

Vaccines and Indigenous People

- Some members of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities will be able to get vaccinated in the first stage of vaccinations
- Now that 2 COVID-19 vaccines have been approved by Health Canada and are becoming available, at-risk groups will be prioritized to receive the vaccines first as they roll out. This is because there will be a limited supply at the beginning.
- Some Indigenous communities or members of those communities will be identified as being at increased risk. They will be among the first groups to receive the vaccines. The vaccines will be free.
- Priority for early COVID-19 vaccination will be given to the following populations:
 - residents and staff of shared living settings who provide care for seniors
 - health care workers who have direct contact with patients, including:
 - those who work in health care settings
 - personal support workers
 - adults in remote Indigenous communities
 - adults 70 years of age and older, with order of priority:
 - beginning with adults 80 years of age and older
 - decreasing the age limit by 5-year increments to age 70 years as supply becomes available
- Provinces and territories have developed detailed vaccination rollout plans for their residents.
- National Indigenous organizations, some national Indigenous health organizations and Indigenous leaders have been involved in planning for COVID-19 vaccine distribution to Indigenous communities.
- By getting a COVID-19 vaccine, you will be protected and will help prevent the spread of the virus to those who may be more likely to contract it, such as elders and older adults, residents and staff of long-term care homes & people with certain medical conditions where infection could cause severe illness and death
- Indigenous Services Canada encourages all First Nations, Inuit and Métis to receive the vaccine to protect themselves, their families and communities. First Nations cases, deaths, hospitalizations and cases by province.
- For more details on the criteria used to prioritize people to be vaccinated, consult the document [Avis préliminaire sur les groupes prioritaires pour la vaccination contre la COVID-19 au Québec](#) [Preliminary guidance on priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination in Québec; French only] on the website of the Institut National de la Santé Publique du Québec.