

IN BRIEF ... COVID-19

April 28, 2020



BY THE NUMBERS

| | Alberta* | Canada* | Global (WHO)# | Johns Hopkins^ |
|--------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total Cases | 4,850 | 49,025 | 2,959,929 | 3,098,391 |
| New Cases | 154 | 1,698 | 73,278 | 68,939 |
| Deaths | 80 (5 new) | 2,766 (149 new) | 202,733 (6,338 new) | 216,160 (5,183 new) |
| Recovered | 1,800 | 18,707 | N/A | 921,199 |

*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
 - In continuing care facilities there are 483 total cases and 52 (2 new) deaths.
 - 759 confirmed cases at Cargill plant in High River
 - 249 confirmed cases of employees and contractors at JBS plant in Brooks
 - This virus will be with us until we have an effective treatment or vaccine for it.
- Updated Alberta modelling shows that public health measures are working. The [information released today relates to hospitalization scenarios](#).

OTTAWA

- Canada has completed 740,000 tests with a 7% positive rate. Approximately 20,000 tests are being completed daily as provinces have ramped up testing in the past few weeks.
- Updated Canadian modelling projections
 - The measures taken so far are working and need to be continued for a period of time, especially in outbreak areas, to get the case counts down.
 - Currently, the average number passing on the virus from an infected person to another is just above 1 – needs to get to below 1 to fully flatten and plank the curve.
 - Ontario and Quebec represent 80% of Canadian cases.
 - Adults aged 60 and older represent 95% of deaths
 - 79% of deaths are linked to long-term care and seniors' homes
 - Canada's epidemic curve is bending as the rate of growth slows. Currently the cases are doubling every 16 days, as opposed to every 3-5 days in early April.
 - Modelling scenarios
 - Suggests 53,196 to 66,835 cases and 3,277 to 3,883 deaths by May 5. Initial projections underrepresented deaths. Long-term care deaths have pushed the death rate higher than original projections. The current modelling better represents the potential for more deaths in long-term care facilities.
 - Strong epidemic control (what Canada has implemented as of now) – 1-10% of population infected – outbreak continues into Summer 2020 then flattens
 - Weaker epidemic controls 25-50% infected – continues to Winter 2021 before flattening
 - Until a vaccine is available, we will have to deal with manageable level of COVID-19 outbreaks into next year as only a small number of the population are immune. As such, there will need to be some control measures in place until

vaccine is available. Changes or relaxation of control measures will be different in part of the country based on their regional epidemiology.

- The House of Commons sits in a “virtual Parliament” for the first time

OTHER PROVINCES/TERRITORIES

- As Saskatchewan starts to reopen parts of its economy, the chief medical officer warns that while new guidelines are in place in the province, people should not be under any illusions that we are back to business as usual.
- Quebec Premier says some businesses will be allowed to reopen in coming weeks, including construction and civil engineering business and stores not in shopping malls. The phased opening will begin on May 4 outside Montreal and May 11 in Montreal. Manufacturing businesses will also have a phased opening, starting with a reduced workforce and ramping up to full employment by May 25. The province has nearly 26,000 cases and nearly 1,700 deaths.
- Ontario health officials confirmed 525 new cases and a single-day high with 59 deaths. The province now has 15,381 COVID-19 cases, 951 deaths and 8,964 recoveries. The province will be releasing sector-specific re-opening guidelines later this week.

UPDATES

- The United States surpasses 1,000,000 COVID-19 cases – one-third of all the cases in the world – and more than 58,000 deaths – about one-quarter of the global death count.
- [New Zealand eases country-wide lockdown](#) after 5 weeks, as the country’s director general of health stated the country had “achieved our goal of elimination, which never meant zero but it does mean we know where our cases are coming from.”

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://who.sprinklr.com/>