



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

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UPDATES

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For Immediate Release

This brief provides an update on information from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and its partner agencies.

COVID-19 Case Count Update

There were no additional cases of COVID-19 reported in Ketchikan today. The total number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Ketchikan remains at sixteen (16). Of these cases, two (2) individuals had a recent history of travel, and thirteen (13) 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	13	0	16

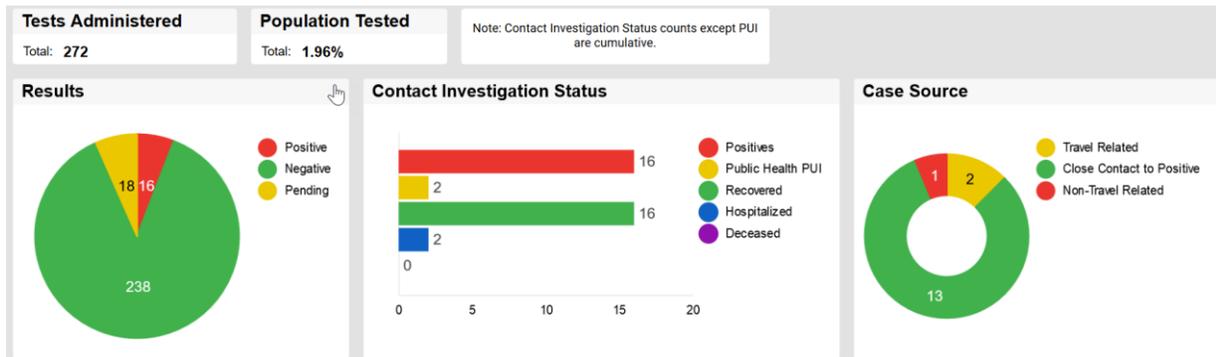
Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Date	
Date	# Cases
3/17/2020	1
3/19/2020	1
3/20/2020	1
3/21/2020	3
3/24/2020	3
3/25/2020	2
3/26/2020	1
3/28/2020	1
4/1/2020	1
4/11/2020	1
4/20/2020	1
Total	16

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Recovery Information
16 of the 16 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

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

Tests Conducted	Positive Results	Negative Results	Pending Results
272	16	238	18



<p>If you experience <u>any</u> symptoms of COVID-19, contact your regular provider or our testing hotline at 247-TEST (8378)</p>	Testing capacity:	
	Current Test kits:	775
	Test kits on order:	15,500
	Test kits expected within 2 weeks:	2,000

Ketchikan Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Inventory

Ketchikan currently has the following PPE equipment available, with additional equipment on order:

Current Inventory	Quantity
N95 Masks (ea)	881
Surgical Masks (ea)	42049
Masks with Face Shields	2008
Goggles (ea)	101
Exam Gloves (bx 100)	959
Gowns (ea)	1718
Gowns heavy duty (ea)	3
Gowns Kit, full isolation	4
Hoods	16
PAPR (ea)	33
PAPR Hoods (ea)	115
Hand Sanitizer (4oz bottle)	1833
Hand Sanitizer (8oz bottle)	80
Hand Sanitizer (16oz pump)	24
Alcohol Prep Pads (ea)	40615
Sanitation Wipes (containers)	446

Testing Expanded to Anyone Experiencing Symptoms



The Alaska Section of Epidemiology released updated guidance for COVID-19 testing today. The guidance emphasizes:

Test Anybody in Alaska Who Is Experiencing Symptoms of COVID-19

- Common symptoms include: fever, cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.
- Additional symptoms include: chills, diminished sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle/joint aches, nausea, rash, rigors, runny nose, sore throat, or sputum production.

We encourage testing of as many people as possible who are experiencing any of the symptoms listed above. If you experience symptoms, contact your regular provider or our testing hotline at 247-TEST (8378)

Governor Announces CARES Act Funding

At last night's press briefing, the Governor announced that he was distributing \$562 million directly to municipalities from CARES Act funding coming to the State. That equates to 45% of the total funding as required by a provision in the Act. The funds are to be distributed according to the existing Community Assistance Program formula. Under that formula, The City of Ketchikan is entitled to \$12,262,060; the City of Saxman is entitled to \$292,109, and Ketchikan Gateway Borough is entitled to \$10,388,334. Ostensibly, the first payments will be sent on May 1, with required monthly reporting on the ways the funds are used starting on June 1. There is some question as to whether the Governor has authority to distribute the funds without appropriation by the Legislature, so the funds may be delayed. In addition, there is no clear guidance at this time from the federal government as to how the funds may be used. It is not yet known if the funds can be used to supplant lost revenue, or must only be used for direct Covid-19 response efforts.

Governor Dunleavy Amends Health Mandates to Reopen Alaska's Economy

During Governor Dunleavy's press conference tonight, he discussed his Five-Phase Plan to open the economy. He provided additional details for Phase One. Commissioner Crum announced changes to the mandates effective Friday, April 24th:

Health Mandate 016 – Opening Alaska's businesses: implements Phase One for opening the economy and addresses prior mandates; businesses must take reasonable care for the health and safety of the public and staff; high risk individuals encouraged to stay home as much as possible.

- Attachment D for Nonessential public businesses – no more than 20 customers; no more than 25% capacity; cleaning; staffing; social distancing and hygiene
- Attachment E for Retail businesses – no more than 20 customers or 25% capacity; face coverings; hygiene; cleaning;
- Attachment F for Restaurants – open in dining area only; limited capacity to 25%; post capacity; outdoor seating encouraged; household members only; tables 10 feet apart; reservations required; cleaning and hygiene protocols;
- Attachment G for Personal Care Services – hair salons, day spas, barbers; etc; social distancing; reservations; limiting capacity; hygiene; posting notices;

- Attachment H for nonpublic nonessential offices – cleaning; social distancing protocols.

The following mandate changes were announced April 21st:

- Fishing charters can resume for single household unit or up to 25% capacity of mixed units.
- Gyms can resume for outdoor activities of groups less than 20 with social distancing.
- **Health Mandate 010** - International and interstate travel requires 14-day self-quarantine -(supersedes local regs); Violation punishable by fine and jail; business plans required. *Extended through May 19, 2020;*
- **Health Mandate 011** – Social Distancing - Groups of less than 20 people with social distancing; can include religious services, weddings, etc; *Extended until further notice.*
- **Health Mandate 012** – Intrastate Travel - Personal travel prohibited unless critical personal need/support of critical infrastructure; Business plans required outlining travel precautions; *Extended until further notice.*

We encourage business owners to read the full texts of the revised mandates and ensure that your business can fully comply with the mandates prior to opening. The State of Alaska Health Mandates are available at: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-mandates/>
Individuals, travelers, and business owners can submit questions to covidquestions@alaska.gov.

2020 Alaska Elections

There will be three elections in Ketchikan this year:

- State Primary Election August 18, 2020
- Local Municipal Election October 6, 2020
- State General/Federal Presidential Election November 3, 2020

Alaska municipal clerks recently held a teleconference with Division of Elections Director Gail Fenumiai to discuss the format for this year's elections. The State has not yet decided whether it will have a precinct election for the August Primary, or go to a statewide by-mail election. The Division is looking into the options and will notify municipalities of the decision by May 1, 2020.

Facebook Live Q&A Event on Friday, April 24th

We anticipate that the community will have many questions this week about the plan to open up the economy. We have scheduled a Facebook Live Q&A event on the City of Ketchikan Facebook Page with Emergency Manager Chief Hoage, Ketchikan Ports and Harbors Director Steve Corporon, and Ketchikan Gateway Borough's Director of Planning and Community Development Richard Harney.

Please submit your questions to boroclerk@kgbak.us by Thursday, April 23 at noon. The questions will be compiled and incorporated into the Q&A session.

Ongoing Social Distancing

Ketchikan's social distancing efforts are working and we are seeing the positive results with the lack of positive COVID-19 cases this week. We urge the community to continue to practice safe social distancing and to:

- Stay home if you are sick.

- Wear cloth masks in public.
- Stay at least six feet away from others in public settings.
- Wash your hands.
- Don't touch your face.

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
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