

COVID-19 UPDATE

The State of Public Health Emergency that was declared Wednesday, September 15th, 2021 has now lapsed.

Fort McMurray

- 2 New Cases
- 37 Active (+0)
- 8174 Recovered (+2)
- 8229 Ever
- 18 Deaths (0 new)
- 46.6 cases per 100,000 pop
- **Vaccination:**
 - 77.3% First Dose
 - 71.3% Second Dose
 - **Vaccinations are a percentage of those eligible, which now includes 5-11 year olds.**

AHS North Zone Data:
45 Hospitalizations (+2)
4 ICU (0)
405 Deaths Ever in North Zone

Rural RMWB

- 0 New Cases
- 1 Active (+0)
- 482 Recovered (+0)
- 485 Ever
- 2 Deaths (0 New)
- 24.6 cases per 100,000 pop
- **Vaccination**
 - 77.9% First Dose
 - 67.6% Second Dose
 - **Vaccinations are a percentage of those eligible, which now includes 5-11 year olds.**

Alberta

- 250 New Cases
- 4,016 Active (-166)
- 339,541 Ever
- 3,283 deaths (+8)
- 70 ICU (+2)
- 366 Hospitalizations (+9)
- **Vaccination**
 - 83.1% First Dose
 - 76.9% Second Dose
 - 12.8% Third Dose
 - **Vaccinations are a percentage of those eligible, which now includes 5-11 year olds.**
 - **Statistics as of end of day Dec. 14 compared to Dec. 13, 2021**

Outbreaks in RMWB:

Suncor Fort Hills

School Status:

Alert (2-4 Cases)
Holy Trinity HS
St. Paul's Elementary
Westwood HS

Alert (5-9 Cases)
None

Outbreak (10+ Cases)
None

R-Value for
"Rest of Alberta" is 0.93

New Measures Effective Today, December 15, 2021:

Expansion of rapid testing – Beginning December 17 any Albertan can get free rapid antigen test kit. 500,000 of these kits are available for at home use on a first come first serve basis. Albertans can pick up box for self and for one other household member (need Alberta Health Care number). Kits are for asymptomatic testing. **If you do have symptoms, or test positive with your rapid test, immediately isolate and schedule PCR test at AHS assessment centre.** These tests are not eligible for use with the Restrictions Exemption Program. Kits will be available as of Dec. 17 at Fort McMurray Community Health Services (113 Thickwood Blvd., and 108 Wolverine Dr.), Anzac Community Health Services, Janvier Municipal Building, and the Conklin Multiplex. More info on how to pick up kits here: [Find an AHS Clinic | Alberta.ca](https://www.alberta.ca/find-an-ahs-clinic)

Effective immediately, booster doses are now available to anyone over 50 and healthcare workers, provided 6 months have passed since second dose. So far, over 530,000 booster doses have been administered. This is in addition to previously announced groups. Booster doses help increase efficacy of vaccination against all variants of Covid-19.

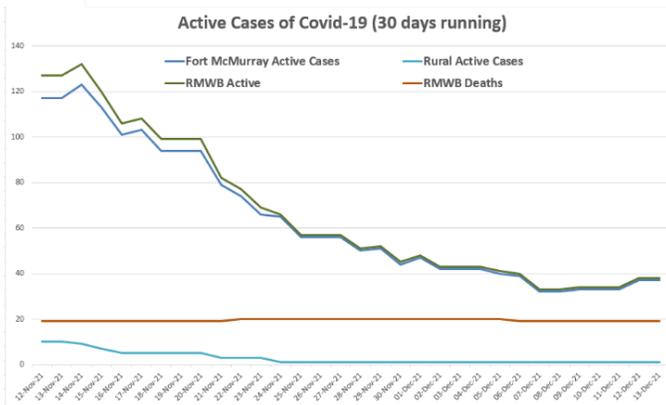
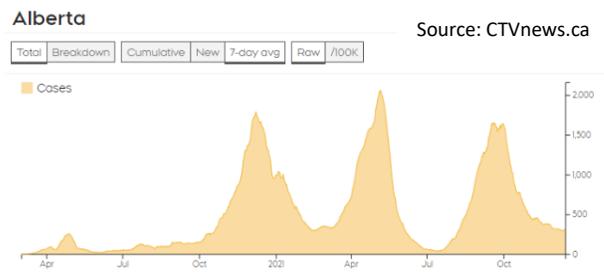
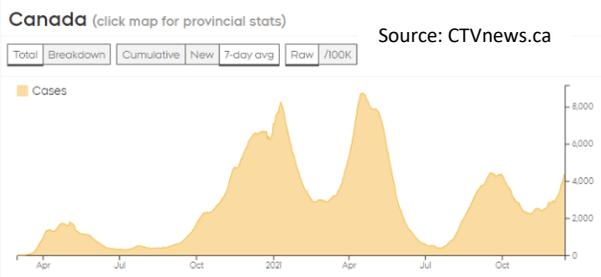
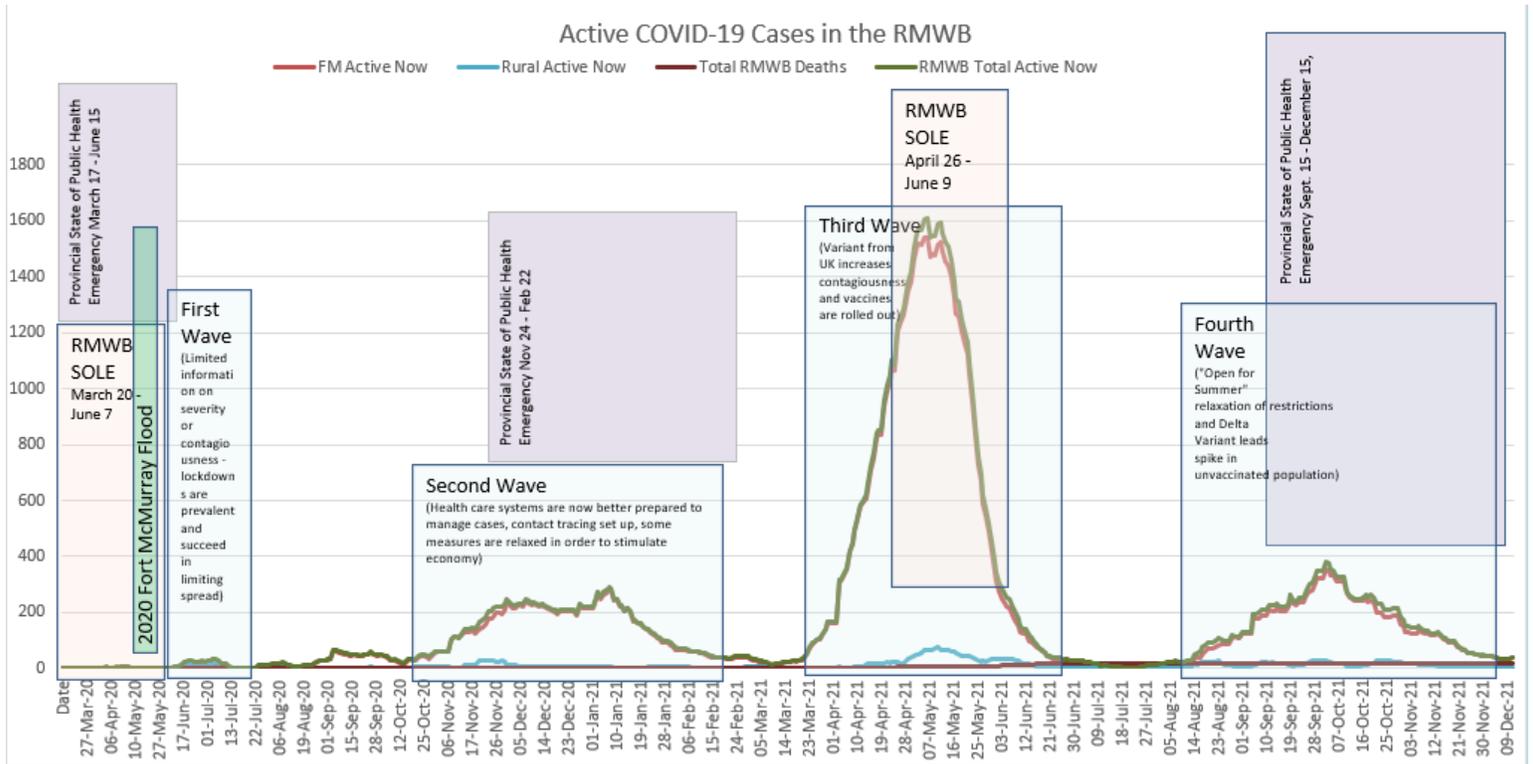
Gathering restrictions changes – indoor gathering limits remain at 10 people maximum, however there are some slight changes:

- Children under 18 do not count towards the 10 person limit
- The two household cohort restriction has been lifted, there is no limit on number of households that can gather.
- The requirement that all people in an indoor gathering be vaccinated is removed.



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Variants (number of cases)	AHS	Alberta
	North Zone	
Alpha (B.1.1.7 UK)	6249	45,870
Beta (B.1.351 South Africa)	34	180
Delta (B.1.617 India)	13,828	65,275
Gamma (P.1. Brazil)	768	2924
Kappa (B.1.617.1 India 2)	0	19
Omicron (B.1.1.529)	8 (+4)	50 (+20)

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Vaccinations	Fort McMurray	Rural	Provincial
75+ Fully Vaccinated	79.9%	98.8%	93.2%
60-74 Fully Vaccinated	85.3%	95.5%	93.4%
40-59 Fully Vaccinated	84.7%	82.5%	85.4%
20-39 Fully Vaccinated	73.1%	64.3%	77.9%
12-19 Fully Vaccinated	82.0%	63.7%	79.3%
5-11 First Dose	13.5%	8.5%	23.9%

Fort McMurray Walk-in Clinic:

Thickwood Medical Plaza

103-108 Wolverine Drive

Pfizer and Moderna 12+

Mon. to Fri.: 9am – 8pm

Sat. & Sun.: 9am – 4pm

Omicron Variant: “O”

- Omicron has now been detected in 77 countries around the world
- Researchers working to understand more
- We do know it is significantly more transmissible than Delta, early reports are suggesting an R-Value of 2.5.
- Evidence in Ontario of Omicron emerging quickly, and is now the dominant form of Covid-19 there. Their data shows they have started their 5th Wave.
- Early evidence that Omicron does not cause severe outcomes at the same rate as Delta.
- Because of extraordinary transmission rates of Omicron, might represent risk to our health system, as even a small percentage of severe outcomes in a large infectious group could affect health care capacity.
- Omicron is linked to more breakthrough infections in those who have had two doses of vaccination, and booster doses are being encouraged.
- Full case investigations for all travelers testing positive.

Booster Doses:

The following groups are eligible for booster doses:

- Immunocompromised
- Albertans 50+
- Residents of seniors' supportive living
- Any First Nations, Métis, and Inuit person over 18.
- Health care workers
- Travellers who received two doses of AstraZeneca or one dose of Janssen
- Must wait 6 months after second dose.

[More info here.](#)

Holiday Gatherings Guidance

Premier Kenney and Chief Medical Officer Hinshaw implored Albertans, that while indoor gathering restrictions have been slightly eased, it is important to limit the number of exposures and gatherings you attend.



If you do not feel well, do not attend gatherings. If you are hosting an event and do not feel well, cancel the gathering.

When asked why stricter measures were not being implemented for holiday gatherings, Premier Kenney stated that the mental health factors surrounding the holidays for children and isolated people is important to consider.

Active Public Health Orders:

[Order 53-2021](#) – Provides updates to public health measures outlined in Order 44-2021.

[Order 52-2021](#) – Provides updated details on Restrictions Exemption Program

[Order 47-2021](#) – Lowers outdoor gathering size capacity from 200 to 20.

[Order 44-2021](#) – Outlining public health measures to protect Alberta's health system from Covid-19.

[Order 34-2021](#) – Outlining Covid-19 masking restrictions for Stage 3 of Alberta's Open for Summer Plan.

The QR Code is now the only acceptable form of proof of vaccination for facilities participating in the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP).

Download or print yours here: [Alberta Covid Records](#)

For more information on the REP program and Holiday Guidance, visit [COVID-19 public health actions | Alberta.ca](#)

Travel Requirements and Restrictions are changing often.

Please check your requirements here:

[COVID-19 travel requirements | Alberta.ca](#) and here; [Travel Advice and Advisories - Travel.gc.ca](#)

