



CITY OF UNALASKA

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www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/coronavirus

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NEWS RELEASE

Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 8:30am, News Release no. 232

Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: MEDIUM

Because both the statewide and regional alert levels related to COVID-19 have been raised to high and have remained at that level for a couple of weeks, Unalaska Unified Command is raising the community's local risk factor to **MEDIUM**.

Unified Command is not recommending that the City Council mandate any increased community-wide protective measures beyond the advisories already in place. This is due to the easy availability and effectiveness of the COVID vaccines, and because we have no known community spread of the virus. All known active cases of the virus in Unalaska have a recent travel history, are industry related and the affected individuals are in quarantine. Also, the IFHS clinic is able to maintain their standard of care for all patients.

Unified Command continues to watch this situation closely and encourages everyone to remain responsible in their personal protective practices to avoid getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. If you are not vaccinated, increased vigilance is strongly encouraged: stay six feet from other people, wear a face covering when around others, wash your hands frequently and stay home if you are ill. Avoid crowds and close contact with others.

THE DELTA VARIANT: The Delta variant of the virus that causes COVID-19 is more highly contagious than earlier variants. This means it is easier to contract the Delta variant of the virus and infected individuals will pass it on to more people as compared to earlier variants. Data shows that infected individuals will pass the virus on to 5-8 other people. The Delta strain is now the most dominant strain in the United States and in Alaska, 80% of new cases detected are the Delta variant. The Delta variant also appears to lead to more hospitalizations and deaths than earlier strains, especially in unvaccinated people.

EVERYONE IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO GET THE COVID-19 VACCINE: In Alaska, 96% of all COVID cases, 95% of all hospitalizations and 98% of all deaths to date were in unvaccinated individuals. Choosing to get vaccinated is the single most important action you can take to protect you and your family.

- Everyone age 12 & over is eligible to receive the vaccine
- Top reasons to get the COVID-19 vaccine:
 - Shown to be extremely effective at preventing severe illness, hospitalization and death
 - Reduces transmission of the virus
 - Provides protection while congregating with others & while traveling
 - Increased vaccination rates means decreased cases of COVID-19
- Talk to your health care provider, and get vaccine facts at cdc.gov/coronavirus/vaccines
- If you have received an initial dose of the Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, be sure to get your second dose too. Evidence suggests two doses of an mRNA vaccine are more effective than one dose of an mRNA vaccine, especially against emerging variants, such as Delta.

Call the IFHS Clinic at 581-1202 or Oonalaska Wellness at 581-2742 to schedule a vaccine appointment (no cost to the patient)!

UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT: All current active cases are incoming industry workers with a recent travel history, and all affected individuals have been, and are in quarantine:

Current Active Cases (all Industry Related) ----- 24
Industry Related -----24
Travel Related ----- 0
Community Acquired ----- 0
Household Acquired ----- 0

STATE OF ALASKA CASE COUNT: Data as of July 27, 2021.

STATEWIDE STATISTICS	Resident	Non-Resident	Total
Cumulative Cases	71,286	3,097	74,383
Cumulative Hospitalizations	1,696	59	1,755
Deaths Statewide	377	7	384
State's Case Count for Unalaska	196	530	726

COVID VACCINES ADMINISTERED LOCALLY: The data below includes both residents and non-residents vaccinated in Unalaska. The State vaccine dashboard for the Aleutians West Region shows 70% of the population age 12 and over with at least their first dose of the vaccine and 59% of the population fully vaccinated.

COVID Vaccines Administered Locally	Number Fully Vaccinated
IFHS & E. Aleutian Tribes	3,393
APIA / Oonalaska Wellness	1,026
Total	4,419

Next Scheduled News Release: August 25, 2021