



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

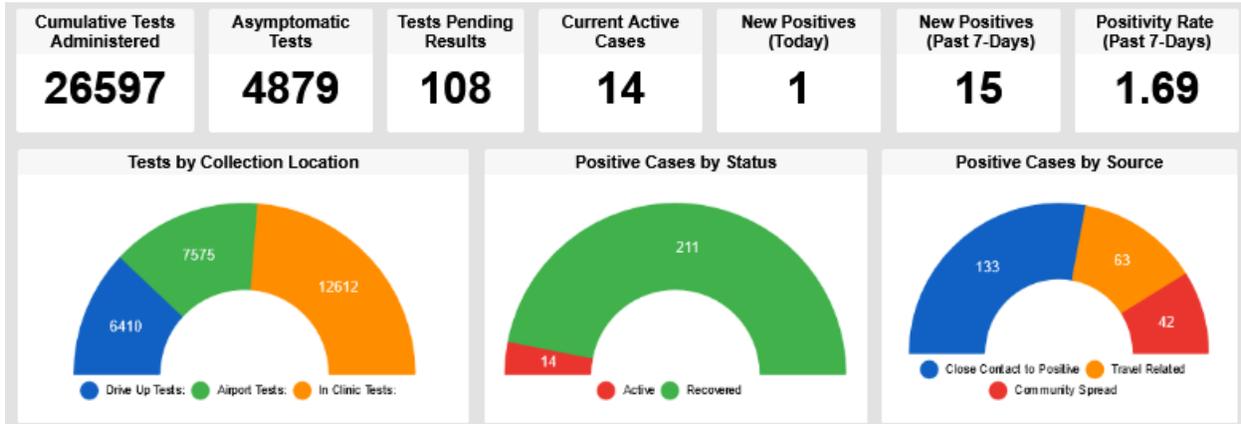
MEDIA RELEASE: ONE NEW COVID-19 CASE

Date: December 11, 2020
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 today through a local health care provider. This individual sought testing due to experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and was determined to be a close contact to a known positive case. This person has been notified of the positive result and the contact investigation is complete.

Today's cases brings the total cumulative Covid-19 case count, including travelers, to 238. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is **225**. Of the 225 cases, **14** are still active, and **211** have recovered.



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 10th**. If you tested on or before December 10th and have not been contacted, your result was **NEGATIVE**.

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.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Information

We have received many questions regarding the distribution of the COVID-19 Vaccine. While the State of Alaska has not yet released the numbers of the vaccine that will be distributed to Ketchikan, we do know that Ketchikan will receive the vaccine in the first phase of distribution.

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That first phase, known as Phase 1A, will provide the vaccine for the following groups: hospital-based front line healthcare workers at highest risk for COVID-19 infection; staff and residents of long-term care facilities; EMS and fire personnel; and individuals who perform vaccinations.

The EOC is involved in a local working group that includes members of Public Health, local medical clinics, and pharmacies. The working group is developing point of dispensing plans for distribution of the vaccine in Phase 1A.

The first issuance of the vaccine will be under an Emergency Use Authorization, which means that the vaccine will not be mandatory, but will be 100% optional. The EOC is currently working with organizations that qualify under phase 1A to determine the number of qualifying individuals that will opt to take the vaccine during this phase.

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services has created a webpage to provide vaccine information to Alaskans. For more information on the COVID-19 vaccine in Alaska, please visit: <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/epi/id/pages/COVID-19/vaccine.aspx>

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.