

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 this week's report.

Testing Update

As of 9 a.m. July 10, YKHC has performed 6,783 tests — 6,379 are negative and about 397 are pending. Three specimens were rejected by a private lab. YKHC has tested individuals in more than 32 communities in our service area, including Bethel.

- YKHC has confirmed or identified a total of 22 positive COVID-19 cases in Bethel and the YK Delta. 9 of the 22 cases were residents tested out-of-region, but per State reporting protocols, will be counted as YK Delta cases. 6 of these 22 total cases are non-residents. Therefore, per State reporting protocols, the official State YK Delta case count will remain at 16.
- Beginning Wednesday, July 1, every Wednesday from noon-4:00 p.m. YKHC will offer 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 COVID-19-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 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 to be cleared. If they are asymptomatic, they must receive a negative PCR test after the initial test.
 - › For time, an individual who has been symptomatic is considered recovered when 10 days have elapsed from when symptoms began, symptoms show improvement, and an additional 3 days have elapsed since their last fever. If asymptomatic, an individual is considered recovered 10 days from their last test.
- Of the total 22 confirmed or known positives cases in the YK Delta, YKHC is managing contact tracing and follow-up testing for 15 of these cases — as they were identified in-region or considered infectious while here. 12 of these 15 cases are considered recovered, with 3 remaining active. 9 of these cases were either identified out-of-region or were not infectious while here.

Situation Report

- On July 8, YKHC confirmed a Bethel resident tested positive for COVID-19. The individual is currently self-isolating and YKHC is working with the State of Alaska Section of Epidemiology to ensure precautions are taken to protect people they may have been in close contact with. All close contacts have been identified, provided instructions for follow-up testing, and advised on precautions to take. More here: <https://www.ykhc.org/covid19-case-in-bethel-july8/>
- On July 9, YKHC confirmed two new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta. **Case 1:** YKHC confirmed a Bethel resident tested positive for COVID-19. The individual who tested positive is a household member of the positive case announced on June 8. **Case 2:** 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 two weeks, per State reporting protocols, the positive case will be counted as a YK Delta case. More on both cases can be found here: <https://www.ykhc.org/two-cases-in-the-ykdelta-july-9/>
- On July 10, YKHC confirmed two new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta. **Case 1:** YKHC confirmed a positive COVID-19 case identified through testing of inbound passengers at the Bethel airport. 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. **Case 2:** YKHC was notified that an individual whose address is associated with a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19 while in Anchorage. The individual was tested in accordance with Health Mandate 15. YKHC confirmed the individual no longer resides in the YK Delta, however because their current address is listed as the YKHC service area village, per State reporting protocols, the positive case will be counted as a YK Delta case. More on both cases can be found here: <https://www.ykhc.org/two-new-covid19-cases-in-yk-delta-july10/>
- On Saturday, July 11, YKHC will relocate the Bethel drive-thru COVID testing tent to the north end of the Community Health Services Building (CHSB) parking lot. The new location is just across the street from the current location and will offer improved vehicle queueing. This location will serve as the tent's permanent location through the winter.
- 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.

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, (907) 543-6275. Currently staffed Mon. – Fri., 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.