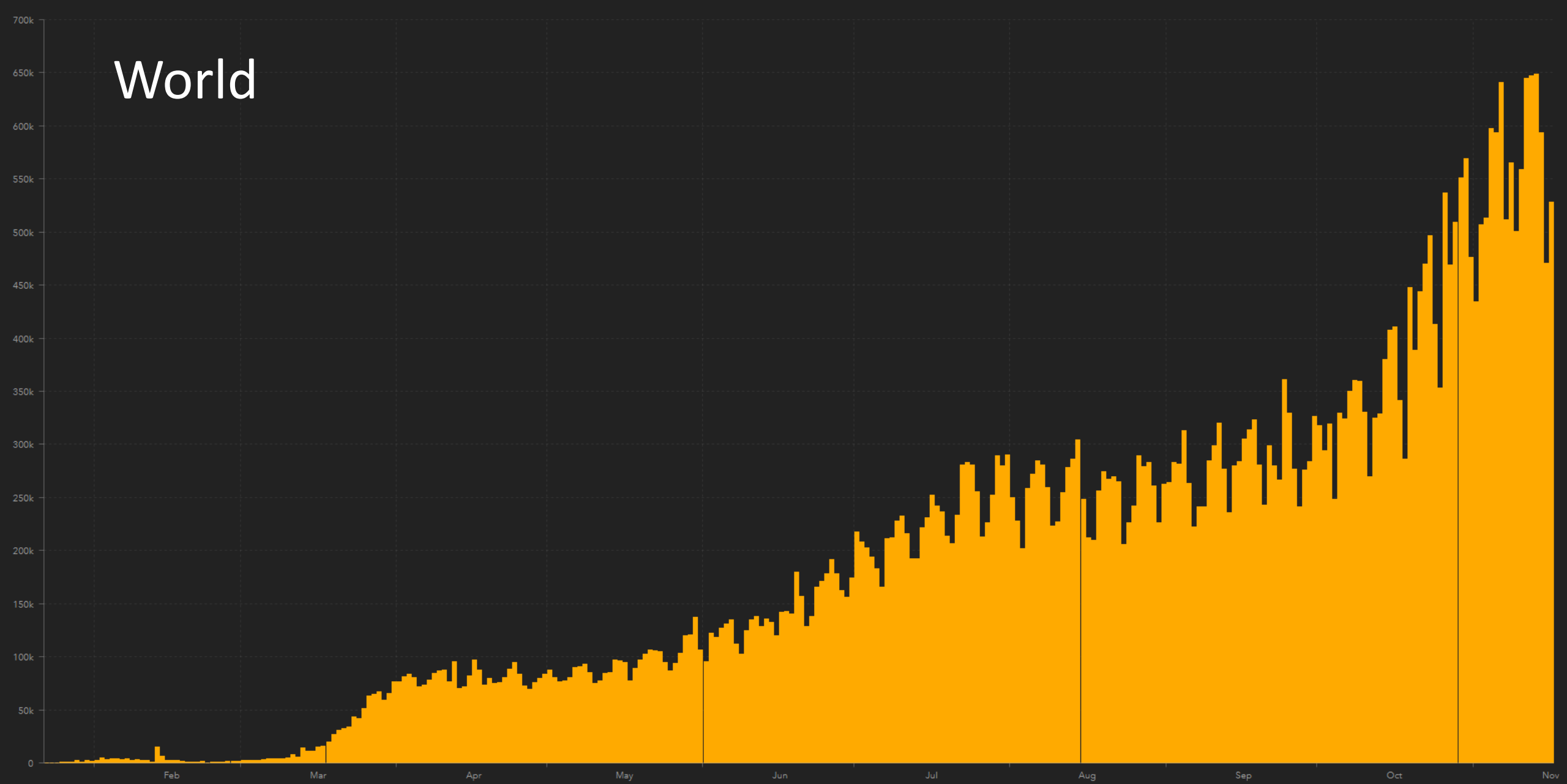


COVID-19 Update & Recent Developments

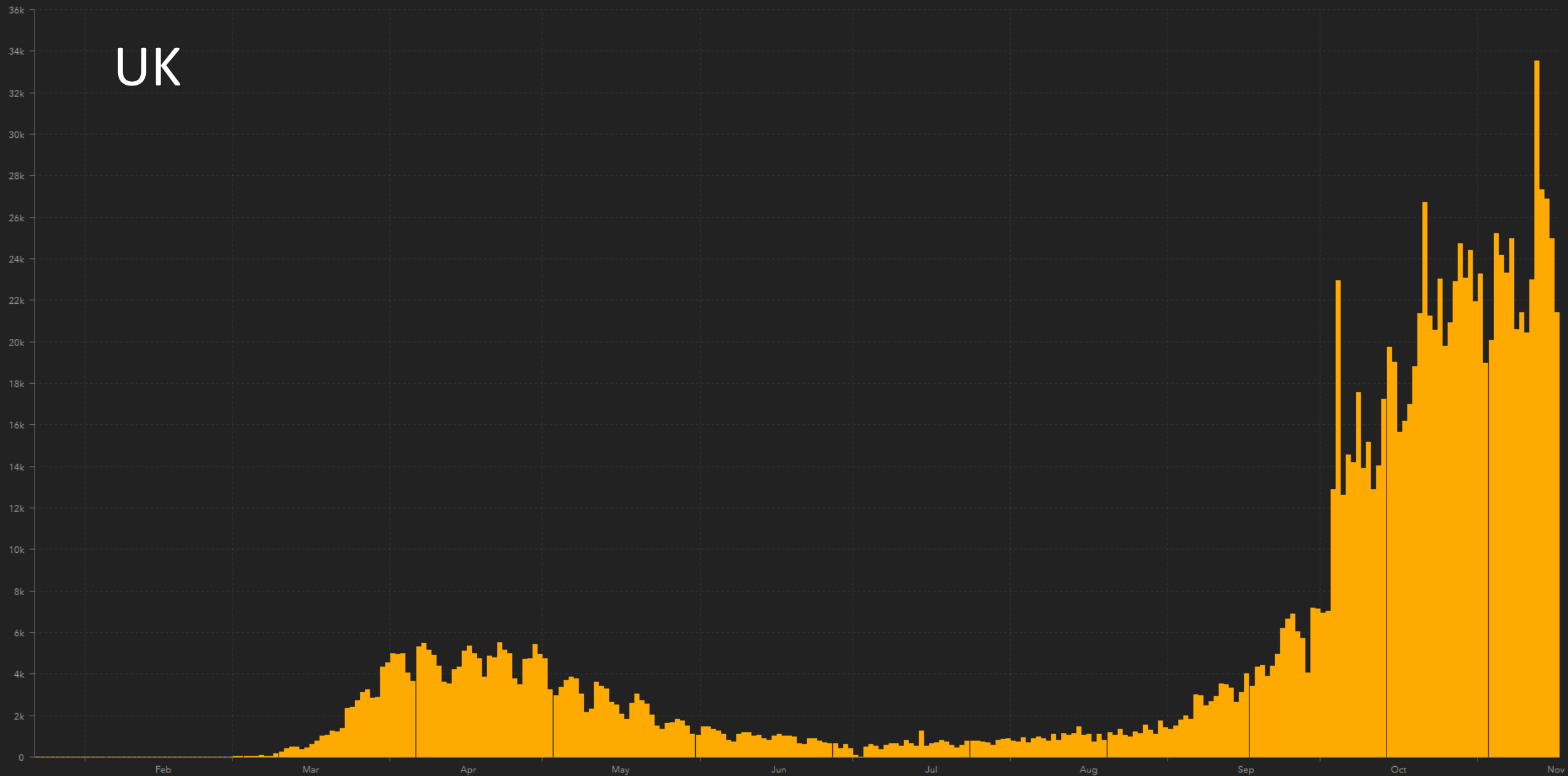
Special Council
November 18, 2020

M. Mustafa Hirji
Medical Officer of Health & Commissioner (Acting)

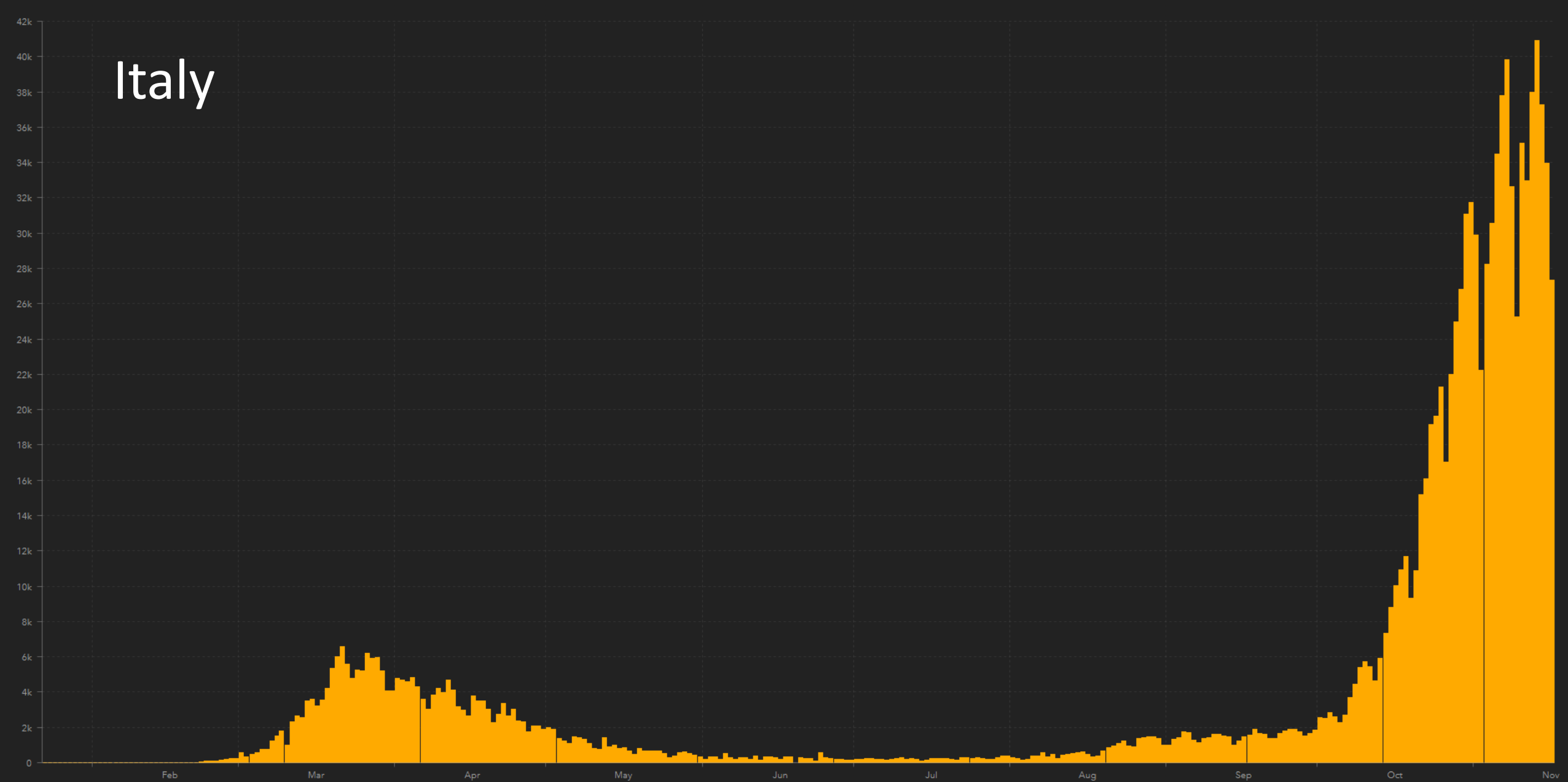
World



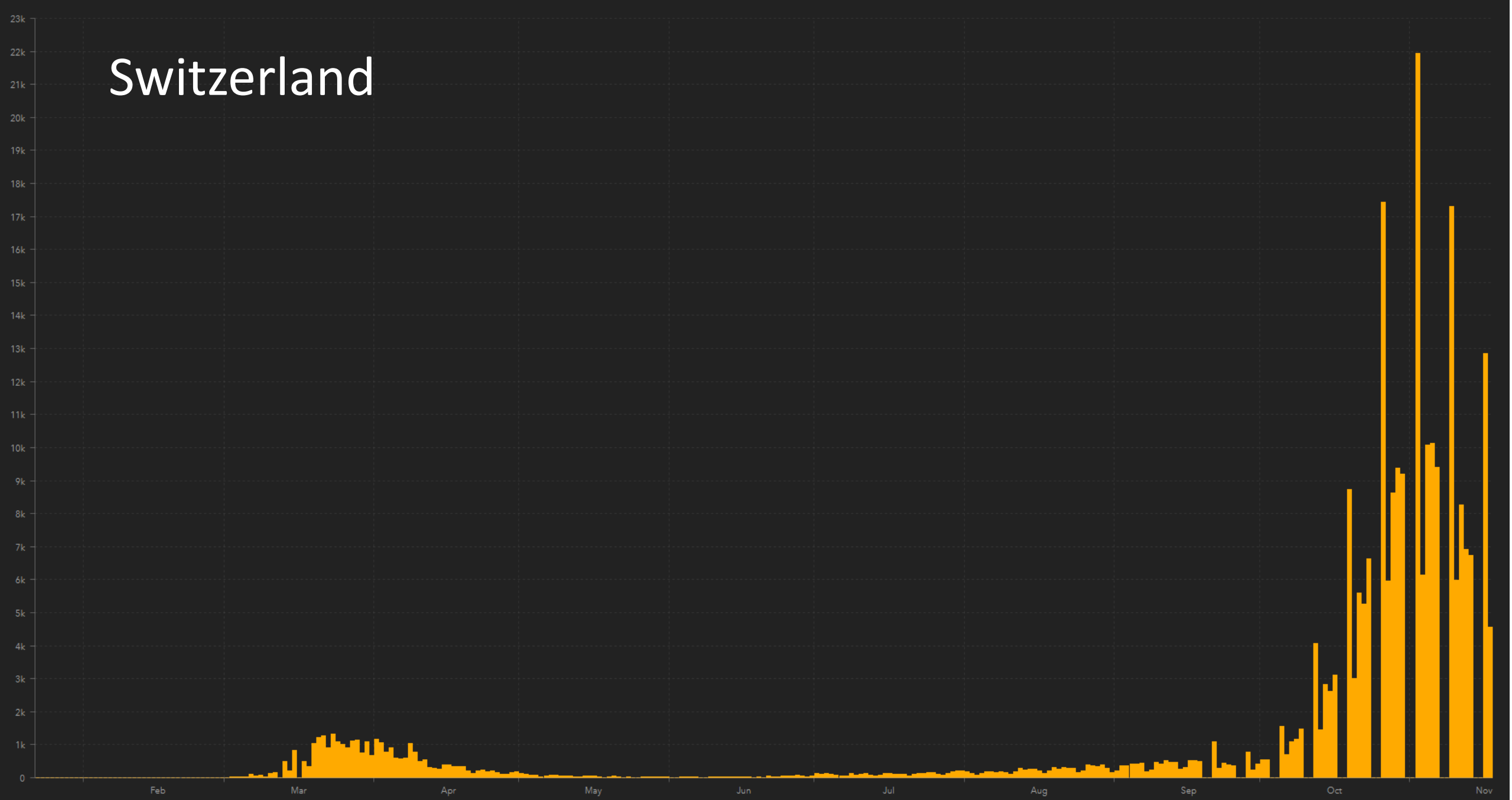
UK



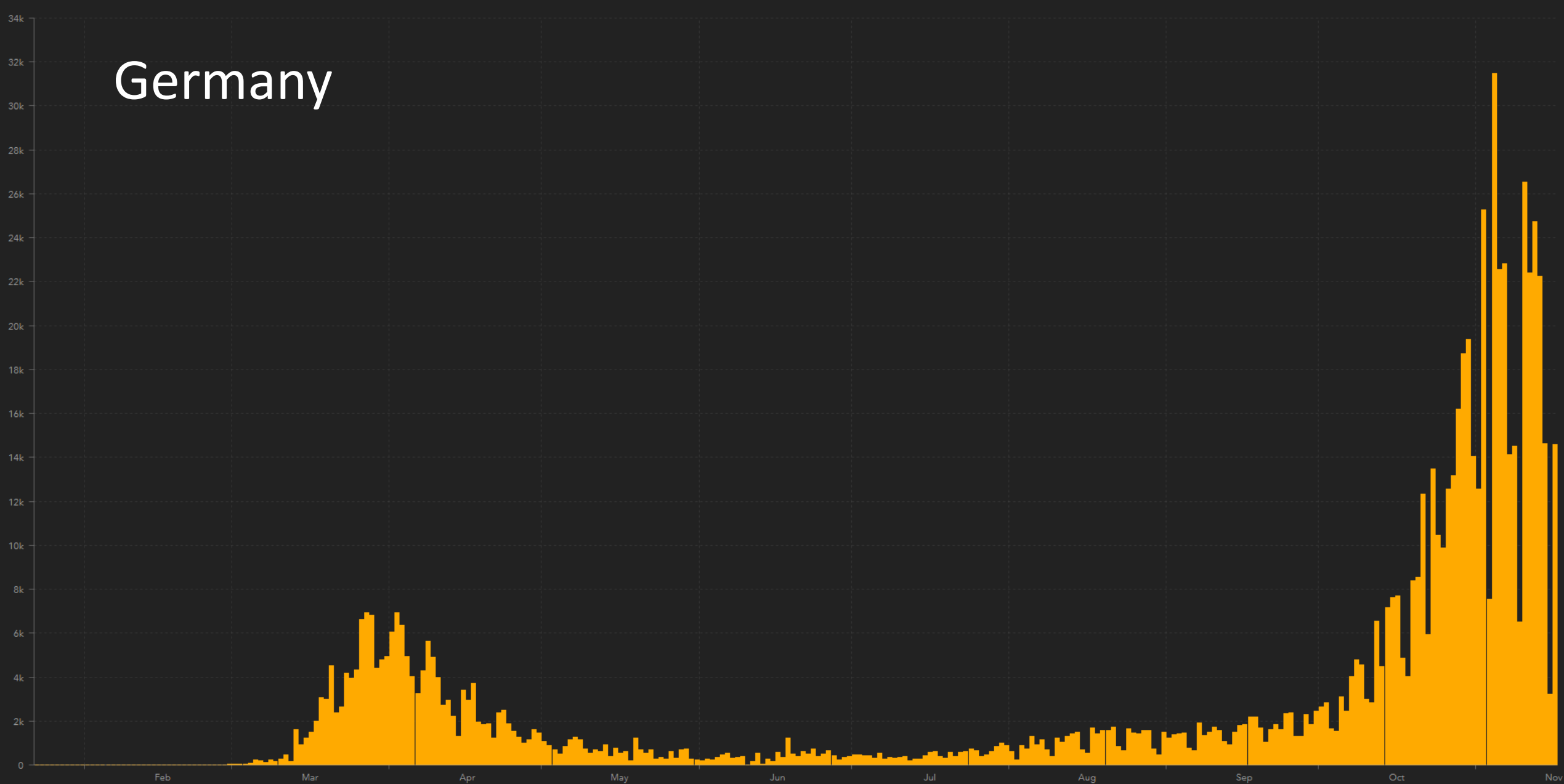
Italy



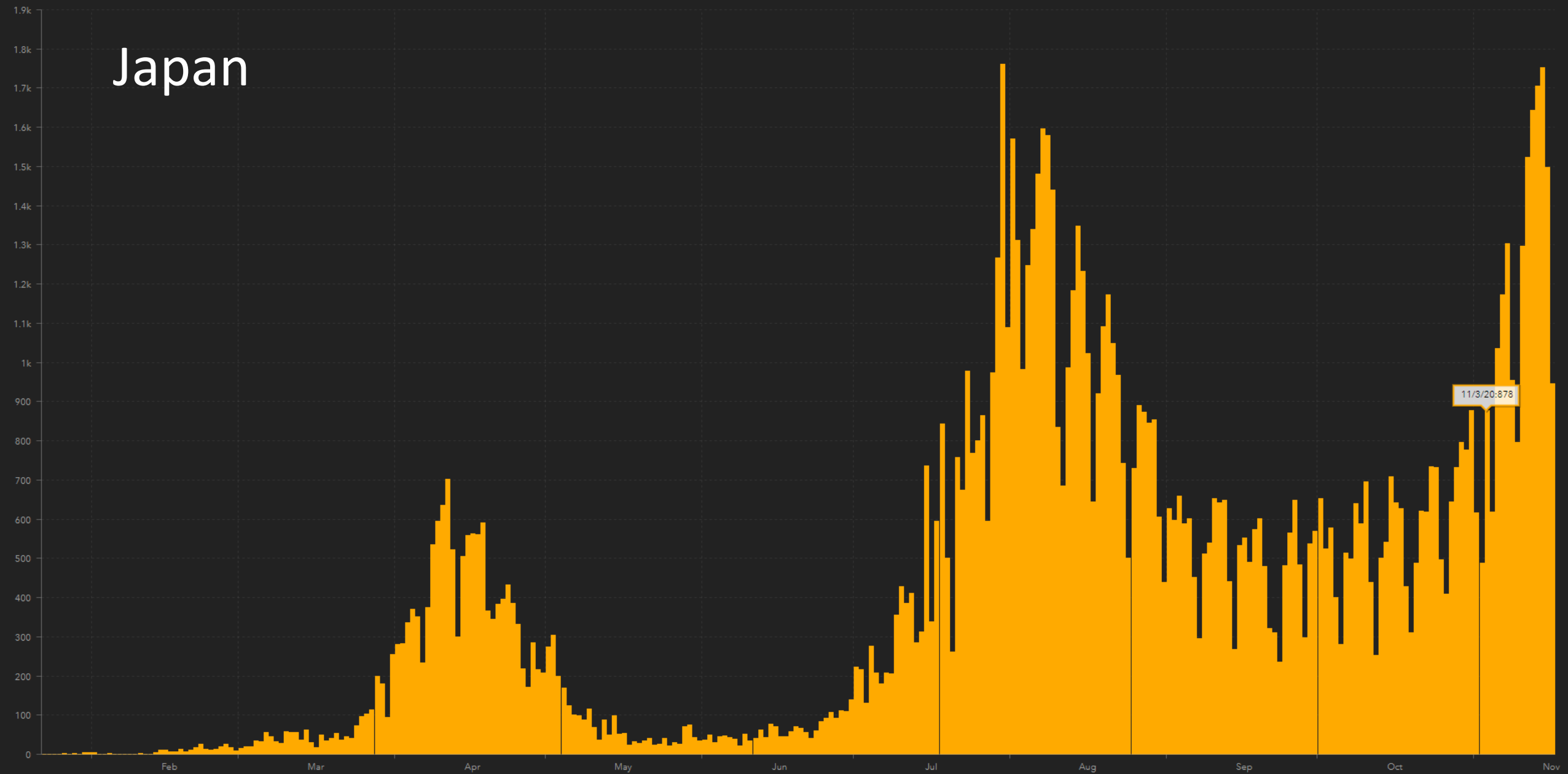
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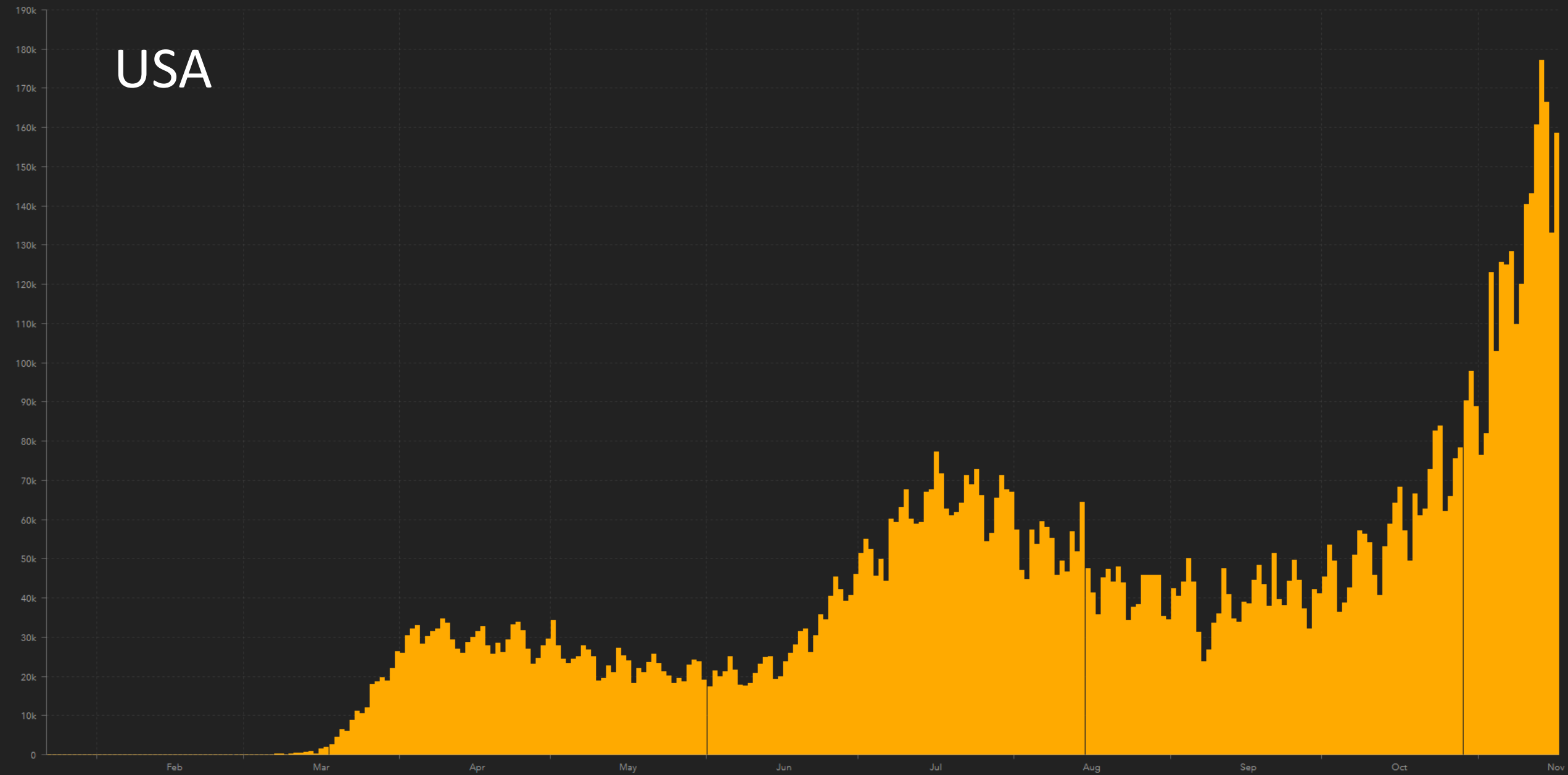
Germany



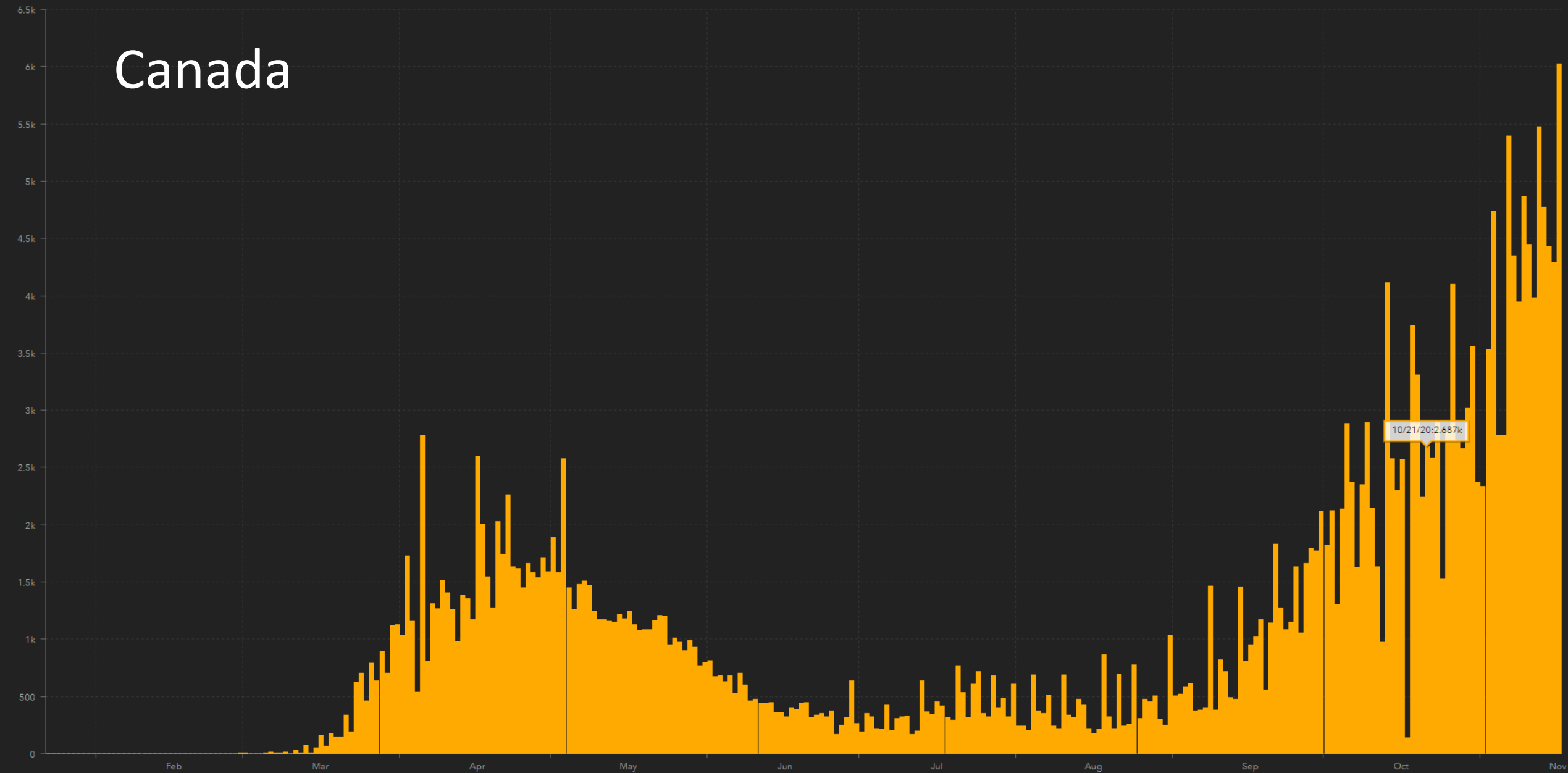
Japan

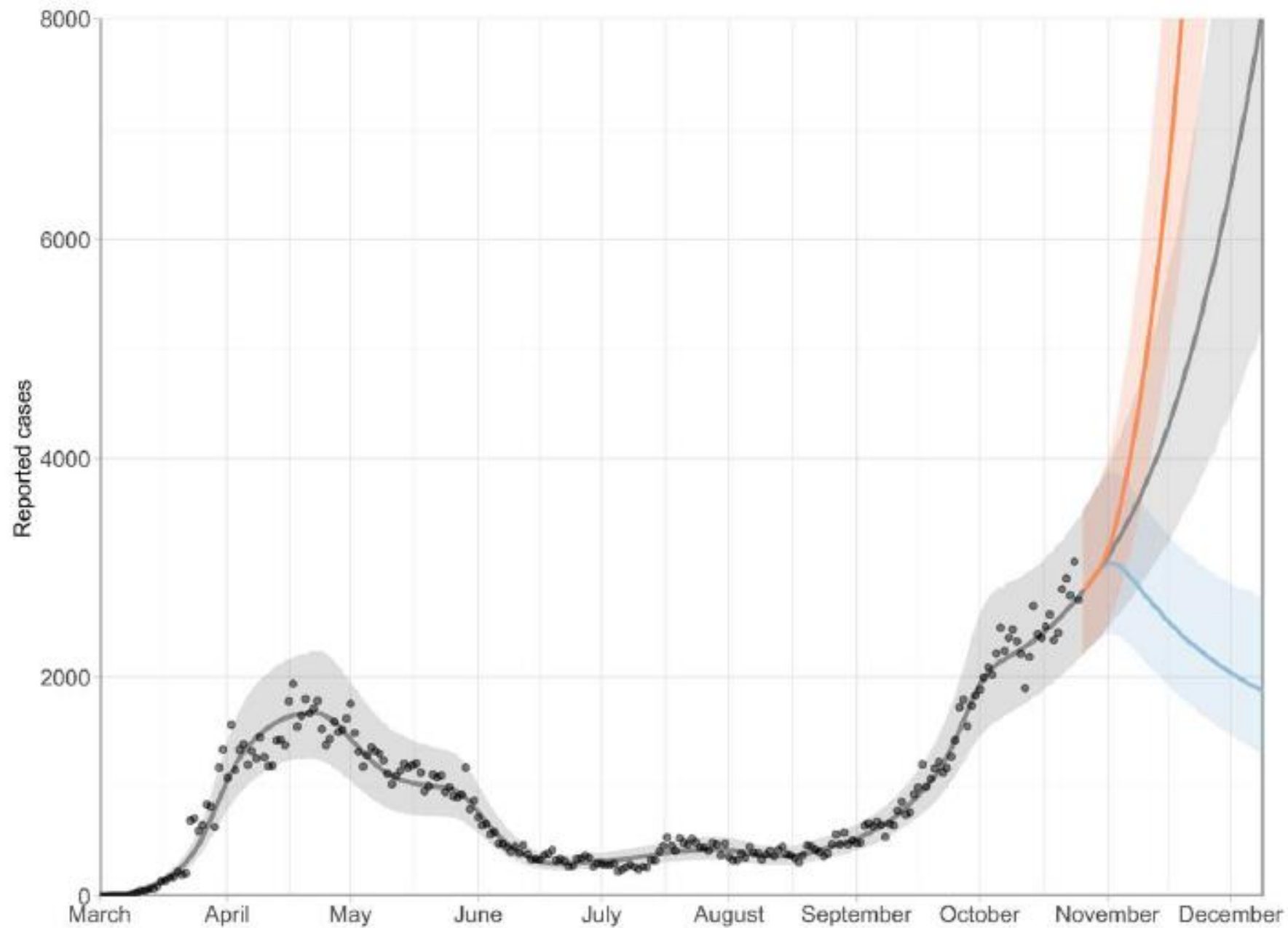


USA

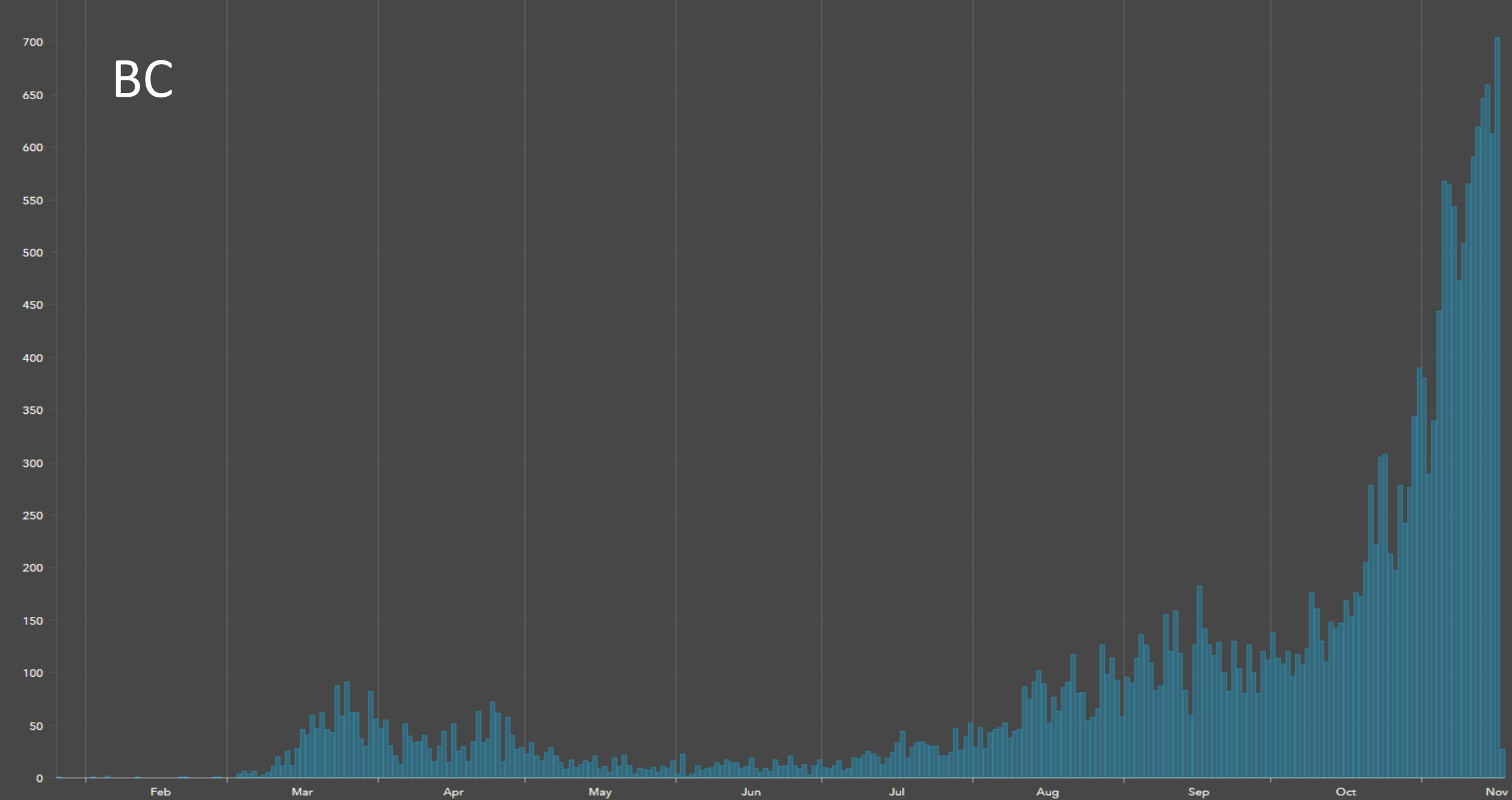


Canada

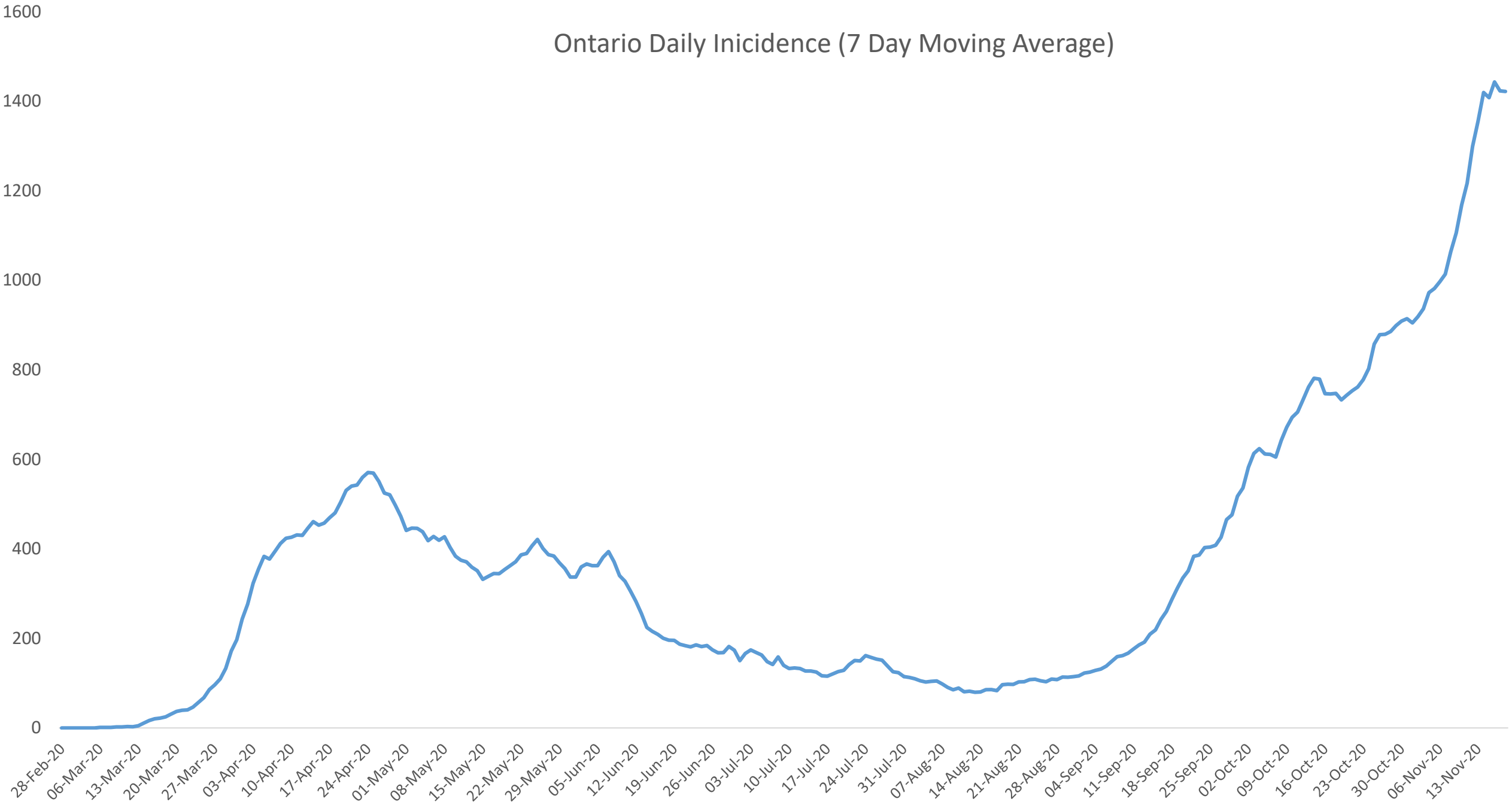




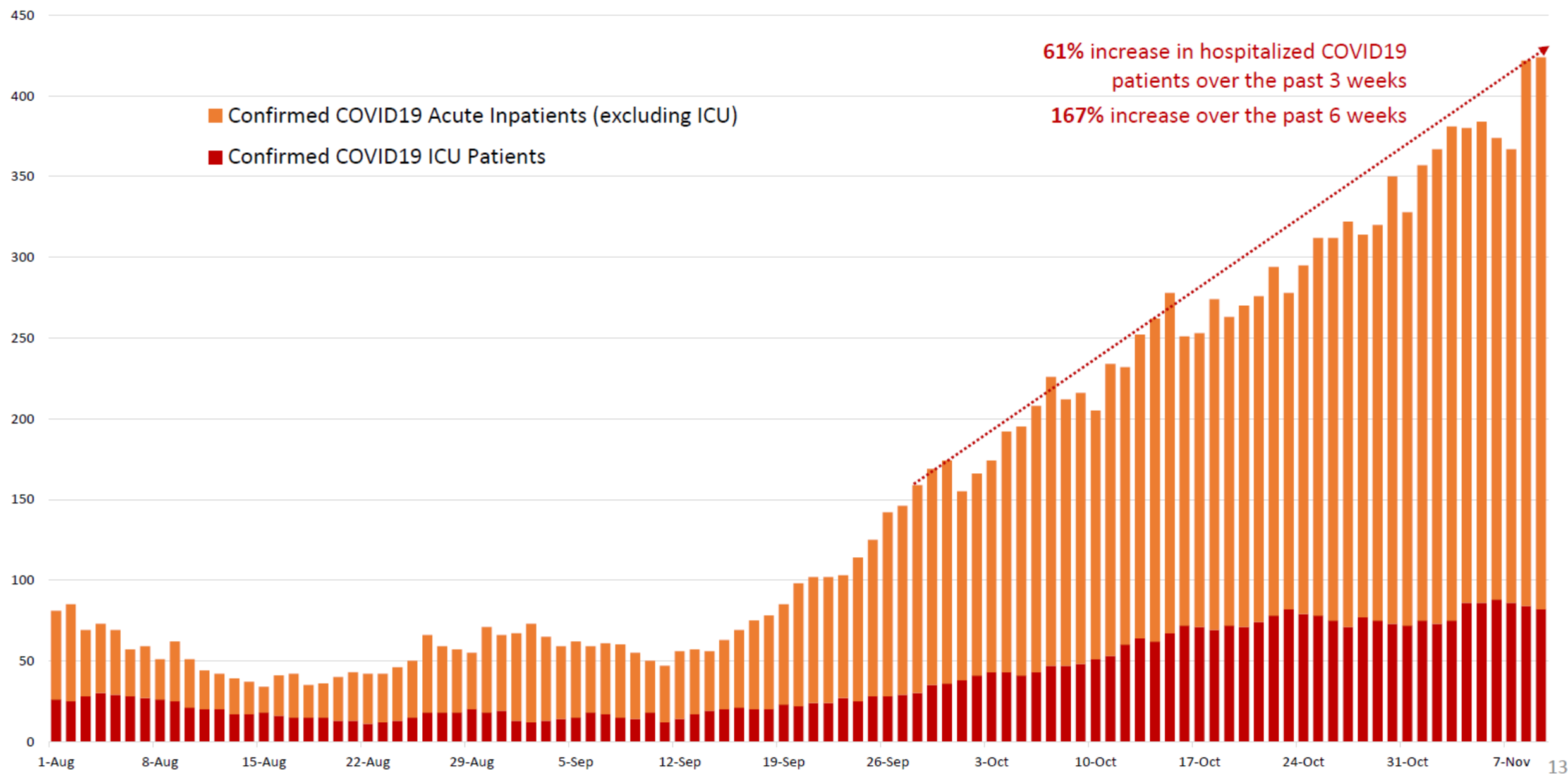
BC



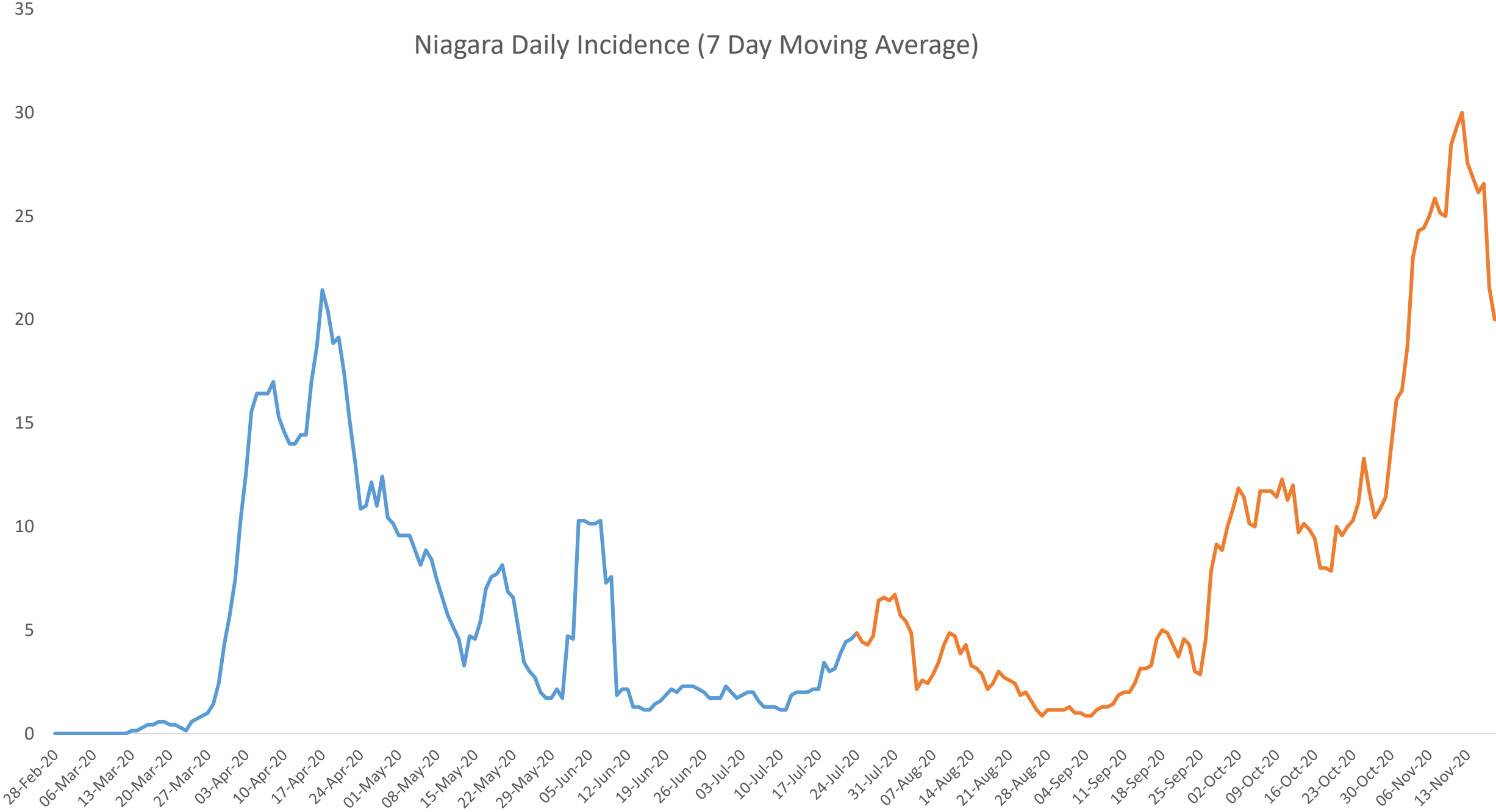
Ontario Daily Incidence (7 Day Moving Average)

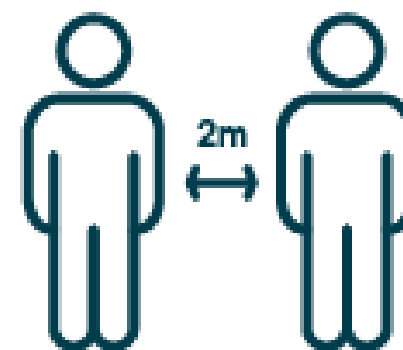
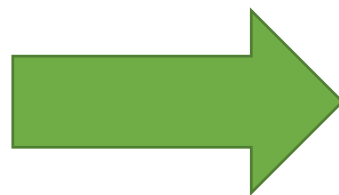
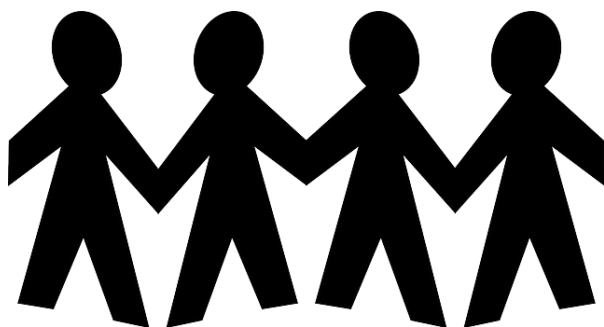


COVID-19 Hospitalizations continue to rise



Niagara Daily Incidence (7 Day Moving Average)

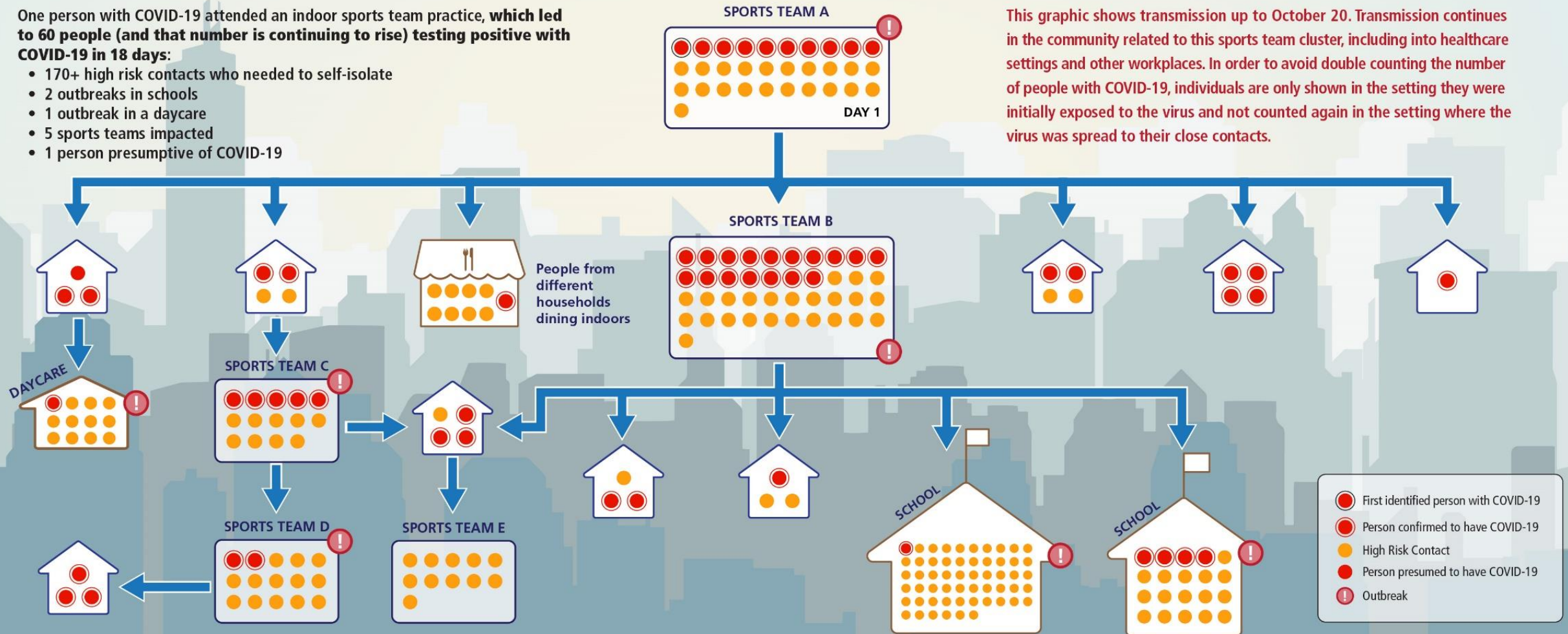




A real world Contact Tracing example – Sports Cluster **part 1**

One person with COVID-19 attended an indoor sports team practice, **which led to 60 people (and that number is continuing to rise) testing positive with COVID-19 in 18 days:**

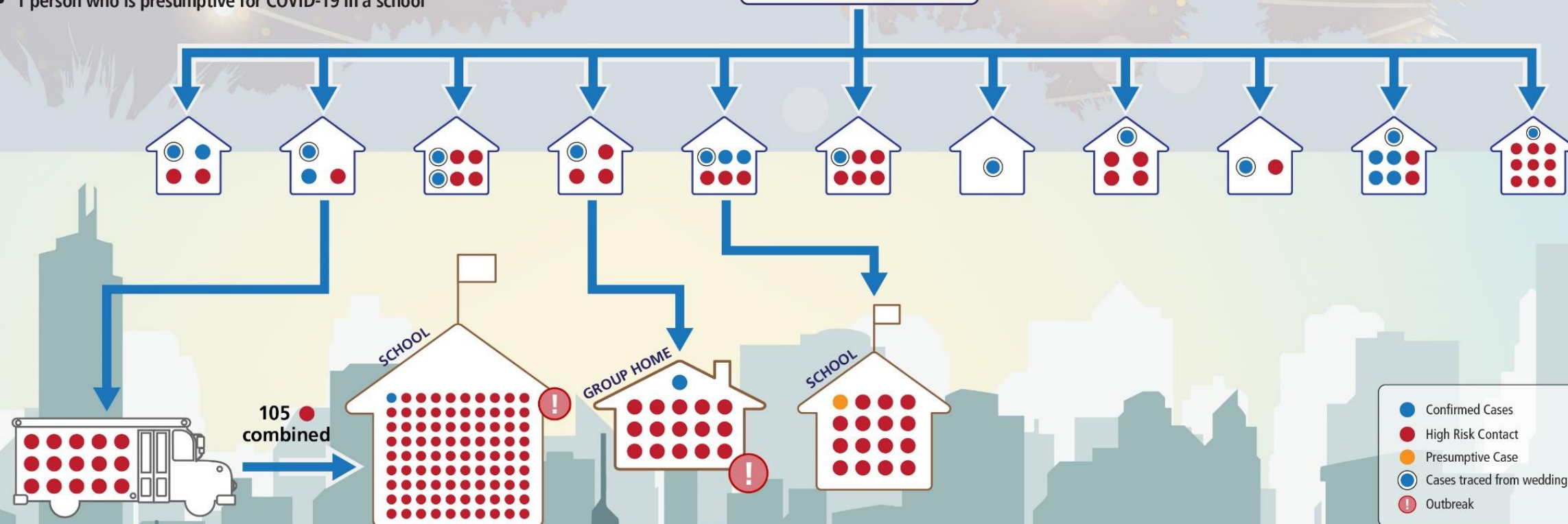
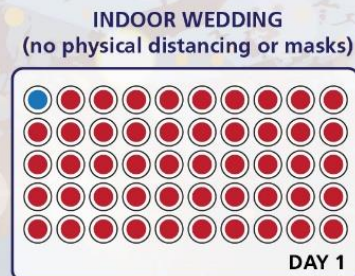
- 170+ high risk contacts who needed to self-isolate
- 2 outbreaks in schools
- 1 outbreak in a daycare
- 5 sports teams impacted
- 1 person presumptive of COVID-19



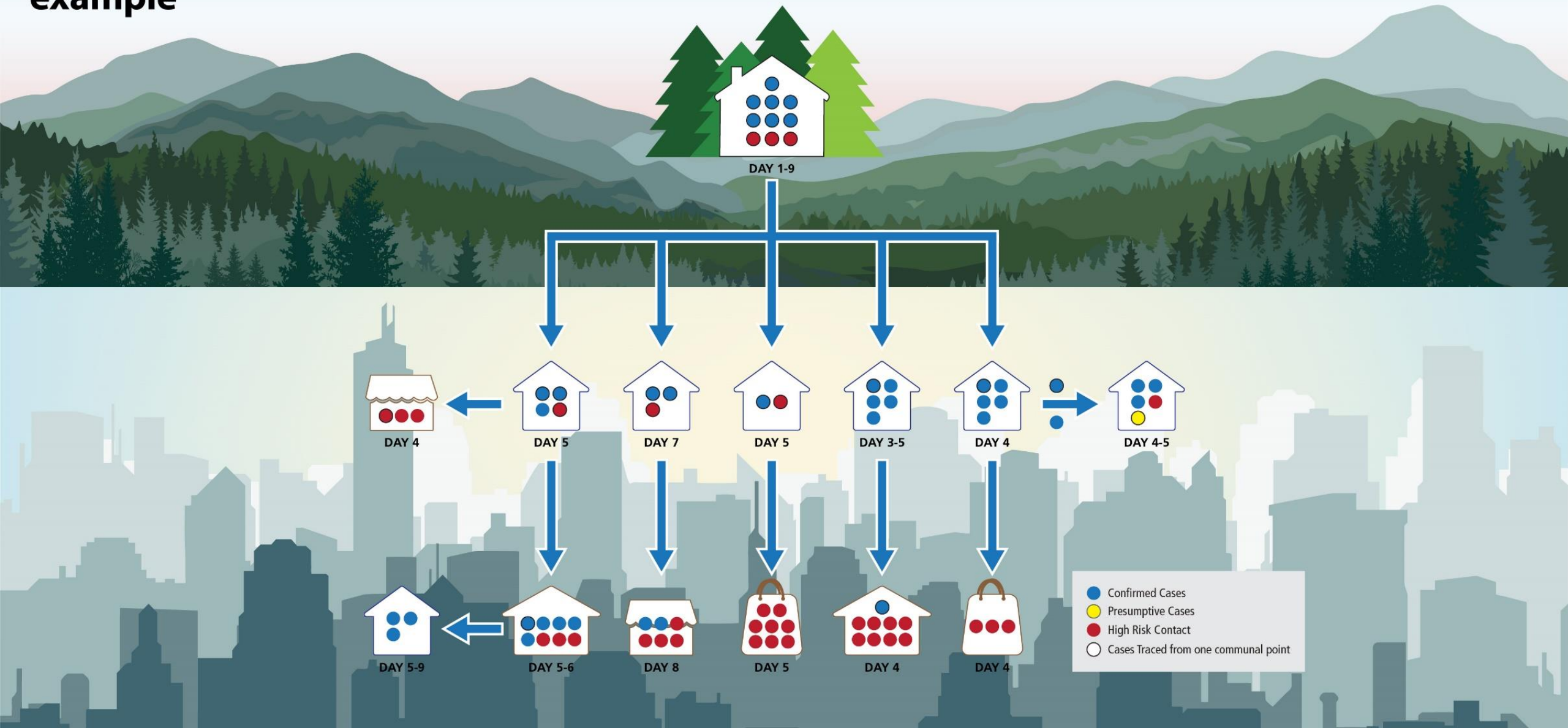
A real world Contact Tracing example – Wedding Cluster

1 person with mild symptoms of COVID-19 attended an indoor wedding leading to 22 people with COVID-19 in 15 days:

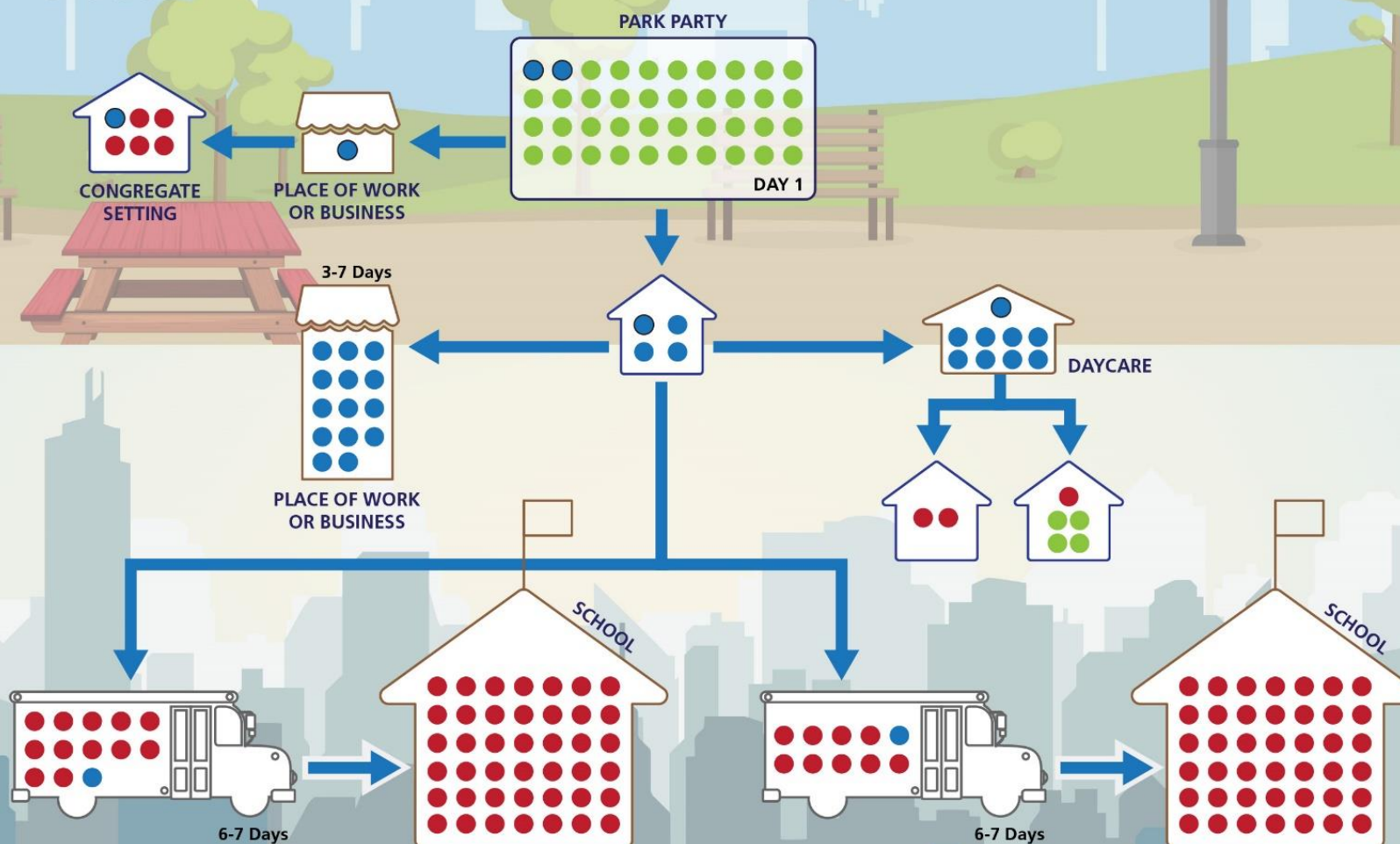
- 8 household contacts
- 1 outbreak in a group home
- 1 person with COVID-19 in a school
- 1 person who is presumptive for COVID-19 in a school



A real world Contact Tracing example



A real world Contact Tracing example – School Cluster



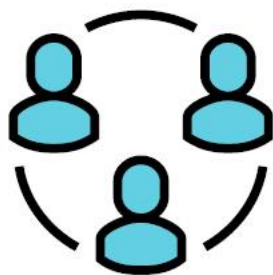
By the Numbers

Young Adult Outbreak



CASES

31



CONTACTS

230+



MUNICIPALITIES

8



MEDIAN AGE

24

EXPOSURE LOCATIONS



Bars / Restaurants

41



Friends / Family Home

12



Retail

23



Sports / Recreation

17



Long-Term Care/
Retirement Homes

2

+17 other

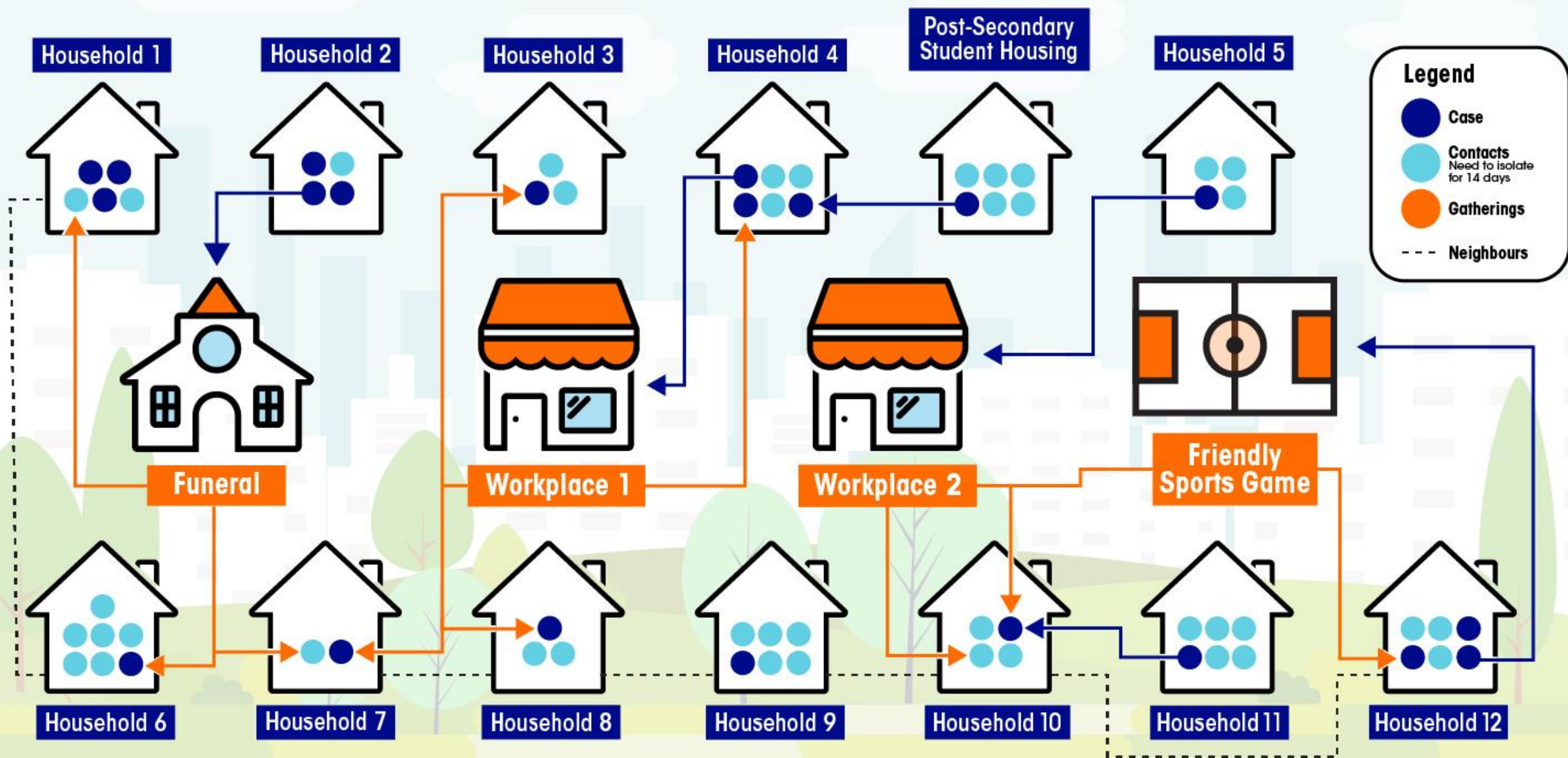
Total

112+

Community Outbreak Visualization

niagararegion.ca/covid19

Niagara  Region



Most Popular



Where does Biden stand on another \$1,200 stimulus check?



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FROM EXTRAHOP



Warren Buffett is going all in on the vaccine rally, piling into these stocks



A six-year-old Chinese electric vehicle startup is now more valuable than GM

INTERNATIONAL • CORONAVIRUS

As COVID spreads across Europe, a weary continent goes back into lockdown

BY DAVID MEYER, BERNHARD WARNER, AND KATHERINE DUNN

November 7, 2020 6:00 AM EST



With the COVID-19 pandemic searing the continent with renewed vigor, Europe is back in lockdown.

But all lockdowns are not created equal, and there is massive variation in the way different European countries are tackling the surge. Some, such as France and the U.K., are shutting nearly everything they can. Others, such as Germany, are having a harder time keeping their economies afloat.

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Doctors push aggressive strategy to get COVID-19 cases down to zero

WENCY LEUNG > HEALTH REPORTER

PATRICK BRETHOUR >

TORONTO

PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 15, 2020

UPDATED 1 DAY AGO

326 COMMENTS

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TEXT SIZE

BOOKMARK

BOOKMARK



00:00

Voice

1x



Paramedics wheel a resident out of Rockcliffe Care Community, where a COVID-19 outbreak has been declared, in Toronto on Nov. 15, 2020.

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada needs a new and aggressive strategy to reduce COVID-19 cases to zero, a group of doctors and infectious disease experts is urging, as the rates of infection reached record highs in various parts of the country over the weekend and

TRENDING

- 1 Andrew Scheer employed sister while he was speaker and deputy speaker of the House 🔑
- 2 Kraft Heinz to bring ketchup production back to Canada, but will still use U.S. tomatoes 🔑
- 3 OPINION
A COVID-19 vaccine would only be the beginning of the end of the pandemic
BOB BELL
- 4 Conservative leader O'Toole says Scheer's hiring practices don't meet his ethical bar 🔑
- 5 Beacon Hall Golf Club eyes \$250-million sale to Toronto real estate developer 🔑

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...some doctors and politicians have proposed implementing “circuit breakers,” **two-week economic lockdowns** to bring COVID-19 cases under control.

But as public health experts push for tighter restrictions, with **some arguing that even two weeks wouldn’t be enough**, economists are warning that a full-blown lockdown could add hundreds of billions of dollars in new government debt.

“I think we need to understand that we need to drive the number of cases dramatically down. That’s going to take weeks and weeks [of lockdown].”

“Every other approach leads us to repeated waves.”

*Dr. Andrew Morris, Infectious Disease Specialist
Sinai Health
University Health Network*

Lockdown may be looming for Ontario – but what that looks like isn't clear



Province 'staring down the barrel of another lockdown,' says Premier Doug Ford



Lauren Pelley · CBC News · Posted: Nov 14, 2020 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: November 14



As COVID-19 cases keep rising, Ontario Premier Doug Ford says the province is "staring down the barrel of another lockdown." But what that would look like this time around isn't yet clear. (Chris Young/The Canadian Press)

1213 comments

"We're staring down the barrel of another lockdown," Ontario Premier Doug Ford said on Friday. "And I will not hesitate for a second if we have to go further."

It was a blunt statement about a blunt instrument: some combination of widespread restrictions, closures and a potential declaration of emergency.

"We're staring down the barrel of another lockdown. And I will not hesitate for a second if we have to go further."

Ontario Premier Doug Ford






"We're not looking down the barrel at a lockdown. A lockdown is inevitable."

*Dr. Nitin Mohan
Physician epidemiologist*

Framework: Adjusting and Tightening Public Health Measures

Act earlier by implementing measures to protect public health and prevent closures

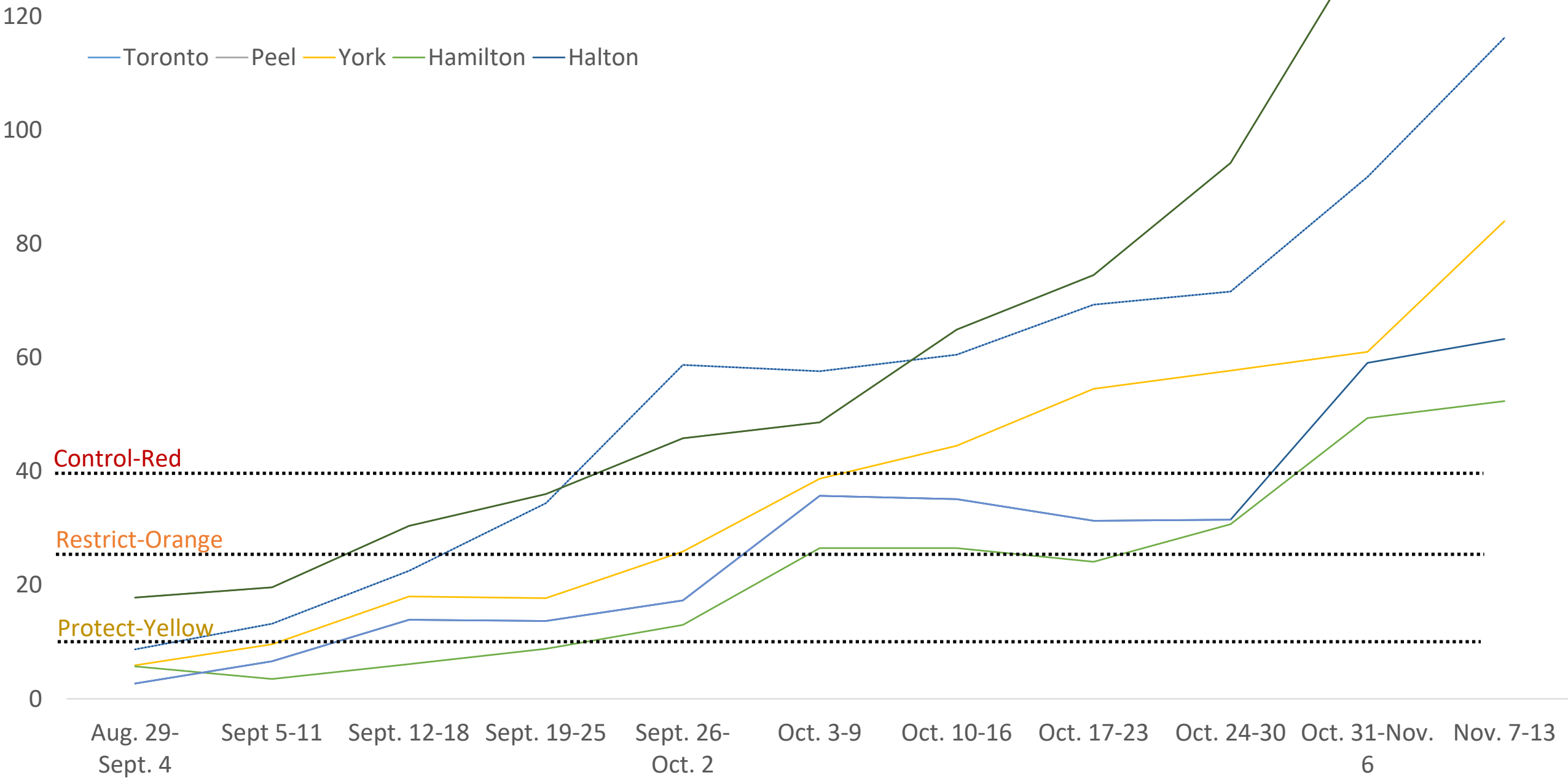
Gradually loosen measures as trends in public health indicators improve

Objective	 PREVENT (Standard Measures)	 PROTECT (Strengthened Measures)	 RESTRICT (Intermediate Measures)	 CONTROL (Stringent Measures)	 LOCKDOWN (Maximum Measures)
	<p>Focus on education and awareness of public health and workplace safety measures in place.</p> <p>Restrictions reflect broadest allowance of activities in Stage 3 absent a widely available vaccine or treatment.</p> <p>Highest risk settings remain closed.</p>	<p>Enhanced targeted enforcement, fines, and enhanced education to limit further transmission.</p> <p>Apply public health measures in high risk settings.</p>	<p>Implement enhanced measures, restrictions, and enforcement avoiding any closures.</p>	<p>Implement broader-scale measures and restrictions, across multiple sectors, to control transmission (Return to modified Stage 2).</p> <p>Restrictions are the most severe available before widescale business or organizational closure.</p>	<p>Implement widescale measures and restrictions, including closures, to halt or interrupt transmission (Return to modified Stage 1 or pre-Stage 1).</p> <p>Consider declaration of emergency.</p>

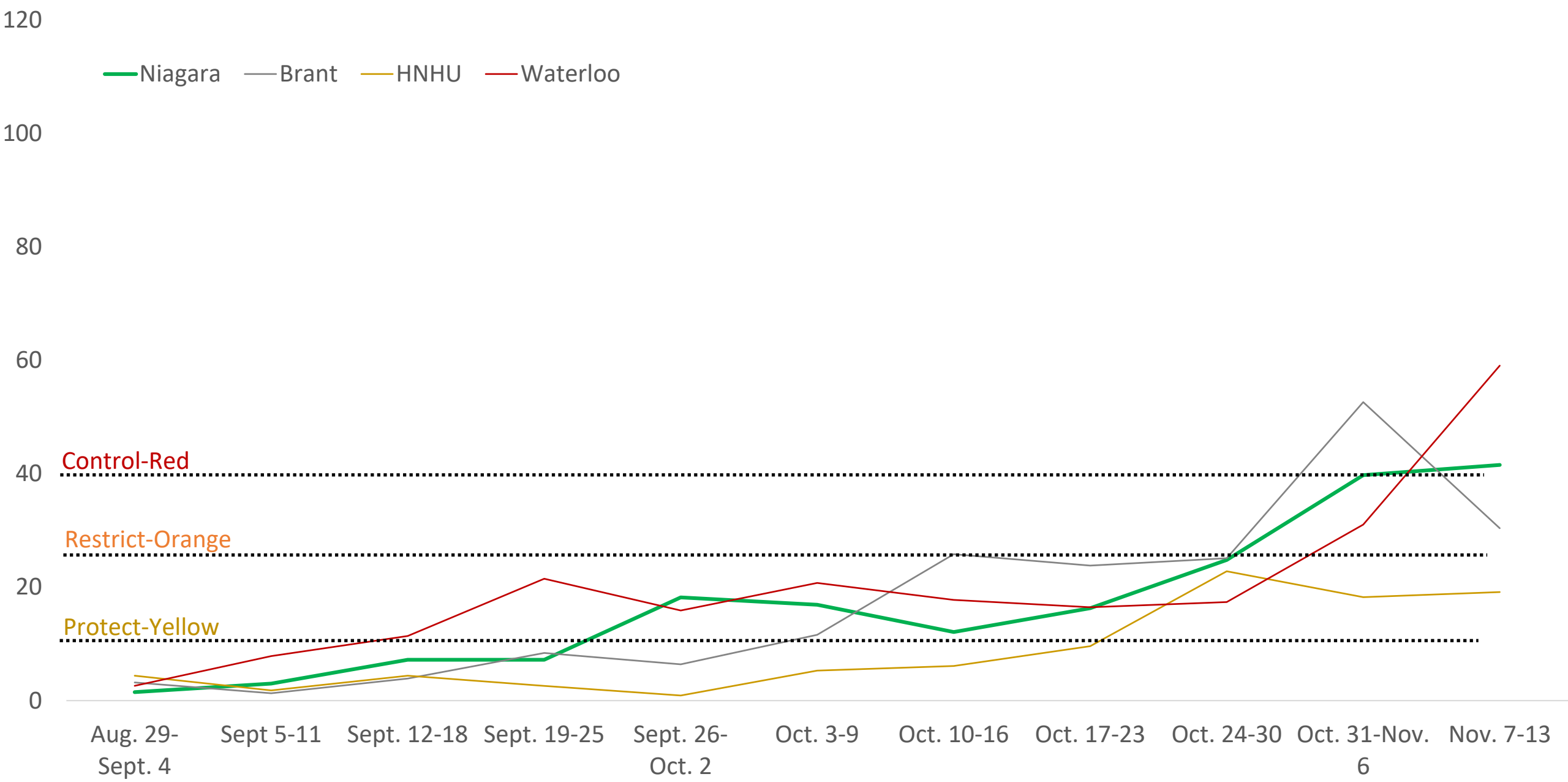
- Be responsive and flexible to latest data;
- Introduce preventative measures earlier to help limit the spread of COVID-19, while keeping schools open, supporting mental health, protecting our most vulnerable, and keeping businesses open where possible;
- Recognize that every community is different and provide the flexibility to allocate resources where they are needed most; and

- Support the ability for local officials to tailor restrictions in their communities based on regional circumstances. **The framework serves as a baseline that municipalities and local medical officers of health can build on by imposing additional restrictions or targeted requirements** in their region, on top of the public health and workplace safety measures required at their specific level.

Weekly Cases per 100,000 Population



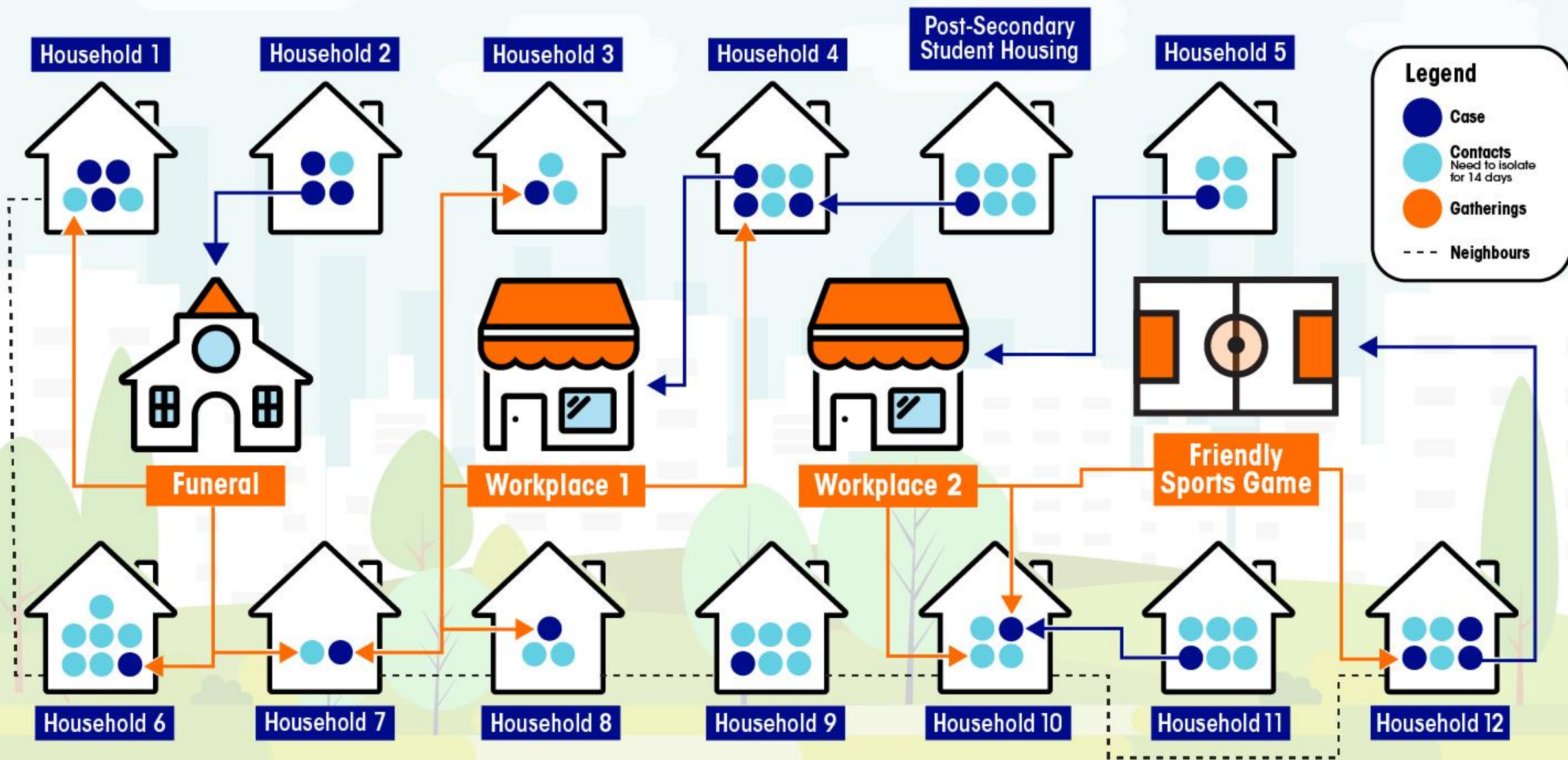
Weekly Cases per 100,000 Population

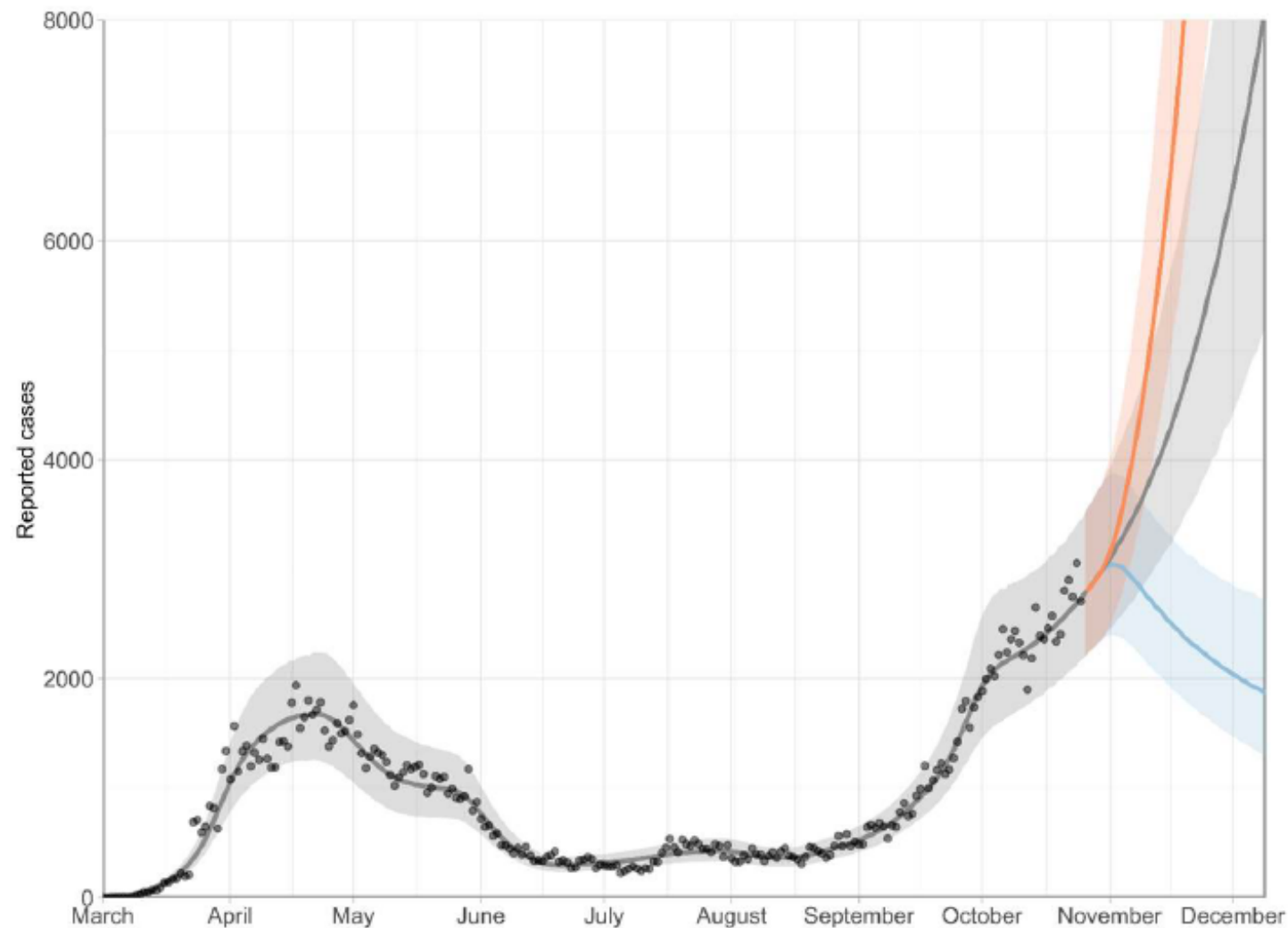


Provincial Metrics	Restrict	Niagara	Control
Weekly Cases per 100,000 population	25.0 to 39.9	November 1–7: 42.6 November 8–14: 28.6	≥ 40.0
% Positivity of Testing	1.3% to 2.4%	2.3%	≥ 2.5%
Reproductive Number	1.0 to 1.1	0.7	≥ 1.2
Outbreak Trends	Repeated/Increasing/Larger Outbreaks	November 8-14: 5 new outbreaks	Repeated/Increasing/Larger Outbreaks
Level of Community Transmission	Stable or increasing	Stable	Increasing
Hospital/ICU Capacity	Adequate or Increasing	Stable	Approaching overwhelm
PH Case/Contact Follow-up	Adequate or approaching overwhelm	Capacity almost overwhelmed	Approaching overwhelm

Community Outbreak Visualization

niagararegion.ca/covid19

Niagara  Region



- If we **maintain** our current rate of contacts – the epidemic is forecast to resurge: **Grey line**



- If we **increase** our current rate of contacts by 20% – the epidemic is forecast to resurge faster and stronger: **Orange line**



- If we **decrease** our current rate of contacts by 25% – the epidemic is forecast to come under control in most locations: **Blue line**

Nicholas H. Ogden. "Update on COVID-19 in Canada: Epidemiology and Modelling". Public Health Agency of Canada. September 22, 2020. Methods: Anderson SC, Edwards AM, Yerlanov M, Mulberry N, Stockdale J, Iyaniwura SA, Falcao RC, Otterstatter MC, Irvine MA, Janjua NZ, Coombs D, Colijn C. 2020. Estimating the impact of COVID-19 control measures using a Bayesian model of physical distancing. <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.17.20070086v1>

Toronto

TORONTO | News

Ontario issues new restrictions, asks people to have close contact with immediate household only



Sean Davidson Multi-Platform Writer, CTV News Toronto
@SeanDavidson_ | [Contact](#)

Published Friday, October 2, 2020 7:42AM EDT
Last Updated Saturday, October 3, 2020 9:00AM EDT



Ontario pauses social circles amid COVID-19 surge



The Ontario government is putting a pause on social circles and is asking people to only have close contact with their immediate household.

Only have close contact with household, Ford says



Premier Doug Ford announced Friday that the province is advising people to limit close contact to members of their household.

As of October 2, 2020, you should limit close contact to people living in your own household and keep two metres physical distance from everyone else. If you live alone, you can consider having close contact with one other household you trust. You must keep 2 metres from people outside of your household.

123 comments

Toronto's top doctor is warning that it's time to burst your social bubble and limit your interactions with anyone outside your immediate household or essential supports.

Tam urged people to avoid all contacts and gatherings except for "personal, family and essential es," and to continue with virtual gatherings or tanced outdoor activities.

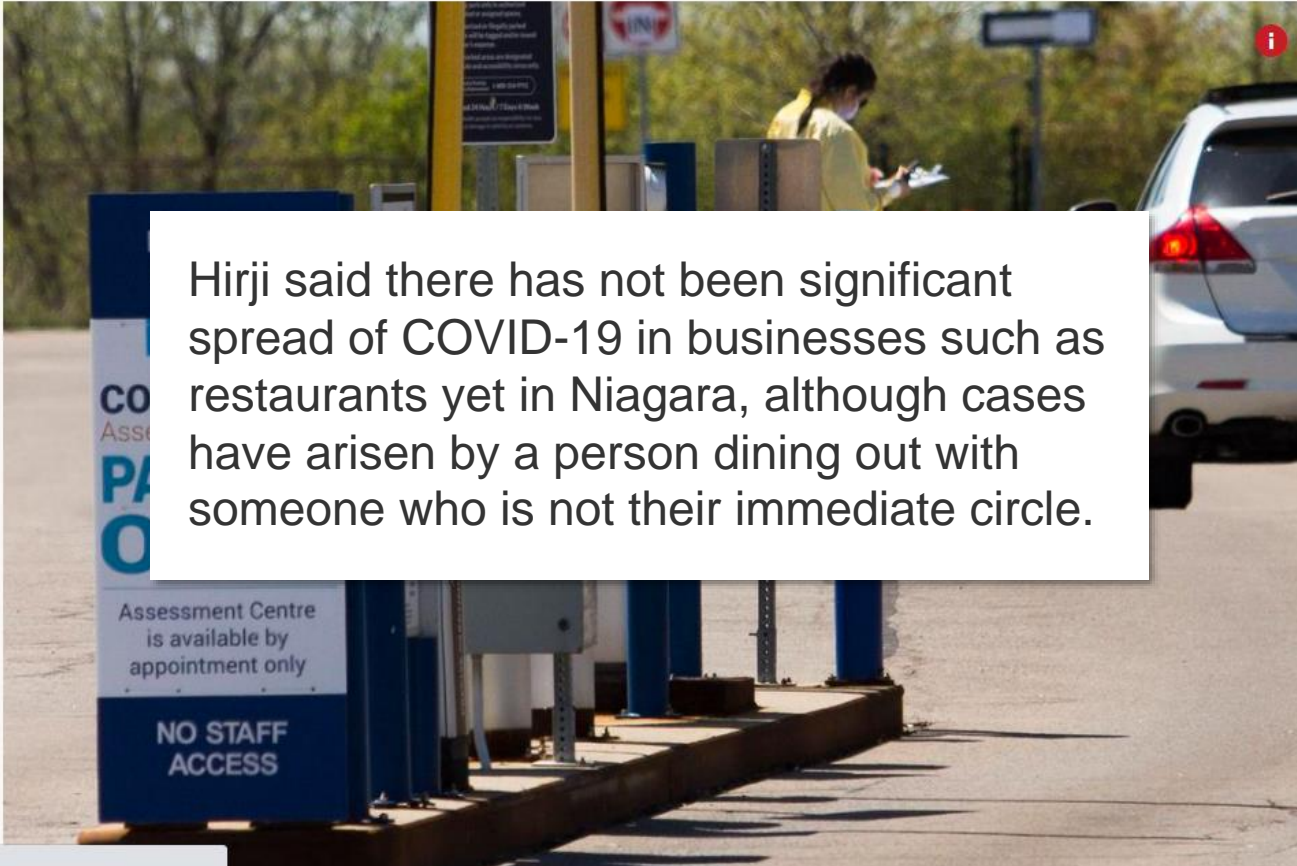
e thinking of seeing people outside your ask yourself, 'Is this absolutely necessary?'"

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Niagara was warned about new COVID-19 wave. Now new outbreaks and death have arrived



By **Grant LaFleche** Standard Reporter
Mon., Oct. 5, 2020 | 4 min. read



Hirji said there has not been significant spread of COVID-19 in businesses such as restaurants yet in Niagara, although cases have arisen by a person dining out with someone who is not their immediate circle.

"Dine at restaurants with people in your household only."

*Dr. Hamidah Meghani
Medical Officer of Health*

"The most important action is to limit our close contact to our households, and that includes when we go out to bars and restaurants."

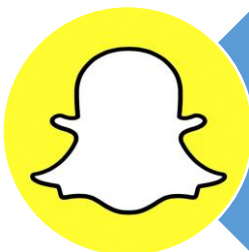
*Dr. Vera Etches
Medical Officer of Health*

"So when you go to a restaurant, you are only going with people in your household, or in your small bubble."

*Dr. M. Mustafa Hirji
Medical Officer of Health (Acting)*



Letter to Community



Enhanced Social Media



Integration into #NiagaraTogether

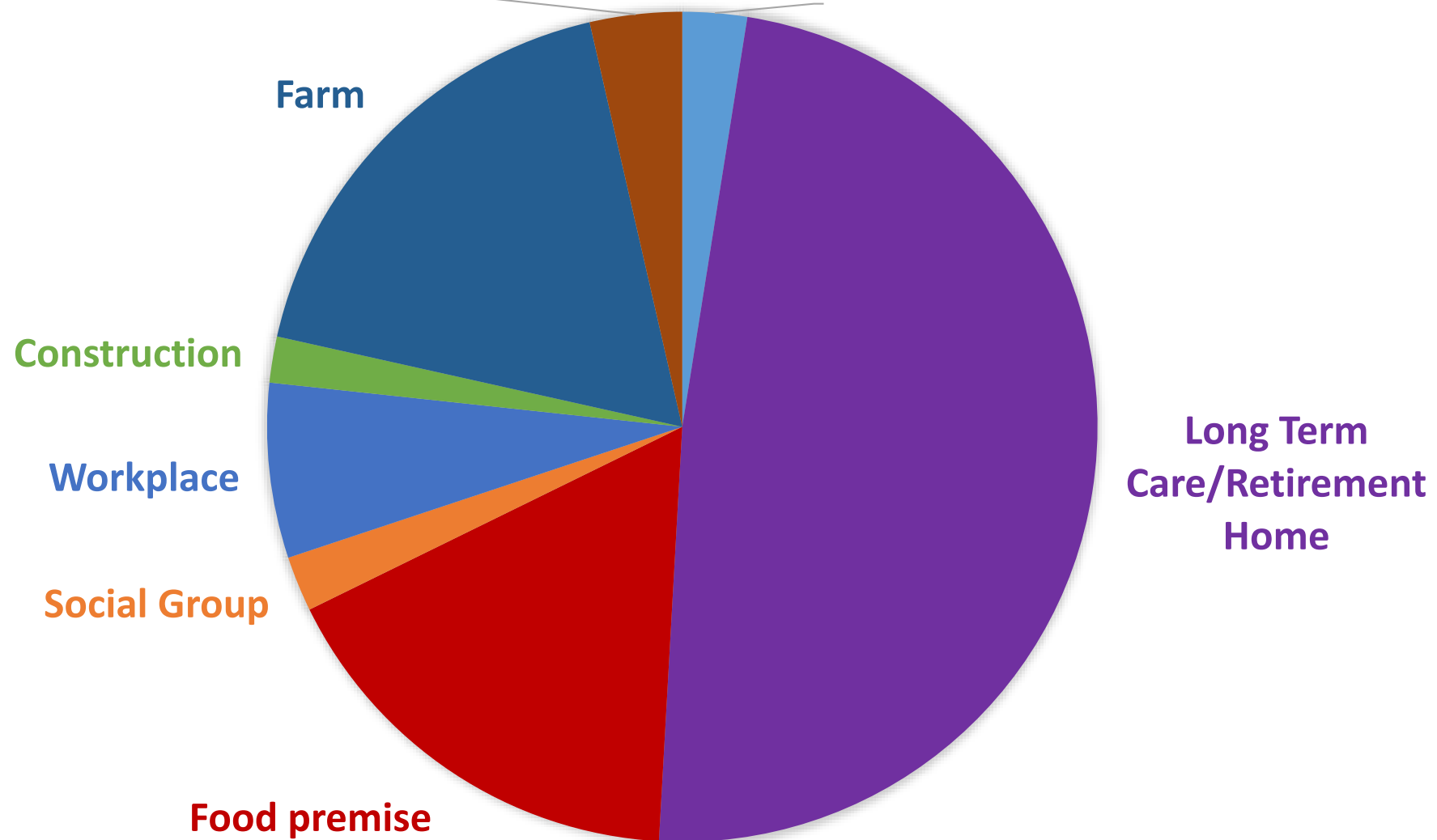


Section 22 Order

CATEGORIZATION OF OUTBREAK CASES BY SOURCE CASE (OCT. 1-NOV.15)

Other (Schools, Sports, Transportation)

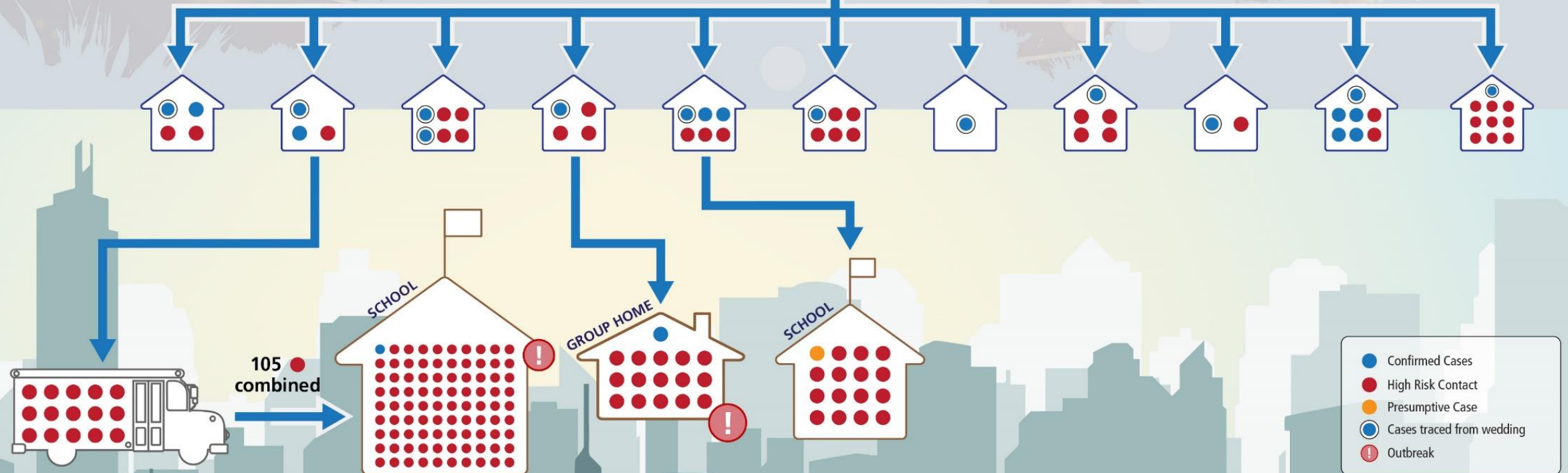
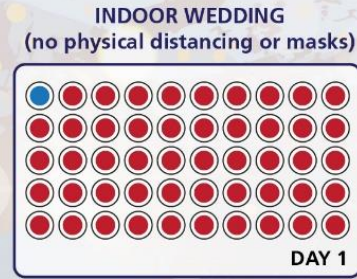
Congregate Setting (including child care)



A real world Contact Tracing example – Wedding Cluster

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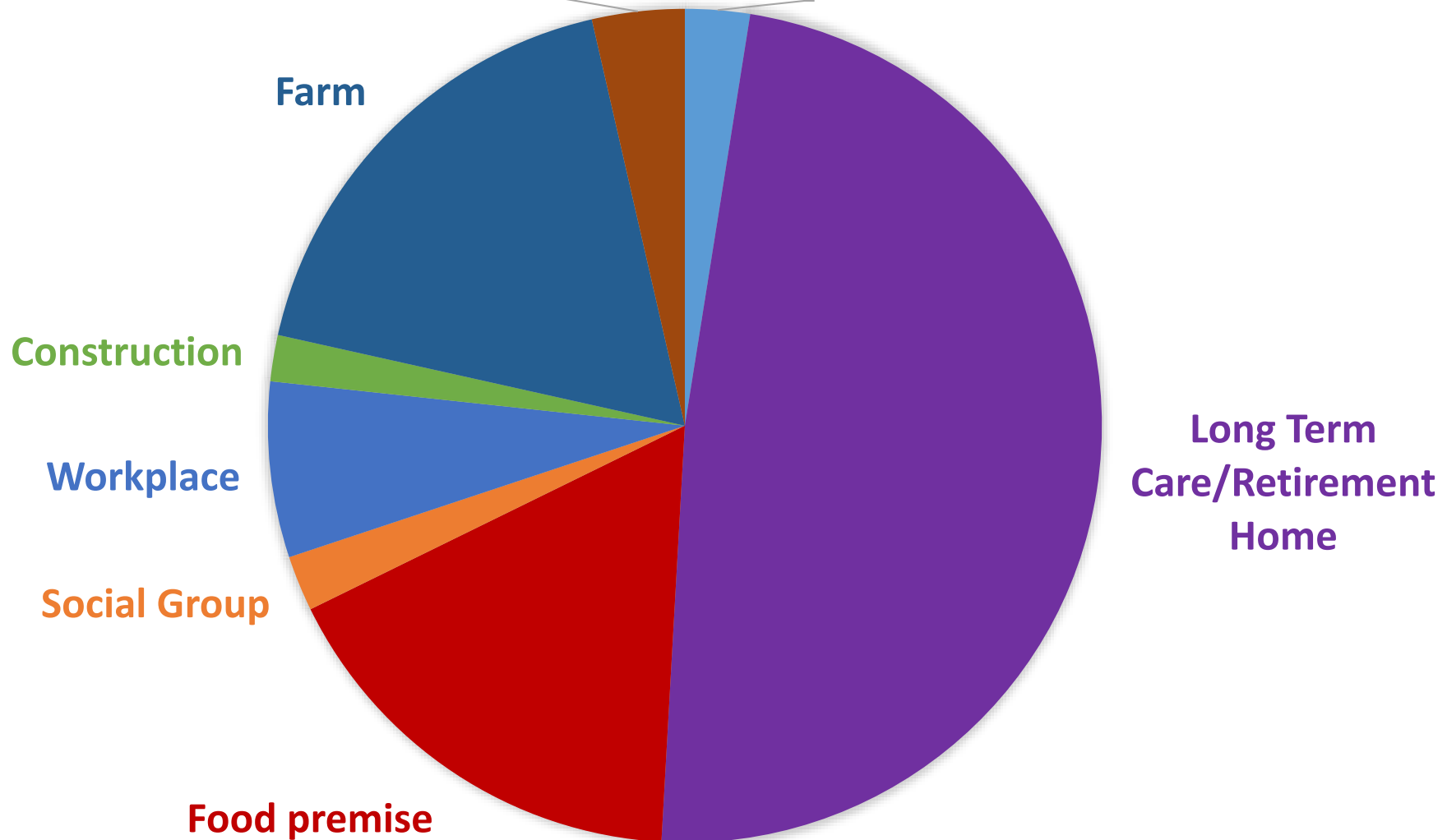
- 8 household contacts
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- 1 person who is presumptive for COVID-19 in a school



CATEGORIZATION OF OUTBREAK CASES BY SOURCE CASE (OCT. 1-NOV.15)

Other (Schools, Sports, Transportation)

Congregate Setting (including child care)



By the Numbers

Young Adult Outbreak



CASES

31



CONTACTS

230+



MUNICIPALITIES

8



MEDIAN AGE

24

EXPOSURE LOCATIONS



Bars / Restaurants

41



Friends / Family Home

12



Retail

23



Sports / Recreation

17



Long-Term Care/
Retirement Homes

2

+17 other

Total

112+

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

09/16/2020

Community-Based Public Health Measures for COVID-19 Resurgence

Key Findings

- While certain jurisdictions have responded to a resurgence in cases with public health measures targeted at local epidemiological transmission patterns (e.g. closure of nightclubs), others have developed comprehensive re-escalation plans with staged levels of restrictions informed by key epidemiological markers that outline requirements across community settings. Jurisdictions with such “re-escalation” plans include the Canadian provinces of [New Brunswick](#) and Manitoba, the state of Illinois in the United States (US), Czech Republic, Israel, and New Zealand.
- The most restrictive measures observed are re-implementation of sub-national “lockdowns”. These are applied as a mitigation strategy in jurisdictions where a second rise in cases is attributed to multiple clusters of community transmission and a lack of epidemiological linkage between cases. Sub-national lockdowns have also been applied in contexts where community transmission is low in absolute numbers, but the desired goal is elimination, rather than mitigation (e.g. New Zealand).
- The most commonly applied public health measures to mitigate a rise in cases include restrictions on social gatherings (exact numbers vary widely), as well as restrictions on restaurants and bars (number of patrons, time of closure). The closure of nightclubs was also frequently observed, as was the adoption of face masks on public transportation.

Objectives and Scope

This document summarizes information from an environmental scan on the re-implementation of community-based public health measures amidst a second rise in COVID-19 cases. Public health measures in community settings enacted at the local, sub-national or national level in response to a second rise in COVID-19 cases are described, and COVID-19 pandemic contextual factors prompting public health action are provided. Where available, epidemiological triggers for re-escalation were included. This scan captures the experience of member jurisdictions of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), potentially relevant to Ontario.

Current State and Ontario Context

The province of Ontario entered stage 1 of its phased re-opening plan on May 19, 2020, easing the strict

1. Stay-at-home or Lockdowns
2. Social Gatherings
3. Restrictions on Restaurants and Bars
4. Outdoor public spaces
 - Mandated face coverings
 - Smoking restrictions
 - Crowd controls

Canadian Survey of Business Conditions: Accommodation & Food Service

Uncertain can continue to operate at their current level
of revenue and expenditures for less than 6 months

29.2%

Lay-offs

74% (#3 sector)



TOP SECTORS IN NEED

Health care and social assistance (93.0%)

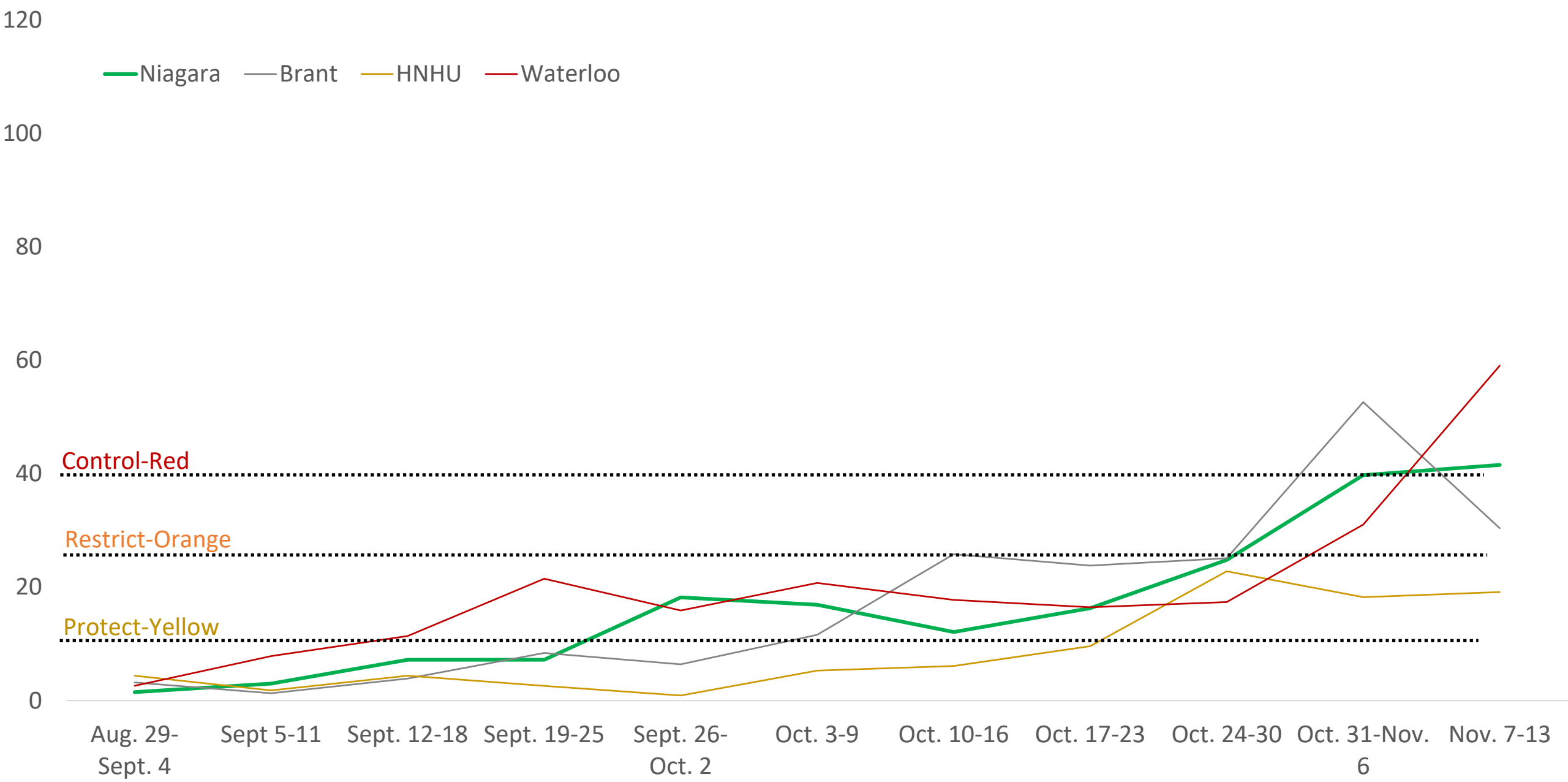
Accommodation and food services (92.9%)

Retail trade (91.9%)

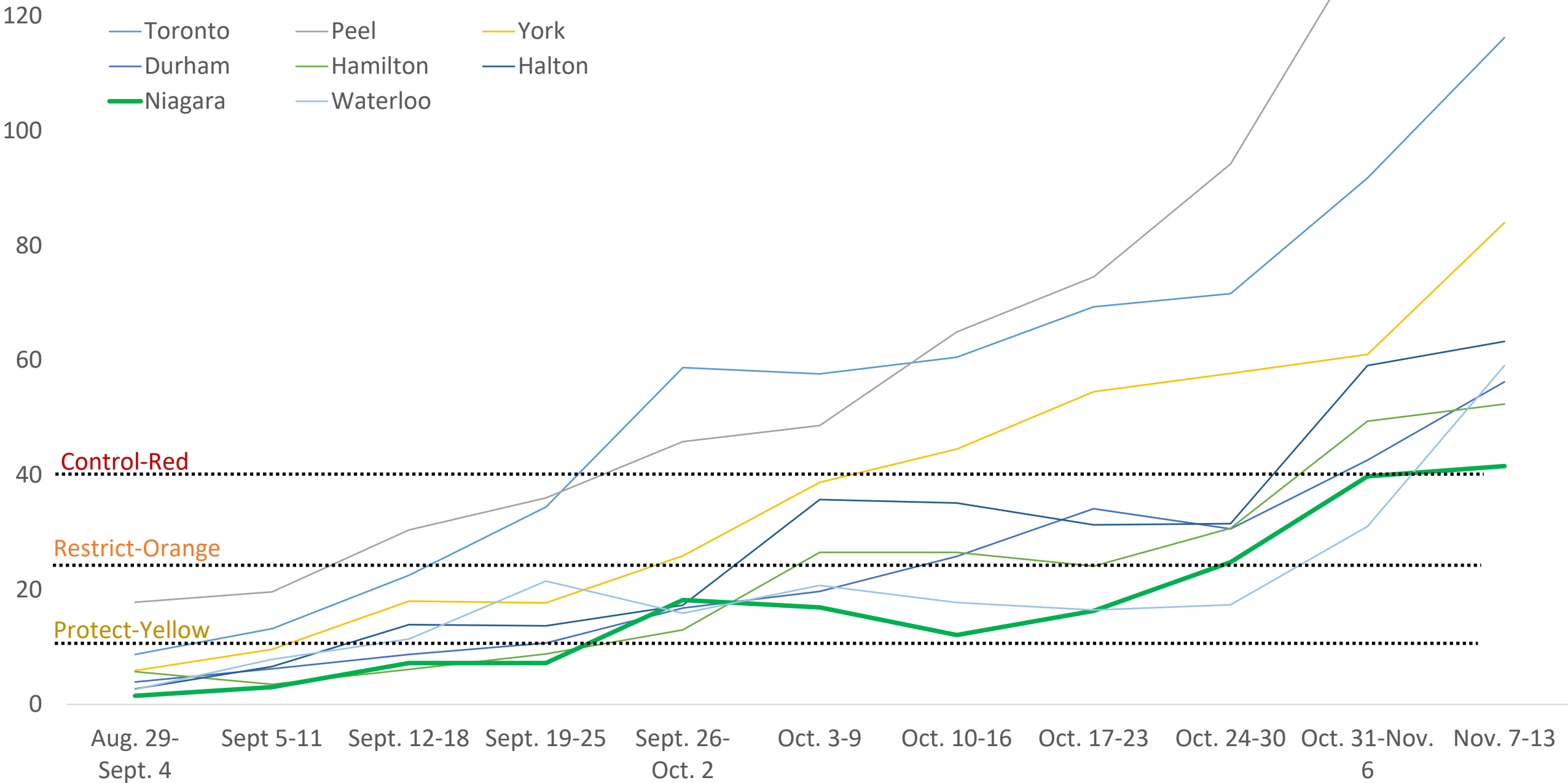
Transportation and warehousing (90.3%)

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-627-m/11-627-m2020052-eng.htm>

Weekly Cases per 100,000 Population



Weekly Cases per 100,000 Population



12

Deaths with COVID-19 in Niagara

10

8

6

4

2

0

August

September

October

November



Lockdown may be looming for Ontario – but what that looks like isn't clear



Province 'staring down the barrel of another lockdown,' says Premier Doug Ford



Lauren Pelley · CBC News · Posted: Nov 14, 2020 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: November 14



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1213 comments

"We're staring down the barrel of another lockdown," Ontario Premier Doug Ford said on Friday. "And I will not hesitate for a second if we have to go further."

It was a blunt statement about a blunt instrument: some combination of widespread restrictions, closures and a potential declaration of emergency.

"We're almost trying to put out a forest fire," she said. "If we'd acted earlier, we would've been trying to put out sparks."

Those sparks — early warning signs of trouble to come — came in the form of COVID-19 cases emerging among younger Ontarians in the late summer, with outbreaks tied to bars, restaurants and other gathering spots.

But the virus kept moving. First through older populations, then into hospitals, into long-term care, into newly reopened schools.