

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 28 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 27	As of Oct 28	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	13,588	13,875	287
Total active cases in BC	2,322	2,316	-6
Currently in intensive care	27	25	-2
Currently hospitalized	84	83	-1
Total deaths in BC	259	261	2
Total recovered in BC	10,954	11,244	290

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of Oct 27	As of Oct 28	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	13,588	13,875	287
Vancouver Coastal Health	4,476	4,545	69
Fraser Health	7,674	7,863	189
Island Health	250	253	3
Interior Health	717	727	10
Northern Health	383	399	16
Out of Canada	88	88	0
Total individuals tested in BC	797,381	806,953	9,572*

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of Oct 27	As of Oct 28	Change
Total individuals tested	3,946	4,004	58
Total confirmed cases	22	22	0
Recovered cases	15	17	8
Negative results	3,849	3,871	22
Pending results	75	111	36

*The BCCDC has reported 9,568 new tests but this does not align with the difference in total test numbers between October 27th and 28th

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 CANADA ⁴	As of Oct 26	As of Oct 27	Change
Total confirmed cases	1,254	1,279	25
Total active cases	362	387	15
Currently hospitalized	73	73	0
Total deaths	15	15	0
Total recovered	877	877	0
Total confirmed cases in BC	181	181	0

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry, British Columbia’s provincial health officer, and Stephen Brown, deputy minister of health, issued the following joint statement regarding COVID-19 in BC.⁵
 - “Our COVID-19 safety efforts start at home, and recently we have seen a number of new cases and clusters directly connected to social events in private homes. That is why there is now a provincial health officer order in place restricting the number of people who can safely be in our homes.”
 - “The new order is about ensuring what happens in our homes is in step with what we are doing elsewhere. Just as we need to keep our groups to no more than six when we go to restaurants, we must also keep our groups small at home.
 - “We can still spend time with our friends and family, but right now we must all keep to our ‘safe six’ only or take our events outside, where it is far easier to maintain a safe physical distance.
 - “Let’s save the parties for when it is safe for everyone to celebrate. If you are planning a wedding in your home, make it your immediate family only and save the celebration for next year.”
 - “Now is the time for us to take a step back from our in-person social events and gatherings, and connect virtually instead. This will help to protect our loved ones, our seniors, Elders and our communities as we move forward.”

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today the Yukon Government provided the following update for the public on measures being taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:⁶
 - There are currently 5 active cases in the territory, with all individuals recovering. Seventeen people have now recovered from COVID-19 in total.
 - Residents of the Yukon are reminded to take appropriate measures this Halloween, including refraining from any large gatherings of 10 or more people.
 - Halloween COVID-19 guidelines for Yukoners are available here: <https://yukon.ca/en/halloween-covid-19-guidelines>

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0058-001902>

⁶ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/october-28-2020-covid-19-update>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Dr. Theresa Tam released a statement regarding the release of her 2020 Report on the State of Public Health in Canada titled “From Risk to Resilience: An Equity Approach to COVID-19” that was tabled in Parliament by Minister of Health Patty Hajdu.⁷
 - “The report describes COVID-19’s broader consequences and is a call to incorporate a health equity approach into pandemic preparedness, response and recovery.”
 - “COVID-19 ... has also jolted our collective consciousness into recognizing that our health depends on our social and economic well-being.”
 - “Equity matters—not only to those who are unjustly excluded—but to all of us. While the COVID-19 pandemic affects us all, the health impacts have been worse for seniors, workers who provide essential services, racialized populations, people living with disabilities and women.”
 - “A health equity agenda means that sustained efforts to improve employment conditions, housing and access to social and health services can better protect people in Canada from health crises, build resilience and create lasting equitable opportunities.”
 - The report calls for action in three primary areas:
 1. “Sustain leadership and governance at all levels for structural change across health, social and economic sectors.”
 2. “Harness the power of social cohesion as a key ingredient to controlling and minimizing the negative impacts of this pandemic.”
 3. “Strengthen public health capacity to ensure that Canada has a health system that is able to surge and adapt during a crisis while maintaining capacity to address on-going critical issues.”
- The Public Health Agency of Canada released a background statement to support Dr. Tam’s report which included the following:⁸
 - The amount of exposure Canadians have had to the virus is associated with their living and economic conditions, which can affect the ability to maintain physical distancing.
 - This includes employment conditions, such as the inability to work from home, access to sick leave benefits and job security.
 - Reliance on childcare outside of the home, crowded housing conditions and the use of shared transportation also influence the risk of exposure to the virus.
 - First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples have shown strong leadership, resilience and community collaboration in responding to COVID-19.
 - First Nations populations, for example, had lower rates of hospitalization among persons with COVID-19 than the general population (8.4% compared to 13.4%) and lower rates of death (1.4% compared to 7.1%) by the end of August 2020.
 - Research demonstrates the major impact of COVID-19 on workers with the least bargaining power, such as non-union, low-wage, female or hourly paid workers.

⁷ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/10/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-her-report-on-the-state-of-public-health-in-canada-2020from-risk-to-resilience-an-equit.html>

⁸ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/10/backgrounder-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canadas-report-on-the-state-of-public-health-in-canada-from-risk-to-resilience-an-equity-approach-t.html>

- Stigma and discrimination are important factors that can drive and exacerbate negative health outcomes in the context of a pandemic.
 - This may be reflected in the disproportionately higher rates of COVID-19 infection in racialized communities, seniors and other marginalized groups.
- Today, The Bank of Canada released a Monetary Policy Report for October, 2020, which described current and potential future economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.⁹
 - The information released in the report assumes that a widespread vaccine will be available by 2022 and that no widespread lockdowns will be re-implemented.
 - The report predicts the Canadian economy will shrink 5.7% this year, but grow by 4.2% next year, and 3.7% in 2022.
- Following the Bank of Canada’s report, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland described the economic rationale driving the federal government’s response to the pandemic.¹⁰
 - “Our citizens and our companies are suffering through no fault of their own. For a government to abandon them at a time like this would be monstrous.
 - “And it would not only be heartless. It would be an economic mistake. That is because our eventual recovery will be faster and more complete, in direct proportion to how much we limit the economic scarring caused by the coronavirus recession.”
 - “If we can keep permanent economic harm to a minimum; if our businesses are able to get back to full speed the moment restrictions are lifted; and if Canadian families have the means to spend on the goods and services they will then want and need, then, when the virus is vanquished, our rebound will be more rapid and more robust.”
 - “For our economy to come roaring back in the spring, we need to be sure our businesses do not permanently close their doors during the dark, cold months to come.”
 - “Targeted, carefully thought-out investment – on a meaningful scale – is how we will climb out of the coronavirus recession most quickly, and most effectively.”
- Today, Indigenous Services Canada announced three 2020 recipients of the Awards of Excellence in Nursing.¹¹
 - Through the uncertainties of the current COVID-19 pandemic, nurses have remained steadfast in their tireless commitment to provide high-quality testing, care and treatment to anyone needing medical attention.
 - These three recipients were nominated by their peers based on their commitment to the nursing practice through sound judgement, professionalism and culturally appropriate healthcare work within First Nation and Inuit communities.

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

⁹ <https://www.bankofcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/mpr-2020-10-28.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/10/address-by-the-deputy-prime-minister-and-minister-of-finance-to-the-toronto-global-forum-canadas-plan-for-a-strong-economic-recovery-from-covid-19.html>

¹¹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/10/indigenous-services-canada-announces-recipients-for-2020-awards-of-excellence-in-nursing.html>