

Press Release

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Lab Sample Collected from the Maniilaq Service Area Positive for Delta Variant

July 28, 2021, 5:00 pm – On July 27, 2021, Maniilaq received its first notification that a lab sample collected from the Maniilaq service area has tested positive for the Delta variant.

This does not mean that there are no other cases of Delta variant. Maniilaq only sends samples of those who have been fully vaccinated and test positive for COVID-19 to determine the strain. These numbers will also be reflected in the Northern Region of the State's numbers. The Northern Region includes the Northwest Arctic Borough, Nome Census Area, and North Slope Borough.

Getting vaccinated prevents severe illness, hospitalizations, and death. Unvaccinated people should get vaccinated and continue masking until they are fully vaccinated. With the Delta variant, this is more urgent than ever. CDC has updated [guidance for fully vaccinated people](#) based on new evidence on the Delta variant.

To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission, even if you've been fully vaccinated.

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Kotzebue Qikiqtaruk, Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivaliniq, Kobuk Laugviik, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Point Hope Tikigaaq, Selawik Akuligaaq, Shungnak Isinnaq