

DATE: February 25, 2022

TO: CBJ Assembly

FROM: Robert Barr, Incident Commander

RE: Situational Update –Level 2 Moderate

	Overall Community Risk	Disease Situation	Hospital Capacity	Public Health Capacity	The Complete CBJ COVID-19 Dashboard can be found <u>here</u> or by going to Juneau.org/ COVID-19
	Level 2 -	The community case load remains high and has been recently stable in the 10-25 cases/day range. The	Local hospital case loads are intermittently significant but not regularly with COVID patients. COVID-related staffing shortages are improving.	Statewide contact tracing has effectively ended. Local public health can assist when necessary. Residents are encouraged to self- contact trace upon a positive test.	
	Moderate	Omicron variant is present and community spread is occurring. Vaccine is available.			

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 preventing infection. Masking is required for unvaccinated individuals when indoors in public places and recommended for all. 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 CDC issued <u>major new guidance</u> today on implementing community mitigation measures in communities. Neither we nor the state received this information ahead of time and consequently we have not had time to incorporate this new guidance into our local measures. We plan to determine how best to incorporate the new guidance into our local measures early next week.

Statewide contact tracing has effectively ended, and will formally be ending next week. Our local public health office will remain available to assist individuals who need assistance with contact tracing; however, the general guidance will continue to be to perform your own contact tracing when you become aware that you're positive for COVID-19.

New daily cases have been stable in the 10-25 cases/day range for the past week. BRH has had 2 COVID+ patients for most of the week and is seeing a declining number of employees out due to COVID.

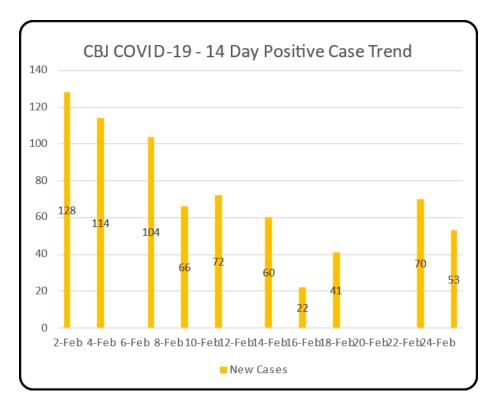
We received a large shipment (24,000) of <u>KN95 masks</u> from the DHSS warehouse this week and are distributing these for free through the same distribution sites that are distributing rapid antigen self-tests.

Starting next week, the COVID-19 hotline and FTC Testing Site will <u>decrease from 7-day to 5-day</u> week serviced (closed on Sundays and Wednesdays).

The most effective COVID-19 therapeutics continue to be limited due to short supply. The State Department of Health and Social Services maintains a good website on <u>COVID-19 therapeutic options</u>. BRH continues to actively work on improving access to therapeutics.

Daily Numbers update: We are reporting 123 new cases since the last EOC report on February 18th (F-F).

Statewide, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services reports 843 new people identified with COVID-19 for data reported 2/23-2/24. On Wednesday, the state announced 22 new deaths, none for Juneau. The total number of resident deaths is 1,130. Alaska has had 230,848 cumulative resident cases of COVID-19 and a total of 7,835 nonresidents.

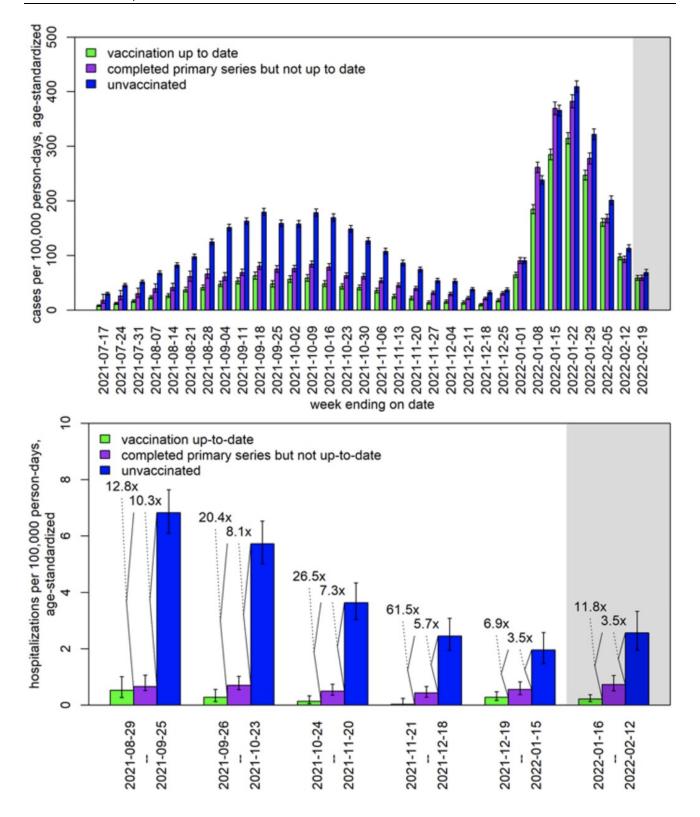


Breakthrough Cases: Vaccine breakthrough (VB) infections of COVID are those detected in a person who is at least 2 weeks beyond their second dose of a 2-dose series or the only dose of a 1-dose series. Data in this section from <u>DHSS Weekly Report</u>.

Among Alaska residents aged ≥5 years from January 16, 2021–February 19, 2022, 65,254 cases were documented in persons who had completed the primary series and were considered fully vaccinated. Among those vaccine-breakthrough cases, 465 hospitalizations and 162 deaths due to COVID-19 have been recorded. During that time, 96,230 cases have been documented in unvaccinated Alaskans aged ≥5 years, leading to 1,792 hospitalizations and 614 deaths. All data are preliminary and subject to change.

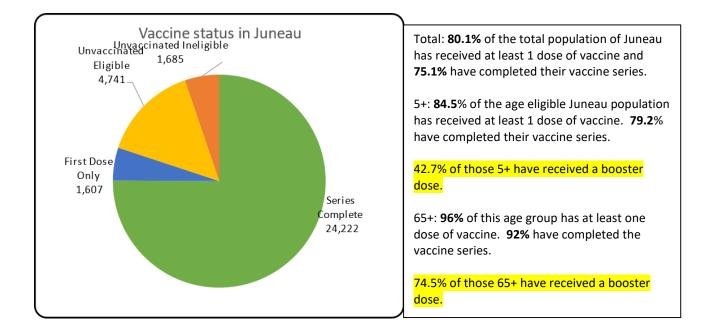
Vaccines help protect against infection and against severe disease, especially when a person is up to date on vaccinations. During the 4-week period from January 16, 2022–February 12, 2022, unvaccinated Alaskans were 11.8 times more likely to be hospitalized due to COVID-19 than Alaskans who are up to date on COVID-19 vaccination (i.e., completed the primary series and received a booster dose, if eligible) and 3.5 times more likely to be hospitalized due to COVID-19 than Alaskans who completed the primary vaccination series but are not up to date. These estimates are lagged by one week to partially account for the time it takes to document hospitalizations. (See the monthly report for more data and analysis through December.)

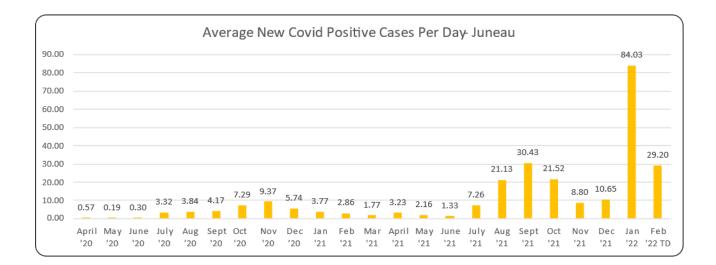
During the Omicron wave, cases in vaccinated persons have become more frequent, but Alaskans who are up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines (i.e., completed the primary series and received a booster dose, if eligible) still have lower rates of becoming a case than those who are unvaccinated.

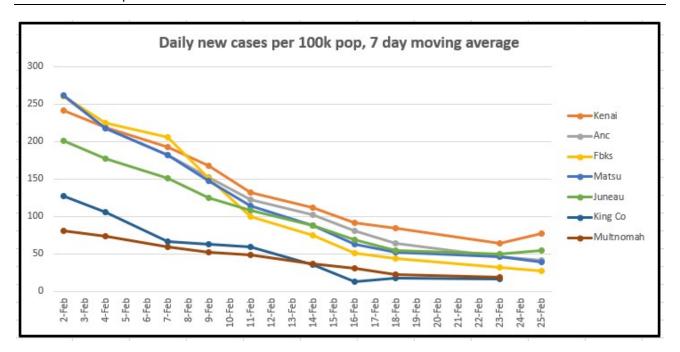


February 25, 2022 Assembly EOC Update CBJ COVID-19 Response

Vaccination Updates:







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/keymetrics-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