

PRESS RELEASE

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West Central Health District 2100 Comer Avenue • Columbus, GA 31904 706-321-6108 • Fax 706-321-6126 www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com August 23, 2021 Pamela Kirkland, Public Relations/Information Coordinator pamela.kirkland@dph.ga.gov

COVID-19 Update

**The FDA has approved the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 for ages 16 and up. Those aged 12 to 15 may be vaccinated with this vaccine under the Emergency Use Authorization. Certain immunocompromised individuals may receive a third dose under the EUA. The Moderna and Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccines are approved for use in anyone 18 years of age and older.

District Vaccination Numbers

	Fully		Fully			
County	Vaccinated	Percentage	County	Vaccinated	Percentage	
Chattahoochee	1,773	17	Quitman	700	31	
Clay	1,489	50	Randolph	2,407	35	
Crisp	7,751	34	Schley	1,361	26	
Dooly	3,875	28	Stewart	1,735	28	
Harris	12,472	37	Sumter	11,957	40	
Macon	4,366	33	Talbot	2,448	39	
Marion	2,626	31	Taylor	2,860	35	
Muscogee	65,656	34	Webster	944	36	

The number of residents fully vaccinated in our district is 124,420.

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. 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.

<u>Testing</u> 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

	Cases in				Cases in		
	the last				the last		
County	Cases	2 wks.	Deaths	County	Cases	2 wks.	Deaths
Chattahoochee	4,333	95	13	Quitman	90	5	2
Clay	205	7	3	Randolph	530	16	33
Crisp	1,644	115	60	Schley	265	22	5
Dooly	911	66	32	Stewart	1,069	10	26
Harris	2,620	173	64	Sumter	2,232	239	98
Macon	715	52	33	Talbot	480	45	20
Marion	531	56	65	Taylor	589	51	23
Muscogee	17,290	1,263	447	Webster	121	4	4

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 33,625. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 2,219. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 887.

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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