Georgia Department of Public Health
West Central Health District

PRESS RELEASE

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Weekly COVID-19 Update

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 25,222. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 708. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 702.

County	*Cases*	*Cases in the last 2 wks.*	*Deaths*	*County*	*Cases*	*Cases in the last 2 wks.*	*Deaths*
Chattahoochee	2,719	73	9	Quitman	76	1	1
Clay	180	3	3	Randolph	458	15	32
Crisp	1,319	15	45	Schley	203	4	4
Dooly	749	28	29	Stewart	766	13	22
Harris	2028	64	50	Sumter	1772	22	89
Macon	585	12	23	Talbot	368	10	17
Marion	380	14	15	Taylor	488	11	20
Muscogee	13,033	422	339	Webster	98	1	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 – 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.

Georgia is now vaccinating: 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 included in this group. Adults 65 years of age and older their caregivers, law enforcement, fire fighters, and other first responders are also being vaccinated. *Beginning March 8, 2021, the following groups will also be eligible for COVID vaccine:*

- *Educators and staff - Pre-K, K-12, DECAL licensed or exempt childcare programs*
- *Adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their caregivers*
- *Parents of children with complex medical conditions*

To register for the vaccine, visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com or call the COVID-19 Call Center, 706-653-6613. Only those in the categories above 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, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. No Saturday testing. Sunday testing is held at Renew Health Clinic, 2022 10th Avenue, Suite B, Columbus, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

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

Chattahoochee *Cusseta*	Tuesday ***No testing March 23rd.**	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	706-989-3663
Clay *Fort Gaines*	2nd and 4th Wednesdays	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-768-2355
Crisp - off-site J.R Dowdy Building, 1129 N 5th Street, *Cordele*	Monday, Wednesday, 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 Friday	9:00 am to 11:00 am	706-628-5037
Macon *Oglethorpe*	Thursday	1:30 pm to 3:30 pm	478-472-8121
Marion *Buena Vista*	Monday ***No testing March 22nd.**	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-649-5664
Quitman *Georgetown*	1st and 3rd Tuesdays	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-334-3697
Randolph *Cuthbert*	Monday	9:30 am to 11:30 am	229-732-2414
Schley *Ellaville*	Monday	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	8:30 am to 11:00 am	706-786-6410
Taylor *Butler*	Tuesday	8:30 am to 11:30 am	478-862-5628
Webster *Preston*	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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