



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

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | EOC UPDATES

Date: May 8, 2020
 From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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For Immediate Release

This brief provides an update on information from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and its partner agencies.

COVID-19 Case Count Update

There were no additional cases of COVID-19 reported in Ketchikan today. The total number of positive cases of COVID-19 in Ketchikan remains at sixteen (16). Of these cases, two (2) individuals had a recent history of travel, and thirteen (13) individuals were identified as having been in close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19.

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Category					
	Travel-Related	Non-Travel Related	Close Contact to Positive Case	Travel/Contact Under Investigation	Total Cases
Total by category	2	1	13	0	16

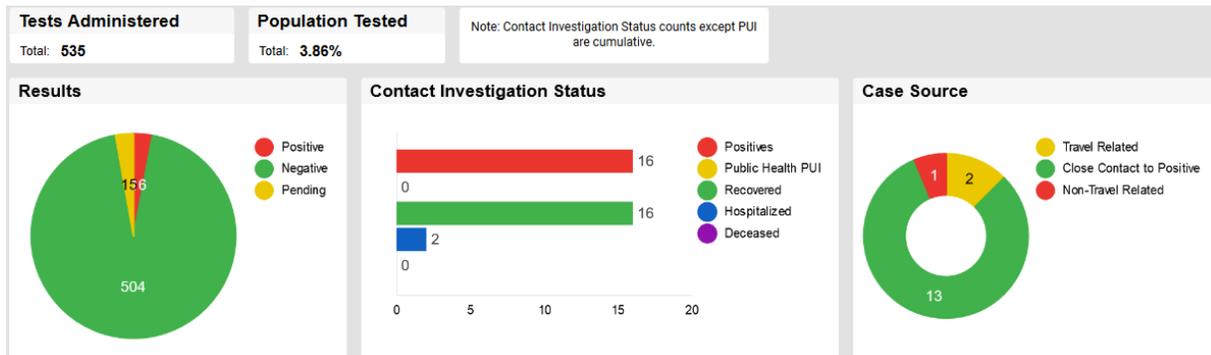
Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Count by Date	
Date	# Cases
3/17/2020	1
3/19/2020	1
3/20/2020	1
3/21/2020	3
3/24/2020	3
3/25/2020	2
3/26/2020	1
3/28/2020	1
4/1/2020	1
4/11/2020	1
4/20/2020	1
Total	16

Ketchikan COVID-19 Case Recovery Information
16 of the 16 cases have recovered and are no longer being monitored by Public Health.
Criteria for release from monitoring/isolation:
* At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
* At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

COVID-19 Testing Update

535 tests have been conducted for COVID-19 in Ketchikan, with the following results:

Tests Conducted	Positive Results	Negative Results	Pending Results
535	16	504	15



<p>If you experience <u>any</u> symptoms of COVID-19, contact your regular provider or our testing hotline at 247-TEST (8378)</p>	Testing capacity:	
	Current Test kits:	1,613
	Test kits on order:	10,000

Ketchikan Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Inventory

Ketchikan currently has the following PPE equipment available, with additional equipment on order:

Current Inventory	Quantity
N95 Masks (ea)	1181
Surgical Masks (ea)	42949
Masks with Face Shields	2077
Goggles (ea)	115
Exam Gloves (bx 100)	912
Gowns (ea)	1256
Gowns heavy duty (ea)	3
Gowns Kit, full isolation	4
Hoods	16
PAPR (ea)	33
PAPR Hoods (ea)	115
Hand Sanitizer (4oz bottle)	1757
Hand Sanitizer (8oz bottle)	80
Hand Sanitizer (16oz pump)	24
Hand Sanitizer pump bottle	28
Alcohol Prep Pads (ea)	34415
Sanitation Wipes (containers)	483
Cloth face masks	20

Drive-Up Testing Clinic

As provided in our earlier press release, the Ketchikan EOC, along with Creekside Family Health and Public Health, is hosting a free drive-up COVID-19 testing clinic on May 12, 13, and 14. The clinic will be offered from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Berth 3.

This free testing clinic is offered to anyone who has any COVID-19 symptoms, no matter how minor. We encourage anyone with any of these symptoms to seek testing:

- Cough, chills, difficulty breathing, diminished sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, fatigue, fever, headache, muscle/joint aches, nausea/vomiting, rash, runny nose, or sore throat.

Pre-test screening will occur on site, or people can be screened in advance by calling **247-TEST**.

To participate in the testing:

- Wear a mask or face covering
- Adults will need to have a current photo i.d.
- One household per vehicle
- Screening and testing is performed in the safety of your own vehicle

Cars will turn onto the Berth at the traffic signal at the Dock and Front Street intersection, then proceed north toward the Berth 3 pavilion. Follow the cones provided that will direct traffic flow. You will not have to get out of your car. The test will be conducted by local health providers who are following health and safety protocol. Samples collected are expected to have results received in approximately 72 hours.

Hand Sanitizer Refill Stations

The EOC, with assistance from the City of Ketchikan Public Works Department, has procured and developed a quantity of hand sanitizer that is available for the public. The hand sanitizer solution is a "no-frills" formula. It is not a thick gel, and it is not fragranced, but it is highly effective for killing germs. Gallon-sized refill containers have been set up at the following locations:

- Ketchikan Police Department
- KPU Customer Service in the Plaza
- Saxman Community Center
- North Tongass Fire Department Station 8 (Mile 13 North Tongass Hwy)

As additional facilities become open to the public, additional refill stations will be established.

Borough and City Facility Updates

City and Borough staff are closely following the Governor's mandates and applying protocol for social distancing and safety precautions prior to opening facilities. Staff is working on obtaining necessary supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE), including face masks, in order to be able to open to the public. Many services continue to be offered via telephone, internet, and mail. For services that cannot be provided through telephone, internet, or mail, plans are being implemented for providing those services through a phased-in public opening following the current safety guidelines.

Ketchikan City Hall and the Borough White Cliff Building are currently physically closed to the public with services being provided via phone, internet, and mail. Once PPEs have been obtained and social distancing protocols established, the buildings will be opened to the public.

The Borough Transit Program is working on revising protocols in response to the Phase 2 guidelines. Once the revisions have been established, the bus ridership capacity may be able to be increased.

The Gateway Recreation Center has been working to establish protocols following the Phase 2 guidance. The center is expected to open with limited services beginning Wednesday May 13th. The track, cardio room, and weight rooms will be open with strict adherence to social distancing and personal hygiene guidelines. The Recreation Department will provide specific instruction on that opening.

The Gateway Aquatic Center will also be open on May 13th following Phase 2 guidance. The pools will be open for lap swims and fitness swims only. More information will be announced through the Recreation Department.

Playgrounds within the Borough have been opened effective 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2020. The following playgrounds are now open:

- All school playgrounds including Houghtaling Elementary, Valley Park, Point Higgins Elementary, and Fawn Mountain Elementary.
- Public playgrounds including Grant Street Park, Monroe Street Tot Lot, Triangle Park, Raven Street Park, and the Rotary Beach playground.
- Skate Park located on Schoenbar Avenue.

Families are reminded to follow social distancing guidelines by staying six feet apart from non-household members, wear cloth face coverings, and take individual responsibility for proper self hygiene including frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.

Borough fields are open to use by families with strict adherence to current social distancing guidelines. Families are reminded to follow social distancing guidelines by staying six feet apart from non-household members, wear cloth face coverings, and take individual responsibility for proper self hygiene including frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer. Borough staff is awaiting further guidance from the State regarding use of fields by sports teams. That guidance is expected this weekend.

Take it Slow and Practice Social Distancing

As businesses and service providers start to open up, remember to take things slow. In order to continue to flatten the curve and slow the spread of COVID-19, it is important that we all take measured steps in changing our routines. We urge the community to take it slow and continue to practice safe social distancing. Please remember to:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Wear cloth masks in public.
- Stay at least six feet away from others in public settings.

- Wash your hands.
- Don't touch your face.

EOC Information

The Ketchikan EOC Unified Command Objectives for response to the COVID-19 Emergency are:

1. Safeguard the health and safety of personnel and the public
2. Slow/stop the spread of COVID-19
3. Increase COVID-19 testing capacity
4. Care for the sick
5. Provide public information
6. Mitigate community/economic impact

Additional current information is available on the State of Alaska's website at www.covid19.alaska.gov.

EOC information and the response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Ketchikan is updated daily on the COVID-19 Response page at <https://www.kgbak.us/913/COVID-19-Response>.

#ketchikanstayhealthy #staystrongketchikan #stepsforahealthycommunity
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