

Press Release

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**Weekly COVID-19 Summary
14 Individuals Test Positive for COVID-19**

January 23, 2023 - Utqiagvik, Alaska: (New cases) As of 12pm today, the Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA) was notified that fourteen (14) Utqiagvik residents have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past week. **Individuals waiting for test results or have tested positive on a home test kit, please self-isolate.**

(Active cases) Eight (8) active cases are in the ASNA health care service area, including non-residents.

Atqasuk - 0

Nuiqsut - 0

Utqiagvik - 8

Kaktovik - 0

Point Lay - 0

Wainwright - 0

(Hospitalizations & Deaths) Due to COVID-19, there are no (0) hospitalizations at Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital (SSMH). SSMH has a cumulative total of one hundred (100) hospitalizations. The North Slope Borough has a cumulative total of thirteen (13) residents who have passed away.

(Cumulative total) The North Slope Borough (NSB) has a cumulative total of four thousand four hundred fifty-one (4,451) resident cases to date.

(Alert Levels) As of January 17, 2022: The current statewide alert level - based on the reported number of cases per 100,000 people over the past 7 days – is low at 89.18 cases per 100,000. As defined by CDC, North Slope Borough’s community level is low. Reported cases: 21 over the past 7 days.

Influenza (flu), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and COVID-19 are all actively circulating in our communities. Please wash your hands or use hand sanitizer as much as you can, wear a mask when you are sick, cover your sneezes and coughs, and don’t be around children and elders when you are sick as you might make them sick. Flu and COVID-19 vaccinations are available. COVID-19 vaccine appointments are available, please call the SSMH Appointment Line at (907) 852-9380. The vaccine has no out-of-pocket costs. SSMH staff are also offering the vaccine in the village clinics.

SSMH is committed to providing community testing. Testing will now include Influenza-A, Influenza-B, COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) diagnoses. Testing is available at the SSMH Emergency Department. Tests acquired at SSMH are available with no out-of-pocket costs.

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