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Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Outbreak update

Outbreak update

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Current situation

Areas in Canada with cases of COVID-19 as of March 23, 2020, 6:00 pm EDT

Province, territory or other	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of deaths
British Columbia	472	0	13

Province, territory or other	Number of confirmed cases	Number of probable cases	Number of deaths
Alberta	301	0	1
Saskatchewan	65	1	0
Manitoba	11	9	0
Ontario	503	0	6
Quebec	221	407	4
New Brunswick	9	8	0
Nova Scotia	41	0	0
Prince Edward Island	3	0	0
Newfoundland and Labrador	4	20	0
Yukon	2	0	0
Northwest Territories	1	0	0
Nunavut	0	0	0
Repatriated travellers	13	0	0
Total	1,646	445	24

A detailed [epidemiologic summary](#) is available.

Global

On March 11, 2020, [the World Health Organization \(WHO\) assessed COVID-19 as a pandemic](#).

This assessment by the WHO is not unexpected. Describing the situation as a pandemic does not change the WHO's assessment of the threat posed by COVID-19 and it does not change what the WHO is doing. It also does not change what countries around the world should do. For that reason, it does not change the approach we are taking in Canada.

Canada's public health system is prepared. Since the outset, the Public Health Agency of Canada - along with [public health authorities](#) at all levels of government across the country - have been working together to ensure that our preparedness and response measures are appropriate and adaptable, based on the latest science and the evolving situation.

Aside from Canada, other countries and regions are reporting cases. Check the latest [travel health notices](#) before travelling.

▶ North America

▶ Central America, Caribbean and South America

▶ Africa

▶ Europe

▶ Asia

▶ Oceania

Risk to Canadians

COVID-19 is a serious health threat, and the situation is evolving daily. The risk will vary between and within communities, but given the increasing number of cases in Canada, the risk to Canadians is considered **high**.

This does not mean that all Canadians will get the disease. It means that there is already a significant impact on our health care system. If we do not flatten the epidemic curve now, the increase of COVID-19 cases could impact health care resources available to Canadians.

There is an increased risk of more severe outcomes for Canadians:

- aged 65 and over
- with compromised immune systems
- with underlying medical conditions

There are also increased health risks for Canadian travellers abroad. Because of these risks, the Government of Canada advises you to **avoid non-essential travel outside of Canada until further notice**. This includes **cruise ships**.

It is important for all travellers to:

- **self-isolate** for 14 days after returning from travel outside of Canada
 - some provinces and territories may have specific recommendations for certain groups such as health care workers
- monitor your health for symptoms such as for cough, fever or difficulty breathing
- wash your hands often for 20 seconds and cough or sneeze into a tissue or the bend of your arm, not your hand

We continue to reassess the public health risk, based on the best available evidence as the situation evolves.

Do you think you might have COVID-19? Use our **self-assessment tool** to find out what to do.

How Canada is monitoring COVID-19

The health and safety of all Canadians is our top priority.

The Public Health Agency of Canada is working with provinces, territories and international partners, including the World Health Organization, to actively monitor the situation. Global efforts are focused on containment of the outbreak and the prevention of further spread.

Canada's Chief Public Health Officer of Canada is in close contact with provincial and territorial Chief Medical Officers of Health to ensure that any cases of COVID-19 occurring in Canada continue to be rapidly identified and managed in order to protect the health of Canadians.

Canada's National Microbiology Laboratory is performing diagnostic testing for the virus that causes COVID-19. The laboratory is working in close collaboration with provincial and territorial public health laboratories, which are now able to test for COVID-19. A summary of people tested in Canada is available and updated each week day.

National Microbiology Laboratory's summary of people tested in Canada as of March 23, 2020 at 6:00 pm EDT

Total number of patients tested in Canada	Total positive	Total negative
107,147	1,584	95,500

This testing summary represents information collected by the laboratory and **not** the [total reported cases](#) in Canada. The remainder of tests not reported here are still being resolved.

Should there be any differences with the national case count compared with testing numbers reported by provincial and territorial public health officials, provincial data should be considered the most up-to-date.

For more information, visit [Canada's response page](#).

History

▼ March 2020

- On March 18, 2020, Canada announces **financial help**, through the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan, for Canadians and businesses facing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.
- On March 18, 2020, Canada implements a **ban on foreign nationals from all countries**, except the United States from entering Canada, **Canada-U.S. border closes** to all non-essential travel, and **redirects international passenger flight arrivals** to four airports in Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal.
- On March 16, 2020, Canada advises **travellers entering Canada to self-isolate for**

14 days.

- On March 13, 2020, Canada advises Canadians to **avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada** until further notice.
- On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declares the global outbreak of COVID-19 a **pandemic**.
- On March 9, 2020, **Canada confirms its first death related to COVID-19**.

▶ February 2020

▶ January 2020

▶ December 2019

Contact us

For information on COVID-19, refer to our [frequently asked questions](#). If you are looking for information on COVID-19, specific to your province, refer to our [resources page](#).

If you have additional questions that are not answered on our website:

- call us at 1-833-784-4397 (interpretation services are available in multiple languages)
- email us at phac.info.aspc@canada.ca

Note that we are currently experiencing a high volume of requests.

Callers may experience long wait times while others may encounter a busy signal. We are working hard to answer your questions.

Updates

Title	Date
Prime Minister announces efforts to bring Canadians home from abroad	2020-03-21
No scientific evidence that ibuprofen worsens COVID-19 symptoms	2020-03-20
Government of Canada funds 49 additional COVID-19 research projects	2020-03-19
Expedited access to disinfectants, hand sanitizers and personal protective equipment to help limit the spread of COVID-19, as well as swabs for testing	2020-03-18
Health Canada expedites access to COVID-19 diagnostic laboratory test kits and other medical devices	2020-03-18

Title	Date
<u>Prime Minister announces more support for workers and businesses through Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan</u>	2020-03-18
<u>Canadian Food Inspection Agency update regarding COVID-19</u>	2020-03-17
<u>First Ministers discuss collective efforts to address the impact of COVID-19</u>	2020-03-13
<u>Government of Canada advises Canadians to avoid non-essential travel abroad</u>	2020-03-13
<u>Prime Minister speaks with National Indigenous Leaders on efforts to address the impact of COVID-19</u>	2020-03-13
<u>Statement on a case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in a passenger from the <i>Grand Princess</i></u>	2020-03-11
<u>Prime Minister outlines Canada's COVID-19 response</u>	2020-03-11
<u>Government of Canada repatriates Canadians from <i>Grand Princess</i> cruise ship</u>	2020-03-10
<u>Government of Canada evacuating Canadians on board Grand Princess cruise ship</u>	2020-03-08
<u>Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of repatriated Canadians from quarantine following 14-day stay at the NAV CENTRE</u>	2020-03-06
<u>Prime Minister creates committee on COVID-19</u>	2020-03-04
<u>Update: special immigration measures expanded to applicants in Iran and South Korea affected by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)</u>	2020-02-29
<u>Update #6: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for the 2019 novel coronavirus</u>	2020-02-26
<u>Update: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of repatriated Canadians from quarantine following 14-day stay at CFB Trenton</u>	2020-02-25
<u>Update #5: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for the 2019 novel coronavirus</u>	2020-02-23
<u>Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of repatriated Canadians from quarantine following 14-day stay at CFB Trenton</u>	2020-02-21
<u>Government of Canada repatriates Canadians and their families from Diamond Princess cruise ship in Japan</u>	2020-02-21

Title	Date
Government of Canada evacuating Canadians on board Diamond Princess cruise ship	2020-02-15
Update #4: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for the 2019 novel coronavirus	2020-02-15
Update #3: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for the 2019 novel coronavirus	2020-02-12
Government of Canada repatriates more Canadians and their families from Wuhan, China	2020-02-11
Update #2: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for the 2019 novel coronavirus	2020-02-10
Community Safety a Top Priority in 2019-nCoV Repatriation Efforts	2020-02-10
Update: Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for the 2019 novel coronavirus	2020-02-10
Canada supports China's ongoing response to novel coronavirus outbreak	2020-02-09
Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on the release of selected individuals from quarantine for 2019 novel coronavirus	2020-02-09
Government of Canada repatriates Canadians and their families from the epicentre of the 2019-nCoV outbreak in China	2020-02-08
Government of Canada evacuating Canadians from Wuhan, China	2020-02-02
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau convenes the Incident Response Group for an update on the coronavirus situation	2020-02-02
Statement by Foreign Affairs Minister on travel to Hubei Province in China	2020-01-26
Statement by the Minister of Health on the First Presumptive Confirmed Travelled-Related Case of New Coronavirus in Canada	2020-01-25

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