



West Central Health District

PRESS RELEASE

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COVID-19 Vaccine and Case Number Update

Free Uber rides to health departments are still offered for any services, except Covid-19 testing. 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. To make an appointment, if needed, or to find services at the location nearest you, visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com. Please 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 other means will be at normal Uber fees.

District Vaccination Numbers

County	Fully Vaccinated	Percentage	County	Fully Vaccinated	Percentage
Chattahoochee	2,171	21	Quitman	793	35
Clay	1,982	67	Randolph	3,217	46
Crisp	9,761	43	Schley	1,844	35
Dooly	5,021	37	Stewart	2,106	33
Harris	14,955	44	Sumter	15,243	51
Macon	5,619	42	Talbot	3,010	48
Marion	3,423	41	Taylor	3,665	45
Muscogee	80,142	41	Webster	1,169	45

The number of residents fully vaccinated in our district is 154,121. There is no charge for Covid vaccines at any health department clinic.

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 16 and 17. For those who received the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, the booster shot should be six months or more after their initial series. All those who received the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are recommended for those who received their initial dose two or more months ago.

Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. Some people may prefer the vaccine type that they originally received and others, may prefer to get a different booster. The CDC's recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots.

Additional Doses

An *additional* third dose of the Pfizer vaccine is available for those who are severely or moderately

immunocompromised aged 12 and older. The Moderna vaccine is approved for those aged 18 and older. These persons may bring documentation from their healthcare provider, or self-attest on the immunization consent form as to their health status. Additional 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

The Columbus Health Department is giving all brands of vaccines Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm for those 12 and older at the drive thru location at 5601 Veterans Parkway. Vaccines for those five to 11-years-old are also available inside the health department Monday through Friday until 4:00 pm. Appointments are preferred, but not required. Please visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com for all locations or www.vaccines.gov to find a location near you.

Drive-thru Testing is now being held at the Columbus Civic Center, 400 4th Avenue, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm through January 14th. Please enter from Lumpkin Boulevard. Please visit www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com for testing days and times at other health departments.

COVID-19 Cases

County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.		County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.	
		Cases	Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Chattahoochee	5,536	63	16	Quitman	133	11	3
Clay	245	9	4	Randolph	639	22	40
Crisp	1,953	84	66	Schley	363	15	8
Dooly	1,145	53	38	Stewart	1,454	34	30
Harris	3,562	274	86	Sumter	3,089	233	134
Macon	941	88	40	Talbot	685	84	29
Marion	676	34	34	Taylor	861	92	34
Muscogee	23,554	1,972	596	Webster	190	12	7

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 45,026. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 3,080. The death toll from the virus currently stands at 1,165.

Current CDC Prevention Guidance

The CDC recommends that all persons, fully vaccinated or not, wear a mask in any public indoor location. Physical distancing is also recommended, 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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