



PRESS RELEASE

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Weekly COVID-19 Update

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 24,043. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 1,161. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 631.

County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.		County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.	
		Cases	Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Chattahoochee	2,558	158	9	Quitman	75	3	1
Clay	177	5	3	Randolph	442	20	31
Crisp	1,289	30	40	Schley	199	17	2
Dooly	710	21	27	Stewart	745	78	21
Harris	1,920	112	43	Sumter	1740	71	84
Macon	561	37	20	Talbot	351	14	15
Marion	361	17	12	Taylor	464	21	20
Muscogee	12,355	548	299	Webster	96	9	4

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 706-653-6613. Hours for the Call Center are Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, Saturday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 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 their caregivers, law enforcement, fire fighters, and other first responders. To register for the vaccine, visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com or call the COVID-19 Call Center, 706-653-6613. 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 are Monday - Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, and Saturday from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

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

Chattahoochee <i>Cusseta</i>	Tuesday *No testing 2/23	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	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm	478-472-8121
Marion <i>Buena Vista</i>	Monday *No testing 2/22	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-649-5664
Quitman <i>Georgetown</i>	1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays *No testing 2/16	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-334-3697
Randolph <i>Cuthbert</i>	Monday	9:30 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	8:30 am to 11:30 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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