



PRESS RELEASE

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West Central Health District
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COVID-19 Update

The number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 7,626. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 236.

County	Cases	Deaths	County	Cases	Deaths
Chattahoochee	552	1	Quitman	27	1
Clay	69	2	Randolph	241	26
Crisp	350	14	Schley	46	1
Dooly	236	14	Stewart	244	5
Harris	591	15	Sumter	708	56
Macon	166	10	Talbot	123	3
Marion	128	4	Taylor	65	2
Muscogee	4044	80	Webster	36	2

For more information, visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>.

The West Central Health District has established a COVID-19 Call Center, 706-321-6300, Option 1. The District also has a toll-free number for COVID-19 information, 1-855-962-0955. After the recording, callers may leave a message which will be returned within 24 hours.

Anyone wishing to be tested must register by visiting www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com or calling 706-321-6300, Option 1. All persons to be tested must be Georgia residents, but they do not have to be symptomatic. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

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|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fever | Chills | Headache |
| Cough | Nausea | Diarrhea |
| Muscle Pain | Sore Throat | Congestion or runny nose |
| Shortness of Breath | Repeated Shaking with Chills | New Loss of Taste or Smell |

Elderly individuals and those with chronic medical conditions have increased risk for COVID-19.

When to get tested:

If a person has been exposed (*in close contact for more than 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. A negative test does not mean your quarantine period is over. You must remain quarantined for the full 14 days.

Specimen collection is held **Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am to 11:00 am, in the parking lot behind the former Columbus Health Department, on 11th Avenue and Center Street. Saturday, August 1st, testing will be from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.** There is no charge for testing at any location. Due to the number of individuals to be tested, wait times may vary at all locations.

Other County Health Departments offer drive-thru collection, *weather permitting*:

Chattahoochee <i>Cusseta</i>	Tuesday and Thursday <i>Every other Monday</i>	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	706-989-3663
Clay <i>Fort Gaines</i>	Wednesday	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-768-2355
Crisp- off site- J.R Dowdy Building, 1129 N 5th Street, <i>Cordele</i>	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	8:30 am to 11:00 am	229-276-2680
Dooly <i>Vienna</i>	Monday - Friday	8:30 am to 12:30 pm	229-268-4725
Harris <i>Hamilton</i>	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	9:00 am to 11:30 am	706-628-5037
Macon <i>Oglethorpe</i>	Tuesday and Thursday	8:30 am to 10:30 am	478-472-8121
Marion <i>Buena Vista</i>	Monday and Wednesday	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-649-5664
Quitman <i>Georgetown</i>	Tuesday	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-334-3697
Randolph <i>Cuthbert</i>	Monday, Thursday, Friday	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-732-2414
Schley <i>Ellaville</i>	Monday and Tuesday	9:00 am to 11:00 am	229-937-2208
Stewart <i>Lumpkin</i>	Wednesday and Friday <i>Every other Monday</i>	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-838-4859
Sumter <i>Americus</i>	Monday and Wednesday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm	229-924-3637
Talbot <i>Talbotton</i>	Monday and Wednesday	8:30 am to 11:00 am	706-786-6410
Taylor <i>Butler</i>	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	9:00 am to 11:00 am	478-862-5628
Webster <i>Preston</i>	Monday	9:00 am to 12:00 pm 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	229-828-3225

Be sure to call before going to a doctor's office, emergency room, or urgent care center if you have been exposed to someone with the virus, and if you have symptoms.

We urge all individuals to practice these prevention measures:

- **Wear a mask or cloth face covering when you go to a store, office, or 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. If soap and water are not available, 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.

For more information, people may call our COVID-19 call center at 706-321-6300, or visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> or www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com.

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