



City and Borough of Juneau
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DATE: November 15, 2021
 TO: CBJ Assembly
 FROM: Robert Barr, Incident Commander
 RE: **Situational Update –Level 3 Modified High**

Overall Community Risk	Disease Situation	Hospital Capacity	Public Health Capacity	The Complete CBJ COVID-19 Dashboard can be found here or by going to Juneau.org/ COVID-19
Level 3 - Modified High	The community case load remains high and is declining. The Delta variant is present and community spread is occurring. Vaccine is available.	Local hospital case loads and staffing capacity have mostly stabilized, although staffing levels remain dependent on a state contract. Medevac capacity is improving.	Contact tracing is improving with most positive individuals being reached within 24 hours. Approximately half of recent case activity is secondary in nature.	

Situation Assessment:

The 14 and 7 day case rates remain at the high alert level. The Delta variant remains the dominant variant of concern locally and statewide. The community is urged to take advantage of vaccination, masking, and testing - the three most effective tools we have at combating the pandemic. Everyone regardless of vaccination status is required to mask when indoors in public places. Social distancing remains recommended 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:

The Unified Command lowered the overall community risk level to a modified version of high today. With the exception of maintaining a masking requirement for all indoor public areas, all other mitigation strategies are reduced to the moderate category. This is the result of a multi-week sustained improvement in risk metrics in all risk metrics within each of our three focus areas: disease situation, hospital capacity, and public health capacity. The EOC has no reason to expect a change in our current trajectory and we will continue to closely track risk metrics with special attention to the 1-2 weeks following each major holiday this season.

We continue to distribute rapid antigen tests to the community and continue to seek additional supply. As a reminder, as this type of testing increases in the community, the integrity of our testing and case positivity data will wane. In the coming weeks, we will be seeking either re-affirmed or new guidance on the appropriate metrics to track given the evolving course of the pandemic and the impact of antigen testing on our existing metrics.

BRH reports stable staffing and stable hospital activity across the board. BRH staff expect hospitals across the state to see increased challenges with staffing when the statewide traveling healthcare worker contract expires on January 22nd.

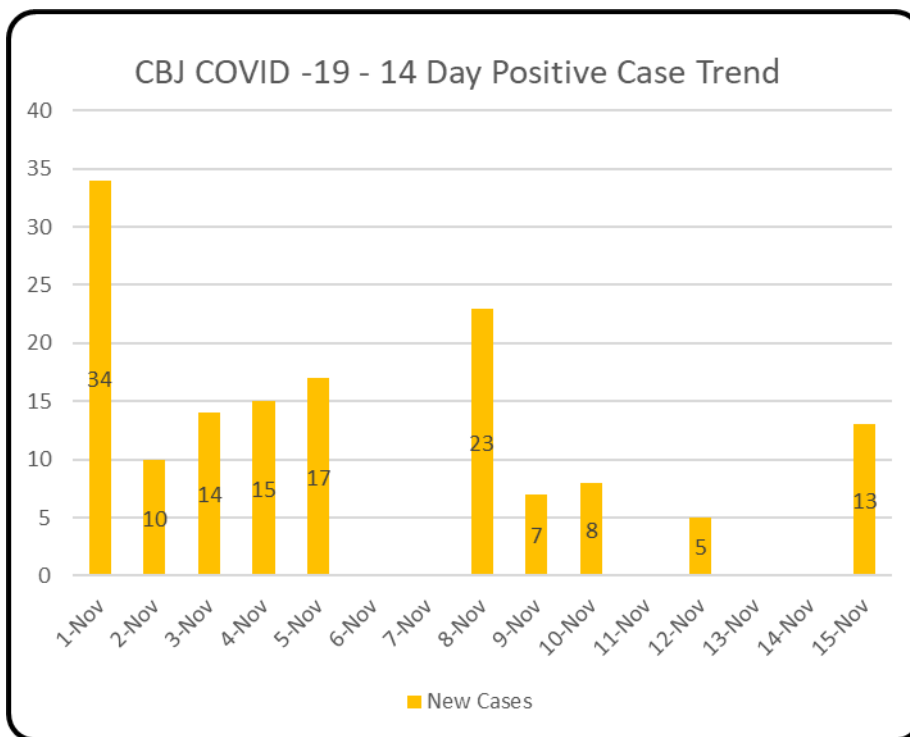
General Case Trends:

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

- We have roughly 58 active cases
- Of those, about 18 are in minors under 18, and of those, 14 under 12
- Preliminarily, most of these cases appear to be due to secondary transmission
- Some case activity that is typically reported over the weekend was delayed and will be reported tomorrow

Daily Numbers update: We are reporting 12 resident and 1 nonresident new cases since the last EOC report on November 12th (Sa-M).

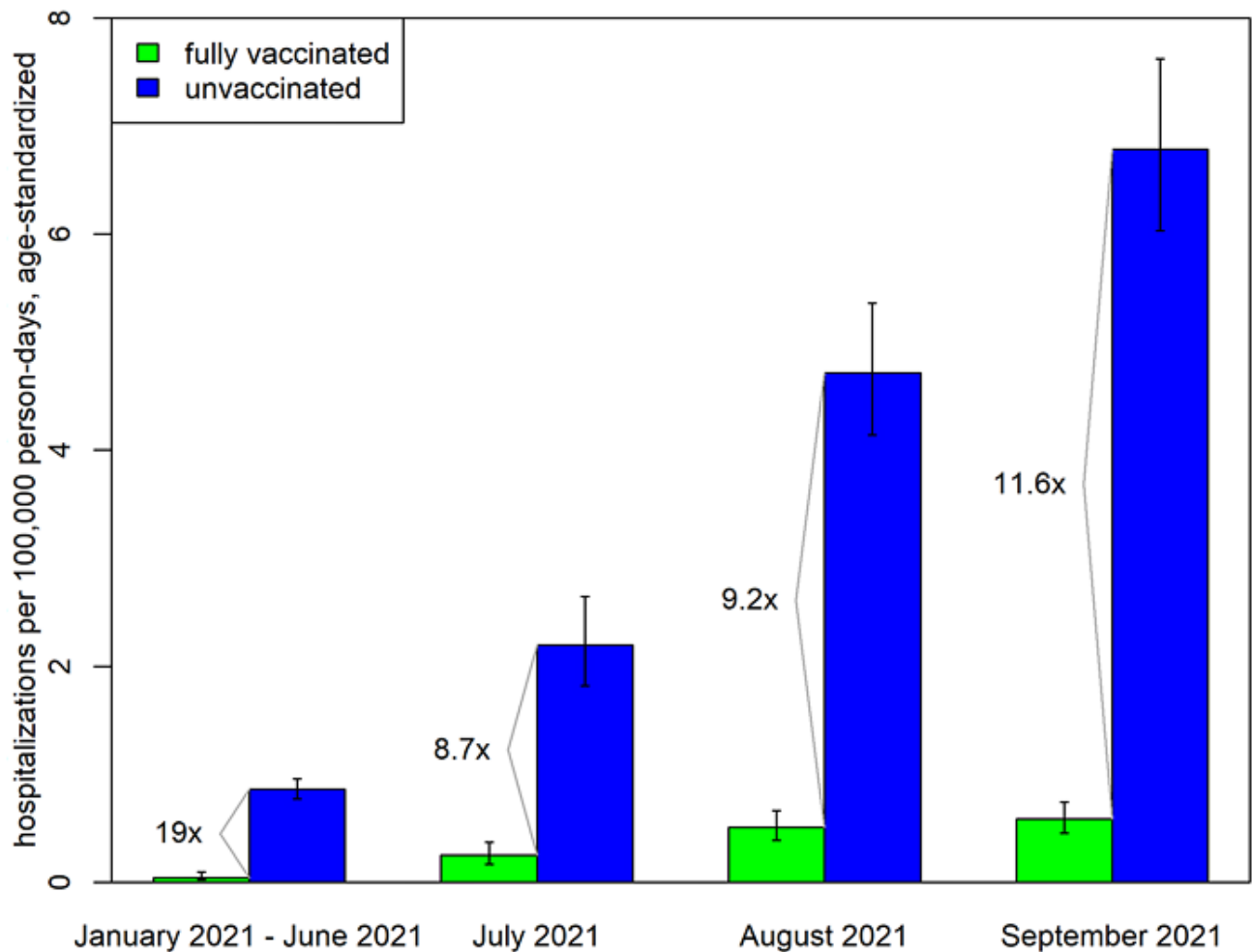
Statewide, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services reports [1,089](#) new people identified with COVID-19 in the past three days. The state also reports 2 new deaths bringing the total number of resident deaths to 803. Alaska has had 140,904 cumulative resident cases of COVID-19 and a total of 5,343 nonresidents.

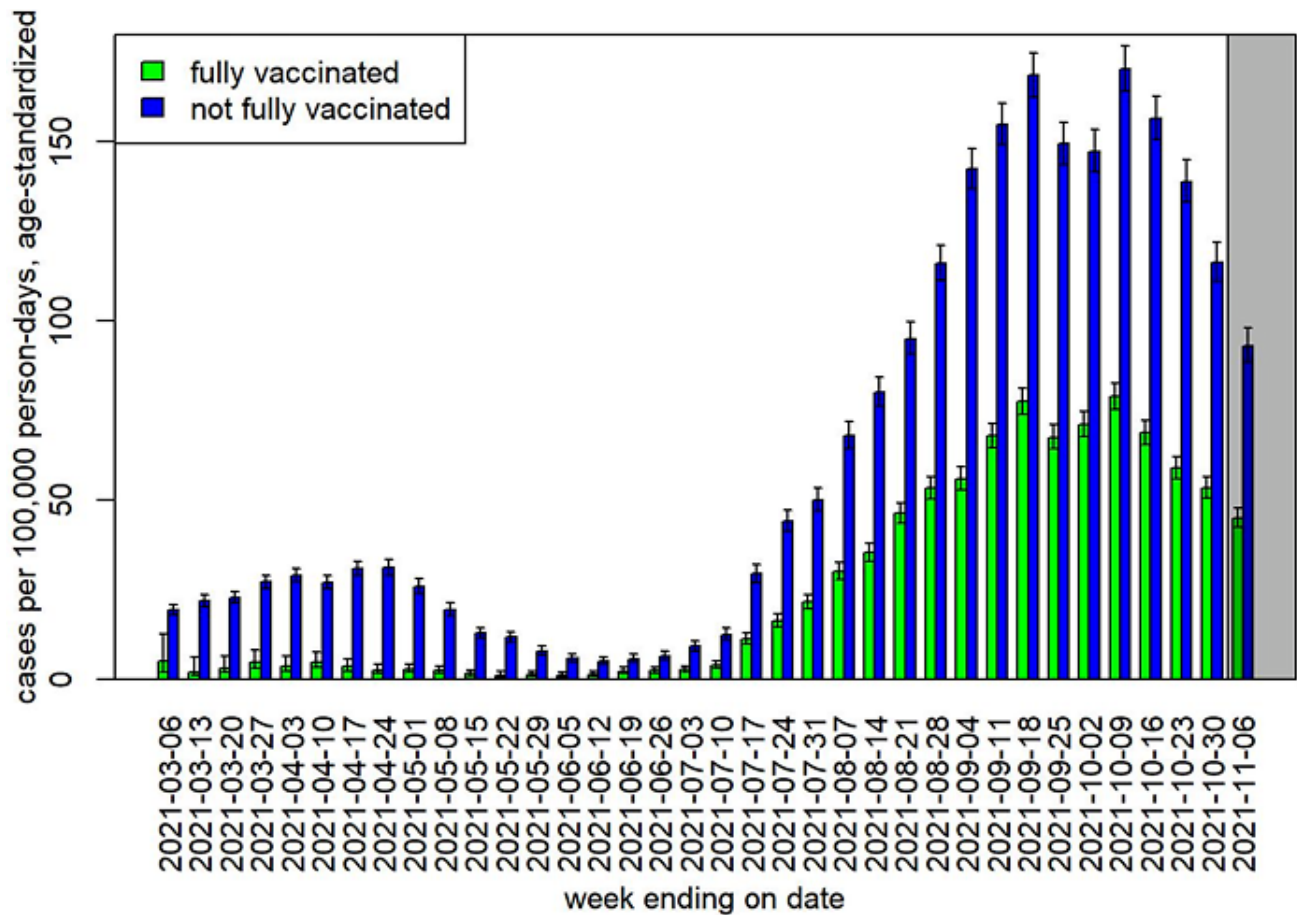


Breakthrough Cases: Vaccine breakthrough (VB) infections of COVID are those detected in a person who is at least 2 weeks beyond their second dose of a 2-dose series or the only dose of a 1-dose series.

From January 16–November 6, 2021, 94 deaths, 258 hospitalizations, and 21,175 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 72,551 cases, 1,676 hospitalizations, and 488 deaths were reported.

71% of all cases, 85% of all hospitalizations, and 81% of deaths among Alaska residents aged ≥ 12 years from January 16–November 6, 2021 were in people who were not fully vaccinated.



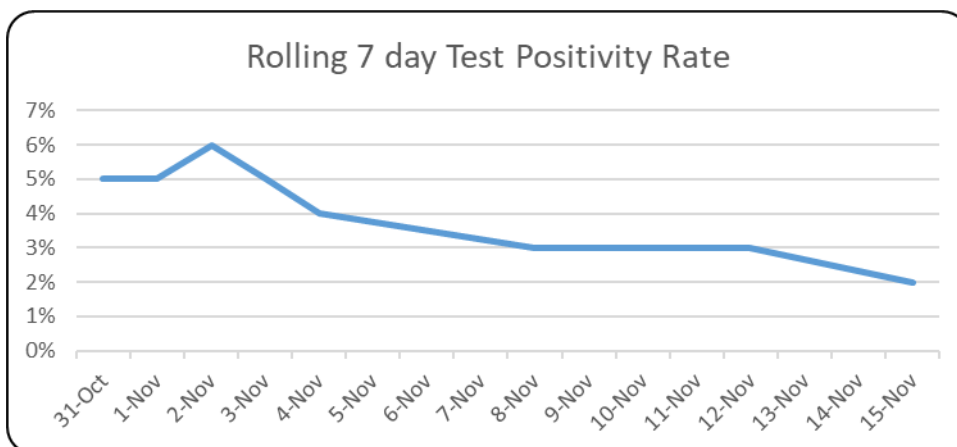


Variants of Concern:

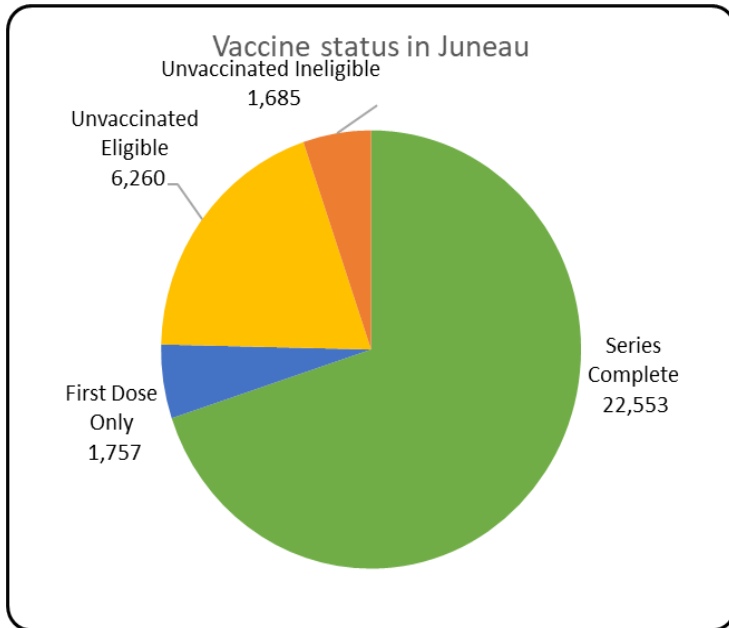
The Delta variant has become the dominant SARS-CoV-2 variant in Alaska. This variant transmits more easily than other variants. The State of Alaska variants dashboard is available online: <https://akvariants.github.io/>

Testing Summary:

PCR testing at BRH continues to return results in under 24 hours, with very few exceptions. Testing demand has been slowly declining over the past week.



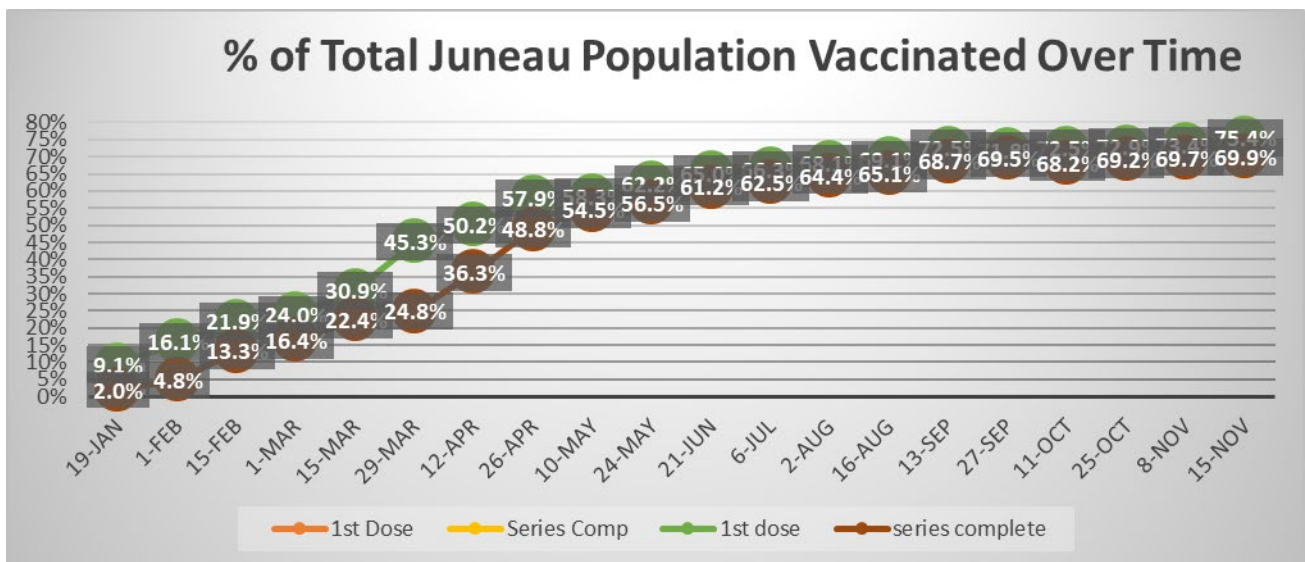
Vaccination Updates:

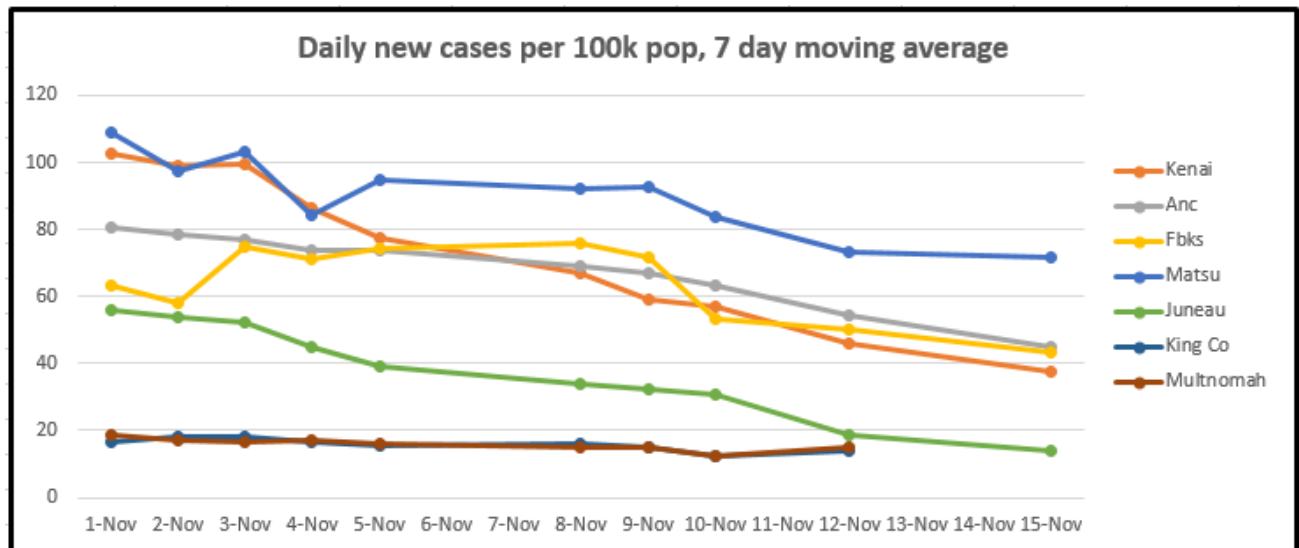
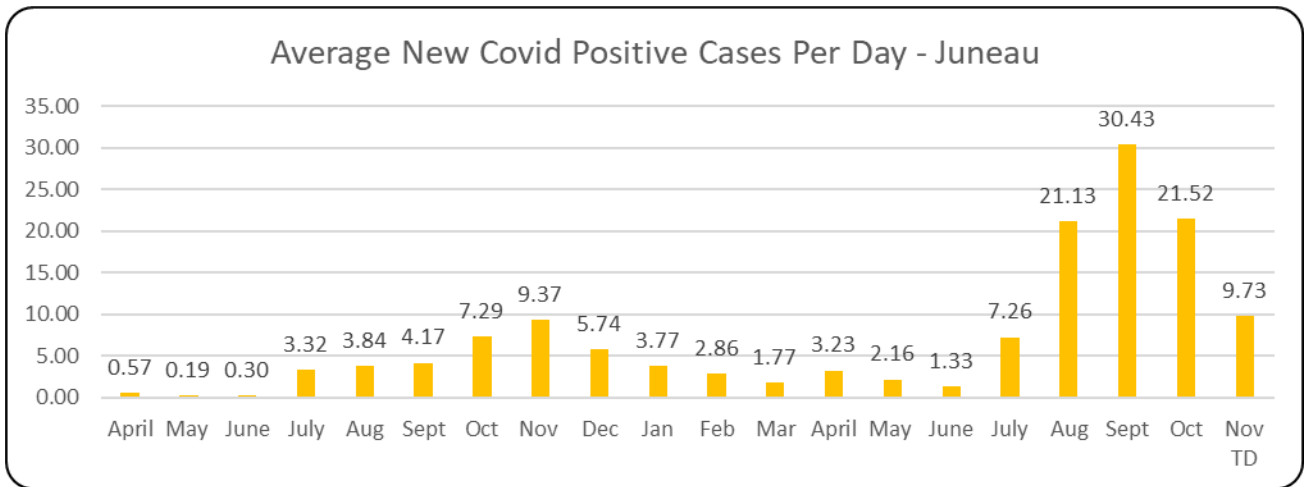


Total: **75.4%** of the total population of Juneau has received at least 1 dose of vaccine and **69.9%** have completed their vaccine series.

5+: **79.5%** of the age eligible Juneau population has received at least 1 dose of vaccine. **73.8%** have completed their vaccine series.

65+: **95%** of this age group has at least one dose of vaccine. **92%** have completed the vaccine series.





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