

COVID-19 UPDATE

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

Fort McMurray

- 3 New Cases
- 49 Active (+3)
- 8192 Recovered (+0)
- 8259 Ever
- 18 Deaths (0 new)
- 61.7 cases per 100,000 pop
- **Vaccination:**
 - 77.9% First Dose
 - 71.6% Second Dose
 - Vaccinations are a percentage of those eligible, which now includes 5-11 year olds.

AHS North Zone Data:
39 Hospitalizations (+4)
6 ICU (+2)
406 Deaths Ever in North Zone

Rural RMWB

- 0 New Cases
- 1 Active (-1)
- 483 Recovered (+0)
- 486 Ever
- 2 Deaths (0 New)
- 24.6 cases per 100,000 pop
- **Vaccination**
 - 78.7% First Dose
 - 68.6% Second Dose
 - Vaccinations are a percentage of those eligible, which now includes 5-11 year olds.

Alberta

- 786 New Cases
- 6,045 Active (+393)
- 343,734 Ever
- 3,294 deaths (+2)
- 69 ICU (+0)
- 329 Hospitalizations (+5)
- **Vaccination**
 - 83.8% First Dose
 - 77.3% Second Dose
 - 16.3% Third Dose
 - Vaccinations are a percentage of those eligible, which now includes 5-11 year olds.
 - Statistics as of end of day Dec. 20 compared to Dec. 19, 2021

Outbreaks in RMWB:

Suncor Fort Hills

School Status:

Alert (2-4 Cases)
Thickwood Heights

Alert (5-9 Cases)
Westwood HS

Outbreak (10+ Cases)
None

R-Value for
"Rest of Alberta" is 0.93

Positivity rate has
climbed to 11%

Booster doses are now available

to anyone over 18, provided 5 months have passed since second dose. This is in addition to previously announced groups. Booster doses help increase efficacy of vaccination against all variants of Covid-19 and reduce severity in breakthrough cases.

Rapid testing kits – First kits were fully distributed over the weekend. More tests are being ordered. 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 an AHS assessment centre.** These tests are not eligible for use with the Restrictions Exemption Program or travel.

New Public Health Measures:

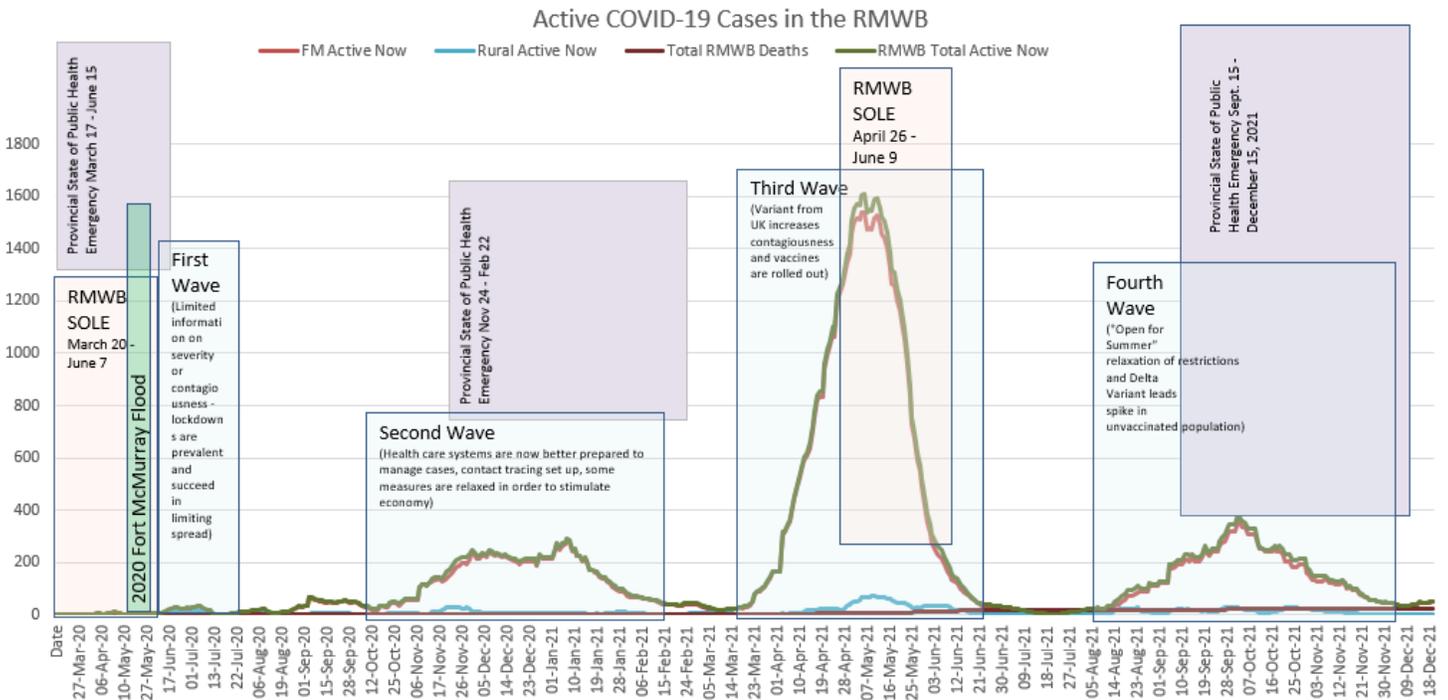
In order to protect the health care system, the following restrictions are being implemented:

- Decrease your in-person interactions over the holidays by at least 50%.
- Venues with capacity of over 1000 are capped at 50%
- Venues with capacity of 500-1000 are capped at 500
- No eating or drinking while seated in audience or during intermissions at these facilities
- Restaurants and bars participating in REP limited to 10 people at a table and no recreational activities such as dancing or billiards. Liquor service to cease at 11pm and facilities to close by 12am - effective Friday, December 23rd at 12:01am
- Work from home order continues, and workplaces are encouraged to cancel any holiday gatherings



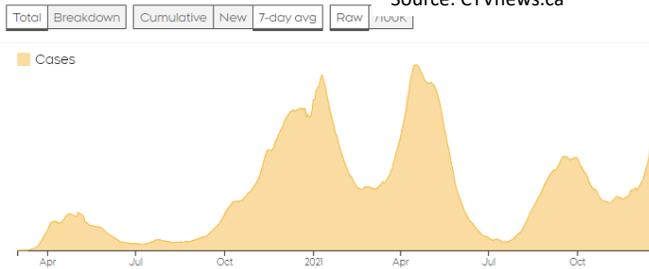
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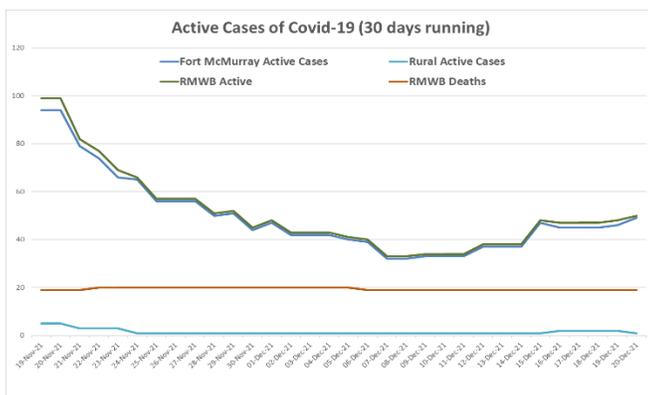
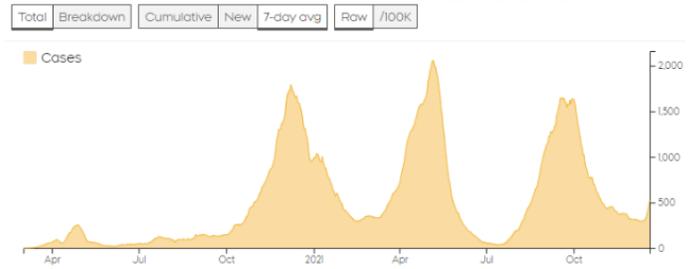
Canada (click map for provincial stats)

Source: CTVnews.ca



Alberta

Source: CTVnews.ca



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)	13,971 (+24)	66,681 (+219)
Gamma (P.1. Brazil)	768	2,924
Kappa (B.1.617.1 India 2)	0	19
Omicron (B.1.1.529)	42 (+7)	1,609 (+564)



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Vaccinations	Fort McMurray	Rural	Provincial
75+ Fully Vaccinated	82.4%	99.7%	93.3%
60-74 Fully Vaccinated	85.6%	95.9%	93.6%
40-59 Fully Vaccinated	85.1%	83.7%	85.7%
20-39 Fully Vaccinated	73.6%	65.2%	78.4%
12-19 Fully Vaccinated	82.5%	66.1%	79.8%
5-11 First Dose	20.6%	16.4%	33.1%

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”

- Represents 52% of all new Covid-19 cases in Alberta and it is now our dominant strain. If you test positive for Covid-19 you should assume you have the Omicron variant.
- Researchers working to understand more
- We do know it is significantly more transmissible than Delta, case counts are doubling every 2-3 days.
- 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 have previously contracted Covid-19, and booster doses are being strongly encouraged.
- Contact tracing is being focused on high-risk facilities.

Active Public Health Orders:

[Order 56-2021](#) – Modifies Order 54-2021, so that Order 55-2021 is not in effect if an in-scope entity is participating in the Restrictions Exemption Program.

[Order 55-2021](#) – Updates measures surrounding private social gatherings in residences.

[Order 54-2021](#) – Updates details and scope of Restrictions Exemption Program.

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

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.

Indoor gathering is limited to 10 people over 18. Outdoor gathering is limited to 20 people with 2m distancing and family cohorts.

Updated Guidance for Holiday Celebrations is available here:
[Tips for Holiday Work Celebrations \(alberta.ca\)](#)

Travel Requirements and Restrictions are changing often.

Please check requirements here:

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



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](#)