



**City of Hamilton
BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA**

Meeting #: 22-005
Date: May 2, 2022
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Council Chambers, Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Loren Kolar, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2604

1. **CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - 4.1. April 4, 2022
5. **COMMUNICATIONS**
6. **DELEGATION REQUESTS**
7. **CONSENT ITEMS**
8. **STAFF PRESENTATIONS**
 - 8.1. Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar 2020 to Present (to be distributed)
9. **PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS**
10. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

11. MOTIONS
12. NOTICES OF MOTION
13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS
14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL
15. ADJOURNMENT



BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES 22-004

9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 4, 2022

Due to COVID-19 and the closure of City Hall, this meeting was held virtually

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillors M. Wilson (Vice-Chair), J. Farr, N. Nann, S. Merulla, R. Powers, T. Jackson, J.P. Danko, B. Clark, M. Pearson, B. Johnson, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek and J. Partridge

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillors E. Pauls, T. Whitehead – Personal

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

- 1. Correspondence from Anita Dubeau, Board of Health Chair, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, respecting a Response to the Opioid Crisis in Simcoe Muskoka and Ontario-wide (Item 5.1)**

(Ferguson/Wilson)

That the Correspondence from Anita Dubeau, Board of Health Chair, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, respecting a Response to the Opioid Crisis in Simcoe Muskoka and Ontario-wide, be endorsed and referred to staff for a review and a report back to the Board of Health.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Ninder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Russ Powers
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
ABSENT	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson

YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

2. Annual Service Plan and Budget 2022 - Amendment to Recovery Related Costs (BOH22003(a)) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)

(Ferguson/Jackson)

That the Board of Health authorize and direct the Medical Officer of Health to submit an amendment to the one-time funding request for recovery and catch-up (included in the 2022 Annual Service Plan and Budget) to the Ministry of Health in keeping with what is outlined in Report BOH22003(a).

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
ABSENT	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Russ Powers
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
ABSENT	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)

There were no ceremonial activities.

(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised the Board of the following changes to the agenda:

9. DELEGATIONS - WITHDRAWN

- 9.1 Lisa Chalapenko, respecting Provincial Vaccine Mandates (approved at the March 21, 2022 meeting)
- 9.2 Dr. J. Tiessen, respecting Provincial Vaccine Mandates (approved at the March 21, 2022 meeting)

(Ferguson/Nann)

That the agenda for the April 4, 2022 Board of Health be approved, as amended.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Russ Powers
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
ABSENT	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

None

(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) March 21, 2022 (Item 4.1)

(Farr/Pearson)

That the Minutes of March 21, 2022 be approved, as presented.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Russ Powers

YES	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
ABSENT	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10	Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11	Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12	Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

(e) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 8)

(i) Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar 2020 to Present (Item 8.2)

Dr. E. Richardson, Medical Officer of Health; Melissa Biksa, Manager, Healthy and Safe Communities; Ruth Sanderson, Epidemiologist - COVID-19; and Erin Rodenburg, Epidemiologist, addressed the Board with an Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar 2020 to present, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(Ferguson/Wilson)

That the Presentation respecting an Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar 2020 to present, be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
ABSENT	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Russ Powers
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
ABSENT	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
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YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(f) **ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

(Pearson/Clark)

That, there being no further business, the Board of Health be adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
ABSENT	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Russ Powers
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ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger,
Chair, Board of Health

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk



Hamilton

COVID-19 Situation Report & Organizational Update

Board of Health

May 2, 2022

Overview

1. Overall Status
2. COVID-19 Situation Report
3. Scarsin Forecast
4. COVID-19 Vaccine Update

Overall Status

- Seeing signs that Hamilton is nearing or has reached the peak in COVID-19 transmission of current wave
 - Reported cases & test positivity have plateaued since mid-April 2022
 - Wastewater indicators remain heightened, but recent sample dates are decreasing
- Updated forecast indicates that COVID-19 hospital admissions are anticipated to peak in early May 2022 and decline to pre-Omicron levels by July 2022

Overall Status

- Vaccination Status (As of April 28, 2022):
 - 90.5% of 12 yrs+ with one dose, 88.2% with two doses
 - 53.4% of 5-11yrs with one dose, 38.1% with two doses
 - 57.7% of 18 yrs+ with a 3rd dose, 67.0% of 40 yrs+
 - 64.8% of eligible 60 yrs+ with a 4th dose

- Make sure you are up-to-date with your vaccines

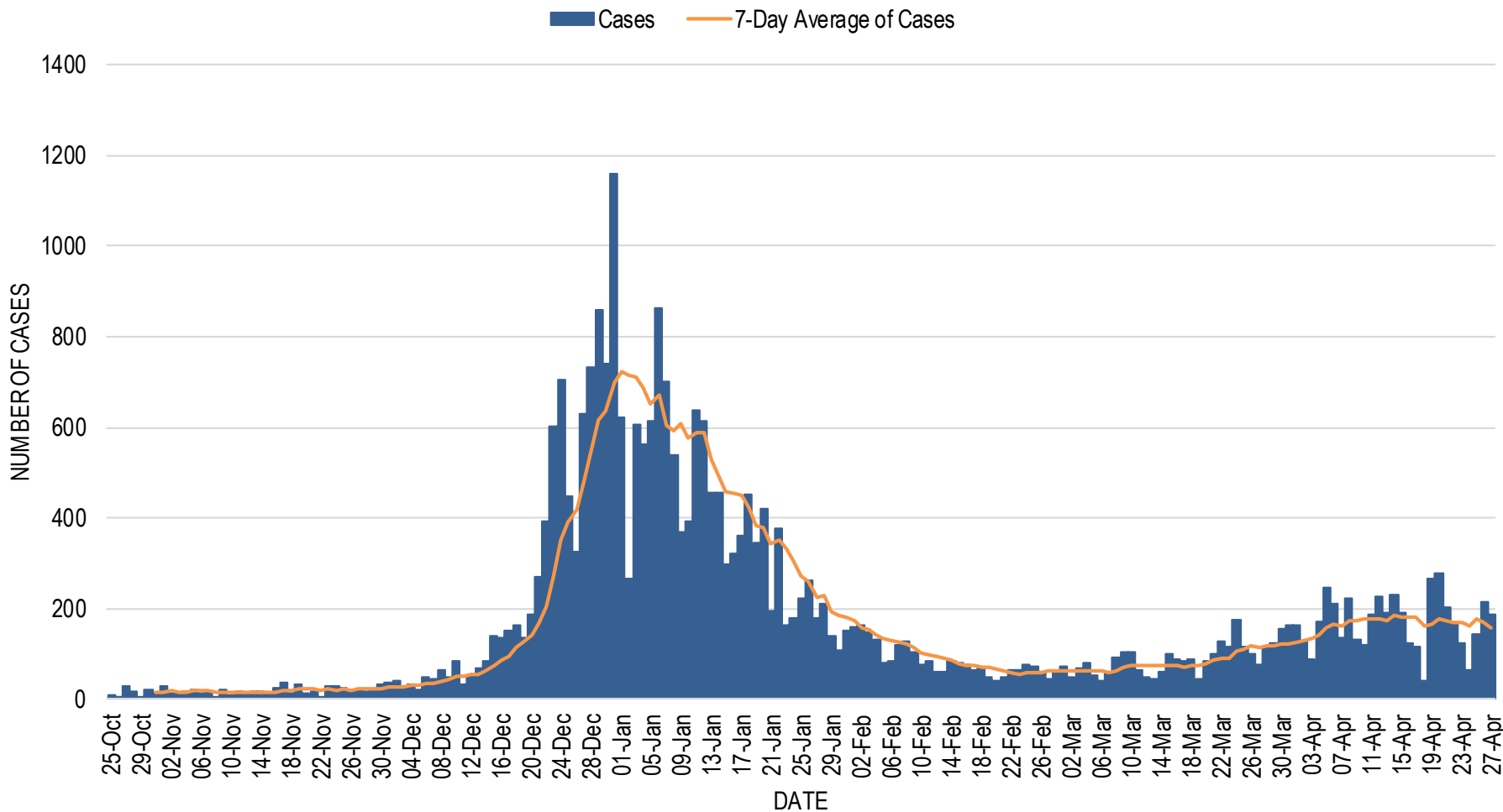
Overall Status

- Hamiltonians are encouraged to use protective measures to reduce serious health consequences from COVID-19 infections
 - Get vaccinated and stay up-to-date with your vaccines
 - Wear a mask when indoors and/or when unable to distance
 - Stay home if you have COVID-19 symptoms
 - Speak to your healthcare provider, know in advance if you're eligible for treatment and where to access
 - Practice physical distancing

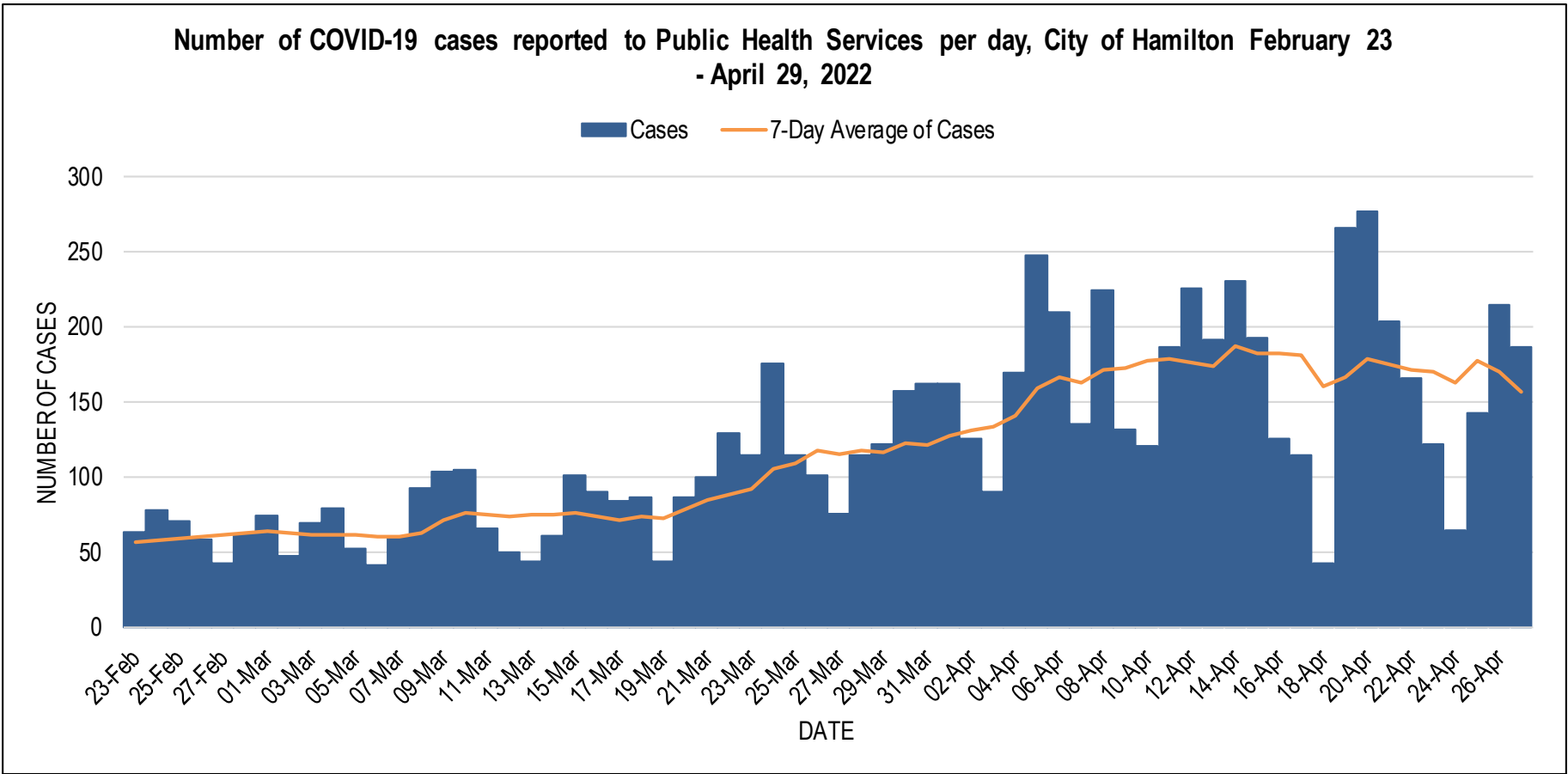
SITUATION REPORT

Erin Rodenburg, Epidemiologist

Number of COVID-19 cases reported to Public Health Services per day, City of Hamilton November 1, 2021 - April 29, 2022



Number of COVID-19 cases reported to Public Health Services per day, City of Hamilton February 23 - April 29, 2022

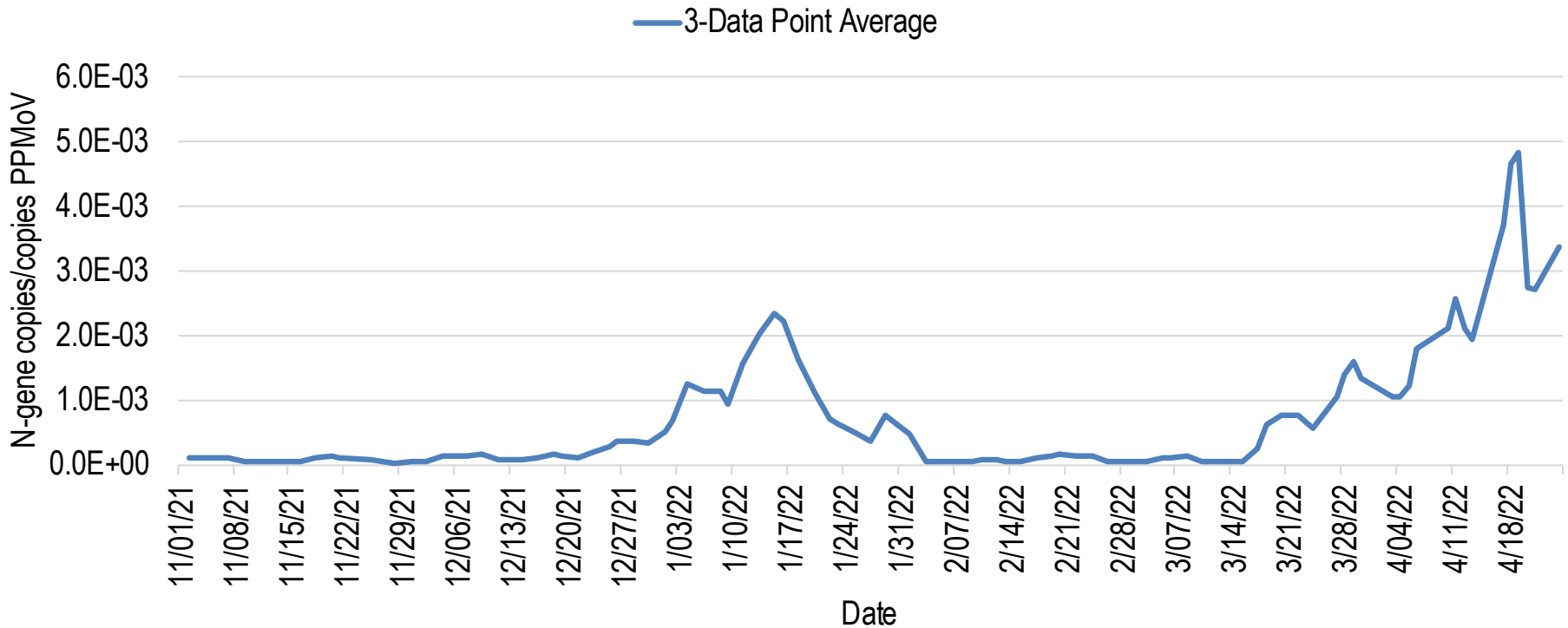


Key Messages

- COVID-19 Case data is known to be underestimated due to Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test eligibility, however it remains an important measure to determine the trends of COVID-19 transmission in our community
- As of April 29, 2022, the 7-day average of reported cases is **157**

Wastewater Surveillance

COVID-19 Wastewater Signal, City of Hamilton (November 1, 2021 - April 25, 2022)

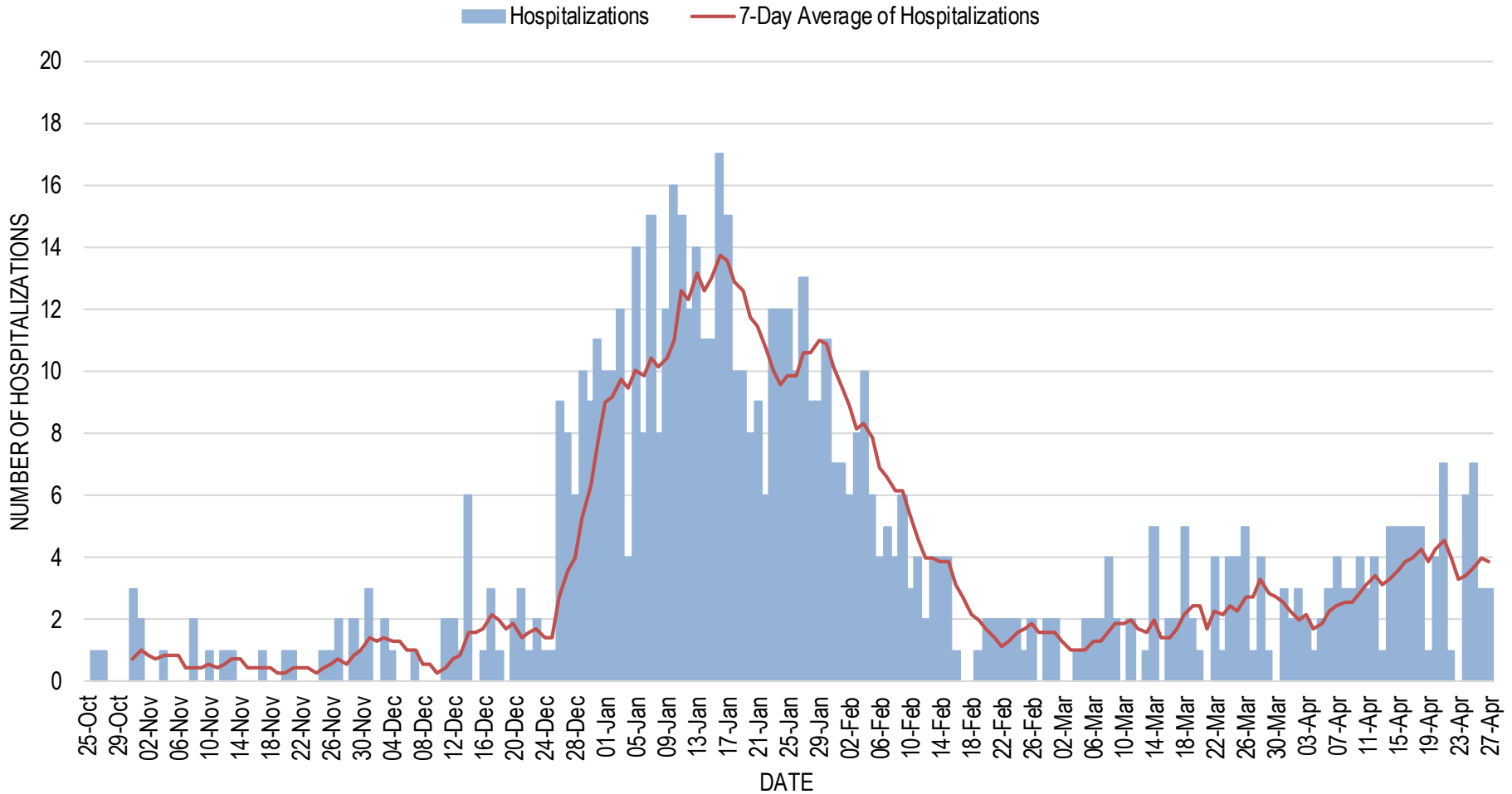


Key Messages

- COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance is a new tool being used by Hamilton Public Health Services to understand community transmission
- The 3-point average of viral signal for detecting COVID-19 in wastewater samples has most recently fluctuated with an overall decrease

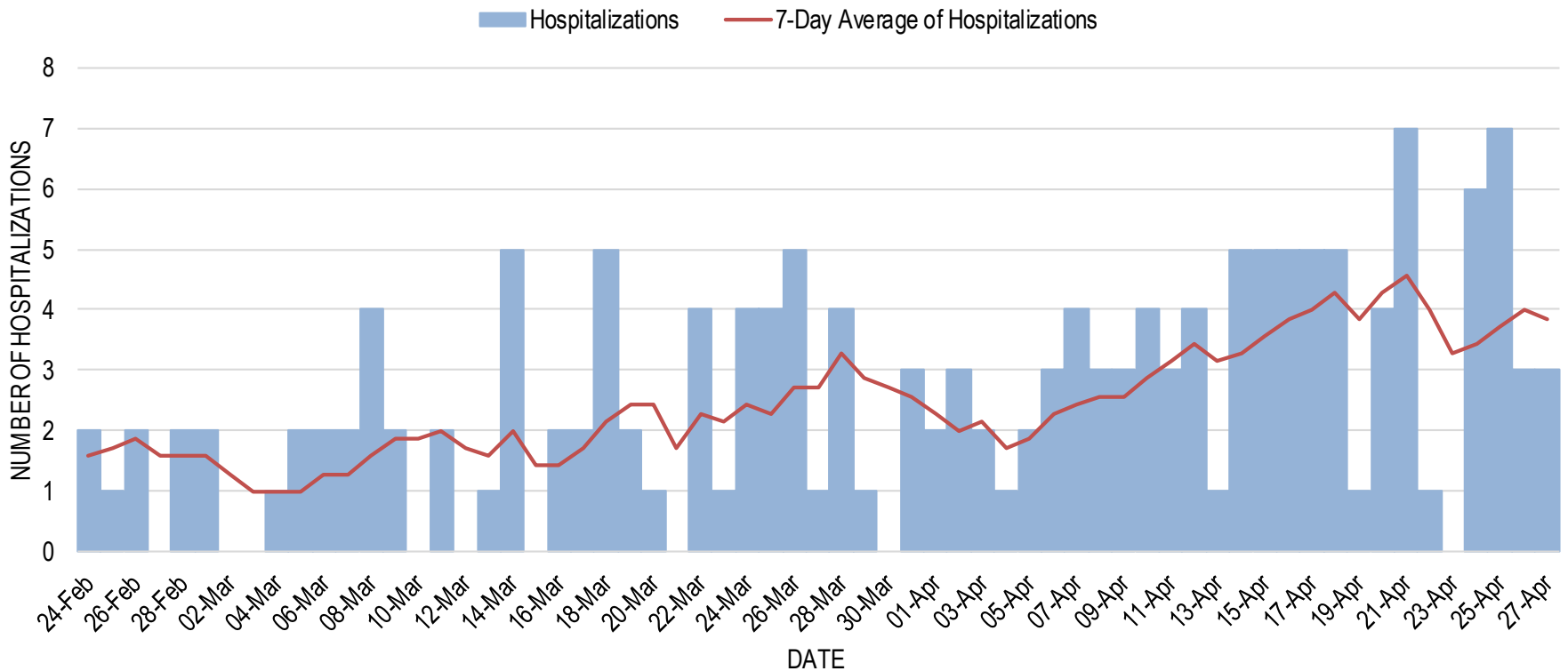
Hospitalizations

Number of COVID-19 Hospitalizations reported to Public Health Services per day, City of Hamilton November 1, 2021 - April 29, 2022



Hospitalizations

Number of COVID-19 Hospitalizations reported to Public Health Services per day, City of Hamilton February 23 - April 29, 2022

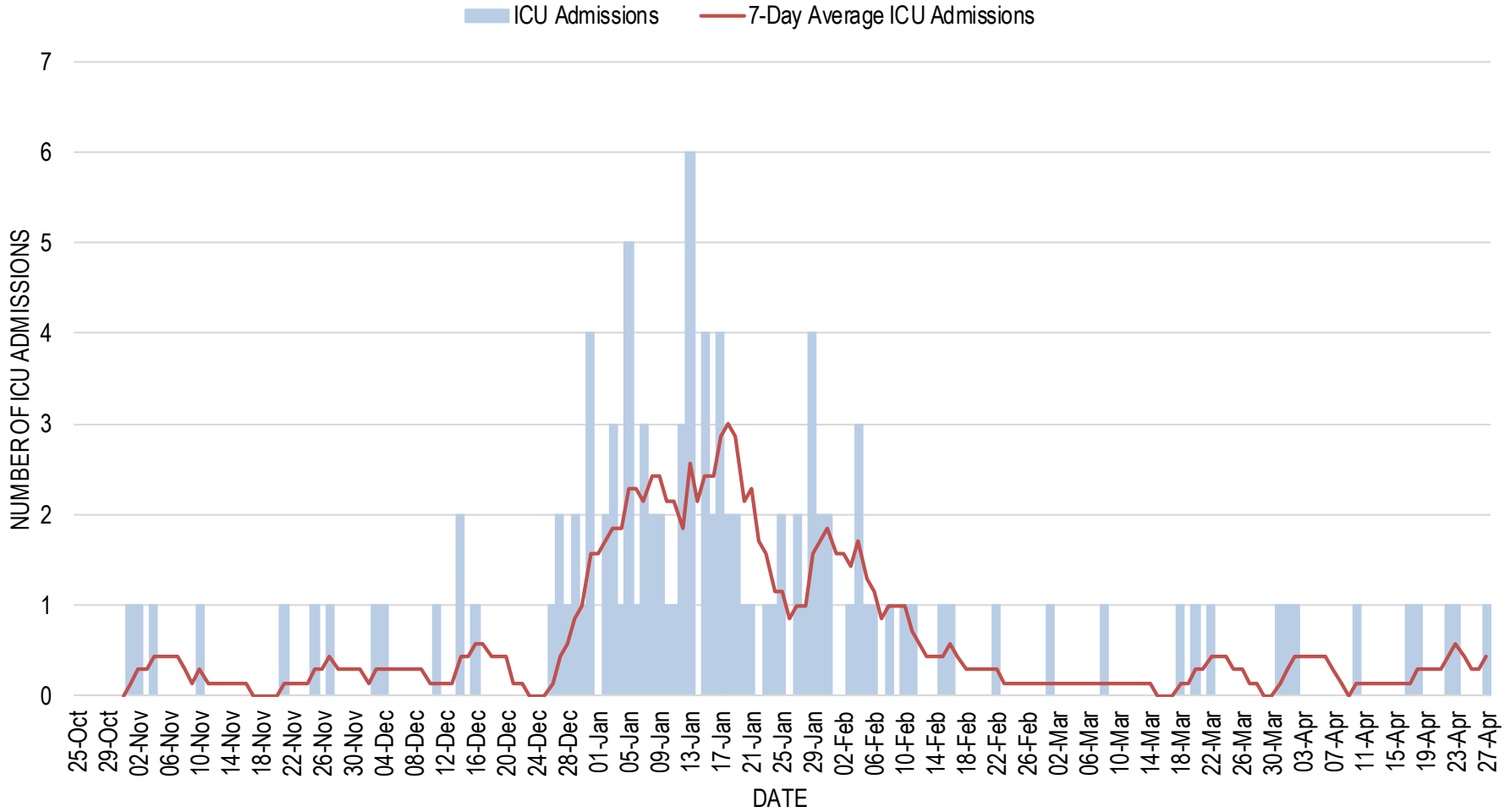


Key Messages

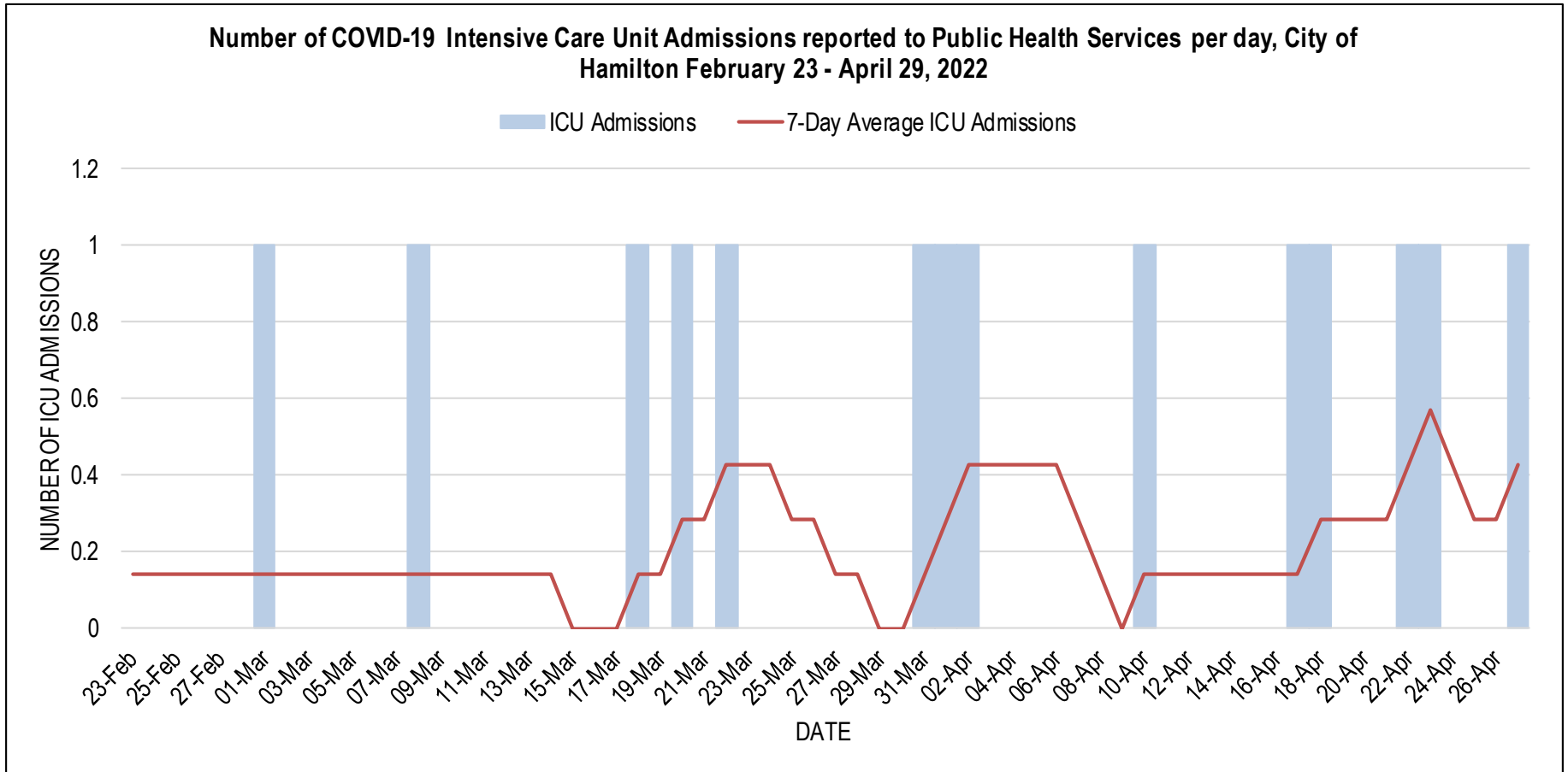
- COVID-19 Hospitalizations are fluctuating and remain heightened
- As of April 29, 2022, there were approximately **3.9** new COVID-19 hospitalizations per day reported to Hamilton Public Health

Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Admissions

Number of COVID-19 Intensive Care Unit Admissions reported to Public Health Services per day, City of Hamilton November 1, 2021 - April 29, 2022



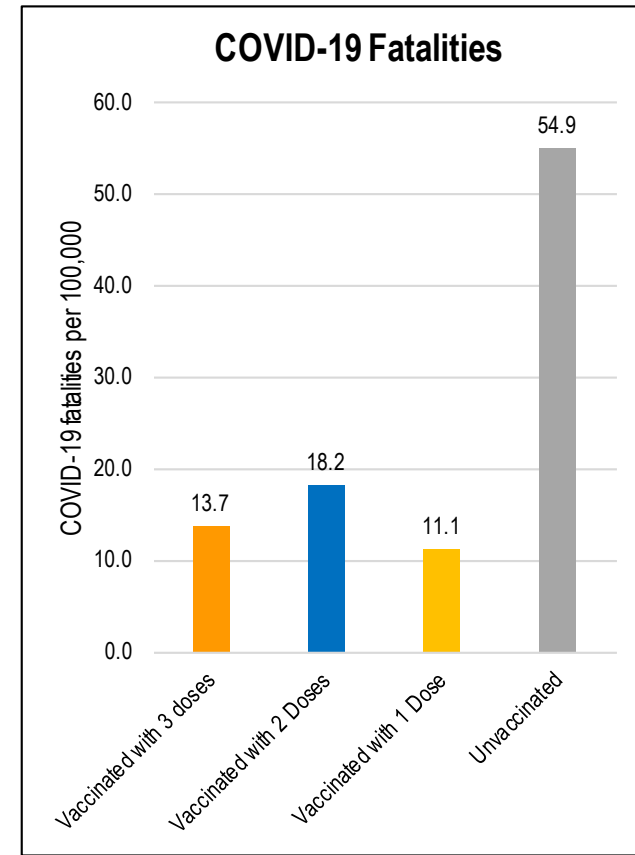
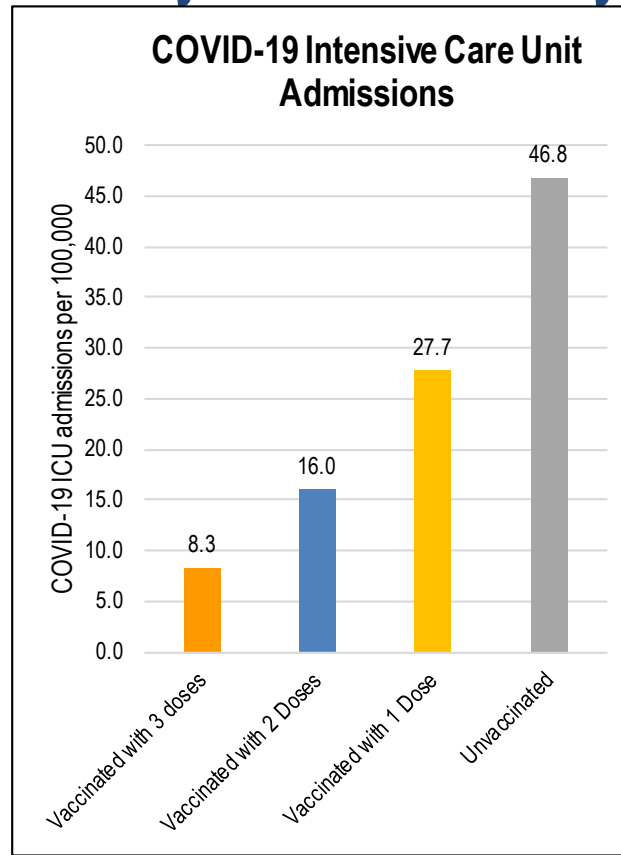
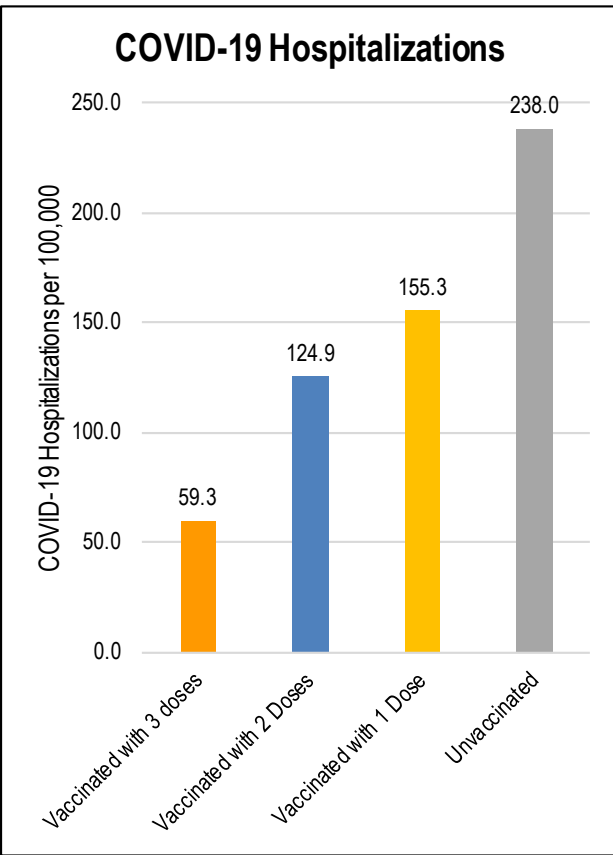
Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Admissions



Key Messages

- COVID-19 Intensive Care Unit admissions and fatalities remain low
- As of April 29, 2022, there were **0.4** new COVID-19 intensive care unit admissions and **0.1** new COVID-19 fatalities per day reported to Hamilton Public Health

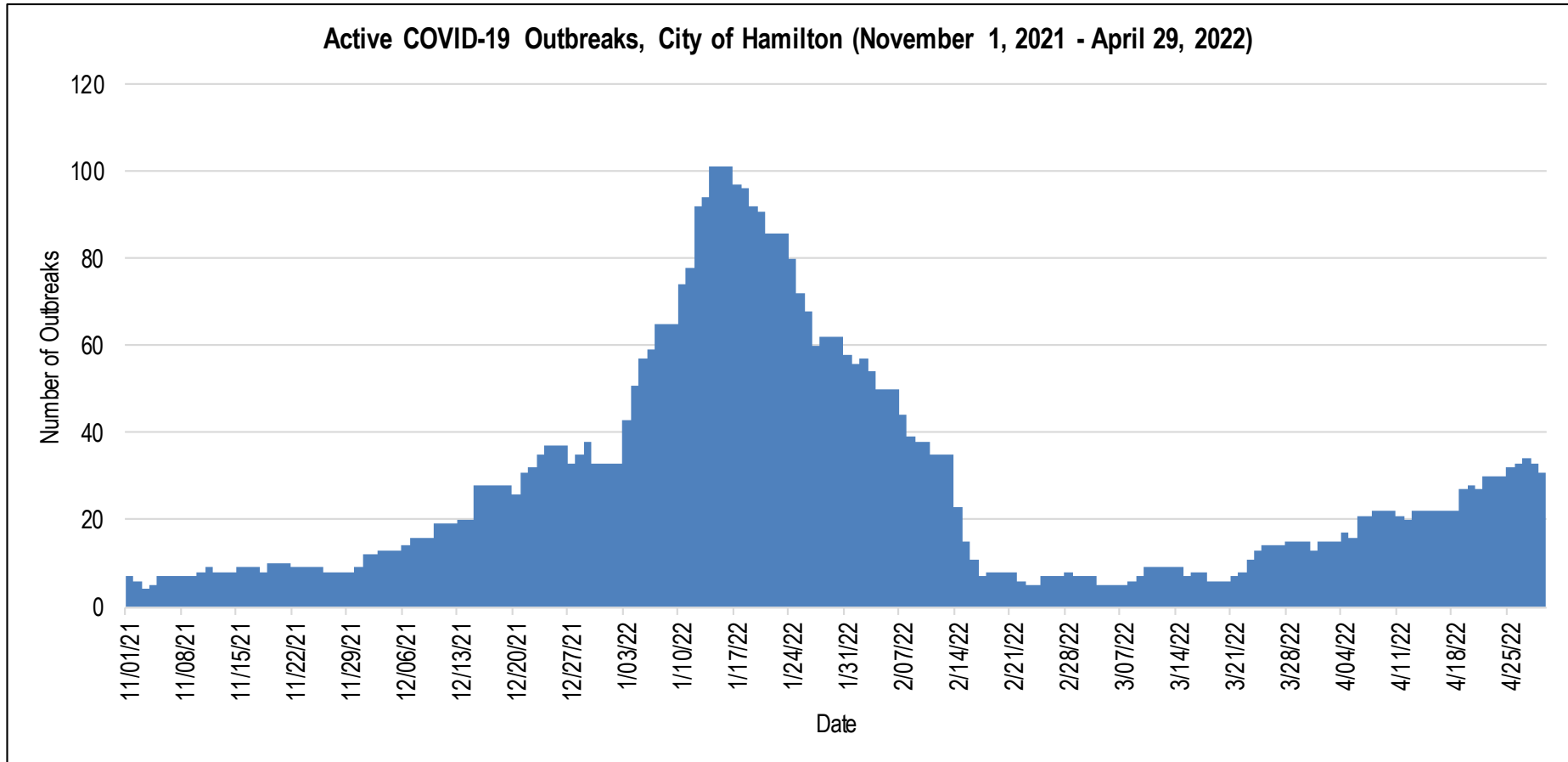
Severity Indicators by Vaccination Status



Key Messages

- The risk of severe outcome due to COVID-19 continues to be significantly lower for those who are vaccinated compared to those unvaccinated
- A 3rd dose of a COVID-19 vaccine provides even more protection against these outcomes, highlighting the continued importance of vaccination

Active outbreaks



Key Messages

- The number of active COVID-19 outbreaks continues to increase. As of April 29, 2022 there were **31** active outbreaks
- Despite this rise in COVID-19 outbreaks, the severe outcomes associated with these outbreaks remain low

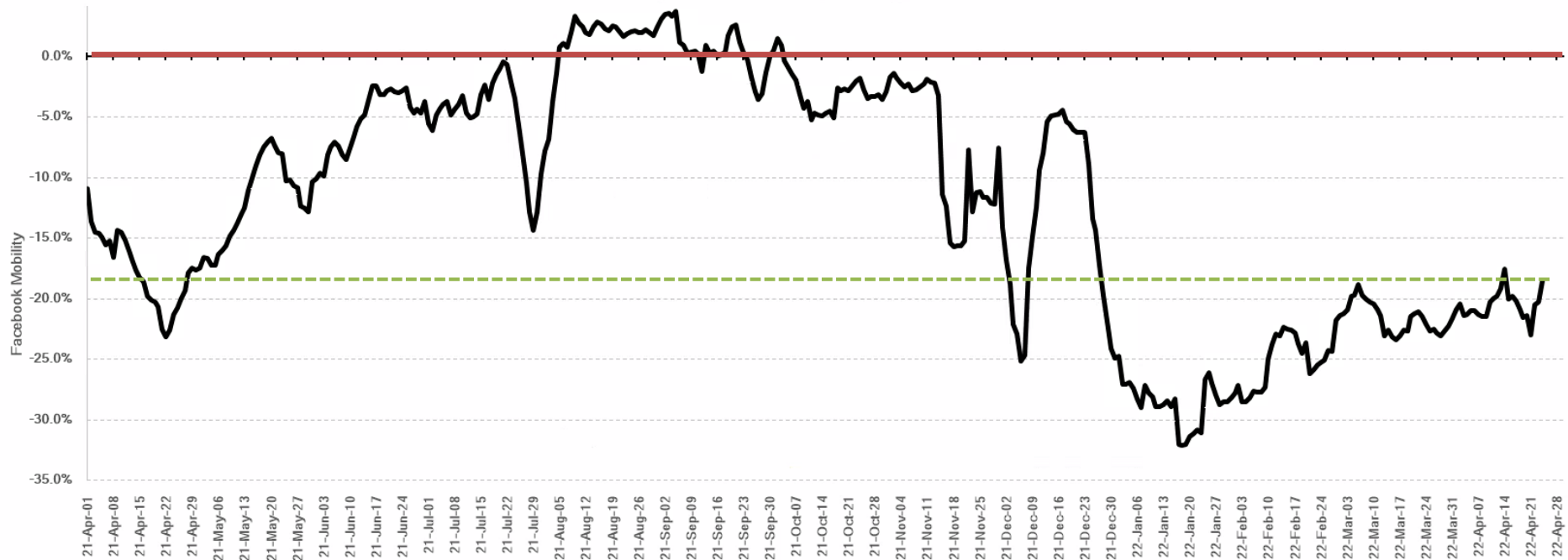
SCARSIN FORECAST

Ruth Sanderson, Epidemiologist

Scarsin Forecast Key Messages

- The forecast has been updated out until the end of August 2022 and includes:
 - The increased transmission impact of the Omicron subvariant BA.2
 - Planned 4th dose booster shots aligned with the recent government announcement
- Mobility continues at levels below pre-pandemic levels
- Forecast focuses on the impact of COVID-19 on more severe outcomes:
 - Hospital admissions due to COVID-19 are forecast to peak in early May 2022 and could reach approximately six new admissions per day among Hamiltonians
 - Higher hospital admission levels will likely be sustained to the end of June 2022 and then recede to pre-Omicron levels

Overall Mobility, Hamilton

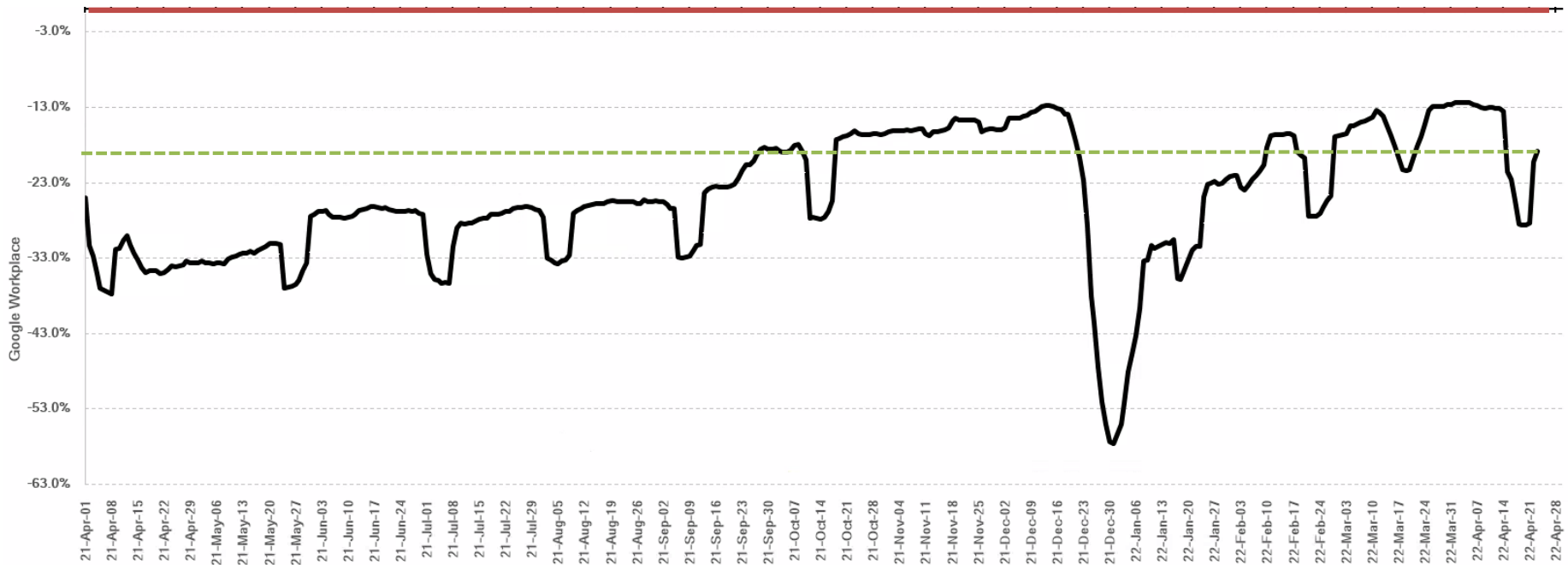


Data Source: Scarsin Decision Support System retrieved Apr 27, 2022

Key Messages:

- Overall, community mobility continues to remain low (and below pre-pandemic levels)
- It has levelled off at 19% below pre-pandemic levels as of April 24, 2022

Workplace Mobility, Hamilton



Data Source: Scarsin Decision Support System retrieved Apr 27, 2022

Key Messages:

- Workplace mobility had leveled off at 13% below pre-pandemic levels. It dipped down during the most recent holiday and as of April 23, 2022, appeared to be returning to that level and was at 19% below pre-pandemic levels

Overview of Scenario and Assumptions

Base Scenario

Scenario Assumes:

- Public health measures aligned with Ontario's reopening plan including the continuation of masking in higher risk settings to Jun 11, 2022
- Omicron severity is approximately 36% severity of Delta
- Transmission rates adjusted for increased transmission of Omicron subvariant BA.2 at 1.3 times that of BA.1. Assume BA.2 at 95% of cases as of Apr 30, 2022
- Transmission rates were aligned with current hospital actuals
- Comprehensive waning immunity, 2nd and 3rd dose immunity incorporated as well as waning immunity for those infected at 210 days
- Vaccinations updated (included 4th doses) to align with Hamilton's actuals and announced booster doses out to the end of Dec 2022

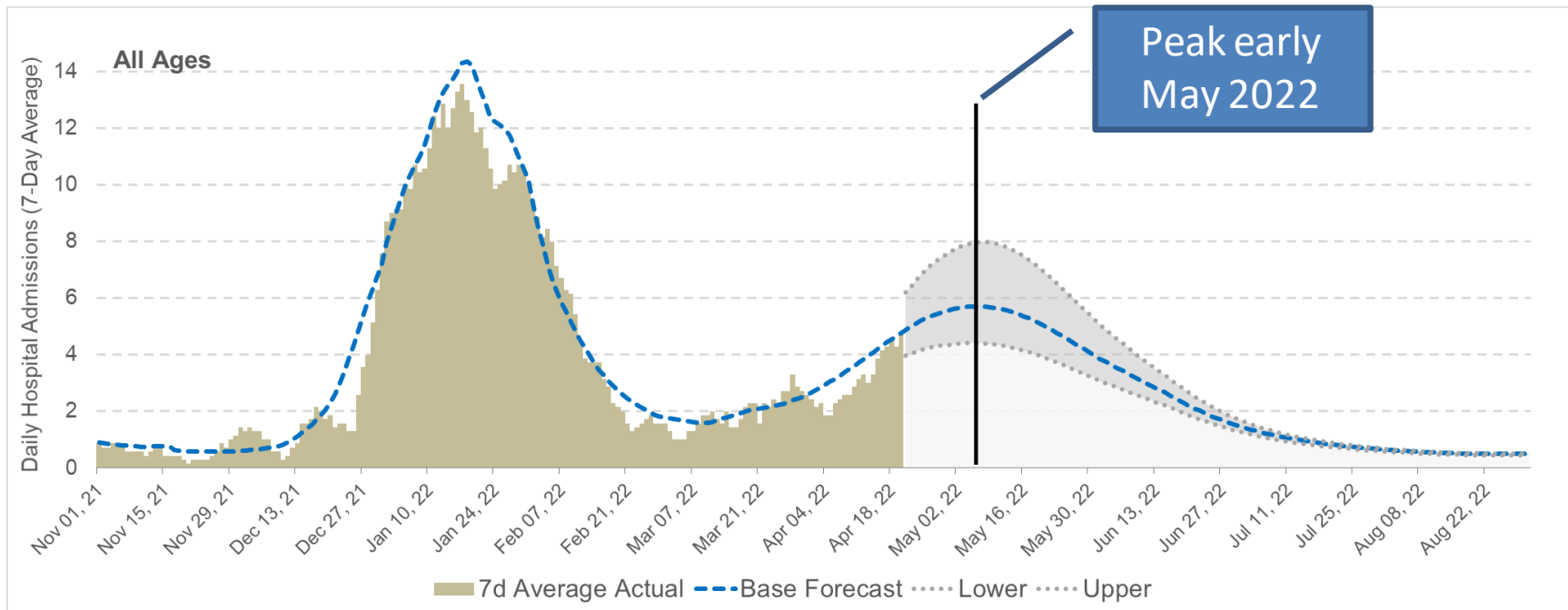
Limitation:

- Challenging to model the spread of COVID-19 due to major changes in testing practices in late Dec 2021, which led to increased undercounting through identified lab-confirmed cases

Updated Data:

- Case/ hospital/ death data retrieved Sun Apr 25, 2022
- Updated vaccination and mobility data Sun Apr 25, 2022

Scarsin Forecast COVID-19 Hospital Admissions among Hamiltonians

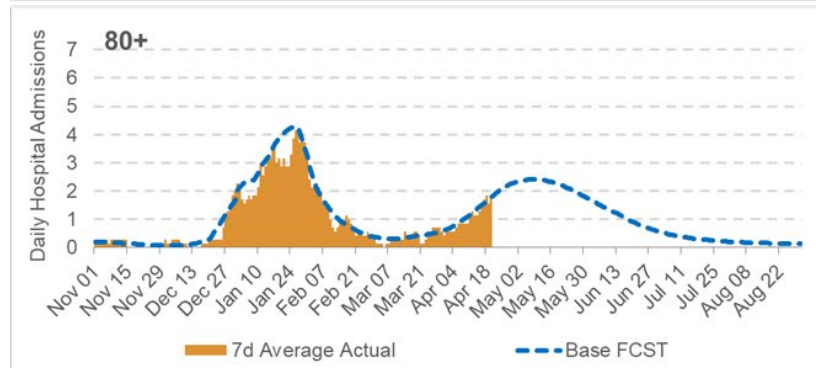
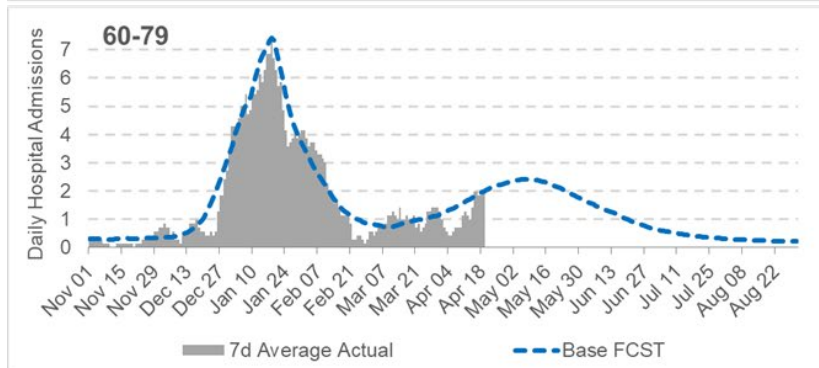
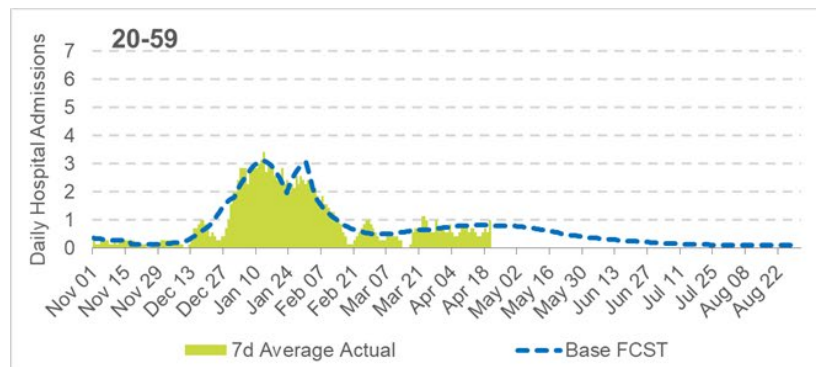
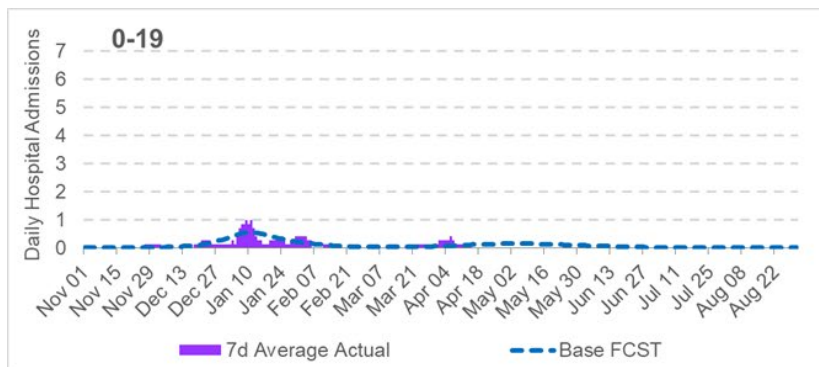


Data Source: Scarsin Decision Support System retrieved Apr 25, 2022

Key Messages:

- New hospital admissions are likely to peak just below 6 hospital admissions per day in early May 2022 and will recede to pre-Omicron levels into the summer. There is some uncertainty in the trajectory, admissions could peak at nearly 8 per day or around 4 per day
- Approximately 280 new admissions are anticipated between May 2 to August 31, 2022

Scarsin Forecast COVID-19 Hospital Admissions by Age Group, Hamiltonians

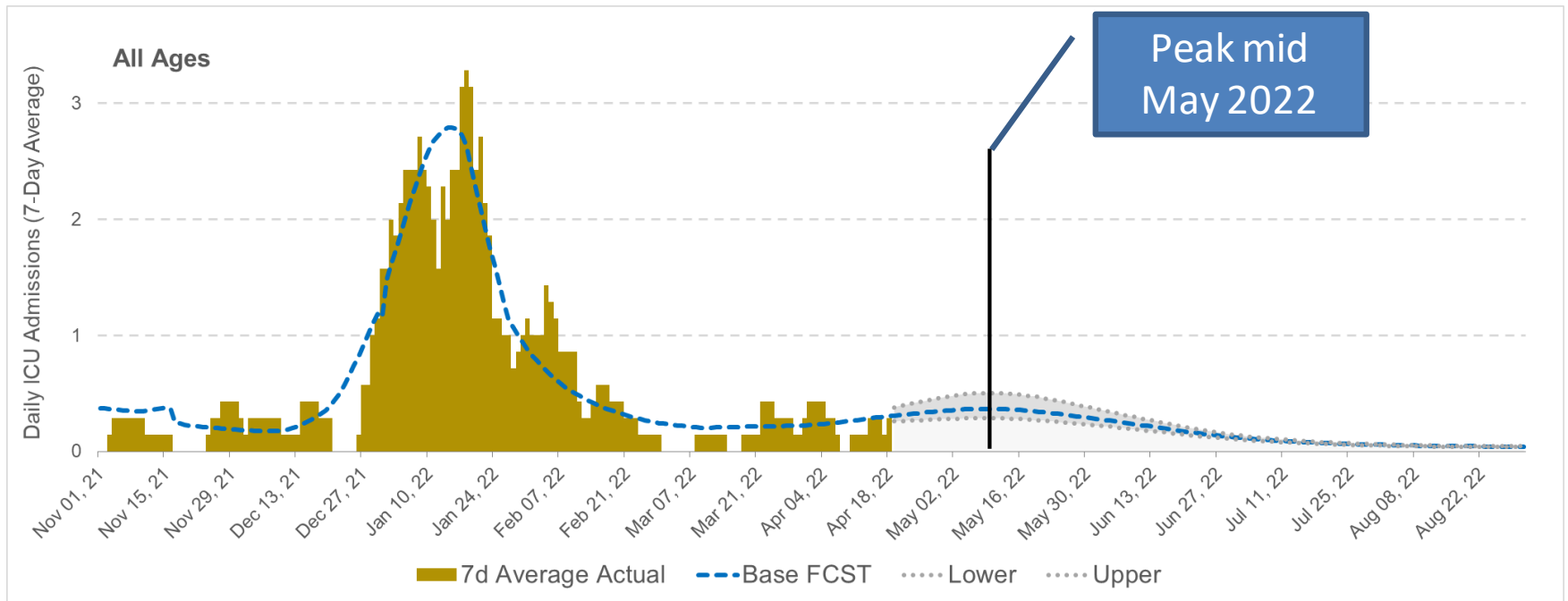


Data Source: Scarsin Decision Support System retrieved Apr 25, 2022

Key Messages:

- Trajectories differ by age group; infections have now moved into older age groups
- Those aged 60 years and older will make up 86% of new hospital admissions to the end of August 2022

Scarsin Forecast COVID-19 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Admissions among Hamiltonians

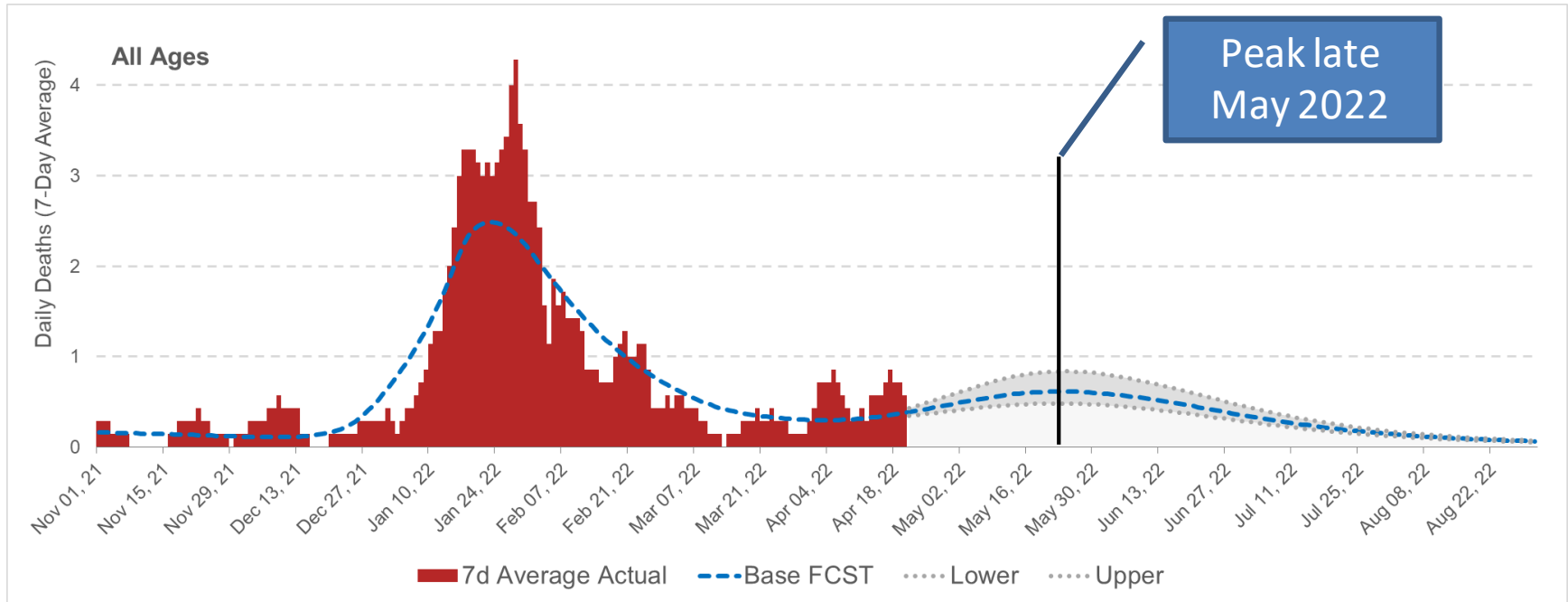


Key Messages:

Data Source: Scarsin Decision Support System retrieved Apr 25, 2022

- Intensive Care Unit admissions will increase slightly above pre-Omicron levels, peaking below 1 per day on average
- The forecast predicts 20 new Intensive Care Unit admissions among Hamiltonians between May 2 to August 31, 2022
- Most Intensive Care Unit admissions (64%) are predicted to be in those aged 60-79 years

Scarsin Forecast Deaths Due to COVID-19 among Hamiltonians



Data Source: Scarsin Decision Support System retrieved Apr 25, 2022

Key Messages:

- The forecast predicts 42 deaths between May 2 to August 31, 2022, and will return to near pre-Omicron wave levels into the summer
- Most deaths are predicted in those aged 80 years and older (82%).

Scarsin Forecast Summary

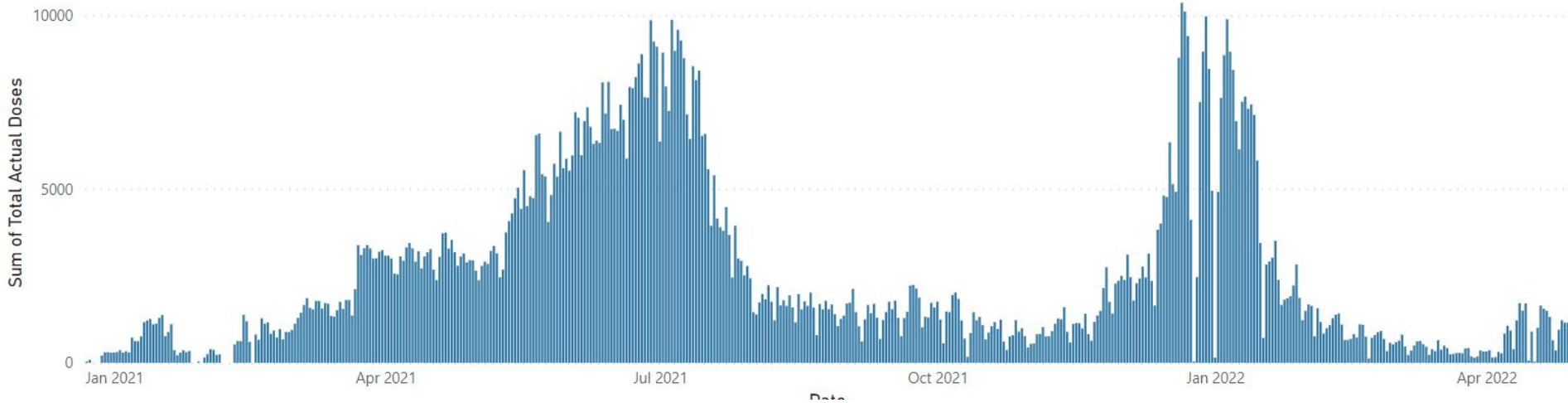
- The forecast, to the end of August 2022, indicates that new hospital admissions due to COVID-19 are reaching their peak among Hamiltonians:
 - Peak admissions among Hamiltonians predicted in early May 2022
 - Peak predicted to be about half the previous Omicron peak level (i.e., just below 6 new admissions per day on average compared with Omicron peak levels at approximately 13) but could get to as high as 8 admissions per day
 - Intensive care unit admissions forecast to peak at less than 1 per day
 - Hospital admission levels are forecasted to return to pre-Omicron levels by the end of June
- Infections are forecast to increase in older age groups after first peaking in younger age groups
- Vaccinations continue to be important as we consider the impact of waning immunity and a potential fall wave

COVID VACCINE UPDATE

Melissa Biksa, Manager – COVID-19 Vaccine

COVID-19 Vaccine – Doses Administered in Hamilton

Estimated as of End Of Day April 28, 2022



- Over 1.25 million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in Hamilton since December 2020
- Recent increase in doses administered driven by expanded 4th dose eligibility (April 7, 2022)
- Over 24,300 4th doses administered in Hamilton, currently averaging 774 doses per day

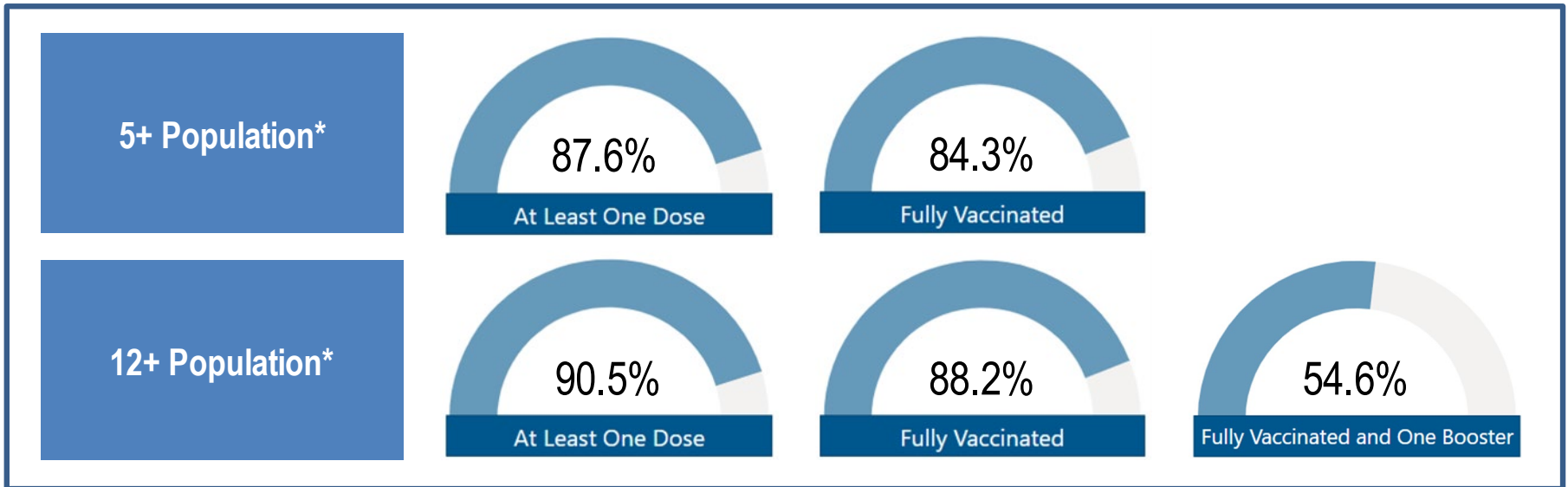
Note: Includes Hamilton residents and individuals vaccinated in Hamilton who cannot be assigned to a health unit region.

*The 5+ population includes individuals born in 2016 or earlier, 12+ population includes individuals born in 2009 or earlier, and 18+ population includes individuals born in 2003 or earlier.

Sources: IntelliHealth (COVAXon Data Load); IntelliHealth (Population Projections, 2020).

COVID-19 Vaccine – Overall Coverage

Estimated as of End Of Day April 28, 2022



- Coverage in 5 to 11 year-old population increased to **53.4%** (1st dose) and **38.1%** (2nd dose)
- 3rd dose coverage in adult population is **57.7%** with higher coverage in older age groups
- 4th dose coverage increases with age

Note: Includes Hamilton residents and individuals vaccinated in Hamilton who cannot be assigned to a health unit region.

*The 5+ population includes individuals born in 2016 or earlier, 12+ population includes individuals born in 2009 or earlier, and 18+ population includes individuals born in 2003 or earlier.

Sources: IntelliHealth (COVAXon Data Load); IntelliHealth (Population Projections, 2020).

COVID-19 Vaccine – Eligibility & Interval

- 4th Dose – Current Eligibility
 - Individuals 60 years of age and older & First Nations, Inuit, & Métis individuals and their non-Indigenous household members 18 years of age and older
- Vaccination Post-Infection Recommendation
 - 1st/2nd dose – 8 weeks post-symptom onset or positive test
 - 3rd/4th dose – 3 months post-symptom onset or positive test

COVID-19 Vaccine – Key Messages

- **Important to stay up-to-date with your vaccines**
 - COVID-19 vaccines continue to be widely available
- **Grade 7/8 vaccine available through catch-up clinics**



Hamilton

QUESTIONS?