



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

MEDIA RELEASE: FIVE POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES

Date: December 7, 2020
 From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 228-2464

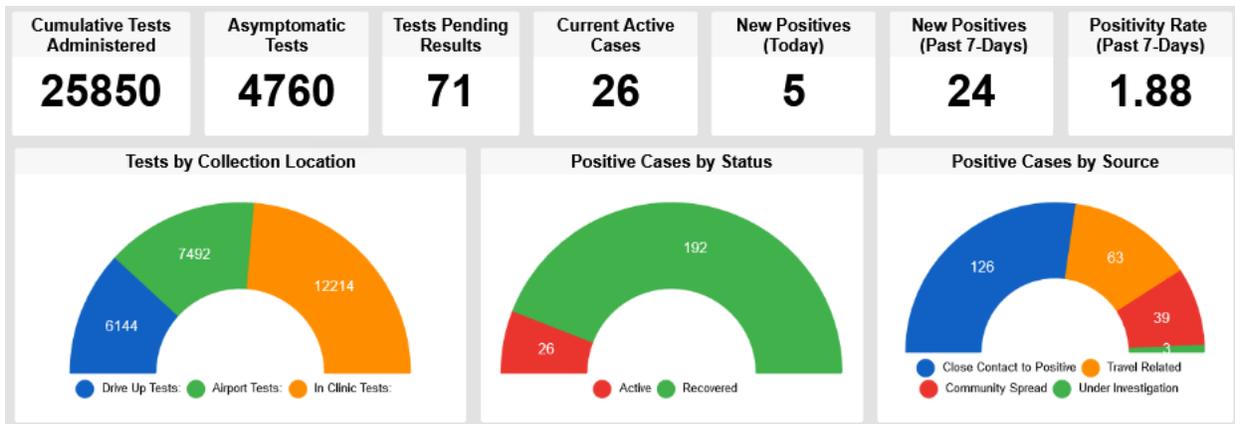
For Immediate Release

Five new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Ketchikan today. All five individuals have been notified of the positive results and have been instructed to isolate.

- One individual recently traveled into Ketchikan on November 25th with a negative test, and sought a follow-up test at the Drive-Up Clinic on December 5th with a positive result.
- One individual sought testing at a local clinic as part of their employer’s required mitigation program. This individual has a history of recent travel and is currently asymptomatic.
- One individual sought testing at a local clinic on December 5th due to experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. The source of how this individual contacted the virus is under investigation.
- Two individuals sought testing at local clinics today due to experiencing symptoms and are members of the same household. The source of how the virus was contacted is under investigation.

The contact investigation for all five cases is ongoing. Public Health is working with these individuals to notify anyone identified as close contacts and advise those close contacts to quarantine. Close contacts should receive a phone call either from Public Health or from the individual who tested positive. Anyone with questions whether you are a close contact to a known positive case is welcome to call Public Health at 225-4350.

Today’s cases bring the total cumulative Covid-19 case count, including travelers, to 231. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is **218**. Of the 218 cases, **26** are still active, and **192** have recovered.



It is imperative for travelers to follow the quarantine and testing requirements in the Alaska Health Orders 6 and 8. We strongly recommend that travelers go above these requirements and follow the recommended best practices for travelers, to ensure community health.

- ✈ **Alaska Travel Requirements:** Quarantine until a negative test result is received and following strict social distancing for a minimum of five days after arrival.
- ✈ **Best Practices for Community Health:** Quarantine for 10-14 days after arrival, and receive a second negative test 7-14 days after arrival.

Airport Traveler Test Result Update: As of November 27, **NEGATIVE** results are uploaded into the Alaska Traveler Portal with an automated email to the traveler (not a phone call). Travelers with **POSITIVE** results will receive a phone call notifying them of the results.

Drive-Up Test Result Update: Please refer to the dashboard at www.kgbak.us/covid19 for the most current information on Drive-Up Testing results. Only positive results will receive a phone call. The Berth 3 Drive-Up results are complete through **December 5th**. If you tested on or before December 5th and have not been contacted, your result was **NEGATIVE**.

The Community Risk Level is at Level 2 – Moderate.

Level 2 - Moderate	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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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.

Current information on the response to COVID-19 in Ketchikan is provided at www.kgbak.us/covid19. The Alaska Health Orders are available at www.covid19.alaska.gov.