



FOR INTERNAL USE WITHIN THE FEDERAL HEALTH PORTFOLIO,
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS

Public Health Agency of Canada **Health Portfolio Situation Report (SitRep)**

Event Name: Outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) in China
Date: February 13, 2020, 2:00 p.m. EST

Health Portfolio Operations Centre – Activation status

The Health Portfolio Operations Centre (HPOC) remains activated at Level 3, *Partial Escalation*, to further support effective coordination of federal, provincial and territorial preparedness and response to the emergence of a new coronavirus (COVID-19) in China.

Key points

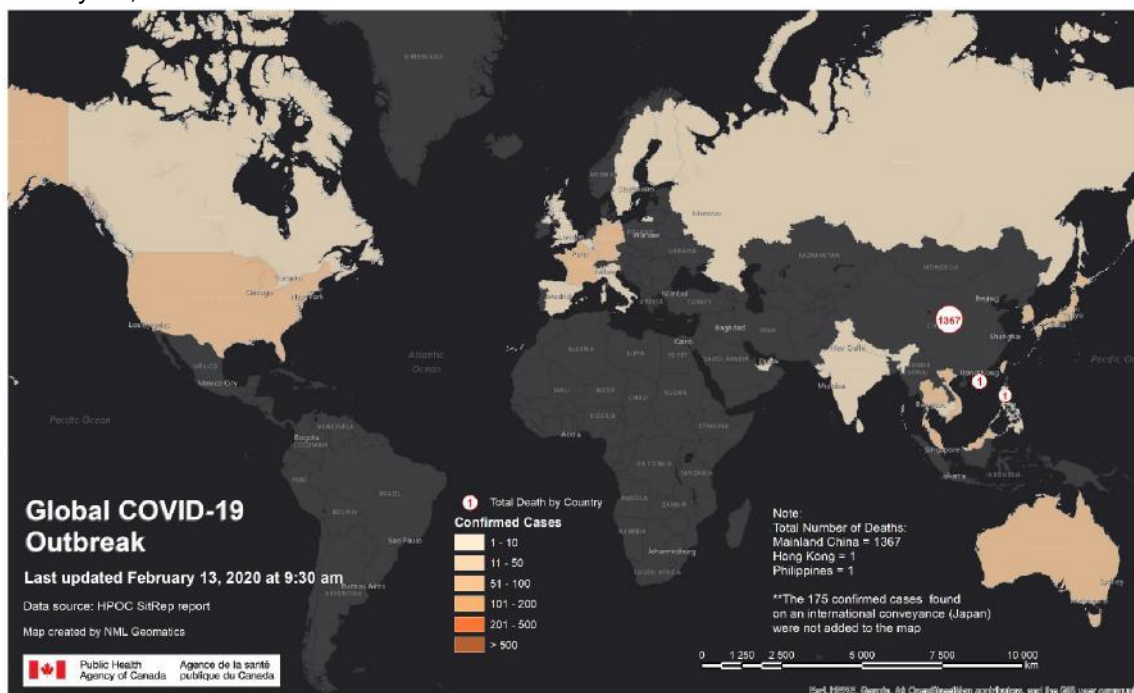
- On February 11, the WHO officially named the disease COVID-19, an acronym made up of “CO” for coronavirus, “VI” for virus, “D” for disease and “19” for 2019, and named the virus responsible for the disease SARS-CoV-2.
- Number of cases as of February 13, 2020 Canada: 7 cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed (ON=3, BC=4).
 - Globally: **60,372** confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 1,369 deaths
 - Mainland China: 59,804 cases of coronavirus pneumonia, including 1,367 deaths
 - Other countries: 568 cases of coronavirus infection, including 2 deaths
- Repatriation
 - On February 12, 437 people, including repatriated citizens, crew members, Government of Canada employees, and parents and guardians, were in quarantine at Canadian Forces Base Trenton.
 - On February 12, 45 people, including Canadian Armed Forces medical personnel, a Government of Canada employee and crew members, were assessed and determined not to pose a risk of exposure to the coronavirus and are no longer in quarantine. International transport
 - On February 13, it was confirmed that 12 Canadian passengers on the Diamond Princess cruise ship were infected with the coronavirus.
 - Of these 12 Canadians, 1 is in critical condition, 2 have seen an improvement in their health since yesterday, and the others are in stable condition.
 - At least 4 Canadians were identified as close contacts, and will remain in quarantine longer (beyond February 19; the exact date is to be determined).
 - On February 13, the Japanese authorities announced a plan to allow groups of vulnerable passengers to quickly disembark.
- Laboratory testing
 - As of February 13, the NML has conducted tests for 436 people taking part in a survey on the coronavirus in Canada: 7 tested positive, 350 tested negative, and we are still awaiting the results of 79 tests.
- Travellers back in Canada
 - As of February 11, 1,466 travellers had been identified as coming from Hubei province; 55 were referred for a more in-depth assessment. Of these, 52 were released and given an information document, and 3 will undergo a medical examination.
- Risk assessment
 - The public health risk in Canada is still considered low.
 - The public health risk for travellers to China is moderate to high, depending on what part of China they visited, as well as on their age and health condition.

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Figure 1. Countries, territories or zones in mainland China where confirmed cases of coronavirus infection have been reported, as of February 13, 2020



Figure 2. Global distribution of confirmed cases of coronavirus infection reported, as of February 13, 2020



Note: The information in these graphs was collected by the Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection and by a government source.

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	Confirmed cases	Deaths
Mainland China	59,804	1,367
Asia (outside mainland China) Cambodia (1), Hong Kong SAR (51*), India (3), Japan (28**), Macau SAR (10), Malaysia (19), Nepal (1), Philippines (3), Singapore (50*), South Korea (28), Sri Lanka (1), Taiwan (18), Thailand (33), Vietnam (16)	262 [†]	2
Oceania Australia (15)	15	0
Middle East United Arab Emirates (8)	8	0
Europe Belgium (1), Finland (1), France (11), Germany (16*), Italy (3), United Kingdom (9), Russia (2), Spain (2), Sweden (1)	46	0
North America Canada (7), United States (14)	21	0
International transport Diamond Princess cruise ship, Japan	216	0

[†] The definition of "confirmed case" may vary depending on the country. China reports confirmed cases of pneumonia (including clinically diagnosed cases in Hubei province without laboratory confirmation of coronavirus), while, according to the WHO, a confirmed case is a case with laboratory confirmation of coronavirus infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

* Asymptomatic cases are included.

‡ Cases aboard international transport are declared in a separate category.

Overview of the situation¹**Canada**

As of February 12, 2020, seven cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Canada. Local and provincial public health authorities are doing contact tracing and taking the necessary public health management measures.

	Confirmed cases
Ontario	3
British Columbia	4

¹ Since the situation is evolving rapidly and reporting cycles vary, the information provided in the situation report may not correspond to the information posted on the Canada.ca website.



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Repatriation

On February 7, 2020, two chartered repatriation flights from Wuhan in Hubei province, China, landed at Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Trenton. On February 11, the last assisted repatriation flight landed at CFB Trenton carrying 224 passengers, including 188 Canadian citizens returning home and 36 other people, including crew members, medical personnel and consular staff. No passengers on board had symptoms of COVID-19. All of the repatriated passengers will remain in isolation at CFB Trenton for a period of 14 days in compliance with the interim order issued under section 58 of the *Quarantine Act* (Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to 2019-nCoV Acute Respiratory Disease in Canada Order).

On February 8, the NML deployed a Microbiological Emergency Response Team (MERT) and a mobile laboratory to CFB Trenton to test the individuals in quarantine for the virus.

On February 12, 2020, 437 people (including repatriated citizens, the crew, a Government of Canada employee, and parents and guardians) were in quarantine at Canadian Forces Base Trenton. Every person in quarantine underwent a medical assessment. Two people were referred to the Emergency Medical Assistance Team (EMAT) for a medical assessment, and samples were sent to the MERT. The two samples tested negative for COVID-19. **None** of the other people had symptoms of COVID-19. One person was hospitalized for a medical condition not related to COVID-19 and remains asymptomatic.

Moreover, on February 12, 45 people, including members of Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) medical personnel, a Government of Canada employee and crew members, were assessed. They were considered not to present a risk of exposure to coronavirus and were released from quarantine. The number of people in quarantine will change as some are released or transferred for medical reasons.

China

As of February 12, 2020, at midnight CST (February 12, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. EST), 59,804 cases of COVID-19, including 1,367 deaths, had been reported in all provinces of mainland China combined. In mainland China, Hubei province is still the epicentre of the outbreak, representing 81% of all COVID-19 cases reported in China (n=48,206) and 96% of the total number of deaths (n=1,310).

The sharp increase in the number of new cases reported can be explained by the change made to the definition of “case” in Hubei province: it now includes clinically diagnosed cases and not only cases confirmed in the laboratory.



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A number of suspected cases have also been confirmed. Moreover, a retrospective reclassification may have had an impact on the number of cases reported; we are awaiting clarification from China in this regard.

Ninety-nine percent of all cases reported worldwide are in mainland China. China continues to introduce and apply exceptional measures aimed at limiting the spread of the virus.

Internationally

As of February 13, 2020, 568 cases of COVID-19 and 2 deaths had been confirmed in 27 countries or administrative regions outside mainland China and in 1 international transport. No new countries have reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.

Locally acquired coronavirus infections have been confirmed in 12 countries besides Canada: Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, the United States, France, Germany, Spain, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates.

Cruise ship

On February 4, 2020, Japanese authorities locked down the Diamond Princess cruise ship at the port of Yokohama, Japan, after one of the passengers who disembarked in Hong Kong tested positive for COVID-19. The passenger manifest includes 251 passengers and 4 crew with Canadian passports. A small group of Government of Canada representatives was sent to Japan to take part in the response.

As of February 13, 216 passengers and crew have confirmed cases of COVID-19, including **12** Canadian passengers. They were transferred to a designated hospital in Japan for a complete assessment and care as needed. Ten Canadians were hospitalized, 1 is in critical condition, 2 have seen an improvement in their health since yesterday, and the others are in stable condition. Another Canadian was hospitalized on February 12 for other medical reasons.

The cruise ship is still in quarantine, and other cases of COVID-19 among Canadians could be confirmed after more testing or before the end of the quarantine on February 19. At least four Canadians were identified as having had close contact with recent cases, and will have to be placed in prolonged quarantine (beyond February 19). On February 13, Japan announced an early disembarkation plan for vulnerable groups; details to come.



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Risk assessment

PHAC's assessment of the public health risk within Canada associated with COVID-19 in China, last updated on February 2, 2020, remains low. Public health risk for travellers to China is assessed as moderate to high, depending on the location of travel within China, as well as the age and health condition of the traveller.

The World Health Organization (WHO) continues to assess the risk of a COVID-19 event to be very high in China, high at the regional level and high at the global level.

International preparedness and response

World Health Organization (WHO)

The COVID-19 outbreak in China was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on January 30, 2020.

United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The federal mandatory 14-day quarantine order remains in effect for American citizens repatriated from Wuhan, China, to March Air Reserve Base on January 30.

Canadian preparedness and response

Global Affairs Canada (GAC)

GAC continues to recommend that Canadians avoid all travel to Hubei province and all non-essential travel to China.

Since February 4, Canada has sent approximately 16 tonnes of personal protective equipment to China to support the response to the outbreak.

Public Safety Canada (PS)

Canada's Government Operations Centre (GOC) remains activated at Level 3, Coordination of Federal Response, to support interdepartmental activities related to the assisted departure/repatriation of Canadian citizens from Wuhan, China.



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The GOC is convening weekly teleconferences of relevant federal partners to share information, identify and address issues, and support ongoing coordination of activities.

Public Safety Communications is convening daily Government of Canada Communications Community coordination conference calls.

Health Portfolio (HP)

Health Canada's Public Service Occupational Health Program (PSOHP) continues to develop and distribute appropriate occupational health advice for federal workers, including annexes for specific groups as required (e.g. federal employees at airports, at missions in China).

The Health Portfolio Regional Emergency Coordination Centres (RECCs) remain activated in all regions to support activities related to COVID-19 in China, and preparedness and detection activities in Canada.

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

The PHAC's travel health notices remain at level 3 (Avoid all non-essential travel) for China. On February 12, an updated version to the travel health notices was published: it contains updated information, as well as a description of the most recent control measures for travellers returning from Hubei province or mainland China (excluding Hubei province).

Enhanced control measures² remain in place at 10 international airports (Vancouver, Toronto Pearson, Montreal, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg, Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto Billy Bishop and Quebec City).

As of February 11, 2020, 1,466 travellers had been identified as coming from Hubei province; 56 were referred to a quarantine officer for a more in-depth assessment. Of these, 53 were given an information document, and 3 will undergo a more in-depth medical examination.

²The messages posted on the screens in airport arrival zones notify passengers arriving from Hubei province to inform a Border Services officer if they have flu-like symptoms. The electronic kiosks now include a question aimed at identifying travellers arriving from Hubei province. Travellers are given documents informing them of what they need to do if they become sick after their arrival in Canada.



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Data on enhanced control and notification measures in the main Canadian airports as of February 11, 2020

	Travellers arriving from Hubei* (source: CBSA)	Referred for an in-depth evaluation (source: OBTH)	Required to undergo a medical examination (source: OBTH)
Montreal (YUL)	2	0	0
Toronto (YYZ)	46	0	0
Vancouver (YVR)	5	1	0
Calgary (YYC)	8	0	0
Edmonton (YEG)	7	0	0
Ottawa (YOW)	3	0	0
Quebec City (YQB)	0	0	0
Winnipeg (YWG)	0	0	0
Toronto (YTZ)	2	0	0
Halifax (YHZ)	2	0	0
Total as of February 11	75	1	0
Total since January 22	1,466	56	3

* Travellers who answered "yes" to the question "Were you in Hubei province, China, in the past 14 days?" in the main Canadian airports

The PHAC's National Microbiology Laboratory (NML) is confirming test results positive for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus responsible for COVID-19) obtained by the provincial and territorial public health laboratories; the results are expected within 24 hours following receipt of the samples.

As of February 13, 2020, the PHAC's NML has tested 436 suspected cases of COVID-19 in Canada. Seven tested positive, 350 tested negative, and we are still awaiting the results of 79 tests. The latest update was posted on Canada.ca on February 8, 2020; it indicates that 191 people tested negative and 7, positive, for COVID-19.

The PHAC activated the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FTP) Public Health Response Plan for Biological Events in order to coordinate COVID-19 preparedness and response activities in Canada. The FPT Special Advisory Committee and the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee meet by teleconference twice a week.

The PHAC continues to collaborate with a wide range of appropriate parties (namely health care professionals, professional unions and commercial organizations) in order to share information and deal with issues relating to COVID-19.



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The PHAC continues its activities regarding ongoing surveillance, information collection and exchange and the mobilization of federal, provincial, territorial and international partners³ in order to inform Canada's public health response and to make sure that Canada is prepared to deal with the cases of COVID-19 identified within its borders.

Communications

The toll-free coronavirus information line (1-833-784-4397) is available seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. to midnight EST. It takes approximately 90 calls from the public every day.

The Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer and other senior PHAC public servants continue to hold press conferences and offer interviews as needed.

Media lines and other communication products will be updated and distributed to FPT partners as needed.

Approved by

- Steven Sternthal

The next update will be published on February 14, 2020.

Important developments will be communicated earlier as needed.

³ World Health Organization (WHO), Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN), Global Health Security Initiative (GHSI), U.S. Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC)