

# IN BRIEF ... COVID-19

May 8, 2020



## BY THE NUMBERS

	Alberta*	Canada*	Global (WHO)#	Johns Hopkins^
Total Cases	6,098	65,399	3,767,744	3,918,316
New Cases	81	1,504	83,837	93,288
Deaths	115 (1 new)	4,471 (191 new)	259,593 (5,394 new)	273,034 (5,038 new)
Recovered	4,020	29,668	N/A	1,306,920

\*Alberta and Canada numbers from daily CMOH update and GOC update as of 1100 EDT daily

#Global numbers from World Health Organization daily situation report

^Johns Hopkins University & Medicine Coronavirus Resource Centre

## DEVELOPMENTS TODAY

### ALBERTA

- Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health update from daily briefing
  - An inmate at the Calgary Remand Centre, exposed before he arrived, tested positive for COVID-19 and was quarantined. All inmates are tested when admitted or transferred to the remand centre. This is the first incident in an Alberta corrections facility.
  - Outbreak Updates:
    - 678 total cases in continuing and long-term care facilities. Today's fatality was in a facility in the Calgary Zone
    - At the Cargill outbreak, there are 95 active and 849 recovered cases
    - At the JBS outbreak, there are 96 active and 497 recovered cases
    - At the Harmony plant outbreak, there are 21 active and 16 recovered cases.
  - GoA [information about what is allowed as the province begins to reopen](#).
- AHS reports there were about 1,000 of elective outpatient surgeries this week. Hoping to have the system operating at 60-70% in the coming weeks – all is being prioritized by wait length and urgency. No plans at this point for surgery that requires overnight or extended stays.
- Officials are cautioning that some hard-hit areas in the province from COVID-19 may not move forward on the same reopening schedule as the rest of the province, saying officials will be looking at local data as they make decisions about what to open and when.
- Calgary business [charged with price-gouging on consumer products](#) in high demand as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Alberta provides funding [through a new agriculture training support program](#) to help employers provide training in the food supply chain for new employees.
- Information on [supports to Alberta's agriculture industry, farmers and ranchers](#) through AgriRecovery program, announced May 7

### OTTAWA

- Canada will extend the [Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy \(CEWS\)](#) past the month of June. More details to come next week. The program covers up to 75% of worker pay to \$847 per week to help keep employees on the job.
- Announces [new industry strategy council](#) to examine how the pandemic is affecting certain sectors.
- New [information on supports for the heritage, cultural and sports sectors](#), originally announced April 17. The [Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations](#) helps organizations maintain operations while continuing to support artists and athletes.

- Canada's unemployment rate hit 13% as more than 2 million more Canadians lost jobs in April. The total number of jobs lost during the crisis to more than three million. Alberta's adjusted unemployment rate now stands at 13.4%, up from 8.7% in March.

## OTHER PROVINCES/TERRITORIES

- Ontario will be proceeding with a province-wide approach to reopening. "We have to run the province as one unit," said Premier Ford as Ontario saw nearly 500 new cases and 63 new deaths, bringing to the total death toll in the province to 1,540.
- Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil says there will be no return to school this year. A decision on whether daycares will reopen will be made by June 8.
- New Brunswick is allowing more businesses and services to open as it launches the next phase of its recovery plan. Retail, offices, restaurants, libraries, museums and campgrounds can open immediately under certain conditions. Two-household "bubbles" remain in place, outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people are allowed with physical distancing.
- Manitoba is lifting its one-month limit on prescription drug supplies and reverting back to the 90-day fill or refill. The government is establishing a working group with pharmacists to look at whether some drugs should be temporarily limited to 30 days due to supply shortages.

## UPDATES

- The coronavirus has reached in the inner circles of the White House, as a personal valet and the press secretary to Vice President Mike Pence have tested positive.
- Google [released information about the mobility of Canadians](#) during the COVID-19 restrictions, based on aggregated, anonymized data from products like Google Maps. It gives overall, national data, and provincial data. For Canada (and Alberta) as a whole:
  - 49% drop in visits to retail and recreation (-40% in Alberta)
  - 18% drop in visits to grocery and pharmacy (-7% in Alberta)
  - 15% increase in parks visits (+55% in Alberta)
  - 52% drop in transit station visits (-44% in Alberta)
  - 36% drop in workplace visits (-34% in Alberta)
  - 14% increase in residences (+10% in Alberta)
- The US economy lost 20.5 million jobs in April, as the unemployment rate rose to 14.7%.

## RESOURCES

Government of Alberta COVID-19 information

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

COVID-19 case statistics

<https://covid19stats.alberta.ca/>

Alberta Health Services COVID-19 webpage

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16944.aspx>

Government of Canada COVID-19 information

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

World Health Organization information

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

WHO daily situation reports

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

WHO COVID-19 Dashboard

<https://who.sprinklr.com/>