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ML MIDDLESEX-LONDON
HEALTH UNIT

Public Health Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Special Meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

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Middlesex-London Health Unit

Local Surveillance

As of July 17th, 2020:

- Over 13.8 million COVID-19 cases and over 590,000 deaths have been reported worldwide.
- 39,043 cases of this illness confirmed in Ontario, including 2,784 deaths
- Local:

Case status

The data are based on information extracted from the Middlesex-London Health Unit's *Case and Contact Management System*.
The data reflect the status of cases as of the end of the previous day.

642

Total number of
confirmed cases

1

New cases since
the previous day

571

Total recovered
cases

57

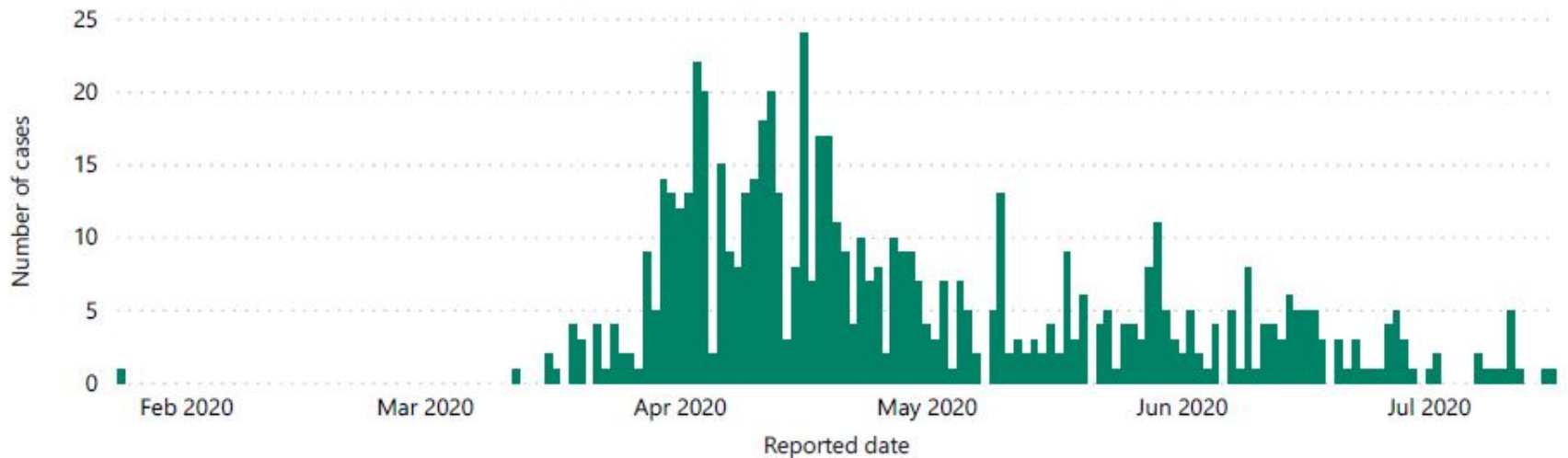
Total deaths

0

New deaths since
the previous day

Cases by Reported Date

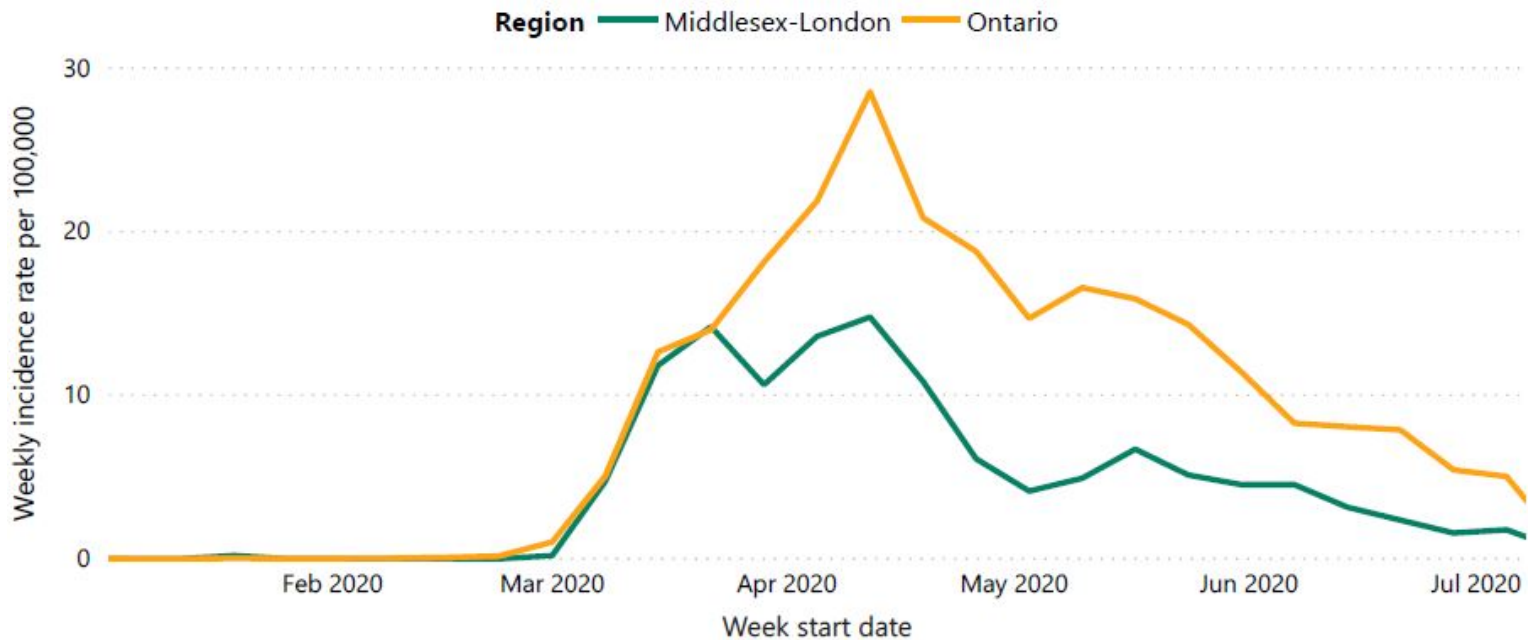
Cases by COVID-19 by reported date, Middlesex-London, 2020



Data source: MLHU COVID-19 Case and Contact Management System, extracted 2020-07-17 at 08:30 EDT. Data current as of the end of day 2020-07-16

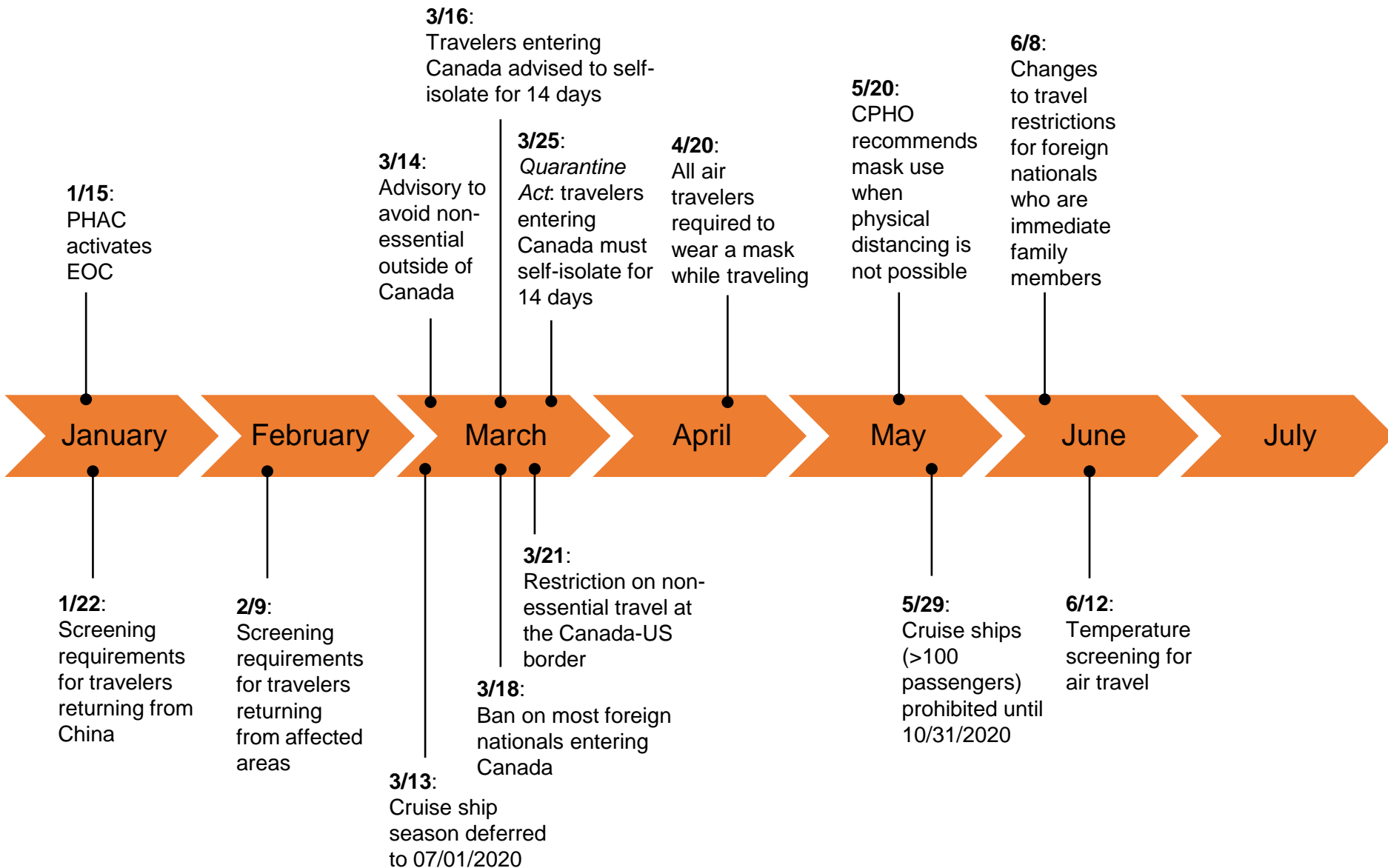
Weekly Incidence Rates

Weekly incidence rates for Middlesex-London and Ontario

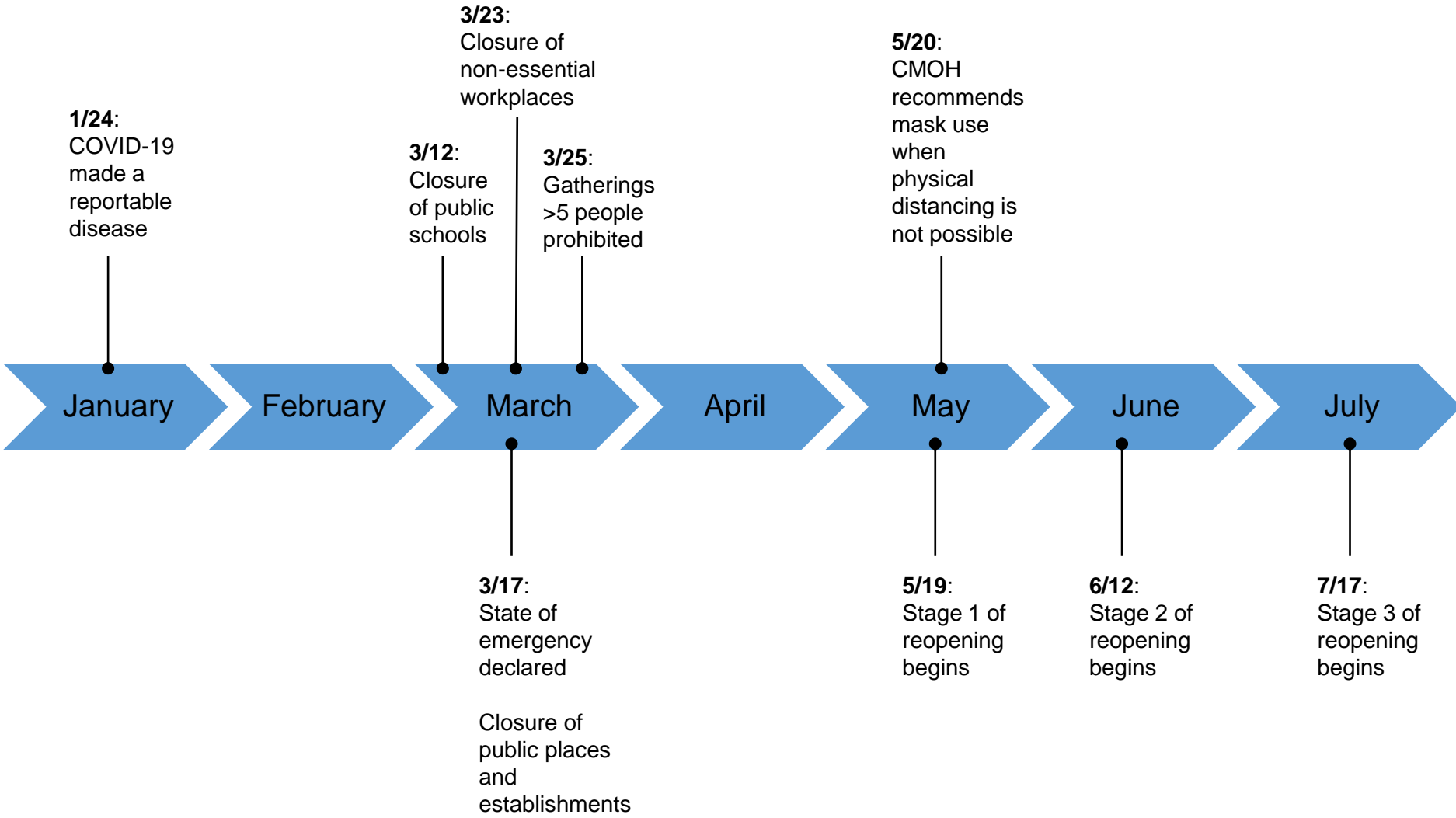


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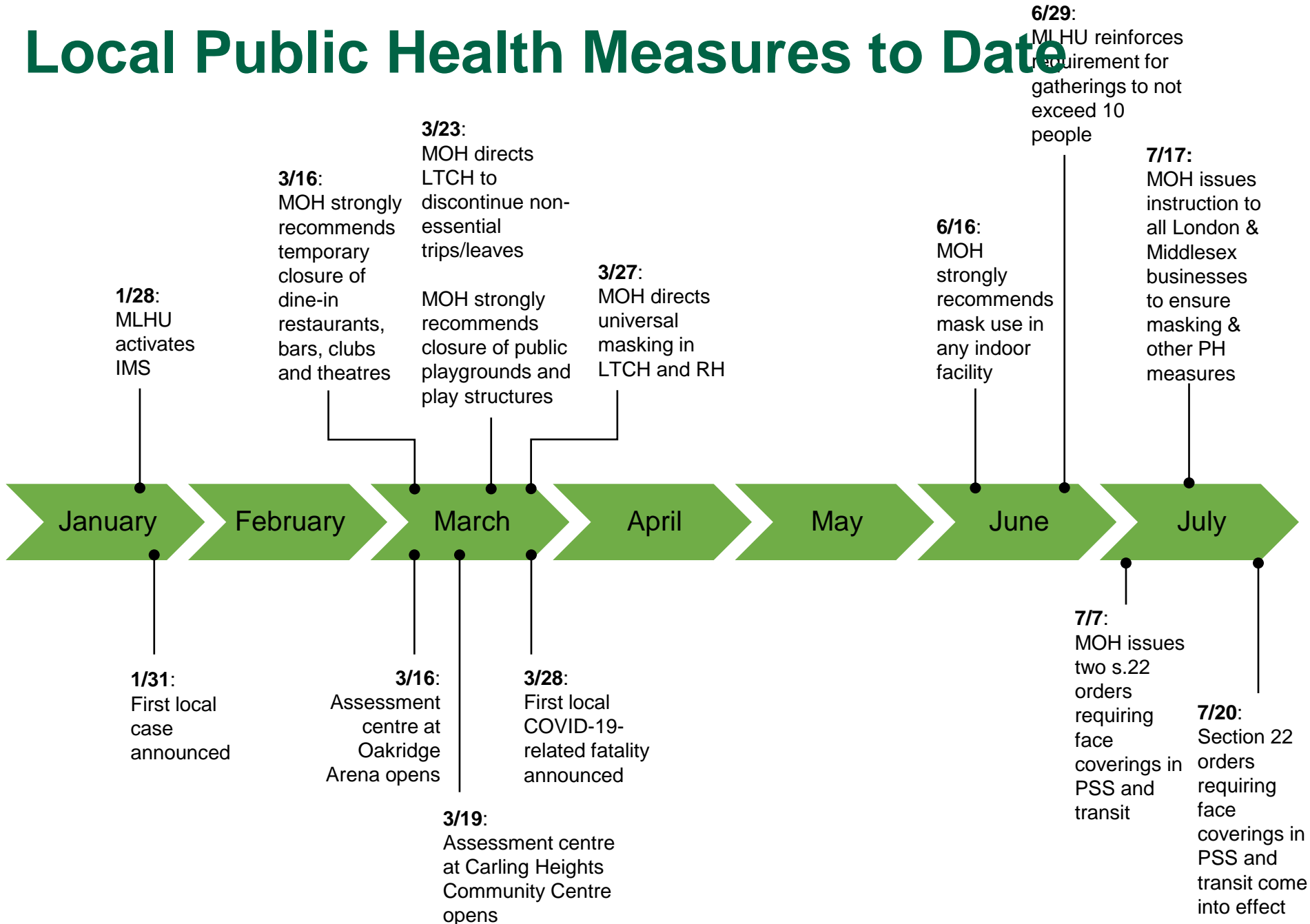
Federal Public Health Measures to Date



Provincial Public Health Measures to Date



Local Public Health Measures to Date



Medical Officer of Health Strongly Recommends Use of Face Coverings in Indoor Public Settings

June 16, 2020



Section 22 Class Orders - HPPA

- Two orders issued on July 7th
 1. Personal care service establishments
 2. Transit vehicles, taxis and ride share vehicles



Section 22 Class Order Personal Care Service Establishments

- Staff, clients, customers and visitors to higher risk businesses must wear a mask at all times within the establishment
- Includes:
 - Hair Salons and barber shops
 - Manicure, pedicure and aesthetician services
 - Piercing services
 - Tanning salons
 - Spas
 - Tattoo studios

Section 22 Class Order Transit

- Covers staff, riders, passengers, clients of public transit and commercial vehicles (including taxis and ride shares)
- Masks and postcard resources for transit riders distributed to customers at high-traffic bus route hubs today

Section 22 Orders Requiring Masks **Effective July 20, 2020**



First Order



The first Section 22 Order applies to personal care service establishments in London and Middlesex County, including services relating to the hair or body, such as hair salons and barbershops, manicure and pedicure and aesthetician services, piercing services, tanning salons, spas and tattoo studios. Under the Order, all customers, clients, employees and visitors will be required to wear a face covering for the entire time they are inside the business.



Second Order



The second Section 22 Order will require everyone who rides on public transit vehicles, in taxis or other commercial vehicles for hire, including ride shares and shuttlebuses, to wear a face covering the entire time they are in the vehicle.

The face covering **must cover** the mouth, nose and chin, for the entire time you are inside the business or vehicle.



A face covering consists of:

- Medical or non-medical mask
- Bandana
- Scarf or cloth

Who is exempt?

- Those under 12
- Those that cannot wear a mask because of medical conditions or have difficulty breathing

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CORONA VIRUS:
<https://www.healthunit.com/novel-coronavirus>

COVID-19 Transmission: What We Know

- Droplet/Contact Transmission (<2 metres)
 - contact with infected saliva/respiratory secretions
 - emitted when a person talks, sneezes, coughs
- Close contact
 - being within <2 metres of an infected person, especially for greater than 15 minutes

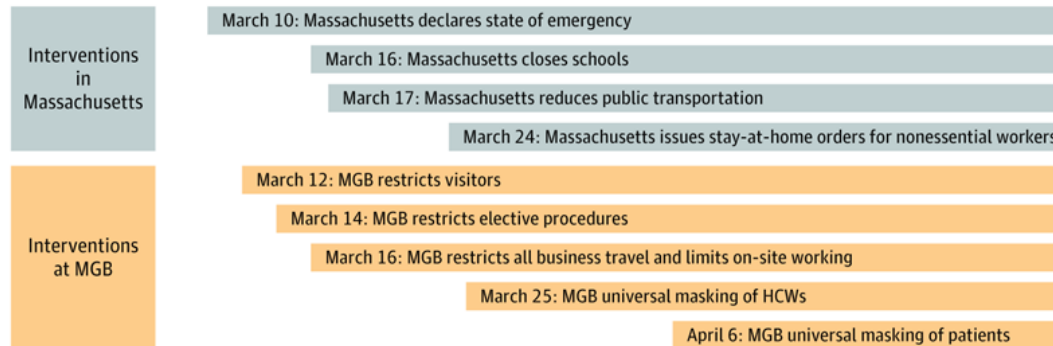
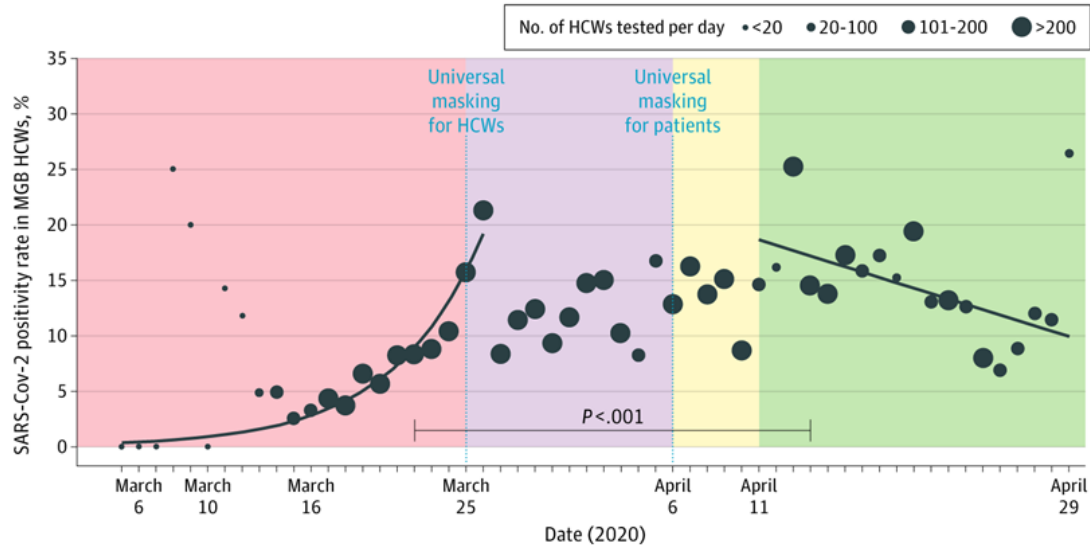
Routine precautions work!

- Maintain two metres distance
- Frequent Hand Hygiene
- Wear a mask

Considerations to Date

- Assessment of local data
- Research on the effectiveness of masks and other interventions
 - Rapid Review of Literature: Universal Masking to Protect and Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

Temporal Trend in Percent Positivity of SARS-CoV-2 Testing Among workers in the Mass General Brigham health care system (Massachusetts)



Advantages to Mandatory Masking

- Substantially increases mask use
- Potential to reduce spread of COVID-19
- Reduces anxiety and increases mental wellbeing
- Contributes to improving economic wellbeing

Risks to Mandating Masks

- Conflict with people who choose not to mask
- Inequity and stigma against those who cannot afford to mask
- Diverting attention from physical distancing, which is more effective and more solidly grounded in evidence
- Should not be worn by those under aged 2

Options for Mandatory Masking

By-law	Section 22 Order	Instruction under <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i>
Enacted by Council under the <i>Municipal Act</i>	Issued by Medical Officer of Health under the <i>Health Protection and Promotion Act</i>	Issued by public health official under the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i>
Enforced by Municipal Law enforcement	Enforced by Health Unit	Enforceable by public health staff, Municipal Law enforcement, and police.
Applies to jurisdiction of Council [City of London]	Applies to Health Unit jurisdiction [London and Middlesex County]	Applies to any individual business or subset of businesses within the Health Unit jurisdiction

Limitations to the “Instruction” Approach

- Cumbersome enforcement provisions
- Risk of being automatically revoked
 - If provincial emergency regulations changed
 - If provincial State of Emergency lapses

Recommendation

- **Municipal by-law requiring people to wear masks, and requiring businesses to take actions to ensure masks are worn, in all indoor public spaces**
- **Communication campaign to promote by-law *and* highlight the continuing need for physical distancing**