

3 NATIONS COVID-19 UPDATE – 23 December 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

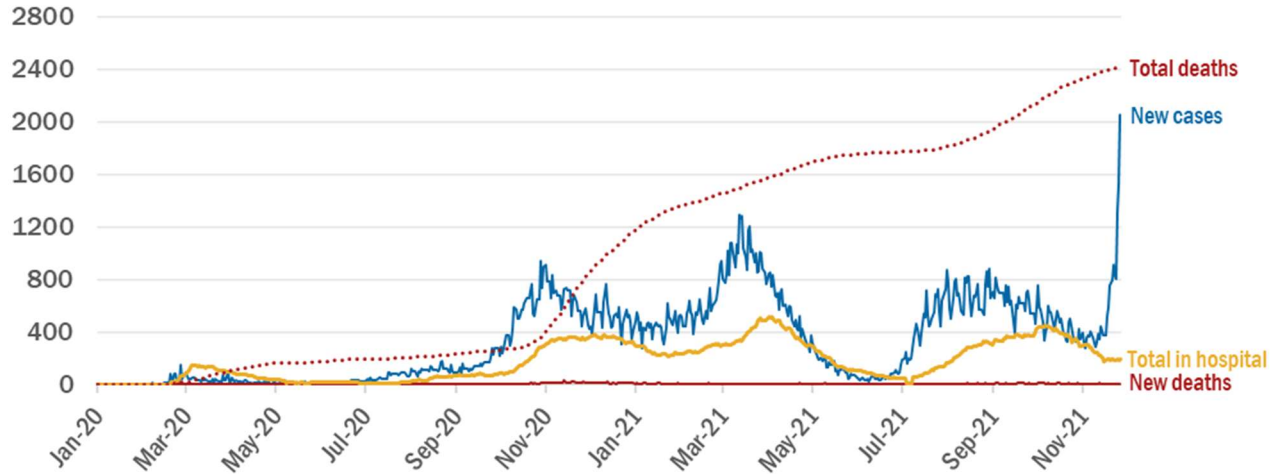
STATUS OF CASES IN BC¹	As of Dec 22	As of Dec 23	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	231,171	233,217	2,046
Total active cases in BC	7,307	8,739	1,432
Currently in intensive care	71	75	4
Currently hospitalized	187	195	8
Total hospitalized to date	12,719	12,734	25
Total deaths in BC	2,409	2,410	1
Total recovered in BC	221,280	221,872	592
CONFIRMED CASES BY BC REGION¹	As of Dec 22	As of Dec 23	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	48,705	49,585	880
Fraser Health	113,116	113,857	741
Island Health	15,144	15,392	248
Interior Health	35,560	35,683	123
Northern Health	18,343	18,396	53
Out of Canada	303	304	1
STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON²	As of Dec 22	As of Dec 23	Change
Total confirmed cases	1,652	1,661	9
Total active cases	47	52	5
Total deaths	14	14	0
Total recovered	1,595	1,602	7
STATUS OF FN RESERVE CASES³	As of Dec 21	As of Dec 22	Change
Total confirmed cases	52,263	52,487	224
Total active cases	837	916	79
Total hospitalized	2,422	2,426	4
Total deaths	561	561	0
Total recovered	50,865	51,010	145
Total confirmed cases in BC	6,307	6,310	3

¹ BCCDC COVID-19 Dashboard

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

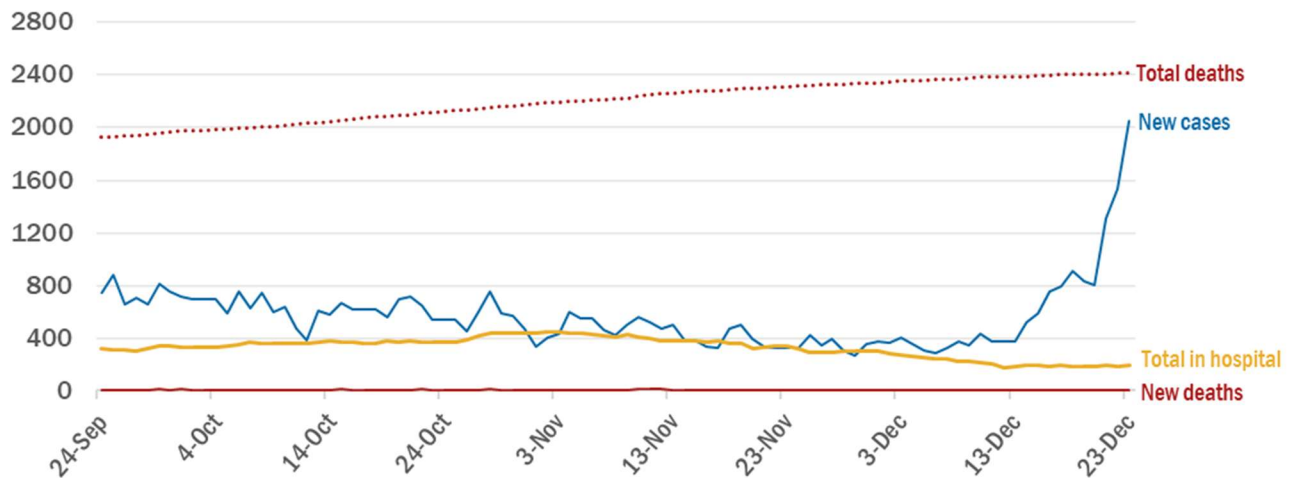
³ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1598625105013/1598625167707>

COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN BC

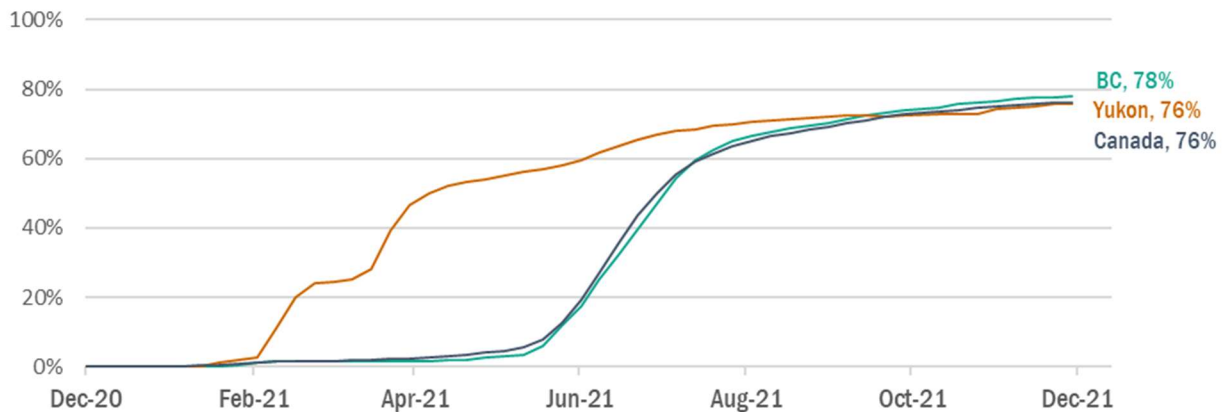


Note: Counts have been averaged where one number was reported for multi-day periods.

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



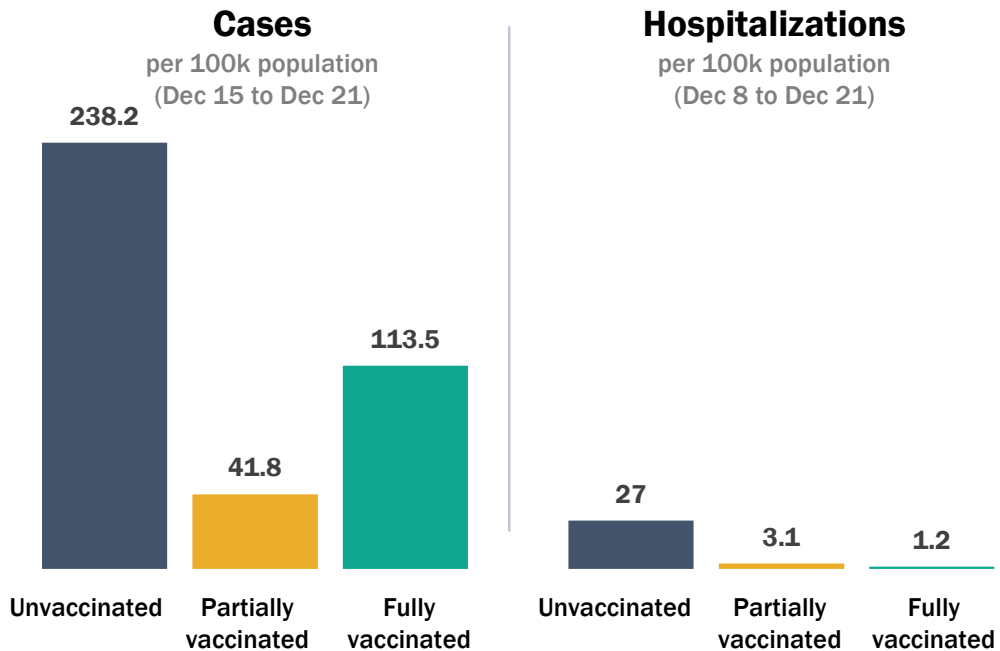
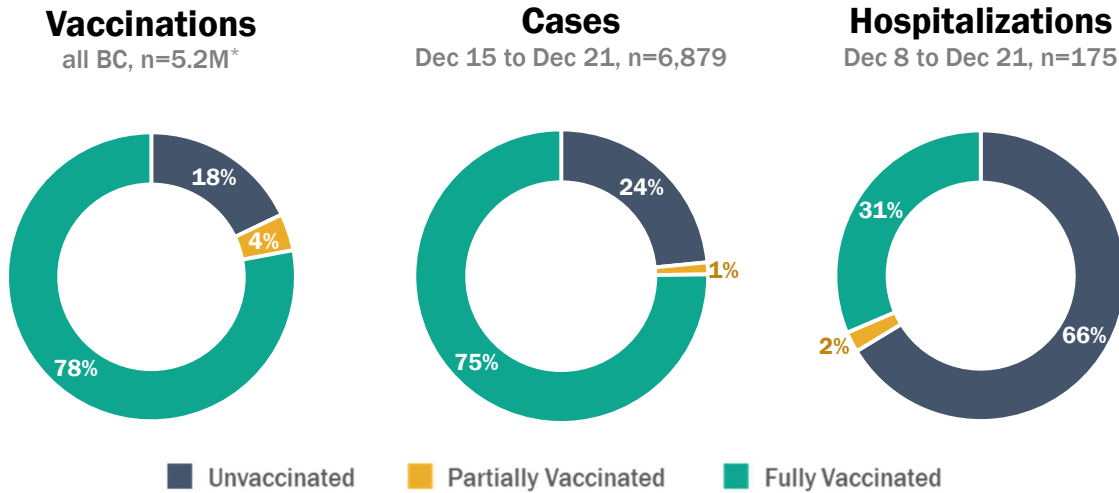
CUMULATIVE % OF PEOPLE FULLY VACCINATED WITH A COVID-19 VACCINE⁴



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

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

- From December 15 to December 21, 2021, people not fully vaccinated accounted for 24.8% of cases, and from December 8 to December 21, 2021, they accounted for 68.6% of hospitalizations.^{5,6}



⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/>

⁶ 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, the Government of British Columbia announced new supports for businesses closed by public health restrictions.⁷ Highlights include the following:
 - Businesses that were mandated to temporarily shut down through public health orders because of surging COVID-19 cases will be eligible to receive a new one-time relief grant.
 - Grants will be between \$1,000 and \$10,000 based on the number of employees.
 - “The COVID-19 Closure Relief Grant will supplement federal support programs and provide funding to help affected businesses alleviate some financial pressures and help with expenses including rent, employee wages, insurance, maintenance and utilities.”
 - The grant was fast-tracked following new restrictions announced by the provincial health officer and will cost an estimated \$10 million.
 - Applications will open in January and February 2022.
 - More information on how to apply will be made available over the next few weeks.

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

- Today, the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health (CCMOH), issued a statement regarding COVID-19 vaccination and the Omicron variant.⁸ Highlights include the following:
 - The focus of vaccination is now on offering a primary series to those aged 5 years and older, as well as adult booster doses to protect families and communities against severe COVID-19 outcomes.
 - “Omicron is likely to be a dominant variant circulating in the population for months to come, and it will be important to optimize protection over the longer term.”
 - “We are still gathering information on how well vaccines work against transmission and severe disease that may result from Omicron.”
 - There is emerging evidence that two doses of a mRNA vaccine are less effective at preventing Omicron infection compared to previous variants.
 - Evidence indicates good protection against more severe disease requiring hospitalization.

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2021JERI0081-002441>

⁸ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2021/12/statement-from-the-council-of-chief-medical-officers-of-health-ccmoh-covid-19-vaccination-and-the-omicron-variant.html>

- It is particularly important to prioritize booster doses for healthcare workers and for those at highest risk of severe illness from COVID-19. These groups include:
 - older age groups
 - those living in long term care homes and other congregate living settings that provide care for seniors
 - Indigenous peoples
 - those with high risk medical conditions
- “Receiving the booster dose is expected to provide a reasonable level of protection against infection (at least in the short term) and substantial protection against severe illness.”

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