

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 26 October 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 Oct 23	As of Oct 26	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	12,554	13,371	817*
Total active cases in BC	2,009	2,325	316
Currently in intensive care	24	26	2
Currently hospitalized	75	77	2
Total deaths in BC	256	259	3
Total recovered in BC	10,247	10,734	487
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of Oct 23	As of Oct 26	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	12,554	13,371	817*
Vancouver Coastal Health	4,319	4,428	109
Fraser Health	6,864	7,529	665
Island Health	250	250	0
Interior Health	662	693	31
Northern Health	371	383	12
Out of Canada	88	88	0
Total individuals tested in BC	764,099	792,224	28,125
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of Oct 23	As of Oct 26	Change
Total individuals tested	3,857	3,909	52
Total confirmed cases	20	22	2
Recovered cases	15	15	0
Negative results	3,799	3,857	58
Pending results	38	30	-8

*The BC Government reported 317 new COVID-19 cases October 24, 293 on October 25, and 207 on October 26 (817 total).

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 Oct 22	As of Oct 23	Change
Total confirmed cases	1,123	1,150	27
Total active cases	320	323	3
Currently hospitalized	72	72	0
Total deaths	15	15	0
Total recovered	788	812	24
Total confirmed cases in BC	176	178	2

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, Yukon Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Hanley, announced the confirmation of five cases of COVID-19 in Watson Lake.⁵
 - People who were at the following locations on the following dates are urged to arrange for testing at Watson Lake Community Hospital immediately:
 - Watson Lake Foods – Super A: October 8th and October 16th
 - Home Hardware: October 7th and October 10th
 - Big Horn Motel: October 7th – 9th and October 13th – 16th
 - People from Watson Lake who were in these locations and who have any symptoms, even mild, should contact the Watson Lake Community Hospital at 867-536-444 to arrange for testing.
 - Other Yukoners who may have been in these locations and are experiencing symptoms should contact the COVID-19 Testing and Assessment Centre at 867-393-3083 in Whitehorse or appropriate community health centre.
 - The newest confirmed individuals had not recently travelled and are from the same household.
 - The source of origin is still being investigated and contact tracing is actively underway.

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry released the following information regarding a new provincial health order in BC and the dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases over the weekend:⁶
 - A new provincial health order will be put in place that limits gatherings in private homes to no more than your immediate household, plus six others in your social bubble.
 - Enforcement will be stepped up to ensure people are following the new order with the immediate focus on the Fraser Health region, where the increase in new cases of COVID-19 is most notable.

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

⁵ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/watson-lake-covid-19-cluster-now-five>

⁶ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0317-001895>

- In addition to this new order, it is now expected that people wear masks in all indoor public spaces. As part of this, businesses are asked to review existing COVID-19 safety plans
- Regarding this order Dr. Henry stated:
 - “Social gatherings are where we are seeing significant transmission of COVID-19 in BC, and it is not slowing down. When you come together with others you bring your risks with you and when you leave others take their risks home.”
 - “If you come from a large family that is living in a home together, six additional guests may be too many and you may need to consider for the coming months to focus on your own immediate family and look at how you can have your social connections with others in a safe way.”
 - “As a host I ask you not to invite others to your gathering right now and not to take offense if people back out or don’t attend. Show you care by keeping those outside of your immediate household off the invite list for parties. What we’re seeing right now is transmission in households.”
- Dr. Henry also provided the following statement on the current situation:⁷
 - “This is a sobering weekend for us. This is the largest number of cases that we’ve had in a three-day period and it is concerning that we continue to see growth.”
 - “We have seen a notable increase in new cases in transmission of COVID-19 as a direct result of social gatherings in private homes. Many of the cases we have seen in the past few weeks have been related to celebrations where people are getting together with larger numbers of people than can be accommodated safely within their homes. We are now seeing some of the effects of family gatherings that happened on the Thanksgiving weekend.”
 - “We are also learning that this virus transmits more easily in the winter months. So we need to take additional precautions for the coming months. That means no Halloween parties, that means we need to focus on small outdoor celebrations. With covid in our communities, having large gatherings in our homes is too dangerous.”
 - “We are in the middle of a pandemic and we need to take safety precautions to make sure we’re not passing the virus on to people that we care about, people that we are closest to.”
 - “To get through our COVID-19 storm it requires all of us to do our part. No exceptions, no work-arounds, no trying to get around the very few but important rules that we have in place.”

⁷ Dr. Bonnie Henry via live press conference 03:00 pm 10/26/2020

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Chrystia Freeland, announced that the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) is now available to businesses that have been operating out of non-business banking accounts.⁸
 - To be eligible, businesses must:
 - Have been operating as a business as of March 1, 2020,
 - Successfully open a business account at a Canadian financial institution that is participating in CEBA,
 - Meet the other existing CEBA eligibility criteria.
 - The deadline to apply for CEBA is December 31, 2020.

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

⁸<https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/10/canada-emergency-business-account-now-open-to-businesses-using-personal-banking-accounts.html>