

Ontario Health Sector

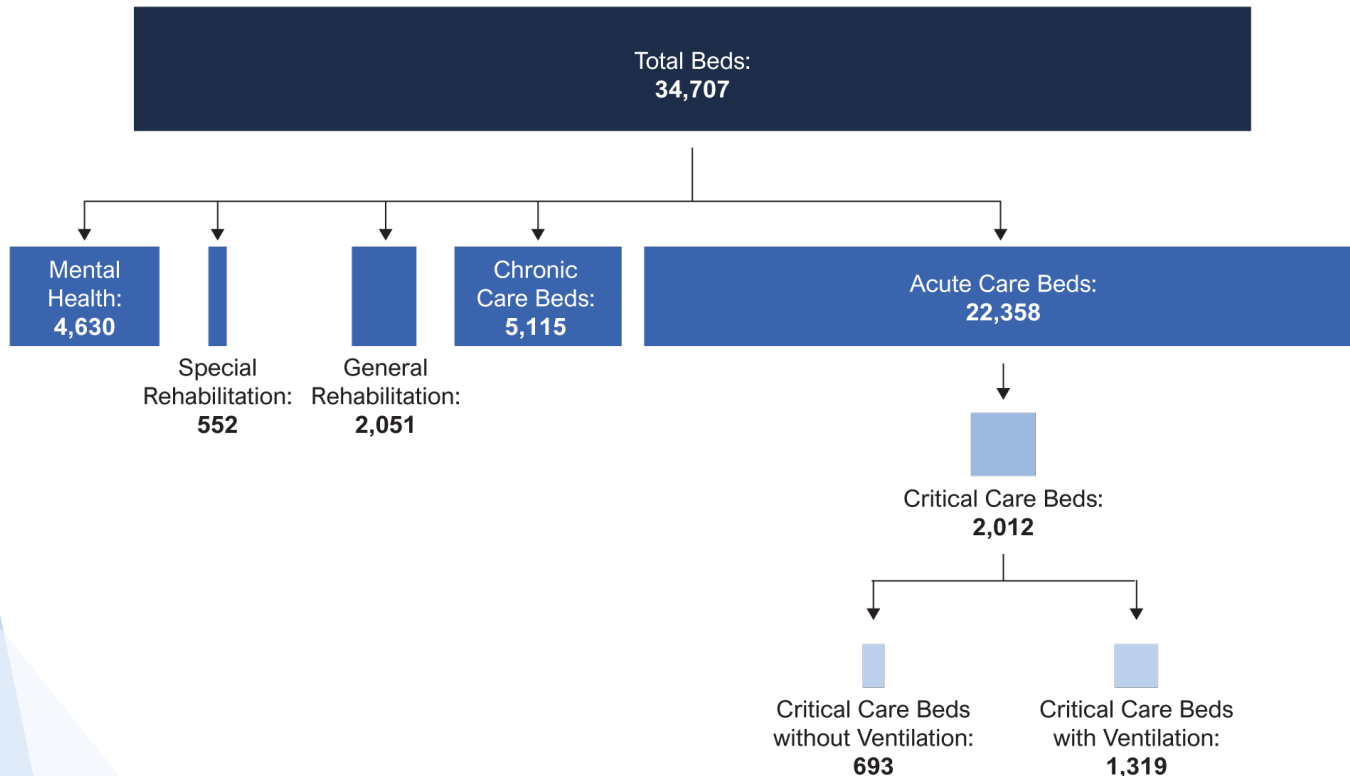
A Preliminary Review of the Impact of the COVID-19
Outbreak on Hospital Capacity

Purpose and Structure of FAO's Report

- Purpose: preliminary review of the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Ontario health sector, with a focus on hospital capacity
- Based on information available up to April 24
- The report has five major sections:
 1. Review hospital capacity prior to the outbreak
 2. Overview of the COVID-19 outbreak
 3. Province's actions to limit the spread of COVID-19 and increase health sector capacity and availability
 4. COVID-19 outbreak in Ontario and the effect of the outbreak on hospital capacity
 5. Key questions that MPPs may wish to ask the government

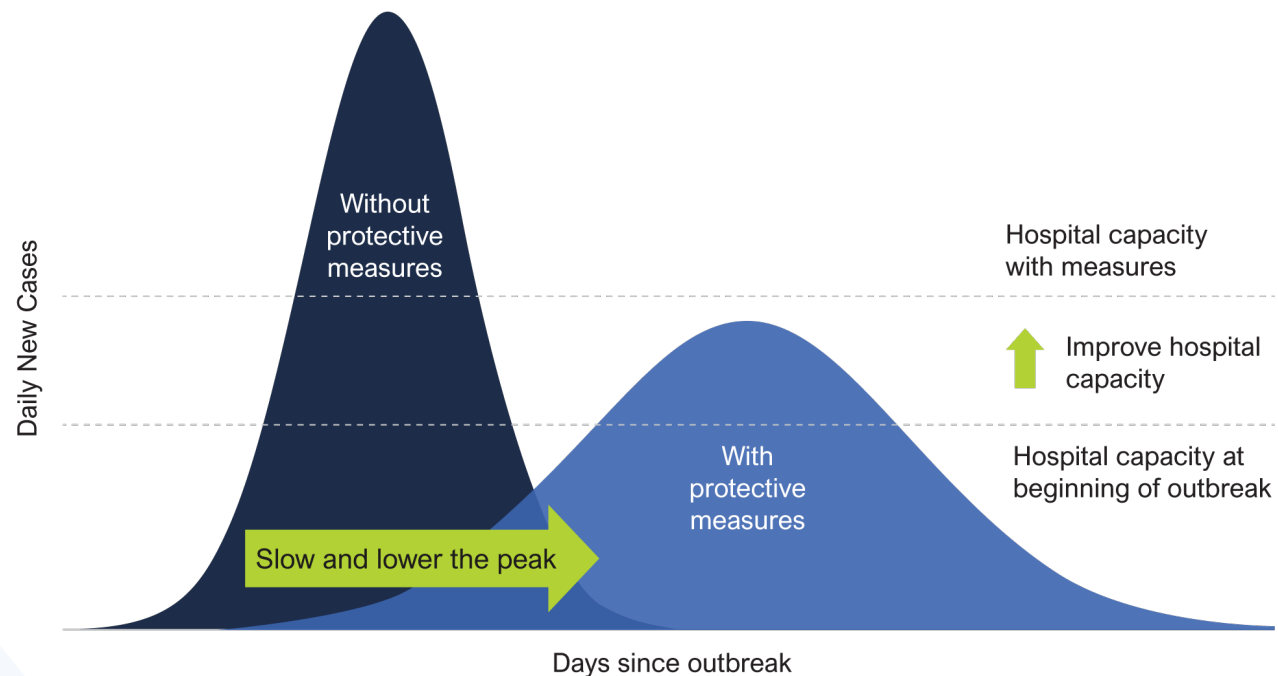
Hospital Capacity Prior to Outbreak

- Before outbreak, there were 22,400 acute care beds with 2,012 of those beds configured for critical care
- The occupancy rate, at 96 per cent, was highest among OECD countries



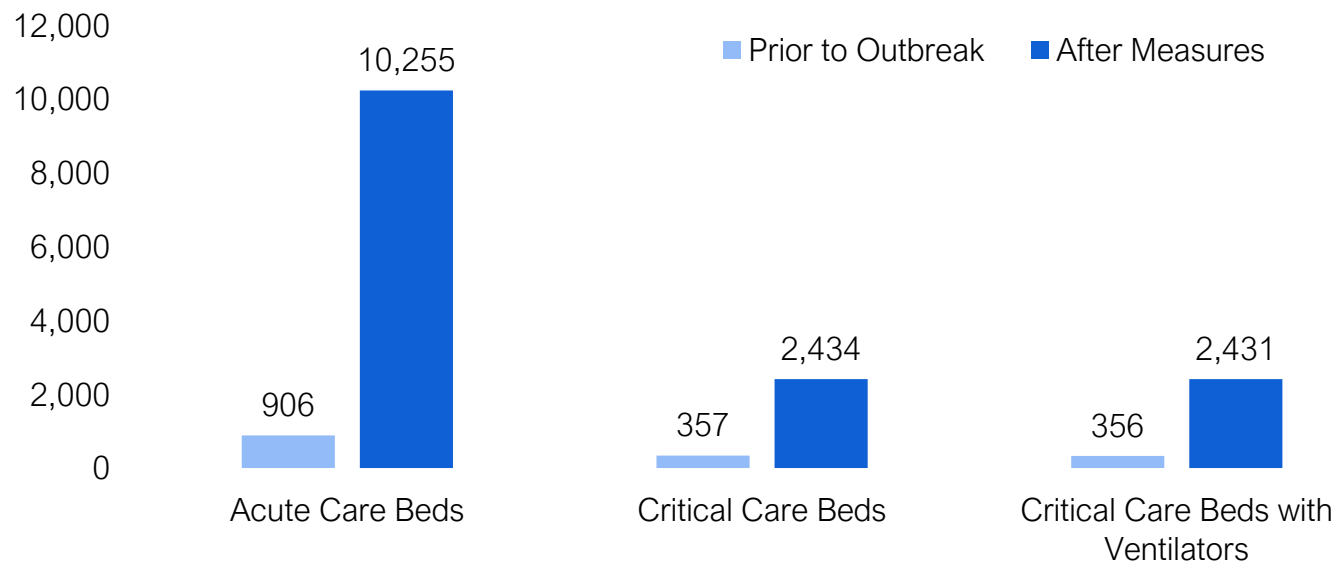
COVID-19 and Government Response

- Without actions to contain virus, danger that COVID-19 would overwhelm the health care system
- Government response:
 - Steps to contain the virus (e.g., declared state of emergency)
 - Expanded number of hospital beds and increased availability of existing beds



Measures to Increase Hospital Capacity and Availability

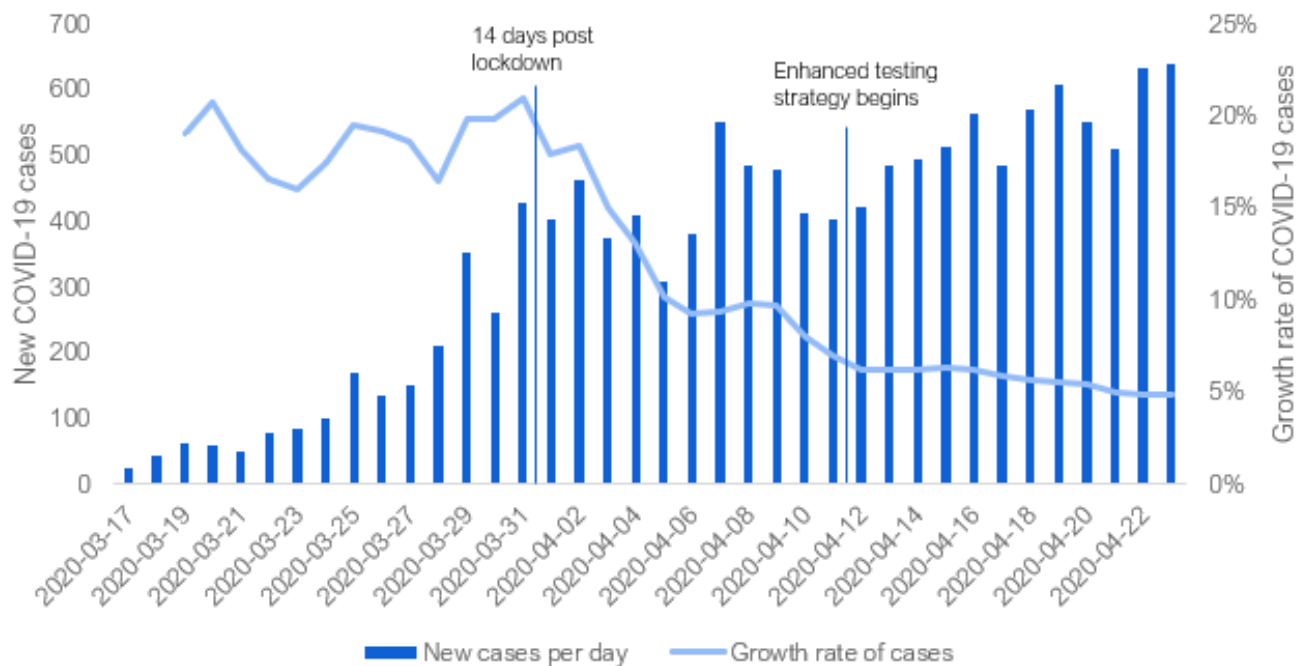
- Expanded number of acute and critical care beds
- Freed-up beds by cancelling elective surgeries, moved 1,000 hospital patients to alternative locations, deployed additional ventilators
- These measures made available an additional 9,349 acute care beds, 2,077 critical care beds and 2,075 critical care beds with ventilators



Note: The acute care category includes critical care beds, and the critical care category includes beds with ventilators.

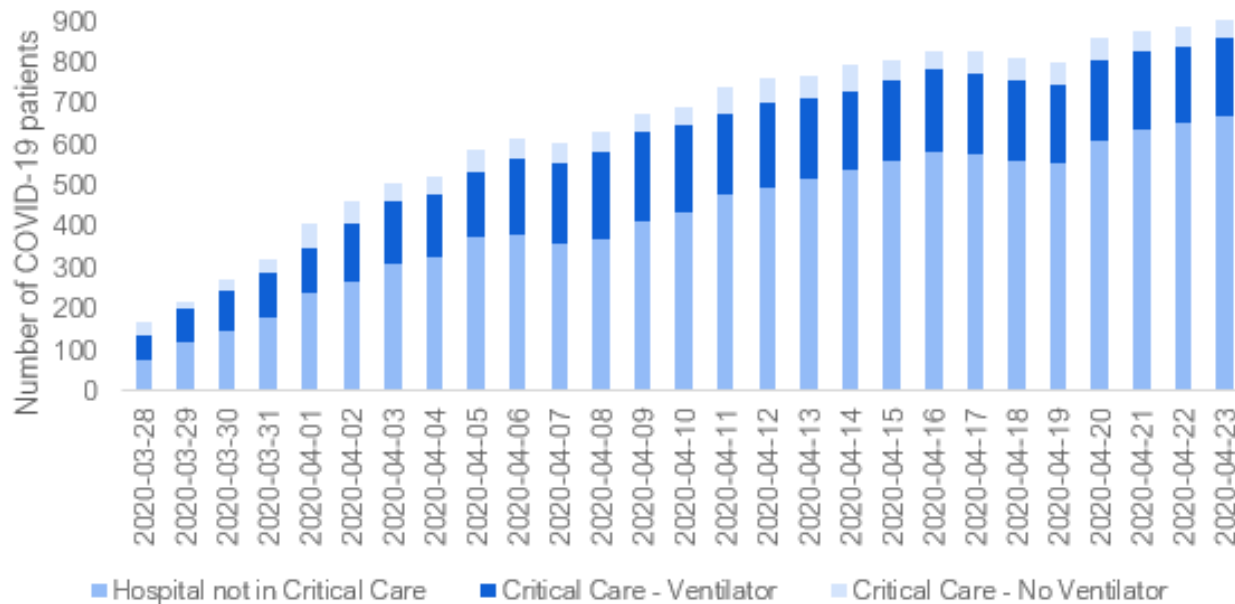
Outbreak in Ontario

- When the state of emergency was declared on March 17, new cases were increasing by 30 per day
- By the start of April, new cases were increasing by 400 per day
- Growth of new cases in the community are declining
- New reported cases continue to increase due to expansion of testing and outbreaks in congregate settings (e.g., long-term care (LTC) homes)



Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients

- As of March 28, there were 168 COVID-19 patients in hospital, 92 of which were occupying a critical care space
- Ontario experienced steady growth in hospitalized COVID-19 patients, reaching 910 by April 23
- Highest number of critical care patients to date was April 8
- Recent hospitalization increase likely due to admissions from LTC homes



COVID-19 Patients Compared to Beds Available

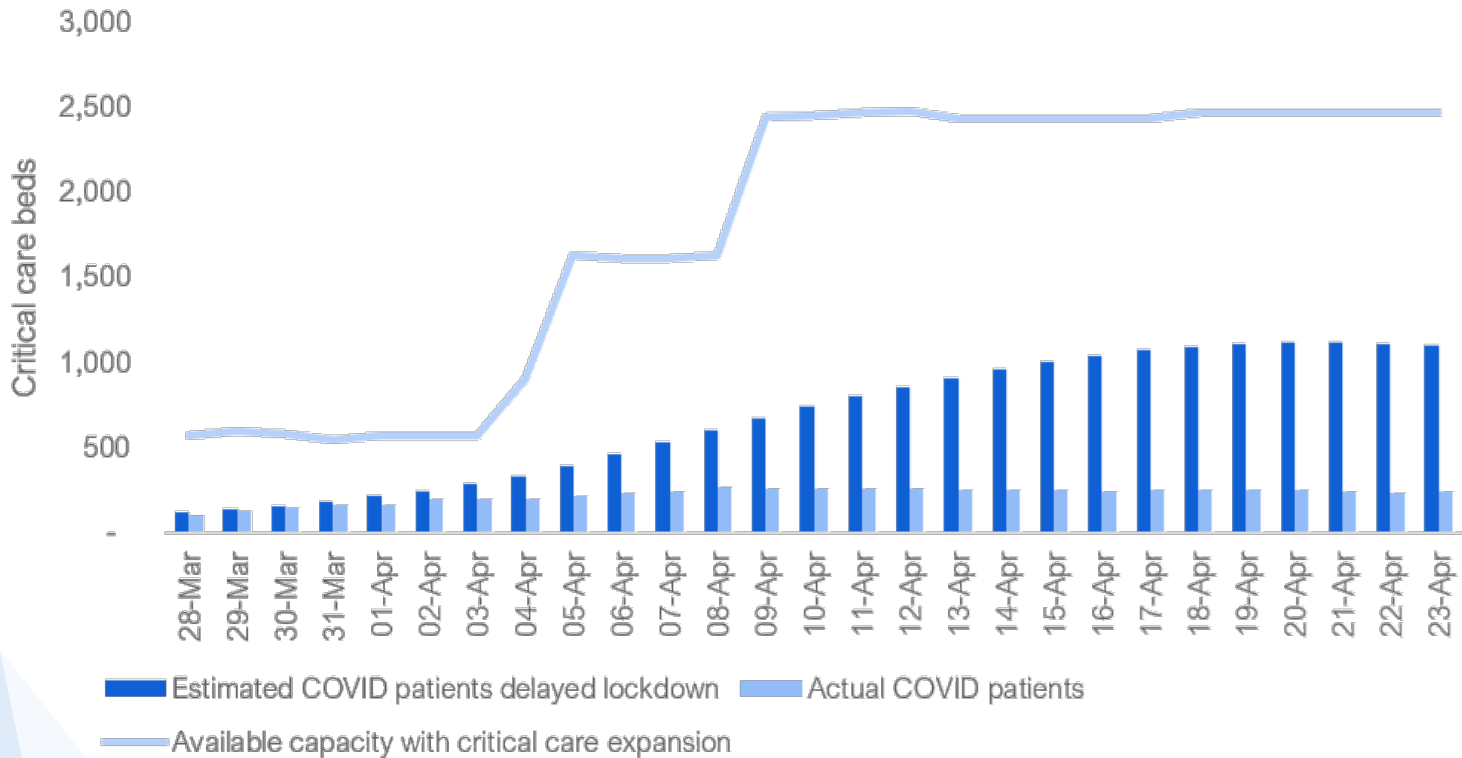
- As of April 23 there were 910 hospitalized COVID-19 patients, 243 of which were in critical care.
- Province has a significant amount of remaining available capacity to accommodate COVID-19 hospitalizations

	Acute Care	Critical Care	Critical Care with Ventilator
Total Beds Available	10,255	2,434	2,431
Available Beds Used by COVID-19 Patients	910	243	193
Remaining Beds Available	9,345	2,191	2,238

Note: The acute care category includes critical care beds, and the critical care category includes beds with ventilators. "Total Beds Available" is as of April 14. Remaining beds available for critical care may not match the Critical Care Services Ontario Daily Reports due to timing.

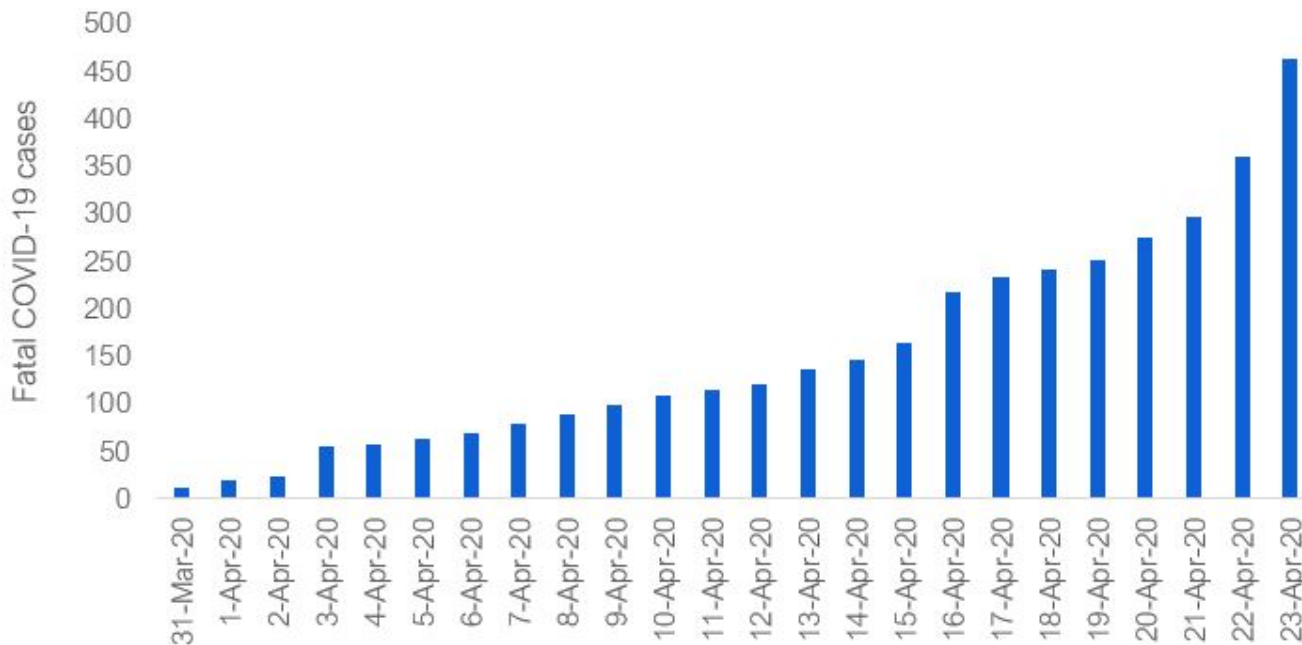
Scenario: Delayed State of Emergency

- State of emergency declared March 17
- If emergency measures delayed five days, estimate critical care (to date) patient peak of 1,100, over four times greater than experienced



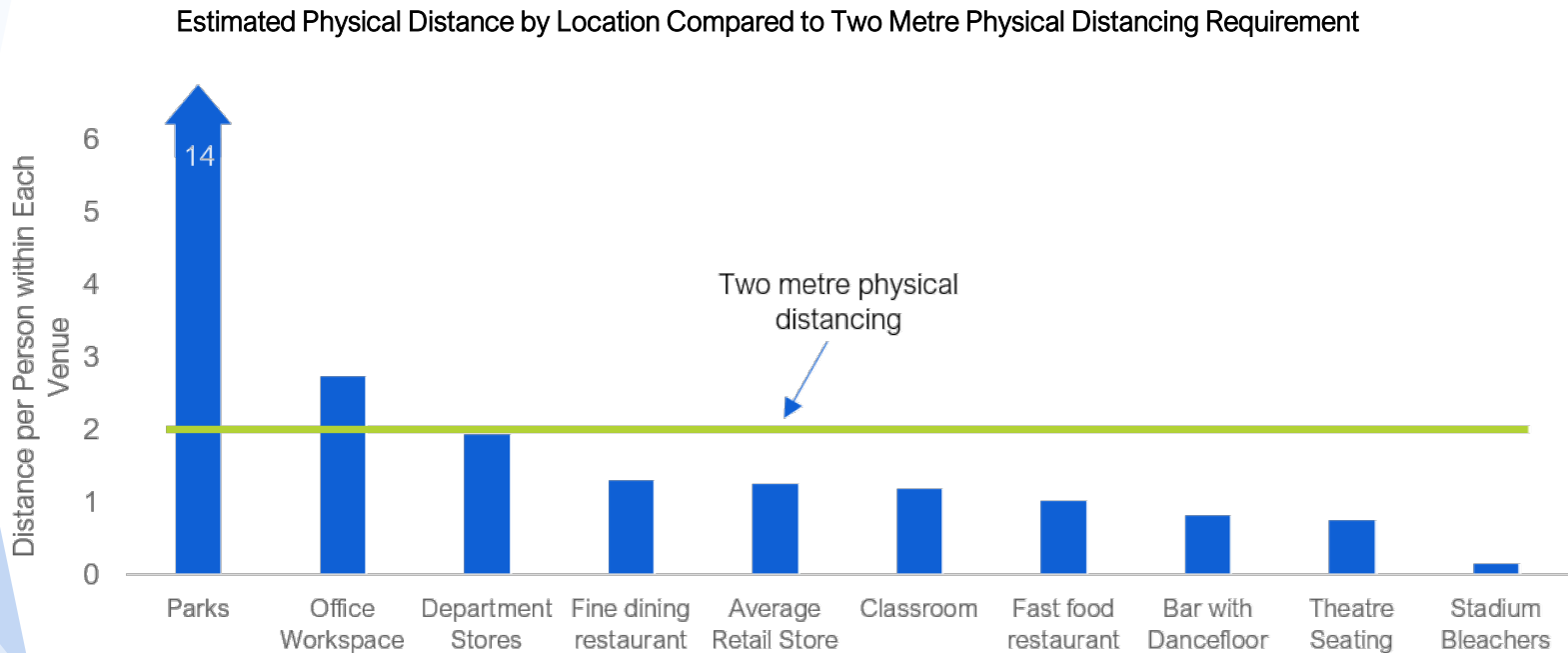
Reallocation of Health Sector Resources to Vulnerable Areas

- Growth of COVID-19 cases continuing to increase in congregate settings like long-term care (LTC) homes
- As of April 23, over 60 per cent of fatal COVID-19 cases originated from LTC homes
- Among other measures, appears that LTC residents are being transferred to available hospital capacity



Key Questions for MPPs

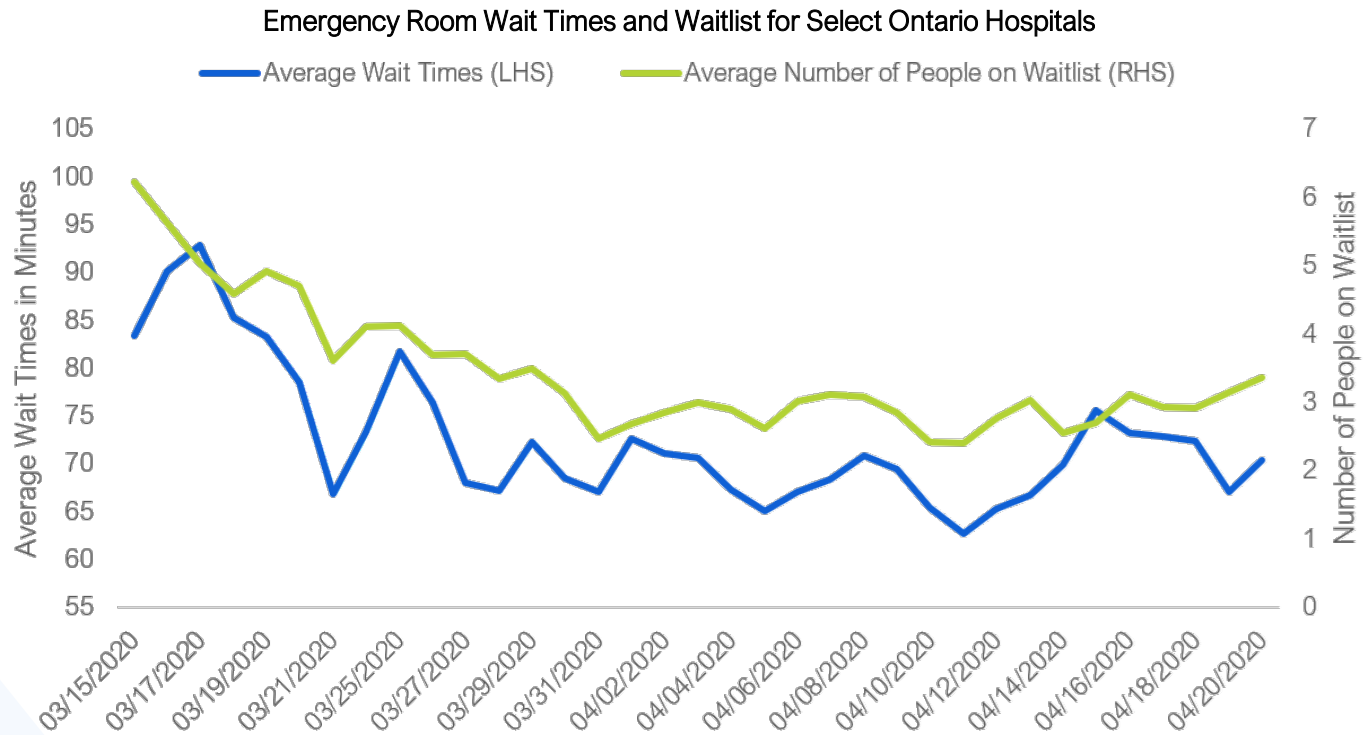
- What are the conditions required to lift the containment measures?
- How will the containment measures be lifted?



Note: Estimates are based on regulatory occupancy limits, average daily visitor counts or industry rules-of-thumb. These calculations assume that venues do not change occupancy limits to enable physical distancing.

Key Questions for MPPs Cont'd

- What preparations are the government making to ensure that COVID-19 continues to be contained?
- How will Ontario's health care system return to normal and how much additional funding will be required?
 - To date, up to 52,700 procedures have been cancelled or avoided



Thank you

fao

Financial
Accountability
Office of Ontario

2 Bloor Street West, Suite 900
Toronto, Ontario
M4W 3E2

416.644.0702
info@fao-on.org

fao-on.org

