

Minister of Health update:

Good morning, everyone,

I know many Nunavummiut are feeling 'Covid fatigue'. For over 2 years, the COVID-19 pandemic has been hard on all of us, and it has impacted us all in different ways. I understand how hard it is to stay motivated and to not get discouraged.

Despite our frustration and fatigue, the safest way forward is to stay vigilant against COVID-19. Your actions still matter. Masking still matters. Isolating when sick still matters. Vaccinations still matter.

I'd like to thank the many Nunavummiut who continue to protect each other by following Public Health guidance. Please continue following that guidance in your daily lives, on things like when to wear a mask, how to recognize symptoms, when to isolate at home, self-testing and other ways to reduce your risks from COVID-19.

Even without the public health measures, we should all continue to do what's necessary to protect our communities. If you get sick, take a self-test. If you test positive and are fully vaccinated, two doses or more of the vaccine, stay home for at least seven days. If you are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and test positive, stay home for at least 10 days. If you have symptoms after your isolation period, remain isolated until you have not had symptoms for at least 24 hours.

We all have a part to play, so let's keep working together against COVID-19.

For the latest COVID-19 information and GN Departments updates in all languages:

<https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>; <https://www.gov.nu.ca>



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Chief Public Health Officer Update:

Good morning,

Today we announced the next stage toward the Government of Nunavut ending the Public Health Emergency. After two years dealing with the pandemic, I believe Nunavut is ready to begin easing public health restrictions.

Monday, March 14 will be the next step of a six-week approach that will end with the lifting of the Territorial Public Health Emergency on April 11.

As with past approaches to changes in COVID-19 response, the shift will be gradual to ensure the changes do not cause undo harm to Nunavummiut or our health system.

On Monday, measures across Nunavut, with the exception of Gjoa Haven and Kugaaruk will ease slightly. We will also reduce our reporting of COVID-19 case data to once per week. At this time, the current status of COVID-19 in some communities does not allow for a measure to be the same across Nunavut, though we will be working toward that goal in the coming weeks.

On March 28, we will once again ease measures in communities and the level of restrictions will once again be based on the status of COVID-19 in the community. That same week we will:

- Lift the isolation requirement for high-risk contacts who do not have COVID-19 symptoms
- Stop announcing the arrival of COVID-19 to communities without active outbreaks.

Finally, on April 11, assuming the previous weeks go well, and we believe our health system will be able to manage COVID-19 as it would any other condition, we will lift all remaining restrictions.

These include:

- The mask mandate
- Mandatory isolation of those who are symptomatic (still requested like any other disease)
- And the public health emergency

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While Nunavut will move away from an emergency response to COVID-19, the public will continue to have a role to play in protecting our communities. These changes do not mean COVID is gone. In fact, COVID-19 is here to stay, and I encourage Nunavummiut to follow public health guidance to help reduce the risk to themselves, their loved ones, our communities, and the health care system.

This means staying home when you are sick, getting the vaccine and wearing a mask when appropriate, even when it is not mandated.

I want to thank all our partners in the GN, Department of Health Staff and Nunavummiut for the sacrifices, hard work and commitment they have shown over the past two years to help fight COVID-19.

Thank you

As part of the Government of Nunavut's (GN) effort to protect Nunavummiut against the risk of COVID-19, GN Departments are implementing the following:

Department of Health Services

For all the latest information and resources about COVID-19 in Nunavut, go to:
<https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For the latest information on current public health restrictions, go to:
<https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/nunavuts-path>

For information on upcoming vaccine clinics go to:
<https://gov.nu.ca/health/information/covid-19-vaccination>

COVID-19 case status: March 9, 2022

Total tests	Total confirmed cases	Total active cases	Total recovered cases	Deaths	Total persons vaccinated with at least one dose in Nunavut	Total persons vaccinated with two doses in Nunavut	Total persons vaccinated with three doses in Nunavut
36,857	3200	472	2723	5	33,260	28,244	13,890

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COVID-19 community case statistics: March 9, 2022

Community	COVID-19 Status	Time period	Public case count yesterday (TOTAL)	Public case count today (TOTAL)	Change from yesterday (cases)	Cumulative Recovered	Change from yesterday (recoveries)	Total Active cases
Clyde River	Ongoing	February 18, 2022	7	8	1	4	0	4
Arctic Bay	Ongoing	February 12, 2022	3	3	0	2	0	1
Resolute Bay	Ongoing	February 8, 2022	16	16	0	12	0	4
Kugluktuk	Ongoing	January 23, 2022	40	42	2	19	0	23
Kimmirut	Ongoing	January 22, 2022	3	3	0	3	0	0
Naujaat	Ongoing	January 15, 2022	86	87	1	50	0	37
Kugaaruk	Ongoing	January 14, 2022	90	95	5	39	0	56
Gjoa Haven	Ongoing	January 14, 2022	63	65	2	21	0	44
Taloyoak	Ongoing	January 11, 2022	102	102	0	92	0	10
Coral Harbour	Ongoing	January 9, 2022	73	74	1	61	0	13
Whale Cove	Ongoing	January 7, 2022	21	20	-1	19	0	0
Sanikiluaq	Ongoing	January 4, 2022	56	56	0	54	0	2
Kinngait	Ongoing	January 2, 2022	96	99	3	94	0	5
Pond Inlet	Ongoing	January 1, 2022	89	90	1	59	0	31
Chesterfield Inlet	Ongoing	January 1, 2022	8	8	0	7	0	1
Cambridge Bay	Ongoing	December 30, 2021	143	144	1	137	0	7
Igloolik	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	220	220	0	203	0	17
Baker Lake	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	154	155	1	140	0	15
Arviat	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	136	136	0	134	0	2
Sanirajak	Ongoing	December 29, 2021	77	77	0	72	0	5
Qikiqtarjuaq	Ongoing	December 28, 2021	38	39	1	20	0	19
Rankin Inlet	Ongoing	December 23, 2021	263	269	6	225	0	44
Pangnirtung	Ongoing	December 23, 2021	76	76	0	55	0	21
Iqaluit	Ongoing	November 4, 2021	637	643	6	532	0	111
Total			2497	2527	30	2054	0	472

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*Please note: These numbers change frequently. Every effort is made to keep this information up-to-date and complete, but it may not reflect all persons followed or tested.

** Starting 17 Jan 2022, confirmed cases include those meeting the revised Nunavut case definitions. This includes COVID-19 cases detected either by a confirmatory (PCR) or a presumptive (rapid) test.

***There may be a delay reporting attribution and statistics from cases acquired in Southern Canada. 12 cases that were detected out of territory have been attributed to Nunavut. This includes 3 deaths. Not all NU residents with COVID-19 detected out of territory will be attributed to Nunavut.

COVID-19 vaccination status: March 8, 2022

Vaccine uptake Meditech numbers as of March 8, 2022

	Vaccines administered - 5 to 11 (inclusive)				Vaccines administered - 12 to 17 (inclusive)				Vaccines administered - 18 and over				Total vaccines administered 5+				Booster 12+	
	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Done 1st dose	%	Done 2nd dose	%	Booster 12+	%
Nunavut	4,037	68%	2,063	35%	3,957	92%	3,455	80%	*****	102%	*****	91%	*****	95%	28,241	80%	13,887	48%
Qikiqtaaluk Region	2,080	67%	1,013	33%	1,923	89%	1,692	79%	13,454	101%	12,001	90%	17,457	94%	14,706	79%	7,512	48%
Arctic Bay	136	79%	83	48%	111	103%	97	90%	517	98%	455	86%	764	94%	635	78%	339	53%
Clyde River	147	71%	53	26%	121	77%	108	69%	602	88%	561	82%	870	83%	722	69%	425	50%
Grise Fiord	9	75%	4	33%	11	46%	7	29%	95	99%	94	98%	115	87%	105	80%	78	65%
Igloolik	216	57%	65	17%	214	82%	163	62%	951	87%	812	74%	1,381	80%	1,040	60%	379	28%
Iqaluit	631	69%	405	45%	635	97%	574	88%	6,960	115%	6,274	104%	8,226	108%	7,253	95%	4,008	60%
Kimmiut	57	79%	32	44%	62	127%	57	116%	268	101%	251	95%	387	100%	340	88%	222	71%
Kinngait	119	47%	34	13%	137	77%	122	69%	720	78%	627	68%	976	72%	783	58%	306	28%
Pangnirtung	200	69%	52	18%	177	107%	147	89%	855	85%	737	73%	1,232	84%	936	64%	533	45%
Pond Inlet	231	65%	153	43%	206	99%	197	95%	885	86%	784	76%	1,322	83%	1,134	71%	466	38%
Qikiqtarjuaq	55	64%	21	24%	42	61%	31	45%	341	81%	296	70%	438	76%	348	60%	175	36%
Resolute Bay	25	93%	19	70%	15	52%	15	52%	225	165%	167	123%	265	138%	201	105%	96	58%
Sanikiluaq	118	63%	8	4%	94	72%	85	65%	504	88%	467	82%	716	80%	560	63%	232	33%
Sanirajak	136	80%	84	49%	98	81%	89	74%	531	97%	476	87%	765	92%	649	78%	253	38%
Kivalliq Region	1,284	71%	759	42%	1,238	94%	1,080	82%	6,624	94%	6,084	87%	9,146	90%	7,923	78%	3,522	42%
Arviat	375	76%	209	42%	358	95%	319	85%	1,644	97%	1,521	90%	2,377	93%	2,049	80%	848	41%
Baker Lake	256	79%	177	55%	212	89%	184	77%	1,295	88%	1,172	80%	1,763	87%	1,533	75%	672	39%
Chesterfield Inlet	64	102%	42	67%	36	67%	33	61%	256	89%	241	84%	356	88%	316	78%	188	55%
Coral Harbour	51	30%	18	11%	91	77%	78	66%	495	89%	442	80%	637	76%	538	64%	205	31%
Nauyasat	148	54%	70	26%	176	101%	156	90%	643	99%	591	91%	967	88%	817	75%	305	37%
Rankin Inlet	330	86%	202	52%	309	106%	257	88%	2,033	97%	1,884	90%	2,672	97%	2,343	85%	1,178	49%
Whale Cove	60	66%	41	45%	56	80%	53	76%	258	97%	233	88%	374	88%	327	77%	126	38%
Kitikmeot Region	658	62%	276	26%	706	85%	593	72%	4,169	92%	3,622	80%	5,533	86%	4,491	70%	2,105	39%
Cambridge Bay	125	57%	50	23%	168	88%	145	76%	1,346	100%	1,202	89%	1,639	93%	1,397	79%	790	51%
Gjoa Haven	138	64%	46	21%	134	78%	111	65%	795	95%	657	79%	1,067	87%	814	67%	280	28%
Kugaaruk	99	48%	51	25%	103	62%	83	50%	552	85%	461	71%	754	74%	595	58%	214	26%
Kugluktuk	164	75%	96	44%	161	98%	139	85%	892	89%	801	80%	1,217	88%	1,036	75%	483	41%
Taloyoak	132	66%	33	17%	140	104%	115	85%	584	87%	501	75%	856	85%	649	65%	338	42%
Multiple Communities*	15		15		90		90		1016		1016		1,121		1,121		748	

*Multiple communities represent individuals who received doses in two separate communities, or in communities that are not their place of residence.

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Details/Limitations:

This information shows the number of doses given in a community as of March 8, 2022. The percentage of vaccine administered is vaccine administered divided by the Nunavut population estimate for 18 and older.

Territorial totals for doses are an accurate summary. The community level data is under review to ensure appropriate attribution. Community totals will be adjusted as needed. This may lead to minor fluctuations in the percentages by community.

Doses are typically attributed to the community in which they are administered.

Total doses given will include residents and non-residents, including rotational workers.

Multiple communities represent individuals who received doses in two separate communities, or in communities that are not their place of residence.

An individual may have received dose 1 and/or dose 2 outside of their community of residence.

This does not account for people who may have been vaccinated partially or fully out of territory.

A high percentage in one community does not equal herd immunity. There is no established or defined percentage of what herd immunity is for COVID-19. Whatever herd immunity may be it cannot be achieved with current vaccine approvals (e.g. no vaccine available for children under twelve).

Source:

Statistics Canada, Demography Division, Special tabulations. Prepared by: Nunavut Bureau of Statistics, January 27, 2021.

Dose numbers are from the Department of Health's Meditech system.

Eligible adults in community are defined as the number of individuals 18 and older as per the 2020 population estimates.

The community population estimates are "non-official" since they are not based on components of population growth (births, deaths and migration). They should be used with caution.

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Isolation population

Traveller Type	Guests in Isolation as of Feb-21
Medical	20
Public	0
EMTI	0
Construction	0
Total	20

Traveller repatriation summary

Departure Date	# of Travellers from Isolation Sites
March 8	0
March 9	0
March 10	2
March 11	2
March 12	6
March 13	6
Total	16

Department of Economic Development and Transportation Services

Motor Vehicles

Motor Vehicles offices are open to the public at a limited capacity. Masks must be worn by visitors at all times.

Motor Vehicle examination services have resumed. The schedule for community driver examinations is being developed.

Clients are encouraged to access services by email at MotorVehicles@gov.nu.ca and by telephone at 1-888-975-5999.

Nunavummiut can also visit gov.nu.ca/motorvehicles to access:

- Driver's Licence Renewals.
- General Identification Card Renewals.
- Vehicle Registration Renewals.
- Requests for Driver's Abstracts, Vehicle Searches, and Accident Reports.

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Sales of Nunavut seal skins

Sales of Nunavut seal skins through the *Dressed Seal Skins for Nunavummiut* program resumed on February 28, 2022, through local businesses. Sales will no longer be completed through the Fisheries and Sealing office in Iqaluit. For more information, contact edt@gov.nu.ca.

Visitors Centres

Nunavut Visitors Centres are open to the public at a limited capacity. Masks must be worn by visitors at all times.

Community Operations Offices

Community Operations Offices in all regions are open for in-person visits by appointment only. Masks must be worn by visitors at all times.

Ongoing services:

Nunavut Airports

Access to the airport is restricted to staff, passengers, and people providing necessary assistance to passengers. Masks must be worn at all times inside the airports. All staff and passengers must follow public health guidelines.

Department of Education Services

K-12 Schools

Based on the advice of the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO), on Monday, March 7, 2022, Sanikiluaq schools opened at 100% capacity.

- Sanikiluaq schools will adhere to all health and safety precautions following department guidelines.
- Students and staff are reminded to wear masks at school and on the bus.

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Ongoing services:

K-12 Schools

Schools in Gjoa Haven and Taloyoak are open at 50% capacity.

- Schools will communicate directly to students and families regarding their status and cohort plans.
- If parents are not sure about their student's cohort, they should contact their student's teacher.

Schools in all other communities are open at 100% capacity.

FANS

The FANS office continues to process payments for students who have submitted their FANS Student Enrollment Form (SEF).

Nunavut Arctic College (NAC) students who have not yet done so should send their FANS SEF (with Part A completed) and their NAC enrollment verification letter to the FANS office.

Students must allow up to 15 business days from the date they submitted their required enrollment document(s) to FANS to the date they should see the funds deposited into their bank account. If after 15 business days students have not received a deposit in their bank account, they can email fans@gov.nu.ca to let them know. Students should attach a copy of their bank statement from January 1 to the current date.

Questions about FANS benefits can be sent to fans@gov.nu.ca. Students with questions about their FANS-eligible travel can contact fanstravel@gov.nu.ca for information.

Students who experience flight changes during their travel should email fanstravel@gov.nu.ca during office hours or, if it is after hours, call the after-hours travel number at 1-867-857-6950.

Adjusted services:

K-12 Schools

Based on the advice of the CPHO, on Monday, March 7, 2022, Sanikiluaq schools opened at 100% capacity.

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FANS

During peak times for the FANS office, such as the start of a new semester, the service standard for responding to emails is 3-5 business days. Response times from the FANS office may be delayed due to active COVID-19 cases in Arviat.

Currently, FANS staff are working remotely, and the regular FANS phone line is not being monitored. If you would like to speak to a FANS representative, please send an email to set up an appointment at fans@gov.nu.ca.

The best way to contact FANS is by email at fans@gov.nu.ca.

Nunavut Arctic College

In preparation of the transition back to the workplace, the Nunavut Arctic College can confirm that starting March 14, 2022, the Nunavut Arctic College will be operating under stage 1 of its 2020-2021 reopening plan. The College's Stage 1 has been updated to include mandatory mask wearing. This means that starting on March 14:

- NAC facilities are open to the public.
- The public will be required to sign in to the facilities upon entry.
- NAC will continue to enhance cleaning measures and encourage physical distancing.
- Mask wearing is mandatory in the facilities.

The Nunavut Arctic College will be sending out communications in all languages to all of its facilities reminding them of the Stage 1 responsibilities.

Nunavummiut's health is our shared responsibility! Remember: wash your hands, get vaccinated, practice social distancing, listen to the advice of health officials, and stay home if you're sick.

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