Yukon-Kuskokwim
HEALTH CORPORATION

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 10 a.m. July 31, YKHC has performed 9,841 tests —9,338 are negative and about 486 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 35 positive COVID-19 cases in Bethel and the YK Delta. 12 of the 35 cases were residents tested out-of-region, but per State reporting protocols, will be counted as YK Delta cases. 9 of these 35 total cases are non-residents, so per State reporting protocols, the official State YK Delta case count will remain at 26.
- Every Wednesday from noon-4:00 p.m. YKHC offers 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 35 confirmed or known positives cases in the YK Delta, YKHC is managing contact tracing and follow-up testing for 27 of these cases — as they were identified in-region or considered infectious while here. 23 of these 26 cases are considered recovered, with 3 remaining active. 12 of these cases were either identified out-of-region or were not infectious while here.

Situation Report

- Over the weekend of July 25-26, YKHC saw its first hospitalization and medevac of a COVID-positive individual. The individual remained in self-isolation throughout their infection and YKHC made daily calls to monitor symptoms. When the individual's condition worsened, they arrived at the emergency room, where it was determined they would be transported to Anchorage. It is with deep sadness that YKHC reports the individual died from complications related to COVID-19 while in Anchorage. The next of kin has been notified. More here: https://www.ykhc.org/first-covid19-hospitalization-and-death-in-ykdelta/
- On July 25, YKHC was notified that an individual who resides in a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19 elsewhere in Alaska. The individual is currently self-isolating in Anchorage. Contact tracing reveals the individual was not in the YK Delta during the period of time they would have been exposed to or considered infectious for COVID-19. More here: https://www.ykhc.org/one-covid19-case-in-yk-delta-july25/
- On July 27, YKHC was notified that an individual who resides in a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19 while in Anchorage and subsequently returned to the region. The individual was not notified about the positive result until after travel occurred and is currently self-isolating. More here: https://www.ykhc.org/one-new-covid19-case-in-ykdelta-july27/
- On Saturday, July 28, YKHC identified two new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta. YKHC confirmed through case investigations of both cases that while these individuals tested positive for COVID-19, they are no longer considered contagious for the virus and their COVID-19 infections have resolved. As evidenced in previous cases around the region and worldwide, it is not uncommon for positive COVID-19 test results to persist in individuals who were previously infected with the virus. **Case 1:** YKHC confirmed an individual tested positive for COVID-19 in Bethel. The individual was identified through testing of inbound passengers at the Bethel airport. 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. **Case 2:** YKHC confirmed an individual who temporarily resides in a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19. The individual was identified through testing of inbound passengers at the Bethel airport. The individual is not a resident of the YK Delta and, therefore per State reporting protocols, will not be counted in the YK Delta

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Situation Report (continued)

positive case count. More on both July 28 cases here: https://www.ykhc.org/two-covid19-cases-in-ykdelta-july28/

- On July 29, YKHC identified two new COVID-19 cases in Bethel. **Case 1**: YKHC confirmed a Bethel resident tested positive for COVID-19. The individual was tested in Bethel in accordance with Health Mandate 18. **Case 2:** YKHC was notified that an individual who resides in a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19 outside of Alaska and subsequently returned to the region. The individual was not notified about the positive test result until after travel occurred. The individual is currently self-isolating in Bethel and YKHC is working with the State of Alaska Section of Epidemiology to conduct contact tracing, follow-up testing, and ensure precautions are taken to protect people the individual may have been in close contact with. All close contacts have been identified and provided instructions for follow-up testing and precautions to take. More on these cases here: https://www.ykhc.org/two-covid19-cases-in-bethel-july29/

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.