



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

**EOC COVID-19 UPDATE: 13 New Cases | Support for CDC Updated Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated Individuals**

Date: May 18, 2021  
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)  
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**For Immediate Release**

There are 13 new cases of COVID-19 reported in Ketchikan today. Two were determined to be close contacts to known positive cases, one was determined to be community spread, and ten of the cases remain under investigation. Of the pending cases from May 17<sup>th</sup>, three were determined to be close contacts and four were determined to be community spread.

Public Health and School District Nursing Staff will work with the positive cases to identify close contacts, and will reach out to anyone identified as a close contact and instruct them to quarantine and seek testing as appropriate.

**Hospitalization Update:** There are currently two individuals admitted in the COVID-19 unit at PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center.

The total cumulative case count, including travelers, is 614. The number of positive cases of individuals residing or staying in Ketchikan is 593. Of the 593 cases, there are **85** active, **2** deceased, and **506** recovered.

**The Community Risk Level is Level 4 – Very High**

<b>Level 4 - Very High</b>	Extreme: Stop non-essential travel outside home (unless vaccinated) Schools: Reference KGBSD Plans/Policies*** No gatherings >20 people Essential services only Modified healthcare services No non-essential visits to congregate facilities (e.g. nursing homes) Recreation locally with safety measures** (e.g. walking)
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**Ketchikan EOC Supports CDC Updated Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated Individuals**

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, the CDC updated its recommendations for Fully Vaccinated Individuals to include:

- Fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.
- Fully vaccinated people can refrain from testing following a known exposure unless they are residents or employees of a correctional or detention facility or a homeless shelter.

The Ketchikan EOC has reviewed the CDC Recommendations, and supports them as science-based guidance for the Community of Ketchikan to follow.

The Ketchikan EOC has reviewed the CDC Updated Recommendations and the Guiding Principles, and supports them as science-based guidance for the Community of Ketchikan to follow.

It is important to note that these are recommendations for people to use to make the right choices for themselves. The EOC makes recommendations to the community based on the level of community risk, and it is the responsibility of each individual or organization to make an appropriate decision for yourself or your organization.

**We urge individuals to consider the risks associated with an event or gathering before getting involved.**

- ✓ Choose safer activities, such as outdoor activities,
- ✓ Make good decisions based on lower risk alternatives, and
- ✓ Stay informed to understand the risks.

**Understanding and Kindness will Help Our Community Get Through This**

There are many reasons people may choose to wear (or not wear) masks in public. Some may choose to wear masks even though they are fully vaccinated. Some may choose not to wear masks because of a health condition. Please remember that COVID-19 has affected every individual in one way or another, and exercise kindness and understanding when responding to others. Each individual needs to make a risk-based decision on what is best for them.

**Fully vaccinated people should continue to follow any applicable federal, state, local, tribal, or business/organizational laws, rules, and regulations.**

**CDC Recommendations for Fully vaccinated people (non healthcare settings):**

- Resume activities without wearing masks or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance
- Resume domestic travel and refrain from testing before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel
- Refrain from testing before leaving the United States for international travel (unless required by the destination) and refrain from self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States
- Refrain from testing following a known exposure, if asymptomatic, with some exceptions for specific settings
- Refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if asymptomatic
- Refrain from routine screening testing if feasible

**For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:**

- Get tested if experiencing [COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations

\*See the "Choosing Safer Activities" graphic on Page 3 of this release. The full detail and graphics for the CDC Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated Individuals are available at the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

For vaccine information or to see a list of local providers go to: [www.kgbak.us/covidvax](http://www.kgbak.us/covidvax). Current information on the response to COVID-19 in Ketchikan, including additional case data, local vaccination data, Ketchikan's community risk, Berth 3 drive-up testing, and airport traveler testing, is provided at [www.kgbak.us/covid19](http://www.kgbak.us/covid19).

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# Choosing Safer Activities

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

	Unvaccinated People	Examples of Activities	Fully Vaccinated People
		<b>Outdoor</b>	
Safest		Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
		<b>Indoor</b>	
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Least Safe		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor chorus	
		Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
		Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

## Get a COVID-19 vaccine



**Prevention measures not needed**

**Take prevention measures**  
Wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

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