

COVID-19: Emergency Measures Tracker

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In light of the outbreak of COVID-19, our team is closely monitoring updates from governments across Canada as they respond to the pandemic. The following summarizes the emergency measures that have been imposed in each jurisdiction. We will continue to update this summary as further measures are introduced across the country.

This roundup was last updated on October ~~13~~²⁰, 2021. To see what has changed since our last update, please download our blackline,

[here](#).

Federal

- **October 16, 2021:** [The Government of Canada approved an extension to a Request for Federal Assistance from the Province of Ontario to manage COVID-19 outbreaks in long-term care and retirement homes \(link\).](#)
- **October 14, 2021:** [The Government of Canada advised of the United States of America's announcement that in November, the country will begin allowing fully vaccinated travellers from Canada to enter the United States of America at land and ferry points of entry for discretionary reasons, such as travel \(link\).](#)
- **September 21, 2021:** The Government of Canada announced the extension of the Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) that restricts all direct commercial and private passenger flights to Canada from India until September 26, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 3, 2021:** The Government of Canada issued a reminder that starting September 7, 2021 Canada will allow fully vaccinated foreign nations meeting conditions to enter Canada for discretionary purposes ([link](#)).
- **August 28, 2021:** Transport Canada issued a Notice to Airmen restricting all direct commercial and private passenger flights to Canada from Morocco until September 29, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **August 24, 2021:** The Canadian Border Services Agency announced that border services will resume at a number of small Canadian marine vessel reporting sites, airports of entry, and ferry terminals as a result of new public health measures affecting fully vaccinated travellers from the U.S. entering Canada ([link](#)).
- **May 25, 2021:** The Government of Canada announced the extension of the temporary travel measures restricting entry into Canada by foreign nationals until June 21, 2021 ([link](#)).

- **March 18, 2020:** Government of Canada, in conjunction with the United States, closed the Canadian-US border to all non-essential travel.
- **March 16, 2020:** Government of Canada banned the entry of all non-Canadian or non-permanent residents into Canada.
- **March 14, 2020:** Government of Canada issued a travel advisory to avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada and all travel by cruise ship. Canadians were urged to return home via commercial means while they still remain available.
- Further information is available on the Government of Canada's [website](#).
- To date the Government of Canada has imposed emergency measures under the *Quarantine Act*, the *Aeronautics Act*, and other federal legislation. It has not yet invoked its extraordinary powers under the *Emergencies Act*. Further information on the federal government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" series of explainers, available on [our COVID-19 hub](#).

British Columbia

- **October 14, 2021:** The Government of British Columbia announced additional health measures to be introduced to stop the spread of COVID-19 for most of the Northern Health region ([link](#)).
- **October 14, 2021:** The Provincial Health Officer released an order requiring hospital and community health care and other services to require COVID-19 vaccination status information from staff member's and implement preventative measures ([link](#)).
- **October 7, 2021:** The Government of British Columbia released guidelines for the request for reconsideration process for health care workers affected by the provincial health officer orders ([link](#)).
- **October 6, 2021:** The Government of British Columbia released an amendment to the requirements for residential care providers collecting vaccination status information ([link](#)).
- **October 4, 2021:** The Government of British Columbia released a Public Health Order directed at residential care facilities and health care workers, to reflect new requirements for both vaccinated and unvaccinated employees ([link](#)).
- **October 1, 2021:** The Government of British Columbia announced expanded health and safety guidelines including mandating masks for all students while inside a school building ([link](#)).
- **September 28, 2021:** The Government of British Columbia updated its mandate for face-coverings in public spaces ([link](#)).

Well Association. Alberta's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Hinshaw, restricts attendance at child care programs to children of essential services workers ([link](#)).

- **March 18, 2020:** Government of Alberta announced a series of funding and supportive measures for immediate financial relief to Alberta's families, vulnerable populations and local businesses, including in respect of: (i) emergency isolation support; (ii) utility payment deferral; (iii) a moratorium on student loan repayment; (iv) relief for ATB Financial and Alberta credit union members; and (v) a deferral on corporate income tax balance collection until August 31, 2020.
- **March 17, 2020:** Government of Alberta declared a provincial public health emergency. Alberta's provincial government has not yet declared a (broader) provincial state of emergency.
- **March 14, 2020:** Given the rapid global increase in the spread of COVID-19, the Government of Alberta advised that it was no longer possible to assess health risks related to international travel. As such, it recommended against travel outside of Canada.
 - Effective March 12, 2020, all Albertans who are currently travelling outside of Canada should self-isolate on their return for 14 days, independent of the country they were visiting.
- Further information is available on the Government of Alberta's [website](#).
- Further information on the Alberta government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

Saskatchewan

- **[October 14, 2021: The Government of Saskatchewan announced that the state of emergency order is renewed \(link\).](#)**
- **October 7, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced the Provincial Command is being activated through the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) to lead the emergency management response to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **September 30, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced new mandatory isolation and face covering requirements to be in effect until October 20, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 22, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced that the state of emergency order is renewed ([link](#)).
- **September 16, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced that it will be implementing mandatory masking effective September 17, 2021 and proof of vaccination requirements effective October 1, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 13, 2021:** The Government of Saskatchewan declared a state of emergency throughout the province to address the COVID-19 public health emergency ([link](#)).

- **March 25, 2020:** The Government of Ontario released Ontario Regulation 82/20 filed March 24, 2020 under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. It mandates the closure of non-essential businesses. It authorizes temporary access to a non-essential business (businesses not listed in Schedule 2), for the purposes of: performing work in order to comply with any applicable laws, allowing inspections and repairs, allowing security services to be provided, to deal with critical matters that cannot be dealt with remotely, or accessing materials that are necessary to operate remotely. It further provides that businesses are not precluded from operating remotely. Ontario Regulation 82/20 can be accessed [here](#).
- **March 24, 2020:** Pursuant to the declared emergency, a new order was issued for health sector workers, including long-term care workers. The order allows for the redeploying of staff to or between locations, changing work assignments, changing shift assignments, deferring or cancelling vacations and leaves, employing extra temporary or part-time staff, greater use of volunteers, and the provision of new education and training of individuals in new roles ([link](#)).
- **March 23, 2020:** Premier Doug Ford announced the mandatory closure of all non-essential workplaces. This takes effect on March 24, 2020 at 11:59 PM and will continue for 14 days. The list of essential workplaces in Ontario can be found [here](#).
- **March 20, 2020:** The Cabinet made an order under s. 7.1 of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to suspend limitation periods and procedural time periods. The suspension is retroactive to March 16, 2020.
- **March 17, 2020:** The Government of Ontario declared a provincial state of emergency to help contain the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public. The following establishments are required to close until March 31, 2020: all bars and restaurants, except to the extent that such facilities provide takeout and food delivery, all facilities providing indoor recreational programs, all public libraries, all private schools, all licensed child care centres, all movie cinemas, all theatres, including those offering live performances of music, dance and other art forms and all concert venues.
 - The Government of Ontario also prohibited all organized public events of over 50 people, including parades, events and communal services within places of worship.
- **March 17, 2020:** Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, advised Ontarians to self-isolate for 14 days following their return from travel outside Canada, including the United States.
- Further information is available on the Government of Ontario's [website](#).
- Further information about the Ontario government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

Québec

- [October 13, 2021: The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until October, 22 2021 \(link\).](#)

- [October 13, 2021: The Government of Québec announced that the deadline for the compulsory vaccination of health and social services workers has been extended to November 1, 2021 \(link\).](#)
- **October 8, 2021:** The Ministry of Health and Social Services announced the amendment to public health and safety restrictions ([link](#)).
- **October 6, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until October 15, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 29, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until October 8, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 24, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order requiring vaccination for persons performing duties in health and social service institutions ([link](#)).
- **September 24, 2021:** The Ministry of Health and Social Services announced that as of September 27, 2021, medical grade masks will be mandatory for all residents of private seniors' residences in several regions of Québec ([link](#)).
- **September 23, 2021:** The Government of Québec announced the adoption of a bill regulating anti-vaccine demonstrations ([link](#)).
- **September 22, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until October 1, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 15, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until September 24, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 9, 2021:** The Government of Québec updated the school regions where masks will be mandatory at all times for students ([link](#)).
- **September 8, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until September 17, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 1, 2021:** The Government of Québec declared new measures to protect the health of the population from COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **August 25, 2021:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until September 3, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **August 24, 2021:** The Government of Québec announced that masks will be required in primary and secondary classrooms in the following areas: Center-du-Québec, Estrie, Lanaudière, Laurentides, Laval , Mauricie, Montérégie, Montreal and Outaouais ([link](#)).
- **August 18, 2021:** The Government of Québec amended the order declaring a public health emergency to ease restrictions in education and to take effect on August 16, 2021 ([link](#)).

- Further information on the Newfoundland and Labrador government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

New Brunswick

- **October 13, 2021**: [The Government of New Brunswick announced that all hospitals and health-care facilities in the province have returned to Red level protocols \(link\)](#).
- **October 9, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick provided a reminder of the circuit breaker rules and Thanksgiving weekend restrictions ([link](#)).
- **October 6, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced restrictions for Thanksgiving celebrations ([link](#)).
- **October 5, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced circuit breaker rules for areas with high transmission rates for 14 days starting October 8, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 25, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced the reinstatement of a state of emergency and the introduction of a mandatory order including various safety measures ([link](#)).
- **May 27, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced that beginning May 31, unvaccinated long-term care workers will be required to take a rapid COVID-19 test every other day ([link](#)).
- **April 27, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced that Edmundston and the Upper Madawaska region will move from lockdown to the Orange level effective at midnight on April 27, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced new self-isolation requirements for leisure and non-essential travellers returning to New Brunswick, people moving to the province and business travellers, effective as of April 24, 2021 at 11:59 pm. It also announced that starting April 25, 2021 at 11:59 p.m, post-secondary students returning from COVID-19 hot zones outside Atlantic Canada, as well as anyone assisting them, must immediately self-isolate for 14 days in an isolation hotel. The cost of the isolation hotel and related expenses will be covered by the provincial government ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced that restrictions on the New Brunswick border will be reinstated on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 8 a.m ([link](#)).
- **April 12, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced that a section of Zone 4 (Edmundston region), including Edmundston and the upper Madawaska region will go into lockdown effective at 11:59 p.m on April 12, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **March 24, 2021**: The Government of New Brunswick announced that the area in which the Red level applies in Zone 4 (Edmundston region) has been extended to Saint-Leonard, Grand Falls, Drummond, New Denmark and Four Falls ([link](#)).

course delivery may continue (institutions with students in residence are permitted to allow them to remain in residence until they can safely return home).

- **March 13, 2020:** Given the vast number of countries reporting community or widespread transmission of COVID-19, the Government of New Brunswick ordered all travelers returning to Canada after March 13, 2020 to self-isolate for 14 days.
- Further information is available on the Government of New Brunswick's [website](#).
- Further information on the New Brunswick government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

Nova Scotia

- **October 15, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia renewed the provincial state of emergency until October 31, 2021 (link).
- **September 17, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that effective September 19, 2021, the state of emergency is renewed until October 3, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **August 23, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that September 15th is the target date for entering the next phase of reopening, wherein restrictions, such as mask requirements, will lift. However, border measures, such as isolation based on vaccination status and testing, will remain ([link](#)).
- **August 20, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia renewed the provincial state of emergency until noon September 5, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **August 6, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia renewed the provincial state of emergency until noon on August 22, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **July 23, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia renewed the provincial state of emergency until noon on August 8, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **July 9, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia renewed the provincial state of emergency until noon on July 25, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **May 19, 2021** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that current public health restrictions will remain in place across Nova Scotia until at least the second week of June ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that, starting at 8 a.m. on Friday, May 14, permanent Nova Scotia residents and people travelling for essential reasons must apply to enter the province ([link](#)).
- **May 10, 2021:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that effective immediately, only permanent residents of Nova Scotia and people travelling for essential reasons will be able to enter the province ([link](#)).

authority and tools needed to deny entry to non-essential travellers while still permitting essential and critical services and people to return home ([link](#)).

- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of Yukon's Minister of Education, suspended face-to-face classes for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** Territorial parks and campgrounds will not open until June ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** Women vulnerable to violence will be given phones for the next four months so that they have a safe way to access support during the pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Yukon introduced Civil Emergency Measures Health Protection (COVID-19) Orders to ensure that orders given under the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* are enforceable. Fines and jail time may now be issued to individuals that do not comply with orders. Non-residents who must transit through Yukon may do so but may only remain in Yukon for no more than 24 hours ([link](#)). A list of the orders can be found [here](#).
- **March 25, 2020:** The Government of Yukon established a COVID-19 Business Advisory Council to ensure the needs of Yukon's business community are heard.
- **March 22, 2020:** Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health advised against all non-essential travel into and out of the Yukon. Residents were advised to return home now. Anyone coming into the territory must self-isolate for 14 days. Restaurants must reduce seating capacity to 50 per cent and space people two meters apart, and only offer take-out and delivery as of March 26, 2020. Bars must close. Gatherings of more than 10 people are banned ([link](#)).
- **March 18, 2020:** Public health emergency declared in Yukon.
- Further information is available on the Government of Yukon's [website](#).
- Further information on the Yukon government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

Northwest Territories

- **[October 15, 2021: The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs declared a state of local emergency in Yellowknife from October 19, 2021 to November 1, 2021 to require Yellowknife's Northern Frontier Visitors Centre to establish a temporary day shelter](#)** ([link](#)).
- **October 12, 2021:** The Minister of Health and Social Services has extended the territory-wide Public Health Emergency under the Northwest Territories' Public Health Act until October 26, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 28, 2021:** The Minister of Health and Social Services has extended the territory-wide Public Health Emergency under the Northwest Territories' Public Health Act until October 12, 2021 ([link](#)).

- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories delayed the opening of parks until an unspecified later date ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The state of emergency under the *Emergency Management Act* has been extended ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** Due to a delay in renewing health care cards, those with recently expired cards will continue to receive physician and hospital services ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories' (GNWT) Driver and Vehicle Services extended expiration dates on driver's licences, general identification cards and motor vehicle certificate of registrations. Further information can be found [here](#).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Public Health Emergency has been extended for another 14 days ([link](#)).
- **March 25, 2020:** Schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year.
- **March 23, 2020:** The Government of the NWT closed Highway 7, the Liard Highway, to all traffic as of 5:00pm on Tuesday March 24, 2020 to support the travel prohibition announced on March 22, 2020.
- **March 22, 2020:** Dr. Kami Kandola, NWT Chief Public Health Officer, announced that all travel into the Northwest Territories (by air and road) is prohibited with limited exceptions. Residents returning from outside the NWT from any Canadian or international destination must self-isolate in Yellowknife, Inuvik, Hay River or Fort Smith only.
- **March 20, 2020:** Northwest Territories Finance Minister, Caroline Wawzonek and Industry Minister, Katrina Nokleby, announced the territory's economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They also announced other measures including the suspension of fees at the Deh Cho Bridge toll, truck permits and airport landing fees until the end of June, as well as advanced payments on resource revenue sharing for 2020 for indigenous governments.
- **March 19, 2020:** Northwest Territories declared a public health emergency to make it easier to enact precautions as needed.
- Further information is available on the Government of Northwest Territories' [website](#).
- Further information on the Northwest Territories government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

Nunavut

- **[October 14, 2021:](#)** [The Government of Nunavut has extended the territory's public health emergency until October 28, 2021 \(link\).](#)

- **October 14, 2021:** The Government of Nunavut declared a state of emergency in Iqaluit until October 27, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **October 1, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until October 14, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 27, 2021:** The Government of Nunavut announced that travel exemptions for unvaccinated workers will be limited effective November 1, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 22, 2021:** The Chief Public Health Officer announced the easing of public health restrictions in Arviat ([link](#)).
- **September 17, 2021:** The Chief Public Health Officer, has suspended Nunavut's Common Travel Area with Churchill, Manitoba ([link](#)).
- **September 16, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until September 30, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **September 2, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until September 16, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **August 20, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until September 2, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **August 17, 2021:** The Deputy Chief Public Health Officer has suspended Nunavut's Common Travel Area with the Northwest Territories effective immediately ([link](#)).
- **August 5, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until August 19, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **July 30, 2021:** The Chief Public Health Officer announced that as of August 2, 2021, unvaccinated dependents who travelled outside of Nunavut with their vaccinated parents or guardians will be able to complete their 14-day isolation period in the territory ([link](#)).
- **July 22, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until August 5, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **July 12, 2021:** Dr. Michael Patterson, Nunavut's Chief Public Health Officer has declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 at Baffinland's Mary River Mine is over ([link](#)).
- **July 8, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until July 22, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **June 24, 2021:** The Minister of Health has extended the territory's public health emergency until July 8, 2021 ([link](#)).
- **June 14, 2021:** The Department of Health confirmed that masks will be mandatory throughout the territory, effective June 14, 2021. Masks must be worn in outdoor public spaces where physical distancing cannot be maintained, during indoor gatherings and at