



# Performance Reporting in the Pandemic Context

On December 9, 2021, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) will update selected indicators in the [Your Health System \(YHS\) web tool](#) and the [Health Indicators e-Publication](#) with the latest data.

This year's release will be the first to report Health System Performance indicator results that reflect a full year of data from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As usual, we will also include performance assessments and trends over time in the YHS tool.

## Our approach to reporting on COVID-19 data

CIHI conducted an assessment to understand the appropriateness of health system performance reporting for 2020–2021 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This involved understanding several factors, including the following:

- Patient volume changes and risk profiles, both before and during the pandemic;
- How indicator results were affected at the facility, regional, provincial, territorial and national levels;
- Performance assessment methodologies, including top results (which identify top performing organizations) and the 3 × 3 matrix (which combines performance assessment in the most recent fiscal year and trends over time);
  - Whether 2020–2021 data aligns with pre-pandemic patterns, and whether changes in top results and the 3 × 3 matrix correspond with pandemic activity;
- The quality of data being submitted to CIHI, such as missing data (results are suppressed when data quality issues are found); and
- Whether data reflected an accurate picture of health system activity.

Performance reporting is key to understanding how well our health systems are working. It is important to know whether health systems can respond to emerging circumstances, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and how care may have changed during those times. This can provide us with information regarding what went well and where there are opportunities for improvement, for responding to the current situation and for planning for future shocks to health systems.





# CIHI's Health System Performance Indicators

We found that CIHI's indicators were robust for reporting results during the pandemic period. Performance reporting continues to be relevant and valuable, and CIHI will continue to report indicator results through its health system performance tools — results will be suppressed only when data quality issues are found. In any case, indicator results should be interpreted in the context of the pandemic — a disclaimer to this effect will be added to these reporting tools.

If you have any questions about 2020–2021 Health System Performance indicator results, please email [hsp@cihi.ca](mailto:hsp@cihi.ca).

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