



PRESS RELEASE

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January 11, 2020

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Weekly COVID-19 Update

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 19,847. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 2,639. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 466.

County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.		County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.	
		Cases	Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Chattahoochee	2190	46	1	Quitman	57	8	1
Clay	158	14	3	Randolph	375	18	30
Crisp	1059	123	29	Schley	164	11	2
Dooley	595	77	23	Stewart	625	21	17
Harris	1547	330	31	Sumter	1461	172	73
Macon	437	83	15	Talbot	290	53	10
Marion	288	39	10	Taylor	390	53	14
Muscogee	10137	1578	205	Webster	74	13	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 this week are Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. There is no charge for testing at any location.

We are currently giving vaccinations to Phase 1A: paid and unpaid persons working in a healthcare setting who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials. Hospital staff, public health clinical staff, EMS, and other first responders, long term care facility (LTCF) staff, and urgent care facility staff are examples of people who will be included in this phase. Also, those 65 years of age and older and one caregiver, law enforcement, fire fighters, and other first responders. Those in 1A can register on our website for the vaccine, or call the COVID-19 Call Center, 706-321-6300, Option 1.

Anyone who would like to receive the vaccine may go to www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com and register. However, only those in Phase 1 A, will be notified for an appointment.

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 - Friday	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Saturday, January 16 th	8:00 am to 11:00 am

Off-site testing: will be held Saturday, January 16th at:
 Cathedral of Prayer Church of God in Christ 9:00 am to 11:00 am
 2201 Buena Vista Road
 Columbus

Sunday, January 17th
 Smith Grove AME Zion Church 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
 6550 Carr Street
 Columbus

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

Chattahoochee <i>Cusseta</i>	Tuesday	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	706-989-3663
Clay <i>Fort Gaines</i>	2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-768-2355
Crisp - off-site J.R Dowdy Building, 1129 N 5th Street, <i>Cordele</i>	Monday through Friday	8:30 am to 11:30 am	229-276-2680
Dooly <i>Vienna</i>	Monday through Thursday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	229-268-4725
Harris <i>Hamilton</i>	Tuesday and Friday	9:00 am to 11:00 am	706-628-5037
Macon <i>Oglethorpe</i>	Thursday	8:30 am to 11:00 am	478-472-8121
Marion <i>Buena Vista</i>	Monday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-649-5664
Quitman <i>Georgetown</i>	1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-334-3697
Randolph <i>Cuthbert</i>	Monday	9:00 am to 11:30 am	229-732-2414
Schley <i>Ellaville</i>	Monday	9:00 am to 11:00 am	229-937-2208
Stewart <i>Lumpkin</i>	Wednesday	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-838-4859
Sumter <i>Americus</i>	Monday and Wednesday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-924-3637
Talbot <i>Talbotton</i>	Monday	8:30 am to 11:00 am	706-786-6410
Taylor <i>Butler</i>	Tuesday and Thursday	8:30 am to 10:00 am	478-862-5628
Webster <i>Preston</i>	Monday	1:00 pm to 3:30 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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Serving these West Central Georgia Counties: Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, and Webster