

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 31 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 28	As of August 31	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	5,496	5,790	294*
Currently in intensive care	7	10	3
Total deaths in BC	204	208	4
Total recovered in BC	4,310	4,406	96
Currently hospitalized in BC	23	28	5
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of August 28	As of August 31	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	1,791	1,900	109
Fraser Health	2,878	3,042	164
Island Health	174	175	1
Interior Health	433	440	7
Northern Health	142	154	12
Out of Canada	78	79	1
Total confirmed cases in BC	5,496	5,790	294*
Total individuals tested in BC	353,174	366,635	13,461**
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of August 28	As of August 31	Change
Total individuals tested	2,518	2,562	44
Total confirmed cases	15	15	0
Recovered cases	15	15	0
Negative results	2,451	2,534	83
Pending results	52	13	-39

*The BC Government reported 86 new COVID-19 cases August 29th, 107 for August 30th, and 101 for August 31st (294 total).

**The BCCDC has reported 3,325 new tests but this does not align with the difference in total test numbers between August 28th and 31st.

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

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

³ <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE CASES IN CANADA⁴	As of August 27	As of August 28	Change
Total confirmed cases	438	438	0
Currently hospitalized	35	37	2
Total deaths	6	6	0
Total recovered	411	418	7
Total confirmed cases in BC	72	72	1

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC’s Provincial Health Officer, and Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, released the following joint statement regarding COVID-19 personal safety measures:⁵
 - “It can be difficult to tell the difference between a cold, allergies, influenza and COVID-19. As a result, the first step for everyone in B.C. needs to be to stay home if we are not 100% healthy.”
 - “We ask employers, caregivers and parents to think ahead and prepare for the days when an employee or child is feeling unwell. Employers also need to ensure they are giving employees the flexibility to stay home without recrimination or financial harm.”
 - “We can prepare now for the challenges that may lie ahead with new thinking, new routines and proven safety precautions.”
 - “Our goals for B.C. are clear: prevent cases through our renewed personal safety measures, pay attention to how we are feeling so we can detect new cases and support our public health teams throughout the province to respond quickly to contain the spread of the virus.”
- Today, in support of International Overdose Awareness Day, the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) launched additional supports and resources for First Nations people affected by BC’s dual public health crisis: the overdose crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.⁶ This includes:
 - A new overdose reduction public education campaign.
 - This campaign is aimed at preventing overdose deaths and reducing harms to First Nations people in BC during the pandemic.
 - A First Nations virtual substance use and Psychiatry service.
 - This new service provides virtual mental health and substance support.

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

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0048-001619>

⁶ <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/fnha-tackles-bcs-dual-public-health-crises-with-overdose-prevention-campaign-and-new-virtual-health-service>

- Today, BC's Minister of Finance, Carole James, released the results of BC's 2019-2020 fiscal year.⁷
 - The fiscal year ended with a deficit of \$321 million, which is \$595 million lower than the surplus projected Budget for 2019, mainly due to:
 - Costs related to BC's initial COVID-19 response, such as public health measures.
 - Lower taxation revenue due to COVID-19.
 - A \$298 million ICBC investment loss due to market conditions from COVID-19.

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Government of Yukon announced the commencement of the distribution of \$1,687,000 in federal relief funds to support local not-for-profit sport and recreation organizations affected by COVID-19.⁸
 - This funding is part of the \$500 million in COVID-19 relief funding that the Government of Canada announced in May 2020 for cultural, heritage, and sport organizations across the country.
 - These organizations can use the funds to cover COVID-19 related expenses:
 - That may have incurred previously due to closures.
 - That may occur in the future due to adjustments to the new COVID-19 guidelines.

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, announced additional agreements between the Federal Government and leading pharmaceutical companies to develop experimental COVID-19 vaccines.⁹
 - The Government of Canada has secured agreements with Johnson & Johnson and Novavax to develop experimental COVID-19 vaccines. These agreements add to those already reached with Pfizer and Moderna.
 - Justin Trudeau also announced funding to establish a new biomanufacturing facility at the Human Health Therapeutics Research Centre in Montreal to increase vaccine manufacturing by up to two million doses per month by next year.
- Today, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland, announced the extension of the application deadline for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to October 31, 2020.¹⁰
 - The government is working with financial institutions to make additional changes, which will be released in the coming days.
 - Chrystia Freeland also announced the extension of the Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) to June 2021.

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FIN0048-001611>

⁸ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-sport-and-recreation-groups-receiving-covid-19-relief-funds>

⁹ <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/08/31/new-measures-ensure-supply-future-vaccines-and-therapies-against>

¹⁰ <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/08/government-announces-greater-flexibility-and-extension-of-canada-emergency-business-account.html>

- Today, ahead of the upcoming Labour Day long weekend, The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) issued a statement to remind travellers that travel restrictions are still in place at all Canadian internal border crossings.¹¹
 - All travel of an optional nature, including tourism, recreation, and entertainment, is covered by these measures across all ports of entry in all modes of transportation: land, marine, air and rail.

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

¹¹<https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/08/travel-restrictions-to-canada-remain-in-place-for-september-long-weekend.html>