

DATE:	April 13,	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:

From a numbers perspective, we are essentially status quo from last week – down a little bit. Notably, King County has seen an uptick in tracked case activity since the last EOC report and has risen to the same CDC defined level as Juneau (medium risk). Most other locations nationwide are in the CDC defined low risk category (95.6% of counties). Our plans to end the ICS-based structure of the EOC and transition ongoing COVID operations to a normal-course-of-business footing are proceeding as expected. BRH anticipates transition of hotline and testing operations to be complete around mid-May, which will leave a couple week gap in those services; however, other testing options (both molecular and antigen) will continue to be available.

The Transportation Security Administration <u>extended</u> the federal security directive for mask use on public transportation and in transportation hubs for another 15 days today. More detail on this extension is available at: <u>https://www.transportation.gov/safety/mask-travel-guidance</u>.

We expect the CDC's <u>Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices</u> to hear and make decisions about the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine soon – potentially at their next meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

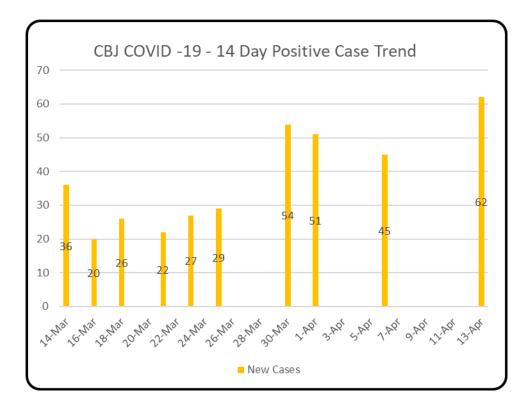
The State Department of Health and Social Services maintains a good website on <u>COVID-19 therapeutic</u> <u>options</u>.

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 62 new cases since the last EOC report on April 6<sup>th</sup> (7 days).

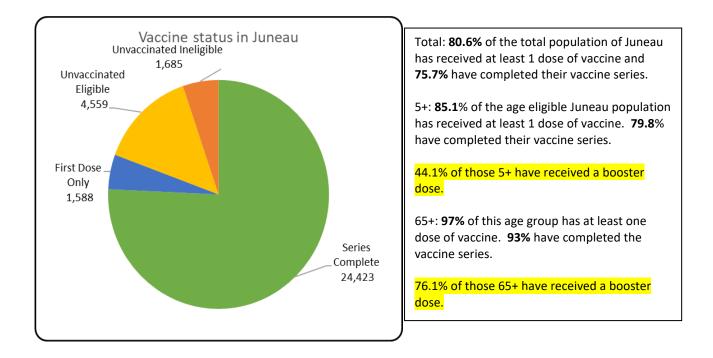
Statewide, the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services <u>reports</u> 1,290 new people identified with COVID-19 and unfortunately 7 new deaths for data reported 4/5-4/12. The total number of resident deaths is 1,202. Alaska has had 241,959 cumulative resident cases of COVID-19 and a total of 8,019 nonresidents.

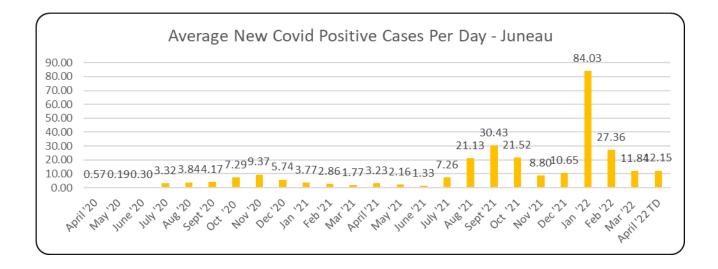


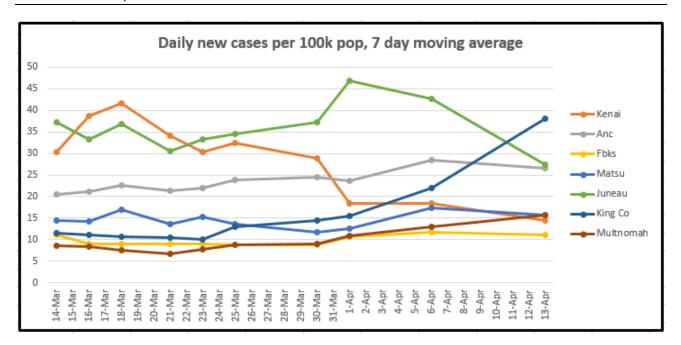
### **Testing Summary:**

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