STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Two new cases of COVID-19 reported in two Alaska communities

May 22, 2020 ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) today announced two new cases of COVID-19 in: Douglas (1) and Nome (1). This brings the total Alaska case count to 404.

This report reflects data from 12:00 a.m. until 11:59 p.m. on May 21 that posted at noon today on the Alaska Coronavirus Response Hub.

The Norton Sound Health Corporation yesterday <u>announced the Nome case</u> as the second one in that region. That case is still under investigation by the Alaska Section of Epidemiology, Public Health Nursing and community partners in the region. This is the first case for the community of Douglas and the 31<sup>st</sup> case for the City and Borough of Juneau.

Of the new Alaska cases, one is male and one is female. One is aged 10-19 and one is aged 20-29. There have been a total of 44 hospitalizations and 10 deaths with no new hospitalizations or deaths reported yesterday. Recovered cases now remain at 356, with no new recovered cases recorded yesterday. A total of 41,446 tests have been conducted.

"As we head into the Memorial Day weekend and Alaska enters phases 3 and 4 of the Reopening Alaska Responsibly Plan, I want to remind Alaskans that the virus is still here and encourage everyone to continue with the personal protective measures we've been practicing for months," said Commissioner Adam Crum. Those measures include washing hands frequently, maintaining six feet of distance from non-family members, wearing a face covering in public, cleaning and disinfecting regularly, and staying home if sick and getting tested. Commissioner Crum added, "Please be mindful of Alaskans who are most vulnerable to COVID-19 and respectful of local jurisdictions that may keep more restrictions in place for a time."

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## **Questions about COVID-19?**

• For general questions and assistance, please call 2-1-1.

- For the general public, questions regarding DHSS COVID response, including mandates and alerts, can be sent to <a href="mailto:covidquestions@alaska.gov">covidquestions@alaska.gov</a>.
- For data questions, contact <a href="mailto:data.coronavirus@alaska.gov">data.coronavirus@alaska.gov</a>.
- For DHSS media inquiries, please contact <a href="mailto:clinton.bennett@alaska.gov">clinton.bennett@alaska.gov</a>.

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