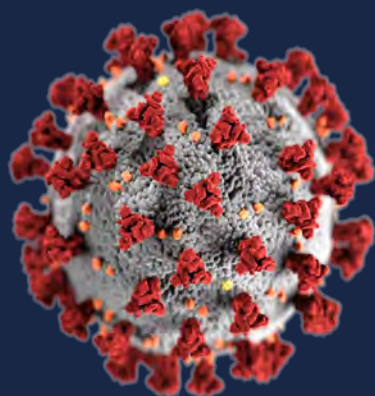




**Paladin
Risk Solutions**



COVID-19

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Prepared for:

Paladin Security Group
Emergency Operations Centre

31 July 2020

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2. INSIGHT and SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

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COVID-19 disinformation has become more prevalent and is proliferating on the internet. Newly declassified USA intelligence records state that Russia is spreading disinformation in an effort to influence USA elections. Russian military intelligence, also known as the GRU, has been releasing COVID-19 disinformation and propaganda in English, which amplifies China's arguments that the corona virus was created by the USA military, and that medical assistance from Russia could help relations between the two countries. In 2016, Russia was found attempting to influence USA elections in order to put a negative spin on democracy, and to prevent candidates with a tough stance on Russia from gaining power in the USA.

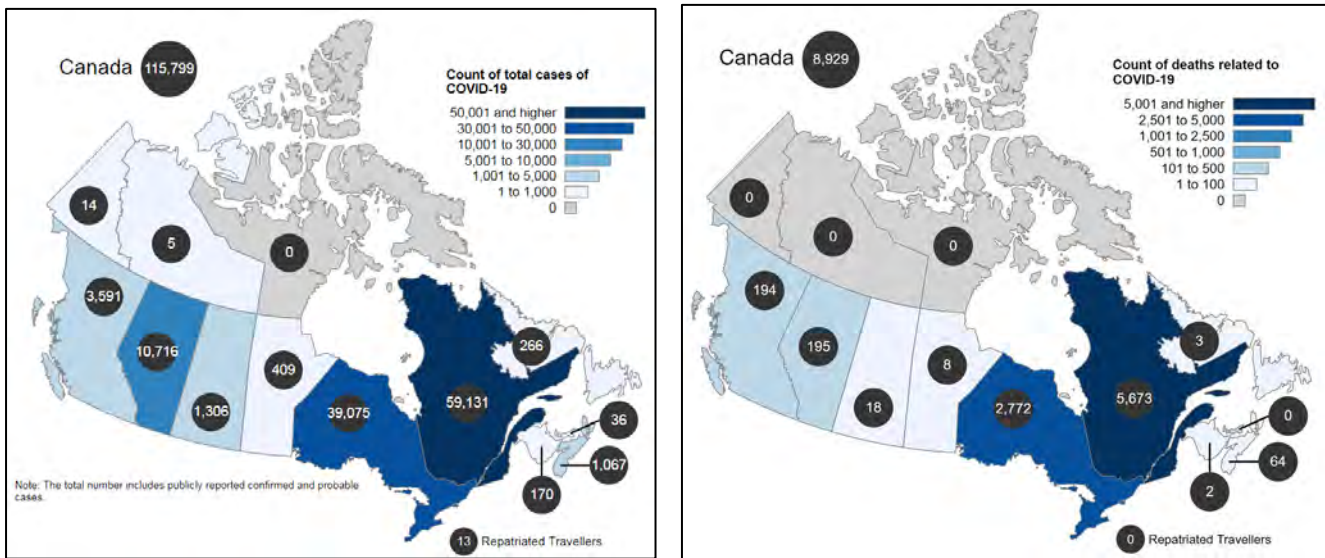
Although Facebook and Twitter began labelling content within their platforms which is not factual, it is far more difficult to control content posted on websites focused on conspiracy theories and other "real truth" type websites. Twitter has labelled tweets by Donald Trump as incorrect, and Donald Trump Jr. has recently been suspended from Twitter after posting a video of a doctor making false claims about hydroxychloroquine being "suppressed" by Dr. Anthony Fauci. Some conspiracy theory focused websites such as InfoRos or OneWorld.Press are known to be controlled or associated with the Russian government, while other websites which promote and amplify the misinformation, such as GlobalResearch.ca, have not yet been linked directly to the Russian government.

This is further complicated by the fact that responses by websites such as OneWorld.Press respond that they are not affiliated with any governments, and accuse anti-Trump groups of orchestrating it to appear that it is coming from a different government. Donald Trump continues to approve such rhetoric, further adding fuel to those who may not understand the influence attempts and meddling of other countries in western democracy. It is believed that the G.R.U.'s psychological warfare unit has been associated with InfoRos, with its purpose to obscure the role of Russia in creating the websites. It is believed that the information is written by native English speakers, in an attempt to not appear to be an obvious product of foreign influence.

Anti-masking groups appear to be partnering with anti-vaccination groups in an effort to spread misinformation regarding COVID-19. Furthermore, similarities can be seen between anti-vaccinations groups and anti-masking groups as anti-masking groups appear to downplay the severity of COVID-19, and often promote anti-lockdown measures. They often promote content posted by individuals who may appear as experts, as do anti-vaccination groups, as observed in Donald Trump Jr.'s video. The Canadian Anti-masking group, Hugs over Masks, has received leadership from an osteopath who wrote an anti-vaccine book. Although one may be an expert, such as a doctor, it does not necessarily mean they are an expert on the topic of infectious diseases. Case in point, in March 2020 a petition signed by doctors from Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, BC, led by Dr. Gerald Da Roza, head of medicine at the hospital, called for the closure of non-essential businesses and enforcement of social distancing measures, suggesting these are required to avoid a "catastrophic number of preventable deaths", and stating that BC was on the same trajectory as Italy. Dr. Bonnie Henry, the Chief Provincial Health Officer, advised that no further action was needed and that complete lockdown is not necessary. Not many additional significant

measures were implemented by Henry after the letter, with the exception of ordering personal service businesses to close. When Dr. Da Roza was spoken to by the media, he advised that he was not an epidemiologist but has come to his calculations by pulling information about the rate of spread by country from publicly available sources. BC never experienced a complete lockdown, only restrictions on specific businesses in which the client is close to the employee, and did not order retail stores to shut down as long as it was possible to maintain social distancing measures. BC did not face a crisis like many other areas, and as such, it is likely that Dr. Da Roza was correct in his calculations, but was believed by the public to be an expert as he was a doctor, although his specialty was not infectious diseases. The access to information is perceived differently by professionals at all levels and may be misrepresented due to unfamiliarity with specific elements of the pandemic. There is intentional and unintentional spreading of opinions, based on professional judgements, that contradict each other. The division between these opinions allows the information to be manipulated by outside sources; such is the nature of the world wide web. Reading critically and vetting sources for their origins and influences can help one determine what is most likely the more accurate information.

3. COVID-19 IN CANADA

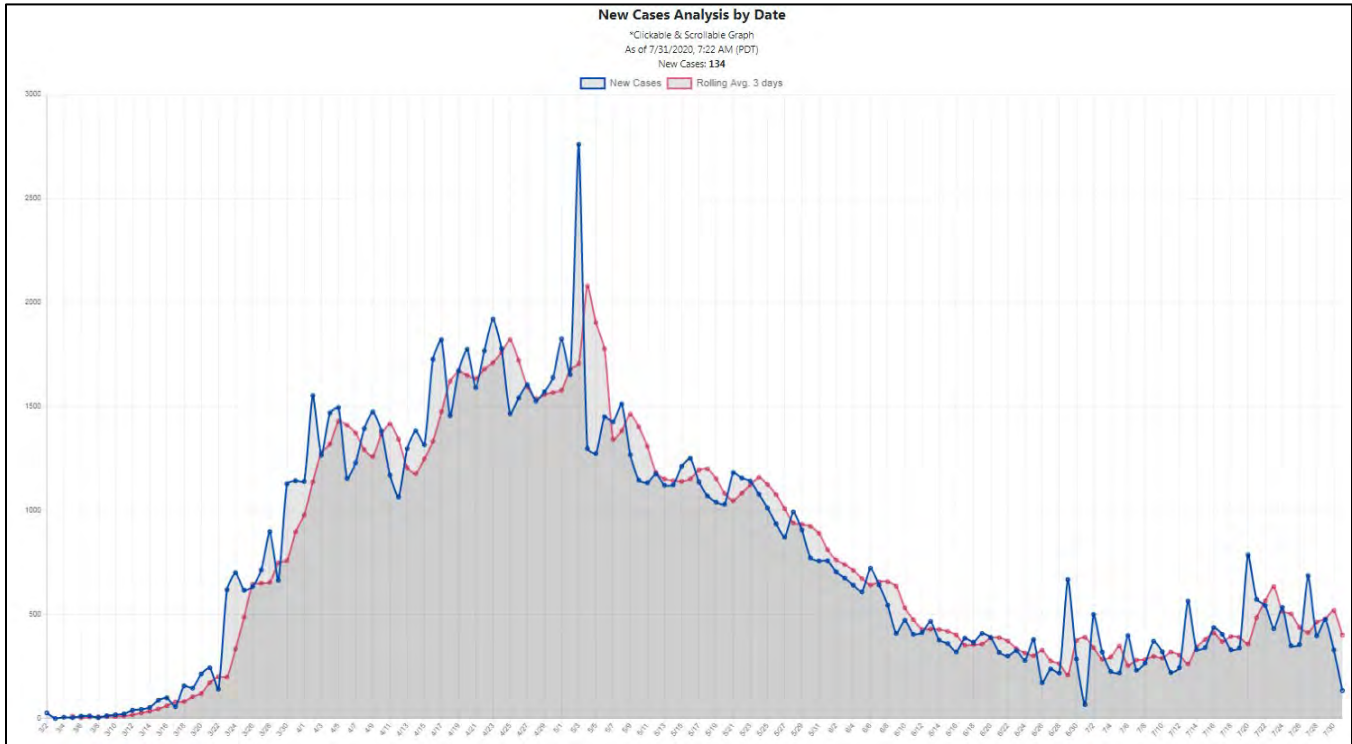


Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

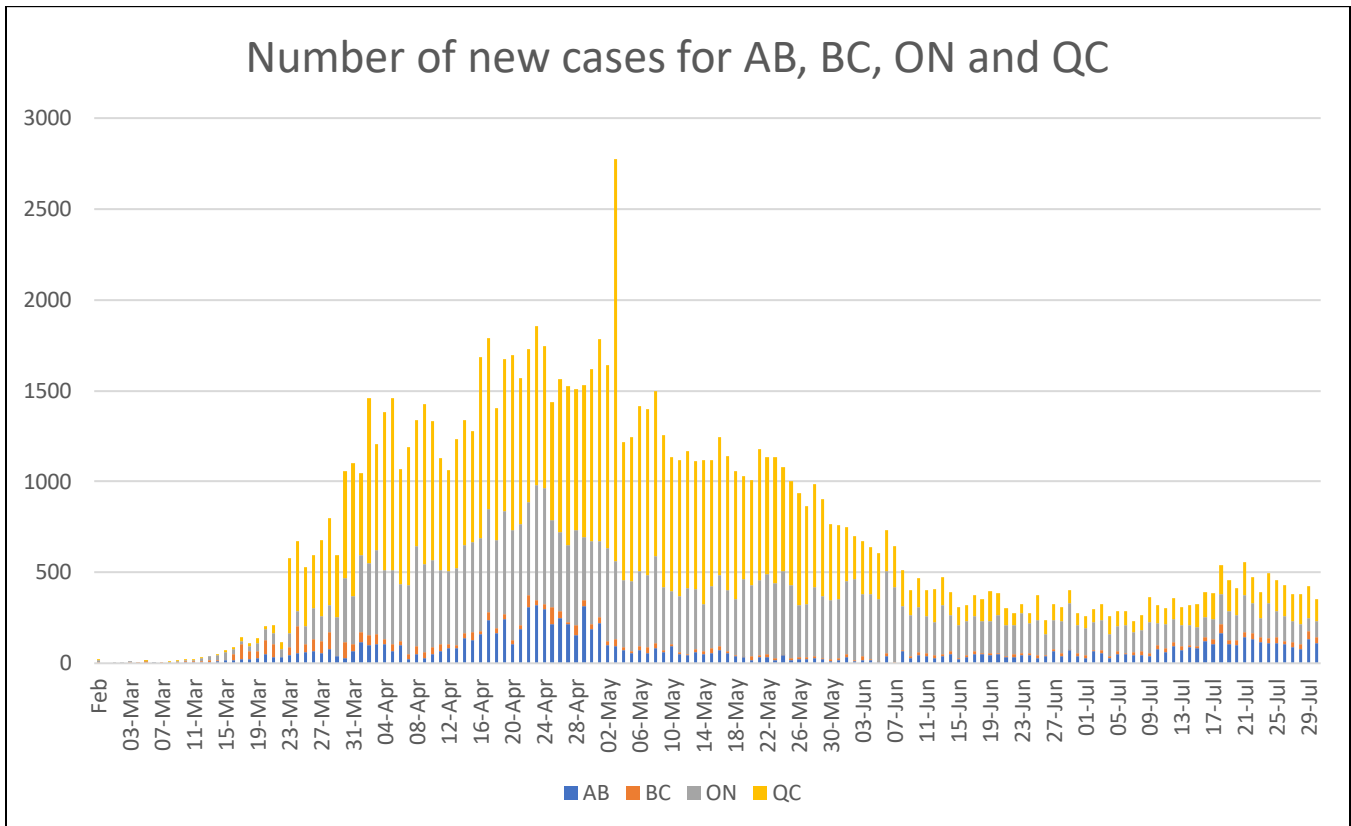


Prov.	Total Confirmed	Total Deaths	Total Recovered	Total Active
Total	115,933 (↑134)	8,932 (↑3)	101,030 (↑168)	5,971 (-37)
BC	3,591	194	3,155	242
ON	39,209 (↑134)	2,775 (↑3)	35,074 (↑168)	1,360 (-37)
QC	59,131	5,673	50,886	2,572
AB	10,716	195	9,113	1,408
MB	409	8	325	76
NB	170	2	166	2
SK	1,306	18	984	304
PEI	36	0	36	0
NL	266	3	259	4
NS	1,067	64	1,003	0
YT	14	0	11	3
NT	5	0	5	0
NU	0	0	0	0
	13	0	13	0
Rate of change	↑ 0.1%	↑ 0.0%	↑ 0.2%	-0.6%

Prov.	Total Test	Total Waiting	Total Hosp	Total ICU
Total	4,274,781 (+30,033)	-	-	-
BC	261,738	-	5	2
ON	2,171,972 (+30033)	29215 (+948)	78 (-6)	29 (+2)
QC	813,016	-	208	18
AB	676,913	-	91	18
MB	87,548	-	6	4
NB	52,153	-	0	0
SK	96,706	-	14	5
PEI	19,160	238	-	-
NL	24,672	-	0	0
NS	64,279	-	0	0
YT	1,588	26	-	-
NT	3,285	70	0	0
NU	1,751	236	0	0
Rate of change	↑ 0.7%	-	-	-



Source: <https://www.covid-19canada.com>





	AB	BC	MB	NB	NL	NS	ON	PE	QC	SK	Total
28-Jul	80	23	1	0	0	0	111	0	169	9	393
29-Jul	133	41	3	0	0	0	76	0	176	50	479
30-Jul	113	29	2	0	0	0	89	0	122	38	393

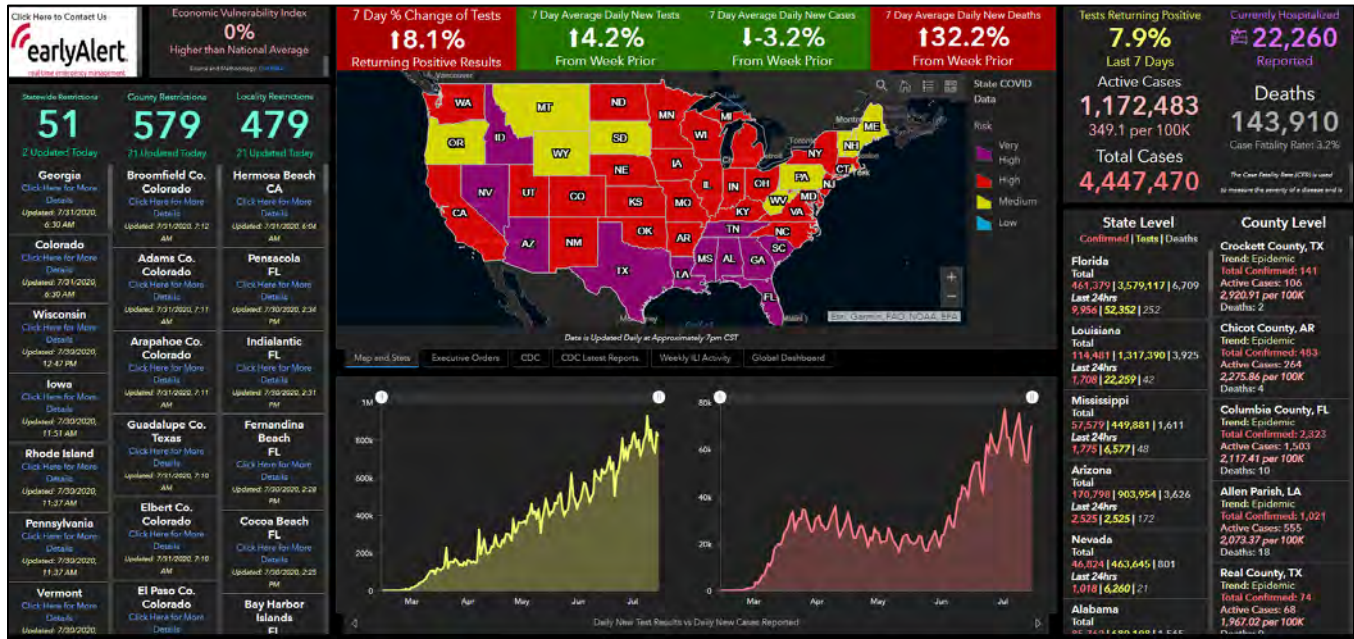
- Ontario has announced that elementary school students will be studying full time in person in the September school year. They will be studying in a single cohort for five days per week, and will take a lunch break and recess. There will be no new restrictions on class sizes, and maximum class sizes mandated pre-COVID will be adhered to. For secondary school students, classroom and online instruction will be provided. For those in smaller school boards, full-time in person learning will be offered. Students and teachers will receive medical masks. For those that feel uncomfortable sending their children back to school an opt-out option is available.
- Montreal health experts are warning of a possible second wave of infections, with some small indications that it is underway. Towards June, the average number of new cases in the province reached its lowest, and in July it is steadily climbing. Meanwhile, others suggest that it is difficult to offer predictions as the virus is new and no infection patterns are known.

3.1. CANADA NEWS

- [Back to school: How provinces are planning for start of school year during pandemic](#)
- [COVID-19 outbreak declared at Saskatchewan long-term care home](#)
- [Health Canada approves use of Gilead's remdesivir to treat COVID](#)
- ['Pandemic pods': How some parents plan on educating their kids in September](#)
- [Keep up the COVID-19 effort, says B.C.'s top doctor ahead of long weekend](#)
- [B.C. drivers with U.S. licence plates plead for understanding during COVID-19](#)
- [Cut PST in half to help recovery amid COVID-19, says B.C. business groups](#)
- [Day camp on Montreal's South Shore has 27 COVID-19 cases, not including secondary infections](#)
- [Serology study gives officials first look at spread of COVID-19 through Alberta's population](#)



4. COVID-19 IN USA



Coronavirus Cases

4,638,288

Deaths:

155,371

Recovered:

2,286,476

USA State	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Active Cases	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop
USA Total	4,638,288	+3,303	155,371	+86	2,196,441	14,013	469	57,581,009	173,959
California	494,031		9,016	+13	316,603	12,503	228	7,633,840	193,202
Florida	461,379		6,587		410,538	21,482	307	3,584,193	166,879
New York	443,000		32,754		106,989	22,772	1,684	5,820,368	299,193
Texas	433,276		6,703		166,031	14,943	231	3,911,270	134,891
New Jersey	186,975		15,888		38,974	21,051	1,789	2,059,564	231,876
Georgia	182,286		3,671		148,277	17,169	346	1,761,256	165,884
Illinois	178,138		7,670		28,690	14,058	605	2,649,786	209,109
Arizona	170,798		3,626		144,814	23,465	498	1,139,572	156,562
North Carolina	120,602		1,929		26,371	11,499	184	1,724,924	164,465
Massachusetts	117,098		8,595		10,908	16,989	1,247	1,256,671	182,324
Pennsylvania	115,853		7,269		25,276	9,050	568	1,196,817	93,487
Louisiana	114,481		3,929		36,306	24,626	845	1,317,390	283,383
Tennessee	102,871		1,033		37,604	15,063	151	1,479,669	216,669

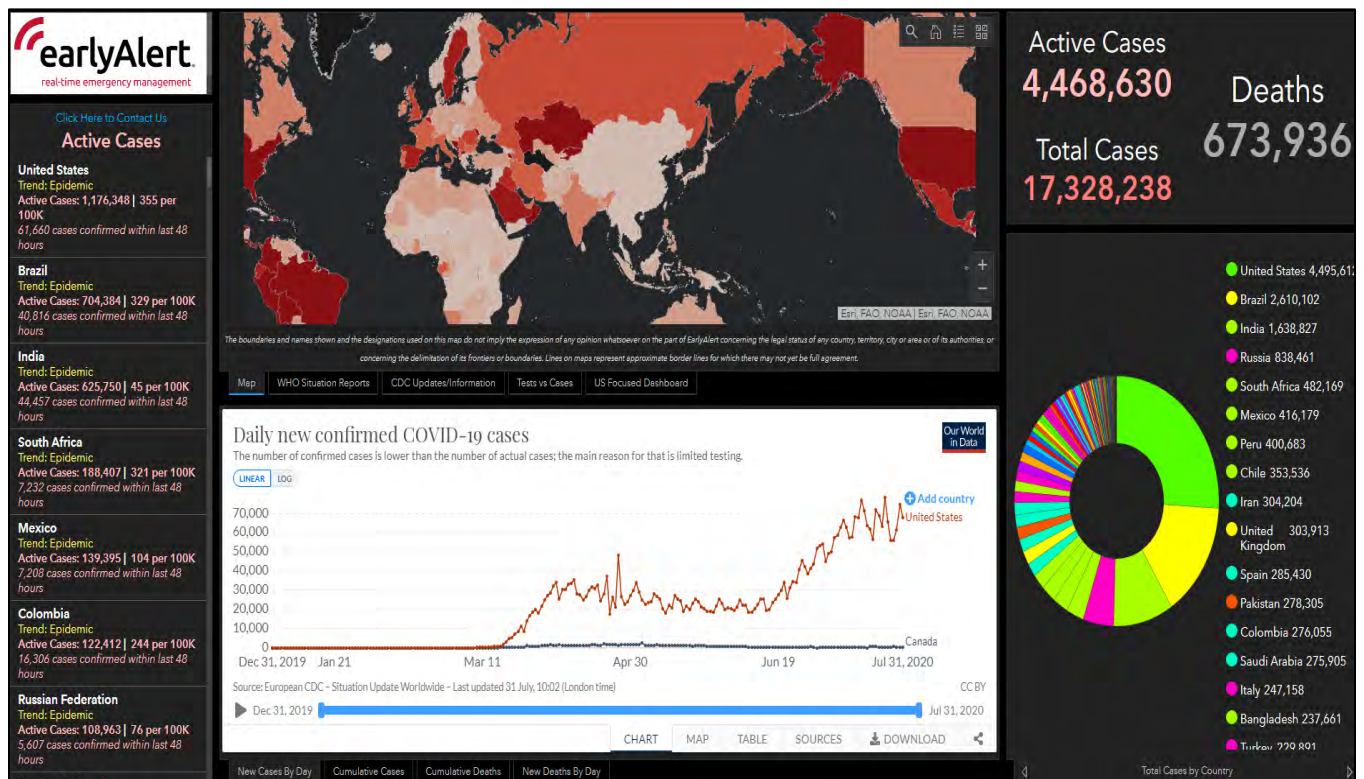
- The USA's COVID-19 death toll has surpassed 150,000, recording just under 1,500 deaths in one day. In just 11 days, over 10,000 deaths have occurred and the rate is rising at its fastest in two months. On Wednesday, Florida, California, Idaho, North Carolina, Texas and South Dakota reported single-day records for COVID-19 deaths. In Arizona and Florida new cases have slowed down slightly. Schools in the Miami area will not reopen for in class instruction in September. Out of the countries with the largest outbreaks, the USA deaths per capita rate is exceeded only by the UK, Spain, Italy, Peru and Chile.

- President Trump has hinted that new USA stimulus cheques, provided directly to citizens, may be more than \$1,200. The stimulus plan proposed the amount be paid to people who make less than \$75,000 a year, yet no progress was made in the Senate between the two parties on this initiative.

4.1. USA NEWS

- [U.S. records a coronavirus death every minute as total rises above 150,000](#)
- [2nd coronavirus wave in U.S. hits plateau, but future still uncertain](#)
- [Donald Trump suggests delaying U.S. election due to mail-in voting](#)
- [Herman Cain dies of COVID-19, weeks after attending Trump's indoor Tulsa rally](#)
- [Trump says coronavirus stimulus checks, direct payments may be more than \\$1,200](#)
- [Trump looking at using military to distribute COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [U.S. economy tanked at historic 33% rate in 2nd quarter](#)
- [Florida faces pressure, sees record high virus deaths](#)
- [Arizona, Florida report record increase in COVID-19 deaths](#)

5. GLOBAL COMMON OPERATING PICTURE





		Total Confirmed		Total Deaths		Total Recovered			Mortality Rate		
		17,544,042		677,981		10,992,165			3.86%		
#	Country	Confirmed	Deaths	Recov.	Mort.	Critical	Active	Cases /1M	Active /1M	Deaths /1M	
1	USA	4,638,288 (↑3,303)	155,371 (↑86)	2,286,476	3.3%	18,772	2,196,441	14,006	6633	469	
2	Brazil	2,613,789	91,377	1,824,095	3.5%	8,318	698,317	12,290	3283	430	
3	India	1,669,264 (↑29,914)	36,076 (↑290)	1,075,441	2.2%	8,944	557,747	1,209	404	26	
4	Russia	839,961 (↑5,482)	13,963 (↑161)	638,410	1.7%	2,300	187,608	5,736	1286	96	
5	South Africa	482,169	7,812	309,601	1.6%	539	164,756	8,122	2775	132	
6	Mexico	416,179 (↑7,730)	46,000 (↑639)	272,187	11.1%	3,922	97,992	3,225	759	356	
7	Peru	407,492	19,021	283,915	4.7%	1,421	104,556	12,345	3168	576	
8	Chile	353,536	9,377	326,628	2.7%	1,529	17,531	18,481	916	490	
9	Spain	332,510	28,443	n/a	8.6%	617	304,067	7,112	6503	608	
10	Iran	304,204 (↑2,674)	16,766 (↑197)	263,519	5.5%	4,021	23,919	3,618	284	199	
11	UK	302,301	45,999	n/a	15.2%	87	256,302	4,451	3774	677	
12	Colombia	286,020	9,810	148,695	3.4%	1,493	127,515	5,616	2504	193	
13	Pakistan	278,305 (↑903)	5,951 (↑27)	247,177	2.1%	1,146	25,177	1,258	114	27	
14	Saudi Arabia	275,905 (↑1,686)	2,866 (↑24)	235,658	1.0%	2,033	37,381	7,916	1072	82	
15	Italy	247,158	35,132	199,796	14.2%	47	12,230	4,088	202	581	
16	Bangladesh	237,661 (↑2,772)	3,111 (↑28)	135,136	1.3%	1	99,414	1,442	603	19	
17	Turkey	229,891	5,674	213,539	2.5%	1,280	10,678	2,723	127	67	
18	Germany	209,980 (↑327)	9,221	192,300	4.4%	261	8,459	2,506	101	110	
19	France	186,573	30,254	81,500	16.2%	380	74,819	2,858	1146	463	
20	Argentina	185,373	3,466 (↑25)	83,780	1.8%	1,002	98,127	4,099	2170	77	
21	Iraq	124,609 (↑3,346)	4,741 (↑70)	87,434	3.8%	454	32,434	3,093	805	118	
22	Canada	115,933 (↑134)	8,932 (↑3)	101,030	7.7%	2,240	6,008	3,059	159	236	

6. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIME REPORTING

- [UNHCR warns of increased COVID-19-related trafficking risks for refugees, displaced and stateless](#)
- [COVID-19 helps drive 20 per cent decrease in Regina crime](#)
- [Confusion mounts over announced federal withdrawal from Portland](#)
- [Florida man accused of using COVID-19 relief funds to buy US\\$318K Lamborghini](#)
- [Police conducting weekend COVID-19 party blitz in Brampton and Mississauga](#)

7. TRAVEL

- [Officials crack down on Alaska-bound travellers crossing U.S.-Canada border](#)
- [Air Transat cancels most winter flights out of Western Canada due to COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [New Brunswick expands travel bubble into 2 Quebec border communities starting Saturday](#)
- [Canadians and Americans immune to travel bug while COVID-19 persists: poll](#)

8. SOLUTION AND RESPONSE EFFORTS

- [Coronavirus vaccine development 'progressing well', says U.K. drugmaker](#)
- [Bill Gates says other nations had better coronavirus responses than US](#)
- [As US passes 150,000 coronavirus deaths, experts at Johns Hopkins call for reset in national response](#)
- [Eli Lilly starts mid-stage study of COVID-19 treatment](#)



9. MEDICAL INFORMATION

- [Vitamin D and COVID-19: Experts say any possible link is 'premature'](#)
- [Hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19: Scientists say it's time to stop promoting the drug](#)
- [Heart damage found in coronavirus patients months after recovering from COVID-19, study says](#)

10. INTERNATIONAL DATA

- [Russia says foreign inquiries about its potential fast-track Covid-19 vaccine are pouring in. But questions abound](#)
- [More than 18,000 people quarantined in China as COVID-19 cases rise in Asia](#)
- [Worst single-day jump of 52,123 Covid cases in India](#)
- [Mexico's COVID-19 case number could actually be 7 million; based on fatality rate from other countries](#)
- [UK hints at new travel quarantine measures citing fears of a 'second wave' across Europe](#)
- [Brazil first lady, another Cabinet minister infected](#)

11. ECONOMIC IMPACT

- [COVID-19 crushes U.S. economy; rising virus cases loom over recovery](#)
- [Want a full economic recovery? Childcare is critical, report says](#)
- [Bank stocks plunge as full impact of COVID-19 becomes clear](#)
- [North American stock markets make gains from morning plunge](#)
- [When covid-19 recedes, will global migration start again?](#)

12. CYBER NEWS

- [Chinese-backed hackers targeted COVID-19 vaccine firm Moderna](#)
- [Big Banks Want Simpler Cloud Security](#)
- [Advisory on Cybercrime and Cyber-Enabled Crime Exploiting the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

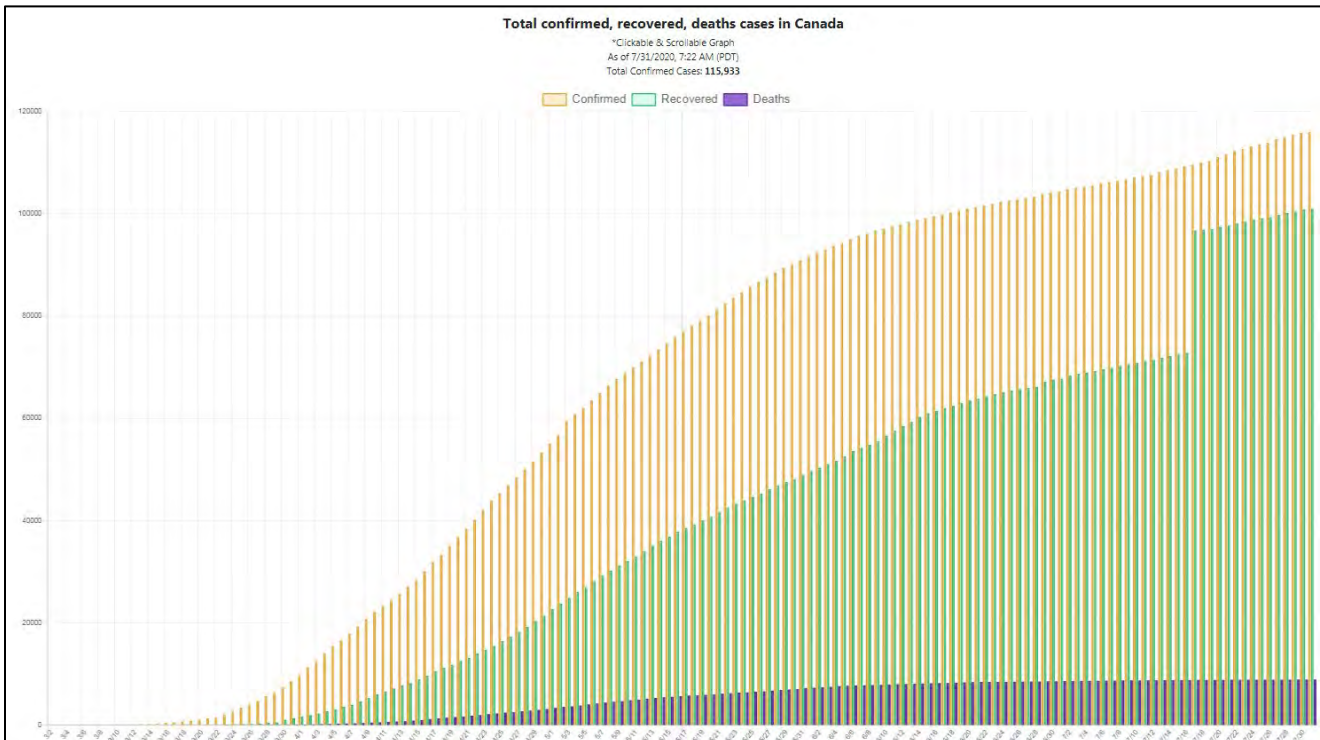
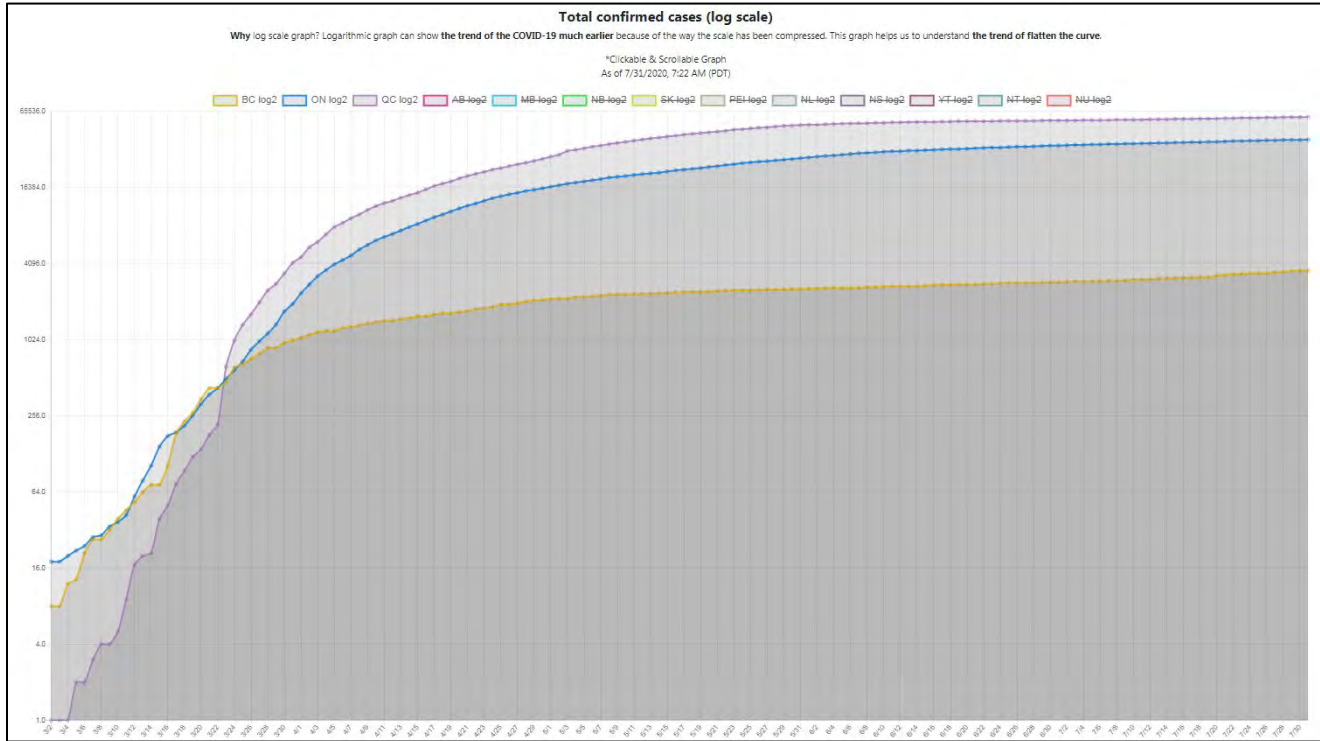
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Please submit feedback to:

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Special thanks to MG, Senior OSINT Analyst and Investigator

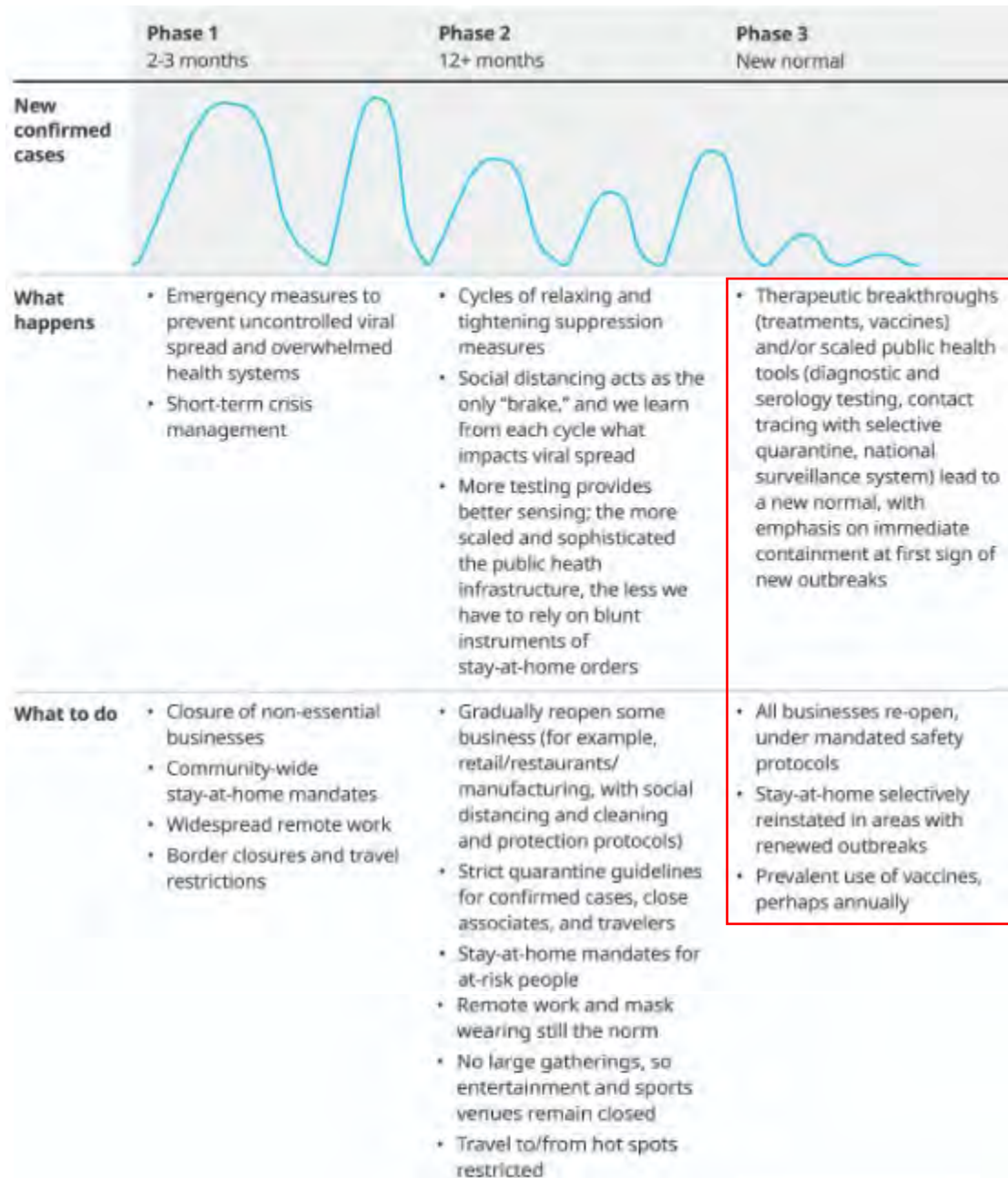
13. APPENDIX A – Canadian Tracking Information



Source: <https://www.covid-19canada.com/graphs>



14. APPENDIX B – Phase 1 to 3: Progression on Managing COVID-19 Pandemic



Source: <https://www.oliverwyman.com/our-expertise/insights/2020/apr/getting-back-to-work-responsibly.html>