



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH, CITY OF KETCHIKAN, AND CITY OF SAXMAN

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UPDATES

Date: April 15, 2020; 6:00 p.m.
 From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-6605

For Immediate Release

This brief responds to questions received by the EOC, and provides an update on information from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and its partner agencies.

COVID-19 Case Count Update

There were no new cases of COVID-19 today. The number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Ketchikan remains at fifteen (15). Of these cases, two (2) individuals had a recent history of travel, and twelve (12) individuals were identified as having been in close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19.

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Category					
	Travel-Related	Non-Travel Related	Close Contact to Positive Case	Travel/Contact Under Investigation	Total Cases
Total by category	2	1	12	0	15

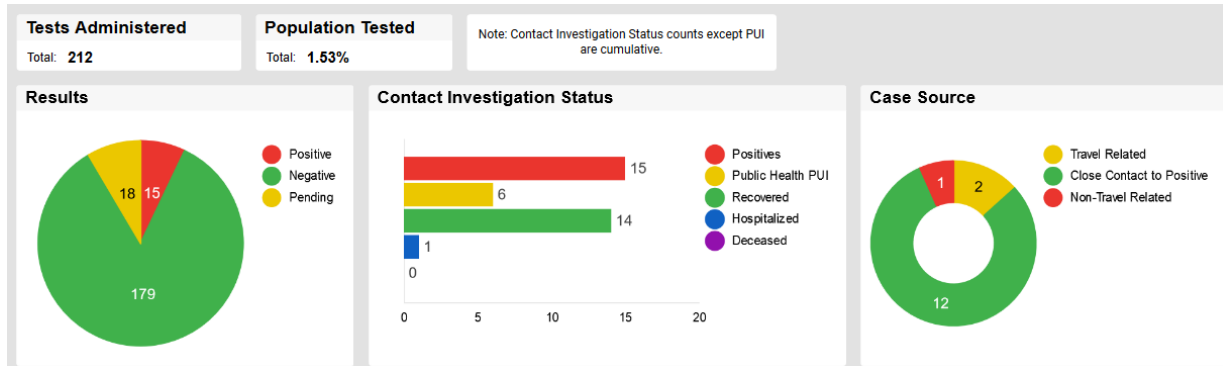
Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Date	
Date	# Cases
3/17/2020	1
3/19/2020	1
3/20/2020	1
3/21/2020	3
3/24/2020	3
3/25/2020	2
3/26/2020	1
3/28/2020	1
4/1/2020	1
4/11/2020	1
Total	15

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Recovery Information
14 of the 15 cases have recovered and are no longer being monitored by Public Health.
Criteria for release from monitoring/isolation:
* At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
* At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

COVID-19 Testing Update

212 tests have been conducted for COVID-19 in Ketchikan, with the following results:

Tests Conducted	Positive Results	Negative Results	Pending Results
212	15	179	18



Ketchikan Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Inventory

The EOC is keeping an inventory of PPE available at the various health clinics, fire departments, and the EOC storage facility. Ketchikan currently has the following equipment available, with additional equipment on order:

Current Inventory	Quantity
N95 Masks (ea)	1581
Surgical Masks (ea)	41049
Masks with Face Shields	1458
Goggles (ea)	101
Exam Gloves (bx 100)	1072
Gowns (ea)	1598
Gowns heavy duty (ea)	3
Gowns Kit, full isolation	4
Hoods	16
PAPR (ea)	33
PAPR Hoods (ea)	115
Hand Sanitizer (4oz bottle)	1860
Hand Sanitizer (8oz bottle)	80
Hand Sanitizer (16oz pump)	24
Alcohol Prep Pads (ea)	44815
Sanitation Wipes (containers)	180

Ketchikan Public Health Reporting of Positive COVID-19 Test Information

We have received questions regarding whether the Ketchikan Public Health providers are sharing confidential information with the EOC regarding individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19. We want to assure the public that this is not the case. Public Health officials do not share confidential information with the EOC staff. Public Health officials provide only information as appropriate through the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

(HIPAA). The data provided to the EOC and shared with the public is at a level which keeps the public appropriately informed while maintaining the confidentiality of the individuals who have been tested positive.

Facebook Live Event with Mayors and Emergency Manager Scheduled for April 17

This Friday, April 17th at 4:00 p.m., our Local Mayors and Emergency Manager Abner Hoage will be hosting a Facebook Live event to address the COVID-19 response in Ketchikan. The speakers will provide an update on the following topics:

- Emergency Homeless Shelter located at the Gateway Recreation Center
- COVID-19 Testing Capacity and Update
- Plan for reopening public places, facilities, and services in response to Governor Dunleavy's updates
- Seasonal Businesses and Fishing Industry Critical Workforce Plans
- Economic Programs and Resources for Businesses and Households

This event will be livestreamed through the City of Ketchikan Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/cityofketchikanalaska/>.

COVID-19 FAQ Webpage

In order to address the ongoing and changing information available, as well as rumors that are developing regarding COVID-19, we have developed a COVID-19 FAQ page. This page provides factual responses to the questions raised and rumors that are identified. Please visit this page at: <https://www.kgbak.us/928/COVID-19-FAQs>

Additional sites for addressing rumors and providing factual responses are provided at:

FDA (Food & Drug Administration) – Coronavirus Disease 2019:

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) – Coronavirus Rumor Control:

<https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control>

CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) – Stop the Spread of Rumors:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/share-facts.html>

U.S. Department of Defense – Coronavirus Rumor Control:

<https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/Rumor-Control/>

WHO (World Health Organization) – Q&A on Coronaviruses:

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

Health Mandate 015 – Services by Health Care Providers

Tonight Governor Dunleavy issued Health Mandate 15, which allows for certain medical procedures to be resumed and provided beginning April 20th and for elective procedures to

begin May 4th; however, the State of Alaska reserves the right to amend the Mandate at any time. This Mandate supersedes Mandate 005 and 006 and affects the health care providers directly addressed in Mandate 009.

The Governor's health mandates are available at: <https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/>

Social Distancing Ongoing

With the extension of Governor Dunleavy's Health Mandates through April 21, 2020, we urge the community to continue to practice safe social distancing. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice or use the Testing Hotline and call 247-TEST (8378).

EOC Information

The Ketchikan EOC Unified Command Objectives for response to the COVID-19 Emergency are:

1. Safeguard the health and safety of personnel and the public
2. Slow/stop the spread of COVID-19
3. Increase COVID-19 testing capacity
4. Care for the sick
5. Provide public information
6. Mitigate community/economic impact

Additional current information is available on the State of Alaska's new collaborative website at www.covid19.alaska.gov. EOC information and the response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Ketchikan is updated daily on the COVID-19 Response page at <https://www.kgbak.us/913/COVID-19-Response>.

#ketchikanstayhealthy #staystrongketchikan #stepsforahealthycommunity
#