



PRESS RELEASE

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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. You must call the Call Center to schedule your free ride. Rides scheduled by any other means will be at normal Uber fees.

District Vaccination Numbers

County	Fully Vaccinated	Percentage	County	Fully Vaccinated	Percentage
Chattahoochee	2,086	20	Quitman	765	33
Clay	1,778	60	Randolph	3,047	44
Crisp	9,190	40	Schley	1,731	33
Dooly	4,708	34	Stewart	1,987	32
Harris	14,433	42	Sumter	14,189	47
Macon	5,272	40	Talbot	2,880	46
Marion	3,198	38	Taylor	3,509	43
Muscogee	76,149	39	Webster	1,113	43

The number of residents fully vaccinated in our district is 146,035, up from 144,208 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	5,015	327	13	Quitman	120	1	3
Clay	232	1	4	Randolph	592	8	38
Crisp	1,846	15	63	Schley	323	11	7
Dooley	1,076	23	36	Stewart	1,324	10	28
Harris	3,134	75	76	Sumter	2,729	24	120
Macon	838	11	35	Talbot	575	7	25
Marion	656	7	33	Taylor	743	9	32
Muscogee	20,588	308	533	Webster	169	6	6

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 39,960, up from 39,647 last week. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 843, down from 990 last week. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 1,052, up from 1,032.

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