

COVID-19: Ensuring Balance in Easing Restrictions

Feb 15, 2022



Stay Informed Via These Resources:

gov.bc.ca/Covid-19 | bccdc.ca | 1-888-COVID19

Symptom Self-Assessment:

covid19.thrive.health



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

Where We Are Today



55% of eligible kids 5-11 have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.



90.5% of British Columbians 12+ received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.



52.7% of British Columbians 12+ received a booster or third dose.



803 COVID-19 positive people are in hospital.

Because We Did The Right Things For Each Other And Got Vaccinated



"You might think you don't need the vaccine because you're strong and healthy. But for me, it's not really about that. It's more about protecting the ones you love who might be more vulnerable, like your grandma."

- Ken is a software engineering student



“When you live in a small community and you have a lot of elders, you know that at any time an outbreak could happen and you could lose a lot of people. We live so far away from hospitals. It's a lot harder in northern and remote communities to do simple things. We lived in fear.”

“When I heard the vaccines were coming to our communities, I'm gonna say I took the largest sigh of relief I could have ever taken in my life. It's almost like, I don't even know how to explain, almost like euphoria. So the vaccines were just—they were perfect. Now that my in-laws are vaccinated and a lot of the elders in the community are vaccinated, it just took a load off of us. Like, you could even feel it.”

- Feddie Louie is the Director of the Tahltan Emergency Operations Centre



Next Steps

RESPONSE

- Shift to sustainable, long term COVID-19 management strategy focused on immunization, self-management and specific actions to protect those most at risk of severe infection

RECOVERY

- Adopt sustainable management strategies, rescind restrictive measures and promote population health

READINESS

- Prepare to respond to ongoing waves and troughs of COVID-19 with least restrictive measures that target actions to protect those most at risk, continuing to closely monitor the evolution of the pandemic

Goals and Tools of Pandemic Response

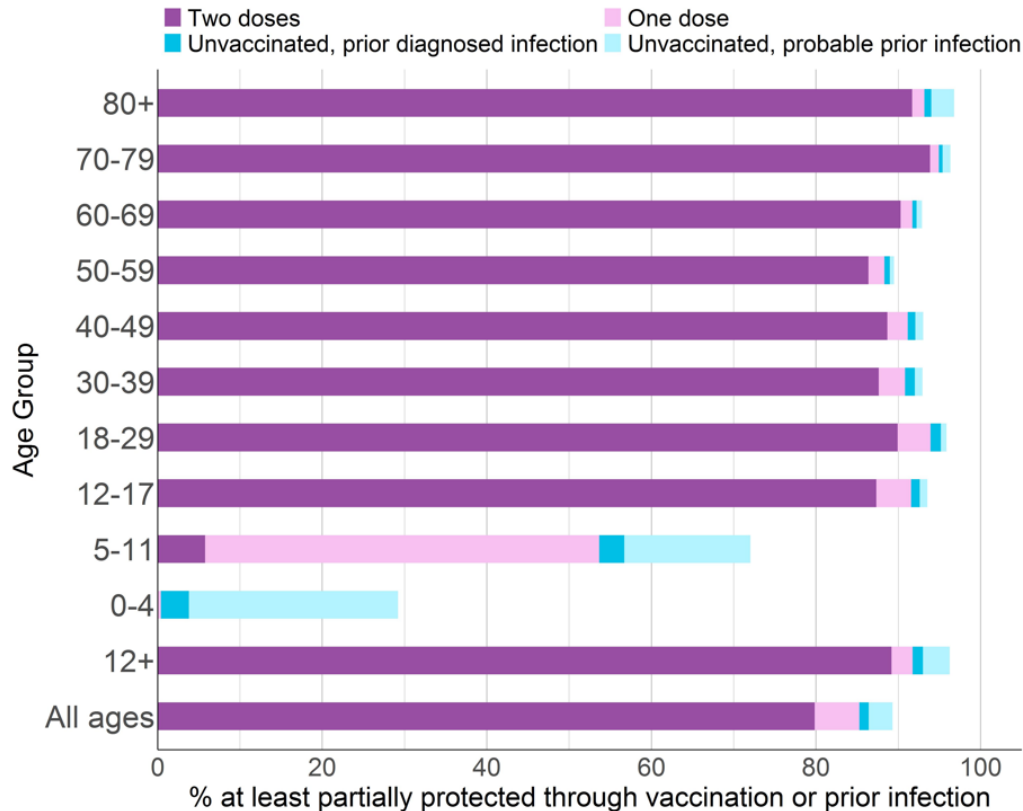
Our goals remain the same: minimize deaths and serious illness, protect our healthcare system, minimize societal disruption and support social and economic renewal

Tools:

- **Immunization**
- Disease surveillance and monitoring
- Public health measures: Staying home if sick, mask usage, BC Vaccine Card, testing, physical distancing, case and contact management
- Infection prevention and control
- Managing outbreaks in settings with high risk of serious illness
- Treatment
 - Robust plan for distributing antivirals to those who benefit from them
 - Acute and long term care capacity to manage surges in infections

BC is One of the Most Vaccinated Jurisdictions in the World

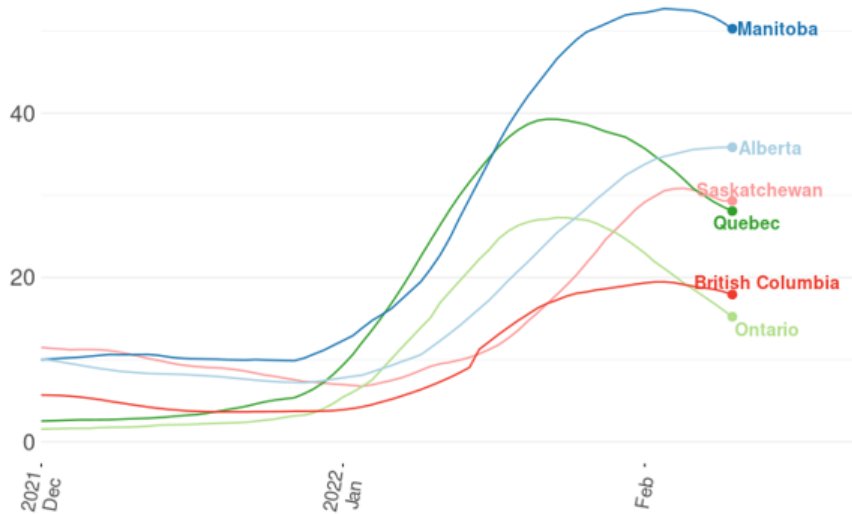
BC has a very high level of population immunity to the virus, estimated >90% have either been vaccinated or probably infected



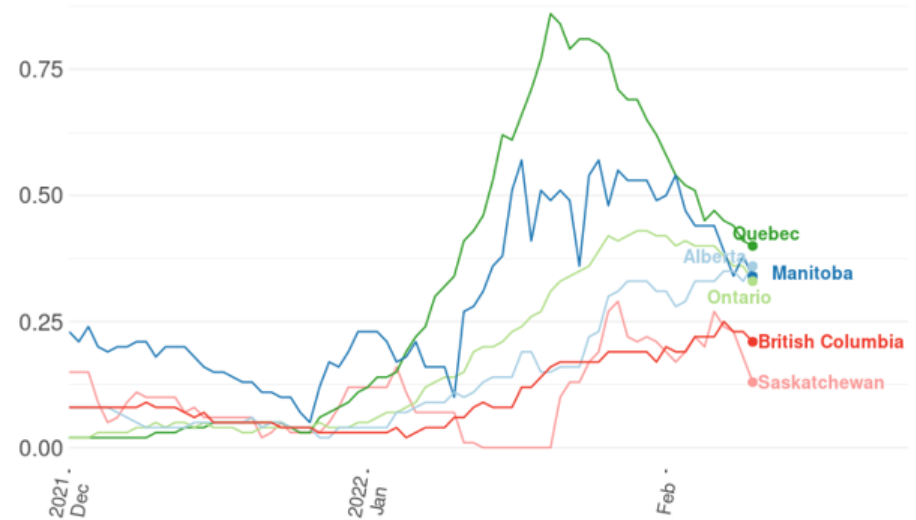
Data updated 2022-02-03
Data Source: Provincial Immunization Registry, PHSA

BC's Approach is Effective

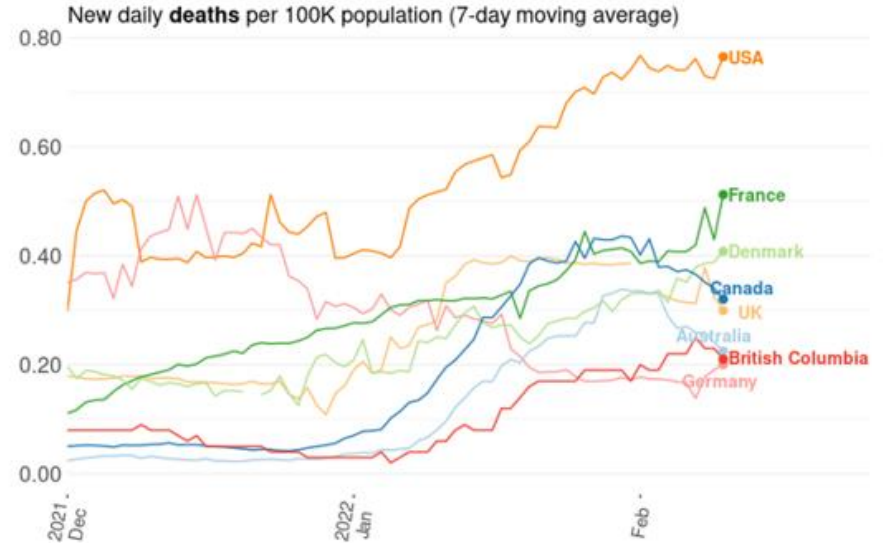
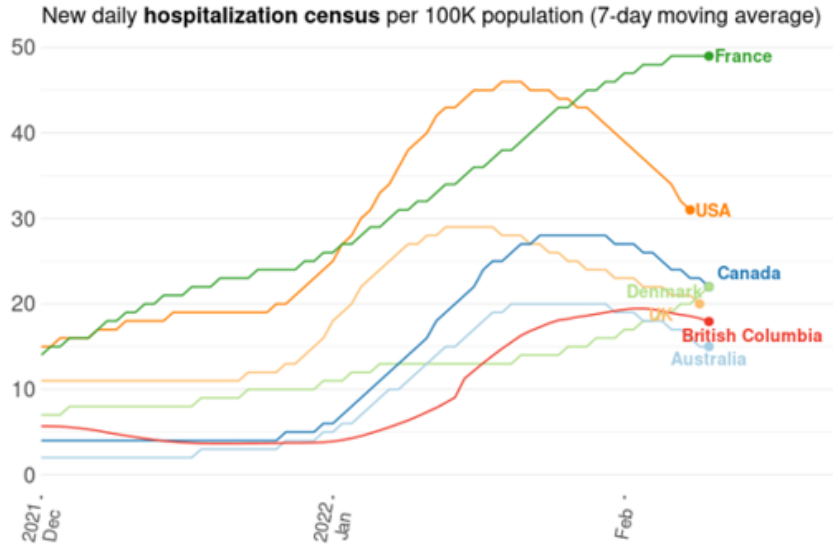
New daily **hospitalization census** per 100K population (7-day moving average)



New daily **deaths** per 100K population (7-day moving average)

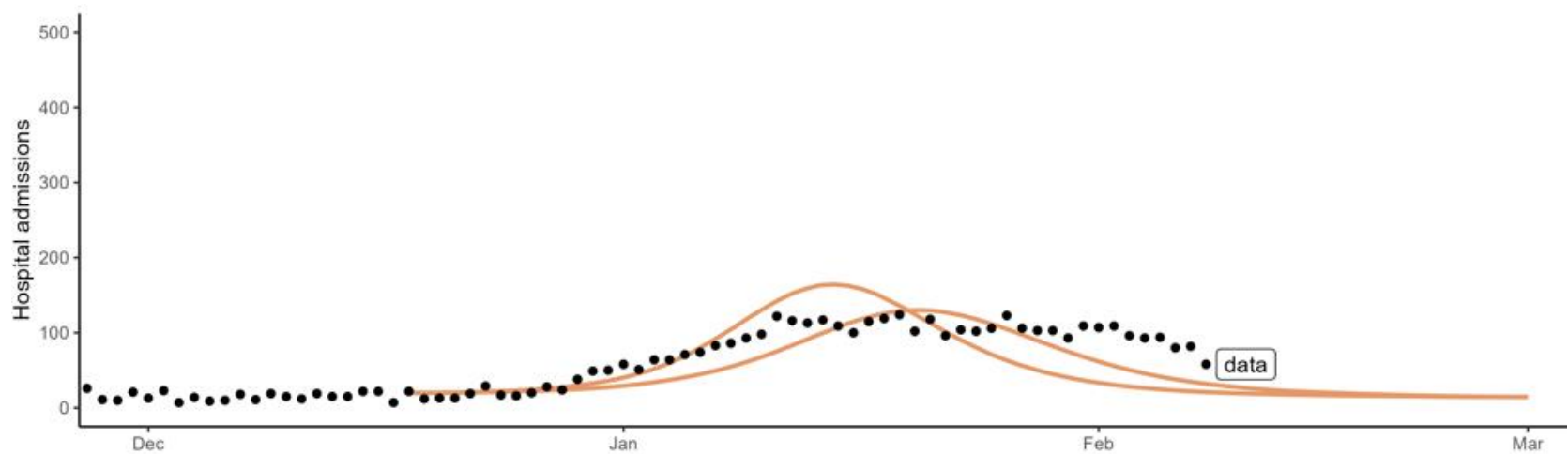


BC's Approach is Effective



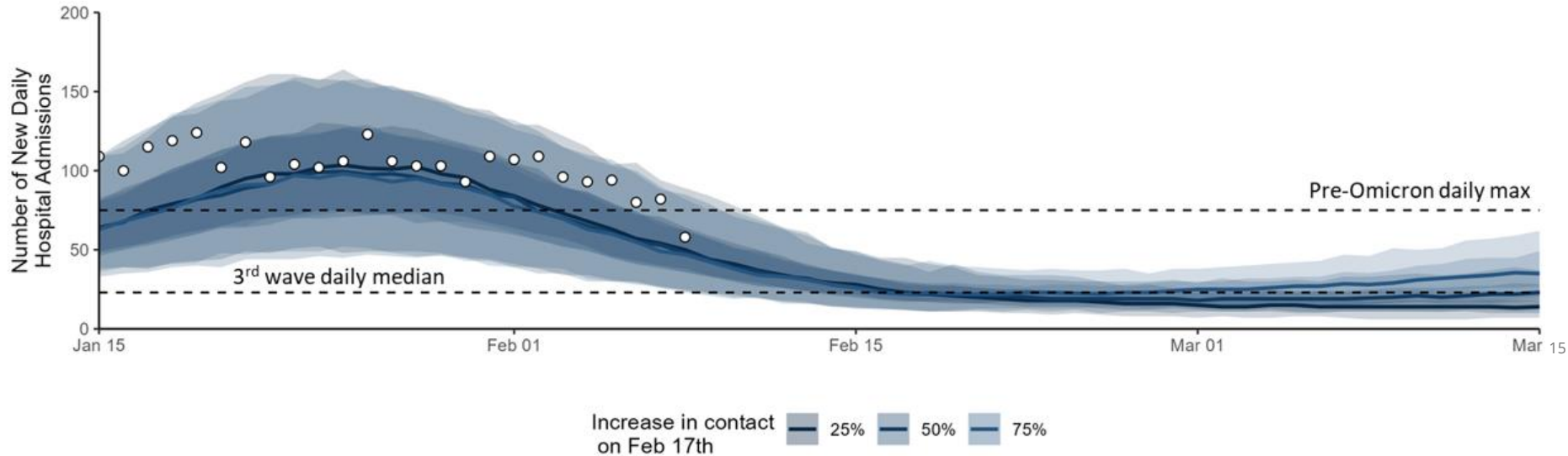
Comparison of Hospital Admissions to BCCDC Projections

Comparison of two transmission scenarios presented on January 14, 2022.



Short-term Modelling

Shading indicates uncertainty due to effectiveness of vaccination, showing 90% and 50% confidence intervals.



Ensuring Balance in Easing Restrictions

- Incremental easing of restrictions and orders starting mid-February, with the remaining COVID-19 public health measures reviewed in March and April.
- Individuals and organizations to assess risks and determine comfort zones in planning for changes. We expect people and organizations to go at their own pace.
- **Immunization campaigns to continue, including boosters.**

Protective Measures That will Continue



Masks in indoor
public spaces



BC Vaccine Card



COVID-19
Safety Plans

Starting on Feb. 16, 11:59 p.m.



Indoor personal gatherings – return to normal



Indoor and outdoor organized gatherings - full capacity, dancing allowed (with masks & BC Vaccine Card)



Indoor seated events – full capacity (with masks & BC Vaccine Card)



Fitness centres, adult sports, dance, swimming - full capacity , no tournament restrictions (with masks & BC Vaccine Card)



Restaurants, bars and nightclubs - full capacity, no table limits, mingling and dancing allowed (with masks & BC Vaccine Card)

Protective Measures in Place Right Now, to be Reviewed Again by March 15 and April 12



Masks in indoor
public spaces



BC Vaccine Card



COVID-19 Safety
Plans



Long-term care
visitation restrictions



K-12 & child care
guidelines



Faith community
guidelines



Restrictions on child and
youth overnight camps



Industrial
camp order

Thank You for Doing Your Part



Get
vaccinated



Follow
guidelines and
requirements



Wash your
hands



Stay home
if sick



Respect people's
comfort levels

COVID-19: Ensuring Balance in Easing Restrictions

Feb 15, 2022



Stay Informed Via These Resources:

gov.bc.ca/Covid-19 | bccdc.ca | 1-888-COVID19

Symptom Self-Assessment:

covid19.thrive.health



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**