



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

### MEDIA RELEASE: NINE NEW POSITIVE CASES

Date: October 31, 2020  
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)  
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#### For Immediate Release

There were nine new cases of Covid-19 identified in Ketchikan today. These were individuals who were part of a targeted testing due to a result of close contact with other recent positives. These are believed to be part of a single cluster and due to close contact with a previous positive case(s), so the community risk level has not been raised. But as public health completes their contact investigations this could change.

These individuals have been notified of the positive test results, have been directed to isolate, and are being monitored by healthcare providers. Public Health has begun the contact investigations and will be in touch with anyone who may have been in close contact with these individuals. The Ketchikan EOC is working with Cape Fox (see attached press release) to respond to the situation, appreciates their efforts and quick actions to protect their staff and the Ketchikan community.

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop any symptoms, no matter how minor—such as a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, headache, or body ache—call your healthcare provider for medical advice or use the Testing Hotline and call 247-TEST (8378). [Free Covid-19 Testing](#) is available at the Berth 3 Drive Up facility during the hours of 9:30-11:30 am and 2:30-4:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday

Today's case brings the cumulative Covid-19 case count, including travelers, to 105. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is 93. Of the 93 cases, 21 are still active, and 72 have recovered. Despite these new cases the community risk level remains at "Level 2 - Moderate".

#### Ketchikan's Community Risk Level-2 - Moderate

<b>Level 2 - Moderate</b>	Moderate: Can travel outside home with safety measures Schools: Staff 100%, Students 100% with safety measures*** Indoor mid-size gatherings <50 with safety measures** Outdoor mid-size gatherings <100 with safety measures** Businesses limited openings with safety measures** Healthcare services with safety measures (e.g. elective procedures)** No non-essential visits to congregate facilities (e.g. nursing homes) Recreation with safety measures**
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#### What will cause Ketchikan's Risk Level to Increase?

With the recent surge in new cases many people have been asking if the community risk level will be increased? There are many factors that could result in an increase to the risk level, but new cases alone especially those that are due to close contact with a known positive may not necessarily result in an increased risk level. In fact new cases in identified in close contacts especially those that are being tested because they were identified as possible close contacts is a good thing, it means that tracing and testing systems are working and that we are containing the spread. The list below summarizes indicators that would result in an increase to the risk level, you can get additional details at: <https://bit.ly/ktn-covid19-risk>

- Number of Cases which are considered Community Spread (not travel related, not related to a new positive): 3-6 cases = Moderate, 7-8 cases = High, etc.
- Percent of testing in a week that result in a positive outcome: at 1% risk is Moderate, at 2% it goes to High.
- Number of medical workers who test positive

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- Number of individuals in congregate living facilities (pioneer home, jail, youth center) who test positive
- Number of Travel related cases in a 7 day period: 5-7 cases = Moderate, 8-10 = High

**How can I protect myself and others?**

- Keep your social bubble small and avoid large (especially indoor) gatherings
- Wear a mask in public
- Wash your hands often (use hand sanitizer if soap and water is not available)
- Stay Home if you are sick

Current information on the response to COVID-19 in Ketchikan, including additional data regarding Ketchikan's community risk, is provided at [www.kgbak.us/covid19](http://www.kgbak.us/covid19). Information on COVID-19 is available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at [www.covid19.alaska.gov](http://www.covid19.alaska.gov).

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