

## 3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 21 October 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

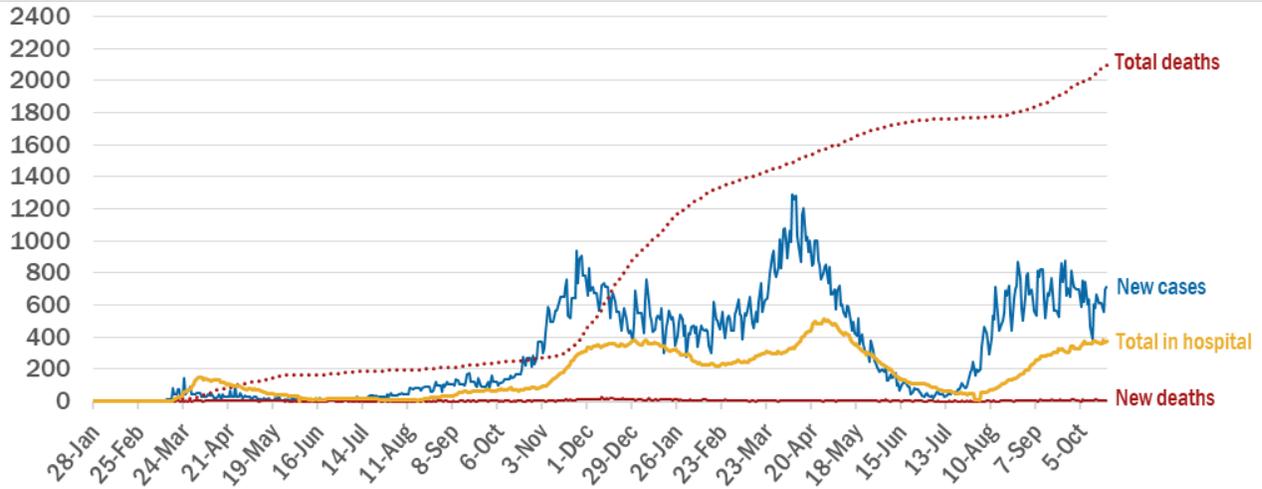
<b>STATUS OF CASES IN BC<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 20</b>	<b>As of Oct 21</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	199,534	200,249	<b>715</b>
Total active cases in BC	4,888	4,965	<b>77</b>
Currently in intensive care	139	136	<b>-3</b>
Currently hospitalized	370	377	<b>7</b>
Total hospitalized to date	10,740	10,780	<b>40</b>
Total deaths in BC	2,092	2,096	<b>4</b>
Total recovered in BC	192,189	192,819	<b>630</b>
<b>CONFIRMED CASES BY BC REGION<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 20</b>	<b>As of Oct 21</b>	<b>Change</b>
Vancouver Coastal Health	42,811	42,871	<b>60</b>
Fraser Health	102,307	102,592	<b>285</b>
Island Health	10,044	10,105	<b>61</b>
Interior Health	29,800	29,937	<b>137</b>
Northern Health	14,275	14,447	<b>172</b>
Out of Canada	297	297	<b>0</b>
<b>STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 20</b>	<b>As of Oct 21</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	873	874	<b>1</b>
Total active cases	69	69	<b>0</b>
Total deaths	10	10	<b>0</b>
Total recovered	809	815	<b>6</b>
<b>STATUS OF FN RESERVE CASES<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 19</b>	<b>As of Oct 20</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	45,012	45,163	<b>151</b>
Total active cases	1,643	1,560	<b>-83</b>
Total hospitalized	2,054	2,088	<b>34</b>
Total deaths	461	463	<b>2</b>
Total recovered	42,908	43,140	<b>232</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	4,983	5,005	<b>22</b>

<sup>1</sup> BCCDC COVID-19 Dashboard

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

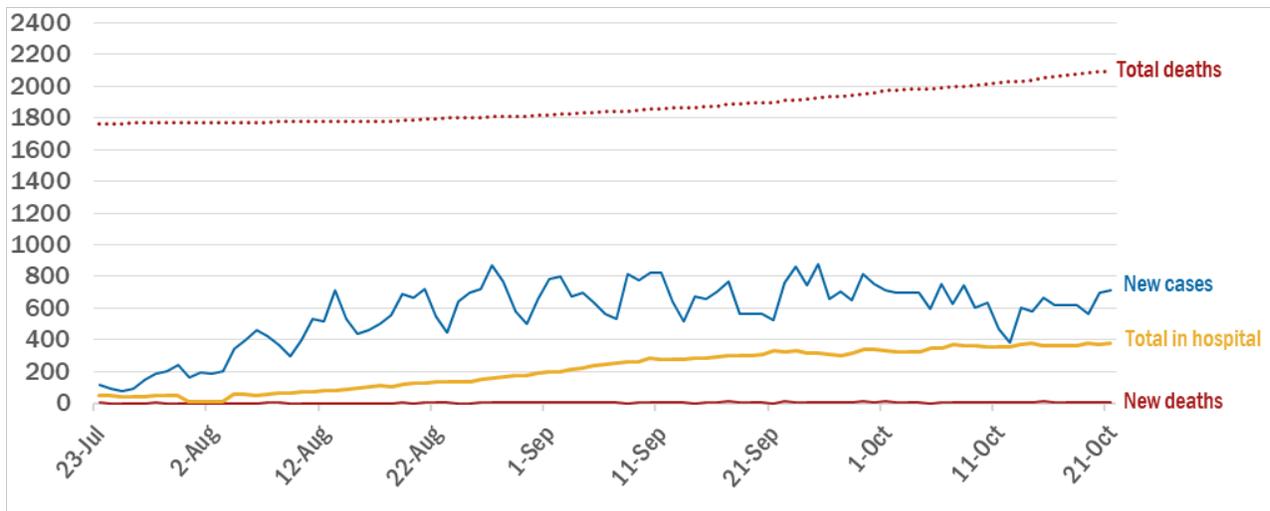
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

### COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN BC

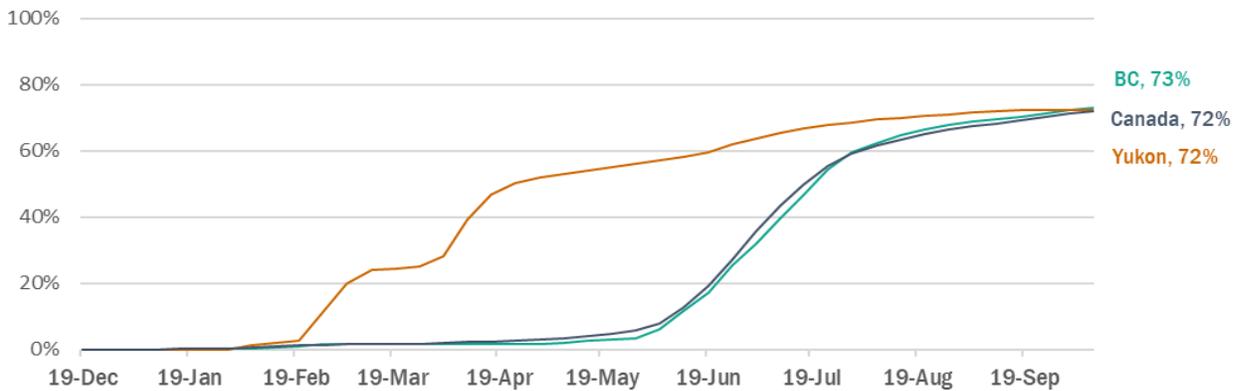


Note: Counts have been averaged where one number was reported for multi-day periods.

### COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN BC – PAST THREE MONTHS



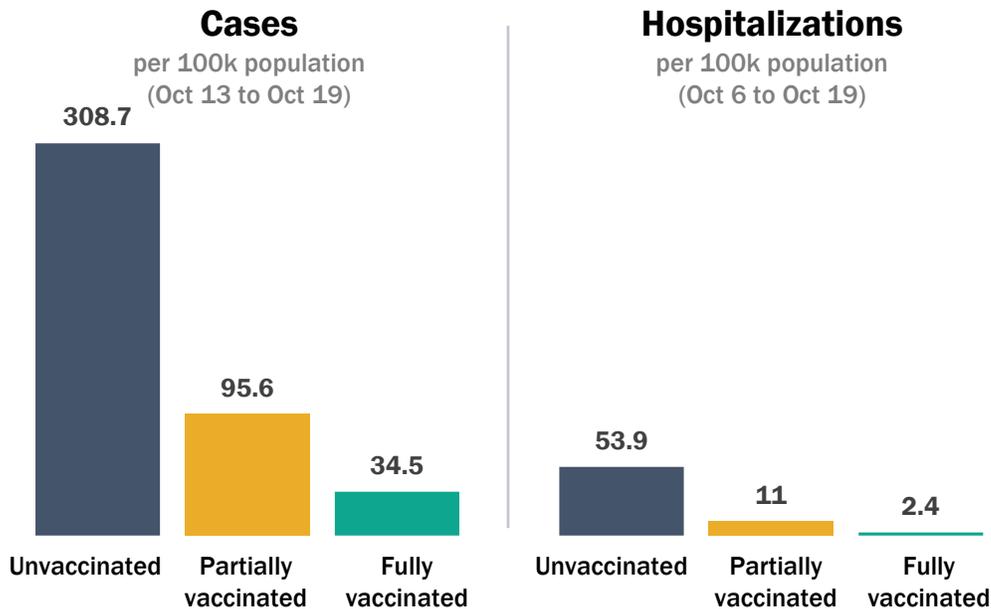
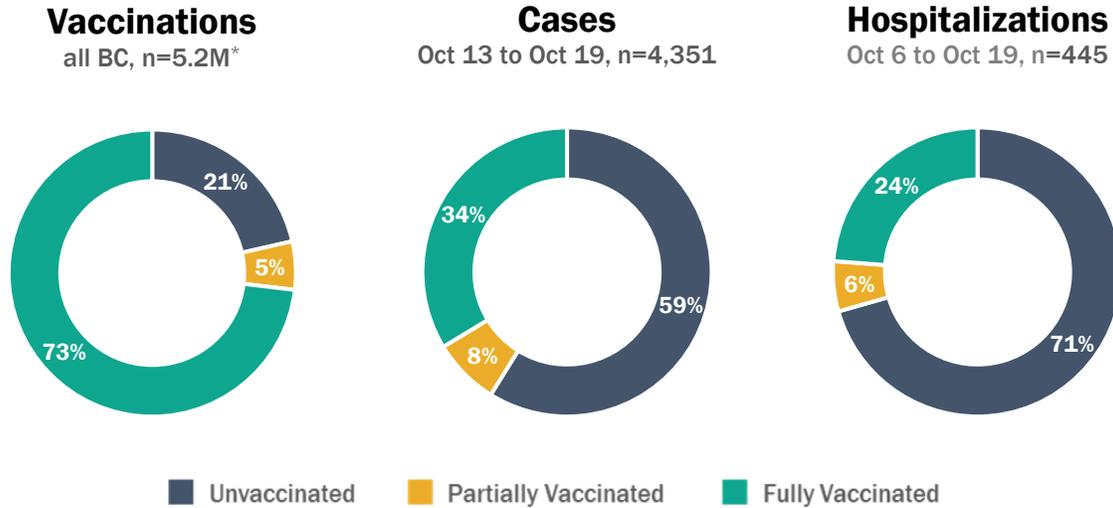
### CUMULATIVE % OF PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED WITH A COVID-19 VACCINE<sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup> <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccination-coverage/>

## COVID-19 INFECTIONS IN B.C. BY VACCINATION STATUS

- From October 13 to October 19, 2021, people not fully vaccinated accounted for 66.4% of cases, and from October 6 to October 19, 2021, they accounted for 76.2% of hospitalizations.<sup>5,6</sup>



<sup>5</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/>

<sup>6</sup> Note: As more people get vaccinated and there are fewer unvaccinated people, the percent of cases among vaccinated people is expected to increase.

\* <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccination-coverage/>

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, the Government of British Columbia announced it intends to introduce legislation to extend key COVID-19 orders.<sup>7</sup>
  - “Due to the ongoing fourth wave of the pandemic, the Province intends to introduce amendments to the COVID-19 Related Measures Act to extend it beyond the repeal date of Dec. 31, 2021.”
  - “The act provides statutory authority for various COVID-19 related orders that were introduced to respond to and minimize the effect of the pandemic.”
    - “This includes orders:
      - to allow for remote witnessing of the signing of key legal documents;
      - to allow the courts to specify that court proceedings can be conducted remotely; and
      - to support orders of the provincial health officer that impose conditions on the number of long-term care facilities staff are permitted to work at to help reduce COVID-19 transmission.”
  - “Additionally, the act provides civil liability protection to certain individuals or businesses that are providing an essential service, operating a business or engaged in an activity that benefits the community, as long as they are following the necessary public health orders.”
  - “The Province is providing notice of this planned amendment to assist affected organizations and businesses in planning for the possibility that existing orders that apply to their operations will continue beyond Dec. 31, 2021.”
- Today, the Government of British Columbia announced the launch of the first accredited PPE testing lab in Western Canada.<sup>8</sup> Highlights include the following:
  - “The Province is further protecting health-care workers, patients, families and frontline workers during COVID-19 with Western Canada’s first accredited personal protective equipment (PPE) lab, specializing in testing and validating PPE.”
  - “PPE, which includes medical gloves, gowns, surgical masks and N95 respirators, works as a barrier between an individual’s skin, mouth, nose, or eyes and viral and bacterial infections.”
    - “When used properly and with other infection-control practices, such as hand washing, PPE minimizes the spread of infection from one person to another.”
  - “At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was an immediate increased demand for PPE around the world and it severely disrupted global supply chains.”
    - “VCH recognized the need for a local lab that could quickly test and validate the effectiveness of PPE to provide assurance to health-care workers and patients in the province.”

---

<sup>7</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021AG0157-002002>

<sup>8</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0186-002010>

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

- No updates from the Yukon Territory.

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, announced targeted COVID-19 support measures to create jobs and growth<sup>9</sup>. Highlights are as follows:
  - “This includes moving from the very broad-based support that was appropriate at the height of lockdowns to more targeted measures that will provide help where it is needed, while prudently managing government spending.”
  - “The government is proposing the following changes to business support programs:
    - Extend the Canada Recovery Hiring Program until May 7, 2022, for eligible employers with current revenue losses above 10 per cent and increase the subsidy rate to 50 per cent.”
      - “The extension would help businesses continue to hire back workers and to create the additional jobs Canada needs for a full recovery.”
    - “Deliver targeted support to businesses that are still facing significant pandemic-related challenges. Support would be available through two streams:
      - **Tourism and Hospitality Recovery Program**, which would provide support through the wage and rent subsidy programs, to hotels, tour operators, travel agencies, and restaurants, with a subsidy rate of up to 75 per cent.
      - **Hardest-Hit Business Recovery Program**, which would provide support through the wage and rent subsidy programs, would support other businesses that have faced deep losses, with a subsidy rate of up to 50 per cent.”
    - “Applicants for these programs will use a new “two-key” eligibility system whereby they will need to demonstrate significant revenue losses over the course of 12 months of the pandemic, as well as revenue losses in the current month.”
    - “Businesses that face temporary new local lockdowns will be eligible for up to the maximum amount of the wage and rent subsidy programs, during the local lockdown, regardless of losses over the course of the pandemic.”
    - “These programs will be available until May 7, 2022, with the proposed subsidy rates available through to March 13, 2022.”
      - “From March 13, 2022, to May 7, 2022, the subsidy rates will decrease by half.”
    - “To ensure that workers continue to have support and that no one is left behind, the government proposes to:
      - Extend the **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit** and the **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit** until May 7, 2022, and increase the maximum duration of benefits by 2 weeks.

---

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2021/10/government-announces-targeted-covid-19-support-measures-to-create-jobs-and-growth.html>

- This would extend the caregiving benefit from 42 to 44 weeks and the sickness benefit from 4 to 6 weeks.
- Establish the **Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit** which would provide \$300 a week in income support to eligible workers should they be unable to work due to a local lockdown anytime between October 24, 2021 and May 7, 2022.”
- “With these changes, the government is supporting the hardest-hit sectors and those who are affected by the virus while recognizing that broad-based assistance is no longer needed.”
- “These changes will continue to prioritize job creation and a strong economic recovery.”
- Further details on these programs can be found at [Targeting COVID-19 Support Measures](#) and [The Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit](#).
- Today, the Government of Canada has announced an accelerated delivery schedule of COVID-19 paediatric vaccines pending regulatory authorization<sup>10</sup>.
  - “Throughout the pandemic, the Government of Canada has worked closely with vaccine manufacturers to negotiate the delivery of vaccines to Canada as quickly as possible.”
  - “On October 18, 2021, Pfizer submitted an application to Health Canada for regulatory review of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine COMIRNATY for children aged 5-11.”
  - “The Government of Canada and Pfizer have agreed to an accelerated delivery schedule of this vaccine, pending regulatory authorization.”
    - “Specifically, Pfizer and BioNTech have shared that deliveries of 2.9 million doses will begin shortly after regulatory authorization so that Canada receives enough doses to administer a first shot for all eligible children.”
- Today, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada released a statement regarding the use of Canada’s COVID-19 proof of vaccination for travel<sup>11</sup>. Highlights are as follows:
  - “The Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination provides Canadian residents with a reliable way to demonstrate that they are vaccinated against COVID-19 when travelling within and outside Canada.”
    - Canadians can get their proof of vaccination from their province or territory (for more information, visit [Canada.ca/vaccine-proof](https://Canada.ca/vaccine-proof)).
  - “Each country decides what type of vaccination proof is required, the types of vaccines they accept, the number of doses required, and any exemptions to public health measures.”
    - “Even with a Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination, a traveller may not be considered fully vaccinated in another country.”
    - “Canadians should always check the entry and public health requirements of their destination country, as well as the Government of Canada’s travel advice and advisories, before booking a trip.”

---

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-services-procurement/news/2021/10/canada-announces-accelerated-delivery-of-covid-19-paediatric-vaccine-pending-regulatory-authorization.html>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2021/10/canadian-covid-19-proof-vaccination.html>

- “It’s also important they understand their obligations and the entry requirements for returning to Canada.”
- **Designed to protect privacy and share COVID-19 vaccination information safely**
  - “The information on the proof of vaccination is limited to:
    - the holder’s full name and date of birth;
    - a neutral, factual account of the holder’s COVID-19 vaccination history, including:
      - the number of doses;
      - the vaccine type(s), product name(s) and lot number(s);
      - the dates they got their vaccinations;
      - a QR code that includes the vaccination history and may include additional information on the COVID-19 vaccines received.”
  - “The only medical information shown is a person’s COVID-19 vaccination history.”
    - “The proof, including the QR code, does not contain any additional medical or identity information.”
- **A common look across Canada based on the SMART Health Card standard**
  - “The Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination was designed with a common look that features the Canada wordmark.”
    - “It will allow other countries and transportation providers, such as airlines and cruise ship operators, to recognize the proof as a trusted Canadian document regardless of the province or territory that issued it.”
  - “The proof also complies with the SMART Health Card standard, which is used and recognized by many top travel destinations for Canadian travellers.”
    - “The Government of Canada is actively engaging international partners to seek recognition and acceptance of the Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination abroad.”
    - “The SMART Health Card:
      - is a secure and verifiable health record that is digitally signed by a trusted authority (for example, the issuing province or territory);
      - uses technology that allows officials to verify and authenticate the information without giving access to other health or identity information;
      - prevents forgeries and tampering by detecting any changes to the document after it has been issued;
      - allows users to hold a digital copy on a portable device, such as a mobile phone or tablet, or to print a copy directly or via a request to their provincial or territorial government, where available.”
- **ArriveCAN updates for travellers entering Canada**
  - “All travellers must submit mandatory information in ArriveCAN (mobile app or online at [Canada.ca/ArriveCAN](https://Canada.ca/ArriveCAN)) within 72 hours before arrival in Canada.”

- “To qualify for public health exemptions, travellers must meet the definition of a fully vaccinated traveller and upload their proof of vaccination.”
- “Final determination on whether they benefit from the modified provisions for fully vaccinated travellers is made at the border.”
- “Travellers must bring a digital or paper copy of their proof of vaccination with them.”
- “ArriveCAN has been updated to digitally verify the authenticity of the new Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination, allowing Canadian officials to easily review it at the border.”
  - “ArriveCAN users should update their app to ensure the latest functionality.”
  - “If travellers do not have this new proof, they can continue to upload other proofs of vaccination in ArriveCAN.”
- **Acceptance of mixed vaccine doses internationally**
  - “Canadians vaccinated with mixed vaccine doses followed recommendations made by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization to protect themselves and their communities.”
    - “It is important that they are able to travel with the associated benefits of vaccination.”
  - “As of November 8, 2021, Canadians vaccinated with any combination of 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by U.S. regulators or the World Health Organization will be considered fully vaccinated and able to enter the United States.”
    - “The Government of Canada is actively engaging other countries and international partners to encourage them to recognize those who have received mixed vaccine schedules or extended dose intervals as being fully vaccinated.”
- **Using the proof of vaccination for travel in Canada**
  - “The Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination offers multiple benefits and uses, which includes meeting Canada’s new traveller vaccine requirements.”
  - “Effective October 30, 2021, all travellers 12 years of age and older departing from Canadian airports, and travellers on VIA Rail and Rocky Mountaineer trains, will be required to be fully vaccinated in order to travel.”
    - “To allow travellers time to become fully vaccinated, there will be a short transition period where they will be able to travel if they show a valid COVID-19 molecular test within 72 hours of travel as an alternative to providing proof of full vaccination.”
    - “If travellers have not already started the vaccination process, or do not start soon, they risk not qualifying for travel as of November 30, 2021.”
  - “Visit [Boarding flights to and within Canada](#) for more information.”