

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 30 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 29	As of Mar 30	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	98,195	99,035	840
Total active cases in BC	6,902	7,062	160
Currently in intensive care	79	78	-1
Currently hospitalized	299	312	13
Total hospitalized to date	5,167	5,183	16
Total deaths in BC	1,455	1,455	0
Total recovered in BC	89,722	90,401	679
CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION¹	As of Mar 29	As of Mar 30	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	98,195	99,035	840
Vancouver Coastal Health	23,580	23,845	265
Fraser Health	56,891	57,312	421
Island Health	3,238	3,277	39
Interior Health	8,414	8,481	67
Northern Health	5,898	5,944	46
Out of Canada	174	176	2
Total individuals tested in BC	2,175,242	2,182,821	7,579
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON²	As of Mar 29	As of Mar 30	Change
Total confirmed cases	73	73	0
Total active cases	1	1	0
Total deaths	1	1	0
Total recovered	71	71	0
Total individuals tested	6,875	6,880	5
Negative results	6,797	6,799	2
Pending results	5	8	3

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

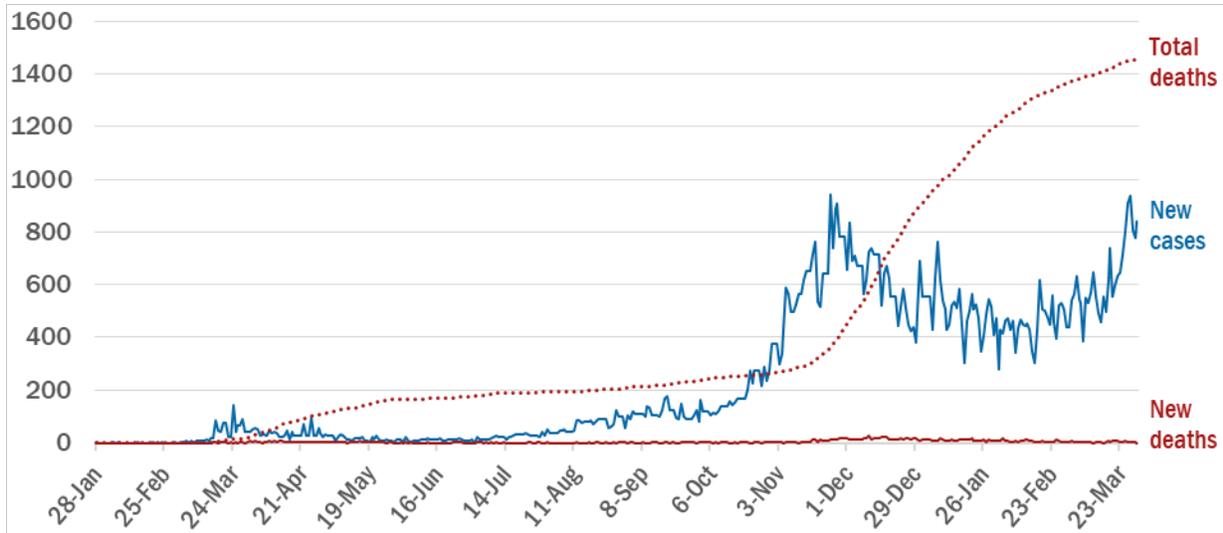
² Source: <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE

CASES IN CANADA³

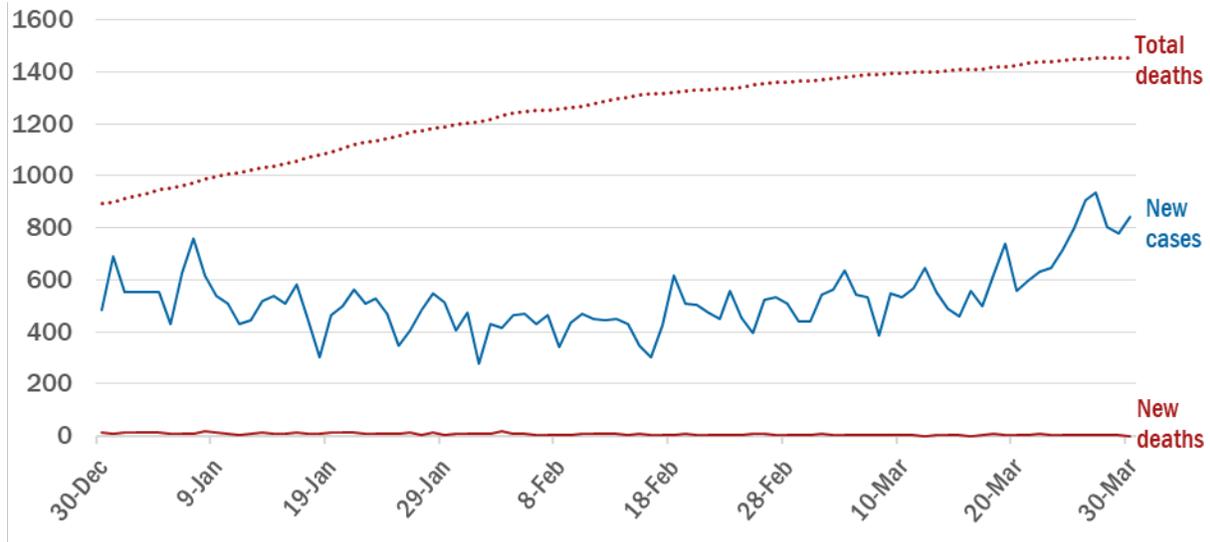
	As of Mar 26	As of Mar 29	Change
Total confirmed cases	24,489	24,719	230
Total active cases	1,009	931	-78
Currently hospitalized	1,096	1,113	17
Total deaths	279	280	1
Total recovered	23,201	23,507	306
Total confirmed cases in BC	2,723	2,764	41

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



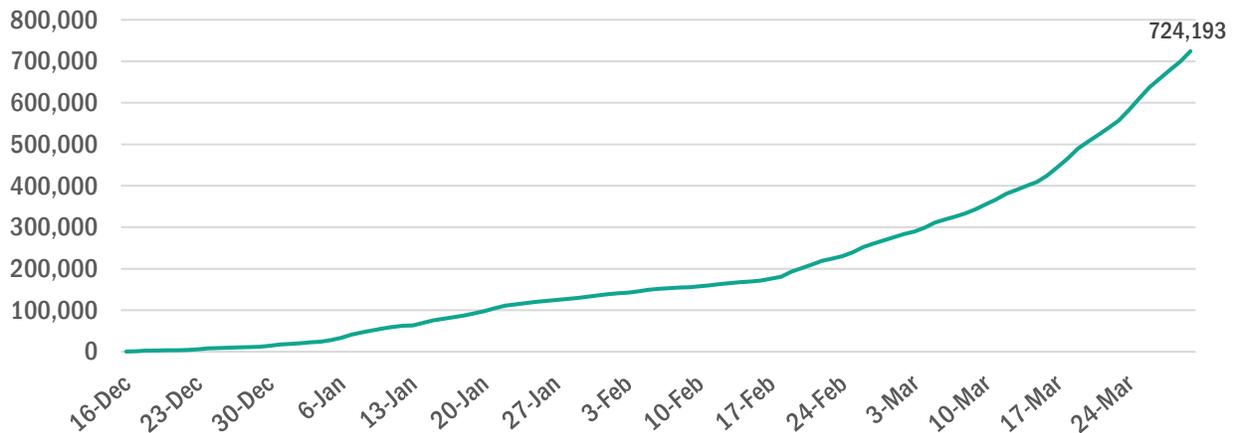
³ Source: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

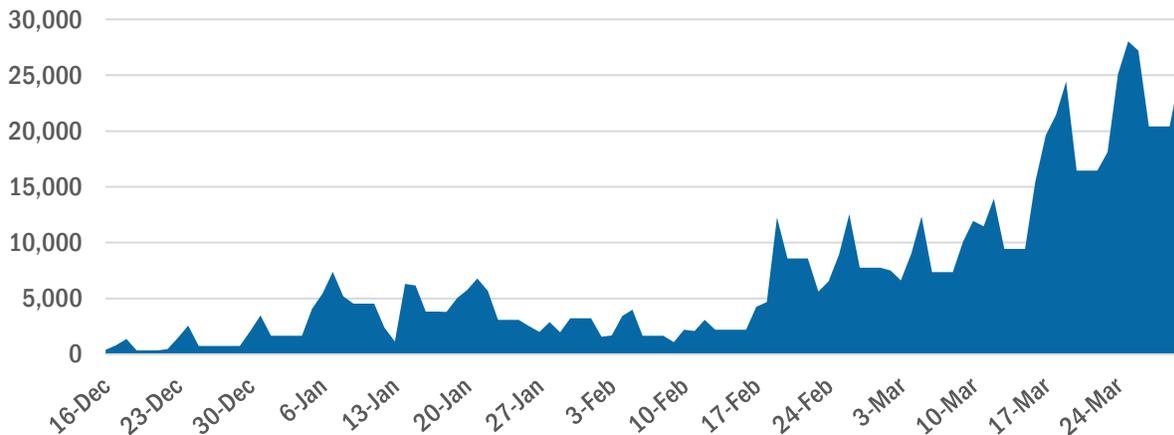
STATUS OF VACCINE ADMINISTRATION⁴

	Total Doses Administered		Total Doses Supplied	% of Doses Administered ⁵	% Pop. with first dose	People Fully Vaccinated ⁶	% Pop. Fully Vaccinated ⁷
	Today	Total					
BC	25,101	724,193	934,260	77.51%	12.38%	87,319	1.70%
Yukon	447	34,828	51,400	67.75%	56.13%	11,154	26.24%
Canada	169,650	5,470,884	6,972,249	78.50%	12.61%	679,469	1.79%

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 April 13, 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. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer, and Adrian Dix, B.C. Minister of Health, provided an update on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in B.C., which included the following:⁹
 - There are 320 new confirmed cases of variants of concern, for a total of 2,553.
 - B.1.1.7 (U.K) – 2,134
 - B.1.351 (South African) – 49
 - P.1 (Brazil) – 370
 - 313 cases are active.
 - "Vaccine appointment bookings for age-based immunizations are now open for people 73 or older in all health authorities, and Indigenous peoples over 18. Individuals who are clinically extremely vulnerable and have received a letter identifying them as such are also able to book appointments."
 - "We have seen the start of exponential growth of COVID-19 cases. To stop this upward trend from continuing, we are taking the necessary steps to protect our communities and get back on the path we want and need to be on."
 - "We are asking people for your help – particularly over the next three weeks – to push our curve back down again. This means staying small, staying outside, and staying with our same group of close contacts."
 - "This also means not travelling for leisure or vacation outside of our local communities or regions because the risk for all of us is too great right now."
 - "Today, on National Doctors' Day, you can recognize the many doctors who have been on the front lines of our COVID-19 response by doing your part. You can do this by using all of your layers of protection and following the public health orders we have in place."
- Today, the Ministry of Health announced a partnership between Immunize BC and community pharmacists to make the COVID-19 AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine available to those aged 55 to 65 living on the Lower Mainland, which will launch on March 31, 2021.¹⁰
 - To help combat high numbers of COVID-19 cases in the Lower Mainland, Immunize BC is partnering with community pharmacies in the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser health regions to provide vaccinations ahead of B.C.'s COVID-19 Immunization Plan's age-based schedule.
 - "The AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD vaccine is another important tool in our immunization program to get us past this surge of COVID-19 cases. We know from the millions of doses used worldwide, and especially in the U.K., it is highly effective and the benefits to those

⁸ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021PSSG0024-000588>

⁹ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0024-000596>

¹⁰ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0061-000595>

- over age 55 far outweigh the very real risks of getting COVID-19,” said Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.’s provincial health officer.
- “I encourage everyone in the Lower Mainland who is between 55 and 65 years of age to receive their safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine today.”
 - Beginning March 31, 2021, those aged 55 to 65 may call their local pharmacy and book an appointment to receive their vaccine.
 - Drop-in service may be an option at the more than 150 participating pharmacies.
 - “Pharmacies are ready to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in B.C. by beginning to offer vaccinations by local pharmacists near where people live,” said Annette Robinson, president, BC Pharmacy Association. “Pharmacists have done vaccinations since 2009 and safely delivered more than 1 million flu shots to British Columbians this past flu season.”
 - Today, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure announced one-time funding for 20 inter-city bus operators and 55 regional airports to help them stay open and provide essential transportation services to British Columbians during the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹
 - \$6.2 million for inter-city bus operators and \$16.5 million for regional airports will support operations between April 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022.
 - The funds will be used for:
 - Operating costs, such as maintenance expenses for buses, air terminals, and runways.
 - Overhead costs to keep these services operating, such as payroll and rent.
 - In addition, over \$1 billion in joint funding with the federal government will allow TransLink, BC Transit and BC Ferries to maintain essential transportation service levels throughout the province and help make sure fares remain affordable as part of BC’s Restart Plan.
 - Today, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development announced \$1.87 million in additional funding in rent forgiveness to assist more businesses that hold eligible tenures for fishing and hunting lodges, guest ranches, ecotourism lodges, seasonal campgrounds, and other commercial recreation operators during the COVID-19 pandemic.¹²
 - “Our government has identified another 438 commercial recreation operators that are eligible for rent forgiveness as part of this initiative. These businesses contribute significantly to rural economies, and this assistance will help remote communities recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19.”
 - This additional funding will assist another 398 Land Act tenure holders and 40 Park Act permit holders.
 - In September 2020, \$1.36 million was allocated for rent forgiveness which benefited 592 Land Act tenure holders and 443 Park Act permit holders.
 - Today, the Ministry of Finance announced that applications are now open for the Increased Employment Incentive (IEI), part of StrongerBC: BC’s Economic Recovery Plan.¹³
 - “The Increased Employment Incentive supports businesses that invested in people during an uncertain time in the last few months of 2020 – investments that helped get people back to work quickly.”

¹¹ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021TRAN0023-000577>

¹² <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021FLNRO0024-000594>

¹³ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021FIN0021-000585>

- \$190 million is available for businesses that were able to hire new workers, hire back people who were let go, or increase workers' hours during the last three months of 2020.
- The credit is available to all employers in B.C., except for public institutions and political parties.
- With 2020 payrolls finalized, businesses will know if they are eligible.
 - If eligible, businesses may receive a credit that could equal up to 15% of any increase in total eligible payroll paid in the last quarter of 2020, up to as much as \$2,230 per employee.
- Businesses that are registered and liable for the employer health tax (EHT) are encouraged to file their 2020 EHT return before applying for the IEI to ensure no delay in receiving the tax credit.
 - The IEI credit will be first applied to any EHT outstanding.
 - If the amount of the credit the business is eligible to receive exceeds the amount of EHT or other debt owed to government, the remaining amount will be available as a refund.
- For more information on the IEI and how to enroll, visit:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/economic-recovery/increased-employment-incentive>

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

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

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Theresa Tam, released a statement regarding the ongoing response to COVID-19 in Canada, which included the following:¹⁴
 - “Canada’s National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has recommended to pause the use of the AstraZeneca vaccine for people aged under 55 years, pending a full risk assessment by Health Canada.”
 - “I know this is another difficult development in the seemingly never-ending twists and turns of this pandemic, but there is a point of grace. As Dr. Menaka Pai, Associate Professor of Hematology & Thromboembolism at McMaster University notes, ‘Strong global vaccine safety surveillance rapidly picked up this rare and serious adverse event. Collegiality, academic rigour, transparency, and medical science will help us manage it.’”
 - “COVID-19 activity levels are different depending on where you are in Canada but there is a risk of introduction and rapid acceleration of cases everywhere.”
 - “Please continue to follow local public health recommendations, stick to the safer ways we’ve learned to celebrate during COVID-19 and save gatherings for a better time in the future.”
 - “Despite the hurdles, we are getting closer everyday and we’re stronger and more united for it.”

¹⁴ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/03/remarks-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-on-tuesday-march-30-2021.html>

- Today, Global Affairs Canada released a statement from the Governments of multiple countries, including Canada, regarding the WHO-Convened COVID-19 Origins Study.¹⁵
 - This joint statement was made by the Governments of the following countries:
 - The United States of America, Australia, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom.
 - “[The Governments] remain steadfast in our commitment to working with the World Health Organization (WHO), international experts who have a vital mission, and the global community to understand the origins of this pandemic in order to improve our collective global health security and response.”
 - “Together, we support a transparent and independent analysis and evaluation, free from interference and undue influence, of the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, we join in expressing shared concerns regarding the recent WHO-convened study in China, while at the same time reinforcing the importance of working together toward the development and use of a swift, effective, transparent, science-based, and independent process for international evaluations of such outbreaks of unknown origin in the future.”
 - “We share these concerns not only for the benefit of learning all we can about the origins of this pandemic, but also to lay a pathway to a timely, transparent, evidence-based process for the next phase of this study as well as for the next health crises.”
 - “We will work collaboratively and with the WHO to strengthen capacity, improve global health security, and inspire public confidence and trust in the world’s ability to detect, prepare for, and respond to future outbreaks.”

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

¹⁵ <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2021/03/joint-statement-on-the-who-convened-covid-19-origins-study.html>