

COVID-19

Situational Report

Customers, partners, and employees: YKHC is here for you and your family. YKHC is making decisions related to COVID-19 based on guidance from the CDC, the State of Alaska and other experts. We are erring on the side of caution and in the best interests of our employees, customers and communities.

YKHC is publishing a situational report to provide an update on our COVID-19 response and planning. Here is last week's report (as Friday, July 3 was an observed holiday).

Testing Update

As of 3 p.m. July 6, YKHC has performed more than 5,570 tests — roughly 5,253 are negative and about 300 tests are pending. YKHC has confirmed or identified 17 positive COVID-19 cases in the region. Three specimens were rejected by a private lab. YKHC has tested individuals in more than 32 communities in our service area, including Bethel.

- While 17 positive COVID cases have been identified in Bethel and the YK Delta, 5 of these 17 cases are non-residents. Therefore, per State reporting protocols, the official State YK Delta case count will remain at 12. Additionally, 6 of the 12 resident cases were tested in Anchorage or out-of-region, but per State reporting, will be counted as YK Delta positive cases.
- Beginning July 1, every Wednesday from noon-4:00 p.m. YKHC has been offering free COVID-19 testing **without** appointment at the drive-thru testing site in Bethel. Testing at this site continues to be available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, but by appointment only. Individuals concerned with coronavirus-related symptoms can call 543-6949 to be assisted. Testing continues to be available at YKHC village clinics. Customers simply need to call the clinic to be assisted.
- All new positive COVID-19 cases identified and known in Bethel and the YK Delta are reported on YKHC's website at: <https://www.ykhc.org/covid-19/news/>

Recoveries

- **Cases are considered recovered either through serial testing or time.** For serial testing, if an individual has been symptomatic, they must receive 2 negative PCR tests more than 24 hours apart after symptoms resolve. If they are asymptomatic, they must receive a negative PCR test after the initial test. If being cleared by time, an individual who has been symptomatic is considered recovered 10 days from when symptoms began, they must show improvements, and an additional 3 days must have lapsed since their last fever. If asymptomatic, an individual is considered recovered 10 days from last test.
- Of the total 17 known or confirmed positives in the YK Delta, as of July 6, YKHC is aware of only 1 active case. YKHC is uncertain whether an additional 2-3 of the total 17 cases have recovered.

Situation Report

- The next bi-weekly Tribal call hosted by YKHC, to offer service area Tribes an update on COVID-19 planning and response, is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. YKHC Public Relations will be creating a new Zoom link for the call
- Late in the day on June 29, YKHC confirmed an additional COVID-19 case in a YKHC service area village. The individual is not a resident of the YK Delta, and therefore per State reporting protocols, will not be counted in the YK Delta positive case count. Contact tracing indicates there is high likelihood this is a travel-related case and risk of exposure within the community is very low. More here: <https://www.ykhc.org/known-covid19-positive-june-29/>
- On July 2, YKHC was notified that an individual who resides in a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19 while in Anchorage. The individual was tested at ANMC in accordance with their routine screening procedures. While the individual has been out of region for over a week, per State reporting protocols, the positive case will be counted as a YK Delta case. Later that day, YKHC confirmed an additional positive COVID-19 case of a Bethel resident identified through testing of inbound passengers at the Bethel airport. All close contacts have been identified, tested, and instructed to continue self-isolating for 14 days. More on the July 2 positives can be found here: <https://www.ykhc.org/two-covid-19-cases-july-2/>
- On July 3, YKHC was notified that an individual who resides in a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19 while in Anchorage. While the individual has been out of region for over a week, per State reporting protocols, the positive case will be counted as a YK Delta case. More here: <https://www.ykhc.org/one-covid19-case-on-july-3/>
- Late in the day on July 3, YKHC confirmed a positive COVID-19 case in Bethel of an individual who was identified through rapid testing, in accordance with Health Mandate 18. The individual is not a resident of Bethel, and therefore per State reporting protocols, will not be counted in the YK Delta positive case count. Learn more about the case here: <https://www.ykhc.org/known-positive-covid19-case-july4/>

Resources

- YKHC COVID-19 page: www.ykhc.org/covid-19
- State of Alaska COVID-19 page: covid19.alaska.gov/
- CDC COVID-19 page: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

Contact

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YKHC Incident Command Center, (907) 543-6275. Currently staffed Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.