



COVID-19 Pandemic Response Ottawa City Council Update

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July 15, 2020

What is the Current COVID-19 Situation?

- Case counts stable
 - Just less than half with no known exposure
- Hospitalization decreasing
- Outbreaks still occurring
- Case and contact follow-up on target
- Testing volumes steady, percent positive down

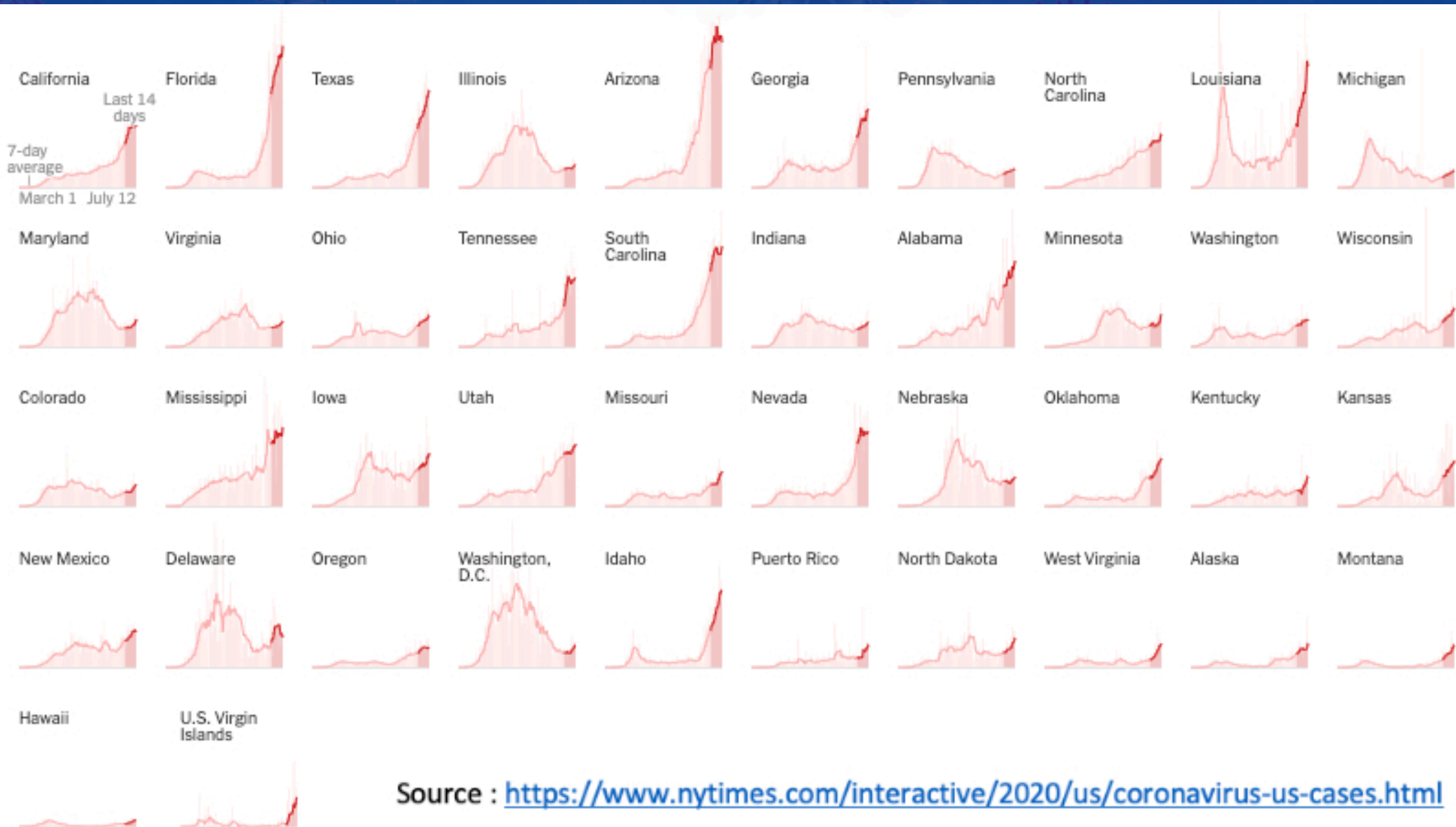


Learning to Live with COVID

- Staying COVIDWise
- Supporting re-openings - Stage 3, including return to school
- Monitoring and adapting to any resurgence
- Adapting testing, case & contact management
- Supporting communities that have greater needs
- Scenario planning

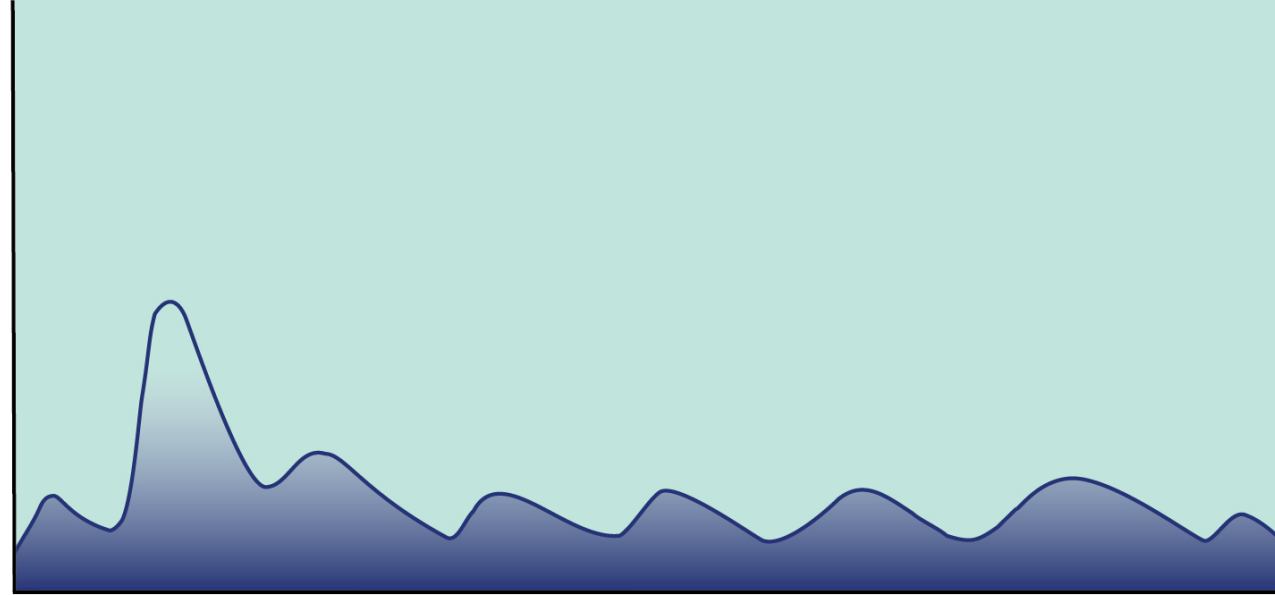


Ever-Present Risk of Resurgence



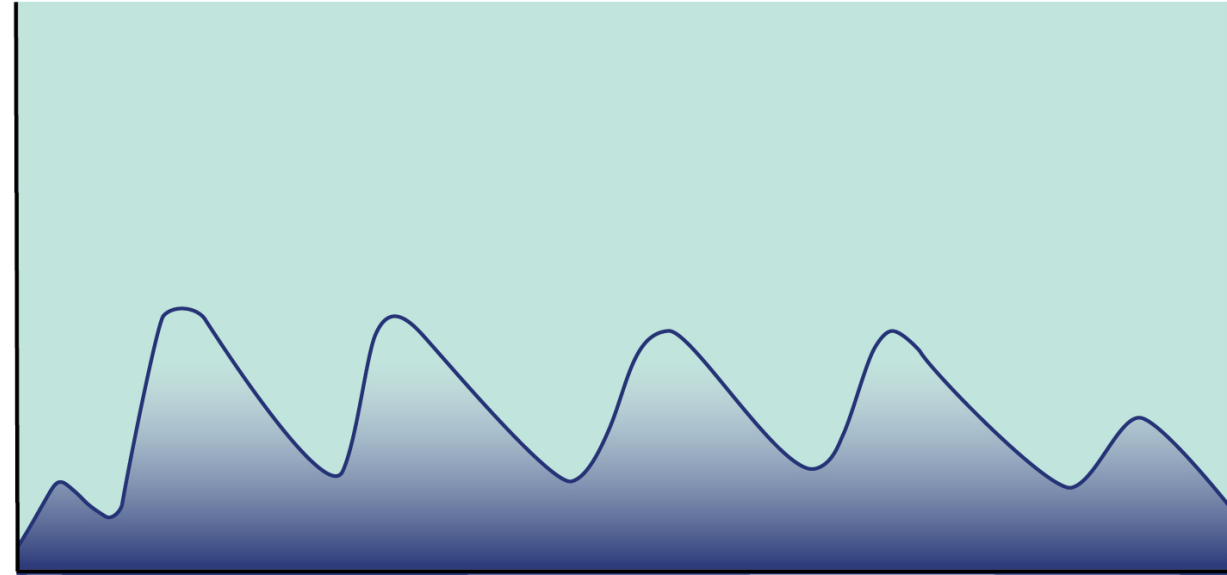
Transmission Stays Manageable

- First "wave" followed by low level transmission for 1-2 years
- Manageable for health care system
- Requires being COVIDWise, community supports
- May be able to widen social circles, increase gatherings, limit restrictions over time



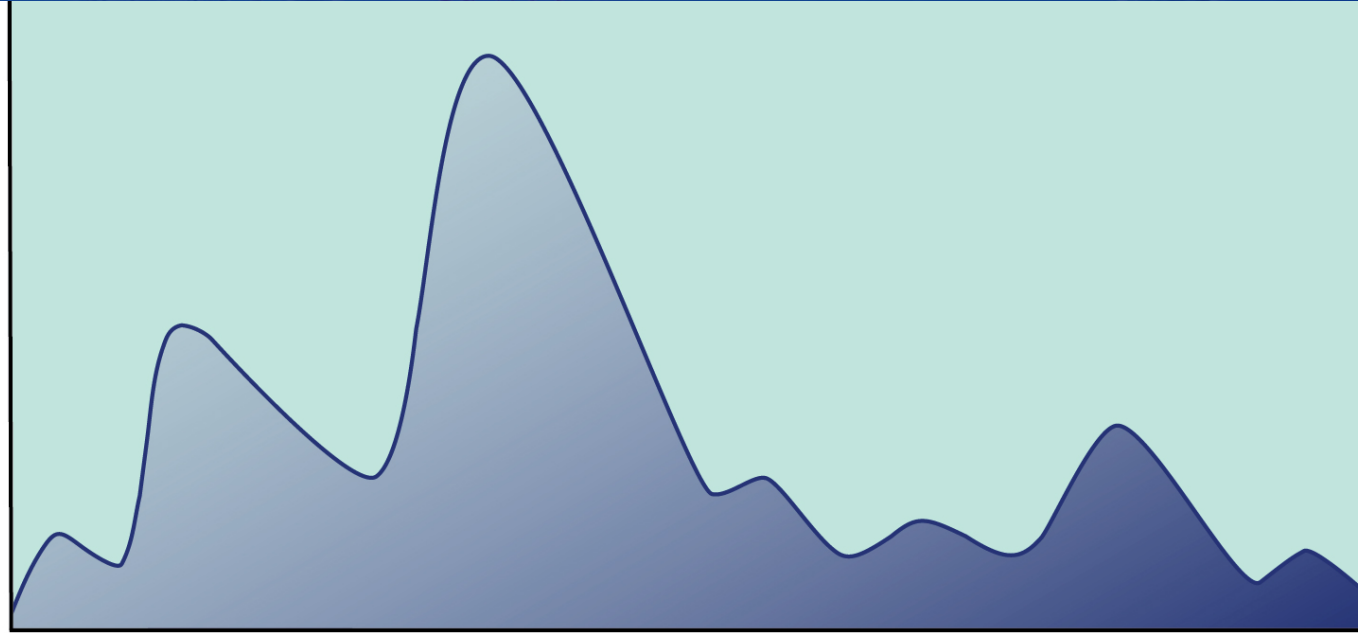
Regular Increase That Needs Addressing

- Series of ongoing periods of resurgence for 1-2 years
- Peaks could require periodic increase in restrictions, limits to contacts
- Need to continue to be COVIDWise and support communities



Large Resurgence Requires More Restrictions

- First wave followed by high and sharp resurgence of cases
- Seen in other countries
- May affect healthcare system function
- Could require a return to more restrictions, limits
- Need to continue to be COVIDWise and support communities



Masks are Another Layer of Protection

Rationale

- Asymptomatic/presymptomatic spread
- Re-opening businesses & resuming activities increases risks of resurgence
- Growing community acceptance and support from the business sector

Evidence

- Various studies, emerging evidence
- Experience from other jurisdictions
- Consistent recommendation





Joint recommendation – OPH and By-law and Regulatory Services

Report recommendation:

**"That Ottawa City Council approve the Temporary
Mandatory Mask By-law, as attached at
Document 1 and as described in this report."**

By-law Requirements

- Every person who enters or remains in an enclosed public space is required to wear a mask that covers their mouth, nose, and chin
- Every operator of an enclosed public space is required to notify patrons of the mask requirement through signage and verbally
- Every operator of an enclosed public space is required to provide alcohol-based hand rub to patrons at entrance and exits

Exemptions to the By-law:

- Young children, persons with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a mask, persons who are unable to put on or remove their mask without assistance, persons engaged in specific activities such as swimming or physical exercise
- Employees are required to wear a mask when in a public area of the building except when behind a barrier such as a plexiglass

Enforcement

By-law and Regulatory Services (BLRS) will administer and enforce the Temporary Mandatory Mask By-law while it is in effect

Enforcement Approach

- Educate and inform to gain voluntary compliance
- Enforcement and penalties through tickets, if necessary
- Enforcement of this by-law and other regulations within BLRS' By-law and Regulatory Services' purview may vary based on demand for service
- Service Requests related to this temporary by-law will be treated as a priority call for BLRS

Fines and Enactment

- Requested set fines will be a reasonable amount, consistent with other City by-laws
- There will be set fines for individuals and for Corporations, should it be deemed necessary to issue charges

Enactment and Repeal Date

- Proposed by-law is temporary – takes effect immediately when passed by Council and remains in effect until the next Council meeting (August 26th); Council may then extend it if necessary for public health objectives, with advice from the Medical Officer of Health

It's in Your Hands

Be COVID Wise

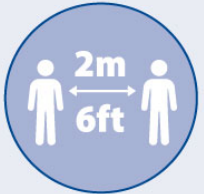
OttawaPublicHealth.ca/COVIDWise



Wear a mask



Isolate yourself when you're sick



Stay two metres (six feet) apart from others



Exercise proper hand hygiene

- Everyone's actions have helped reach goal so far
- As we open, up to public to make informed decisions/assess risk
- Key principles remain
- Stay the course