



Coronavirus Variants
Rapid Response
Network



Réseau de réponse
rapide aux variants
du coronavirus



CoVaRR-Net

Canadian provincial and territorial public health response to SARS-CoV-2 and variants of concern

A jurisdictional scan including select European countries

Updated: November 10, 2021

LEAH BOULOS, MLIS, MARITIME SPOR SUPPORT UNIT, SENIOR EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS CONSULTANT

JANET CURRAN, PHD RN, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, PROFESSOR

MARI SOMERVILLE, PHD, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

JUSTINE DOL, PHD, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH COORDINATOR

CATIE JOHNSON, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH ASSISTANT

DANIEL CROWTHER, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH ASSISTANT

BEARACH REYNOLDS, MB BCH BAO BA MRCPI, ESI FELLOW, EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS IRELAND

JULIE CARUSO, MLIS, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

TRUDY FLYNN, PATIENT PARTNER

REBECCA MACKAY, PATIENT PARTNER

FUNDED BY **COVARR-NET**

Canadian provincial and territorial public health response to SARS-CoV-2 and variants of concern: A jurisdictional scan including select European countries

Updated November 10, 2021

Evidence up to November 10, 2021

Introduction

The SARS-CoV-2 virus, responsible for COVID-19, was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) in March 2020.¹ As of November 10, 2021, over 249 million cases of COVID-19 have been reported worldwide and more than 5 million people have died as a result of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic.² Increased numbers of COVID-19 cases are causing significant concerns around identifying optimal vaccination strategies and enforcing appropriate public health measures to manage the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

As of November 10, 2021, four variants of the original SARS-CoV-2 lineage have been declared variants of concern (VOC) by the WHO, with other variants under ongoing assessment.³ VOC are defined by their increased potential for transmission, presence of genomic mutations, and rapid spread across countries or regions leading to possible decreased effectiveness of public health measures.⁴ The increased transmissibility of VOC has led to surges in COVID-19 incidence and consequently, hospitalizations and mortality.⁵

The purpose of this jurisdictional scan was to compile Canadian provincial and territorial public health guidance relating to COVID-19 and the VOC up to November 10, 2021, as well as guidance from Belgium, Germany, and England from the same time-period. This snapshot provides an overview of each region's vaccine rollout, proof of vaccination requirements, isolation and quarantine requirements, travel restrictions, and gathering limits, as well as whether or not any of this guidance has been influenced by VOC.

New Key Findings in This Update

- **National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) guidance on administering third doses is being followed in AB, BC, MB, NB, NS, and ON. NT and YT recommend third doses for even broader populations, as will BC beginning in January 2022**
- **Provinces differ in their use of “third dose” or “booster” for additional vaccines beyond the initial two-dose course**
- **Vaccine mandates for healthcare workers are either in effect or soon to be enforced in AB, BC, MB, NS, and YT. Previously instated mandates for this group have since been retracted in ON and QC, and may be retracted in NB according to media reports**
- **Vaccine mandates for public service employees (not necessarily including healthcare workers or education employees) are either in effect or soon to be enforced in AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NS, NT, and YT**
- **Vaccine mandates for education workers are either in effect or soon to be enforced in MB, NB, NL, NS, and YT; in larger provinces, these decisions are likely to be made by individual school boards and not provincially mandated**

- **Messaging in England has shifted from recommending physical distancing to improving ventilation and avoiding crowded spaces**
- **Quarantining of close contacts is not required in England; the only place it is not required in Canada is AB, although the length of quarantine may be determined on a case-by-case basis in other provinces, and is often dependent on vaccination status**
- **Exemptions or modifications to quarantine rules for close contacts and travellers continue for fully vaccinated people in most places; some exemptions apply to partially vaccinated people, but this varies across provinces and territories**
- **Restrictions on private and public gatherings continue to vary widely across provinces and territories, and may vary between regions within provinces**

Patient-Identified Key Messages

- **To help improve uptake of third doses and booster doses, the public needs more clarity about the difference between the two, and the evidence around who should receive which type of dose**
- **Variation in public health guidance between provinces and territories continues to create confusion for the public, which may impact trust and adherence**
- **Clear messaging about proper masking remains important in fighting the Delta variant across all provinces and territories**
- **Physical distancing and private/public gathering limits remain an important strategy across Canada, but in England there is a stronger focus on ventilation that is yet to be reflected in most Canadian guidance**

Prevalence of VOC in Canada

As of November 10, 2021, VOC (particularly the Delta variant) were the prevalent strains of SARS-CoV-2 circulating in Canada and were the driving force behind any increases in cases beginning in January 2021. It may therefore be assumed that any changes in public health guidance in 2021 were made in response to rises in cases as a result of VOC, even if this is not explicitly stated in guidance.

NEW: Third Doses and Booster Doses

The jurisdictions included in this review vary in their application of the terms ‘third dose’ and ‘booster dose’ (or ‘booster shot’). Some appear to use the terms interchangeably; others overwhelmingly or exclusively reference one type over the other.

Many do make some distinction between the two dose types but offer varying levels of information on their benefits and target recipient groups. Provincial guidance may or may not align with the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommendations for the specific populations that require third doses versus booster doses and for dose timing.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador⁶ defines the difference between a booster and a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine as follows:

A booster shot is for people who likely had a fulsome immune response to the regular two-dose vaccine regimen, but with time, the immunity and clinical protection has fallen below a rate deemed sufficient to protect against COVID-19 infection. A booster dose should be offered six months after completing the primary series.

A third dose is for people who may not have developed a strong enough immune response to fight off COVID-19 after two doses. For example, evidence suggests that compared to the general population, individuals who are moderately to severely immunocompromised have lower immune responses to COVID-19 vaccines. The third dose should be offered at least 28 days after the second dose.

In Canada, mRNA vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) are offered as third doses and booster doses, but the brand does not have to be the same as that received in the primary series. Dosage differs by brand and/or by recipient group. NACI guidance states that:⁷

- *If offering the Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty mRNA vaccine, a full dose (30 mcg) should be used.*
- *If offering the Moderna Spikevax mRNA vaccine, a full dose (100 mcg) should be used for adults living in long-term care homes for seniors or other congregate living settings that provide care for seniors and adults 70 years of age and older. A half dose (50 mcg) should be used for other adults recommended to receive a booster dose.*

Variants of Concern Jurisdictional Scan of Provincial/Territorial Public Health Guidance

Updated: November 10, 2021

The most recent additions to this jurisdictional scan are in bold, red font.

Table 1. Vaccine rollout and recommendations for behaviour post-vaccination

Jurisdiction	What percentage of the population is vaccinated with one dose? Two doses? Updated November 8, 2021	What is the current rollout/vaccine promotion approach (e.g., priority groups, at-risk populations)?	Is there a reopening plan in place? If so, which phase is currently enacted?	Does the government require proof of vaccination for activities (e.g., work, school, going to restaurants) within the province/region? If so, when is proof required?
AB	<p>87.3% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (74.3% total population)</p> <p>80.9% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (68.8% total population)</p>	<p>First dose available to anyone aged 12+; second dose available to anyone aged 12+ for whom 28 days have elapsed since first dose</p> <p>Temporary walk-in clinics available for first doses and second doses</p> <p>Lottery entry for \$1 million and other prizes has ended; \$100 debit card program for those who received first or second dose between Sep 3 and Oct 14 has ended</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered to select populations including immunocompromised individuals, long term care</p>	<p>Stage 3 (of 3) was previously in effect, but some measures have been reinstated and a state of public health emergency has been declared</p> <p>Criteria for previous phase: 70%+ of people aged 12+ have received at least first dose</p>	<p>Yes, the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) allows recreational businesses to operate with reduced public health restrictions based on proof of vaccination or negative test result, in addition to mandatory masking indoors</p> <p>Alberta Health Services employees and contracted healthcare providers are required to be vaccinated as of Nov 30. This is an extension of the previous deadline of Oct 31</p> <p>All public service workers must be vaccinated as of Nov 30</p>

		residents, anyone aged 75+ (70+ as of Nov 8), First Nations/Inuit/Metis people aged 65+, anyone who received two doses of AZ or Janssen vaccines (as of Nov 8), and health care workers who received their first two doses less than 8 weeks apart (as of Nov 8); appears <u>NACI guidance will be followed as of Nov 8</u>		
BC	<p>90.1% of eligible (12+) population has <u>received at least one dose</u> (80.2% total population) *¹</p> <p>85.6% of eligible (12+) population <u>fully vaccinated</u> (76.2% total population) *</p>	<p><u>First dose available</u> to anyone aged 12+; second dose available to anyone aged 12+ for whom 28 days have elapsed since first dose; appointments or drop-in clinics available, including some dedicated Indigenous drop-in clinics with cultural supports</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: <u>Currently offered to all people aged 70+, Indigenous people aged 18+, immunocompromised people, people receiving care, and healthcare workers (in accordance with <u>NACI guidance</u>)</u></p> <p><u>As of Jan 2022, will be offered to anyone aged 18+. Anyone with two doses who wants a booster will receive it between 6 to 8 months after dose 2</u></p>	<p>Yes, <u>BC's Restart: A Plan to Bring Us Back Together</u>; Step 3 (of 4) is currently in effect</p> <p>Criteria for current phase: <u>70%+ of people aged 18+ have received at least first dose, plus low case/hospitalization rates</u></p>	<p><u>Yes, proof of vaccine (BC Vaccine Card) is required</u> to participate in non-essential activities (e.g., sports and entertainment venues, restaurants, bars, fitness centers, post-secondary student housing and organized events with >50 people). Partial vaccination required as of Sep 13, 2021, and full vaccination is required as of Oct 24, 2021. The requirement is in place until Jan 31, 2022, and could be extended</p> <p><u>All staff at long term care facilities were required to be fully vaccinated by Oct 12</u></p> <p><u>All healthcare workers were required to received first dose by Oct 26. Workers who receive first dose by Nov 15 can return to work seven days after</u></p>

¹ *Where data on vaccine coverage as a percentage of the population are not available directly from government COVID-19 dashboards or websites, they are taken from the COVID-19 Vaccination Tracker Canada project website (<https://covid19tracker.ca/vaccinationtracker.html>). These citations are indicated by asterisks. Data are aggregated by volunteers exclusively from official government sources data for every region in Canada.

		BC prefers the term "booster" rather than "third dose"		<p>receiving the shot, but additional PPE and precautions required until second dose received</p> <p>All public service workers must be vaccinated by Nov 22</p>
MB	<p>86.9% of eligible population (those born before Dec 31, 2009) has received at least one dose (79.1% total population) *</p> <p>83.9% of eligible population (those born before Dec 31, 2009) fully vaccinated (72.9% total population) *</p> <p>Notably, Manitoba reports number of doses administered in First Nations communities on its Manitoba COVID-19 Vaccinations dashboard</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+ or those born in 2009 who are not yet 12; appointments required, but pop-up clinics are being launched in rural and northern communities, and Indigenous-led clinics have been established in urban Indigenous communities</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered to select populations including severely immunocompromised individuals, all people aged 70+, all Indigenous people aged 18+, care home residents, and healthcare workers who have direct contact with patients (in accordance with NACI guidance)</p>	<p>Yes, the #RESTARTMB Pandemic Response System is currently in the Orange: Restricted level of risk</p> <p>Criteria for current phase: Community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring at levels that public health and the health system can manage</p>	<p>Government-issued Immunization Cards may be required for entry to sports and entertainment venues, restaurants, bars, and other businesses at their discretion</p> <p>Public service employees including healthcare workers, teachers, and daycare workers were required to be vaccinated as of Oct 18</p>
NB	<p>92.9% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (81.9% total population) *</p> <p>85.9% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (75.7% total population) *</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+; appointments or drop-in clinics available, including some mobile vaccination clinics</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered to immunocompromised people, long term care residents, all First Nations people, healthcare workers and designated support people, anyone who received two doses of AZ or one of</p>	<p>Green Level (final level) was previously in effect, but some measures have been reinstated and a state of emergency has been declared</p> <p>Criteria for current phase: Based on hospital capacity and number of Covid-19 patients in hospital. Once 10 or fewer people are in hospital, measures will be lifted</p>	<p>Yes, proof of vaccination allows fully vaccinated (or medically exempt) people aged 12+ to be admitted to certain locations and certain non-essential activities where the risk of transmission is high</p> <p>All provincial government employees in the civil service, the education system, the health-care system and Crown</p>

		Janssen vaccine, and anyone aged 65+ and school workers (if 6 months have passed since first dose); appears to follow <u>NACI guidance</u>		corporations, as well as staff in long-term care facilities, schools, and daycares must be fully vaccinated by Nov 19. Mandate for healthcare workers <u>may be walked back</u>, pending staffing shortages
NL	93.7% of eligible (12+) population has <u>received at least one dose (87% total population)</u> * 87.1% of eligible (12+) population <u>fully vaccinated (80.9% total population)</u> *	First dose available to <u>anyone aged 12+</u> ; second dose available to anyone aged 12+ for whom 28 days have elapsed since first dose; appointments required Boosters/third doses: Offered to immunocompromised people at least 28 days after their last dose of COVID-19 vaccine; booster doses being offered 6 months after completion of the primary series for those 70+, those living in long-term care or other congregate settings, and select other groups	Yes, <u>Step 2</u> (of 3) is currently in effect in all regions with the exception of the Marystown and Burin Area, which is in Alert Level 3 Criteria for current phase: <u>80%+ of people aged 12+ have received first dose and 50%+ have received second dose</u> , plus low case/hospitalization rates	Yes, <u>as of Oct 22, 2021, proof of vaccination is required to access a number of businesses and settings, including: restaurants, bars, conferences and conventions, arenas, indoor gyms and fitness facilities, and theatres and cinemas</u> <u>All provincial government employees must be fully vaccinated by Dec 17, as well as employees of schools, long term care facilities, companies supporting vulnerable populations, daycares, and first responders. No plans have yet been announced for mandating vaccines for all healthcare workers</u>
NS	91.8% of eligible (12+) population has <u>received at least one dose</u> * (<u>83.4% total population</u>) 86.8% of eligible (12+) population <u>fully vaccinated</u> * (<u>78.9% total population</u>)	First dose available to <u>anyone aged 12+</u> ; second dose available to anyone aged 12+ for whom <u>28 days (Moderna vaccine) or 21 days (Pfizer vaccine) have elapsed since first dose; appointments required in most cases</u> as the majority of walk-in clinics have closed, but <u>a few locations remain</u> and are offering drop-in appointments; walk-in	Yes, a modified Phase 5 is currently in effect Criteria for current phase: <u>75%+ of total population (not just eligible population) has received two doses</u>	Yes, starting Oct 4, <u>proof of full vaccination is needed to participate in most non-essential events and activities that bring groups of people together</u> , including restaurants, gyms, movies, conferences and performances <u>Starting Sep 29, public service employees in certain categories</u>

		<p>clinics also being held at pharmacies</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered in accordance with NACI guidance as of Nov 5; third doses for moderately to severely immunocompromised people became available Oct 4; booster doses for people living in long-term care and other congregate settings that provide care for seniors became available Oct 25</p>		<p>(healthcare workers, long-term care facilities, residential facilities, public school teachers, etc.) who are not fully vaccinated by Nov 30 would be placed on unpaid administrative leave; this mandate was later extended to those who work in correctional facilities and regulated child care settings; on Nov 3, the Nov 30 deadline was extended by eight weeks for those with one dose</p>
NT	<p>85% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (72% total population)</p> <p>81% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (68% total population)</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+ and those who are turning 12 the year of vaccination, regardless of birth month</p> <p>Appointments required</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Booster doses now available to anyone aged 18+ after a minimum of 6 months following second dose</p>	<p>Yes, the Emerging Wisely 2021 plan is currently in effect, but plan does not have concrete phases or criteria for progression; stricter temporary public health orders are in effect in regions with higher caseloads</p>	<p>Government employees will need to provide proof of vaccination by Nov 30; some businesses are asking for proof of vaccination as of Oct 22 as part of the Public Health Order</p>
NU	<p>90% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (66.6% total population) *</p> <p>79% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (58.4% total population) *</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+; appointments required; remote community clinics open for limited periods of time for first and second doses; school-based (age 12-17) vaccination clinics have been operating in some communities since Sep 1</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Booster doses available to anyone aged 12+ who received their 2nd dose >6 months ago, as of Nov 5</p>	<p>Yes, a plan is currently in effect (Nunavut's Path: Living with COVID-19), but it does not have concrete phases or criteria for progression. Regions within NU will reopen based on vaccination status, COVID-19 case numbers, testing & response capacity, and the emergence of VOC</p>	No

<p>ON</p>	<p>88.5% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (77.8% total population) *</p> <p>85.1% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (74.8% total population) *</p>	<p>Pfizer available to anyone aged 12+; Moderna available for those age 25+ (people aged 18-24 can receive Moderna with informed consent); AstraZeneca available for second dose only; appointments required; some walk-in available in pharmacies</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered to select vulnerable populations (e.g., transplant recipients) eight weeks after second dose; eligibility for booster doses expanded to additional groups of high-risk individuals (individuals aged 70+, healthcare workers, etc.) starting Nov 6, in accordance with NACI vaccination guidelines</p>	<p>Yes, Step 3 (final step before “exiting” the plan) of the Roadmap to Reopen; the province recently introduced the Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the Long Term</p> <p>Criteria for current phase: It is a phased approach guided by indicators such as the identification of new variants, increased hospitalizations, ICU occupancy and rising transmission</p>	<p>As of Sep 22, 2021, proof of vaccination required to enter certain businesses and settings</p> <p>The province mandated vaccination for long-term care workers in October; however, on Nov 3, the Ontario government announced that it would not enact a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy for hospital workers (<i>this has been announced in the media but is not yet reflected in official public health guidance</i>)</p> <p>The province’s Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the Long-Term notes that all remaining public health and workplace safety measures will be lifted by March 2022—including the provincial requirement for proof of vaccination</p>
<p>PE</p>	<p>93.7% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (83% total population) *</p> <p>88.7% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (78.5% total population) *</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+; appointments required; drop-in clinics available; appointments can be booked with a partner pharmacy</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Recommended for residents of long-term care and community care facilities, moderately to severely immunocompromised individuals, and certain other groups</p>	<p>Yes, PEI is taking a phased approach that uses a set of core criteria to guide public health decision making; the step-based Moving Forward Plan for summer and fall 2021 no longer in effect</p> <p>Criteria for current phase: Risk levels are informed by criteria such as percentage of population vaccinated, presence</p>	<p>Yes, launched the PEI Vax Pass Program on Oct 5, 2021; some businesses, services and events are required to verify a person’s proof of vaccination for access to their venue or setting</p> <p>No vaccine mandates for public service employees or healthcare workers have been announced</p>

			of VOC, case rates, health care system capacity and outbreaks in vulnerable populations	
QC	<p>90.7% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose * (79.4% total population)</p> <p>87% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (76.2% total population) *</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+; appointments or walk-in clinics available. Second dose recommended 8 weeks after first dose.</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: An additional dose of the vaccine is recommended for immunocompromised persons, at least 4 weeks after second dose; boosters available to residents in long-term care settings or seniors residences six months following last COVID-19 dose. Third doses available at walk-in clinics or by appointment</p>	<p>The reopening plan, with its different colour-coded phases reflecting levels of restrictions, is no longer in effect. The province is currently in an undefined stage, with various measures in force that target certain higher risk settings and areas of activity</p>	<p>Vaccination passports were introduced Sep 1. Passports are required for everyone age 13+ for sports, outdoor events, performance venues, bars, and restaurants, and amusement parks, among other locations</p> <p>In September, the Quebec government announced mandatory vaccination of health and social services workers against COVID-19; on Nov 3, before the policy could come into effect, it stated that vaccination would no longer be mandatory for current employees, but new health-care hires will have to be vaccinated (this has been announced in the media but is not yet reflected in official public health guidance)</p>
SK	<p>877,241 people (86%) have received one dose. 810,651 people (80%) are fully vaccinated</p>	<p>First dose available to anyone aged 12+; second dose available to anyone aged 12+ for whom 28 days have elapsed since first dose; appointments are available at pharmacies or pop-up clinics in targeted communities</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Booster and/or third doses are being provided in a phased approach starting with the most clinically vulnerable; currently,</p>	<p>No, public health orders were formally rescinded after reaching Step 3 of the Re-Opening Roadmap on July 11, 2021; however, as of Oct 19, a public health order is in effect mandating the use of non-medical masks in all public indoor spaces and a mandatory 10 day self-isolation requirement for individuals who test positive for COVID-19</p>	<p>Effective Oct 1, 2021, a proof of vaccination or negative test policy was implemented for all government ministry crown and agency employees, as well as for public access to a list of establishments, businesses and event venues (children under 12 are exempt)</p> <p>No vaccine mandates for public service employees or healthcare workers have been announced</p>

		<p>individuals aged 65+, healthcare workers, residents of long-term care and the immunocompromised are eligible; additional (3rd and 4th) doses are available for those who require it for international travel</p>		
YT	<p>89% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose (79.8% total population) *</p> <p>85% of eligible (12+) population fully vaccinated (77.1% total population) *</p>	<p>Doses available to anyone aged 12+, or those turning 12 this calendar year; appointments or walk-ins available</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Available to immunocompromised people and those over 70 years old 4 weeks after their second dose. As of Nov 1, those aged 50 and older for whom it has been at least six months since they completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series are eligible for a booster dose</p>	<p>Yes, Forging Ahead: the Yukon government's continuing response to COVID-19 guides the way forward to living with COVID-19 risk and is comprised of six pillars ; this replaces the 'A Path Forward' reopening plan</p>	<p>The Government of Yukon is requiring all provincial employees (including teachers) and frontline health care workers to be fully vaccinated by Nov 30, 2021. Proof of vaccination will also be required to access non-essential services in the Yukon.</p>
Belgium	<p>76% of total population has received at least one dose.</p> <p>75% of total population is fully vaccinated.</p> <p>Percentage of vaccination coverage for eligible population not provided.</p>	<p>Doses currently available for anyone aged 12+; appointments required</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Currently being offered to immunocompromised people, people 65+ years, and residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities; booster shots to be rolled out to general population "as soon as it is scientifically proven it has a place in the vaccination schedule"</p>	<p>Due to varying rates of vaccination and infection, Belgium is taking a differentiated approach to restrictions and moving from a federal approach to an approach led by local authorities</p> <p>As virus cases have increased significantly, measures include increased compulsory mask wearing in certain circumstances, teleworking and CovidSafe Ticket system for public gatherings.</p>	<p>Yes, the CovidSafe Ticket system, which has three certificates that can be used: a vaccination certificate, a test certificate, and a recovery certificate. These may be required to enter some venues, such as bars and restaurants, and to travel in the EU.</p>

<p>England</p>	<p>87.1% of eligible (12+) population has received at least one dose.</p> <p>79.5% of eligible population fully vaccinated.</p> <p>17.8% of eligible (12+) population has received a booster or 3rd dose.</p>	<p>People 18 and over (or turning 18 in 3 months) can get both doses of a vaccine. Most young people aged 12 to 17 are only being offered one dose.</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered to people most at risk (people aged 50+, who live or work in care homes, frontline healthcare workers, and immunocompromised people and their caregivers) who have had their second dose at least 6 months prior</p>	<p>There was a 4-step reopening plan which has since been completed. All restrictions ended on June 21</p>	<p>There is an NHS COVID pass which may be required for travel abroad, events or while at venues in England. However, the government has abandoned plans for a vaccine passport mandate.</p>
<p>Germany</p>	<p>69.7 % of total population has received at least one dose.</p> <p>67.1 % of total population is fully vaccinated.</p> <p>Percentage of vaccination coverage for eligible population not provided.</p>	<p>Doses currently available for anyone aged 12+; appointments required</p> <p>Boosters/third doses: Offered to immunocompromised people and people in long-term care facilities, those aged 80+, and other vulnerable groups</p>	<p>No national reopening plan is in effect; restrictions are based on incidence rates over the last three days, and vary by district and municipality</p>	<p>The '3G rule' (<i>geimpft, getestet, genesen</i> = vaccinated, tested, recovered) came into effect in August 2021 across federal and state governments and applies in areas with incidence rates above 35 new infections per 100,000 inhabitants. Those who do not have vaccinated or recovered status will be required to present a negative coronavirus test to attend indoor events, go to bars and restaurants, visit hospitals, etc.</p>

Table 2. Changes made to hand washing, masking, and physical distancing guidance as a result of VOC

Jurisdiction	Has hand washing guidance changed due to VOC? If so, how?	Has masking guidance changed due to VOC? If so, how?	Has physical distancing guidance changed due to VOC? If so, how?	Have there been setbacks/ reinstatements of public health measures due to VOC?
AB	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned. Masking is now required in all indoor public spaces, including workplaces; the REP does not include masking (i.e., there are no exemptions for vaccinated people)	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned. Physical distancing is now required in all indoor public spaces, including workplaces	Guidance has been updated to reinstate public health measures due to a rise in cases , mainly consisting of VOC. However, reinstatements do not explicitly mention VOC
BC	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	A new Provincial Order on face coverings was issued on Oct 29, specifically citing the rise of VOC (particularly Delta). Masks are required in all public indoor settings for all people born in 2016 or earlier (5+)	This public health measure has been relaxed , but VOC are not mentioned in guidance. Social contact may increase in phase 3, and return to normal when proceeding to phase 4	Yes (see masking guidance). Even when not explicitly mentioned, some guidance has changed based on higher case counts and an anticipated surge in cases during the fall and winter months, which are/will likely be connected to VOC
MB	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned; mask requirements remain in place	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	No; Manitoba continues to address VOC through “ongoing reviews of public health measures, to align with changing national guidance and incorporate emerging evidence,” as well as vaccination rollout, laboratory screening for VOC to allow early detection, case and contact management, and ongoing monitoring of variants
NB	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned. Masking is now required in all indoor public spaces	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned. Physical distancing is required in all places where proof of vaccination is not required	Guidance has been updated to reinstate public health measures due to a rise in cases , mainly consisting of VOC. However, reinstatements do not explicitly mention VOC

NL	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned. Masking is now required in most indoor public spaces	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated to reinstate public health measures due to a rise in cases , mainly consisting of VOC. However, reinstatements do not explicitly mention VOC
NS	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged ; masking is still required in all indoor public spaces	There are no social distancing requirements for businesses, services and gatherings as part of Phase 5; guidance does not mention VOC	No, VOC fact sheet was updated June 23, 2021, but no change to guidance related to public health measures
NT	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC	No
NU	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently , but VOC are not mentioned	No
ON	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC ; masking is still required in all indoor public spaces	Guidance has not changed, and explicitly states that no changes are required due to VOC	No
PE	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged ; As of Sep 17, non-medical masks are mandatory in indoor public places	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	'Variants of concern and of interest' is one of the criteria used to guide the province's public health decision making; all positive COVID-19 samples collected in PEI are sent to the National Microbiology Laboratory for genetic sequencing and identification for possible VOCs ; a Sep 7 provincial news release suggested that delays and adjustments to the Moving Forward Plan were due to the dominance of the Delta variant

QC	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned; masking is now required in most closed or partly covered public spaces	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned; distancing is no longer required for fully vaccinated people at private gatherings	No
SK	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned ; masking is now required in all indoor public spaces	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	No, but a public health order issued Sep 22 regarding mandatory isolation and masking refers to presence of VOC
YT	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Masks are no longer required but recommended in indoor public areas ; guidance does not mention VOC	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	No
Belgium	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned; however, due to increasing cases, mask wearing is mandatory in public places such as shops, care facilities and government buildings where the CovidSafe Ticket system is not in operation	Guidance has been updated recently but VOC are not mentioned; distancing requirements vary by circumstance and have been generally relaxed	No, VOC are not explicitly mentioned, but due to rising case numbers, there are increased measures such as mask wearing, teleworking and the implementation of the Covid Ticket System
England	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Masking is no longer required in public spaces; guidance does not mention VOC	Guidance does not mention physical distancing or VOC; emphasis is rather placed on ventilation and avoiding crowded places	No
Germany	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged ; masks are mandatory in public transport and shopping, however regulations can vary across cities and municipalities	Guidance has not changed since VOC emerged	No

Table 3. Isolation requirements for people in the community suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19

Jurisdiction	Isolation requirements for people suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19	Does guidance differ for VOC cases?
AB	10 days of isolation from the day of a positive test result is required for anyone with a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case ; although the province had planned to eliminate this requirement on Sep 27, 2021, this plan has been abandoned	No
BC	10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms . Continue to isolate until feeling better and fever is gone without using fever reducing medication	No
MB	10 days of isolation for individuals who are sick or have tested positive for COVID-19	No, but guidance page does have a section stating that requirements are even more important in light of VOC
NB	Suspected or confirmed cases must isolate for a period determined on a case-by-case basis by Public Health	No
NL	Suspected or confirmed cases must isolate for a period determined on a case-by-case basis by Public Health	No
NS	At least 7 days of isolation for confirmed cases; people experiencing COVID-19 symptoms must self-isolate until they receive their COVID-19 test result	No
NT	Suspected or confirmed cases must isolate for a period determined on a case-by-case basis; generally, to discontinue isolation, a minimum of 10 days must have elapsed since onset of symptoms, with no remaining symptoms	No
NU	14 days of isolation for confirmed cases ; the public health department may provide an individual home isolation plan to affected households	No
ON	Isolation requirements vary by public health unit and the length of time is no longer mandated by the provincial government	No
PE	10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms , or until cleared by a public health official, for confirmed cases; self-isolation until receipt of a negative test result for suspected cases	No
QC	10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms for suspected or confirmed cases. For self-isolation to end, there must be no fever and an improvement of symptoms	No
SK	Confirmed cases must isolate for a period of at least 10 days	No
YT	Suspected or confirmed cases must isolate for a period determined by Yukon Communicable Disease Control	No
Belgium	10 days of isolation following the onset of symptoms, provided it has been at least three days without fever and clinical symptoms have improved	No
England	10 days of isolation after the day symptoms started if received a positive test result. Isolation may last longer if symptoms develop during isolation period or symptoms do not go away.	No

Germany	10 days of isolation from the day of a positive test result	No
---------	---	----

Table 4. Quarantine requirements for close contacts

Jurisdiction	Quarantine requirements for close contacts of COVID-19 cases	Does guidance differ for close contacts of VOC cases?
AB	Quarantine is no longer required for close contacts	No
BC	10 days of quarantine may be required , depending on vaccination status and other factors; Public Health will help determine length of quarantine required. All close contacts must self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days	No
MB	10 days of quarantine is advised, followed by 4 days of self-monitoring for symptoms ; asymptomatic, fully vaccinated individuals or those who have had COVID-19 within the last 6 months may be exempt	No, but guidance page does have a section stating that requirements are even more important in light of VOC
NB	Quarantine requirements are determined on a case-by-case basis in consultation with public health officials; factors include vaccination status and the nature of close contact	No
NL	14 days of quarantine is required , regardless of presence or absence of symptoms, for anyone who is not fully vaccinated; those who are fully vaccinated but experiencing symptoms must self-isolate for 10 days following exposure date and/or when symptoms subside; no isolation requirements for fully vaccinated with no symptoms	No
NS	At least 7 days of quarantine is required from date of exposure, until a negative test result is received and there are no symptoms; fully vaccinated close contacts do not need to quarantine or get tested as long as they are not experiencing symptoms	No
NT	Quarantine requirements are determined on a case-by-case basis in consultation with public health officials	No
NU	14 days of quarantine from last date of high-risk contact	No
ON	Length of quarantine depends on vaccination status and exposure risk; it is recommended that close contacts get tested on day 10 of quarantine	No
PE	14 days of quarantine is required for non-vaccinated or partially vaccinated close contacts; testing required at day 0-1, 4-6, and 9-11. Quarantine is not required for asymptomatic, fully vaccinated close contacts, but self-monitoring is recommended, and the same testing requirements apply	No
QC	10 days of quarantine is required for people who are not 'adequately protected' (i.e., fully vaccinated and/or previously infected and immune). For close contacts who are adequately	No

	protected, no quarantine is required, but symptoms should be monitored for 14 days, and testing required on days 3 and 5 after exposure, unless individual had COVID within the last 6 months	
SK	14 days of quarantine is required for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated; fully vaccinated individuals at time of close contact are exempt	No
YT	14 days of quarantine is required for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated; fully vaccinated close contacts within the same household must also quarantine, but fully vaccinated non-household close contacts are exempt	No
Belgium	Close contacts are tested on day 1 after the high-risk contact ; those who are fully vaccinated remain in quarantine until a negative result is received; asymptomatic high-risk contacts must quarantine for at least 14 days, with testing on days 1 and 7.	No
England	Quarantine not required for non-household close contacts unless contacted by NHS. Household close contacts only need to quarantine if unvaccinated. Close contacts should monitor for symptoms and get a test right away if symptoms develop.	No
Germany	14 days of quarantine is required after contact with an infected person and for those at high risk of becoming infected	No

Table 5. Quarantine, testing, and follow-up requirements for inter-regional travellers

Jurisdiction	Length of required quarantine period for inter-regional travellers (e.g., entering province from inside Canada)	Testing requirements for inter-regional travellers	Exemptions to quarantine requirements for inter-regional travellers	Exemptions to testing requirements for inter-regional travellers
AB	No quarantine required	No testing required	N/A	N/A
BC	No quarantine required	No testing required	N/A	N/A
MB	14 days for unvaccinated travellers aged 12+ , regardless of symptoms and test results	Testing on day 1 and day 10 of quarantine is recommended for unvaccinated travellers Testing within 3 days of travel is strongly recommended for those who are not fully vaccinated before visiting or re-entering First Nations or Indigenous and Northern Relations communities after an absence of more than 48 hours	Fully vaccinated individuals, transport workers, health care providers, aircraft and train crew members, police officers, emergency service personnel, and many other specific groups are exempt from quarantine	Quarantine-exempt travellers are not required to get tested unless symptoms develop
NB	14 days for unvaccinated travellers aged 12+ unless a negative test result is received on day 10 or later; registration is required for all travellers entering the province including residents	No testing required, but travellers may leave quarantine on day 10 with a negative test result	Fully vaccinated individuals and children under age 12 travelling with them, commercial truck drivers, people accessing medical care, workers whose employers require proof of vaccination or regular testing, and children travelling to school or daycare are exempt from quarantine	Quarantine-exempt travellers are not required to get tested

<p>NL</p>	<p>7 days for travellers aged 12+ who are not fully vaccinated, people travelling with people aged 12+ who are not fully vaccinated, or people who do not disclose vaccination status at time of entry; modified self-isolation following a negative test result until day 14; registration is required within 30 days of travel for all travellers; people who are partially vaccinated are now subject to same quarantine requirements as unvaccinated people</p>	<p>Testing on day 7 or later is required for anyone requiring quarantine; quarantine requirement ends when negative test result is received, so full 14 days may not be necessary with testing</p>	<p>Individuals who are fully vaccinated, attending medical appointments, visiting a critically ill or palliative loved one, or travelling for bereavement are exempt from quarantine</p>	<p>Fully vaccinated people and residents of NL entering from certain communities in QC who have not travelled beyond those communities in the previous 14 days are exempt from testing; testing not required for partially vaccinated or unvaccinated if they choose to remain in full self-isolation for 14 days</p>
<p>NS</p>	<p>7 days for travellers with one dose of vaccine at least 14 days before entry (i.e., partially vaccinated) or unvaccinated travellers; none required for travellers fully vaccinated at least 14 days before entry</p>	<p>Testing is recommended but not required for fully vaccinated travellers who do not need to self-isolate</p> <p>Travellers required to self-isolate for 7 must receive 2 negative test results before leaving quarantine</p>	<p>Fully vaccinated individuals, people providing essential health services, attending legal proceedings, working in transport/trade, military/defence, border security, RCMP, first responders, healthcare workers are exempt from quarantine</p>	<p>None; exempt travellers are strongly recommended to get tested, especially upon entry to NS</p>
<p>NT</p>	<p>10 days for unvaccinated travellers including those under 12; 8 days for partially vaccinated travellers; none required for fully vaccinated travellers</p>	<p>Fully vaccinated travellers need day 1 and day 8 negative tests to return directly to small communities</p> <p>Unvaccinated travellers require a negative test at day 10 and partially vaccinated travellers require a negative test at day 8</p>	<p>Non-residents can apply for exemptions for compassionate reasons, family reasons and other exceptional reasons</p>	<p>None; testing required when travelling to small communities</p>
<p>NU</p>	<p>14 days for unvaccinated travellers, which must be completed at a recognized site in Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton, or</p>	<p>No testing required</p>	<p>Fully vaccinated individuals, critical workers, and construction workers are exempt from quarantine, or for</p>	<p>N/A</p>

	Yellowknife before entry to NU; none required for fully vaccinated travellers		compassionate or extraordinary grounds; <u>Expedited Medical Travel Isolation (EMTI) program available to medical travellers who are unvaccinated</u>	
ON	No quarantine required , unless symptomatic	No testing requirements	N/A	N/A
PE	8 days for unvaccinated travellers ; none for partially or fully vaccinated travellers showing proof of vaccination or PEI Pass	PEI Pass holders must agree to be tested upon entry to the province , and to isolate and test if symptoms develop at any time; those not fully vaccinated must receive a negative test on day 8 in order to exit quarantine <u>Students entering PE from domestic travel</u> are required to be tested at the point of entry and on days 4 and 8	Partially or fully vaccinated individuals (i.e., at least one dose + 21 days) aged 12+ years ; children younger than 12 travelling with at minimum one vaccinated adult who is exempt from quarantine with a PEI Pass	None
QC	No quarantine required ; non-essential travel should be avoided	No testing required	N/A	N/A
SK	Isolation is not mandatory for those who have travelled within Canada; however, 14 days of quarantine is required for those not fully vaccinated who have travelled on an airplane and in the same row as, 3 rows in front or 3 rows behind a confirmed case	No testing required	N/A	N/A
YT	No quarantine required	No testing required unless symptomatic	N/A	N/A
Belgium	No quarantine required for travellers from Green or Orange zones within the EU, or fully vaccinated travellers from Red	No testing required for travellers coming from Green or Orange zones within the EU, or fully vaccinated travellers from Red	Exemptions to quarantine are permitted for urgent medical care, purchase of essential items, urgent legal or financial needs,	People unable to provide a test sample for medical reasons are exempt from testing requirements

	<p>zones within the EU. Individuals without a vaccine certificate or recent negative test result must isolate until a negative test is received from test on arrival. 10 days of quarantine required for unvaccinated travellers arriving from a Red zone outside the EU. Non-essential travel from non-EU countries strongly discouraged. Passenger location form in operation.</p>	<p>zones within the EU. Testing on day 1 or 2 required for travellers from a Red zone who do not have a vaccine certificate or recent negative test result. Testing required on days 1 and 7 for unvaccinated travellers arriving from a Red zone outside the EU.</p>	<p>urgent care for farm animals, or travel for above</p>	
England	<p>No quarantine for vaccinated travelers with a negative test. If you are travelling from a red list country, you are only permitted into England if individual is a British or Irish national</p>	<p>Testing is required within 2 days of entering England.</p>	<p>There are exemptions to entry requirements based on job type.</p>	<p>There are exemptions to testing requirements based on job type</p>
Germany	<p>10 days required for travellers entering Germany from any “high-risk areas” or 14 days from “areas of variants of concern” (list updated frequently). Quarantine can end early by submitting proof of recovery or vaccine or proof of negative test</p>	<p>Travellers entering Germany from high-risk areas or a virus variant area must provide proof of a negative test performed a maximum of 48 hours (antigen) or 72 hours (PCR) prior to entry</p>	<p>Travellers with proof of vaccination or prior infection may enter Germany without quarantining; the CovPass is an app used by travellers within the EU</p>	<p>None; all travellers entering Germany must provide a negative test result, proof of vaccination or proof of recovery</p>

Table 6. Gathering limits in place

Jurisdiction	Private gathering limits	Public gathering limits
AB	No indoor gatherings for vaccine-eligible unvaccinated individuals. Vaccinated individuals limited to one household plus another vaccinated household with a limit of 10 people. No limit on children under 12. Outdoor gatherings limited to 20 individuals maximum with social distancing.	Businesses implementing Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) have no limits (masking still required indoors). Businesses not implementing REP must function at 1/3 capacity. Individuals must be with household only, or 2 close contacts if they live alone. Restaurants not implementing REP are not permitted to have indoor dining. Sport activities are not permitted for adults if not implementing REP. Outdoor activities have no limits but social distancing must be occurring between households.
BC	No restrictions	Indoor organized gatherings at full capacity, with proof of vaccination. Outdoor organized gatherings can have 50%, or 5,000 people. Fairs, festivals and trade shows have no limit, with proof of vaccination and a communicable disease plan in place
MB	No restrictions if only fully vaccinated people gather; households are limited to guests from one other household indoors, and 10 guests outdoors, when unvaccinated person is present	Indoor gatherings at an indoor public place are limited to 25 people or 25 per cent of capacity, whichever is greater. Outdoor gatherings in public setting limited to 50 people
NB	Household plus 20 steady contacts, except in regions with Circuit Breaker policies in place where all gatherings with people outside household are banned	No restrictions in place for gatherings where proof of vaccination is required; physical distancing required where proof of vaccination is not.
NL	Limited to the number of people that can fit in the space with physical distancing	Outdoor gatherings up to 500 people. Indoor gatherings up to 350 people with physical distancing
NS	Informal social gatherings not hosted by a business or organization can have 25 people indoors or 50 people outdoors	No gathering limits for events hosted by a business or organization (like arts and culture events, festivals, special events, sports, performing arts, weddings, funerals and faith gatherings)
NT	Household gatherings of 5 additional people, up to 10 people indoors or 25 people outdoors are allowed, with public health measures in place. If all are fully vaccinated, up to 25 people (including household members) can gather in a household. Approval from Public Health is required for events with live singing, playing of wind instruments, indoor dancing, funerals, hand games, and indoor winter sports	Outdoor gatherings up to 50 people allowed; approval from Public Health is required for high-risk events such as funerals Essential businesses may exceed gathering limits provided they follow the indoor masking and other requirements.

NU	Private indoor gatherings may have 15 guests plus household residents in homes, or 15 people total in non-dwellings	Indoor public gatherings such as theatres or faith services can have 75% of venue capacity up to 100 people . Sports arenas, libraries and museums can have 50% of venue capacity up to 25 people. No restrictions on outdoor public gatherings
ON	Private indoor gatherings up to 25 people or 100 outdoors	Outdoor public gatherings can have up to 100 people, with exceptions for certain establishments (open outdoor venues may have 75% of their maximum occupant or seating capacity) . Indoor public gatherings can have up to 25 people, with exceptions for certain establishments (open indoor venues may have 50% of their maximum capacity)
PE	Personal gatherings (inside and outside) may have a maximum of 50 people	Organized gatherings of 200 people outdoors and 100 people indoors
QC	Indoor private gatherings allow a maximum of 10 people from different addresses or the occupants of 3 households, with continued public health measures recommended for those not adequately protected. Outdoor private gatherings may have up to 20 people from different addresses or the occupants of 3 households, with continued public health measures	Public gatherings may have up to 250 people indoors or 500 outdoors . For assemblies, meetings, and graduation and award ceremonies, a vaccination passport is required if there are more than 250 people indoors. Starting Nov 15, people taking part in public gatherings may stand or dance and need not have an assigned place to sit. It will no longer be required to keep a list of attendees
SK	No restrictions	No restrictions
YT	Until Nov 30, gatherings should be limited to 20 people indoors if everyone is fully vaccinated and to 6 people if not everyone is fully vaccinated	Social gatherings of more than 50 people outdoors are not permitted
Belgium	Private gatherings may be held indoors for a maximum of 500 people. Private gatherings may be held outdoors for a maximum of 750 people.	Events, cultural and other performances, sports competitions and training sessions, and conferences may be held without specific measures if the number of people present is less than 200 indoors or 400 outdoors. Larger events may require a Covid Safe Ticket . These can take place indoors for an audience of 200 people and up to 3,000 people and outdoors for an audience of 400 people and up to 5,000 people. If no Covid Safe Ticket is used, the event must follow masking and social distancing guidelines.
England	There are no restrictions on gathering limits. It is suggested that individuals meet outdoors when possible, and to limit the number of people in a group	There are no limits for public gatherings. Businesses should still take precautions to keep their business safe.
Germany	Varies by state, district, and municipality; restrictions come into effect when incidence rate surpasses 100 new infections per 100,000 inhabitants in past 7 days	Varies by state, district, and municipality; restrictions come into effect when incidence rate surpasses 100 new infections per 100,000 inhabitants in past 7 days

Methods

Guidance documents were retrieved between November 2 and November 10, 2021, using a combination of targeted Google searches and follow-up browsing of government websites. Searches were designed and overseen by an experienced information specialist (LB). Potentially relevant resources were tracked using Microsoft Excel and later verified by a second reviewer. Included resources were limited to documents or webpages produced by governments or provincial/territorial health organizations, unless changes announced in the media had not yet been updated on those websites. Only the most recent guidance documents at the time of the search were included. Data were extracted by one reviewer directly into the tables included in this report and were verified by a second reviewer. Vaccination data were extracted from government websites and the COVID-19 Vaccination Tracker⁸ on November 8, 2021.

Definitions

In this report, PHAC's definitions of isolation and quarantine are used. *Isolation* is used for people suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19. *Quarantine* is used for close contacts of people suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, and for travellers at risk of bringing COVID-19 into a region.

List of Abbreviations

AB: Alberta
BC: British Columbia
MB: Manitoba
NB: New Brunswick
NL: Newfoundland and Labrador
NPIs: nonpharmaceutical interventions
NS: Nova Scotia
NT: Northwest Territories
NU: Nunavut
ON: Ontario
PE: Prince Edward Island
PHAC: Public Health Agency of Canada
QC: Quebec
SK: Saskatchewan
YT: Yukon
VOC: Variant(s) of Concern

References

1. Cucinotta D, Vanelli M. WHO Declares COVID-19 a Pandemic. *Acta Bio-Medica Atenei Parm.* 2020 19;91(1):157–60.
2. World Health Organization. Global Situation: WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard [Internet]. 2021. Available from: <https://covid19.who.int/>
3. WHO. Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants [Internet]. 2021 [cited 2021 Jun 7]. Available from: <https://www.who.int/en/activities/tracking-SARS-CoV-2-variants/>
4. WHO. COVID-19 Weekly epidemiological update - February 25, 2021 [Internet]. 2021 Feb [cited 2021 Mar 12]. Available from: <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/covid-19-weekly-epidemiological-update>
5. Davies NG, Abbott S, Barnard RC, Jarvis CI, Kucharski AJ, Munday JD, et al. Estimated transmissibility and impact of SARS-CoV-2 lineage B.1.1.7 in England. *Science* [Internet]. 2021 Apr 9 [cited 2021 Apr 24];372(6538). Available from: <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/372/6538/eabg3055>
6. Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Get the Shot [Internet]. [cited 2021 Nov 9]. Available from: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/vaccine/gettheshot/>
7. Public Health Agency of Canada. Summary of National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) Statement of October 29, 2021 [Internet]. [cited 2021 Nov 10]. Available from: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/phac-aspc/documents/services/immunization/national-advisory-committee-on-immunization-naci/recommendations-use-covid-19-vaccines/statement-guidance-booster-doses/summary/summary.pdf>
8. COVID-19 Tracker Canada. COVID-19 Vaccination Tracker [Internet]. 2021. Available from: <https://covid19tracker.ca/vaccinationtracker.html>