

2021 Quebec Thaw Season

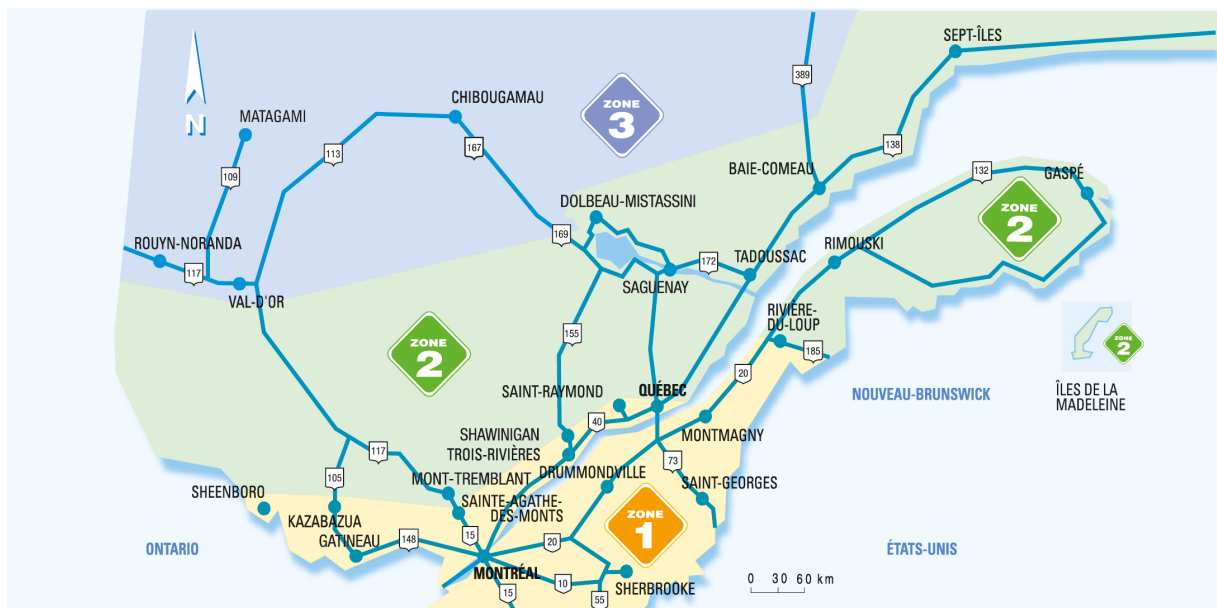
(Dates last revised March 2nd, 2021)

Each spring, the Ministère determines the thaw period dates for the three Thaw Zones across Québec. During this time, heavy vehicles and shippers traveling on the road network must reduce their authorized loads, in accordance with the limits imposed by the Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation.

- **Zone 1** - From Monday, March 8 (00:01) to Friday, May 7 (23:59)
- **Zone 2** - From Monday, March 15 (00:01) to Friday, May 14 (23:59)
- **Zone 3** - From Monday, March 22 (00:01) to Friday, May 21 (23:59)

Depending on changes in weather conditions, the start and end of the load restriction period can be moved ahead or postponed.

Thaw - zones



Detailed map available <https://www.transports.gouv.qc.ca/fr/entreprises-partenaires/ent-camionnage/degel/Documents/degel.pdf>

Zone 1 includes the Québec territory located south of the following demarcation line, hereinafter referred to as the “demarcation line between zones 1 and 2”.




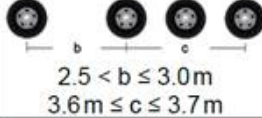
From the intersection point of the centre line of the Ottawa River (Québec-Ontario border).

Zone 2 includes Îles-de-la-Madeleine and the Québec territory contained between the “demarcation line between zones 1 and 2” heretofore described and the following line, hereinafter referred to as the “demarcation line between zones 2 and 3”.

Zone 3 includes the Québec territory located north of the “demarcation line between zones 2 and 3” heretofore described.

Equipment	Regular Allowed Weight	Thawing Period Allowed Weight
2 Axle Ref. Trailer	23 100 kg	18 100 kg (39 902 lbs.)
3 Axle Ref. Trailer	29 500 kg	23 000 kg (50 705 lbs.)






TABLE 1 : Axle Load Limit

Class of axles			Period		Reduction
			Normal	Thaw	
B.10	Single axle		10 000 kg	8 000 kg	20 %
B.21	Tandem	 $d \geq 1.2 \text{ m}$	18 000 kg	15 500 kg	14 %
B.33	Tridem or tridem equivalent	 $3.6 \text{ m} \leq d \leq 3.7 \text{ m}$	26 000 kg ¹	22 000 kg ¹	15 %
B.45	A self-steering axle in front of a tridem ²	 $2.5 < b \leq 3.0 \text{ m}$ $3.6 \text{ m} \leq c \leq 3.7 \text{ m}$	34 000 kg	29 500 kg	13 %

¹ The limit is reduced by 1 000 kg in the case of a tridem equivalent.

² This class of axles must be equipped with a suspension system designed to distribute the mass evenly among all axles, within about 1 000 kg, and without possible adjustment.

TABLE 2 : Total Loaded Mass Limits

Class of vehicles or combinations of vehicles	Period		Reduction
	Normal	Thaw	
	25 250 kg	22 750 kg	10 %
	41 500 kg	36 500 kg	12 %
	49 500 kg	43 000 kg	13 %
	57 500 kg	50 500 kg	12 %
	62 500 kg	57 500 kg	8 %