COVID-19

Calgary and Area PCN Webinar
Dr. Deena Hinshaw

September 13, 2021

SPEAKER: DISCLOSURES



Dr. Deena Hinshaw

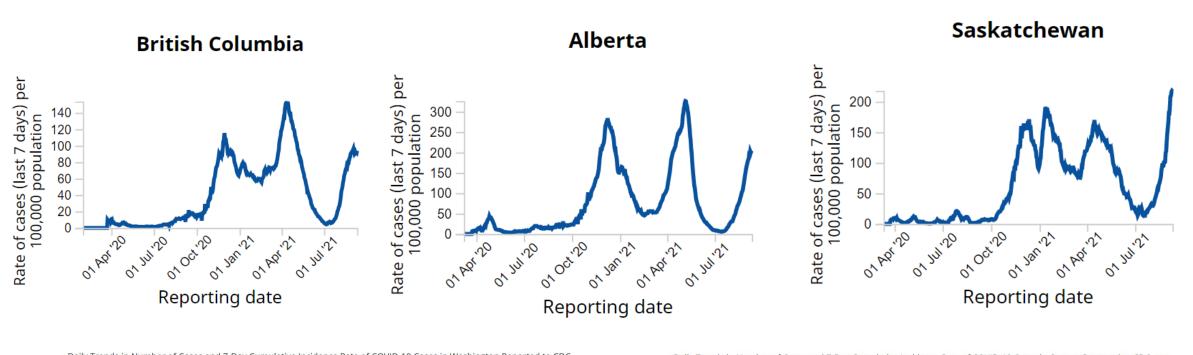
Chief Medical Officer of Health, Alberta Health

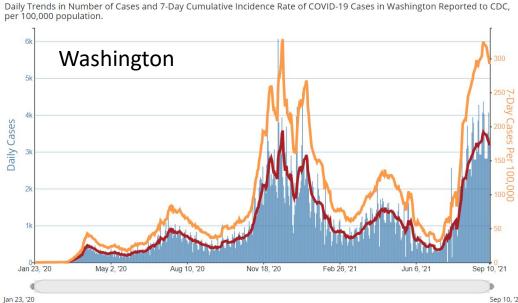
Disclosures

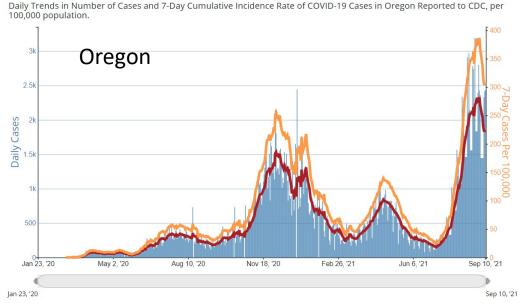
- Contract employee of the Government of Alberta
- Member of the Alberta Precision Laboratories Advisory Board
- Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Alberta
- Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

Overview

- Context
- Current state
- Fall projections
- What does endemic look like?
- Primary care implications





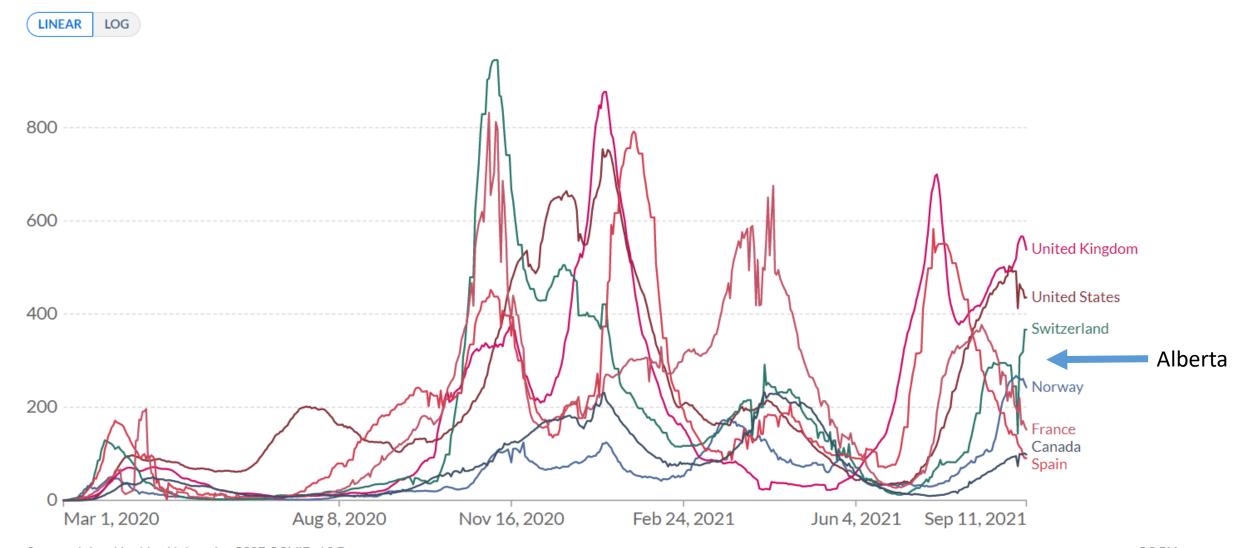


https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_dailycases_7daycasesper100k https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/epidemiological-summary-covid-19-cases.html

Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people



Shown is the rolling 7-day average. The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of actual cases; the main reason for that is limited testing.

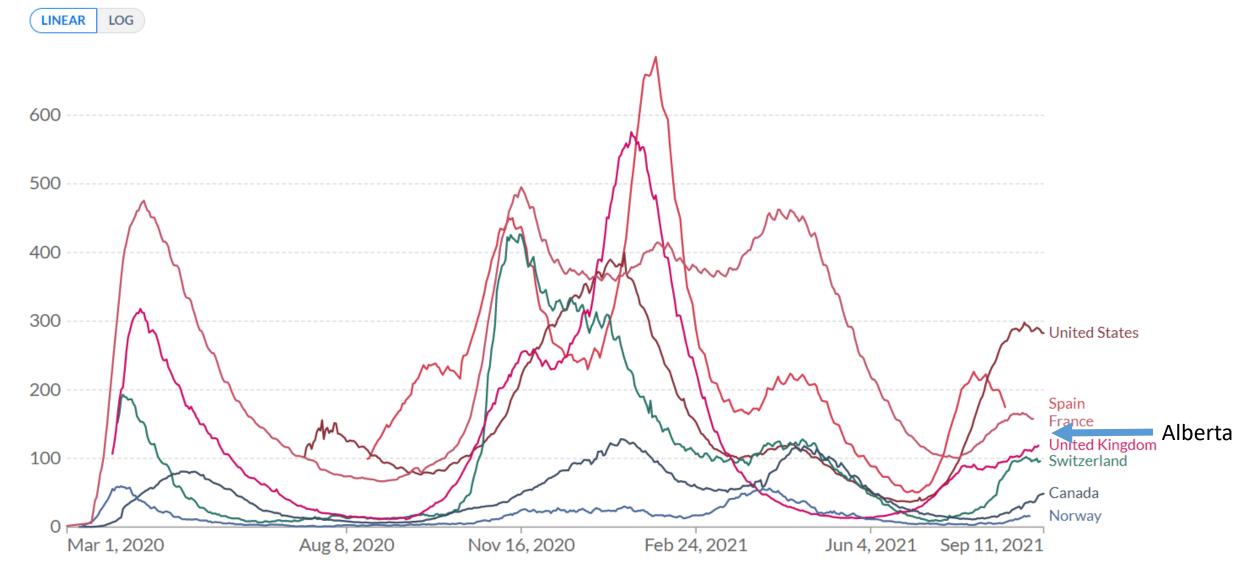


Source: Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data

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Number of COVID-19 patients in hospital per million people

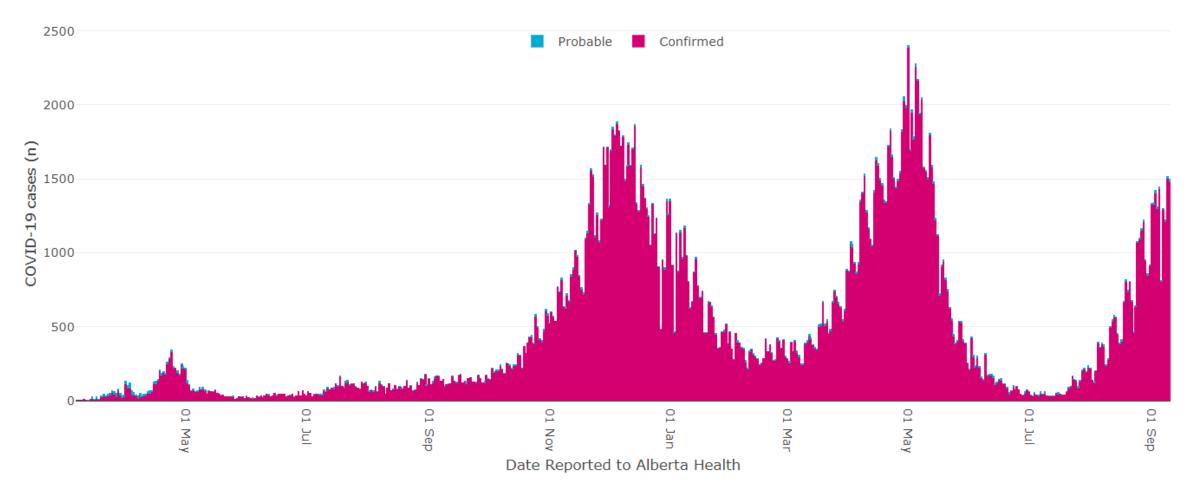




Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data

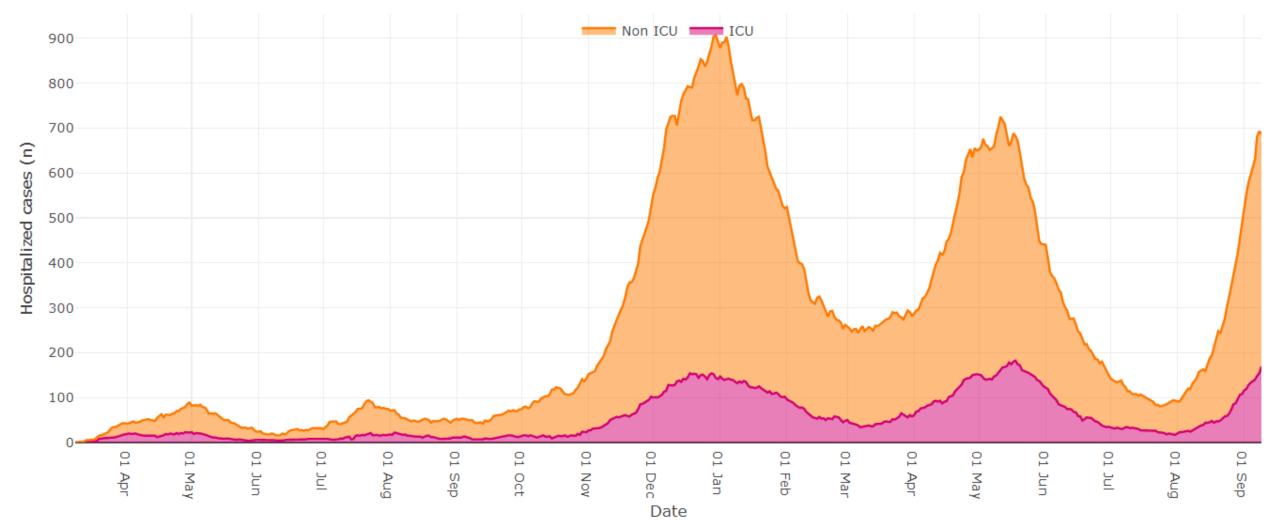
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Alberta New COVID Cases Over Time

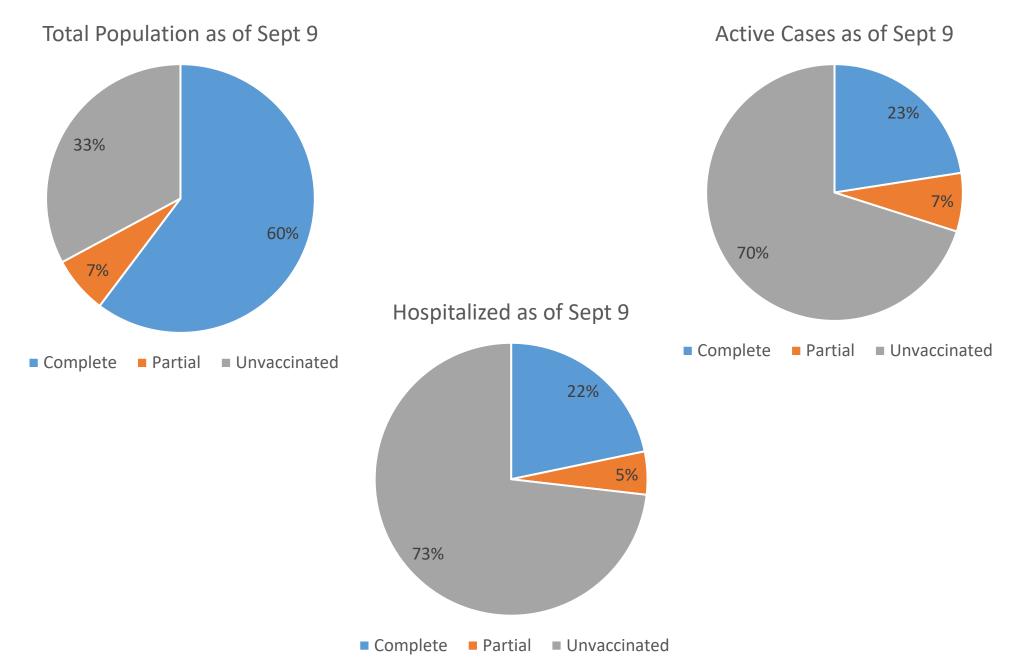


https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#total-cases

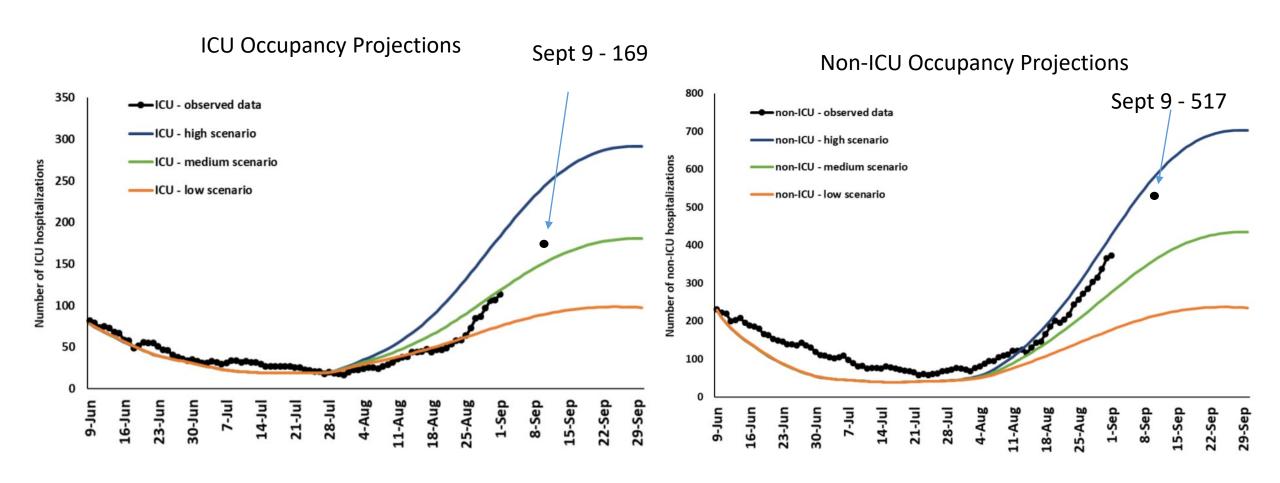
Alberta COVID Hospitalizations Over Time



https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#severe-outcomes



Fall Projections



https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/health-data-modelling-fact-sheet.pdf

COVID Endemic

- Endemic does not mean no interventions but rather a level of combined post-infection and vaccine immune response at which point significant public health measures are no longer needed to protect the health care system from being overwhelmed
- Unvaccinated individuals will continue to be at risk of infection and severe outcomes
- Older individuals and those with immune compromising conditions will still have some risk of severe outcomes, even if fully immunized, and individual risk management will remain important
- Some measures will be required for the foreseeable future, particularly in high risk settings such as continuing care and acute care
- Ongoing surveillance for new variants, waning immunity, need for boosters, etc.
- Ideally, habits such as staying home when sick, regular handwashing, normalizing mask use during respiratory virus seasons, and improved infection control in many settings can help with not just COVID, but other viruses as well, like influenza

Endemic – Primary Care Implications

- Health care workforce managing the pandemic toll
- Infection control in primary care what are the barriers, and how can we address them
- Moving from COVID testing as a public health intervention to clinically driven testing – guidance under development
- Listening to you ongoing feedback loops



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