

## 3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 18 March 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

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN BC<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of Mar 17</b>	<b>As of Mar 18</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	89,427	90,049	<b>622</b>
Total active cases in BC	4,851	4,941	<b>90</b>
Currently in intensive care	83	85	<b>2</b>
Currently hospitalized	281	286	<b>5</b>
Total hospitalized to date	4,815	4,836	<b>21</b>
Total deaths in BC	1,411	1,419	<b>8</b>
Total recovered in BC	83,083	83,613	<b>530</b>

<b>CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of Mar 17</b>	<b>As of Mar 18</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	89,427	90,049	<b>622</b>
Vancouver Coastal Health	20,931	21,115	<b>184</b>
Fraser Health	52,323	52,640	<b>317</b>
Island Health	2,800	2,835	<b>35</b>
Interior Health	7,904	7,934	<b>30</b>
Northern Health	5,307	5,361	<b>54</b>
Out of Canada	162	164	<b>2</b>
Total individuals tested in BC	2,075,288	2,083,522	<b>8,234</b>

<b>STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>As of Mar 16</b>	<b>As of Mar 17*</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	72	72	<b>0</b>
Total active cases	0	0	<b>0</b>
Total deaths	1	1	<b>0</b>
Total recovered	71	71	<b>0</b>
Total individuals tested	6,763	6,768	<b>5</b>
Negative results	6,679	6,681	<b>2</b>
Pending results	12	15	<b>3</b>

\*As of 5:00 pm on March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Government of Yukon had not provided updated COVID-19 case and test counts.

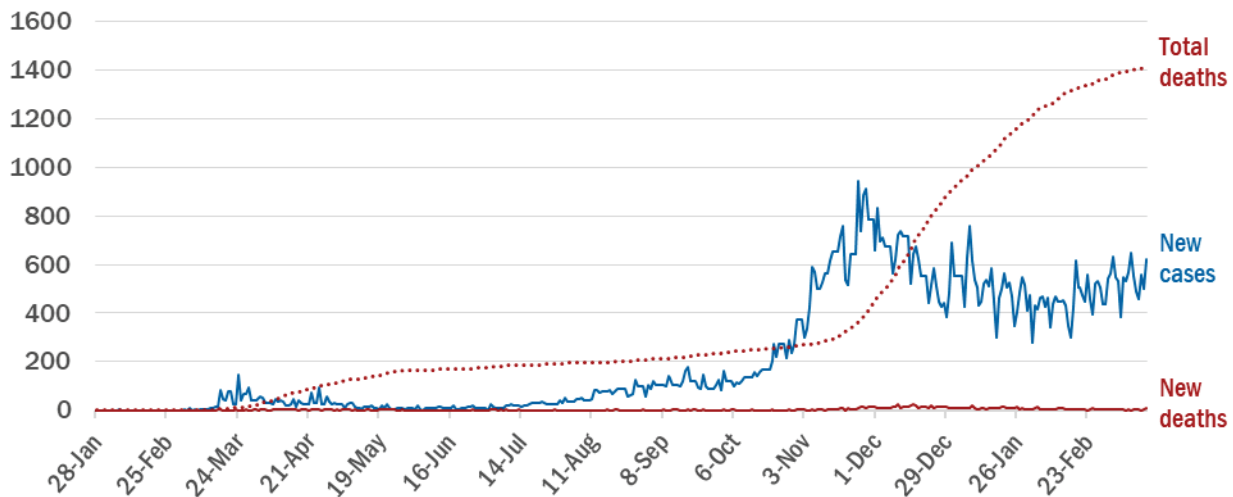
<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

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

**STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE  
CASES IN CANADA<sup>3</sup>**

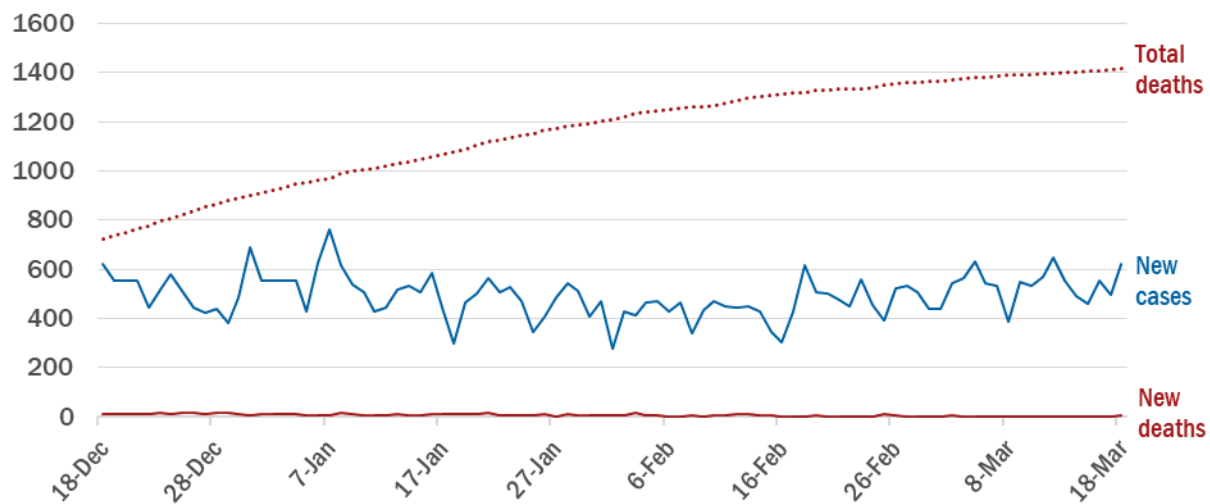
	As of Mar 16	As of Mar 17	Change
Total confirmed cases	23,430	23,514	84
Total active cases	1,279	1,174	-105
Currently hospitalized	1,049	1,054	5
Total deaths	261	266	5
Total recovered	21,890	22,074	184
Total confirmed cases in BC	2,562	2,575	-13

**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**



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

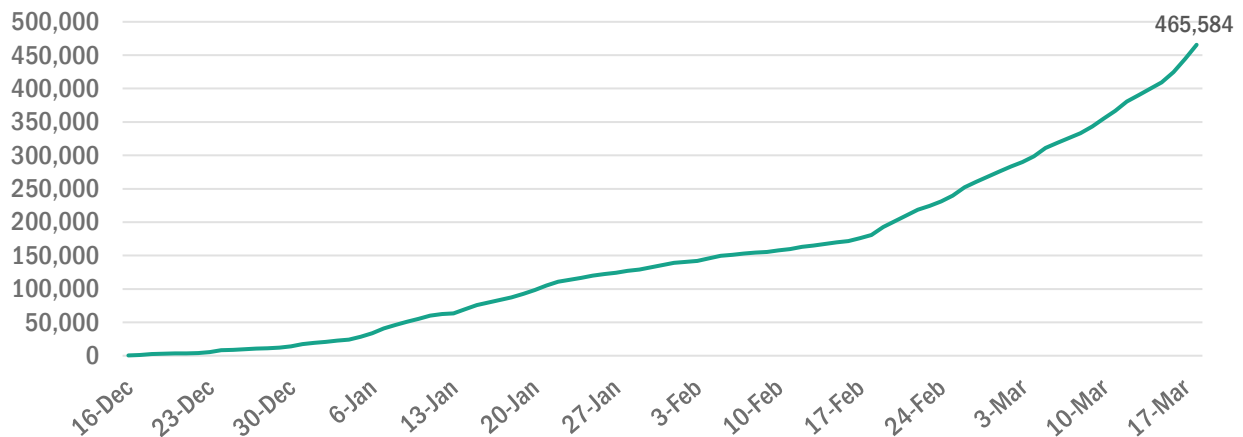
## COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

### STATUS OF VACCINE ADMINISTRATION<sup>4</sup>

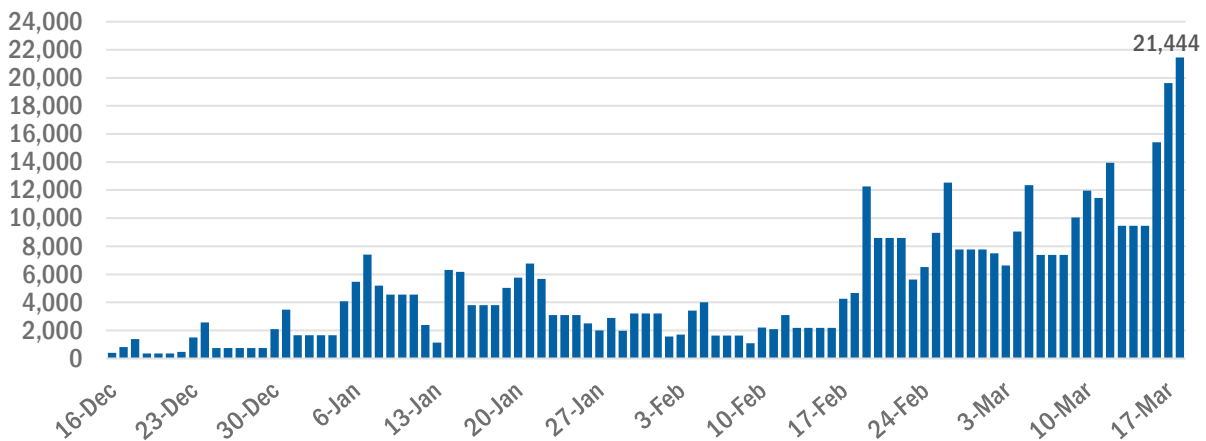
	Total Doses Administered		Total Doses Supplied	% of Doses Administered <sup>5</sup>	Doses Administered / 100k Population	People Fully Vaccinated <sup>6</sup>	% Pop. Fully Vaccinated <sup>7</sup>
	Today	Total					
<b>BC</b>	21,444	465,584	630,860	73.80%	9,047.75	87,120	1.69%
<b>Yukon**</b>	-	31,174	51,400	60.64%	73,914.07	10,569	24.86%
<b>Canada</b>	156,332	3,566,328	4,773,170	74.70%	9,383.09	615,681	1.62%

\*\* Yukon numbers last updated 17/03/2021

### TOTAL DOSES ADMINISTERED IN BC



### DOSES ADMINISTERED IN BC EACH DAY



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

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

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

<sup>7</sup> Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/track-vaccinations-across-canada-1.5870573>

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Premier John Horgan, Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer, and Dr. Penny Ballem, executive lead of the B.C. Immunization rollout team provided an update regarding B.C.'s COVID-19 Immunization Plan. Highlights include the following:<sup>8</sup>
  - **Regarding B.C.'s accelerated vaccination process**
    - Due to the accelerated vaccination process announced at the beginning of March:
      - Individuals in the 75-79 age cohort will be available to register to receive the vaccine beginning March 20<sup>th</sup> at noon.
      - Individuals aged 79 to 60 and Indigenous peoples aged 64 to 18 can expect to receive the vaccine starting in April.
      - Individuals aged 59 to 40 can expect to receive the vaccine starting in May.
      - Individuals aged 39 to 18 can expect to receive the vaccine starting in June.
  - **Regarding the two part roll out of the AstraZeneca and COVISHIELD vaccine**
    - Part One:
      - On March 9, 2021, B.C. received 68,000 doses of the COVISHIELD vaccine, and they are being distributed across the province to the highest risk categories of worksites. Target groups include:
        - Food processing plant and agricultural operations.
        - Large industrial camps.
        - Other large congregate living settings for workers, .s.
        - Various industries, including manufacturing and warehousing, where clusters and outbreaks are occurring.
        - Work sites with over 50 workers.
      - 15,000 doses of the vaccine will be distributed to Northern Health to primarily immunize people working and living in congregate settings.
    - Part Two:
      - In late March, 68,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine will arrive; in April 136,000 doses of the COVISHIELD vaccine will arrive; and in late May, 68,000 doses of the COVIDSHIELD vaccine will arrive. Target groups include:
        - first responders;
        - K-12 education staff and child-care staff;
        - manufacturing and wholesale/warehousing staff;
        - staff in congregate housing;
        - correctional facilities staff;
        - cross-border transport and quarantine officers;
        - postal workers;
        - bylaw officers;
        - grocery workers; and
        - outbreak site workers.
  - To view the March 18, 2021, PowerPoint presentations, visit:  
[https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/03.18.2021\\_COVID\\_Immunization\\_Plan.pdf](https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/03.18.2021_COVID_Immunization_Plan.pdf)

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<sup>8</sup> Dr. Horgan, Adrian Dix, Dr. Bonnie Henry, and Dr. Penny Ballem via live press conference 18/03/2021 13:00

- Today, Dr. Bonnie Henry and Adrian Dix also released the following joint statement regarding COVID-19 in B.C.<sup>9</sup>
  - “With the steady supply of three safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines in B.C., we are making meaningful strides in our provincewide pandemic response and immunization program.”
  - “Today, we provided an update on both our broad age-based immunization program, using Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, as well as the parallel AstraZeneca/SII immunization program.”
  - “On our current age-based trajectory, everyone who is eligible for a vaccine will have access to a vaccine before July 1, 2021. This is encouraging news for all of us.”
  - “Starting on Saturday, March 20, people who are 79 or older can start to book their appointments, with further groups added throughout the week. Check the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) website for further details.”
  - “Until we have the confidence the pandemic is behind us, we all need continue to follow the COVID-19 safety plans, to be vigilant in our precautions and diligent in our efforts to stop the spread.”
- Today, the B.C. Government announced additional funding of \$9.29 million, as part of B.C.’s COVID-19 economic recovery plan, to support initiatives to enhance airport infrastructure in Northern B.C.<sup>10</sup>
  - This funding will support safety improvements, economic opportunities, and address environmental concerns through upgrading taxi lines and airside paving and developing green building projects.
  - Nine projects in B.C. will share \$3.6 million in funding for upgrades, including Atlin Airport, which will receive \$445,460.
  - Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure stated:
    - “We know the pandemic has caused financial stress for many industries and significantly impacted our aviation sector throughout B.C. That’s why we’re taking action to support communities with important infrastructure upgrades so we can boost jobs, tourism, and trade that will give us a head start with B.C.’s economic recovery”.

## **SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY**

- There are no significant updates in the Yukon Territory today.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0021-000507>

<sup>10</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021TRAN0039-000492>

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, the Government of Canada announced the passage of Bill C-24 which authorizes the following changes to support workers impacted by COVID-19<sup>11</sup>
  - **The Employment Insurance (EI) benefit program**
    - For claims established between September 27, 2020 to September 25, 2021, workers now have access to EI benefits up to a maximum of 50 weeks.
    - Self-employed workers who have opted in to the EI program to access special benefits are now eligible to use a 2020 earnings threshold of \$5,000 (compared to the previous threshold of \$7,555). This change is retroactive for claims established as of January 3, 2021 and applies until September 25, 2021.
    - All international travelers who are required to quarantine or isolate upon return to Canada, including people returning from vacation, are ineligible to receive support from any of the recovery benefits for the period of their mandatory quarantine or isolation. These changes are retroactive to October 2, 2020.
  - **Recovery Benefits**
    - All workers eligible for the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) are now eligible to receive support up to 38 weeks (an increase of 12 weeks).
    - All workers eligible for the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) are now eligible to receive support up to 4 weeks (an increase of 2 weeks).
    - Individuals can access these additional weeks through the Canada Revenue Agency beginning on March 18, 2021.
- Today, Minister of Labour, Filomena Tassi, announced the launch of an online consultation forum for Canadians to share views and experiences on short-term contract work (“gig work”) and the “right to disconnect” during COVID-19.<sup>12</sup>
  - The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the vulnerability of gig workers and has altered the distinction between home and work and this forum will provide a space for Canadians to share stories about their experiences.
  - To access the online forum until April 30, 2021, please visit: <https://esdc-consultations.canada.ca/right-to-disconnect-gig-workers-public-engagement>

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

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/c-24-royal-assent.html>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/government-of-canada-launches-consultations-to-ensure-labour-protections-meet-new-realities-of-working-canadians.html>