

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 24 September 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 BC ¹	As of Sept 23	As of Sept 24	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	181,798	182,541	743
Total active cases in BC	5,726	5,979	253
Currently in intensive care	148	149	1
Currently hospitalized	330	319	-11
Total hospitalized to date	9,634	9,670	36
Total deaths in BC	1,915	1,922	7
Total recovered in BC	173,786	174,281	495

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION¹	As of Sept 23	As of Sept 24	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	181,798	182,541	743
Vancouver Coastal Health	40,751	40,862	111
Fraser Health	95,530	95,822	292
Island Health	8,106	8,163	57
Interior Health	26,123	26,300	177
Northern Health	11,009	11,115	106
Out of Canada	279	279	0
Total tests	3,766,744	3,783,191	16,447*

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON ²	As of Sept 23	As of Sept 24	Change
Total confirmed cases	738	745	7
Total active cases	40	42	2
Total deaths	9	9	0
Total recovered	695	698	3
Total individuals tested	12,519	12,574	55
Negative results	11,738	11,763	25
Pending results	46	69	23

*The BCCDC has reported 16,338 new tests between September 23rd and September 24th.

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

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

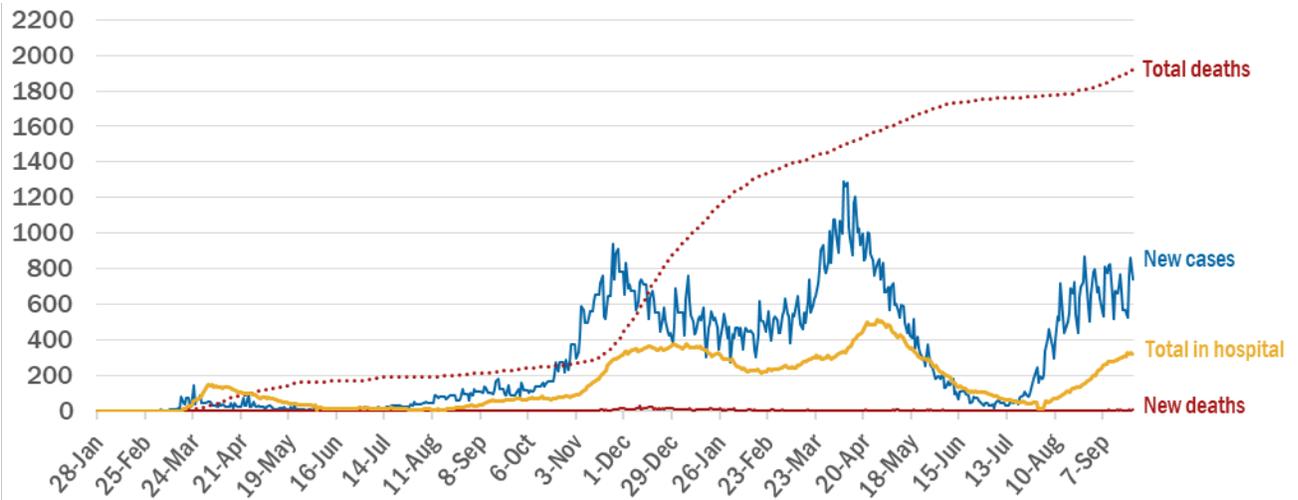
STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE

CASES IN CANADA ³

	As of Sept 22	As of Sept 23	Change
Total confirmed cases	39,608	39,608	0*
Total active cases	1,813	1,846	33
Total hospitalized	1,817	1,822	5
Total deaths	415	417	2
Total recovered	37,380	37,528	148
Total confirmed cases in BC	4,143	4,189	46

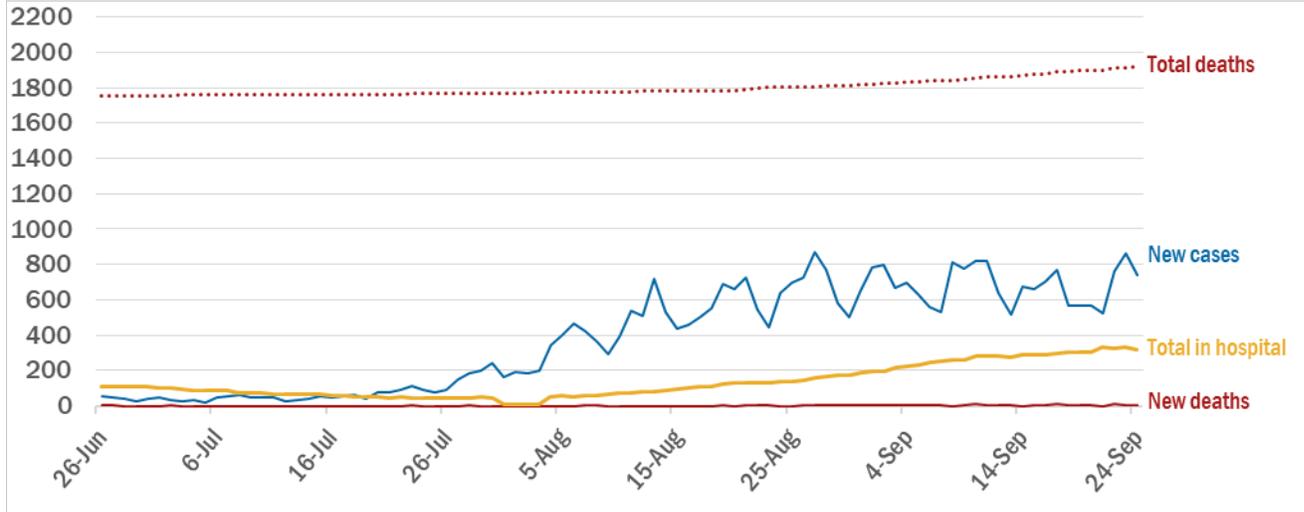
*ISC is reporting no net new confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 on First Nations Reserves as of September 23rd.

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



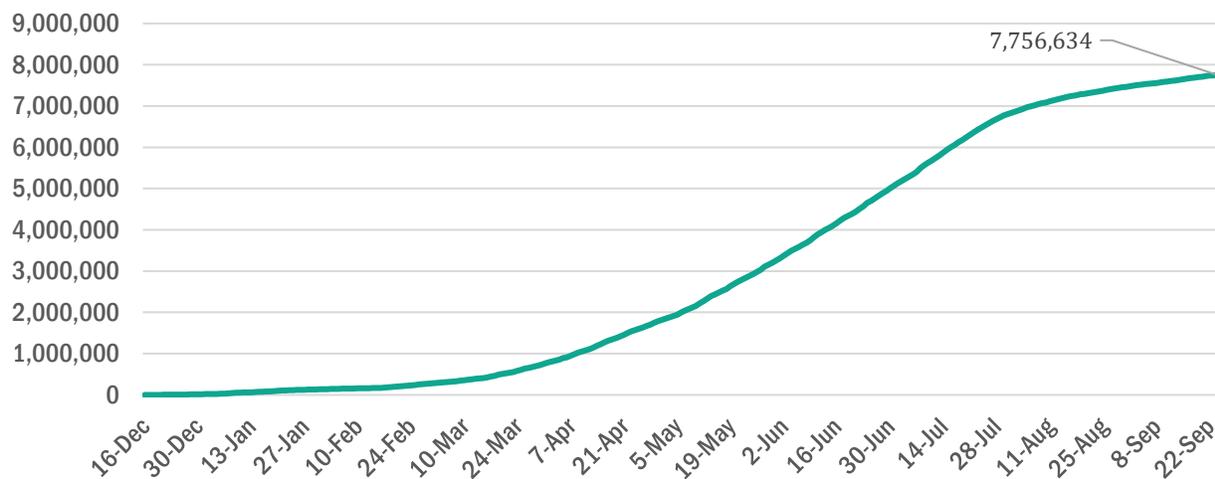
³ Source: <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

COVID-19 VACCINATION INFORMATION

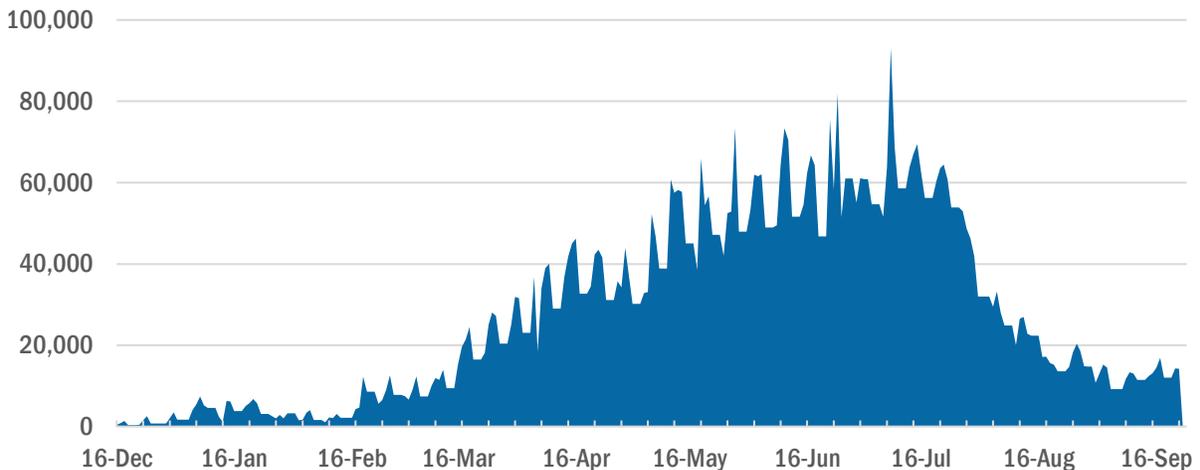
STATUS OF VACCINE ADMINISTRATION ⁴

	Total Doses Administered		Total Doses Supplied	% of Doses Administered	% Pop. with first dose	People Fully Vaccinated	% Pop. Fully Vaccinated
	Today	Total					
BC	-	7,756,634	8,030,650	96.59	78.36	3,701,696	71.53
Yukon	-	65,966	67,840	97.23	78.86	32,375	76.00
Canada	145,000	55,672,774	63,906,444	87.12	76.05	26,672,900	69.95

TOTAL DOSES ADMINISTERED



DOSES ADMINISTERED IN BC EACH DAY



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

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, the Government of British Columbia released a COVID-19 update.⁵ Highlights include the following:
 - From September 16-22, people not fully vaccinated accounted for 75.0% of cases and from September 9-22, they accounted for 81.9% of hospitalizations.
 - Past week cases (Sept. 16-22) – Total 4,543:
 - Not vaccinated: 3,057 (67.3%)
 - Partially vaccinated: 351 (7.7%)
 - Fully vaccinated: 1,135 (25.0%)
 - Past two weeks cases hospitalized (September 9-22) – Total 436:
 - Not vaccinated: 322 (73.9%)
 - Partially vaccinated: 35 (8.0%)
 - Fully vaccinated: 79 (18.1%)
 - Past week, cases per 100,000 population after adjusting for age (September 16-22):
 - Not vaccinated: 292.8
 - Partially vaccinated: 90.8
 - Fully vaccinated: 28.3
 - Past two weeks, cases hospitalized per 100,000 population after adjusting for age (September 9-22):
 - Not vaccinated: 46.6
 - Partially vaccinated: 14.1
 - Fully vaccinated: 1.8
 - After factoring for age, people not vaccinated are 25.9 times more likely to be hospitalized than those fully vaccinated.

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, Dr. Catherine Elliott, the Yukon’s Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, issued a statement advising caution for Yukon travellers.⁶ Highlights include the following:
 - Yukoners who travel outside the Yukon should exercise caution when visiting areas that are currently experiencing a fourth wave of COVID-19.
 - Travellers are advised to practise the Safe 6 while travelling and follow the directives within the jurisdiction they are visiting.
 - This recommendation is based on a series of cases in people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 after returning to the Yukon from domestic travel.
 - British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan are among those provinces experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases.
 - In the rare event that a fully vaccinated person acquires COVID-19, they are very unlikely to become severely ill.

⁵ Source: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0059-001847>

⁶ Source: <https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukons-acting-chief-medical-officer-health-advises-caution-yukon-travellers>

- Today, Dr. Catherine Elliott, the Yukon's Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, issued strong recommendations for Watson Lake and a public exposure notice.⁷ Highlights include the following:
 - People are strongly recommended to wear masks in indoor public spaces.
 - Those at risk of severe disease keep their contacts to a minimum, including those over the age of 65 and those with chronic health conditions.
 - This recommendation is for any person while they are in Watson Lake, regardless of their home community.
 - People from Watson Lake can safely travel throughout the territory by following the public health recommendations where they travel.
 - All Yukoners with COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and get tested when sick; they should also get their vaccine.
 - Recommendations come following the identification of seven new cases in Watson Lake overnight, bringing that community's total active case number as of today to 25.
 - Watson Lake cases have been identified in the elementary and high schools, family clusters, and adults in the community.
 - When there are a number of unlinked situations such as this, it indicates that there is transmission in the community.
 - Fewer than 75 per cent of those eligible in southeast Yukon have been fully vaccinated, therefore ongoing sustained transmission is possible in the absence of these measures.
 - A rapid response testing team will be in Watson Lake holding testing clinics from Monday through Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - People who tested negative prior to Friday, September 17, 2021, are being asked to get re-tested while the team is in the community next week.
 - Vaccine clinics will be held at the Watson Lake Health Centre on October 1, 8 and 15 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Phone the health centre at 867-536-5255 for more information or to book. Walk-ins are welcome.
 - Separately, a public exposure notice has been issued for Air North flight 4N510 from Vancouver to Whitehorse on September 21, 2021, departing at 9:25 AM.
 - This is considered a low-risk exposure and everyone on this flight is asked to self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days, until Tuesday, October 5 and to arrange for testing if they develop any symptoms.
 - Anyone experiencing symptoms in Whitehorse should call the COVID-19 Testing and Assessment Centre at 867-393-3083 or book online to arrange for testing.
 - People in communities should contact their rural community health centre to arrange for testing.

⁷ Source: <https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukons-acting-chief-medical-officer-health-issues-strong-recommendations-watson-lake>

- Today, the Government of Yukon announced an extension of COVID-19 critical support programs for the Yukon tourism sector.⁸ Highlights include the following:
 - The Tourism Accommodation Sector Supplement (TASS) and Tourism Non-Accommodation Sector Supplement (TNASS) programs have been extended until March 31, 2022.
 - The Tourism Accommodation Sector Supplement (TASS) provides up to \$400 per room each month, up to the point of break even for eligible accommodations businesses.
 - The Tourism Non-Accommodation Sector Supplement (TNASS) provides Yukon tourism operators and food and beverage businesses that rely on visitors for at least 60 per cent of their revenues up to \$60,000 to cover eligible expenses up to the point of break even.
 - Many businesses currently enrolled in the Yukon Business Relief Program may still be eligible for support through TNASS and should contact ecdev@yukon.ca for more information.
 - Funding is available for both fixed and variable expenses. The only change will be that mortgage principle payments are no longer considered an eligible expense.
 - The government is also extending the popular Great Yukon Summer Travel Rebate program until March 31, 2022.
 - The Great Yukon Summer Freeze is a continuation of the summer program and will function the same, with Yukoners paying the full price up front and then applying for the 25 per cent rebate for eligible tourism packages offered by local operators.
 - Winter packages will also start at \$250 per person for experiences to take place between November 1, 2021, and March 31, 2022.
 - The rebate program will continue to be administered by the Yukon Chamber of Commerce on behalf of government.
 - New winter packages can be viewed at greatyukonsummer.ca beginning on October 22.
 - Eligible summer experience packages are extended until the end of October and new winter experience packages will be available on November 1, 2021, as part of the Great Yukon Summer Freeze.
 - The Yukon Business Relief Program and the COVID-19 liquor licensee discount will end on September 30, 2021, as previously scheduled and will be replaced by an updated pricing structure to support restaurants and other businesses with liquor licences as they continue to recover from the pandemic.
 - As this sector is still recovering, on October 1, the discount will be replaced by an updated pricing structure supporting business investment and profitability.

⁸ Source: <https://yukon.ca/en/news/government-yukon-extends-critical-covid-19-support-programs-tourism-and-expands-popular-rebate-program>

SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, issued a statement regarding the ongoing COVID-19 situation in Canada.⁹ Highlights include the following:
 - The COVID-19 pandemic continues to create stress and anxiety for many Canadians, particularly those who do not have ready access to their regular support networks.
 - Through the Wellness Together Canada online portal, people of all ages across the country can access immediate, free and confidential mental health and substance use supports, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
 - COVID-19 disease activity is showing significant regional variation across the country. The latest national 7-day average of 4,303 new cases reported daily (Sep 17-23) is a decrease of 1.6% over the previous week.
 - Unfortunately, lagging severity trends are still rising nationally, with recent hospitalisation and critical care admissions primarily involving unvaccinated people.
 - This continued trend together with prolonged hospital stays is putting a heavy strain on local healthcare resources, particularly where infection rates are high and vaccination rates are low. It is hoped that maintaining strengthened control measures in heavily impacted areas will begin to reduce severe illness trends and ease the strain on the health system in the weeks to come.
 - During this fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada, infections and severe outcomes have several key features:
 - Nationally, the highly contagious Delta Variant of Concern (VOC), accounts for the majority of recently reported cases, is associated with increased severity, and may reduce the effectiveness of vaccines.
 - Most reported cases, hospitalisations and deaths are occurring among unvaccinated people.
 - Virus spread in areas with low vaccination coverage presents an ongoing risk for emergence of and replacement by new VOCs, including a risk of VOCs with the ability to evade vaccine protection.
 - Based on the latest data from 12 provinces and territories for the eligible population, 12 years or older:
 - From December 14, 2020 to September 4, 2021, **0.10%** of fully vaccinated people became infected, with the majority of recent cases and hospitalizations occurring in unvaccinated or partially vaccinated people.
 - In recent weeks (August 8 - September 4, 2021):
 - The average weekly rate of new COVID-19 cases in unvaccinated people was **11** times higher than in the fully vaccinated.
 - The average weekly rate of hospitalized cases in unvaccinated people was **38** times higher compared to fully vaccinated people.

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

⁹ Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/09/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-september-24-2021.html>