



City and Borough of Juneau  
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DATE: January 24, 2022  
 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	<b>The Complete CBJ COVID-19 Dashboard can be found <a href="#">here</a> or by going to <a href="#">Juneau.org/ COVID-19</a></b>
<b>Level 3 - Modified High</b>	The community case load remains high and is increasing. The Omicron variant is present and community spread is occurring. Vaccine is available.	Local hospital case loads are rising significantly and staffing is constrained due to staff isolation/quarantine.	Contact tracing is significantly constrained due to the quantity of cases. Approximately half of recent case activity is secondary in nature.	

**Situation Assessment:**

The 14 and 7 day case rates are at the very high alert level. The Omicron variant is the dominant strain. The community is urged to take advantage of vaccination, masking, and testing - the three most effective tools we have at combating the pandemic. Masking is required 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:**

At our vaccination clinic over the weekend 210 doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine were administered along with 43 doses of flu vaccine.

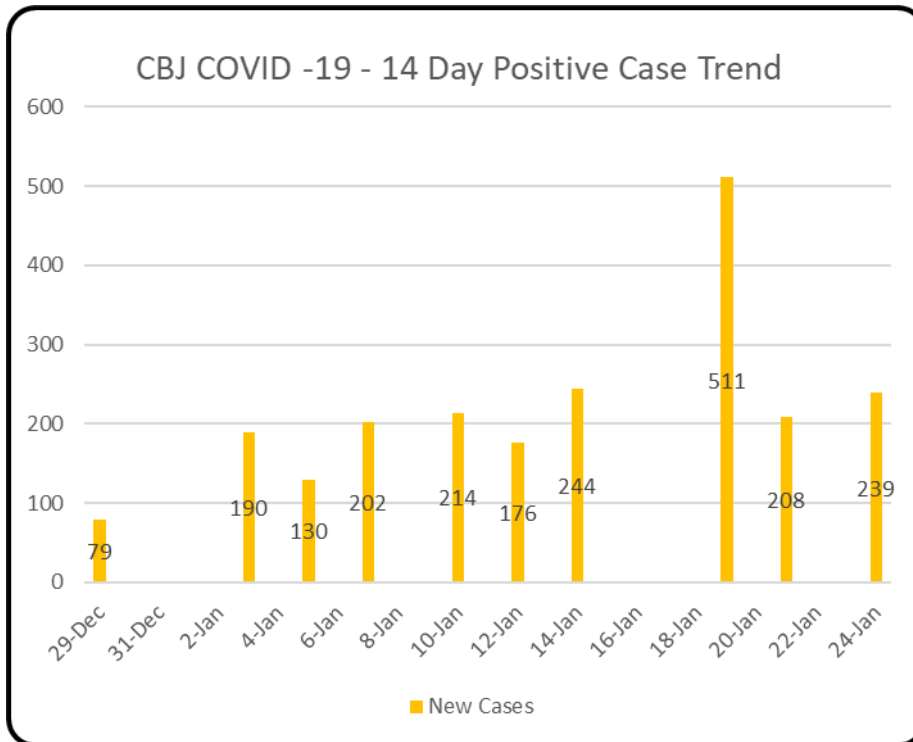
We are rapidly going through our new supply of rapid antigen test kits. At current burn rates, even if we order additional tests tomorrow, we will run out of local supply before a new order arrives. However, federal programs are coming online that may obviate or curtail this need – we will continue to evaluate.

Our case rate remains very high and the actual and potential hospital case load remains high. 19 BRH staff are currently out with COVID-19. Recent case trends have been flat to perhaps heading in the down (good) direction. We will have a higher degree of confidence about that trend assuming case rates continue to be lower, on average, by the end of this week.

COVID-19 therapeutics continue to be limited due to short supply; however, this is starting to change. We anticipate sharing more information on this topic this week. The State Department of Health and Social Services maintains a good website on [COVID-19 therapeutic options](#).

**Daily Numbers update:** We are reporting 239 new cases since the last EOC report on January 21<sup>st</sup> (F-M).

Statewide, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services reports 5,759 new people identified with COVID-19 for data reported 1/21-1/23. The state reports 21 new deaths. The total number of resident deaths is 1,039. Alaska has had 194,176 cumulative resident cases of COVID-19 and a total of 6,840 nonresidents.

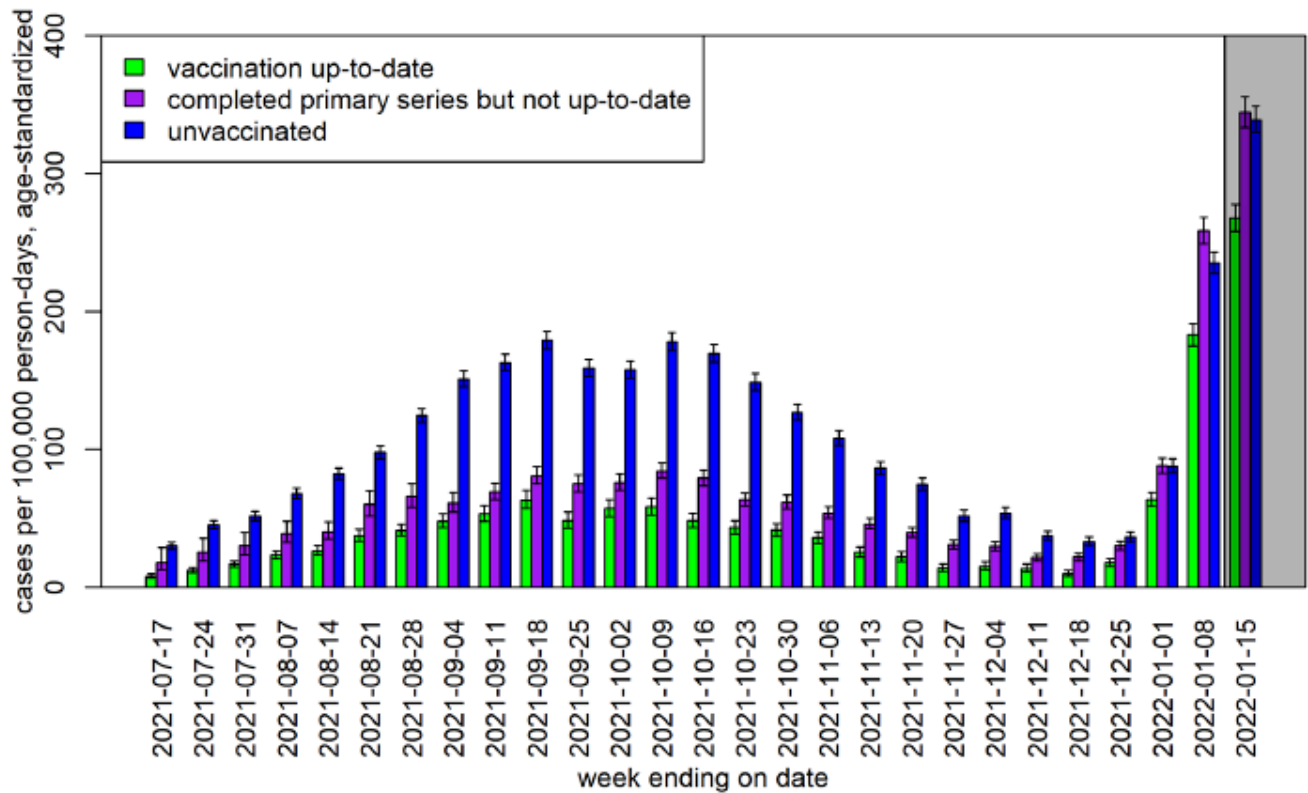


**Breakthrough Cases:** Vaccine breakthrough (VB) infections of COVID are those detected in a person who is at least 2 weeks beyond their second dose of a 2-dose series or the only dose of a 1-dose series.

Among Alaska residents aged  $\geq 5$  years from January 16, 2021–January 15, 2022, 40,937 cases were documented in persons who had completed the primary series and were considered fully vaccinated. Among those vaccine-breakthrough cases, 386 hospitalizations and 133 deaths due to COVID-19 have been recorded. During that time, 76,460 cases have been documented in unvaccinated Alaskans aged  $\geq 5$  years, leading to 1,677 hospitalizations and 546 deaths. All data are preliminary and subject to change.

Vaccines help protect against infection and against severe disease, especially when a person is up to date on vaccinations. Unvaccinated Alaskans are more than 10 times more likely to be hospitalized due to COVID-19 than Alaskans who have completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccination and are more than 12 times more likely to die from COVID-19. See the [monthly report](#) to learn more.

During the Omicron wave, cases in vaccinated persons have become more frequent, but Alaskans who are up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccines (i.e., completed the primary series and received a booster dose, if eligible) still have lower rates of becoming a case than those who are unvaccinated or are not up-to-date.



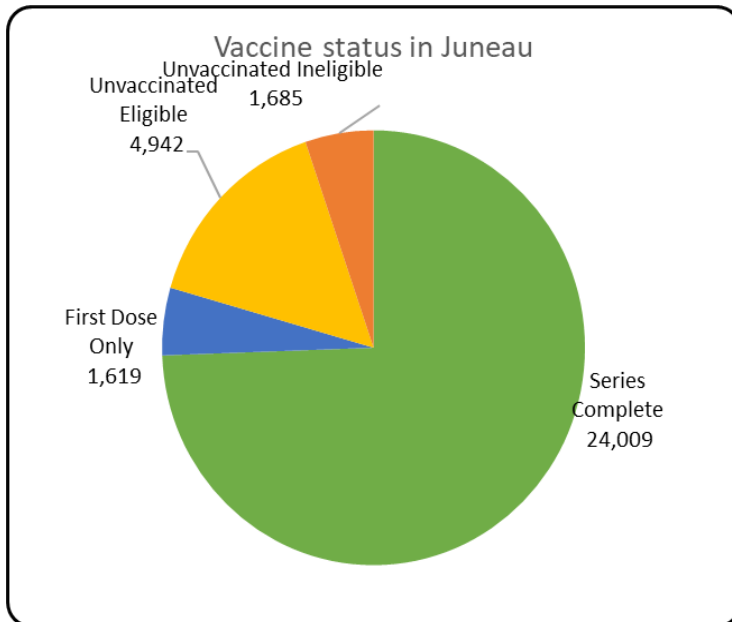
**Variants of Concern:**

Like Southeast, Fairbanks has been struggling with challenging weather which has impacted the State public health lab that processes variant sequencing. Based on recent case activity trends, Omicron is spreading throughout the state and is likely the dominant variant of concern. 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.

**Vaccination Updates:**



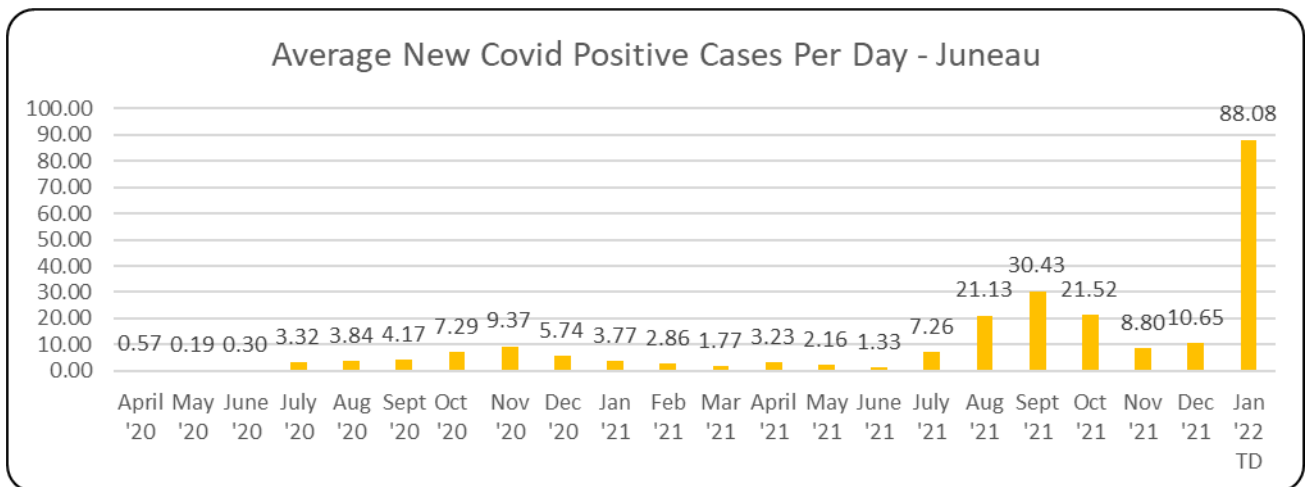
Total: **79.5%** of the total population of Juneau has received at least 1 dose of vaccine and **74.4%** have completed their vaccine series.

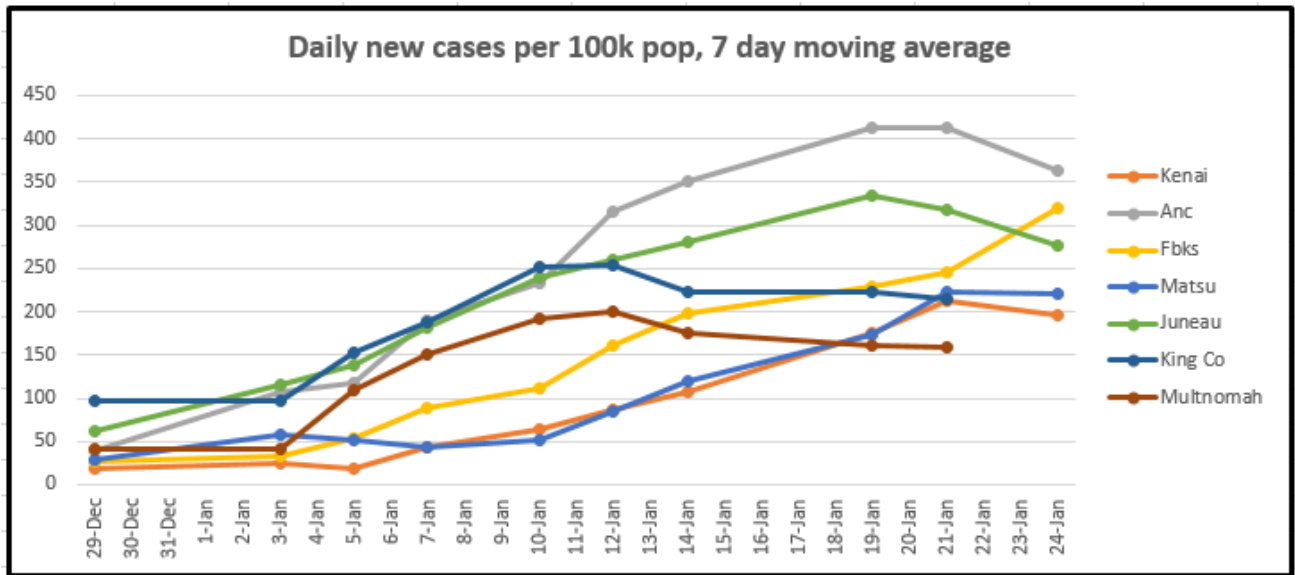
5+: **83.8%** of the age eligible Juneau population has received at least 1 dose of vaccine. **78.5%** have completed their vaccine series.

**40.2%** of those 5+ have received a booster dose.

65+: **96%** of this age group has at least one dose of vaccine. **92%** have completed the vaccine series.

**72.6%** of those 65+ have received a booster dose.





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