



PRESS RELEASE

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Weekly COVID-19 Update

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 16,389. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 1,513. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 445.

County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.		County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.	
		Cases	Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Chattahoochee	2129	86	1	Quitman	48	2	1
Clay	138	8	3	Randolph	349	3	30
Crisp	893	150	27	Schley	148	13	2
Dooly	498	55	20	Stewart	600	18	17
Harris	1130	125	29	Sumter	1217	143	70
Macon	338	25	15	Talbot	226	17	9
Marion	241	19	10	Taylor	321	29	13
Muscogee	8058	811	196	Webster	55	9	2

For more information, visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>.

Anyone wishing to be tested should register by visiting www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com, or calling the West Central Health District COVID-19 Call Center, at 706-321-6300, Option 1. Hours for the Call Center are Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. There is no charge for testing at any location.

When to get tested:

If a person has been exposed (*in close contact for more than total of 15 minutes*) to someone who tested positive for Covid-19, but **does not have symptoms**, that person should remain in quarantine for 14 days, and **wait at least 10 days to be tested**. If a person is symptomatic, or symptoms begin before day 10, then that person should be tested at that time. **Please note that even if your test results are negative, you still must remain in quarantine for the entire 14 days.** Any changes to quarantine times are left up to each local jurisdiction to determine.

Testing is held in the parking lot behind the former Columbus Health Department, on 11th Avenue and Center Street. Hours this week are:

Monday, Tuesday	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Thursday, Friday	CLOSED
Saturday, December 26 th	8:00 am to 11:00 am

Off-site testing: at the office of Dr. Jacqueline Owusu, 5401 Gunboat Dr., Ste. 27, Columbus
 Sunday, December 27th 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Drive-thru testing at all County Health Departments. *weather permitting*:

****No testing at any location Thursday, December 24th & December 25th.****

****No testing at any location January 1st.****

Chattahoochee Cusseta	Tuesday *No testing December 22nd or 29th.	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	706-989-3663
Clay Fort Gaines	Wednesday *No testing December 21st - 28th.	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-768-2355
Crisp - off-site J.R Dowdy Building, 1129 N 5th Street, Cordele	Monday through Friday	8:30 am to 11:30 am	229-276-2680
Dooly Vienna	Monday through Thursday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	229-268-4725
Harris Hamilton	Tuesday and Thursday	9:00 am to 11:00 am	706-628-5037
Macon Oglethorpe	Thursday *No testing December 31st	8:30 am to 11:00 am	478-472-8121
Marion Buena Vista	Monday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-649-5664
Quitman Georgetown	Tuesday *No testing December 21st - 29th.	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-334-3697
Randolph Cuthbert	Monday / Thursday, Dec 31 *No testing December 21st - 28th	9:00 am to 11:30 am	229-732-2414
Schley Ellaville	Monday *No testing Dec 28th	9:00 am to 11:00 am	229-937-2208
Stewart Lumpkin	Wednesday	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-838-4859
Sumter Americus	Monday and Wednesday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-924-3637
Talbot Talbotton	Monday *No testing Dec 28th	8:30 am to 11:00 am	706-786-6410
Taylor Butler	Tuesday and Thursday	8:30 am to 10:00 am	478-862-5628
Webster Preston	Monday *No testing Dec 28th	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	229-828-3225

We urge all individuals to practice these prevention measures:

- **Wear a mask or cloth face covering when you go to a public place.**
- **Remember social distancing:** six feet between you and the person closest to you.
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- **Get a flu shot!** Recommended for anyone six months of age or older.
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick.
- **Stay home** when you are sick.
- **Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- **Clean and disinfect** frequently touched objects and surfaces.

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