

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 20 August 2020

The information contained in this report is based on recent updates and current information available at the time the report was finalized. It is not inclusive of all actions or measures taken to date by health officials federally, provincially or locally.

COVID-19 CASE COUNTS

STATUS OF CASES IN BC¹	As of August 19	As of August 20	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	4,745	4,825	80
Currently in intensive care	4	4	0
Total deaths in BC	198	200	2
Total recovered in BC	3,749	3,845	96
Currently hospitalized in BC	10	11	1
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of August 19	As of August 20	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	1,488	1,526	38
Fraser Health	2,493	2,533	40
Island Health	158	159	1
Interior Health	411	411	0
Northern Health	120	121	1
Out of Canada	75	75	0
Total confirmed cases in BC	4,745	4,825	80
Total individuals tested in BC	316,782	320,989	4,207
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of August 19	As of August 20	Change
Total individuals tested	2,270	2,298	28
Total confirmed cases	15	15	0
Recovered cases	15	15	0
Negative results	2,225	2,249	24
Pending results	30	34	4

¹ <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

² <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

³ <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

STATUS OF FIRST NATION

RESERVE CASES IN CANADA⁴

	As of August 18	As of August 19	Change
Total confirmed cases	426	426	0
Currently hospitalized	34	34	0
Total deaths	6	6	0
Total recovered	402	408	6
Total confirmed cases in BC	69	69	0

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, and Dr. Réka Gustafson, BC's deputy provincial health officer, have issued the following joint statement regarding the complexities of COVID-19 in BC:⁵
 - "In recent weeks, parts of the province have had to manage the challenge of dangerous wildfires that have put people and their homes at risk."
 - "COVID-19 brings an added complexity to what is an extremely stressful and difficult situation for many who have been forced to leave their homes or be ready to go at a moment's notice."
 - "Public health teams are working closely with emergency responders, providing ongoing guidance at evacuation centres and supporting those who may need additional care, such as those self-isolating or those most vulnerable to severe illness."
 - "Here in B.C., we are fortunate to have some of the world's leading public health experts. Not only are they leading their own research, they are constantly reviewing the research and data from around the globe."

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- No significant updates from the Yukon Territory.

⁴ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581964230816/1581964277298>

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0045-001566>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland, and the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, announced changes to the Employment Insurance (EI) program and new income support benefits for Canadians.⁶
 - In preparation for the transition from the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) to the Employment Insurance (EI) program, CERB will be extended by an additional four weeks to a maximum of 28 weeks.
 - Further amendments to the EI program include:
 - Expanding eligibility for the EI program.
 - Providing a minimum benefit rate of \$400 per week, or \$240 per week for extended parental benefits.
 - Providing a minimum entitlement of 26 weeks of regular benefits.
 - Freezing the EI insurance premium rates for two years.
 - The Government of Canada has also proposed three new benefits to ensure Canadians receive support during COVID-19:
 - The Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) will provide \$400 per week for up to 26 weeks, to workers who are self-employed or are not eligible for EI and who still require income support and who are looking for work.
 - The Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) will provide \$500 per week for up to two weeks, for workers who are sick or must self-isolate for reasons related to COVID-19.
 - The Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) will provide \$500 per week, up to 26 weeks per household, for eligible Canadians unable to work because they must care for:
 - A child under age 12 due to the closures of schools or daycares because of COVID-19.
 - A family member with a disability or a dependent because their day program or care facility is closed due to COVID-19.
 - A child, a family member with a disability, or a dependent who is not attending school, daycare, or other facilities under the advice of a medical professional due to being at high-risk if they contract COVID-19.
 - The CRB, CRSB, and CRCB will be in effect for one year, following the end of CERB payments. Canadians will be able to apply for these benefits through the Canada Revenue Agency. More details on how Canadians can get ready to apply will be available in the coming weeks at www.canada.ca/coronavirus.

⁶<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/08/government-of-canada-announces-plan-to-help-support-canadians-through-the-next-phase-of-the-recovery.html>

- Today, Larry Bagnell, Parliamentary Secretary to Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages and Minister responsible for CanNor, announced an investment of \$4.6 million to help the Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and Yukon agri-food sectors create jobs and increase production during COVID-19.⁷
 - This funding will support 13 initiatives in communities across the territories, including:
 - Helping farmers and producers boost profits with new, modern equipment.
 - Helping farmers and producers increase exports and expand to new markets.
 - Improving data collection and analysis.
 - Helping farmers and producers mitigate and address challenges with the supply chain.
- Today, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, released the following statement regarding monitoring COVID-19 in Canada:⁸
 - “Public health authorities are closely monitoring disease activity indicators including daily case counts, number of cases hospitalised, and the percentage of people testing positive in order to inform, adjust and adapt our actions as needed.”
 - “Average daily case counts remain in the range of 350 to 500 new cases being reported daily across the country, indicating that we are currently keeping the infection rate to a manageable level.”
 - “In recent weeks, younger age groups have represented a larger proportion of COVID-19 cases. Compared to all other age groupings, incidence rates have remained the highest in the 20 to 29-year age group. However, incidence rates appear to be declining in this age group somewhat since a peak incidence in mid-July.”
 - “We are closely monitoring for increased incidence in older age groups and possible increases in hospitalisation or critical care admissions that could indicate a shift in transmission patterns.”

This summary was compiled by [CCEM Strategies Ltd.](#) at the request of the 3 Nations Society.

⁷<https://www.canada.ca/en/northern-economic-development/news/2020/08/government-of-canada-invests-in-agri-food-producers-and-organizations-in-the-north.html>

⁸<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/08/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-august-20-2020.html>