



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Covid-19 Update

Most counties in the district are seeing very small increases in the number of new cases, with the exception of Chattahoochee County. Thirteen counties reported 10 or fewer new cases each. Eleven counties reported no new deaths; a total of 20 deaths were reported.

### COVID-19 Cases

County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.		County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.	
		Cases	Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Chattahoochee	6,231	197	17	Quitman	245	14	3
Clay	363	10	6	Randolph	857	4	43
Crisp	2,545	0	71	Schley	526	5	10
Dooly	1,532	0	39	Stewart	2,081	9	32
Harris	5,134	6	99	Sumter	3,913	6	154
Macon	1,199	4	41	Talbot	940	3	31
Marion	959	3	42	Taylor	1,142	2	39
Muscogee	31,966	91	698	Webster	252	1	8

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 59,885. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 355 with Chattahoochee County reporting the highest number, and Muscogee County reporting the second highest. The death toll from the virus currently stands at 1,333.

Drive-thru Testing is held at the Columbus Health Department lower parking lot, at 5601 Veterans Parkway. Days/hours are Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Pre-registration is not required at this location. Testing is also available at the Shirley B. Winston Recreation Center, 5025 Steam Mill Road, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Pre-registration for testing is strongly encouraged at the Recreation Center; please visit [www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com](http://www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com) to register, and for days and times at other health departments.

### District Vaccination Numbers

County	Fully Vaccinated		County	Fully Vaccinated	
	Vaccinated	Percentage		Vaccinated	Percentage
Chattahoochee	2,284	22	Quitman	833	36
Clay	2,175	74	Randolph	3,381	48
Crisp	10,135	45	Schley	1,903	36
Dooly	5,198	38	Stewart	2,178	35
Harris	15,390	45	Sumter	15,907	53
Macon	5,876	44	Talbot	3,128	49
Marion	3,606	43	Taylor	3,790	47
Muscogee	83,449	43	Webster	1,210	46

The number of residents fully vaccinated in our district is 160,779.

The CDC has recommended that the wait time to receive a vaccine be eliminated for anyone who received monoclonal antibody treatment. They may proceed with vaccination at their earliest opportunity.

### Booster Doses

All three COVID vaccines – Pfizer, Moderna and Janssen – have been given EUA for *booster* doses for those 18 and older. The Pfizer vaccine has been given EUA for *booster* doses for those 12 and older. For those who received the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, the booster shot should be at least five months after their initial series. All those who received the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are recommended to be given two or more months after their initial dose.

Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose, except for those under 18; Pfizer is the only brand that has been given EUA for boosters for this age group. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received and others may prefer to get a different brand.

### Additional Doses for those Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised

The chart below shows dosing schedule for patients in these age groups. These persons may bring documentation from their healthcare provider, or self-attest on the immunization consent form as to their health status.

<u>Primary Vaccine</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Number of Primary &amp; Additional</u>	<u>Number of Boosters</u>	<u>Time between 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</u>	<u>Time between 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> dose</u>	<u>Time between 3<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> dose</u>
Pfizer-BioNTech	5–11 years	3	N/A	21 days	≥28 days	N/A
Pfizer-BioNTech	≥12 years	3	1	21 days	≥28 days	≥3 months
Moderna	≥18 years	3	1	28 days	≥ 28 days	>3 months
Janssen/J&J	≥18 years	1 Janssen, followed by 1 mRNA	1	≥ 28 days	≥2 months	N/A

### Vaccine Locations

The Columbus Health Department is giving all brands of vaccines inside the clinic Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for those five years of age and older, at 5601 Veterans Parkway. Appointments are preferred, but not required. Please visit [www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com](http://www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com) to make an appointment and for schedules at other district health departments. To find other vaccine locations, visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov).

### Current CDC Prevention Guidance

The CDC recommends that all persons stay up to date on their vaccines and get tested if you are having symptoms. Other guidelines to stay healthy include:

- Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Eat a healthy diet with plenty of fruits, vegetables, and lean meats.
- Exercise, sunshine (vitamin D), and supplements can help boost immunity. Check with a health care provider.
- 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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