

IN BRIEF ... COVID-19

April 9, 2020



BY THE NUMBERS

	Alberta*	Canada*	Global#	Johns Hopkins^
Total Cases	1451 (192 community transmission)	19,774	1,436,198	1,582,904
New Cases	28	1327	79,418	77,933
Deaths	32 (3 new)	461 (60 new)	85,522 (6137 new)	94,807 (6823 new)

*Alberta and Canada numbers from daily CMOH update and GOC update as of 1100 EDT daily

#Global numbers from World Health Organization daily situation report

^Johns Hopkins University & Medicine Coronavirus Resource Centre

DEVELOPMENTS TODAY

ALBERTA

- Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health update from daily briefing
 - Our numbers are less than the projections so far is due the work Albertans are doing to #staysafe. Over the long weekend, all must continue to do their part.
 - Now have 151 cases of residents and workers in continue care and other such facilities.
 - On the influenza side, the numbers have been dropping steadily and significantly, which is good, but could, like COVID, spike if people do not stay physically apart during this long weekend.
- Alberta and B.C.'s ministries of health issued a joint statement reminding people not to travel this long weekend on Thursday; the Town of Banff is planning on posting "educational" check stops at its entrances. The Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel will temporarily close on Friday.
- Calgary's Peter Lougheed hospital will be [temporarily expanded with a 6,000 ft treatment structure](#) to create 100 care spaces, donated by Sprung Structures. AHS will spend \$3 million to outfit the structure and ensure it meets standards for infection prevention and control.
- Alberta will [double spending on infrastructure and transportation projects](#) through the Capital Plan to nearly \$2.0 billion this year.
- Regulations [for truck drivers and railway operators](#) were relaxed temporarily to keep the supply chain moving.

OTTAWA

- The Public Health Agency of Canada [released modelling data for the country](#) – suggesting that COVID-19 is expected to result in between 1 and 2 million cases and 11,000 and 22,000 deaths in the coming months, with the high end of the death toll reaching 55,000. The modelling suggests nearly 32,000 cases and between 500 and 700 deaths by the middle of April (current toll is nearly 20,000 cases and 461 deaths).
 - The Canadian case count is doubling every three to five days, which compared to other countries is considered a relatively positive trajectory.
 - Officials repeated the call for all Canadians to stay home, practice physical distancing and good hygiene practices, saying that is the key to keeping the number of cases and deaths at the low end of the projections.
 - The **first wave of this disease could last until summer**, while smaller secondary, tertiary, and other waves coming as the seasons change.

- The short-term federal projection on the spread of COVID-19 shows that between 500 and 700 Canadians could die from COVID-19 in the next week, with the number of cases rising to between 22,580 and 31,850 cases.
- If 2.5% of the population contracts the virus, that would mean:
 - 934,000 Canadians get sick; 73,000 could be hospitalized; 23,000 could end up in ICU; and 11,000 people could die.
- If 5% of the population is infected, that would mean:
 - 1,879,000 contract COVID-19; 146,000 could be hospitalized; 46,000 people could end up in ICU; and 22,000 people could die.
- If the percentage of population gets to 10 per cent, about 44,000 Canadians could die.
- With no control efforts in place, up to 80% of Canadians could contract the virus. That scenario could result in a summertime peak and more than 300,000 deaths, which is approximately equivalent to the total number of deaths from all causes in Canada each year.
- Stats Canada [Labour Force Survey](#) shows more than 1 million jobs were lost in March, raising the unemployment rate to 7.8 percent. The loss is eight times worse than the previous one-month record, but warned that April could show even more job losses, when the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic become clearer. Stats Canada said approximately 3.1 million Canadians either lost their jobs or had their hours significantly reduced in March.
 - Ontario lost 403,000 jobs, Quebec lost 264,000, BC lost 132,000, and Alberta lost 117,000 jobs.
 - The unemployment rate in Calgary is 8.6% while Edmonton is at 7.9%
- More than 4.5 million CERB applications have been processed
- 373,000 tests completed in Canada
- The Canadian Chamber of Commerce and Statistics Canada are trying to understand what businesses are going through during Covid-19. A [new survey has been launched by StatsCan to measure impacts on business](#), but is only open until April 10.

OTHER PROVINCES/TERRITORIES

- As Quebec's numbers rose to nearly 11,000 confirmed cases and 216 people have died, the Premier called for increased personal vigilance especially when dealing with older people, as he released information that 90% of all deaths in the province were people 70 years old or older. Almost all, 99% of deaths were people 60 or older. Montreal continues to have the most cases in the province with 5262.
- As Ontario closes in on 6,000 confirmed cases, they announced today the first fatality of a health care worker from COVID-19, bringing the total to 223 in the province.

UPDATES

- British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has been taken out of intensive care but remains in hospital.
- Related to a question about the potential opening of golf courses in southern Alberta, the CMOH said that workers can be there to prepare the course etc but as a non-essential service, golf courses must remain closed.
- On a lighter note, another Statistics [Canada report on the impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians](#), shows that alcohol consumption is up 13.6%, eating junk food or sweets is up 26.8%, internet use is up 67.9% and watching television is up 63.1%.

RESOURCES

Government of Alberta COVID-19 information

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

COVID-19 case statistics

<https://covid19stats.alberta.ca/>

Alberta Health Services COVID-19 webpage

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx>

Government of Canada COVID-19 information

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

World Health Organization information

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

WHO daily situation reports

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

WHO COVID-19 Dashboard

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeee1b9125cd>