

## COVID-19 MORNING BRIEF OCTOBER 27, 2020

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### CANADA UPDATE

#### **I. Public Health and Epidemiology**

*National Case Counts: (as of October 26, 19:00 EDT)*

- **Total Cases (+ increase since last report):**
  - Total of **220,213 (+4,109, including 2,531 yesterday)** reported cases (includes both confirmed and probable) among reporting provinces and territories.
  - The increase since yesterday represents a rate of **6.7 new cases per 100,000**.
- **Recovered and Active Cases:**
  - **184,306 (83.7%)** cases have recovered, for a total of **25,934 (+1,205) active cases**. *\*\* Additional information on active cases at Annex A*
- **Deaths:**
  - **9,973 (+111, including 27 yesterday)** deaths (yesterday: BC-3, AB-7, MB-1, ON-6, QC-10).
- **Reproduction Rate:**
  - The estimated reproduction rate (Rt) in Canada is **0.96** as of October 26.

*Provincial and Territorial (P/T) Case Counts:*

- Cases are distributed across 10 provinces and 2 territories (BC, AB, SK, MB, ON, QC, NL, NB, NS, PE, YK, and NT).
- Rate of new cases per 100,000 yesterday:
  - BC – 4.1; AB – 11.5; SK – 4.6; MB – 7.3; ON – 5.8; QC – 9.5; NL – 0.2; NB – 0.4; NS – 0.1; PE – 0.0; YT – 4.9; NT – 0.0; NU – 0.0
- British Columbia reported **207** new cases yesterday (317 new cases on October 24 and 293 cases on October 25); **10,734** cases have recovered, for a total of **2,378 (+327) active cases**.
- Alberta reported **504** new cases yesterday (396 new cases on October 24 and 572 cases on October 25); **20,949** cases have recovered, for a total of **4,477 (+826) active cases**.
- Ontario reported **851** new cases yesterday; **60,839** cases have recovered, for a total of **7,286 (+166) active cases**.
  - According to the province's epidemiological summary, the **Greater Toronto Area** reported **609** new cases for October 25, for a total of approximately **47,150** cases, **21.4%** of the national case count.
- Quebec reported **808** new cases yesterday; **85,822** cases have recovered, for a total of **8,947 (-196) active cases**.
  - According to Santé Montréal, the **Greater Montreal Area** reported **366** new cases on October 25, for a total of approximately **64,877** cases, **29%** of the national case count.

### **National and P/T Testing Overview:**

- **9,650,875 (+47,398)** people have been tested for COVID-19 across Canada to date (average of **129,279** per day over the last 7 days).
  - **2.2%** have tested positive to date.
  - The percentage of positive tests for the week of October 18 to October 24 is **2.0%**.
- Ontario tested **27,715** people; Quebec tested **10,158** people; British Columbia and Alberta did not report tests.

### **Long-Term Care Facilities:**

- Based on P/T websites and press briefings, and not validated by P/Ts, **7,674** of 9,946 (77%) deaths in Canada were linked to LTC facilities as of October 26.
- On October 25, P/Ts reported **19** deaths in LTC facilities (public or privately run). These deaths had the following breakdown:
  - BC – 177 (+3); AB – 185 (+6); SK – 3 (+0); MB – 26 (+1); ON – 2,170 (+2); QC – 5,072 (+7); NB – 3 (+0); NS – 57 (+0), NL – 0 (+0), PE – 0 (+0), YT – 0 (+0), NT – 0 (+0), NU – 0 (+0).

***Note:** These numbers are subject to fluctuation and reporting lags as P/Ts complete investigations to verify deaths linked to LTC facilities. As such, these numbers cannot be directly compared against the daily numbers of new deaths reported above. Facilities may be privately run or under provincial authority.*

### **Indigenous Communities:**

- As of Monday, October 26, 2020:
  - First Nations Communities – There are **1254 (+104)** confirmed cases and **15 (+0) deaths** associated with First Nations communities.
    - 877 (+65) cases have recovered, for a total of 362 (+39) active cases.
    - The new cases are in BC (+3), AB (+27), SK (+28), MB (+38) and ON (+8).
    - **BC:** There are 6 active on reserve cases in British Columbia First Nations.
    - **AB:** There are 67 active on reserve cases in Alberta First Nations. Four communities now have GeneXpert testing operational: Fox Lake and John D’Or in Little Red River Cree Nation (LRRCN), Siksika Nation and Saddle Lake Cree Nation. This week ISC-AB are supporting community screening and testing services in Bigstone Cree Nation, Maskwacis , Alexander, Alexis, Saddle Lake Cree Nation and Goodfish #128.
    - **SK:** There are 141 active on reserve cases in Saskatchewan First Nations. Service Advisories in place. Outbreaks have been declared in 8 communities ( Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation, Big River, Red Earth, Stanley Mission, Southend, Little Red River, Sturgeon Lake and Red Pheasant ). As of October 25 there are 27 schools in SK First Nations communities that have closed temporarily due to COVID exposure.
    - **MB:** There are 106 active on reserve cases in Manitoba First Nations.
    - **ON:** There are 27 active on reserve cases in Ontario First Nations.
    - **QC:** There are 15 active on reserve cases in Québec First Nations.

- **Atlantic:** There are no confirmed cases of COVID 19 in Atlantic First Nation or Inuit communities.
  - Inuit/Northern Communities:
    - There are 28 (+0) cases associated with residents of Inuit communities in **Nunavik** (northern QC), with 23 (+0) recovered and 2 (-3) active.
    - There are 7 active cases in **Yukon** and 4 in **NWT**, not necessarily in Indigenous communities (stats are not disaggregated).
    - *\*Breakdowns based on Indigenous identity are not available in the territories.*

**Temporary Foreign Workers and Farm Outbreaks:**

- As of October 26:
  - There are **2,419 (+0)** reported cases among workers on farms in Canada.
  - **2,302 (+18)** cases reported to have recovered, for a total of **114 (-24) active cases**.
  - There are at least **93 (+0)** operations affected, **47 (+1)** of which are reported to no longer have active cases.

**Federal Inmates and Employees:**

As of October 24 (Inmates) and October 22 (Employees):

	Inmate Positive Tests	Inmate Resolved Cases	Active Inmate Cases	Employee Positive Tests	Employee Resolved Cases	Active Employee Cases
<b>CSC Total</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>195 (+0)</b>	<b>170 (+0)</b>	<b>25 (+0)</b>

**II. Communications and Media Coverage**

- Domestic coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic is moderate Tuesday morning as reports continue to focus on the spread of the virus across Canada. Regional coverage focuses on Ontario, Quebec, and Alberta, where daily infections remain comparatively high. In front-page coverage Tuesday, reports detail the passage of the Conservative Party motion calling for a broad study of the GC's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic by the HoC Health Committee.
- International sources focused on growing protests in parts of Italy and Spain as more restrictions are implemented to curb a rise of infections, while WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus warned against pandemic fatigue and called on the world to not give up. US sources noted the continuing rise of cases in many states as the US election is just over a week away.

**Government of Canada Public Communications – October 27, 2020**

- **PM Trudeau (PCO)** to announce the launch of the Rapid Housing Initiative. Ottawa, ON (11:30). PM to make announcement at noon day presser, together with Minister Hussen and Minister LeBlanc. DCPHO Dr. Howard Njoo will also be present. Open coverage. Accompanying NR announces the \$1-billion Rapid Housing Initiative to create up to 3,000 new permanent, affordable housing units across the country.

- **Min. Bibeau (AAFC)** Virtual event and news release announcing the Emergency On-Farm Support Fund for BC. The investment of \$4.9M under the Emergency On-Farm Support Fund will help British Columbian farmers better protect the health and safety of farm workers during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia (IAF) will deliver the program on behalf of the federal and provincial governments.
- **(HC)** Canada's COVID-19 Immunity Task Force (CITF) NR to announce \$1.9M to fund a new Canadian Partnership for Tomorrow's Health (CanPath) study looking at COVID-19 seroprevalence across Canada, with a focus on populations traditionally not included in studies or that are among the highest risk of exposure (e.g., underserved communities and residents of long-term care homes).

### **III. U.S. UPDATE**

#### *Case Counts:*

- As of 6:00am on October 27, Johns Hopkins is reporting **8,704,606 (+67,611)** cases of COVID-19, including **225,735 (+505)** deaths.
  - As of October 26, the CDC is reporting that the number of tests performed by commercial, hospital, public health, and CDC laboratories is **140,718,258** (average of **1,100,662** per day over the last 7 days).
  - **7%** have tested positive to date.

### **IV. GLOBAL UPDATE**

#### *Case Counts:*

- As of 6:00am on October 27, Johns Hopkins is reporting **43,539,290 (+495,604)** confirmed cases of COVID-19, including **1,160,213 (+5,690)** deaths. The U.S. is reporting the highest numbers of cases, followed by India, Brazil, Russia, France, Argentina, Spain, and Colombia.

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**ANNEX A: Overview of COVID-19 Cases in Canada**

**Table 1.** Updated COVID-19 Cases (as of October 26, 2020 at 19:00 ET)

Location	Total cases	New cases reported in the last 24 hours	Active Cases	Total deaths	People tested	% of people who tested positive	Testing rate per thousand	Tests per confirmed case	Average daily tests for last 7 days	Average daily tests for last 7 days per thousand	Weekly percent positivity (October 18 – October 24)	Daily Testing Capacity	Daily testing capacity per thousand	Average daily testing as a % of capacity
BC	13,371	817	2,378	259	581,804	2.1%	115	43.5	5,430	1.1	3.6%	20,000	12,840	42%
AB	25,733	1,472	4,477	307	1,697,849	1.4%	388	66.0	73,116	16.7	0.6%	22,000	22,000	332%
SK	2,783	54	650	25	200,849	1.4%	171	72.2	1,668	1.4	3.1%	4,000	1,800	93%
MB	4,349	100	2,117	55	236,208	1.9%	172	54.3	2,290	1.7	5.5%	3,000	3,000	76%
ON	71,224	851	7,286	3,099	4,775,969*	1.5%	328	67.1	34,596	2.4	2.3%	78,000	63,470	55%
QC	100,922	808	8,947	6,153	1,856,752	5.1%	219	18.4	10,478	1.2	8.8%	35,000	20,000	52%
NL	291	1	5	4	50,871	0.6%	98	174.8	286	0.6	0.1%	2,500 – 3,000	1,450	20%
NB	331	3	60	6	81,806	0.4%	105	247.1	404	0.5	0.7%	2,500 – 3,000	1,500	27%
NS	1,101	1	5	65	110,207	1.0%	113	100.1	552	0.6	0.1%	2,500	1,500	37%
PE	64	N/A	1	0	46,345	0.1%	295	724.1	386	2.5	0.1%	835	400	97%
YT	22	2	7	0	3,909	0.6%	96	177.7	20	0.5	3.6%	160	150	13%
NT	9	0	1	0	5,346	0.2%	119	594.0	41	0.9	1.4%	225	48	85%
NU	0	0	0	0	2,884	0.0%	74		12	0.3	0.0%	N/A		
Repatriated travellers	13	0	0	0	76	-	-		-	-	-	N/A		
<b>Total</b>	<b>220,213</b>	<b>4,109</b>	<b>25,934</b>	<b>9,973</b>	<b>9,650,875</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>129,279 (-2,976)*</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>169,720 – 170,220</b>		

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- **Note:** There are discrepancies between the number of people tested captured in this chart and that on P/T websites given reporting lags, differing reporting cut-offs, or changes in lab testing criteria. For P/Ts that report the number of tests completed or number of samples tested, as opposed to the number of people tested, a formula is used to estimate the number of individuals tested (source: Canada.ca).  
*\*Alberta is now reporting on total numbers of tests, instead of total number of people tested. Therefore, the overall number of tests has increased significantly.*  
**\*\*** The bracketed number represents the change in average daily tests (positive or negative) over the previous day's figure. These national numbers now capture Alberta's revised testing figures.

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**Table 2. Total and Reported Cases by P/T for the Last Seven Days**

	October 20, 2020			October 21, 2020			October 22, 2020			October 23			October 24			October 25			October 26		
	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today	Total Cases	Total new cases	Tests done today
<b>BC</b>	11,854	167	15,281	12,057	203	4,065	12,331	274	6,263	12,554	223	8,539	12,871	317	3,865	13,164	293	N/A	13,371	207	N/A
<b>AB</b>	22,996	323	N/A	23,402	406	N/A	23,829	427	482,242	24,261	432	14,326	24,657	396	15,246	25,229	572	N/A	25,733	504	N/A
<b>SK</b>	2,439	43	1,738	2,496	57	1,664	2,558	62	1,492	2,591	33	1,502	2,669	78	1,931	2,729	60	1,766	2,783	54	1,586
<b>MB</b>	3,491	109	2,341	3,626	135	2,144	3,773	147	2,325	3,935	162	2,532	4,088	153	N/A	4,249	161	N/A	4,349	100	6,572
<b>ON</b>	65,896	821	23,263	66,686	790	31,578	67,527	841	37,589	68,353	826	38,711	69,331	978	42,707	70,373	1,042	37,501	71,224	851	27,715
<b>QC</b>	95,216	787	8,744	96,288	1,072	10,969	97,321	1,033	11,829	98,226	905	11,960	99,235	1,009	9,892	100,114	879	10,673	100,922	808	10,158
<b>NL</b>	287	0	257	287	0	331	288	1	344	288	0	346	289	1	316	290	1	231	291	1	132
<b>NB</b>	313	0	394	319	6	469	322	3	443	324	2	462	326	2	368	328	2	311	331	3	479
<b>NS</b>	1,097	0	462	1,097	0	562	1,097	0	752	1,097	0	657	1,100	3	667	1,100	0	404	1,101	1	343
<b>PE</b>	64	1	509	64	N/A	888	64	N/A	384	64	0	263	64	N/A	409	64	N/A	122	64	N/A	240
<b>YK</b>	17	0	34	17	0	29	17	0	31	17	N/A	12	20	3	N/A	20	N/A	N/A	22	2	52
<b>NT</b>	5	N/A	N/A	8	3	101	8	0	22	9	1	N/A	9	N/A	79	9	N/A	N/A	9	0	87
<b>NU</b>	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	50	0	0	15	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	34
<b>RC*</b>	13	0	0	13	0	0	13	0	0	13	0	0	13	0	0	13	0	0	13	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>203,688</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>53,023</b>	<b>206,360</b>	<b>2,672</b>	<b>52,800</b>	<b>209,148</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>543,766</b>	<b>211,732</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>79,325</b>	<b>214,672</b>	<b>2,940</b>	<b>75,480</b>	<b>217,682</b>	<b>3,010</b>	<b>51,008</b>	<b>220,213</b>	<b>2,531</b>	<b>47,398</b>

\*RC – Repatriated Canadians

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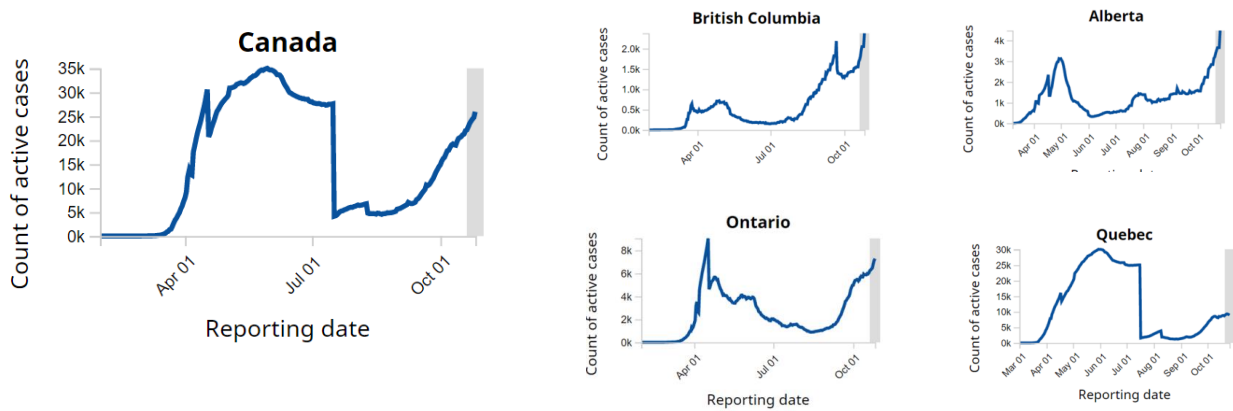
**Table 3.** Total and Active Cases in Canada over a Fourteen Day Period (when available)

	Oct. 6	Oct. 7	Oct. 8	Oct. 12**	Oct. 13**	Oct. 14	Oct. 15	Oct. 18*	Oct. 19*	Oct. 20	Oct. 21	Oct. 22	Oct. 25*	Oct. 26*
<b>ACTIVE CASES</b>	17,799 (+677)	17,916 (+117)	18,494 (+578)	18,954 (+460)	19,741 (+787)	20,372 (+631)	20,543 (+171)	21,276 (+733)	21,988 (+712)	22,151 (+163)	22,783 (+632)	23,481 (+698)	24,729 (+1,248)	25,934 (+1,205)
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	171,323 (+2,363)	173,123 (+1,800)	175,559 (+2,436)	182,839 (+7,280)	186,881 (+4,042)	189,387 (+2,506)	191,732 (+2,345)	198,148 (+6,416)	201,437 (+3,289)	203,688 (+2,251)	206,360 (+2,672)	209,148 (+2,788)	216,104 (+6,956)	220,213 (+4,109)

\*Includes Certain P/T Total and Active Cases Reported on Saturday and Sunday.

\*\*Includes Certain P/T Total and Active Cases reported over the long weekend.

**Figure 1.** Active Cases in Canada and Select Provinces

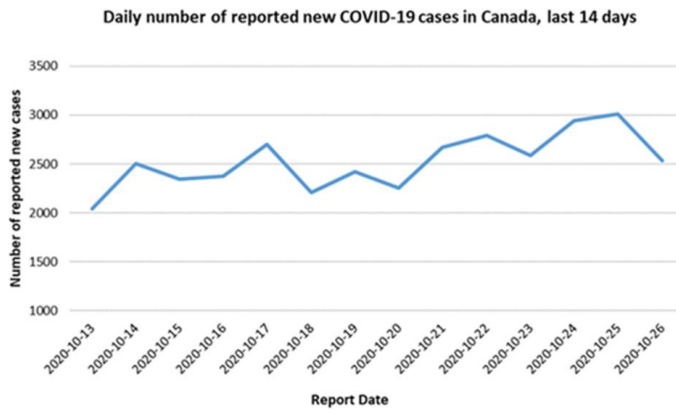


**Note:** On July 17, there was an increase in the number of recovered cases in Quebec due to a revision in how they define these cases.

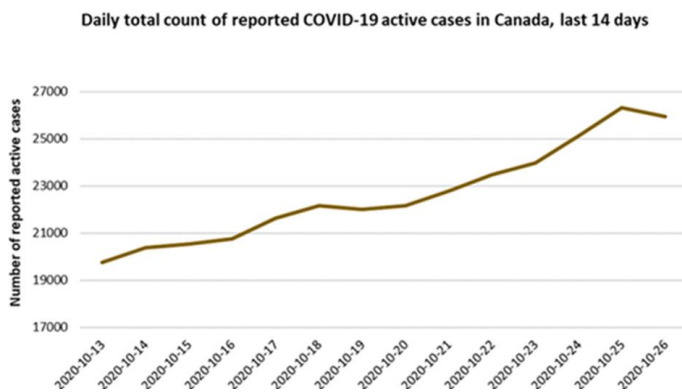


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**Figure 2.** Daily Number of Reported **New COVID-19 Cases** in Canada over the Last Fourteen Days as of **October 26, 2020**

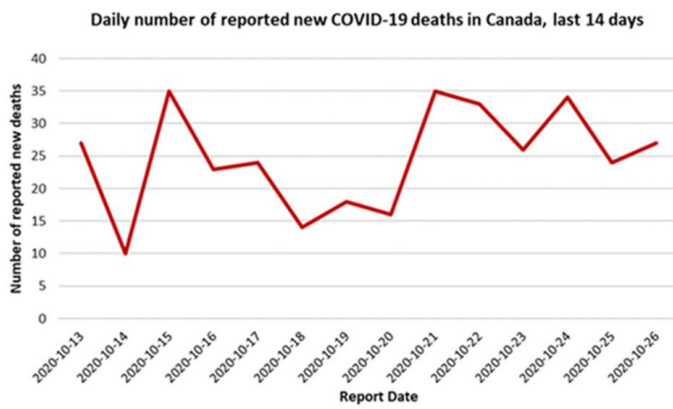


**Figure 3.** Daily Total Count of Reported **COVID-19 Active Cases** in Canada over the Last Fourteen Days as of **October 26, 2020**



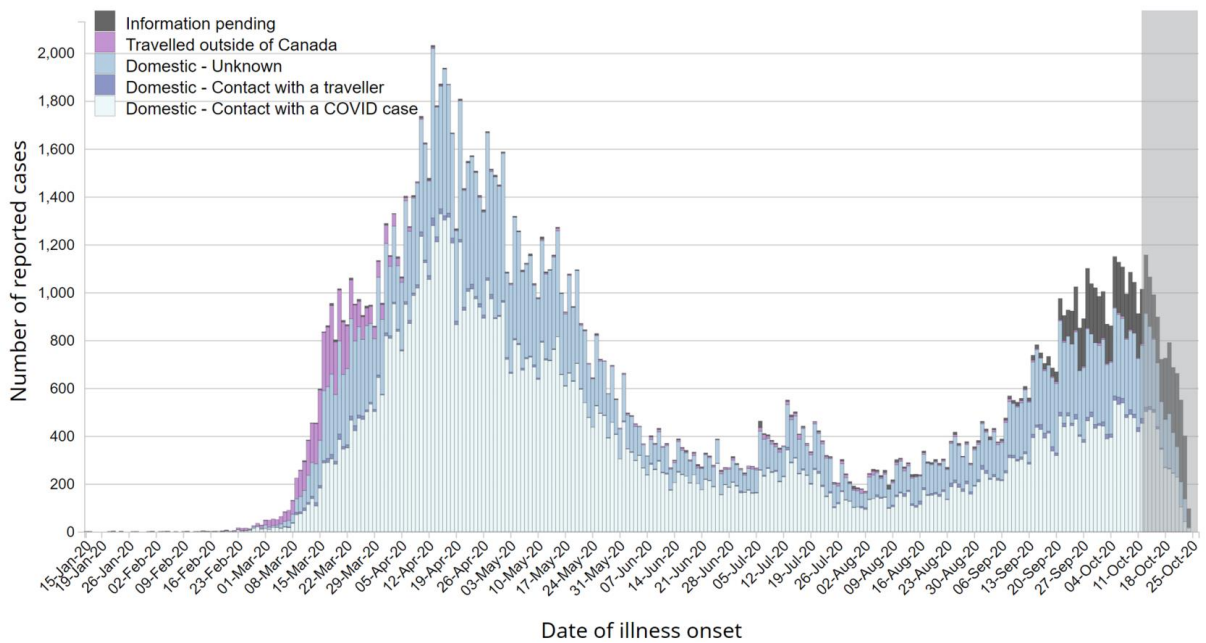
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**Figure 4.** Daily Number of Reported **New COVID-19 Deaths** in Canada over the Last Fourteen Days as of **October 26, 2020**



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Figure 5. COVID-19 Cases (n= 166,047) in Canada, by date of illness onset and exposure category as of **October 26, 2020**



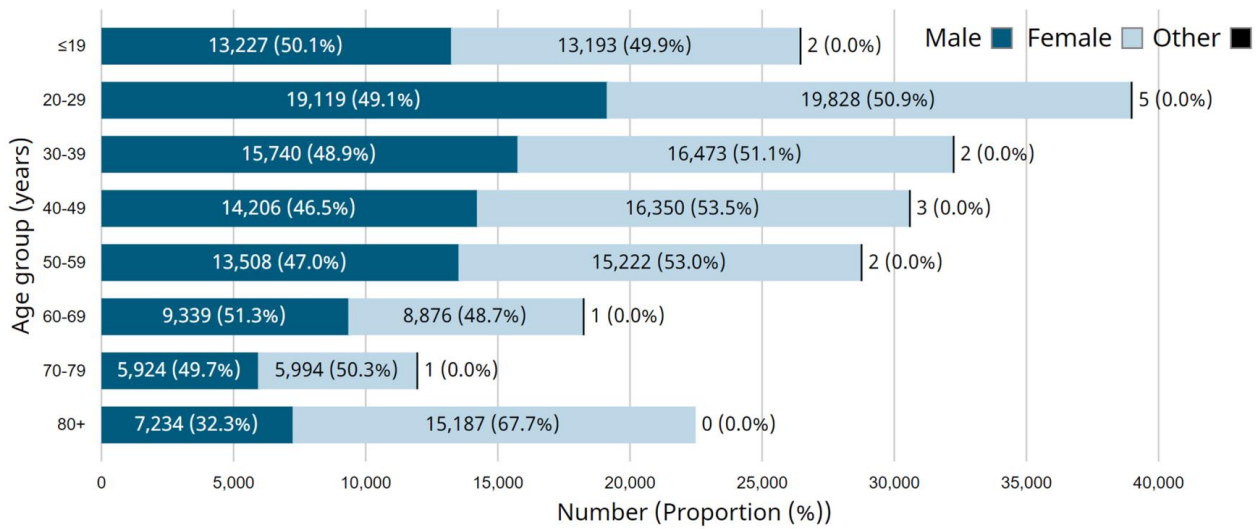
**Note:** The shaded area represents a period of time (lag time) where it is expected that cases have occurred but have not yet been reported nationally.

**Source:** <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/epidemiological-summary-covid-19-cases.html>

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**Figure 6. Age by Sex Distribution of COVID-19 Cases (n= 209,436) in Canada as of October 26, 2020**

Of the COVID-19 cases reported in Canada to date, approximately half (53.1%) are female. Approximately one-quarter (25.1%) of cases are 60 years old and over.



Source: <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/epidemiological-summary-covid-19-cases.html#fn3>

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**Table 4.** National and Provincial Effective Reproduction Number ( $R_t$ ) over a Seven Day Period (when available)

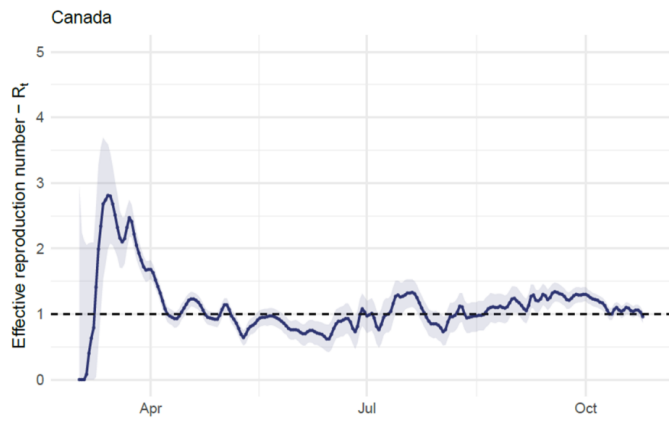
	Oct. 15	Oct. 16	Oct. 19	Oct. 21	Oct. 22	Oct. 23	Oct. 26	7-day Average
<b>Canada</b>	1.14	1.09	0.98	1.03	1.02	1.09	0.96	1.04
<b>BC</b>	1.90	1.64	0.72	1.17	1.06	1.34	0.48	1.18
<b>AB</b>	1.60	1.35	0.72	1.25	1.17	1.32	0.48	1.13
<b>SK</b>	1.53	1.38	0.98	1.32	1.40	1.48	1.34	1.35
<b>MB</b>	1.71	1.76	0.89	0.77	0.87	1.08	1.55	1.23
<b>ON</b>	1.11	0.99	0.90	0.96	1.01	1.08	1.23	1.04
<b>QC</b>	0.91	0.95	1.15	1.00	0.98	0.97	0.88	0.98
<b>NL</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<b>NB</b>	0.92	0.45	0.20	0.08	0.61	0.80	0.16	0.46
<b>NS</b>	1.00	1.00	1.80	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.11

Note:  $R_t$  is calculated over time and was estimated using reported case data.

**Figure 7.** Effective Reproductive Number Estimate for Canada

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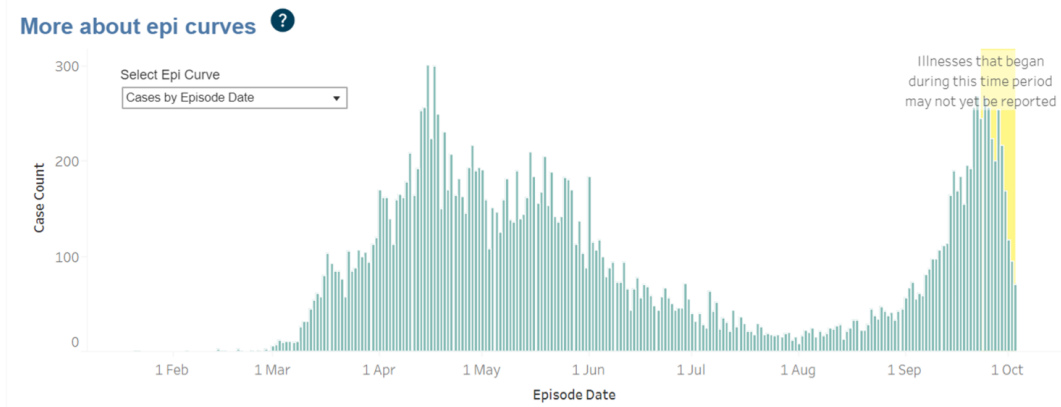


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	OCT. 19	OCT. 20	OCT. 21	OCT. 22	OCT. 23	OCT. 24	OCT. 25
<b>NEW CASES</b>	559	597	632	588	710	767	609
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	43,247	43,844	44,476	45,064	45,774	46,541	47,150

**Table 5.** COVID -19 Cases in the Greater Toronto Area (Toronto, Durham, Peel, and York) for the Last Seven Days

**Figure 8.** Status of COVID-19 Cases in Toronto



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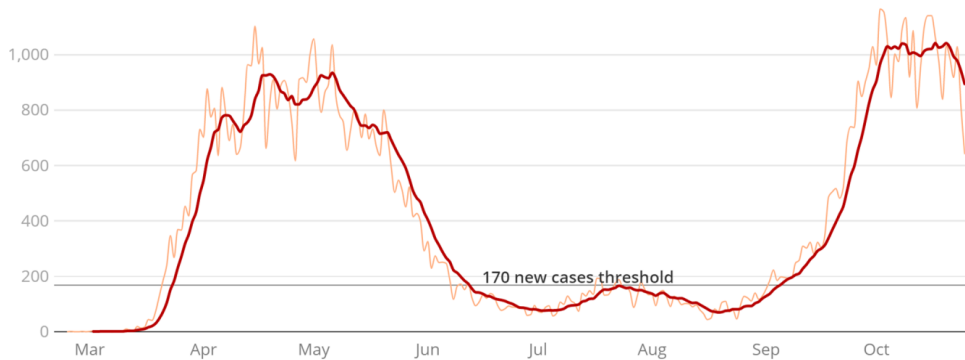
Source: <https://public.tableau.com/profile/tphseu#!/vizhome/EpidemiologicalSummaryofCOVID-19Cases/EpiSummary>

**Table 6.** COVID -19 Cases in the Greater Montreal Area (Montreal, Laval and Montérégie) for the Last Seven Days

	OCT. 19	OCT. 20	OCT. 21	OCT. 22	OCT. 23	OCT. 24	OCT. 25
	410	483	501	425	447	363	366
<b>TOTAL CASES</b>	62,292	62,775	63,276	63,701	64,148	64,511	64,877

**Figure 9.** Status of COVID-19 Cases in Greater Montreal Area

Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases and seven-day moving average for Quebec.





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**Source:** <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/covid-19-oct-26-1.5776689>