



# Petersburg Medical Center

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## PRESS RELEASE

Date: July 16, 2021  
From: Petersburg Medical Center

**Alaska Public Health notified Petersburg Medical Center today that two of the positive cases previously identified in July are positive for the Delta variant. One patient is a resident of Petersburg, the second patient is a non-resident.**

An additional two new COVID-19 cases have been identified today. These cases are Petersburg residents and have been instructed to isolate at home. Public Health has been notified and will commence contact tracing.

The dashboard has been adjusted with additional information provided by patients and Public Health:

Active cases: 13      Resident cases: 7      Non-resident cases: 6

All positive samples are referred to the Alaska Public Health Virology Laboratory in Fairbanks for genomic sequencing. The Department of Health and Social Services reports at least 40% of all positive cases are the Delta variant which is showing to be more easily spread and causes a higher viral load in patients.

A recently published State of Alaska Epidemiology Bulletin takes a look at vaccine breakthrough cases in Alaska and can be viewed here: [11 - VB Bulletin 2 Final.pdf](#) Vaccine Breakthrough cases have been identified in Petersburg.

**There is community spread of COVID-19 in Petersburg.** Many communities in Alaska are facing increases in cases. If you develop a fever and symptoms, such as fever, cough or difficulty breathing, call the Petersburg Medical Center COVID Information Line at 907-772-5788 for medical advice. Take steps to prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community. Do not go to the hospital or clinic before calling the Information Line. Persons with severe symptoms requiring ambulance transport are asked to notify the 911 dispatcher that you have COVID-19 symptoms. If you test positive, please cooperate with Public Health, your close contacts will be provided instructions to quarantine and monitor for symptoms. Telling people in advance of the Public Health call will greatly assist in controlling continued spread of COVID-19 in our community. Contact tracing is extremely important for preventing further spread of COVID-19.



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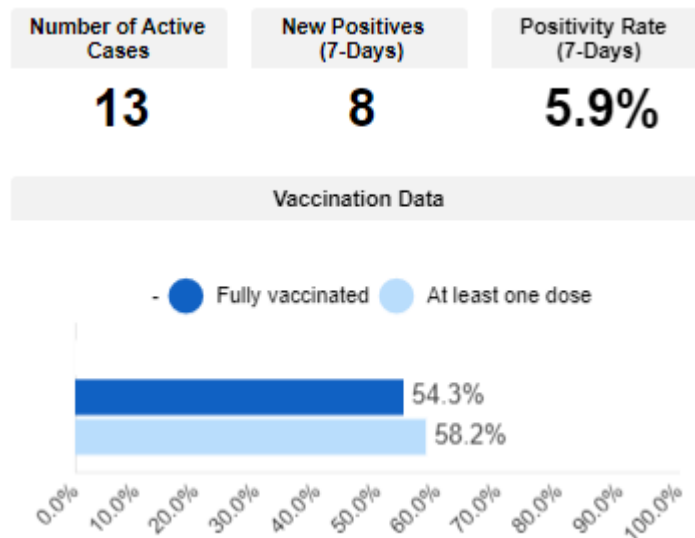
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**Vaccines:** The COVID-19 vaccine provides good protection against serious COVID illness that results in hospitalization and death. Greater than 95% of the hospitalized patients in Alaska are not vaccinated. Vaccinations for people aged 12 and older may be scheduled by calling the COVID Information Line at 907-772-5788. People who are fully vaccinated and exposed to a positive case do not need to quarantine but do need to monitor for symptoms.

For detailed information on COVID in Petersburg, visit the [Petersburg COVID Dashboard](#), the information is updated daily.



Please refer to the CDC webpage for information on symptoms and precautionary measures at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Additional current information on COVID-19 is available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at <http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/default.aspx>

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