Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)  
COMMUNITY SITUATION REPORT  
FNHA Public Health Response  
July 5, 2021

Changes from the previous Community Situation Report are in red.

Starting from July 5 2021, COVID cases reported as “Out of BC – Yukon” residents are excluded from Community Situation Report. This will result in lower total case counts as compared to previously published reports.

Starting from July 5, 2021, due to falling COVID-19 cases, the Community Situation Report will be updated and published once every week. There will also be some structural changes to this report in order to protect the privacy of individuals affected.

COVID-19 Updates

First Nations Cases in BC
As of July 3, 2021

- There have been a total of 7,465 First Nations COVID-19 cases (7,280 lab diagnosed cases and 185 epi-linked cases). This is an increase of 26 cases among First Nations people in BC since the last published report.
- Out of the total 7,465 cases, 3,159 (42.3%) are in or near community; 4,158 (55.7%) are off reserve. As geographical information is not available, information on in or near community/off reserve is not available for 148 (2.0%) cases.
- There are 23 active First Nations COVID-19 cases; 7 (30.4%) of the active cases are in or near community and 16 (69.6%) are off reserve. Information on in or near community/off reserve is available for all active cases.
- Sadly, there have been total 137 COVID-19 related deaths reported among First Nations living in BC since the beginning of the pandemic. No additional deaths are reported since the last published report.
- There have been a total 816 (10.9%) First Nations people hospitalized due to COVID-19 since March 1, 2020. Of these 358 hospitalizations are individuals who live in or near community and 456 off reserve. Information on in or near community/off reserve is not available for 2 cases.
Regional Active cases and Testing data as of July 3, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fraser Salish</th>
<th>Interior</th>
<th>Northern</th>
<th>Vancouver Coastal</th>
<th>Vancouver Island</th>
<th>Total N (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active First Nations COVID-19 cases(^a)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons tested(^b)</td>
<td>9,767</td>
<td>9,845</td>
<td>11,563</td>
<td>8,892</td>
<td>9,269</td>
<td>49,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative percentage positivity (%) (Feb, 2020 to June 28, 2021)</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage positivity (%) over the past week (June 22 to June 28, 2021)</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing rate (total tests per 100,000 First Nations people)</td>
<td>66,384.6</td>
<td>45,650.2</td>
<td>41,511.7</td>
<td>69,034.0</td>
<td>38,227.9</td>
<td>49,486.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Algorithm to define people who are removed from isolation is updated on February 5, 2021 to reflect change adopted by PHSA. Updated algorithm assigns cases who are lost to follow up and whose surveillance date (reported date and if not available then result date) >= 20 days before the list case dataset date to “removed from isolation.”

\(^b\) Geographical Information (RHAs) for 31 BC First Nations people who are tested for COVID-19 is not available. They are included in total number of First Nations people tested in BC.

* Active case counts are suppressed as counts are less than 5.

First Nations COVID-19 Cases in or near Community*

![Graph showing First Nations COVID-19 Cases in or near Community]

* Active case counts are suppressed as counts are less than 5.

* Total number of cases (n=7,465) includes 148 cases without information on LHA of residence and “In or Near Community” analysis.

**Note:** Analyses for in or near community includes lab confirmed cases and epi-linked cases with known geographical information. Other cases (including case tested outside of BC) are included in the cases by Health Authority. **As of July 3, 2021, there were 7 active First Nations COVID-19 cases in or near community.**
The majority (73.1%) of cases among First Nations have occurred in those under age 50.

The cumulative percent positive for all COVID-19 test completed for First Nations in BC was 9.76% as of July 3, 2021. The rate of positive cases was 4,598.0 per 100,000 people among First Nations. The rate of positive case among other residents of BC was 2,856.1 per 100,000 people.

Epidemic curve for COVID-19 cases among BC First Nations by episode date (coloured bar), surveillance date (line) and health authority, British Columbia February 23, 2020 (Week-9) – July 3, 2021 (Week-26, 2021*) (n=7,465)

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a Episode date is now defined as date of illness onset, hospital admission, or death. When those dates are not available, earliest lab date (collection date or result date) is used, and if unavailable, surveillance date is used. Report date used previously is now replaced with surveillance date (laboratory result date); if unavailable, report date is used.
First Nations COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage, by Health Authority
Doses 1 and 2 (PHSA e-form, PIR, dose 1=86,359, dose 2=57,501) 12+ years, up to July 3, 2021

* HA information was not available for 814 clients for dose 1 and 333 clients for dose 2
** These analyses were only possible for Status and Status eligible First Nations, and do not include non-status First Nations

First Nations COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage, by Age Group
Doses 1 and 2 (PHSA e-form, PIR, Dose 1=86,857, Dose 2=57,825), 12+ years, up to July 3, 2021

* Age group information was not available for 316 clients for dose 1 and 9 clients for dose 2
** These analyses were only possible for Status and Status eligible First Nations, and do not include non-status First Nations
**Vaccine Distribution**

- As of July 3, 2021, more than 98,000 individuals 18+ years of age and more than 6,500 individuals ages 12-17 who are First Nations people (and some non-First Nations people living in or near First Nations communities) have received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Of these individuals, more than 69,300 First Nations people 18+ years of age and more than 250 First Nations individuals 12-17 years old have received two doses. This includes vaccines administered in First Nations communities, as well as outside of communities by regional health authorities.
- As of July 3, 66.1% of all status and status-eligible First Nations people in BC age 18 and older have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- As of July 2, a total of 5,124,693 doses of vaccine have been administered in BC, of which 1,526,711 are second doses.

**Provincial COVID-19 Cases** – Updated as of July 2, 2021, 3 p.m.

- Since the start of the pandemic, there have been 147,705 confirmed cases in BC, and 1,756 deaths from COVID-19.
- There are 729 active cases, 99 people are currently hospitalized and, of those, 30 people are in intensive care.
- Of the total number of cases, 145,200 (98%) people have fully recovered.

*Total number of cases (n=147,705) include 209 cases reported as “Out of Canada” residents. Above figure provides regional distribution of COVID-19 cases (n=147,496) reported as BC residents.

**Active Outbreaks** (as of July 2, 2021)

- Long-term care/assisted living centres/independent living: 4 outbreaks
- Acute care units: 3 outbreaks

* A geographic distribution of COVID-19 by Local Health Area can be found [here](#).
* A weekly update on Variants of Concern can be found [here](#).

**First Nations Community Statistics from Indigenous Services Canada (June 24, 2021):**

- Access Restrictions: 136 (-1)
- Band Offices Inaccessible: 82 (-3)
- Security Checkpoints: 69 (same)
- State of Local Emergency: 49 (same)
- EOC Activations: 111 (same)
### FNHA Resources and Supports

#### Information for BC First Nations Individuals
Visit: [https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus/public](https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus/public) to find out more including
- COVID-19 vaccine
- Self-isolation
- Testing and symptoms
- Medical support including Virtual Doctor of the Day Service
- Mental health and cultural supports

#### Information for Community Leaders
Visit: [https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus/community-leaders](https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus/community-leaders) to find out more including
- COVID-19 vaccine
- Community situation reports
- Support and funding
- Health benefits

#### Resources for Health Professionals
Visit: [https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus/health-professionals](https://www.fnha.ca/what-we-do/communicable-disease-control/coronavirus/health-professionals) to find out more including
- COVID-19 Management
- COVID-19 Vaccine
- Infection Prevention & Control
- Nursing Practice

#### Latest News
Working with First Nations
The FNHA is working in partnership with First Nations communities to ensure communities’ needs are met, including:
- Maintaining essential services to support First Nations communities during this pandemic.
- Providing COVID-19 funding resources and wrap-around supports including for medical transportation, self-isolation and quarantine. See the FNHA Community Support Guide for more information. Support requests can be sent to COVID19needs@fnha.ca
- Supporting First Nations communities in refreshing their Pandemic Plans
- FNHA continues to maintain operations team availability to respond to COVID-19 support requests through the weekends during business hours.
- Launching virtual care services including First Nations Virtual Doctor of the Day and First Nations Virtual Substance Use and Psychiatry Service
- Site selection, training and deployment of Point of Care Testing for COVID-19 is underway.

Working with Partners
The FNHA is continuing to work with our provincial and federal partners towards aligning response efforts in support of First Nations communities and people living away from home across the province. This includes:
- Maintaining regular communication and updates with Regional Health Authorities, Emergency Management of BC, Ministry of Health, First Nations Leadership Council, and Indigenous Services Canada to proactively identify needs and address issues Supporting planning at both the provincial and regional level for the Rural, Remote and Indigenous Framework,
- FNHA is in discussions federally and provincially to support BC Restart including reopening of public buildings, and return to work and business operations for facilities where safe and appropriate.

Vaccinations
- The FNHA is working hard with our partners and First Nations communities to support vaccine distribution and planning and to prioritize available doses for First Nations communities
- Remote and isolated First Nations communities have been identified as a priority for vaccination with the first doses having arrived on December 29, 2020.

Personal Protective Equipment
- The FNHA continues to work with Federal and Provincial partners to obtain Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for health care staff and first responders in all communities.
- First Nations communities requiring personal protective equipment during the COVID-19 emergency can send their requests to COVID19needs@fnha.ca.