



PRESS RELEASE

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October 12, 2021

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COVID-19 Vaccine and Case Number Update

The West Central Health District is now offering free rides by Uber to health departments for any services offered. Anyone needing a ride can contact our Call Center at 706-653-6613, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, to schedule an Uber ride. This is for any health department service, not just for a Covid-19 vaccine. Visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com to find the location nearest you and make your appointment, if needed. Or verify that the county health department offers the service needed before you call to schedule your ride.

District Vaccination Numbers

County	Fully Vaccinated	Percentage	County	Fully Vaccinated	Percentage
Chattahoochee	2,058	19	Quitman	758	33
Clay	1,731	59	Randolph	2,995	43
Crisp	9,065	40	Schley	1,712	33
Dooly	4,597	33	Stewart	1,973	31
Harris	14,295	42	Sumter	13,985	47
Macon	5,188	39	Talbot	2,836	45
Marion	3,140	37	Taylor	3,456	43
Muscogee	75,321	38	Webster	1,098	42

The number of residents fully vaccinated in our district is 144,208, up from 141,224 last week.

Booster Dose

The FDA has approved a booster dose for all individuals who are age 65 and older, and those who are 50 – 64 years old with *underlying medical conditions*. These individuals **should** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech’s COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series of two doses.

Individuals who are 18 – 49 years of age with *underlying medical conditions* **may** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech’s COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.

People who are 18 – 64 years of age who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional settings **may** receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech’s COVID-19 vaccine at least six months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.

Only the Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine has been authorized as a booster dose, and the above recommendations will only apply to individuals who received the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for their primary series.

Additional Dose

An additional third dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine is available for those who are severely or moderately immunocompromised. These persons may bring documentation from their healthcare provider, or self-attest on the immunization consent form. Third doses of Pfizer or Moderna must be given at least 28 days after the second dose.

Vaccine/ Testing Registration

Visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com and click on the red bar at the top of the home page for vaccine or testing registration. For questions, or if you need assistance registering, please contact our COVID-19 Call Center at 706-653-6613. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. There is no charge for testing or vaccines at any health department location.

Vaccine Locations

All health departments are giving COVID-19 vaccines. The Columbus Health Department is giving all brands of vaccines Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Appointments are preferred, but not required. Please visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com for other locations or visit www.vaccines.gov to find a location near you.

Testing is held at the Columbus Health Department, 5601 Veterans Parkway, in a drive-thru fashion, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com for testing days and times at all other health departments.

COVID-19 Cases

<i>County</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases in the last 2 wks.</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Cases in the last 2 wks.</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Chattahoochee	4,885	249	13	Quitman	119	0	3
Clay	231	1	4	Randolph	590	12	38
Crisp	1,840	22	63	Schley	315	15	7
Dooly	1,076	34	36	Stewart	1,325	62	28
Harris	3,109	84	76	Sumter	2,717	57	115
Macon	837	13	35	Talbot	573	8	24
Marion	653	14	32	Taylor	742	14	31
Muscogee	20,469	391	521	Webster	166	14	6

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 39,647, up from 39,114 last week. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 990, down from 1,330 last week. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 1,032, up from 996.

Current CDC Prevention Guidance

Due to the number of new COVID-19 cases, the CDC recommends that all persons, fully vaccinated or not, wear a mask in any public indoor location. Physical distancing is also recommended at this time, as well as these guidelines:

- **Wash your hands** often for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- **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