

[Communicable Disease Control](#) [Respiratory Diseases](#)

Coronavirus



Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) virus not previously identified in people. COVID-19 was first identified in Wuhan in China on December 31, in 2019. Globally the situation is evolving rapidly, many countries around the world have cases and the World Health Organization has declared the virus a pandemic. A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges to infect people and can spread easily from person to person. Because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads worldwide.

In some countries there is rapid and widespread transmission with large numbers of people being ill at the same time. While most cases of COVID-19 cause mild infections, the elderly and those with chronic underlying conditions are most at risk for severe illness. Without measures to reduce the spread of the virus there can be a dramatic increase of severely ill people who require medical care and hospitalizations within a short period of time. Health care systems may become overloaded.

Slowing the spread of the virus can the number of people becoming sick all at once. This can be achieved through a combination of public health measures and the actions individuals and communities can take to prevent infections, save lives and minimize impact. We have to modify our behaviours including personal hygiene measures, like frequent hand-washing, covering our coughs, and practicing social distancing.

Be Informed Be Safe Be Prepared Be Kind

Cases and testing

LAST UPDATED: MARCH 15, 2020 AT 4:00 P.M. ▶

There are currently 244 confirmed cases 5 probable cases and 1 death in Canada. For more information visit the Public Health Agency of Canada. The cases in Canada are travel-related and are being isolated to prevent further transmission.

There are currently 1 confirmed* 5 probable case** and 0 deaths in New Brunswick.

New Brunswick Testing and Cases

Confirmed Cases*

1

Probable Cases**

5

Negative Cases***

40

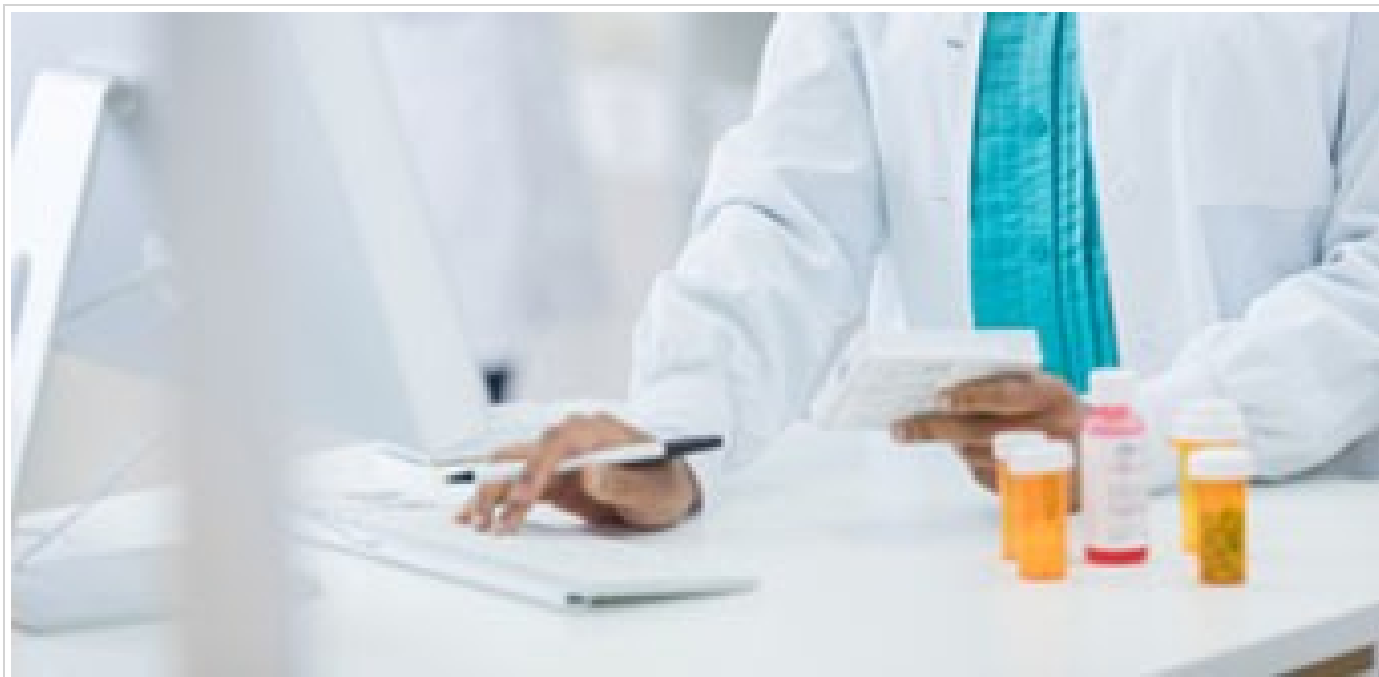
*Confirmed cases are those confirmed positive by the National Microbiology Lab (NML) in Winnipeg.

**Probable cases are those found to have a presumptive positive by the George Dumont Lab but have not yet received a confirmed positive by the NML.

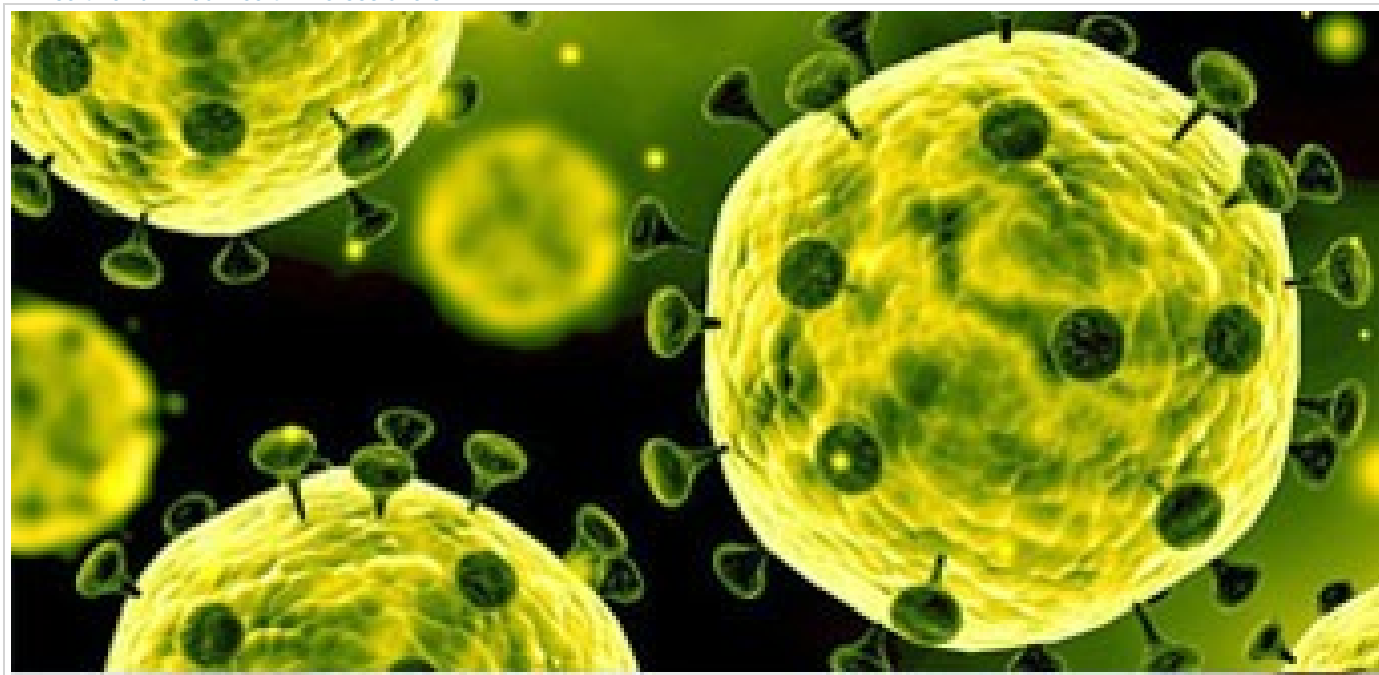
***Negative cases are those found to have a negative confirmation by the NML lab in Winnipeg.

Screening testing is done by the Dr. Georges L. Dumont Hospital

Confirmatory testing is done by the National Microbiology Laboratory.



Health and Allied Health Professionals



About COVID-19



Information for Travelers



Protect Yourself and Others



Community Preparedness



Resources

Current Situation

Public Health is closely monitoring the spread of COVID-19. This is a rapidly evolving situation and updated information and guidance will be provided as it becomes available.

Schools and early learning and child-care facilities

Effective Monday, March 16, all schools across the province will be closed for two weeks. This is in response to the COVID-19 situation. This closure will be reassessed on an ongoing basis.

All individuals who have travelled internationally on or after March 9. Those travellers are to avoid early learning and childcare centres for a period of 14 days.

Individuals with question relating to schools and early learning and child-care facilities may call 1-844-288-3888.

International Travellers

All travellers arriving in Canada from international points as of March 13, 2020 must **self-isolate** for 14 days. Self-isolation means staying at home and avoiding contact with other people to help prevent the spread of disease to others in your home and your community.

All international travellers must **self-monitor** for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days after returning to Canada. If you start having symptoms (headache, congestion, achiness, feeling unwell) or your symptoms get worse (fever, cough, difficulty breathing) isolate yourself from others as quickly as possible. Immediately call Tele-care 8-1-1. Describe your symptoms and travel history. They will provide advice on what you should do.

All individuals who have travelled outside the country should not visit those most at risk for severe illness. All international travelers are restricted

entering any health-care facilities and long-term care facilities for 14 days after they have returned to Canada. We are very concerned about keeping this infection out of nursing homes, seniors' residences, and other locations where vulnerable people are. Anyone who is feeling unwell should not enter such a facility.

Avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada. Many countries are reporting community or widespread transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19. In some countries, travelers may have limited access to timely and appropriate health care should they become ill. Local authorities may impose control measures suddenly, including movement restrictions such as quarantine.

Older people and those with a weakened immune system or underlying medical condition(s) are at a higher risk of developing severe disease.

If you must travel, please visit the Government of Canada's travel advice and advisories page for [your destination\(s\)](#) regularly to verify travel health recommendations and safety and security information.

Actions being taken

New Brunswick's public health officials are carefully monitoring the situation in Canada, and around the world, and are ready to respond should there be any cases in New Brunswick. They are:

- working closely with federal, provincial and territorial partners to share information and assess potential health risks
- ensuring our health system is ready to respond effectively if needed
- ensuring front-line health professionals have information about the virus so they can:
 - take recommended actions
 - promptly report suspected cases to public health officials
 - investigate of persons who may have been exposed and are potentially at risk of developing illness to help prevent spread

Quick Links

- ▶ [Frequently asked questions](#)
- ▶ [Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\)](#)
- ▶ [Current Travel Health Notices](#)
- ▶ [PHAC: National Case Definition](#)
- ▶ [PHAC: What health professionals need to know](#)
- ▶ [Information for public schools, early learning facilities and school district offices](#)



COVID-19: Outbreak Update

Prepared by the New Brunswick Chief Medical Officer of Health: Updated March 15, 2020



[Patient Connect NB](#) ▶

Because of an extreme surge in call volumes due to coronavirus Patient Connect phone service is closed. You can still register on-line by clicking [here](#)

News Conferences

- ▶ [March 14 2020 – COVID-19: Update](#)
- ▶ [March 13 2020 – COVID-19: Update](#)
- ▶ [March 12 2020 – COVID-19: Update](#)
- ▶ [March 11 2020 \(2\) – COVID-19: Update](#)
- ▶ [March 11 2020 – COVID-19: Update](#)
- ▶ [March 09 2020 – COVID-19: Update](#)
- ▶ [March 05 2020 – COVID-19: Update](#)

News Releases

- ▶ [March 13 2020 – Update on novel coronavirus](#)
- ▶ [March 12 2020 – Update on novel coronavirus](#)
- ▶ [March 11 2020 – Province has first presumptive case of COVID-19, the novel coronavirus](#)
- ▶ [March 11 2020 – Update on novel coronavirus](#)
- ▶ [March 09 2020 – Update on novel coronavirus](#)
- ▶ [March 05 2020 – COVID-19 novel coronavirus](#)
- ▶ [March 01 2020 – Premier's statement on COVID-19](#)