

DATE:	April 6.	2022

TO: CBJ Assembly

FROM: Robert Barr, Incident Commander

RE: Situational Update –Level 1 Minimal

Overall Community Risk	Disease Situation	Hospital Capacity	Public Health Capacity	The Complete CBJ COVID-19 Dashboard
Level 1 - Minimal	The community case load has recently been in the 10-20 cases/day range and is stable. The Omicron variant is present and community spread is occurring. Vaccine is available.	Local hospital case loads are intermittently significant but not with COVID patients. COVID- related staffing shortages have largely resolved.	Statewide contact tracing has effectively ended. Local public health can assist when necessary. Residents are encouraged to self- contact trace upon a positive test.	can be found <u>here</u> or by going to Juneau.org/ COVID-19

Situation Assessment:

While case counts remain high as compared to previous phases of the pandemic, we are in a stable part of Omicron-based case activity. A variety of tools are available to the public to mitigation the spread of COVID-19, including high quality masks, easily accessible testing, safe and effective vaccines, and therapeutic drugs to treat those at high risk of severe COVID. The single most effective strategy to mitigation COVID is to stay up-to-date on vaccinations.

Issues of Note:

We concluded March with average case activity of about 11 cases/day. This is essentially where we were in December, prior to the onset of our Omicron wave. Through April to-date, we've averaged 16 cases/day, although we are still early in the month. It is worth continuing to note that individuals who test positive via antigen tests are not included in these numbers unless they also seek a molecular (PCR) test. In general and anecdotally, most people do not seek confirmatory molecular tests. Additionally, at these caseloads (both known and unknown), we are not seeing significant COVID-related impacts to the hospital. Other contributing factors to our recent and currently manageable hospital impacts include: the current variant in general resulting in less severe illness, a highly vaccinated & boosted population, significant prior exposure to COVID in our community, and access to effective therapeutics – especially for those at highest risk.

The State has shifted to weekly data reports (Wednesdays) and we anticipate weekly reporting to continue throughout the summer. Cruise ship related case activity will be reported to the State when it happens and will be available on the same/typical State dashboards weekly. We are awaiting port agreements from the Cruise ship lines and will bring a final version to the Assembly when it is complete. We anticipate they will be

similar to last year and we have requested that cruise ship lines engage with the State Department of Health and Social Services to ensure they have an adequate supply of COVID-19 therapeutics onboard so that they do not need to impact local community supplies in the event of an outbreak. Cruise ship passengers and crew will be largely vaccinated – in most cases approaching 100%.

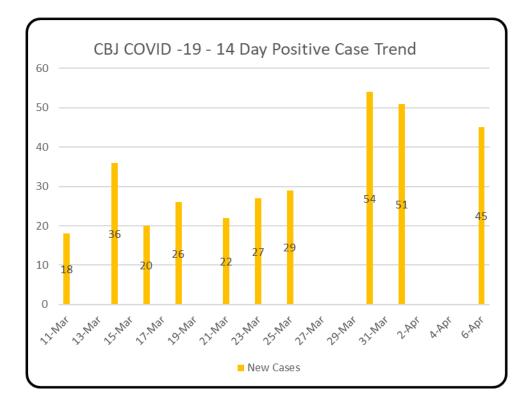
The State Department of Health and Social Services maintains a good website on <u>COVID-19 therapeutic</u> <u>options</u>.

We urge those who contract COVID to reach out to their physician (or lacking a physician, BRH) early in their disease course to determine whether or not therapeutics might be a good choice for them. Therapeutics are more widely available than they were earlier in the pandemic.

The latest DHSS Weekly Update (includes Vaccine breakthrough data that used to be included in this report) is <u>available here</u>.

Daily Numbers update: We are reporting 206 new cases since the last EOC report on March 21st (16 days).

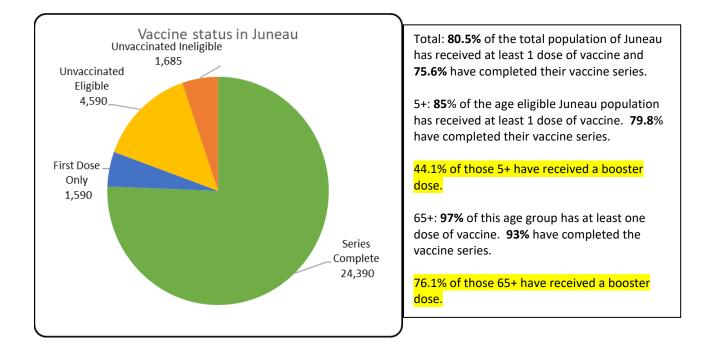
Statewide, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services <u>reports</u> 924 new people identified with COVID-19 for data reported 4/1-4/5. The total number of resident deaths is 1,195. Alaska has had 240,674 cumulative resident cases of COVID-19 and a total of 8,001 nonresidents.

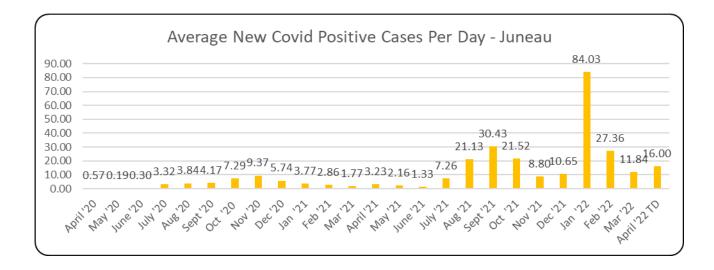


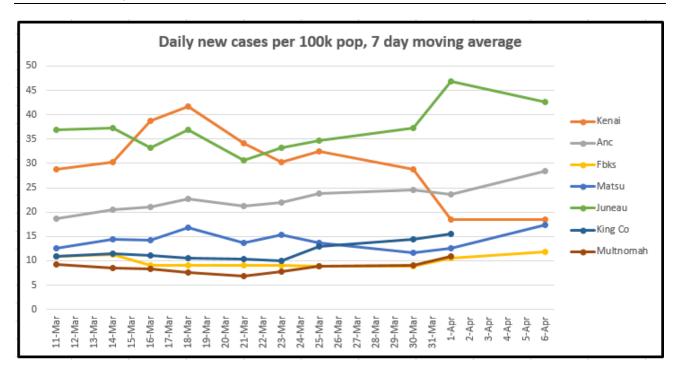
Testing Summary:

PCR testing at BRH continues to return results in under 24 hours, with very few exceptions. Molecular testing is also available through other providers in town, and antigen tests are widely available.

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