

AFN C-19 National Task Force
Daily Update for: June 25, 2020

Health Sector

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html#a1>

Areas in Canada with cases of COVID-19, as of 2020-06-24 7:00PM EDT

Province	Confirmed Cases	Hospitalization (ICU)*	Deaths	Recovered
BC	2,849	14 (7)	171	2,516
AB	7,825	36 (7)	153	7,134
SK	757	5 (1)	13	643
MB	315	0 (0)	7	293
ON	34,016	270 (69)	2,631	29,336
QC	54,937	487 (50)	5,441	23,710
Newfoundland/Lab	261	0 (0)	3	258
NB	165	2 (1)	2	147
NS	1,061	2 (0)	63	998
PEI	27		-	27
Yukon	11		-	11
NWT	5		-	5
Nunavut	0			
Repatriated Travelers	13			
Total	102,242	816 (135)	8,484	65,091
Active Cases= 28,711				

*These are numbers of *current* hospitalizations and ICU admissions. Some sources report the total *cumulative* number of hospitalizations and ICU admissions. Also, hospitalization data are amalgamated as they are reported by various hospitals; they are therefore updated sporadically, intermittently, and are likely to be less accurate and current than other data points.

	Cases	Deaths	Recovered
Globally	9,467,008	483,461	4,775,207

- Data is as of June 25 at 10:33am from Johns Hopkins University:
<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

Epidemic Summary

As of **June 24, 2020**, the majority (**89%**) of COVID-19 cases are related to domestic acquisition. Domestic acquisition is defined as any exposure that occurred within Canada. This includes acquisition through contact with a COVID-19 case (**53%**); through contact with a traveller (**1%**); and from an unknown source (**35%**). Only **4%** of cases are attributed to travel outside of Canada. The exposure setting for the remaining **7%** of Canadian cases is unknown (information pending).

As of **June 24, 2020**, Canada has an overall case fatality rate of **8.3%**.

As of **June 24, 2020**, **63%** of all Canadian COVID-19 cases are reported to have recovered.

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**.

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

- Aged 65 and over
- With compromised immune systems
- With underlying medical conditions

Data Sources:

British Columbia:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

Alberta: <https://covid19stats.alberta.ca/#cases>

Saskatchewan: <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/cases-and-risk-of-covid-19-in-saskatchewan>

Manitoba: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/index.html#cases>

Ontario: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus#section-0>

Quebec: <https://www.inspq.qc.ca/covid-19/donnees>

New Brunswick:

https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/coronavirus/case-map.html

Nova Scotia: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/data/>

Prince Edward Island: <https://www.princeedwardisland.ca/en/information/health-and-wellness/pei-covid-19-testing-data>

Newfoundland and Labrador: <https://covid-19-newfoundland-and-labrador-gnl.hub.arcgis.com/>

Yukon: <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

Northwest Territories: <https://www.hss.gov.nt.ca/en/services/coronavirus-disease-covid-19>

Additional source (national): <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/tracking-every-case-of-covid-19-in-canada-1.4852102#alberta>

Housing, Infrastructure, Water & Emergency Management Sector

2020 FN Fire & Flood Situation Report as of June 22, 2020

There are: 10 FN communities impacted by Flooding (5 BC, 3 AB, 1 ON, 1 SK) with 70 evacuated FN community residents due to Floods; 1 FN community impacted by Severe Weather (1 MB) with 2 families evacuated due to Severe Weather; and 1 FN impacted by Loss of Essential Services (1 ATL-NS).

Overall: There are currently 6 FN communities partially evacuated (2 BC, 1 MB, 2 AB, 1 SK).

British Columbia

According to the GOC, As of 21 Jun, the seasonal flood risk is diminishing throughout the province as snowmelt and weather conditions become more stable. However, the flow levels remain high compared to normal for this time of year and thus remain vulnerable to short-term, heavy rainfall events in the Peace, Northeast, Upper Fraser East, Cariboo, Nicola, North Thompson, South Thompson and Southeast regions. The Lower Fraser River remains at minor flooding risk due to the mixed effects of snowmelt and rainfall.

Waterhen Lake First Nation (402)

Population: 988 20JUN2020: Homes remain flooded, value protection efforts beginning. Displaced families continue to shelter in place; dependent on duration of event, the FN may look at temporary accommodations in a nearby location.

18JUN2020: Nation experiencing localized minor flooding near subdivision with 3 homes (approx. 11 persons) evacuated and sheltering in place within community. Sandbags and water pumps deploying. Water levels have plateaued, flooding expected to be short-term and subside quickly.

Nova Scotia

Eskasoni FN

Population :

3950 Loss of Essential Services – Water Shortage 19JUN2020: FNIHB informed EMD of a water shortage impacting Eskasoni FN and recommends a DWA. Water will be shut off for a select number of residents overnight and water levels to be monitored closely.

TOTAL SEVERE WEATHER EVACUEES 13

TOTAL LANDSLIDE EVACUEES 9

TOTAL WILDLAND FIRE EVACUEES 9

TOTAL FLOODING EVACUEES 645

TOTAL LONG-TERM EVACUEES 676

Communications Sector

OPH launches COVID-19 resource page for Indigenous people in Ottawa

CBC - June 25, 2020

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/oph-launches-covid-19-page-080000837.html>

Millions of dollars in COVID-19 fines disproportionately hurting Black, Indigenous, marginalized groups: report

CTVNews - June 24, 2020

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/millions-of-dollars-in-covid-19-fines-disproportionately-hurting-black-indigenous-marginalized-groups-report-1.4999052>

Alert Bay, Namgis First Nation launch COVID-19 antibody testing

CTV News - June 24, 2020

<https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/alert-bay-namgis-first-nation-launch-covid-19-antibody-testing-1.4998821>

The Pandemic Presents The Chance To End Homelessness In Canada For Good

HuffPost Canada - June 24, 2020

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/ending-homelessness-canada-covid19-190111630.html>

Numbers

<https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581964230816/1581964277298#chap5>

Confirmed cases of COVID-19

On First Nations reserves in provinces, as of June 24, ISC is aware of:

- 288 confirmed positive COVID-19
- 29 hospitalizations

- 223 recovered cases
- 6 deaths

Case numbers per region:

- British Columbia: 42
- Alberta: 73
- Saskatchewan: 80
- Ontario: 58
- Quebec: 35

Full Stories

OPH launches COVID-19 resource page for Indigenous people in Ottawa CBC - June 25, 2020

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/oph-launches-covid-19-page-080000837.html>

Ottawa Public Health (OPH) has created a special set of resources including posters, videos and culturally specific guidance for Indigenous people with questions about COVID-19.

The resource page brings together information created by provincial and territorial governments, as well as material already assembled by Indigenous organizations in Ottawa.

"We heard from the community that the communications and services needed to be adapted," explained Dr. Vera Etches, Ottawa's medical officer of health, who added her agency did not yet have data breaking down infection rates by cultural background.

According to the 2016 census, there were 38,115 Indigenous people in Ottawa and Gatineau, making up 2.9 per cent of the capital region's population.

The Inuit population in the region is officially about 1,300, already the largest outside of the North, though some organizations estimate it's at least 3,700 and possibly as large as 6,000.

The page covers such specific topics as handwashing where running water is in short supply, and how healthy residents can assist elders who are isolating by leaving groceries outside on their porch.

Information prepared by Akausivik Inuit Family Health Team in Ottawa covers the risks of tobacco use, whether ceremonial or recreational, during COVID-19.

Some of the information comes from the Government of Nunavut, but many of the graphics were made by the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), an Ottawa-based group that represents the rights and interests of Inuit people in Canada.

ITK has created visual representations of what two metres of physical distancing looks like for northerners who may not use metric in their daily lives.

A caribou measured nose to tail, a snowmobile and a hockey stick stand in for a tape measure in the stylized images.

"The point was to have things that people could immediately think of as within their culture, within images and graphics in their society," said ITK president Natan Obed.

OPH's resources page covers grocery shopping and cooking, mental health, pregnancy and parenting, how to wear a mask and information about self-isolating.

Translated into several languages

Many of the posters and information sheets have been translated into Cree, Inuktitut, Michif, Algonquin, Mi'kmaq, Ojibwe, Oji-Cree and Stoney.

Millions of dollars in COVID-19 fines disproportionately hurting Black, Indigenous, marginalized groups: report

CTVNews - June 24, 2020

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/millions-of-dollars-in-covid-19-fines-disproportionately-hurting-black-indigenous-marginalized-groups-report-1.4999052>

TORONTO -- Quebec, Ontario and Nova Scotia have issued nearly \$13 million in COVID-related fines that have disproportionately impacted Black, Indigenous and other marginalized groups, according to a [new report issued by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association](#) and Policing the Pandemic Mapping Project.

[The Policing the Pandemic Mapping Project](#), launched in April, tracks what it describes as “the massive and extraordinary expansions to police power” enacted in response to the pandemic. The CCLA said vulnerable groups impacted by the pandemic need public health support and not punitive law enforcement, and that these fines are paving the way for further racial profiling and discriminatory policing of groups including people of colour, those with precarious housing, recent immigrants, youth, members of the LGBTQ community, as well as certain religious minorities.

“From the stories people sent us, primarily from Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, the organizations we talked to, we know these are the communities that are both disproportionately impacted by this pandemic, and they’re also the communities that are disproportionately impacted by fines and policing,” Abby Dushman, the director of the Criminal Justice Program with the CCLA told CTV News Channel, adding that the vast majority of people are trying their best to comply with rules.

In one instance, a Black man relayed his unsettling encounter with the police to the CCLA. He said he was walking in a Toronto park with his partner when they were stopped and questioned by a bylaw officer on whether they lived in the same household. He said the officer and his team followed him for 25 minutes through the park, even after he and his partner decided to part ways and meet at home.

“I was afraid of what the bylaw officer’s intentions were ... Fearing for my life -- I am a 6’3” Black man with short dreadlocks -- I instructed the TPS officers that for my own safety, I needed to have the conversation with them closer to where more passersby could observe,” the Toronto resident said in the report.

Later on in the encounter, he said “the TPS officer ... on numerous occasions threatened me with ‘violent arrest’ and ‘jail on criminal charges.’”

According to the account, when he returned to the park half an hour later, he saw the same officer ignore numerous groups of white people and let them go in and out of the park undisturbed.

\$1,546 FINE FOR SOMEONE LIVING ON THE STREET

The report also noted that same-sex couples, for example, said they felt targeted by law enforcement because they were stopped, questioned about their relationship, and required to

provide identification, while heterosexual couples walked by without being suspected of violating rules.

“It’s just not an effective or rights-respecting way to respond to what is a public health -- not public order -- crisis ... What people need is information, education, support,” Dushman said. The report estimated that 10,000 COVID-related charges were laid between April 1 and June 15, with 98 per cent of them issued in Quebec, Ontario and Nova Scotia. Quebec accounted for 77 per cent of all fines, followed by Ontario at 18 per cent, and Nova Scotia at three per cent. Most of the fines were given over violations of provincial emergency legislation and various public health laws, specifically physical distancing and gathering requirements, the report said. Nearly three dozen alleged violations of the Criminal Code.

Quebec has issued \$10.08 million in fines, while Ontario has issued \$2.42 million worth of tickets. Nova Scotia has handed out \$424,429.00 in tickets.

In Quebec, fines are typically \$1,546, while in Ontario, it is \$750. But there is a mandatory victim surcharge, which brings the total fine to \$880, the report said. A ticket in Nova Scotia will typically set you back \$697.50. In Saskatchewan, it’s a hefty \$2,000 minimum.

These fines are particularly crushing for students, seniors living on a fixed income, and many others, the report said, adding that language barriers for new immigrants and refugees also made navigating these rules challenging.

The CCLA said the focus on people’s behaviour in public spaces also disproportionately affects those who rely on those spaces, including those living in shelters or on the streets.

“When you go and approach a person who’s living on the street and hand them a \$1,500 fine, as it’s been happening in Quebec, that person is even further pushed from the social support and health infrastructure they need in order to keep themselves and the community safe,” Dushman said.

Community organizations in Quebec reported to the CCLA that many of their homeless clients have received tickets for alleged physical distancing violations. The rise in police targeting reinforces the distrust that already exists between authorities and these groups, the group said, “directly undermining an effective public health response”.

“When you do a law enforcement approach, what ends up happening is you get arbitrary, sometimes unfair enforcement, and you also end up marginalizing the very at-risk communities that need the most support,” said Dushman.

After Trinity Bellwoods Park, a public park in Toronto, saw a massive influx of people gathering during one of the first nice weekends of the year, the city painted circles on the grass as a guide for physical distancing requirements. Dushman says these types of simple measures are far more effective and supportive in getting people to comply.

“We actually do not need fines in order to respond to this pandemic,” she said. She noted examples across the country, such as in B.C., where legal orders were much less restrictive and very few fines were issued. Instead of legally enforceable orders, strong public health recommendations on staying home, keeping distance, staying in a bubble helped the province successfully flatten their curve.

The Policing the Pandemic Mapping Project is co-founded by Alexander McClelland, of University of Ottawa and Alex Luscombe, of the University of Toronto.

Alert Bay, Namgis First Nation launch COVID-19 antibody testing

CTV News - June 24, 2020

<https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/alert-bay-namgis-first-nation-launch-covid-19-antibody-testing-1.4998821>

VICTORIA -- COVID-19 antibody testing, which can determine if someone has had the virus even if they were not symptomatic, is now underway on B.C.'s Cormorant Island.

Cormorant Island, which is home to the Village of Alert Bay and the Namgis First Nation, suffered an outbreak of COVID-19 in April.

Thirty people tested positive for the virus on the Gulf Island and one woman died [amid the outbreak](#). Alert Bay and the Namgis First Nation declared a local state of emergency on April 18 due to COVID-19.

The local state of emergency has since been lifted and all cases of the virus were resolved by early May.

Now, Cormorant Island has launched local COVID-19 antibody testing, with support from Island Health and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).

The testing will help health officials determine how the virus spread through the community and can detect if someone was infected with COVID-19, even if they did not feel sick at the time.

"Some residents of Cormorant Island may be wondering if they had COVID-19 and didn't get sick, or if their mild illness was in fact COVID," said Dr. Dan Cutfeet, a physician at the Cormorant Island Health Centre in a statement Wednesday.

"This is an exciting opportunity and the information gathered here will give people a deeper understanding about how this virus impacted our island," he said.

The mayor of Alert Bay, Dennis Buchanan, was one of the first people on the island to test positive for COVID-19.

He is encouraging all residents to take the antibody test to help support the island's understanding of the virus.

"I would encourage everyone over the age of 12 to get tested, even if they did not feel sick," said Buchanan in a statement.

"There should be no stigma attached to anyone who had COVID-19. Get tested so that the information can be used to help better understand the way this virus affected people here," he said.

The antibody testing will take place between June 24 and June 27. Anyone over the age of 12 can voluntarily book an appointment to be tested.

Appointments can be booked by calling Island Health at 1-844-844-2219 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily.

The Pandemic Presents The Chance To End Homelessness In Canada For Good

HuffPost Canada - June 24, 2020

<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/ending-homelessness-canada-covid19-190111630.html>

This story is part of [After The Curve](#), an ongoing HuffPost Canada series that makes sense of how the COVID-19 crisis could change our country in the months and years ahead, and what opportunities exist to make Canada better.

Canada's public health messaging during the [COVID-19 pandemic](#) has been clear and consistent: stay home, stay safe.

But Canadians experiencing homelessness don't have that option, whether they're camped out in streets or parks, or packed into crowded shelter spaces. [At least 35,000](#) people experience homelessness every night in Canada. The pandemic has thrown that number into sharp relief, as the disease has threatened a population already at higher risk of mental and physical health complications.

Municipal, provincial and the federal governments have acted swiftly to address the increased risk posed to people experiencing homelessness, injecting funding into the non-profit sector and temporarily moving people into hotels and hockey arenas. In Montreal, [masks are being distributed to the homeless population](#), the B.C. government [gave out 3,500 smartphones](#) to low-income people to help them access services closed by the pandemic, and Winnipeg has set up a [testing site](#) specifically for the homeless population. Homelessness advocates even [launched a lawsuit](#) against the City of Toronto to ensure proper social distancing in shelter spaces. The suit was settled in mid-May.

Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness president and CEO Tim Richter says these measures are all proof that governments are capable of acting on homelessness long-term.

"We can choose to move more aggressively and fix this problem, and that's one of the things that these emergency measures have proven — that we can act rapidly and move people into housing if we choose," he told HuffPost Canada.

Many experts argue that the policies put in place to abet homelessness during the pandemic could pave the way for a bigger institutional change, and even propel the push to end homelessness altogether.

They've been calling for it for years, but it might take a global pandemic to actually end homelessness in Canada.

Vancouver's Oppenheimer Park encampment — which at one point was occupied by upwards of 300 people and was one of the country's largest encampments — [was ordered cleared early in the pandemic to prevent spread of the disease](#). At least 265 people were moved into temporary shelter in empty hotels or other spaces by early May. Similar moves were made for long-standing encampments in Victoria as well.

"This is only the first step; there's more work to be done to get housing, and there's more work to be done in the community, and we're doing that work," B.C. Minister of Social Development Shane Simpson told reporters at the time.

Sarah Canham is an adjunct professor in gerontology at Simon Fraser University. She says prior to the pandemic, homelessness was largely talked about by the government and media in relation to social housing or general housing policy.

"Pre-COVID-19, when we heard about people experiencing homelessness, it was really at times when there would be new housing developments and there would be a sense of NIMBY-ism in our communities," she said.