

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 15 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 14	As of Sept 15	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	7,279	7,376	97
Currently in intensive care	16	20	4
Total deaths in BC	219	219	0
Total recovered in BC	5,446	5,548	102
Currently hospitalized in BC	58	63	5
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of Sept 14	As of Sept 15	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	2,557	2,608	51
Fraser Health	3,754	3,784	30
Island Health	195	195	0
Interior Health	473	479	6
Northern Health	216	225	9
Out of Canada	84	85	1
Total confirmed cases in BC	7,279	7,376	97
Total individuals tested in BC	437,681	441,279	3,598
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of Sept 14	As of Sept 15	Change
Total individuals tested	2,936	2,986	50
Total confirmed cases	15	15	0
Recovered cases	15	15	0
Negative results	2,904	2,913	9
Pending results	17	58	41

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 11	As of September 14	Change
Total confirmed cases	500	528	28
Currently hospitalized	44	46	2
Total deaths	9	9	0
Total recovered	431	443	12
Total confirmed cases in BC	92	103	11

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix released the following joint statement regarding updates on the COVID-19 response in B.C.:⁵
 - “We must hold steady with our layers of protection. From keeping safe distances, to washing our hands, staying home, and staying away from others when we are ill and have symptoms of COVID-19, we must all do our part. And if we do have symptoms, contact 811 to arrange to get tested.”
 - “Testing allows for rapid contact tracing. It means public health teams are able to quickly notify those who may be at risk and contain the spread to the others in the community.”
 - “As teachers and youth get back to the classroom, public health teams have been there and are working closely with schools to manage and contact trace any time a COVID-19 case arises.”
 - “This is time to get ready for the fall and winter seasons, to set the routines that ensure we stick with six people and avoid activities that will put ourselves and those we care for at risk.”
 - “Let’s continue to monitor ourselves for symptoms and to modify our activities so we can all manage COVID-19 as it remains in our communities. Let’s take the precautions we need to that will protect ourselves, our loved ones, our Elders and our communities.”
- Reports today stated that there has been a drastic improvement in Medevac response times to Tahltan territory⁶. The Medevac response time is now just over five hours compared to a previous response time of approximately 20 hours in July.
 - Before the recent changes, a call to British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) involved multiple steps in order to locate a doctor and secure a hospital bed. The medevac calls will now be treated the same as a 911 call from elsewhere in the province.

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

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0051-001738>

⁶ <https://www.terracestandard.com/news/medevac-response-times-to-tahltan-territory-dramatically-improved/>

- Today, Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, issued the following statement on the excessive number of students gathering publicly at the University of Victoria (UVic) outside of educational activities:⁷
 - “The provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, has been very clear about the need for individuals, organizations, communities and our province to work together in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and follow orders and guidelines around social gatherings.”
 - “To learn that some students are blatantly ignoring the advice and orders of Dr. Henry and gathering in large numbers is unacceptable, completely irresponsible and could lead to enforcement measures.”
 - “I expect better from all of our students in the post-secondary system. I hope that this behaviour is not replicated going forward at UVic or any other post-secondary institution in the province. It undermines the efforts of so many other students and staff who are working to keep campuses open and safe.”

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- No significant updates from the Yukon Territory.

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, issued the following statement regarding COVID-19:⁸
 - “Canadians have no doubt noticed that today’s numbers have continued an upward trend in COVID-19 cases. This acceleration in cases in several regions is cause for concern. We must all act now to pump the breaks, so-to-speak, on this acceleration.”
 - “Multiple reported outbreaks have been linked to single gatherings such as private social events, and celebrations, and community events held indoors. The acceleration in cases has occurred at a time when the weather has turned colder, and Canadians have begun to move indoors for Fall and Winter.”
 - “The most important step hosts can take when having a gathering is to stick to their established contacts bubble. If you are thinking of hosting an event for people outside of your contacts bubble, ask yourself if you, someone in your household, or someone you are inviting are at high risk of developing complications from COVID-19.”
 - “People at high risk include older adults, people of any age with compromised immune systems or chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and lung disease, as well as people living with obesity. If the gathering would include someone at high risk, including yourself, the event may not be appropriate.”
 - “The next best thing hosts can do to reduce their risk is to hold the event outdoors. We all know that colder weather is coming, but gathering outdoors, while bundled up, is a preferred way to reduce your risk.”
 - “There are many other ways that hosts can reduce the risk for their guests indoors, e.g.:

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020AEST0052-001732>

⁸ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/09/remarks-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-on-covid-19-september-15-2020.html>

- postpone the event if you are sick, and ask guests who are sick not to attend;
 - ensure guests have enough space to practise physical distancing at the event;
 - consider asking your guests to wear masks or face coverings, and provide masks for those who don't have them;
 - make sure guests have access to soap and water, or hand sanitizer, and encourage them to wash their hands often; and
 - clean common surfaces such as door knobs, handles and table tops frequently during the event.
- “Our traditional gatherings may look different this fall, but I know that hosts will feel better knowing that they did everything they could to reduce the risk of their event becoming another outbreak.”

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