

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 16 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

STATUS OF CASES IN BC¹	As of Mar 15	As of Mar 16	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	88,373	88,929	556
Total active cases in BC	4,987	4,999	12
Currently in intensive care	76	84	8
Currently hospitalized	269	280	11
Total hospitalized to date	4,768	4,787	19
Total deaths in BC	1,407	1,407	0
Total recovered in BC	81,890	82,436	546

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION¹	As of Mar 15	As of Mar 16	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	88,373	88,929	556
Vancouver Coastal Health	20,664	20,803	139
Fraser Health	51,701	52,032	331
Island Health	2,761	2,788	27
Interior Health	7,857	7,873	16
Northern Health	5,230	5,271	41
Out of Canada	160	162	2
Total individuals tested in BC	2,059,338	2,066,441	7,103*

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON²	As of Mar 15	As of Mar 16	Change
Total confirmed cases	72	72	0
Total active cases	0	0	0
Total deaths	1	1	0
Total recovered	71	71	0
Total individuals tested	6,751	6,763	12
Negative results	6,672	6,679	7
Pending results	7	12	5

*BCCDC reported 7,101 new tests but this number does not align with the differences of total tests (7,103) between Mar 15th and Mar 16th.

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

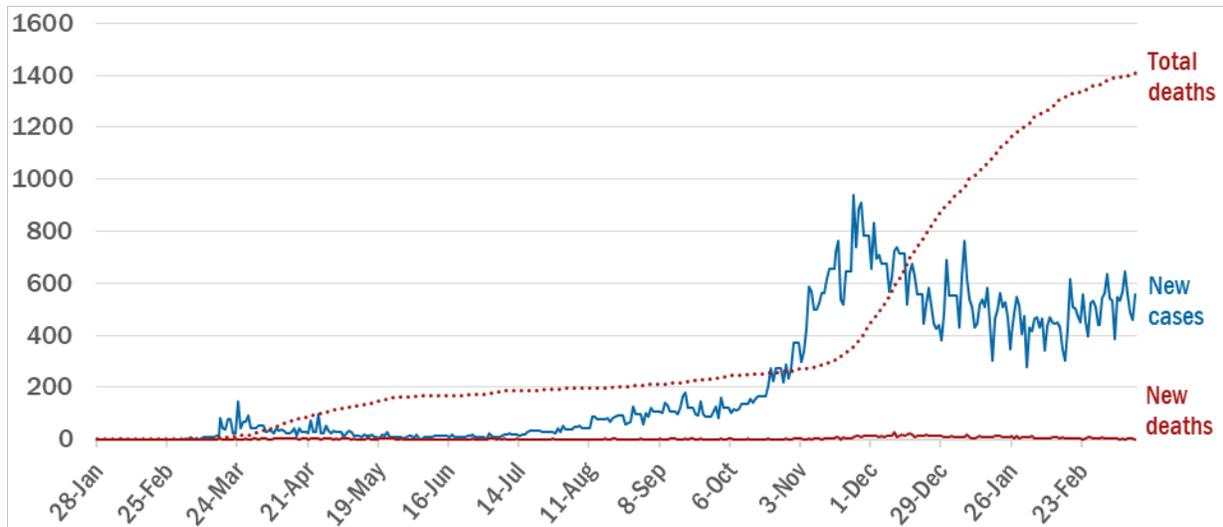
² Source: <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE

CASES IN CANADA ³

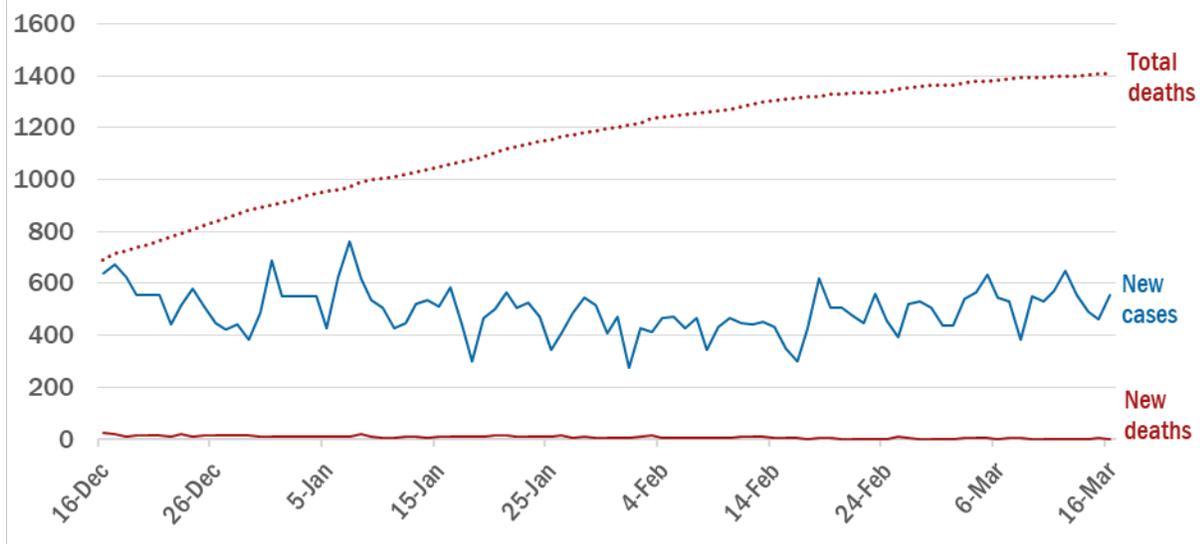
	As of Mar 12	As of Mar 15	Change
Total confirmed cases	22,889	23,294	405
Total active cases	1,169	1,266	97
Currently hospitalized	1,038	1,047	9
Total deaths	252	258	6
Total recovered	21,468	21,770	302
Total confirmed cases in BC	2,491	2,543	52

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



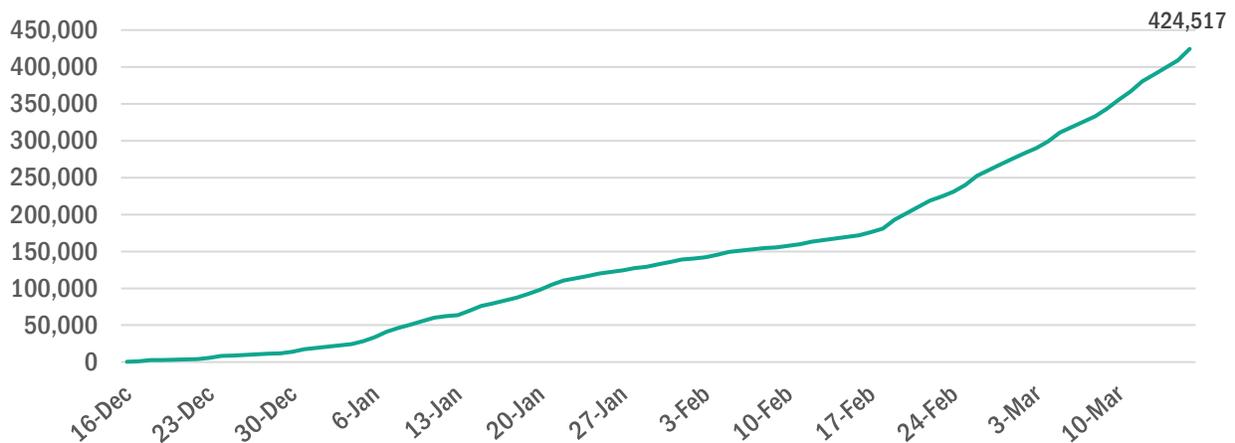
³ Source: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

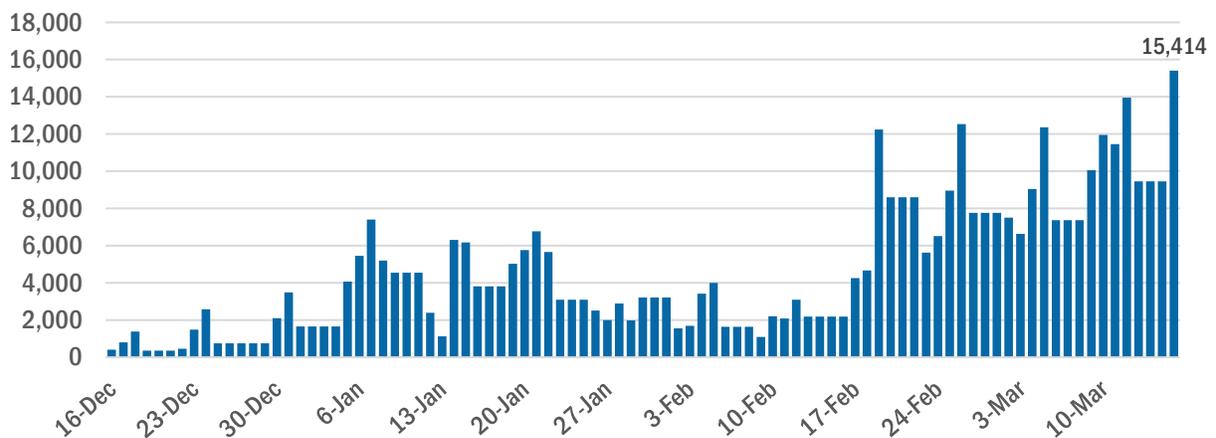
STATUS OF VACCINE ADMINISTRATION⁴

	Total Doses Administered		Total Doses Supplied	% of Doses Administered ⁵	Doses Administered / 100k Population	People Fully Vaccinated ⁶	% Pop. Fully Vaccinated ⁷
	Today	Total					
BC	15,414	424,517	513,920	82.60%	8,249.69	87,070	1.69%
Yukon	599	30,569	35,000	87.34%	72,479.60	10,543	24.80%
Canada	120,004	3,271,309	4,285,090	76.30%	8,606.89	604,921	1.59%

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.

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

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, the B.C. Government announced the extension of the provincial state of emergency through the end of the day on March 30, 2021.⁸
 - This measure allows health and emergency management officials to continue to use extraordinary powers under the Emergency Program Act (EPA) to support the Province's COVID-19 pandemic response.
 - Under the EPA, the province continues to use the support of police and other enforcement officials to issue tickets for owners, operators, and event organizers who host an event or gathering contravening the Provincial Health Officer's orders.
- Today, Dr. Shannon McDonald, Acting Chief Medical Officer, First Nations Health Authority, provided a statement regarding COVID-19 vaccines:⁹
 - "While there's been a lot of media speculation about which vaccine is the most effective, experts are clear: the best vaccine for you is the one available to you right now!"
 - "While we don't know if one vaccine is better, we do know that all of the vaccines currently available in Canada have been shown to be excellent in preventing severe illness and death."
 - "All of the vaccines have been shown to be very safe both in clinical trials and during real-world use, which in many cases number in the millions of doses provided."
 - "All vaccines have been shown to have effectiveness against the current variants of concern, although they may be more effective against the original virus. Emerging evidence also indicates vaccines help to prevent transmission or spread from person to person."
- Today, Nicholas Simons, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, announced a permanent increase to income assistance and disability assistance rates and the first-ever increase to the senior's supplement, to provide stability following a challenging year due to COVID-19:¹⁰
 - Starting with payments issued in April 2021, individuals on income assistance and disability assistance will automatically receive a permanent \$175 per month increase.
 - The senior's supplement will see an increase of \$50 per recipient. This raises the maximum rate for a single person from \$49.30 to \$99.30 per month.
 - For people on income assistance living in special care facilities, their comforts allowance will increase by \$20 to \$115 per month.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Yukon Government announced that COVID-19 tests can now be booked online through the recently launched online booking tool, for testing in Whitehorse through the COVID Testing Assessment Centre.¹¹
 - Book a test online if you:
 - Have a valid health-care card
 - Used the online self-assessment tool and it determined you needed testing: <https://service.yukon.ca/en/covid-19-self-assessment/>
 - Require a test for medical travel

⁸ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PSSG0021-000480>

⁹ <https://www.fnha.ca/about/news-and-events/news/the-best-vaccine-for-you-is-the-one-available-to-you-right-now>

¹⁰ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021SDPR0024-000483>

¹¹ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/covid-19-tests-can-now-be-booked-online>

- Have been advised to get a test by 811 or a healthcare professional
- What you need to know:
 - The tool will first ask a series of questions, taking users through several steps to help determine what type of test is most suitable based on their needs.
 - The tool will then confirm a user's symptoms and the reason for a COVID-19 test, before confirming an appointment.
 - Individuals may complete this booking for themselves, or on behalf of someone else.
 - Individuals should phone the clinic directly at 867-393-3083 to book an appointment if they:
 - Do not have a valid health-care card, or
 - Are booking for more than one person
- The online booking tool, and more information, can be found here:
<https://book-covid-19-test.service.yukon.ca/en/>

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, provided an update on the federal government's response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic:¹²
 - "To date, no unexpected vaccine safety issues have been identified in Canada. Health Canada is aware of reports of serious adverse events in Europe following immunization with the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine but wants to reassure Canadians that the benefits of the vaccine continue to outweigh its risks. There is currently no indication that the vaccine caused the observed events. Health Canada is continuing to work with international regulators, including the European Medicines Agency, to determine whether there is any need to take action in Canada."
 - Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization has released updated recommendations on the use of the AstraZeneca vaccine, including expanding the recommendation for its use from adults aged 18 to 64 years to include those aged 65 years and older.
- Today, François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, provided a statement regarding major investments which will strengthen biomanufacturing and drug development capacity in Canada:¹³
 - To date, the Government of Canada has made investments of approximately \$1 billion to advance industrial research and development in vaccines and pharmaceuticals, as well as biomanufacturing capacity.
 - Investments in these projects will contribute to the development of Canadian medical countermeasures in response to COVID-19 and strengthen Canada's emergency preparedness for future pandemics by increasing capacity to produce, fill-finish, and distribute vaccines and therapies for the Canadian population.
 - The government is also demonstrating its ongoing support for made-in-Canada vaccines and therapeutics to combat COVID-19 with an investment of \$150 million to help companies advance through the early stages of research and development.

¹² <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/03/remarks-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-on-tuesday-march-16-2021.html>

¹³ <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/03/major-investments-in-domestic-firms-to-rebuild-canadas-biomanufacturing-sector.html>

- Today, Employment and Social Development Canada announced a comprehensive plan to better protect foreign workers during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to secure Canada’s food supply chain:¹⁴
 - “Temporary foreign workers (TFWs) have played an important role in ensuring our food security for decades, and especially during this pandemic. Their continued safety and timely entry into Canada is essential to our economy, and they deserve to be safe.”
 - “Over the last few weeks, the government has worked to develop a tailored solution to accommodate the anticipated volume of TFWs arriving this spring.”
 - Asymptomatic TFWs will be able to travel directly to their place of quarantine after getting a COVID-19 test at the airport, provided they travel by private transportation and are accompanied only by others who travelled with them to Canada.
 - TFWs who will need to travel by public means to a secondary location upon arrival in Canada will be required to stay in a Government Authorized Accommodation and await the results of their COVID-19 test.
 - Further enhanced actions to better protect TFWs and support employers include:
 - Working to ensure employers are well prepared to welcome and quarantine TFWs
 - Increasing and strengthening inspections of employers
 - Funding organizations to provide direct assistance to workers affected by COVID-19
 - Improving the TFW tip line
 - Improving coordination with provincial and territorial partners

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

¹⁴ <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2021/03/the-safe-arrival-of-temporary-foreign-workers-this-season-and-the-quarantine-requirements-for-tfws.html>