

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 3 September 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 September 2	As of September 3	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	5,952	6,041	89
Currently in intensive care	14	11	-3
Total deaths in BC	209	210	1
Total recovered in BC	4,605	4,644	39
Currently hospitalized in BC	33	34	1
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of September 2	As of September 3	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	1,974	2,012	38
Fraser Health	3,112	3,155	43
Island Health	178	178	0
Interior Health	445	450	5
Northern Health	164	167	3
Out of Canada	79	79	0
Total confirmed cases in BC	5,952	6,041	89
Total individuals tested in BC	374,409	380,144	5,735
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of September 2	As of September 3	Change
Total individuals tested	2,643	2,685	42
Total confirmed cases	15	15	0
Recovered cases	15	15	0
Negative results	2,571	2,606	35
Pending results	57	64	7

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 31	As of September 1	Change
Total confirmed cases	445	450	5
Currently hospitalized	37	37	0
Total deaths	6	6	0
Total recovered	418	418	0
Total confirmed cases in BC	75	75	0

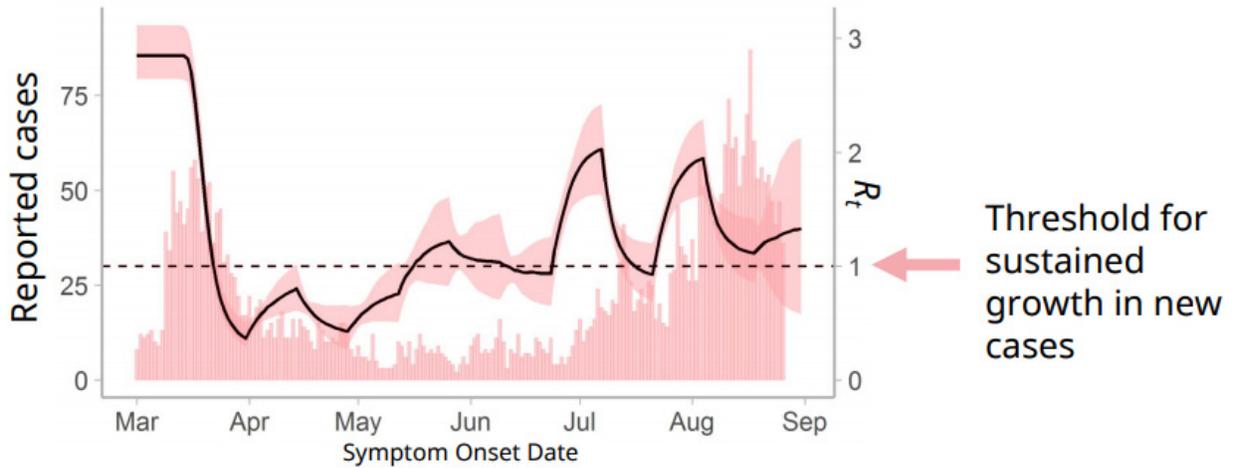
LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry commented on the release of new modelling data for COVID-19 in British Columbia.⁵
 - “The data shows us that although we have been able to find our balance – keeping essential services and businesses going, while protecting our most vulnerable, we continue to have new cases and new clusters across the province.”
 - “Now is also the time to think about the number of contacts you have. There is no ‘safe’ number, but fewer people is better. If you know you have more interactions ahead – for example, if you are returning to work – then it is a good idea to reduce your time with other contacts.
 - “This upcoming long weekend, choose to go small, to spend time with your household bubble instead of a group of strangers, and choose to use the layers of protection, wherever you may go.”
 - If you have plans this weekend, follow Dr. Bonnie Henry’s Good Times Guide: <https://goodtimes.gov.bc.ca/>
- Highlights from the recent modelling data include the following:
 - **Recent Trends:** The average daily number of new infections generated per case remains above the threshold for epidemic control (see Figure 1).
 - **COVID-19 Cases by Age Group:** There has been an increase in cases in all age groups, notably 20-29 year-olds (see Figure 2).

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

⁵ https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/COVID19_Going_Forward_Sept_2020.pdf

Figure 1: Modelling: Recent Trends



Solid line: median R_t ; **Light band:** 95% credible intervals; **Pink bars:** reported cases, excluding those attributed to outbreak clusters; The most recent case counts and R_t values are not shown due to data lags from transmission to case reporting.

Figure 2: Counts of COVID-19 cases by ten-year age groups and epidemiological week of report, BC⁶



January 19–August 29, 2020 (N=5,645*)

⁶ <https://twitter.com/BCGovNews>

- Today, the B.C. government announced it is continuing to maintain rent freezes until December 2020 to protect renters who have experienced income loss during COVID-19.⁷
 - The maximum annual allowable rent increase for 2021 is set at 1.4%, less than half of what it would have been prior to changes made by the Province in 2018.
 - B.C. landlords can increase rent only once per year and must provide tenants with three full months' notice using the correct notice of rent increase form.
 - Any tenant who received a Notice of Increase for 2020 that would have gone into effect after March 18, 2020, should continue to pay their current rent until Nov. 30, 2020.
- Today, the B.C. government announced additional funding from the federal government to support B.C.'s COVID-19 response for K-12 education.⁸
 - This will allow schools to expand health and safety measures, purchase more personal protective equipment (PPE) and increase capacity for remote learning.
 - The federal government is providing \$242.4 million in one-time funding for the 2020-21 school year, with the first half of the payment expected to be received in September.
 - The funding will support school districts to:
 - Hire and train more teachers and support staff for remote learning.
 - Purchase additional software licences, electronic course materials and textbooks.
 - Purchase computers or tablets.
 - Create wi-fi hubs and internet access in remote and indigenous communities.
 - For more information on BC's Back to School Plan visit <http://backtoschool.gov.bc.ca>.

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Government of Yukon announced funding for a project that will help protect the City of Whitehorse from wildfires and create jobs in the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.⁹
 - The Whitehorse South West Fire Risk Reduction project will create a six-kilometre fireguard along the southwest corner of the City of Whitehorse.
 - All conifer plants will be removed within the identified 150-hectare area and support the Whitehorse West Landscape-level Fuel Management Plan.
 - The removal of conifer plants also follows the standards for the reduction of fire hazards on Crown lands.
 - This project will improve the safety for residents and create jobs.
 - The Government of Canada is investing over \$1.1 million in this project through the Investing in Canada plan through the Green Infrastructure Stream (GIS). The Government of Yukon is providing \$487,500.

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020MAH0103-001653>

⁸ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020EDUC0062-001652>

⁹ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/canada-and-yukon-invest-fireguard-protect-whitehorse-residents>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, provided the following announcement on measures being taken to address COVID-19 in Canada:¹⁰
 - "The environments where we live, work, study and play can impact our mental health; our access to exercise, nutrition, and healthcare; and sometimes our exposure to infectious diseases and hazardous materials."
 - "In order to get and stay healthy, we must ensure that the physical and social environments in which we live are healthy places. To help support these efforts, the Government of Canada announced the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative to help governments and community partners advance the goal of healthier living environments during the COVID-19 pandemic."
 - "This initiative will provide funding to small-scale, local projects that help adapt public spaces and places to the healthy living needs of their communities during these unprecedented times."
 - "Over the last century, improving sanitation, infrastructure planning, and addressing residential overcrowding reduced infectious disease rates in Canada."
 - "Remember that whenever we are in public spaces, we should always interact with one another in ways that are consistent with public health guidance. To keep COVID-19 down, we must keep up our public health practices."
- Today, Deborah Schulte, Minister of Seniors, announced over \$20 million in funding for 1,000 new projects delivered by community organizations across the country to support seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹
 - These projects are funded through the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP).
 - Organizations will receive up to \$25,000 in funding to offer immediate COVID-19 relief or recovery activities to seniors. The projects will include activities such as:
 - Promoting computer literacy and virtual activities, such as exercise classes, among seniors.
 - Supporting the delivery of food and medication or personalized monitoring of seniors by phone or by videoconference.
 - Assisting seniors with essential activities, such as visits to the doctor.
 - Hiring staff to replace a loss of volunteerism capacity due to the outbreak.
 - Providing information to seniors regarding how to care for themselves in light of experiences relating to the pandemic.
 - Providing training on disease prevention and use of personal protective equipment.

¹⁰<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/09/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-september-3-2020.html>

¹¹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/09/x.html>

- Today, the Government announced an investment of up to \$10.8 million through the Surplus Food Rescue Program to the Fisher River Cree Nation (FRCN), to rescue up to 1.4 million pounds of freshwater fish caught from inland lakes of Canada.¹²
 - The surplus product, created because the COVID-19 pandemic largely shutdown the restaurant and hospitality industry, will be distributed to more than 75 Indigenous communities throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and the North.
 - The surplus includes 2.6 million pounds of fish and seafood, including walleye, salmon, tuna sole and pollock, scallops, and blue mussels will be purchased and distributed to families and organizations across Canada.
 - 10% of the food purchased through the program have been designated for Northern populations.

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

¹²<https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2020/09/government-of-canada-investment-brings-fish-and-seafood-surplus-food-to-indigenous-communities.html>