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

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: EOC COVID-19 UPDATES

Date: June 12, 2020
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
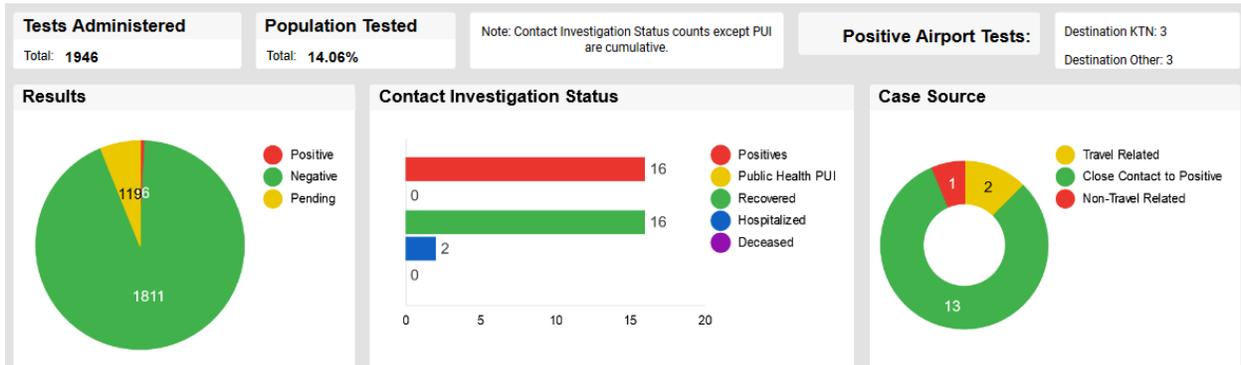Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-6605

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

Ketchikan Clinic and Drive-Up Clinic Positive Test Case Count					
	Travel-Related	Non-Travel Related	Close Contact to Positive Case	Contact Under Investigation	Total Cases
Total by category	2	1	13	0	16

Ketchikan Traveler Testing Site Positive Test Case Count			
	Destination Ketchikan / Staying Local	Destination Other / Not Staying Local	TOTAL
Total by category	3	3	6

COVID-19 Tests Administered				
	Health Clinics	Drive-Up Testing	Traveler Testing	TOTAL
Total by category	1165	483	298	1946

If you experience <u>any</u> symptoms of COVID-19, contact your regular provider or our testing hotline at 247-TEST (8378)	Testing capacity:	
	Current Test kits:	3,599
	Test kits on order:	10,000

Traveler Testing Site Updates
In response to the updates to Alaska Health Mandate 10, the EOC has set up a COVID-19 testing site at the airport parking lot on the Ketchikan side to be able to test passengers arriving from out of state. The testing will be provided to travelers entering Alaska, whether by plane or boat. Alaska Health Mandate 10.1 requires all travelers arriving from out of state to either self-quarantine for 14 days, or obtain a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours of departure to Alaska, or to obtain a test upon arrival.

The traveler testing at the Ketchikan side of the airport ferry parking lot is scheduled to be available to receive the travelers arriving from the northbound flights from Seattle. Travelers arriving on other commercial or private aircraft or vessels who already have negative test results or choosing to self-quarantine for 14-days should submit required documentation electronically to traveler@alaska.gov or fax them to 907-269-7952. Those in need of testing should go to the airport testing site with required paperwork during operating hours.

The traveler testing site is open at the following times:
- 7:00 to 9:30 a.m.
- 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.
- 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

All arriving passengers must complete the travel declaration form. The declaration form, Health Mandate 10.1, and additional information for travelers is available at:
https://covid19.alaska.gov/travelers/

No testing requirement for intrastate travelers: At this time there is not a requirement for COVID-19 testing or quarantine for intrastate travelers, or those who are traveling between one community in Alaska and another. Travelers arriving into Ketchikan from another Alaska community may seek testing at our Free Drive-Up Testing Clinic each Wednesday and Thursday on Berth 3 from 11 am to 1 pm.

Follow-up test vouchers: The State of Alaska is paying for initial traveler testing and the 7-14 day follow-up test at the airport testing site at the times listed above. If a traveler prefers to go to their health provider for an initial or follow-up test, they should contact their provider to see if the voucher will be accepted and if there will be a charge.

Travelers, or anyone experiencing symptoms, prior to the 7 day timeline, can call the Testing Hotline at 247-TEST (8378) with questions about a follow-up test.

Weekly Free Drive-Up Clinic Scheduled for Each Wednesday and Thursday
In addition to the daily testing site at the airport for arriving passengers, the EOC will continue to provide a weekly drive-up testing clinic. We had another good turnout for this week's drive-up testing clinic, with 93 individuals participating on June 10 and 11. Each person tested will receive

notification from a health care provider with the test results—either positive or negative—as soon as the results are received.

The free drive-up clinic will be provided each Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Berth 3. The weekly drive-up testing clinic will be offered to anyone with symptoms of COVID-19, and is also open to certain asymptomatic individuals, including: those who have health conditions; are age 65 or older; health care workers or care providers; first responders; or those who have recently traveled. Pre-test screening will occur on site, or people can be screened in advance by calling **247-TEST**.

To participate in the testing:
- Wear a mask or face covering
- Adults will need to have a current photo i.d.
- One household per vehicle
- Screening and testing is performed in the safety of your own vehicle

Cars will turn onto the Berth at the traffic signal at the Dock and Front Street intersection, then proceed north toward the Berth 3 pavilion. Signs will mark the location. Follow the orange cones provided that will direct traffic flow to the test table. You will not have to get out of your car. The test will be conducted by local health providers who are following health and safety protocol.

Wastewater Testing Update
This week we received the third week of results from the wastewater testing operation. The latest data was compiled from a sample collected the week of May 21st and showed that there was no detection of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the wastewater as of that date. The wastewater testing has been done through the City of Ketchikan Wastewater Treatment Facility Covid-19 to detect whether there is a presence of COVID-19 in Ketchikan. The testing is conducted each week by collecting a 24-hour composite sample. COVID-19 can be detected in wastewater before someone becomes symptomatic, if they become symptomatic at all. The data has been shared with the State Department of Conservation (DEC) for statewide consideration.

Hand Sanitizer Refill Stations are Ongoing
Our hand sanitizer refill stations continue to be available to the public at the following locations:
- Ketchikan City Hall
- Ketchikan Ports and Harbors building
- Ketchikan Police Department
- KPU Customer Service in the Plaza
- KGB White Cliff Building
- Gateway Recreation Center
- Saxman IRA Building; 2706 South Tongass Hwy
- North Tongass Fire Department Station 8 (Mile 13 North Tongass Hwy)

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

#ketchikanstayhealthy #staystrongketchikan #stepsforahealthycommunity
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