

March 15, 2022

Sent via email: shellyhipson@gmail.com

Dear Shelly Hipson:

Re: You are entitled to the information you requested - 2022-00074-HEA

The Department of Health and Wellness received your application for access to information under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the Act) on January 17, 2022.

In your application, you requested a copy of the following records:

Amended February 14, 2022: I would like to request an update to FOIPOP 2021- 01590-HEA with the following additions.

According to the FOIPOP vaccine status is defined as follows:

Unvaccinated:

<14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

After having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

Therefore, I would like to request the following records:

A breakdown of the following by week:

1. COVID-19 Cases broken down by week

a) unvaccinated - after having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

b) unvaccinated - <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

c) partially vaccinated

d) fully vaccinated

(Date range August 22, 2021- January 16, 2022)

A breakdown of the following by week:

2. Vaccination Status of COVID-19 Deaths

a) unvaccinated - after having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

b) unvaccinated - <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

c) partially vaccinated

d) fully vaccinated

(Date range August 22, 2021- January 16, 2022)

3. All COVID-19 hospital visits, hospitalizations and ICU Hospitalizations broken down by week:

a) unvaccinated - after having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

b) unvaccinated - <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

c) partially vaccinated

d) fully vaccinated

(Date range: August 23, 2021- January 16, 2022)

5. A continuation of Table 2, 3 and 4:

a). Number of COVID-19 doses administered, by dose number and week
(Date range: August 29, 2021 – January 16, 2022)

b). Number of Adverse Events Following COVID-19 Immunization (Non-Serious, Serious and Total), by week
(Date range: August 29, 2021- January 16, 2022)

c). Number of Adverse Events Following COVID-19 Immunization, by reaction type and week
(Date range: August 29, 2021- January 16, 2022)

6. Cumulative Data on the number of people who have experienced Serious Adverse Events who have

a) died

b) have a permanent disability

c) incapacity

d) required hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization
(Total cumulative value as of January 16, 2022)

Responsive records have been located and are attached. For part 3 of your request DHW does not hold information about the vaccination status of COVID-19 hospital. You may choose to follow up with Nova Scotia Health for this information.

You have the right to ask for a review of this decision by the Information Access and Privacy Commissioner (formerly the Review Officer). You have 60 days from the date of this letter to exercise this right. If you wish to ask for a review, you may do so on Form 7, a copy of which is attached. Send the completed form to the Information Access and Privacy Commissioner, P.O. Box 181, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2M4.

Please be advised that a de-identified copy of this disclosure letter and the attached response to your FOIPOP application will be made public after 14 days. The package will be posted online at <https://openinformation.novascotia.ca/>. The letter will not include your name, address or any other personal information that you have supplied while making your application under FOIPOP.

Please contact Melinda Frelick at 902-424-6920 or by e-mail at melinda.frelick@novascotia.ca, if you need further assistance regarding this application.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Trott
Associate Deputy Minister

FOIPOP Request 2022-00074-HEA

Data Notes:

- Data source is Panorama and includes data for August 16, 2021 to January 16, 2022 (cumulative serious outcomes are, per the request, drawn from data going back to December 16, 2020.
 - Note that PCR testing criteria changed substantially during the reporting period (being primarily available to those age 50+)
 - Data entry of cases during the recent Omicron wave (corresponding roughly from 08DEC2021 to present) is incomplete.
 - Per the request, the unvaccinated category (defined below) has been split into those that have never received a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and those that are within 14 days of having received their first dose (i.e., considered to be not effectively immunized against SARS-CoV-2).
- Cases captured in this dataset are those that meet the Public Health Agency of Canada case definition (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/national-case-definition.html#dec>) :

Confirmed case

A person with confirmation of infection with SARS-CoV-2 documented by:

- The detection of at least 1 specific gene target by a validated laboratory-based nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) assay (e.g. real-time PCR or nucleic acid sequencing) performed at a community, hospital, or reference laboratory (the National Microbiology Laboratory or a provincial public health laboratory)
or
- The detection of at least 1 specific gene target by a validated point-of-care (POC) NAAT that has been deemed acceptable to provide a final result (i.e. does not require confirmatory testing)
or
- Seroconversion or diagnostic rise (at least 4-fold or greater from baseline) in viral specific antibody titre in serum or plasma using a validated laboratory-based serological assay for SARS-CoV-2

- Vaccine status definitions:

Unvaccinated	Individuals meeting the national confirmed case definition of COVID-19 and having illness onset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine After having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine
Partially vaccinated	Individuals meeting the national confirmed case definition of COVID-19 and have illness onset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> =>14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine or <14 days post second dose of any COVID-19 vaccine
Fully vaccinated	Individuals meeting the national confirmed case definition of COVID-19 and have illness onset: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >=14 days post second dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

Request:

Amended February 14, 2022: I would like to request an update to FOIPOP 2021-01590-HEA with the following additions. According to the FOIPOP vaccine status is defined as follows:

Unvaccinated:

<14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

After having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

Therefore, I would like to request the following records:

A breakdown of the following by week:

1. COVID-19 Cases broken down by week

a) unvaccinated - after having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

b) unvaccinated - <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

c) partially vaccinated

d) fully vaccinated

(Date range August 22, 2021- January 16, 2022)

A breakdown of the following by week:

2. Vaccination Status of COVID-19 Deaths

a) unvaccinated - after having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

b) unvaccinated - <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

c) partially vaccinated

d) fully vaccinated

(Date range August 22, 2021- January 16, 2022)

3. All COVID-19 hospital visits, hospitalizations and ICU Hospitalizations broken down by week:

a) unvaccinated - after having received 0 doses of any COVID-19 vaccine

b) unvaccinated - <14 days post first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine

c) partially vaccinated

d) fully vaccinated

(Date range: August 23, 2021- January 16, 2022)

5. A continuation of Table 2, 3 and 4:

a). Number of COVID-19 doses administered, by dose number and week

(Date range: August 29, 2021 – January 16, 2022)

b). Number of Adverse Events Following COVID-19 Immunization (Non-Serious, Serious and Total), by week

(Date range: August 29, 2021- January 16, 2022)

c). Number of Adverse Events Following COVID-19 Immunization, by reaction type and week

(Date range: August 29, 2021- January 16, 2022)

6. Cumulative Data on the number of people who have experienced Serious Adverse Events who have

a) died

b) have a permanent disability

c) incapacity

d) required hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization

(Total cumulative value as of January 16, 2022)

Table 1. New COVID-19 cases by immunization status (23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)

Week of	Unvaccinated (0 doses)	One Dose (< 14 Days)	One Dose (14+ Days)	Two or More Doses
23AUG2021	16	5	22	14
30AUG2021	105	11	19	16
06SEP2021	162	6	32	24
13SEP2021	60	7	50	45
20SEP2021	54	15	87	54
27SEP2021	47	19	75	62
04OCT2021	62	22	49	30
11OCT2021	47	16	34	33
18OCT2021	72	17	18	37
25OCT2021	92	14	44	59
01NOV2021	117	23	41	87
08NOV2021	79	17	27	97
15NOV2021	63	18	34	48
22NOV2021	86	19	33	62
29NOV2021	48	23	34	74
06DEC2021	174	43	46	646
13DEC2021	69	37	46	401
20DEC2021	48	10	24	326
27DEC2021	83	15	46	584
03JAN2022	85	9	21	585
10JAN2022	62	10	37	637

Table 2. New COVID-19 hospitalizations by immunization status (23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)

Week of	Unvaccinated (0 doses)	One Dose (< 14 Days)	One Dose (14+ Days)	Two or More Doses
23AUG2021	0	0	0	0
30AUG2021	< 5	0	0	0
06SEP2021	9	< 5	< 5	< 5
13SEP2021	< 5	< 5	0	< 5
20SEP2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	0
27SEP2021	< 5	0	< 5	0
04OCT2021	< 5	0	< 5	< 5
11OCT2021	< 5	0	< 5	< 5
18OCT2021	0	0	0	< 5
25OCT2021	0	< 5	0	0
01NOV2021	5	< 5	5	< 5
08NOV2021	< 5	< 5	0	< 5
15NOV2021	< 5	0	0	0
22NOV2021	< 5	0	< 5	< 5
29NOV2021	< 5	0	0	< 5
06DEC2021	0	< 5	0	< 5
13DEC2021	< 5	0	0	9
20DEC2021	0	0	0	7
27DEC2021	5	0	< 5	20
03JAN2022	8	< 5	0	16
10JAN2022	6	< 5	0	42

Table 3. New COVID-19 ICU admissions by immunization status (23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)

Week of	Unvaccinated (0 doses)	One Dose (< 14 Days)	One Dose (14+ Days)	Two or More Doses
23AUG2021	0	0	0	0
30AUG2021	0	0	0	0
06SEP2021	0	0	0	0
13SEP2021	< 5	< 5	0	< 5
20SEP2021	< 5	< 5	0	0
27SEP2021	0	0	0	0
04OCT2021	< 5	0	0	0
11OCT2021	0	0	< 5	0
18OCT2021	0	0	0	0
25OCT2021	0	< 5	0	0
01NOV2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
08NOV2021	< 5	0	0	< 5
15NOV2021	0	0	0	0
22NOV2021	0	0	0	0
29NOV2021	0	0	0	0
06DEC2021	0	< 5	0	< 5
13DEC2021	< 5	0	0	< 5
20DEC2021	0	0	0	< 5
27DEC2021	0	0	0	< 5
03JAN2022	< 5	0	< 5	< 5
10JAN2022	< 5	0	0	6

Table 4. New COVID-19 deaths by immunization status (23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)

Week of	Unvaccinated (0 doses)	One Dose (< 14 Days)	One Dose (14+ Days)	Two or More Doses
23AUG2021	0	0	0	0
30AUG2021	0	0	0	0
06SEP2021	< 5	0	0	< 5
13SEP2021	< 5	0	0	0
20SEP2021	0	0	0	0
27SEP2021	0	0	0	0
04OCT2021	< 5	0	0	0
11OCT2021	0	0	0	0
18OCT2021	0	0	0	< 5
25OCT2021	0	0	0	0
01NOV2021	0	0	0	< 5
08NOV2021	< 5	0	0	< 5
15NOV2021	0	0	0	0
22NOV2021	0	0	< 5	0
29NOV2021	0	0	0	0
06DEC2021	0	0	0	0
13DEC2021	0	0	0	0
20DEC2021	0	0	0	< 5
27DEC2021	< 5	0	< 5	7
03JAN2022	< 5	0	0	9
10JAN2022	6	0	0	9

Table 5. New COVID-19 immunizations (23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)

Week of	1st Dose	2nd Dose	3rd Dose
30AUG2021	3273	7364	0
06SEP2021	4901	9089	0
13SEP2021	7200	8959	0
20SEP2021	5854	7492	0
27SEP2021	7077	8474	0
04OCT2021	6648	9020	0
11OCT2021	6010	7080	0
18OCT2021	5265	7361	1072
25OCT2021	3803	7132	2078
01NOV2021	2393	5250	2679
08NOV2021	1878	4877	2849
15NOV2021	1749	4356	2244
22NOV2021	2177	3878	8678
29NOV2021	10741	3565	9691
06DEC2021	14378	2399	18053
13DEC2021	11523	1726	36900
20DEC2021	5074	1115	27415
27DEC2021	3252	1189	25891
03JAN2022	3530	1118	57502
10JAN2022	3896	1096	89484

**Table 6. New adverse events following COVID-19 immunization by severity
(23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)**

Week of	Non-Serious	Serious	Total
23AUG2021	20	< 5	23
30AUG2021	8	< 5	9
06SEP2021	< 5	< 5	5
13SEP2021	12	< 5	15
20SEP2021	< 5	< 5	5
27SEP2021	< 5	0	< 5
04OCT2021	12	0	12
11OCT2021	14	5	19
18OCT2021	14	< 5	17
25OCT2021	6	< 5	7
01NOV2021	< 5	5	9
08NOV2021	7	< 5	10
15NOV2021	9	< 5	11
22NOV2021	8	< 5	9
29NOV2021	8	< 5	12
06DEC2021	< 5	< 5	5
13DEC2021	12	0	12
20DEC2021	10	< 5	12
27DEC2021	< 5	0	< 5
03JAN2022	8	< 5	10
10JAN2022	< 5	< 5	< 5

**Table 7. New adverse events following COVID-19 immunization by event type
(23AUG2021 to 16JAN2022)**

Week of	Allergic Reaction	Local Reaction	Neurologic	Other	Missing/ Incomplete Data
23AUG2021	10	0	7	6	0
30AUG2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	0
06SEP2021	0	0	< 5	< 5	0
13SEP2021	< 5	6	< 5	< 5	0
20SEP2021	< 5	< 5	0	< 5	0
27SEP2021	< 5	0	0	< 5	0
04OCT2021	8	0	< 5	< 5	0
11OCT2021	6	0	< 5	9	0
18OCT2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	7	< 5
25OCT2021	< 5	0	< 5	< 5	0
01NOV2021	< 5	0	< 5	6	0
08NOV2021	< 5	0	< 5	7	< 5
15NOV2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
22NOV2021	< 5	0	< 5	7	0
29NOV2021	< 5	0	< 5	6	0
06DEC2021	0	0	< 5	< 5	0
13DEC2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5	0
20DEC2021	< 5	< 5	< 5	5	0
27DEC2021	< 5	0	0	0	0
03JAN2022	< 5	< 5	< 5	5	0
10JAN2022	0	< 5	< 5	< 5	0

Table 8. Cumulative outcomes among Nova Scotians reporting serious adverse events following COVID-19 immunization (16DEC2020 to 16JAN2022)

Recovered	Not Yet Recovered	Permanent Disability/ Incapacity	Death	Unknown
15	82	5	10	9

Note: Prolongation of an existing hospitalization is captured separately from the above outcomes; however, to the requested end-point, this event has been documented twice in the province's data.

*Cells with fewer than 5 events are censored

** Vaccination status for the above tables is determined at time of case detection, not time of hospitalization or death.