

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 26 January 2021

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 Jan 25	As of Jan 26	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	64,828	65,234	406*
Total active cases in BC	4,392	4,260	-132
Currently in intensive care	68	71	3
Currently hospitalized	328	313	-15
Total hospitalized to date	3,690	3,715	25
Total deaths in BC	1,154	1,168	14
Total recovered in BC	57,831	58,352	521

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION¹	As of Jan 25	As of Jan 26	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	64,828	65,234	406*
Vancouver Coastal Health	14,774	14,898	124
Fraser Health	39,364	39,533	169
Island Health	1,471	1,493	22
Interior Health	5,873	5,927	54
Northern Health	3,213	3,251	38
Out of Canada	133	132	-1
Total individuals tested in BC	1,663,576	1,668,808	5,232**

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON²	As of Jan 25	As of Jan 26	Change
Total confirmed cases	70	70	0
Total active cases	0	0	0
Total deaths	1	1	0
Total recovered	69	69	0
Total individuals tested	6,229	6,245	16
Negative results	6,154	6,153	-1***
Pending results	5	22	17

*The BCCDC has reported 407 new cases but this does not align with the difference in new cases between January 25th and 26th

**The BCCDC has reported 5,231 new tests but this does not align with the difference in new tests between January 25th and 26th

***The number of negative test results for January 26 has reduced by 1 compared to January 25. This is a correction following a routine data check. It does not affect the number of confirmed or active cases in Yukon.

¹ Source: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

² Source: <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

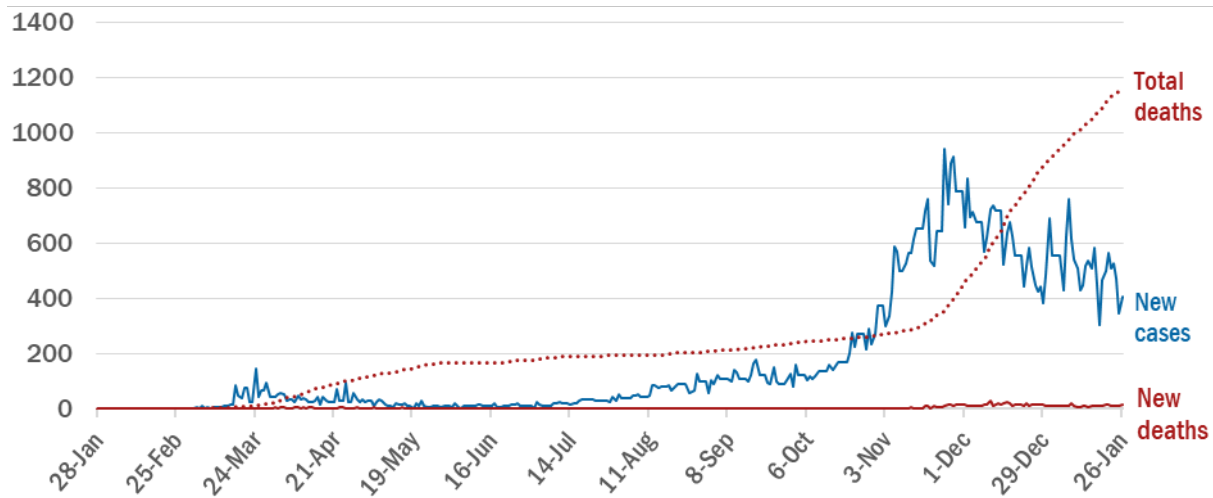
STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE

CASES IN CANADA³

	As of Jan 22	As of Jan 25*	Change
Total confirmed cases	14,761	15,673	912
Total active cases	5,296	3,847	-1,449
Currently hospitalized	634	709	75
Total deaths	138	144	6
Total recovered	9,327	11,682	2,355
Total confirmed cases in BC	1,489	1,600	111

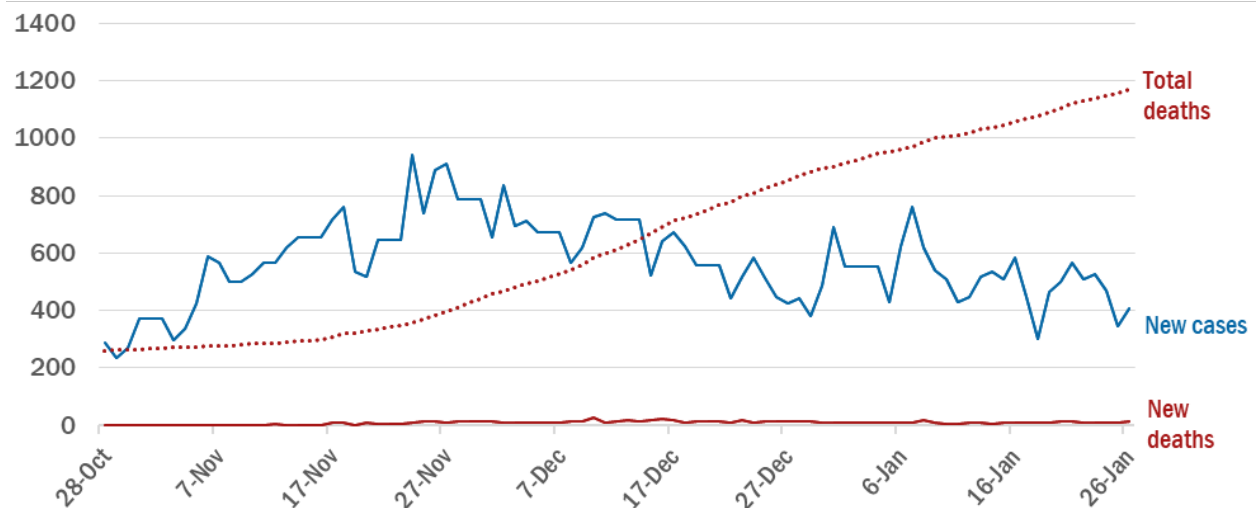
*Jan 25th, 2021 is the most up-to-date information released on First Nation Reserve Cases by the Government of Canada.

COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN BC



Note: Counts have been averaged where one number was reported for multi-day periods

COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN BC – PAST THREE MONTHS (October – January)



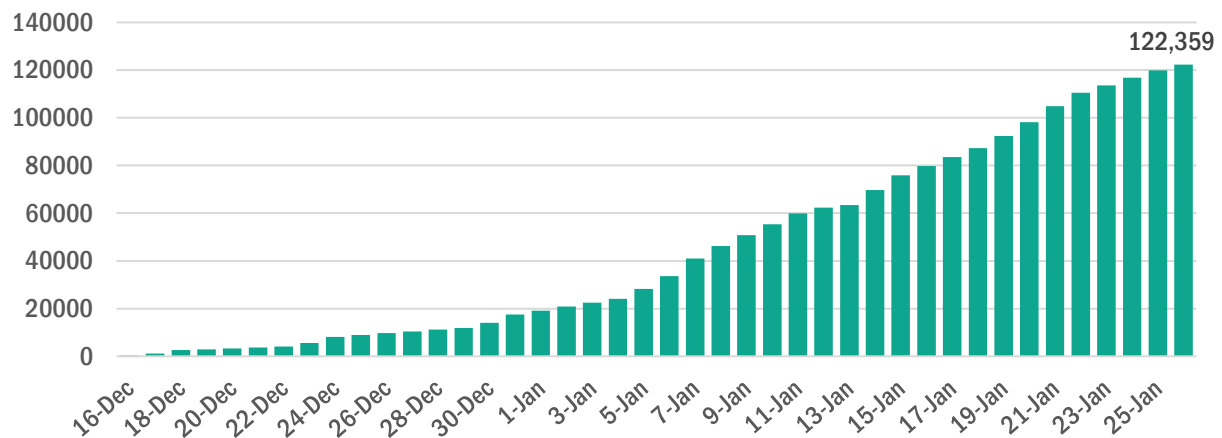
³ Source: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

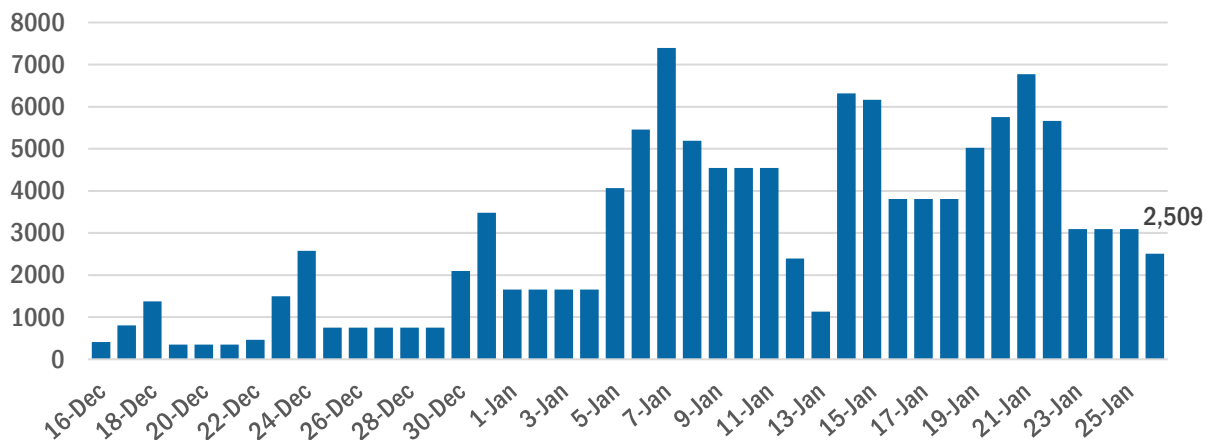
STATUS OF VACCINE ADMINISTRATION⁴

	Total Doses Administered		Total Doses Supplied	% of Doses Administered ⁵	Doses Administered / 100k Population	People Fully Vaccinated ⁶
	Today	Total				
BC	2,509	122,359	144,500	84.64%	2,377.81	4,105
Yukon	445	4,397	14,400	30.53%	10,425.36	N/A
Canada	28,505	868,454	1,122,450	77.40%	2,284.92	114453

TOTAL DOSES ADMINISTERED IN BC



DOSES ADMINISTERED IN BC EACH DAY



⁴ Source: N. Little. COVID-19 Tracker Canada (2020), COVID19Tracker.ca

⁵ % of Doses Administered: Percentage of doses supplied to the provinces that have been reported as administered.

⁶ People Fully Vaccinated: The number of people reported as having received both required doses.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix, B.C. Minister of Health, provided an update on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in B.C., which included the following.⁷
 - “The number of new daily cases of COVID-19 is much higher than we want it to be. We are asking for everyone’s help to bend our curve back down. This is especially critical with the presence of variant viruses in our province.”
 - “With each new case, we have the opportunity to stop the virus in its tracks, break the chains of transmission and bring our numbers down. Each of us has the ability to do that.”
 - “Our greatest source of transmission comes from when we spend time with those outside of our household, work or school bubble. That is why staying small and equally important, avoiding all unnecessary travel, is what we need to do right now.”
 - “For the many who have been doing your part, you may be asking, ‘What more can I do?’ Be the voice of support and encouragement for those who may be wavering in their resolve.”
 - “For the few who have chosen to put aside the public health precautions we all need to follow and make exceptions for themselves, now is your time to join or rejoin us in our efforts. It is never to late to be a part of the team who is making a difference every day across our province.”
- Today, the First Nation Health Authority (FNHA), released two statements related to the pandemic:
 - **Advisory regarding a PPE scam that is currently targeting First Nation communities:**⁸
 - There has been an increase in the number of instances where First Nations communities and health service organization are receiving unsolicited Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and then later sent an invoice demanding payment – sometimes of thousands of dollars.
 - Some of these companies have held themselves out to be working on behalf of the FNHA. If the FNHA sends you PPE or any other supplies, it will come from your FNHA regional team based on your submitted order.
 - You can contact covid19needs@fnha.ca to confirm that you have received a legitimate supply order.
 - These scams are successful if the recipient accepts the delivery and either feels guilty or pressured to make the payments.
 - If affected by this scam, the FNHA recommends the following:
 - Issue a formal notification letter to the distributor informing them that you:
 - Did not place an order for these supplies
 - Did not enter into any type of formal agreement to purchase those supplies
 - Await their instructions as to how they will collect those supplies if they want them returned – at their expense
 - Consider sending an initial notification letter and a second (final) notification letter, listing the deadline for them to pick up the materials.
 - Do not use any of the materials until the deadline has passed because the distributor could argue that you have accepted the supplies at the invoice cost that the distributor sent you.

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0006-000139>

⁸ <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/warning-unsolicited-goods-ppe>

- **Statement regarding the shortage of Pfizer mRNA vaccines:**⁹
 - A global delay in receiving vaccine doses from Pfizer may affect the start date of some vaccination clinics in British Columbia First Nations communities.
 - Health officials in BC are expecting a shortfall of approximately 60,000 doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine over the coming weeks.
 - “While the FNHA received the Moderna vaccine, in some regions the regional health authority has provided Pfizer vaccines to support community clinics.”
 - “The FNHA is continuing to work with our provincial and federal partners to prioritize available doses for First Nations communities, however there will likely be a delay, and important to note this is not a cancellation, in the short-term until global vaccine supplies increase.”

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

- No significant updates from The Yukon Government.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, provided an update on the federal response to COVID-19, highlights include:¹⁰
 - Last week, over 1,000,000 rapid tests were delivered to provinces and territories.
 - Tighter travel restrictions will be announced soon, with focus on international travellers who are not following public health advice.
 - Regarding vaccine procurement:
 - Today, the CEO of Modern confirmed that the vaccine contracts signed with Canada will be respected.
 - By the end of March, 4,000,000 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine are expected.
 - Canada is still on track to have all Canadians vaccinated by the end of Sept. 2021.
- Today, the Minister of Transport, Omar Alghabra, and the British Columbia Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Rob Fleming, announced a new agreement with the Government of British Columbia to support essential air access to remote communities in the province.¹¹
 - Under this agreement, each government made the following commitments:
 - The federal government will contribute up to \$2,176,000 for air services to remote communities to cover the period of July 1 to December 31, 2020.
 - Under the guidance of the B.C. Aviation Council, the Government of British Columbia will allocate the funding to air operators to ensure the continued supply of food, medical supplies, and other essential goods and services to these communities.
 - Additional funding may be provided and will depend on the needs of communities and the pace of recovery of air travel into remote communities.

⁹ <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/fnha-statement-on-shortage-of-pfizer-mrna-vaccines>

¹⁰ <https://www.cpac.ca/en/programs/covid-19-canada-responds/episodes/90012495/>

¹¹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/transport-canada/news/2021/01/government-of-canada-announces-agreement-with-government-of-british-columbia-to-support-essential-air-access-to-remote-communities.html>

- Remote communities are those that rely on air service as the only year-round mode of transportation. Currently, there are four communities with airports or aerodromes in British Columbia which are considered remote.
- Today, Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, announced the launch of the Highly Affected Sectors Credit Availability Program (HASCAP).¹²
 - As first outlined in the 2020 Fall Economic Statement, HASCAP will provide financial support to businesses that have been hardest hit by the pandemic, specifically:
 - Through HASCAP, the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) will work with participating Canadian financial institutions to offer government-guaranteed, low-interest loans of up to \$1 million.
 - HASCAP loans will have fixed 4% interest rate applied to all recipients, regardless of size, with flexible repayment terms of up to 10 years.
 - Hard-hit businesses, like a chain of hotels or restaurants with multiple locations under one related entity, could be eligible for up to \$6.25 million.
 - Regarding eligibility criteria for HASCAP:
 - HASCAP is available to businesses across the country, in all sectors, that have been hit hard by the pandemic. This includes restaurants, businesses in the tourism and hospitality sectors, and those that rely on in-person service.
 - However, businesses need to show a year-over-year revenue decline of at least 50% in three months, within the eight months prior to their application. They must also be able to show their financial institutions that they have previously applied for either the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy or the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy.
 - Eligible businesses can start applying as early as February 1 at principal financial institutions and more widely by February 15.
 - More information is available at www.bdc.ca/hascap
- Today, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, Dr. Theresa Tam, issued the following statement regarding the COVID-19 pandemic:¹³
 - “Canada continues to monitor for virus variants of concern; to date, provinces have reported over 60 cases of the B.1.1.7 variant, and 9 cases of the B.1.351 variant.”
 - “In the face of all this, we may feel tremendous pressure to be superheroes. To not appear weak. And this may prevent us from accessing the care, treatment and support we need for our own mental health. But it is important to know that we are not alone and that it is normal to have moments of struggle, especially in times of crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic.”
 - “Through Wellness Together Canada, Canadians of all ages, can access free supports such as self-assessment, educational content and self-guided programming, peer support and confidential sessions with social workers, psychologists and other professionals. Supports are available online, as well as by phone and text.”
 - To learn more about Wellness Together Canada or to access contact numbers for immediate support, please visit: wellnesstogether.ca

This summary was compiled by CCEM Strategies Ltd. at the request of the 3 Nations Society.

¹² <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/01/minister-ng-announces-launch-of-highly-affected-sectors-credit-availability-program.html>

¹³ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/01/remarks-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-on-covid-19-january-26-2021.html>