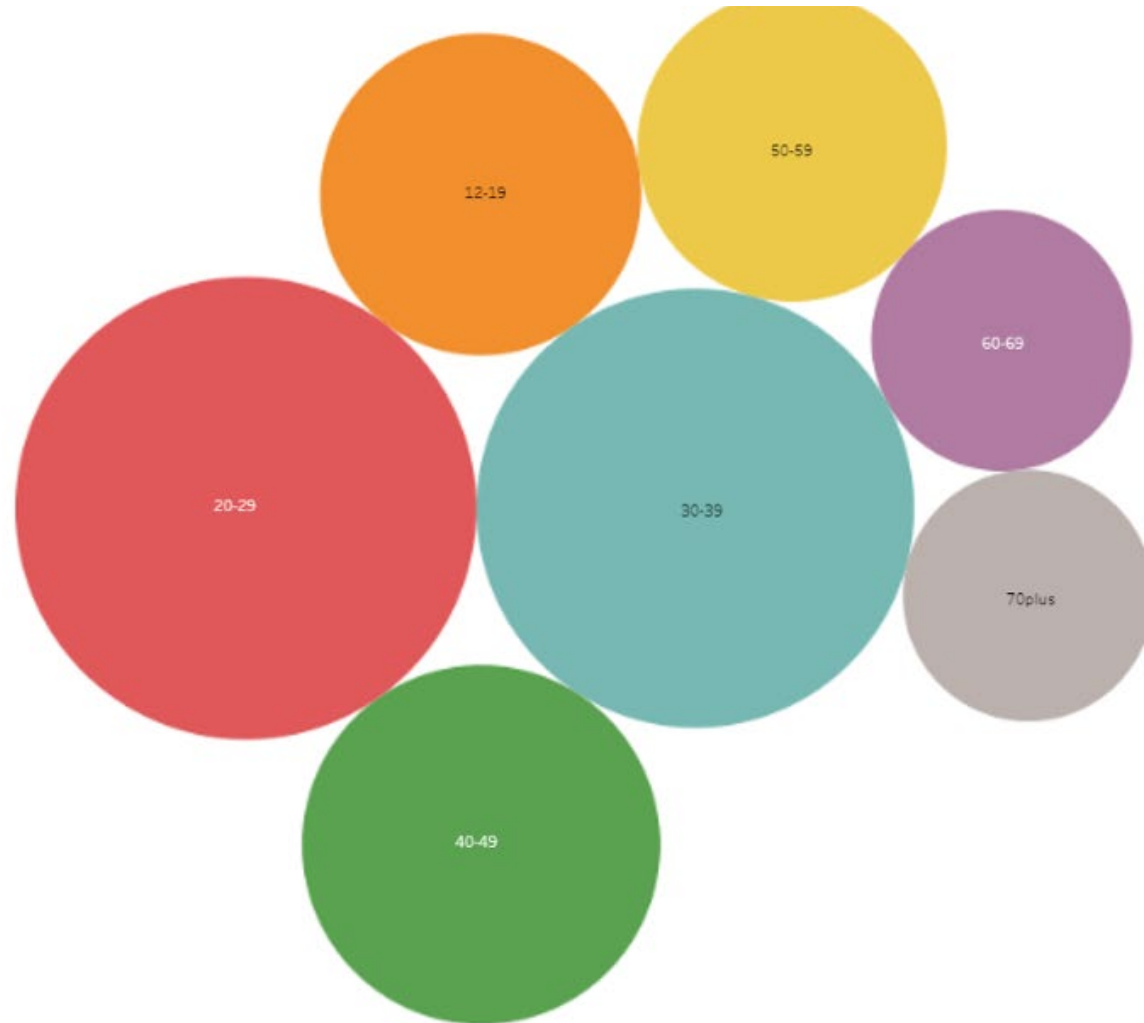
**69,000** not fully immunized (<2 doses)  
12+ in Southern

# Not Fully Immunized (2 doses) by Age Group  
RHA: Southern District: All

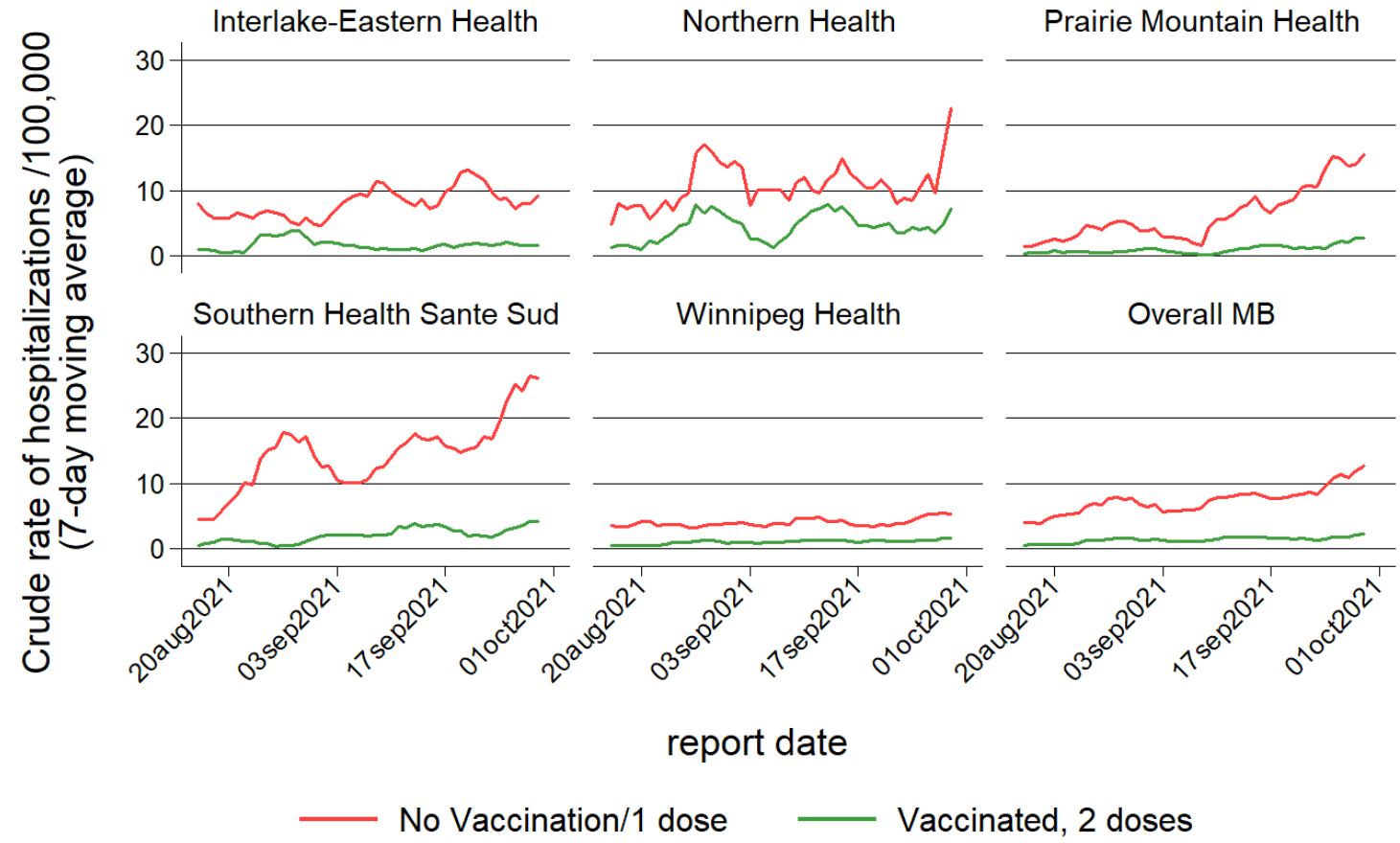


**140,000** not fully immunized (<2 doses)  
12+ in Winnipeg

# Not Fully Immunized (2 doses) by Age Group  
RHA: Winnipeg District: All



# COVID-19 case rate by vaccination status and health authority, Aug 15- Sep 29, 2021



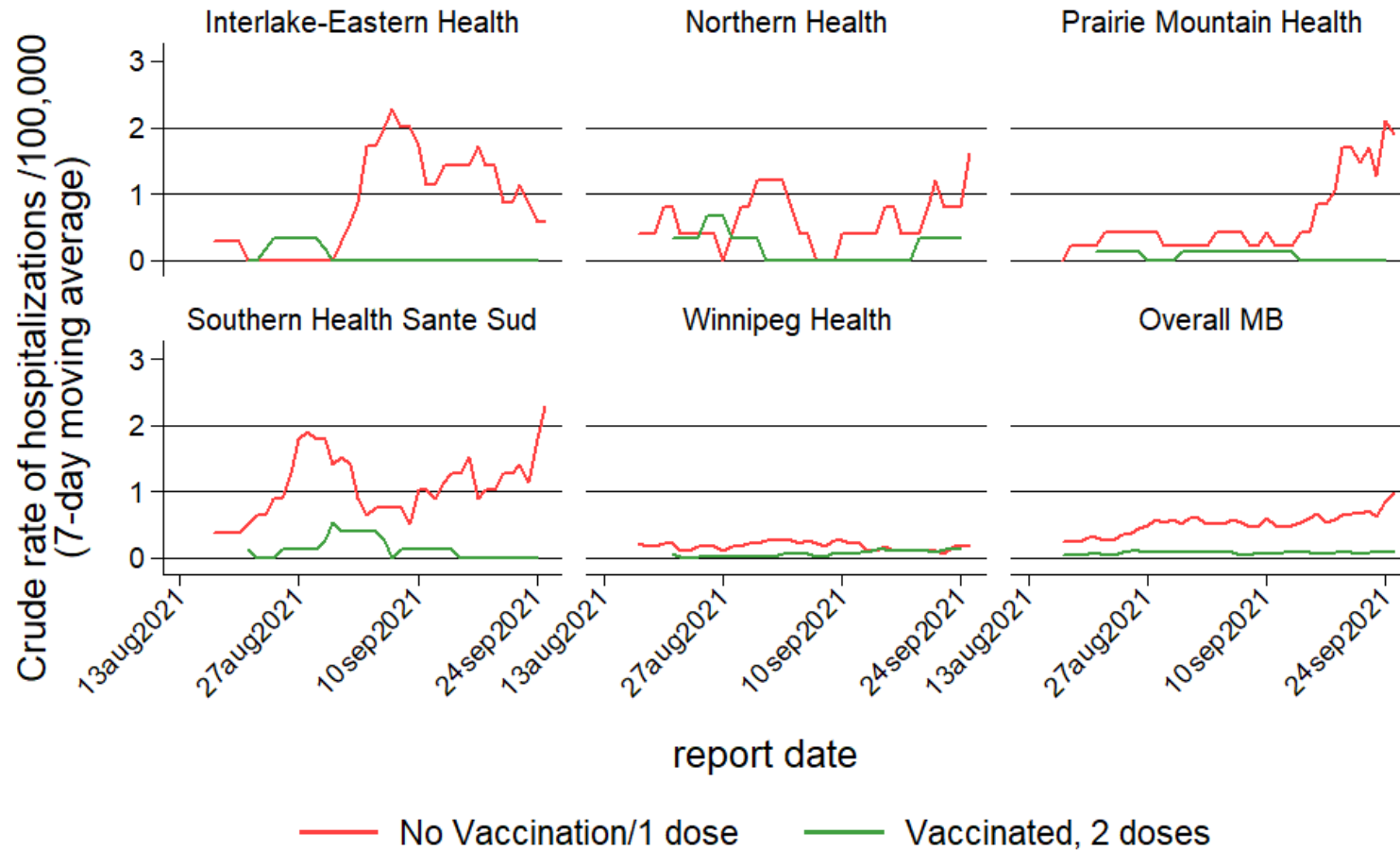
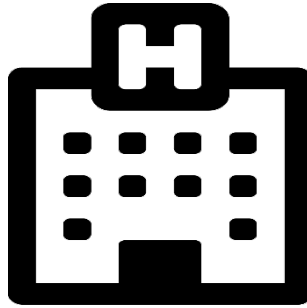
The crude rate of COVID cases in people that are not fully vaccinated is about

**5 times higher**

in comparison to fully vaccinated people.

Graphs by SDO

# COVID-19 hospitalization rate by vaccination status and health authority, Aug 15- Sep 25, 2021



The crude rate of COVID hospitalizations in people that are not fully vaccinated is almost

**8 times higher**

in comparison to fully vaccinated people.

# Vaccine effectiveness data from MB:

- Overall, vaccination provided good protection against SARS-CoV-2 infection. Most new cases, especially severe cases, are not in vaccinated people.
- About 2 per 1000 partially vaccinated people and 1 in 1000 fully vaccinated people will become a COVID case.
- Moderna and Pfizer provided similar protection against symptomatic infections in partially and fully vaccinated individuals, though there seemed to have a higher asymptomatic infection rate in individuals vaccinated with Moderna compared to Pfizer.
- Vaccination protected against infection in all age groups, especially after full vaccination.
- Vaccination protected against hospital and ICU admissions and deaths due to COVID-19 in all age groups even after partial vaccination.
- Vaccination protected against variants of concerns, though it seemed to have a reduced protection against the Delta variant.

# Excellent sources of information (to pass on!):

- Provincial Vaccine Data:  
<https://manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/reports.html>
- Provincial COVID reporting: <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/index.html>
- From the Epi Team:  
<https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/surveillance/reports.html>



# Thanks!

[Carla.Loepky@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Carla.Loepky@gov.mb.ca)



# CLINICAL UPDATES

**Dr. Joss Reimer**  
Medical Lead, VITF



October 7, 2021

# Third/additional dose eligibility



Announced to date:

- Residents/staff of First Nations personal care homes
- Moderately to severely immunocompromised (prescription required)
- Additional dose required for travel (prescription required)
- Previously received doses of COVID-19 vaccines that are not approved by Health Canada
- Residents of personal care homes
- Health care workers (direct contact with clients)
- Those who previously received a viral vector vaccines series



Third doses can be offered at any location that currently offers COVID-19 vaccine

- Prescription is required in some circumstances
- Interval: 28 days or 6 months
- New consent form is required
- Where possible, should be with the same mRNA vaccine as previous dose

# Co-administration with other vaccines, incl. influenza



NACI recommendation that COVID-19 vaccines may be given at the same time or any time before/after other vaccines

- Regular flu clinics (starting in Nov.) will have both flu & COVID-19 vaccines available

# WHAT'S NEXT



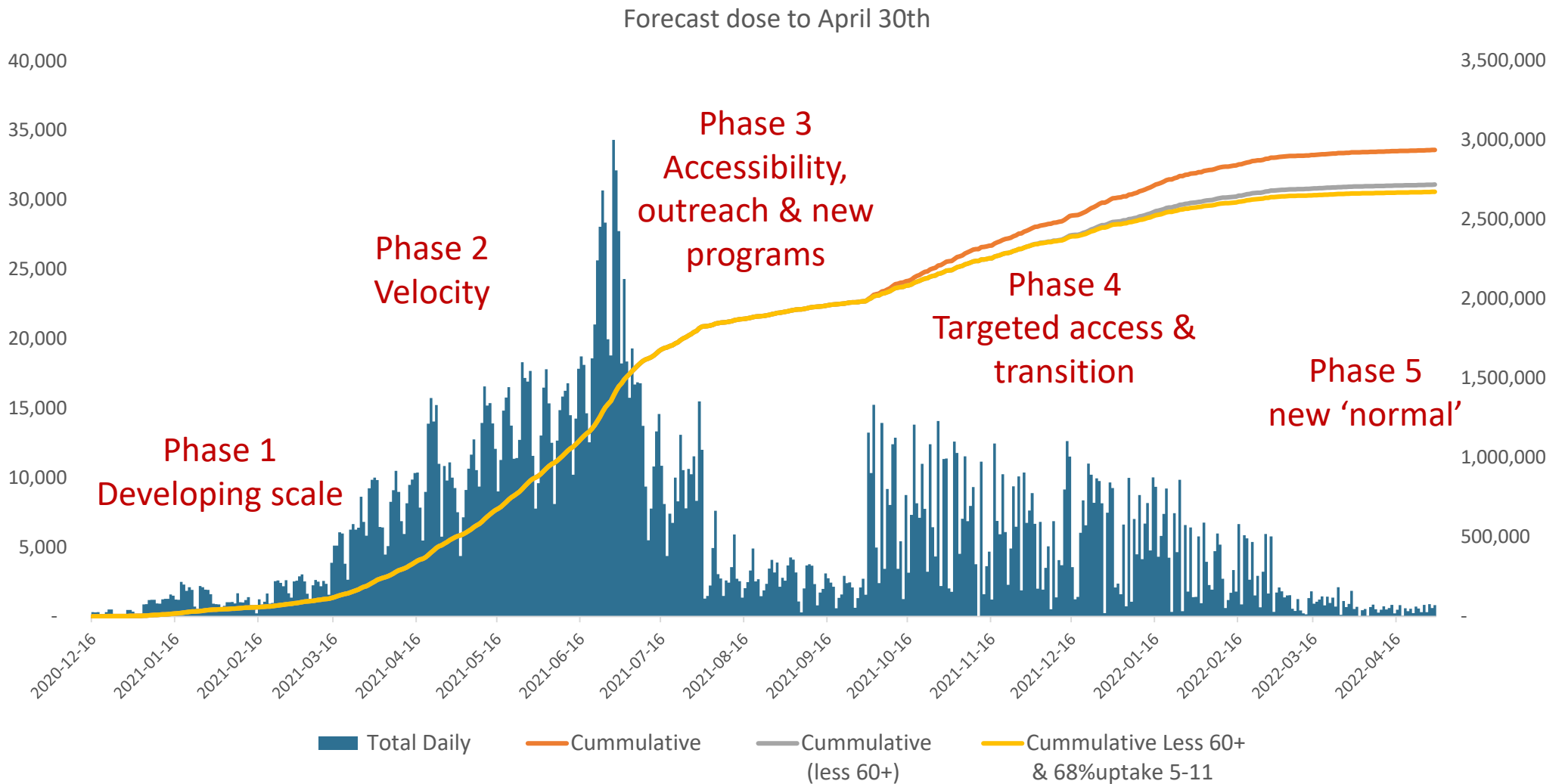
**Lynda Tjaden**

**Executive Director, Population and Public Health, VITF**

October 7, 2021



# PHASES





- Increasing D1, D2 ‘fully immunized’
  - Harder to reach individuals
  - Changing tone



**GOAL**



**Our aspirational goal....**

**75% of population fully immunized,  
across all age cohorts, small geographic areas  
and populations**

# Regional priorities to increase fully immunized rates



PMH	WRHA	IERHA	NRHA	SS-SH
1. Riding Mtn., Porcupine Mtn., Duck Mtn.	1. 12-19 year olds in Point Douglas South	1. 12-17 year olds	1. Immigrant populations	1. Faith-based populations
2. 12-39 year olds	2. 20-29 year olds in Point Douglas South	2. Low income groups	2. 20-29 year olds	2. Newcomers/immigrants
3. Businesses that employ 20-39 year olds	3. 30-39 and 40-49 year olds in Point Douglas South	3. 18 – 39 year olds	3. Healthcare workers	3. Indigenous populations
4. Houseless & vulnerable populations	4. 12-19 year olds in DTE	4. Hutterite communities	4. Low income, vulnerable populations in 3 main communities	4. 20-39 year olds
5. EIA or Communal Living clients	5. 20-29 year olds in DTE	5. Rural/remote	5. Moose Lake	5. Health care workers



## Increasing D1/D2 uptake

- **Physicians & pharmacists program**
  - Individual patient outreach
  - In office
- **Focus on Southern region, applied in other areas of the province**
  - Motivational interview counselling
  - Social marketing
  - Forum
  - Regional initiatives
- **Accessibility clinics**
  - Community hosted, pop ups, mobile, after school community clinics
  - Urban Indigenous clinics & outreach



## Children & Youth

- COVID-19 in-school program (aged 12-17)
- School-based immunization catch-up program (grades 6-12) in fixed sites until Oct 29, in school after Nov 1 and available at the Urban Indigenous sites
- Planning for 5-11 year olds
- Planning for 4 and under



- Scaling clinics to meet current demand
- Changing clinic set up to be able to administer multiple vaccines
- Training to prepare for influenza, 5-11 year olds, etc

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the COVID-19 efforts!!

# COVID-19 VACCINATION IN MANITOBA QUESTIONS?



Use the GoTo “Questions Box” to send us your questions.

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WRAP UP



# Happy Thanksgiving!

October 7, 2021

**Manitoba** 