

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 14 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 Sept 11	As of Sept 14	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	6,962	7,279	317*
Currently in intensive care	10	16	6
Total deaths in BC	213	219	6
Total recovered in BC	5,273	5,446	173
Currently hospitalized in BC	49	58	9
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of Sept 11	As of Sept 14	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	2,419	2,557	138
Fraser Health	3,600	3,754	154
Island Health	190	195	5
Interior Health	465	473	8
Northern Health	204	216	12
Out of Canada	84	84	0
Total confirmed cases in BC	6,962	7,279	317*
Total individuals tested in BC	420,556	437,681	17,125
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of Sept 11	As of Sept 14	Change
Total individuals tested	2,883	2,936	53
Total confirmed cases	15	15	0
Recovered cases	15	15	0
Negative results	2,814	2,904	90
Pending results	54	17	37

*The BC Government reported 137 new COVID-19 cases September 12th, 119 cases August September 13th, and 61 cases September 14th

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 September 10	As of September 11	Change
Total confirmed cases	491	500	9
Currently hospitalized	42	44	2
Total deaths	9	9	0
Total recovered	429	431	2
Total confirmed cases in BC	85	92	7

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix released the following joint statement regarding the management of wildfire smoke during COVID-19:⁵
 - “COVID-19 has required all of us to adjust our daily activities to ensure we are keeping ourselves and those around us safe. Now, we must all hold steady with our layers of protection and get ready for whatever may be ahead.”
 - “We have to do our part and be ready for unexpected challenges, like the wildfire smoke that is now impacting many communities.”
 - “We remind people with asthma or other illnesses that affect your lungs to ensure your rescue medications are nearby and to take appropriate precautions.”
 - “Information and resources on protecting yourself when we have smoky skies is available on the BCCDC website. If you have questions about the air quality or COVID-19, you can also call 811 or contact your health-care provider.”
- Today, the BC Government announced an investment of \$2 million to launch the new Domestic Motion Picture Fund to support the motion picture industry in the recovery phase of COVID-19.⁶
 - The Fund is dedicated to support the production of content creation in B.C.’s domestic motion picture sector and will support:
 - Development activities including, research, concept development and scriptwriting.
 - Production costs including, hiring crew, renting equipment, and securing locations.

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/2020HLTH0051-001730>

⁶ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0051-001703>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, the Government of Canada announced the following updates to Employment Insurance (EI) premium rates and Maximum Insurable Earnings (MIE) in light of COVID-19:⁷
 - Yearly EI premium rate increases will be put on hold for 2021 and 2022.
 - MIE for 2021 will increase to \$56,30 from \$54,200 in 2020.
 - The maximum annual EI contribution for a worker will increase by \$33.18 to \$889.54 (up to \$46.46 for employers to \$1,245.36 per employee).
 - The Premium Reduction Program (PRP) will provide roughly \$1.055 billion in premium reductions in 2021 to registered employees and employers, in recognition of savings generated to the EI program by employer registered short-term wage-loss plans.
 - For self-employed Canadians who have opted-in to the EI program, the annual earnings required in 2020 will increase to \$7,555 for claims filed in 2021.
- Today, Melanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, and Minister responsible for CanNor, announced the distribution of \$7 million to support economic recovery from COVID-19 for more than 180 businesses across Yukon.⁸
 - This funding comes through the Northern Business Relief Fund (NBRF) and the pan-Canadian Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF).
 - This support has been delivered to businesses from a variety of sectors including, accommodations, food services, tourism, and retail.
- On September 12, 2020, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, issued the following statement regarding COVID-19:⁹
 - “In flattening the national curve, Canadians have demonstrated the power of personal protective measures. During these months, we’ve also had to learn some epidemiology concepts to recognise the warning signs that COVID-19 might try to make a comeback.”
 - “In recent weeks, we have been watching a slow but steady increase in the average daily case count. Here’s what is giving us cause for concern and how each of our actions matter in where things go from here:”
 - “An average of over 630 cases were reported daily across Canada over the past week. This is more than 20% higher than the week prior and more than 65% higher compared to 4 weeks ago, when an average of just over 380 cases were being reported daily.”
 - “Currently, the four most affected provinces, British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec are each reporting between 100 to more than 200 new cases per day.”
 - **“Why it’s a concern:** Increasing daily case counts signify heightened disease activity that pose a risk for accelerated or “exponential” epidemic growth to occur. This rate of growth, which we experienced during the first wave of COVID-19 in Canada is difficult to control and would take us off the slow-burn path.”

⁷ <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/09/canada-employment-insurance-commission-ceic.html>

⁸ <https://www.canada.ca/en/northern-economic-development/news/2020/09/over-7-million-in-relief-and-recovery-funds-flow-to-over-180-yukon-businesses.html>

⁹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/09/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-september-12-2020.html>

- **“Why our actions matter:** Where disease activity is increased, exponential growth can be sparked by “super-spreading events” that occur when public health guidelines are not being adhered to. We’ve seen examples of this in Canada recently, related to private social gatherings and a variety of public indoor settings, where just one infected person with even mild symptoms can start a chain reaction of COVID-19 exposures and infections.
- **“What we can all do to keep epidemic growth in check:** keeping up with proven public health practices, limiting our in-person close contacts to our small, consistent bubble and taking appropriate precautions and/or limiting time spent in settings and situations that have not implemented measures, protocols and policies to reduce the risk of exposure.”
- “During the fall and winter, Canadians will need to be even more vigilant about following public health guidance, particularly as the cold weather shifts our activities indoors. In addition, as it is safest to keep to our existing close contacts bubble, indoor gatherings with extended family and friends, may not be right for every Canadian or every family.”

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