

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 2 p.m. October 30, YKHC has performed 28,265 tests — 26,698 are negative and about 867 are pending. Three specimens were rejected by a private lab. YKHC has tested individuals in 33 communities in our service area, including Bethel.

- YKHC has confirmed or identified a total of 736 positive COVID-19 cases in Bethel and the YK Delta. 29 of these total cases were residents either tested out-of-region or were not infectious while here, but per State reporting protocols, will be counted as YK Delta cases. 31 of these total cases are non-residents, so per State reporting protocols, the official State YK Delta case count will remain at 705.
- Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 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 and Friday from 2:00-4:00 p.m., but by appointment only. Individuals concerned with COVID-19-related symptoms should call their local village clinic, or in Bethel call 543-6949, 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 736 confirmed or known positives cases in the YK Delta, YKHC is managing contact tracing and follow-up testing

for 714 of these cases — as they were identified in-region, are YK Delta residents currently elsewhere in state, or considered infectious while here. 566 of these 736 cases are considered recovered, with 166 remaining active and 4 deceased.

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- **Due to a significant increase in COVID-19 cases across the region, case investigations are on-going to identify whether cases are travel-related, a result of close contact, or a result of community-based transmission.**
- On October 23, YKHC identified fifty-six new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta.
 - **6 cases in Bethel:** YKHC confirmed six Bethel residents tested positive for COVID-19. Early contact tracing indicates these cases are likely related to community-based transmission.
 - **39 cases in Chevak:** YKHC confirmed 39 Chevak residents tested positive for COVID-19. Early contact tracing indicates these cases are likely related to community-based transmission.
 - **1 case in Hooper Bay:** YKHC confirmed a Hooper Bay resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **2 cases in two YKHC service area villages:** YKHC confirmed that two YKHC service area village residents tested positive for COVID-19 while in two different service area villages.
 - **8 cases in Quinhagak:** YKHC confirmed eight Quinhagak residents tested positive for COVID-19. Early contact tracing indicates these cases are likely related to community-based transmission.
 - **Case correction, -1 case in Chevak on Oct. 22:** YKHC received confirmation of an administrative reporting error that incorrectly reported a lab result for a Chevak resident as positive, when in fact the lab result was negative. This error has been corrected on YKHC's COVID-19 dashboard.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/fifty-six-new-covid19-cases-yk-delta-oct23/>
- On October 24, YKHC identified nine new COVID-19 cases in the

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YK Delta.

- **Case 1:** YKHC confirmed one Aniak resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 2, 3, and 4:** YKHC confirmed three Bethel residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 5:** YKHC confirmed one Hooper Bay resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 6 and 7:** YKHC confirmed two Quinhagak residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 8:** YKHC confirmed one Russian Mission resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 9:** YKHC confirmed a resident of a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19. Early contact tracing indicates this case could be travel-related.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/nine-covid19-cases-in-ykdelta-oct24/>
- On October 25, YKHC identified three new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta.
 - **Case 1:** YKHC confirmed one Bethel resident tested positive for COVID-19. Early contact tracing indicates this case is likely related to community-based transmission.
 - **Case 2:** YKHC confirmed one Toksook Bay resident tested positive for COVID-19. Early contact tracing indicates this case is likely related to community-based transmission.
 - **Case 3:** YKHC confirmed one Chevak resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/three-covid19-cases-in-ykdelta-oct25/>
- On October 26, YKHC identified twelve new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta.
 - **Case 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5:** YKHC confirmed five Bethel residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 6:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area resident tested positive for COVID-19 in Bethel.
 - **Case 7:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area resident tested positive for COVID-19 in their village and subsequently traveled to Quinhagak. The individual was not notified about the positive result until after travel occurred.
 - **Case 8 and 9:** YKHC confirmed two Toksook Bay residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 10:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area resident tested positive for COVID-19 in Bethel.
 - **Case 11:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case 12:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area resident tested positive for COVID-19 in Bethel.
 - **Case Correction, +1 case in Quinhagak on Oct. 13:** On October 13, YKHC confirmed one Quinhagak resident tested positive for COVID-19. The individual was previously notified of their test result. YKHC will revise the dashboard to reflect this case.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/twelve-new-covid19-cases-yk-delta-oct26/>
- On October 27, YKHC identified twenty-six new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta.
 - **7 cases in Bethel:** YKHC confirmed seven Bethel residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **7 cases in Toksook Bay:** YKHC confirmed seven Toksook Bay residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **1 case in YKHC service area village:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **2 cases in YKHC service area village:** YKHC confirmed two YKHC service area residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **6 cases in Chevak:** YKHC confirmed six Chevak residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **3 cases in Quinhagak:** YKHC confirmed three Quinhagak residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/twenty-six-new-covid19-cases-yk-delta-oct27/>
- On October 28, YKHC identified twenty new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta.
 - **3 cases in Bethel:** YKHC confirmed three Bethel residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **12 cases in Chevak:** YKHC confirmed 12 Chevak residents tested positive for COVID-19.

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- **1 case in YKHC service area village:** YKHC confirmed one YKHC service area village resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **1 case in Hooper Bay:** YKHC confirmed one Hooper Bay resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **1 case in Quinhagak:** YKHC confirmed one Quinhagak resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **1 case in Toksook Bay:** YKHC confirmed one Toksook Bay resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **Case correction, +1 case in Quinhagak on Oct. 23:** YKHC confirmed one Quinhagak resident tested positive for COVID-19. The individual was previously notified of their test result and has been in isolation. YKHC will revise the dashboard to reflect this case.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/twenty-new-covid19-cases-yk-delta-oct28/>
- On October 29, YKHC identified forty-one new COVID-19 cases in the YK Delta. Due to a significant increase in COVID-19 cases across the region, case investigations are on-going to identify whether cases are travel-related, a result of close contact, or a result of community-based transmission.
 - **1 case in Aniak:** YKHC confirmed one Aniak resident tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **11 cases in Bethel:** YKHC confirmed 11 Bethel residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **15 cases in Chevak:** YKHC confirmed 15 Chevak residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **1 case in YKHC service area village:** YKHC confirmed 1 resident of a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19.
 - **7 cases in YKHC service area village:** YKHC confirmed 7 residents of a YKHC service area village tested positive for COVID-19.
- **6 cases in Toksook Bay:** YKHC confirmed 6 Toksook Bay residents tested positive for COVID-19.
 - More on the cases here: <https://www.ykhc.org/forty-one-new-covid19-cases-yk-delta-oct29/>
- Following a meeting with Alaska Unified Command and a conversation with IHS Alaska Area Director, YKHC received additional PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for providers on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic in the YK Delta.
 - Read the message from YKHC's President & CEO here: <https://www.ykhc.org/ykhc-receiving-additional-ppe-oct23/>
- Based on existing hospital capacity and the current rate of COVID-19 transmission in the YK Delta, Alaska epidemiologist Dr. Tom Hennessy estimates the capacity of inpatient beds at the YK Delta Regional Hospital could be exceeded as a result of the virus within the month if the public does not follow precautions to help flatten the curve.
 - Read a Public Alert sent by YKHC's President & CEO to Tribes and the projections provided by Dr. Hennessy at: <https://www.ykhc.org/public-alert-urgent-action-needed-to-flatten-curve-oct28/>
- COVID-19 is spreading quickly, widely, and undetected in Bethel. Don't panic, know your status! YKHC, Orutsarmiut Native Council, and the City of Bethel are sponsoring a mass drive-thru COVID-19 testing event on Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the CHSB parking lot (across from the hospital).
 - More here: <https://www.ykhc.org/nov7-covid19-drive-thru-testing-event/>
- Did you miss the October 29 Tribal Call? Listen to the recording online at: <https://www.ykhc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/102920-Local-Government-Call.mp3>

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.