



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

MEDIA RELEASE: ONE NEW POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE

Date: November 30, 2020; 5:00 p.m.
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-2464

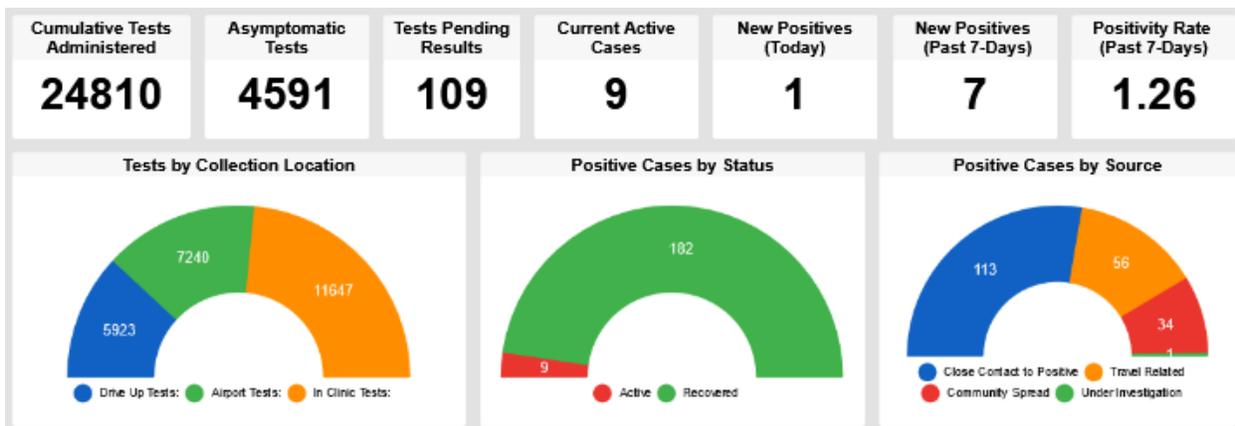
For Immediate Release

One new case of COVID-19 was reported in Ketchikan today. This individual sought testing at a local clinic due to experiencing symptoms. This person has been notified of the positive result and has been instructed to isolate. The source of the contact of the virus is under investigation.

Public Health has begun the contact investigation for this case and will coordinate with the positive individual to reach out to anyone identified as close contacts and advise those close contacts to quarantine for 14 days. Close contacts should receive a phone call either from Public Health or from the individual who tested positive. Anyone with questions or concerns whether you are a close contact to a known positive case is welcome to call Public Health at 225-4350.

Hospitalization Update: We received no reports of any individuals hospitalized today in the PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center (PKMC) Covid-19 unit.

This case brings the total cumulative Covid-19 case count, including travelers, to 204. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is **191**. Of the 191 cases, **9** are still active, and **182** have recovered.



As announced in our 12:00 p.m. media release, the EOC has lowered the Community Risk Level to Level 2 – Moderate.

Level 2 - Moderate	<p>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**</p>
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Under Level 2: Moderate, the following health and safety precautions are recommended:

- Public Health Social Measures: Strongly recommend masks and six (6) feet social distancing in communal settings and public locations with 20 or more people;
- Businesses and Offices: Strongly recommend reduced capacity to ensure physical distancing including staggered schedules or teleworking, etc.
- Bars, Restaurants, Personal Services, Gyms: Strongly recommend reduced capacity to ensure physical distancing; recommend reservations; encourage delivery or curbside pickup; personal services by appointment; no waiting areas; limit inside capacity to 50%.
- Travelers: Follow Alaska Health Orders 6 and 8; quarantine until receive results of negative test; follow strict social distancing for minimum of five days after arrival.

Please refer to the dashboard at www.kgbak.us/covid19 for the most current information on Drive-Up Testing results.

Drive-Up Test Result Update: Due to the volume of testing at Berth 3 only positive results will be notified by direct phone call. The Berth 3 Drive-Up results are complete through November 24th. **If you tested on or before November 24th and have not been contacted, your result was negative.** Please refer to the dashboard at www.kgbak.us/covid19 for the most current information on Drive-Up Testing results. If you require a copy of your test result. Please send an email to info@creeksidehealth.com and include your full name, date of

birth, date of test, and location of test, and your results will be emailed to you as soon as possible.

Borough Facilities Update:

- **Borough Public Meetings** scheduled in the month of December will be held via videoconference in accordance with the Governor's current request to limit gathering sizes. Citizens may contact the Clerk's office for information on meeting participation and public comment.
- **White Cliff** will reopen to the public on Tuesday, December 1st. Masks will continue to be required.
- **Parks and Recreation** reopened at the Moderate risk level on November 30th. The department will be extending passes to account for the facility closure.
- **Transit:** Transit will start collecting fares on Tuesday, December 1st. The department will honor November passes in December.
- **Pat Wise Animal Protection Shelter** will reopen to the public on Tuesday, December 1st. Visitors and volunteers will be welcomed to walk dogs and socialize cats. Groups will be limited to no more than three individuals. Adoptions, impounds, surrenders and return to owners will be scheduled by appointment in an effort to limit the number of patrons at any given time. Officers will be required to wear masks and nitrile gloves on calls for service.

Borough and City Facilities Opening Updates

City of Ketchikan Facilities Update:

- **City Council meetings** (both regular and special) through the end of the year will be held virtually via Webex. The public may contact the Clerk's office for information on the public comment process and may view meetings livestreamed on our website and Facebook at the designated meeting dates/times.
- **Effective December 1st, all City facilities will reopen to the public** according to their open hours, with the following exceptions:

- **Ketchikan Public Library** will reopen on Wednesday, December 2.
- **KPU Customer Service in the Plaza** will reopen Wednesday, December 2.
- The public is strongly encouraged to wear face coverings; complimentary masks will be provided upon request.

City of Saxman Facilities Update:

- City Hall lobby will open Monday – Friday 0800-1600 starting December 7. Until then the office is staffed and assisting customers by phone.



Thanks Ketchikan,
your sacrifice has
not gone without
notice. Please
remain diligent so
we can stay at
Level 2.

In order to remain at Level 2 and not increase to Level 3, Ketchikan residents need to be diligent in following all of the recommendations for health and safety precautions. As we learned in October, one positive case can easily lead to a cluster of cases with far-reaching effects. We encourage Ketchikan residents, visitors, businesses, and organizations to follow these recommendations for the health and safety of our community. If we work together to protect ourselves and others, we can reduce the spread and see the risk level lowered.

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.

The Alaska Health Orders are available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at www.covid19.alaska.gov.

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