



City and Borough of Juneau
City & Borough Manager's Office
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Juneau, Alaska 99801
Telephone: 586-5240 | Facsimile: 586-5385

DATE: September 27, 2021
TO: CBJ Assembly
FROM: Mila Cosgrove, Incident Commander
RE: **Situational Update –Level 3 High**

<p>Level 3 - High</p>	<p>The community is experiencing high case positivity. The Delta variant is present and community spread is occurring. Vaccine is available.</p>	<p>The hospital case loads have been increasing and hospital capacity has reached the point where all beds were full for the majority of a day. Hospital capacity within in Alaska and in the Pacific Northwest is significantly restricted.</p>	<p>Contact tracing is becoming more difficult due to the high number of contacts per positive individual and the ability to get information from some positive individuals.</p>	<p>The Complete CBJ COVID-19 Dashboard can be found here or by going to Juneau.org/ COVID-19</p>
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Situation Assessment: The 14 and 7 day case rates remain elevated at the very high alert level. The Delta variant is driving case transmission locally and statewide. The community is urged to be cautious. Everyone regardless of vaccination status is now required to mask when indoors in public places. It is highly recommended that individuals limit social contact to mitigate disease spread and allow for effective contact tracing. Individuals should test immediately if they have even mild symptoms. **The single most effective strategy to mitigate COVID is to get vaccinated.**

Issues of Note:

Case counts climbed steadily last week. For the month of September, we are averaging 30.15 new cases a day in Juneau. The State of Alaska is reporting delays. The EOC believes case counts are high, but slightly below what is being reported by the State. The EOC reaches this conclusion by looking at BRH data which is reported real time and extrapolating from there. Based on that, the EOC believes the real case data is closer to 21 – 28 new cases per day.

The EOC is reporting two new deaths today, a female in her 50s and a male in his 60s. Our condolences are offered to their families and other loved ones. This brings our total death case count to 11 residents and 1 nonresident.

Due to hospital overload, popup testing clinics on Mondays and Wednesdays are being temporarily cancelled. MIH staff will be redeployed to assist BRH with in home medical care and other services that will provide relief to hospital staffing.

The hospital system Statewide and in the Pacific Northwest continues to be significantly compromised. BRH is reporting intermittent difficulties in transporting patients when needed. ICUs beds in other locations are full and it takes time and resources to determine a place to transfer critically ill patients.

BRH reports significant case loads which has resulted in high hospital census. Staff is stretched thin but all services are covered. The Monoclonal antibody clinic is operational. Patients can get a referral by speaking with their primary physician or by calling the hospital directly.

Sign-up for the Centennial Hall Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine clinics began today and will continue until clinics are full. Individuals can register at juneau.org/vaccine. Those without internet can call 586-6000. As of 5:00 pm today, 679 of the 1900 slots had been filled.

Qualifying individuals can register for a booster, and anyone ages 12 and up can sign up for a first or second dose. The clinic is happening over two days: Friday, October 1 and Saturday, October 2. You must pre-register to receive a vaccine; no walk-ins.

The following groups currently qualify to receive the Pfizer booster as long as they've received their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine at least six months ago:

- people 65 years and older
- residents aged 18 years and older in long-term care settings; or
- people aged 50–64 years with [underlying medical conditions](#); or
- people aged 18–49 years with [underlying medical conditions](#) based on their individual benefits and risks; or
- people aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting based on their individual benefits and risks.

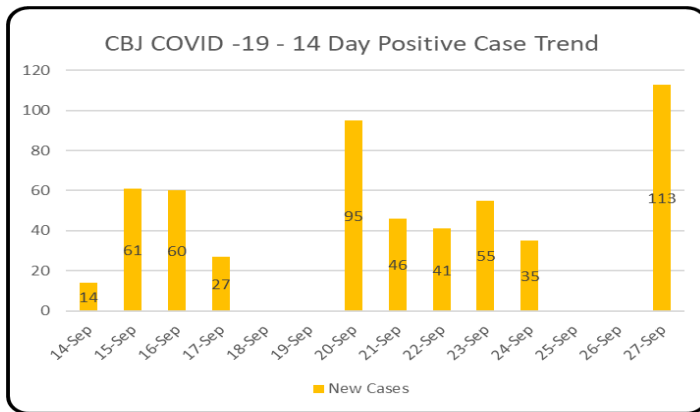
General Case Trends:

Juneau Public Health was able to report generalized case trends for the last 7 days.

- We have roughly 152 active cases.
- There are no large groupings of case positivity at this point. Case exposure seems to be coming from social gatherings or passing among family groupings.
- Household spread continues to be an issue, once one person in the house is positive, most people in the household also test positive over the next week or two.
- The School District continues to report regular case activity. They are monitoring closely and working issues classroom by classroom. Most case positivity is showing up in elementary schools as the age group is not yet eligible for vaccination.
- 70% of the total population of Juneau is fully vaccinated.

Daily Numbers update: We are reporting 148 new cases since the last EOC report on September 23rd (F-M). 144 residents and 4 nonresidents.

Statewide, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services reports [4,025 new people](#) identified with COVID-19 in the past three days – 3,878 are residents and 147 are nonresidents. The state also reports 21 deaths that occurred from July to September – 18 resident deaths and three nonresident deaths – bringing the total number of resident deaths to 532 and nonresident deaths to 21. Alaska has had 106,976 cumulative resident cases of COVID-19 and a total of 4,716 nonresidents.



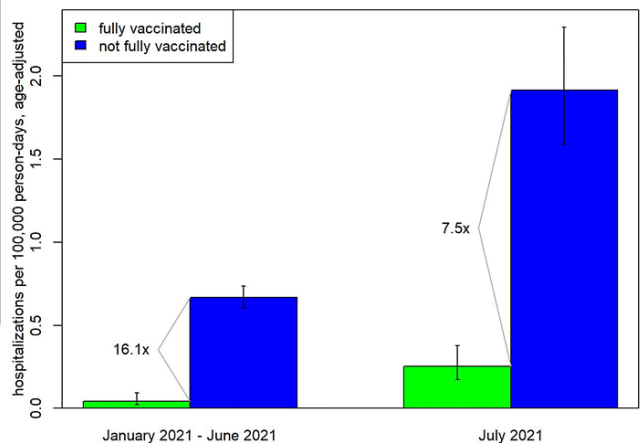
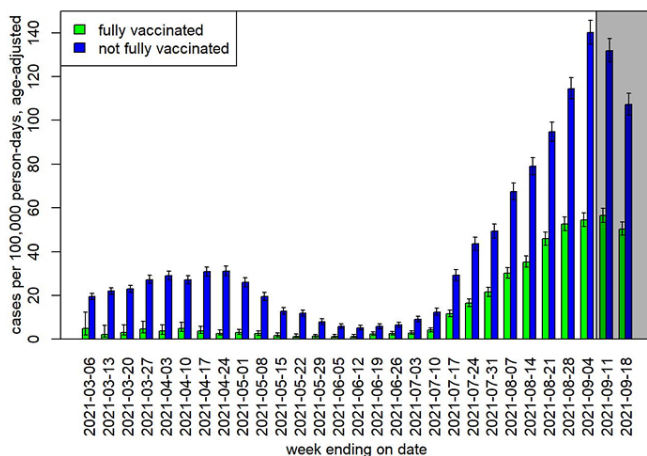
Weekly Summary – 14 day lookback for positive tests September 13th – September 27th

Over the last 14 days there have been 547 positive cases in Juneau. The State reporting system is still reporting backlogs that they are catching up with. Elevated case counts statewide, precludes Public Health from providing more detailed information at the local level about case acquisition, age, race, or gender breakdown, or vaccine breakthrough data.

Breakthrough Cases: Vaccine breakthrough (VB) infections of COVID are those detected in a person who is at least 2 weeks beyond their second dose of a 2-dose series or the only dose of a 1-dose series.

From January 16–September 18, 2021, 20 deaths, 135 hospitalizations, and 9,220 cases with a VB infection were reported among Alaska residents aged ≥12 years. These counts are provisional and subject to change as data are compiled and reviewed. In that same time frame, a total of 41,539 cases, 1,104 hospitalizations, and 161 deaths were reported.

78% of all cases, 88% of all hospitalizations, and 88% of deaths among Alaska residents aged ≥12 years from January 16–September 18, 2021 were in people who were not fully vaccinated.

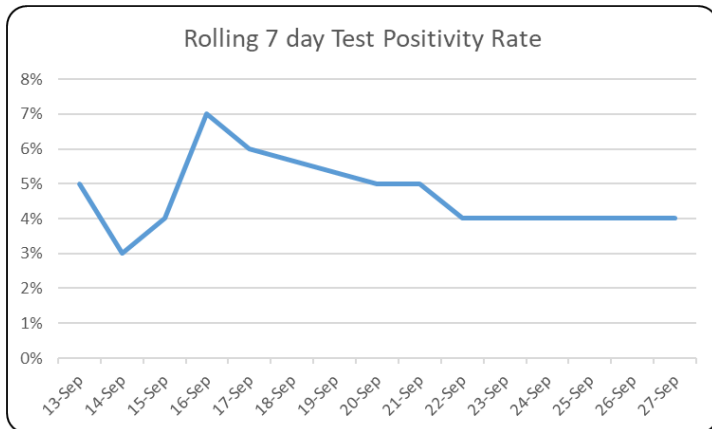


Variants of Concern:

The Delta variant has become the dominant SARS-CoV-2 variant in Alaska. This variant transmits more easily than other variants. The State of Alaska weekly genomic surveillance report is online at http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/siteassets/pages/humancov/AKSeqCon_GenomicSituationReport.pdf

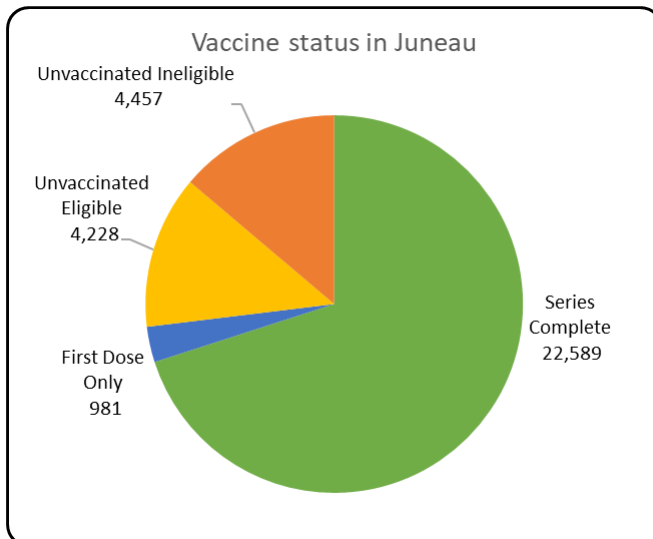
Testing Summary:

698 COVID tests were processed through BRH since the last EOC report bringing the total number of tests at BRH to 1,761 for the week. CCFR took 1,128 samples. Most tests processed through BRH are returning in less than 24 hours, however a few of the late afternoon pop up clinics returned in 26 hours.



Vaccination Updates:

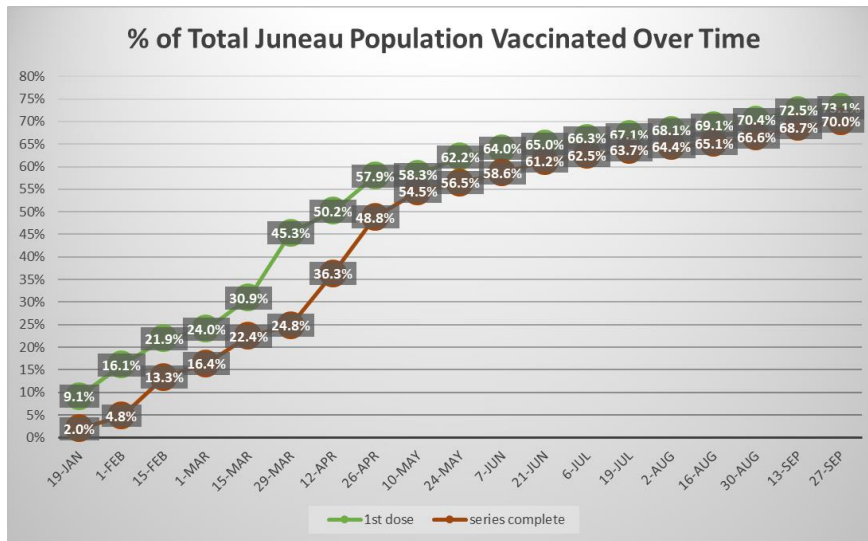
Last week, there were a total of 96, 1st doses and 263, 2nd doses administered in Juneau.



Total: **73.1%** of the of the total population of Juneau has received at least 1 dose of vaccine and **70.0%** have completed their vaccine series.

12+: **84.8%** of the age eligible Juneau population has received at least 1 dose of vaccine. **81.3%** have completed their vaccine series.

65+: **94.1%** of this age group has at least one dose of vaccine. **93.2%** have completed the vaccine series. (State updated dashboard)



Vaccine Clinics:

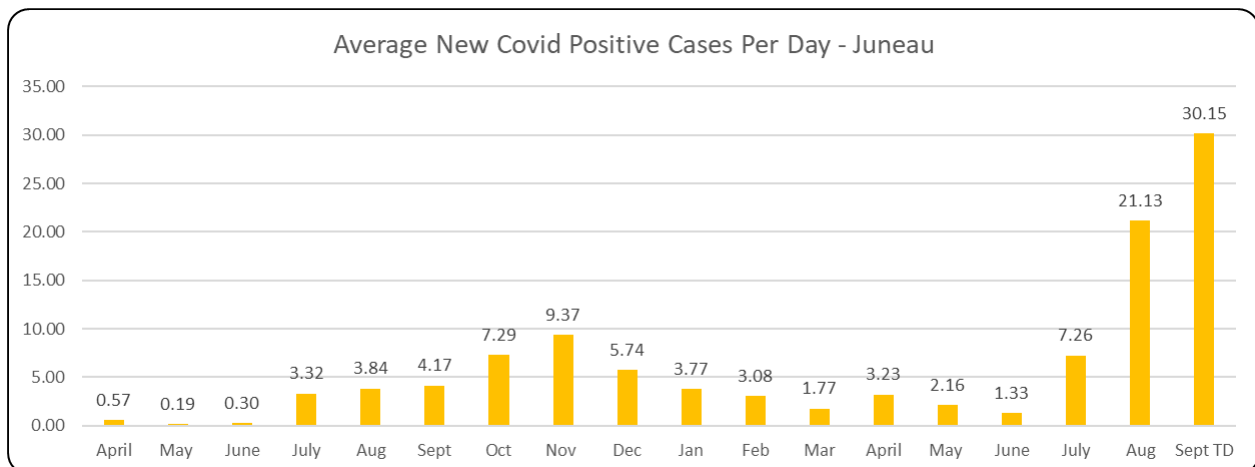
Every Thursday in September & October: 9 am – 4 pm, Juneau Public Health Center, 3412 Glacier Hwy

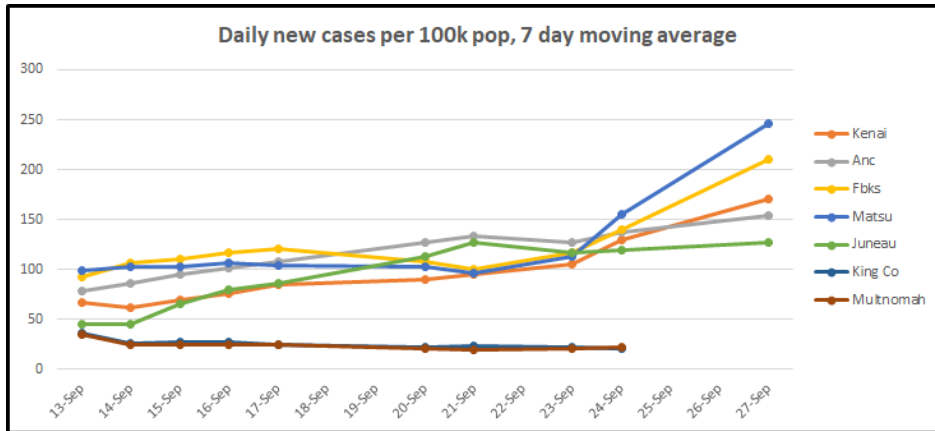
Every day in September & October: 12:30 – 9:30 -Juneau International Airport

October 1 & 2, 8 & 9: Centennial Hall

Private providers and Pharmacies in town: Juneau.org/vaccine to check appointment availability

1st, 2nd and booster shots are available at all Vaccine Clinics.





This chart tracks the number of new cases in the past 7 days, controlled for population. King County (Seattle) and Multnomah County (Portland) are included for context and due to travel frequency. The source data for Alaska is from the SOA dashboard. Out of state data is from the Harvard Global Health Institute (<https://globalepidemics.org/key-metrics-for-covid-suppression/>) and generally lags a day behind most of our other reporting. Policy recommendations at varying levels (<1, <10, <25, 25+) can be found on their website