

## 3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 1 November 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 29</b>	<b>As of Nov 1</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	204,914	206,284	<b>1,370*</b>
Total active cases in BC	4,982	4,668	<b>-314</b>
Currently in intensive care	155	140	<b>-15</b>
Currently hospitalized	436	436	<b>0</b>
Total hospitalized to date**	11,338	-	<b>-</b>
Total deaths in BC	2,156	25	<b>2,181</b>
Total recovered in BC	197,396	199,107	<b>1,711</b>
<b>CONFIRMED CASES BY BC REGION<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 29</b>	<b>As of Nov 1</b>	<b>Change</b>
Vancouver Coastal Health	43,412	43,536	<b>124</b>
Fraser Health	104,567	105,170	<b>603</b>
Island Health	10,682	10,900	<b>218</b>
Interior Health	30,641	30,863	<b>222</b>
Northern Health	15,315	15,518	<b>203</b>
Out of Canada	297	297	<b>0</b>
<b>STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 29</b>	<b>As of Nov 1</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	921	944	<b>23</b>
Total active cases	70	68	<b>-2</b>
Total deaths	10	10	<b>0</b>
Total recovered	856	874	<b>18</b>
<b>STATUS OF FN RESERVE CASES<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>As of Oct 27</b>	<b>As of Oct 29</b>	<b>Change</b>
Total confirmed cases	46,564	46,731	<b>167</b>
Total active cases	1,562	1,618	<b>56</b>
Total hospitalized	2,168	2,179	<b>11</b>
Total deaths	487	491	<b>4</b>
Total recovered	44,515	44,622	<b>107</b>
Total confirmed cases in BC	5,297	5,357	<b>60</b>

<sup>1</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021HLTH0068-002085>

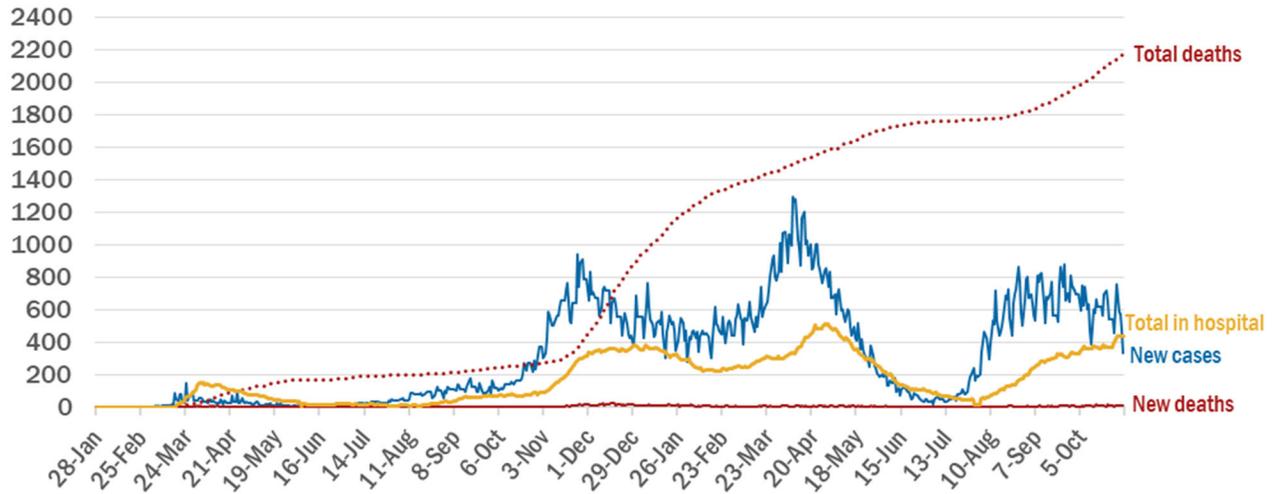
<sup>2</sup> <https://yukon.ca/en/case-counts-covid-19>

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

\*The Government of B.C. reported 568 new cases of COVID-19 on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>, 470 on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, and 332 on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> (1,370 total).

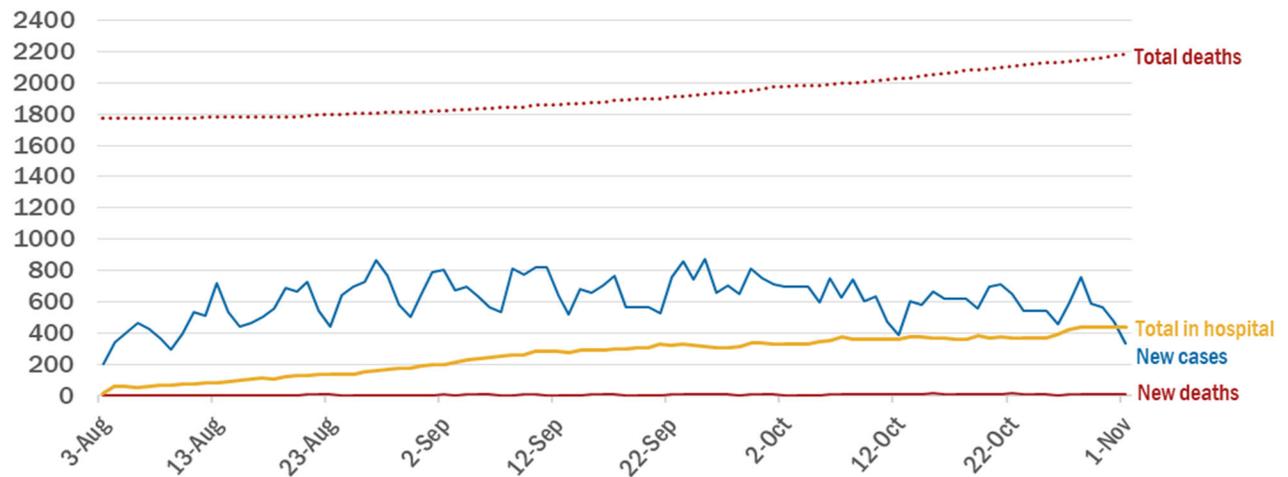
\*\* Due to a B.C. Government database error, total hospitalizations was not available at time of reporting (5:15

### COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN BC

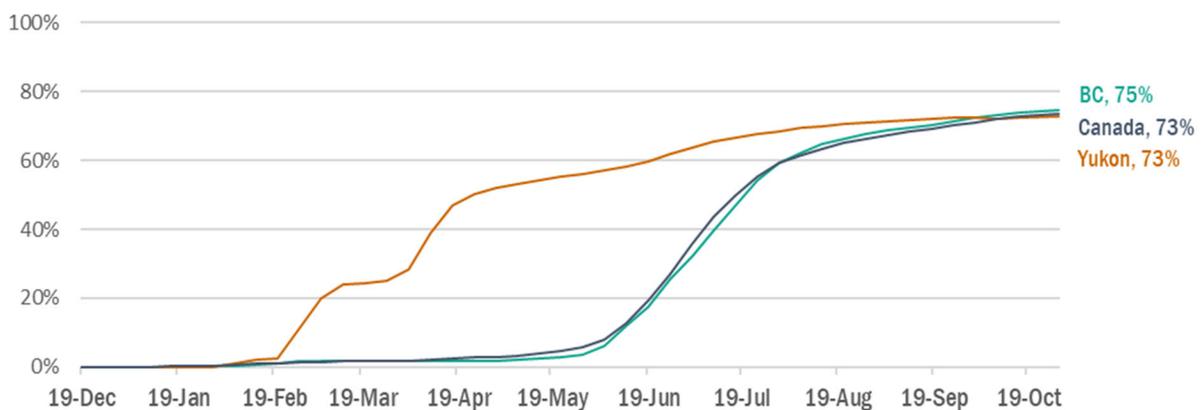


Note: Counts have been averaged where one number was reported for multi-day periods.

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



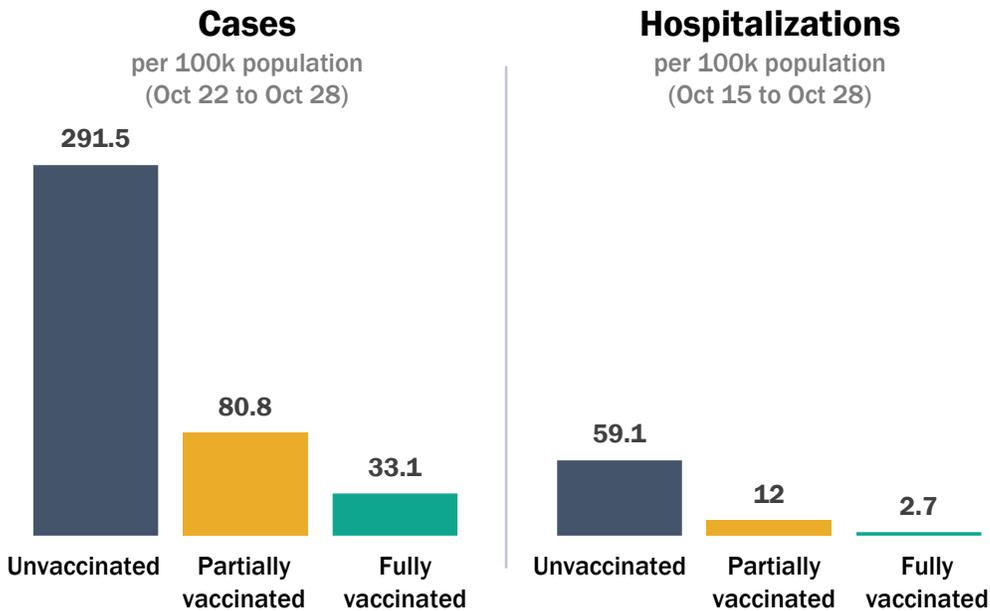
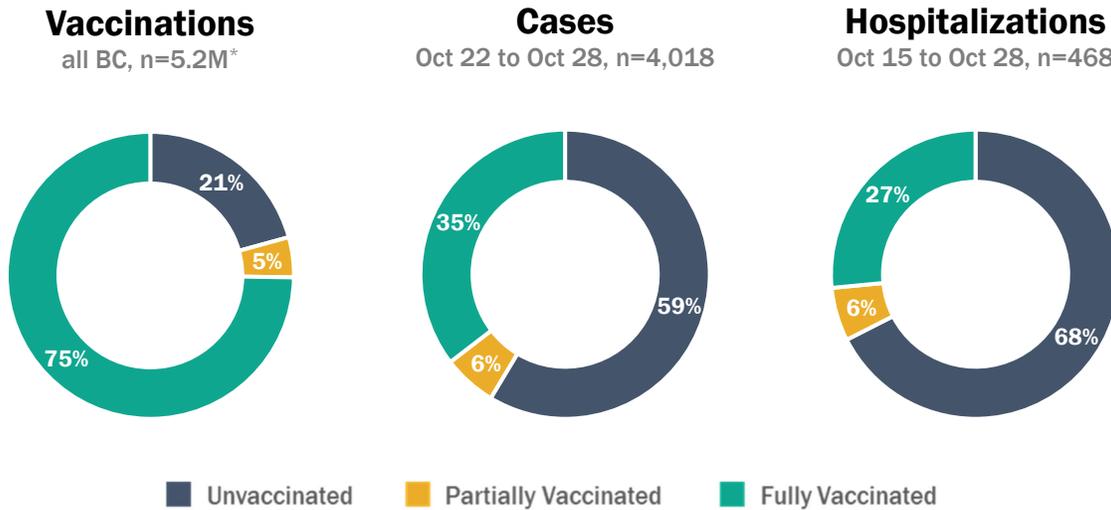
### CUMULATIVE % OF PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED WITH A COVID-19 VACCINE<sup>4</sup>



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

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

- From October 22 to October 28, 2021, people not fully vaccinated accounted for 64.6% of cases, and from October 15 to October 28, 2021, they accounted for 73.5% of hospitalizations.<sup>5,6</sup>



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

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

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

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, Northern Health Authority appealed to residents of Northeast B.C. to get vaccinated against COVID-19 for personal safety and to reduce pressure on the region's health care system.<sup>7</sup>
  - The Northeast of B.C. continues to experience significant COVID-19 activity and an increase in hospitalizations of patients with confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19, particularly in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek, and surrounding areas.
    - The majority of patients being admitted for COVID-19 are not fully vaccinated.
  - To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect health services, Northern Health Authority is encouraging the following:
    - **Get vaccinated**
      - While vaccination rates are rising in large centres in Northern B.C., some areas continue to have some of the lowest vaccination rates in the province.
      - To find a nearby vaccine clinic, please visit:  
<https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/covid-19-immunization-clinics>
    - **Adhere to regional public health orders**
      - Public health measures are in place, including restrictions on, and vaccination requirements for, personal gatherings and events.
      - For details on current restrictions, please visit:  
<https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/covid-19-orders>
    - **Self-monitor and seek testing for symptoms**
      - Self-monitor for COVID-19 and if symptoms develop, self-isolate and submit a request for COVID-19 testing online or call the Northern Health Virtual Primary and Community Care clinic at 1-844-646-7811.
- Today, the Government of B.C. announced that all direct provincial government employees are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by November 22<sup>nd</sup>.<sup>8</sup>
  - This requirement applies to:
    - Any B.C. Public Servant regardless of whether the employee works on site or remotely.
    - Employees of any board, commission, agency, or organization in which the Public Service Act applies or whose employees are hired in accordance with the Public Service Act, unless the organization has a comparable policy in place by Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Government employees who do not have at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by November 22<sup>nd</sup>, where there is not an approved exemption based on a medical condition or other legitimate grounds, will be placed on unpaid leave for three months.
    - Partially vaccinated employees may be offered alternative work arrangements and will be required to provide proof of full vaccination with 35 days of having received

<sup>7</sup> <https://stories.northernhealth.ca/news/nh-appeal-covid-19-vaccination-and-prevention-reduce-strain-resources>

<sup>8</sup> <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021FIN0068-002083>

the first dose. Partially vaccinated employees who are not fully vaccinated within that timeline will be placed on unpaid leave.

- Employees who are still unvaccinated after the three-month unpaid leave may be terminated.
- Providing proof of vaccination must be done by showing a digital or paper version of the B.C. Vaccine Card.
  - Employees who do not provide proof of vaccination, or refuse to disclose vaccination status by November 22<sup>nd</sup> will be considered unvaccinated.
- The Government of B.C. has also updated the B.C. Public Service Occupational Safety and Health Policy to require contractors and others accessing employee-only areas of indoor public service workplaces to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by December 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - This policy does not apply to members of the public accessing government services.

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

- No significant updates from the Government of Yukon.

**Note:** COVID-19 public exposure notices can be found at the following locations:

<https://bit.ly/NorthernHealthExposures> and <https://bit.ly/YukonExposures>

## SIGNIFICANT UPDATES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- On October 29<sup>th</sup>, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) released interim guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) on COVID-19 vaccine booster doses in select populations.<sup>9</sup> At this time, NACI strongly recommends that:
  - Populations that are at the highest risk of waning protection following the primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine **should be offered** a booster of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after completing the primary series. These populations include:
    - Adults living in long-term care or other congregate settings that provide care for seniors.
    - Adults 80 years of age and older.
  - Key populations who may be at increased risk of lower protection over time since the primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine **may be offered** a booster dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after completing the primary series. These populations include:
    - Adults 70 to 79 years of age.
    - People who received two doses of the AstraZeneca Vaxzevria/COVISHIELD vaccine or one dose of the Janssen vaccine.
    - Adults in or from First Nations, Inuit, and Metis communities.
    - Adults who are frontline healthcare workers who have direct in-person contact with patients and who were vaccinated with a short interval.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-use-covid-19-vaccines/statement-guidance-booster-doses/summary/summary.pdf>

- For the full statement from NACI on COVID-19 vaccine boosters, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-use-covid-19-vaccines/statement-guidance-booster-doses/statement-guidance-booster-doses.pdf>
- Today, the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health released a statement regarding COVID-19 vaccinations and the use of COVID-19 vaccine boosters.<sup>10</sup> Highlights include the following:
  - Across Canada, over 84% of the eligible population aged 12 years and older have now been vaccinated with two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine.
  - The majority of hospitalizations due to COVID-19 continue to be amongst the unvaccinated population and all Canadians are urged to get vaccinated as it is the best defence against severe illness and from COVID-19.
  - On October 29<sup>th</sup>, NACI provided interim guidance on the use of a COVID-19 vaccine booster at least six months after receipt of a two dose vaccine series to provide longer protection against COVID-19.
    - The key populations recommended to receive boosters includes:
      - Those at greatest risk of decreased protection overtime.
      - Those at greatest risk of severe illness and outcomes.
      - Health care providers who received the initial vaccine series with less than 28 days between the first and second dose.
    - There is no evidence of widespread waning of protection against the disease from the primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine in the general population and therefore, boosters are not required for the general population at this time.
      - NACI and the Government of Canada will continue to monitor vaccine effectiveness and other data to inform the requirement in the future.

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

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/11/statement-from-the-council-of-chief-medical-officers-of-health-ccmoh-covid-19-vaccination-and-the-use-of-covid-19-vaccine-boosters.html>