



Ontario Association of  
Children's Aid Societies

# VAX FACTS



**October 20, 2021**

The purpose of *VaxFacts* is to share credible and up to date information about the COVID-19 vaccine to assist with the conversations you are having with children, youth and families. If you have a resource or event that you think the sector would benefit from, send it to us via [covid19@oacas.org](mailto:covid19@oacas.org) and don't hesitate to share this email.

Check out [oacas.org/EveryShotCounts](https://oacas.org/EveryShotCounts) for a collection of the best resources from previous editions of *VaxFacts* and more.

## **Vaccine News**

- On October 18, 2021, Pfizer asked Health Canada to approve their vaccine for 5-11 year olds and submitted their official data for review. There is not yet a timeline for authorization and some questions (including whether or not the current vaccine can be used or if a new, pediatric formula is required) won't be answered until the final review is complete, despite speculation in the press.

## The Survey Says...

- According to a recent [poll](#) by Angus Reid, 51% of Canadian parents are ready to vaccinate their children in the 5-11 year age range when the vaccine is approved. Twenty-three percent said they will not vaccinate their children.
- The poll also showed that parents in Ontario (BC and Atlantic Canada) are more likely to vaccinate their younger children than those in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Quebec.
- Other factors of vaccine readiness for parents with younger children include household income and university education. Those with household incomes under \$50,000 and educational levels of high school or less were less likely to be in favour of vaccination.
- Canadians are less optimistic about a return to pre-COVID normal than they were last December. Thirty-seven percent now say they do not expect Canada to ever return to “normal.”

## Resources for Parents, Families, and Caregivers

- Do you have families and caregivers asking you about how to make the vaccine experience a positive experience? Check out this helpful resource from the folks @COVIDVaccineFacts [here](#).
- Working with someone with lots of questions about the vaccine? Let them know that Sick Kids has a [COVID-19 vaccine consult service](#) for children, youth and their families to answer their questions. This service is free (no OHIP card required!) and available to anyone who has questions about the vaccine for kids. You can book an appointment by clicking [here](#) or by calling 437-881-3505. If you require language support for the appointment, email [vaccine.consults@sickkids.ca](mailto:vaccine.consults@sickkids.ca) and indicate your name, appointment date and time, and your preferred language.

## Education Opportunity

- The Hospital for Sick Children has launched a free learning series with leading health experts on vaccine related issues. Topics include Dr. Allen speaking about vaccine myths and misconceptions, primers about how vaccines work, a session dedicated to the common question's parents/caregivers have and more! Click [here](#) to learn more about the sessions and to register.

### Coming Soon...

- We've heard increasing reports of the impact that misinformation, particularly via social media, is having on youth. Stay tuned for some updated ideas and resources about how to tackle this.
- We know there are lots of questions about how to support conversations about the vaccine for 5-11 year olds and we are on it! Look out for a special edition issue of *VaxFacts – KidFax* – in the coming weeks.

#### **About the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies:**

Since 1912, OACAS has represented Ontario's Children's Aid Societies in Ontario and provided service in the areas of government relations, communications, information management, education and training to advocate for the protection and well-being of children.

## Connect with Us

[Homepage](#) [Twitter](#) [Linkedin](#) [Email](#)

*Copyright © 2021, All rights reserved.*

#### **Our mailing address is:**

Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies  
75 Front Street East, Suite 308  
Toronto, Ontario M5E 1V9