

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 16 December 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 Dec 15	As of Dec 16	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	43,463	44,103	640
Total active cases in BC	9,860	9,950	90
Currently in intensive care	93	91	-2
Currently hospitalized	361	362	1
Total hospitalized to date	2,344	2,377	33
Total deaths in BC	668	692	24
Total recovered in BC	31,866	32,376	510

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of Dec 15	As of Dec 16	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	43,463	44,103	640
Vancouver Coastal Health	10,620	10,718	98
Fraser Health	27,679	28,078	399
Island Health	794	799	5
Interior Health	2,907	2,998	91
Northern Health	1,368	1,415	47
Out of Canada	95	95	0
Total individuals tested in BC	1,325,240	1,340,007	14,767*

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of Dec 15	As of Dec 16	Change
Total confirmed cases	59	59	0
Total active cases	1	1	0
Total deaths	1	1	0
Total recovered	57	57	0
Total individuals tested	5,773	5,790	17
Negative results	5,680	5,702	22
Pending results	34	29	-5

*The BCCDC has reported 14,765 new tests, which does not align with the difference in total test numbers between Dec 15 and Dec 16, 2020.

¹ <https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/11bd9b0303c64373b5680df29e5b5914>

² <https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/11bd9b0303c64373b5680df29e5b5914>

³ <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE

CASES IN CANADA⁴

	As of Dec 14	As of Dec 15*	Change
Total confirmed cases	6,289	6,390	101
Total active cases	2,477	2,472	-5
Currently hospitalized	256	265	9
Total deaths	52	55	3
Total recovered	3,760	3,863	103
Total confirmed cases in BC	497	501	4

*Dec 15, 2020, is the most up-to-date information released on First Nation Reserve Cases by the Government of Canada.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, announced the expansion of provincial COVID-19 ticket enforcement and enhanced workplace safety measures to keep British Columbians safe during COVID-19.⁵
 - Gaming investigators, conservation officers, community safety unit inspectors, and liquor and cannabis inspectors will increase COVID-19 enforcement during their normal duties, and when in public spaces.
 - Insurance Corporation of British Columbia staff will send persons with COVID-19 violation ticket fines to collections immediately following the initial 30-day payment deadline, dispute period, or if an offender is found guilty in court.
 - WorkSafe BC will reduce reliance on virtual checks and increase in-person inspections, particularly in sectors where COVID-19 transmission is high.
- Today, the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) released information about the COVID-19 vaccine. Highlights include the following:⁶
 - Vaccines are products that produce immunity to a specific disease like COVID-19. When immune to COVID-19, individuals can be exposed without becoming sick, or if infected, vaccines can help prevent more severe illness.
 - The more vaccinated individuals within a community, the harder it is for the virus to spread.
 - The FNHA's Medical Officers strongly recommend that Indigenous people opt to get the vaccine, when available.
 - Individuals who have tested positive should still get the vaccine.
 - For updates on the availability and supply of vaccines, visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/eligibility>

⁴ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PREM0108-002083>

⁶ <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-covid-19-vaccine>

- Today, the B.C. Government shared methods and resources for mental health support over the COVID-19 holiday season.⁷
 - Methods to support mental health:
 - **Reach out:** Though meeting in large groups will not be in the holiday cards this year, connecting with others is vital to your mental wellness.
 - **Talk about it:** You are not alone. This year has been hard on so many people. But talking about it really does help.
 - **Keep up with routines:** Try to maintain habits that support your positive well-being during the holidays, including exercise, sleep, and food.
 - **Try to take a moment for yourself:** Prioritize yourself during the holidays by doing things you love and that make you feel calm and connected to what matters to you.
 - For additional mental-health supports, visit:
 - B.C. Government mental health supports: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/mental-health-substance-use/virtual-supports-covid-19>
 - Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre: <https://crisiscentre.bc.ca/>
 - First Nations Health Authority supports: <https://www.fnha.ca/Documents/FNHA-COVID-19-Mental-Health-and-Cultural-Supports.pdf>
- Today, the B.C. Government announced funding of \$9.3 million for small-and-medium-sized forestry businesses to cover the costs associated with operations and implementing COVID-19 health and safety measures between April 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020.⁸
 - Eligible businesses must have an average of less than 500 employees across all offices in Canada, with primary business activities in forestry and logging, and support activities for forestry, wood product manufacturing, or pulp and paper manufacturing.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- No significant updates from the Yukon Territory.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, announced the availability of 120,000 jobs through the Canada Summer Jobs Program in 2021 to help increase the employment of young Canadians during COVID-19.⁹
 - The employer application period for 2021 will open on Monday, December 21, 2020, and close on Friday, January 29, 2021.

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

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020MMHA0065-002068>

⁸ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020FLNRO0064-002087>

⁹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/12/csj0.html>