



# PRESS RELEASE

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## COVID-19 Vaccine and Case Number Update

The FDA has granted approval of the Pfizer BioNTech Covid-19 Vaccine to five- to 11-year-old children under an Emergency Use Authorization. The Columbus Health Department is having pediatric vaccine clinics Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm inside the clinic. Parents or a legal guardian must sign the consent form for the vaccine for their child. Pediatric vaccine clinics are planned for Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the same time beginning November 16<sup>th</sup>. There is no charge for Covid vaccines at any health department clinic.

Drive-thru Covid-19 vaccines for those 12 and older, and Covid-19 testing will be available on Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Columbus Health Department, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. No other services will be available, and all other county health department locations will be closed.

Free Uber rides to health departments for any services offered, except Covid-19 testing, are still available. 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](http://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	2,152	20	Quitman	782	34
Clay	1,850	63	Randolph	3,129	45
Crisp	9,390	41	Schley	1,804	35
Dooley	4,909	36	Stewart	2,046	33
Harris	14,798	43	Sumter	14,637	49
Macon	5,456	41	Talbot	2,979	47
Marion	3,306	39	Taylor	3,609	44
Muscogee	78,257	40	Webster	1,138	44

The number of residents fully vaccinated in our district is 150,242 up from 148,549 last week.

### Booster Dose

As of last week, all three COVID vaccines – Pfizer, J&J and Moderna – have been given EUA for booster doses for some individuals.

For individuals who received a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, the following groups are eligible for a booster shot at 6 months or more after their initial series:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- Age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings

For the nearly 15 million people who received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are also recommended for those who are 18 and older and who were vaccinated 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 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](http://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. Appointments are preferred, but not required. Please visit [www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com](http://www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com) for other locations or visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov) to find a location near you.

Drive-thru Testing is held at the Columbus Health Department, 5601 Veterans Parkway, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please visit [www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com](http://www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com) for testing days and times at all other health departments.

## COVID-19 Cases

County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.		County	Cases	Cases in the last 2 wks.	
		Deaths	Deaths			Deaths	Deaths
Chattahoochee	5,207	52	15	Quitman	122	2	3
Clay	232	0	4	Randolph	602	2	39
Crisp	1,855	2	64	Schley	337	10	7
Dooly	1,081	1	38	Stewart	1,328	1	28
Harris	3,204	34	82	Sumter	2,789	49	125
Macon	848	6	37	Talbot	586	8	27
Marion	662	2	33	Taylor	758	7	32
Muscogee	20,904	171	564	Webster	172	0	6

The cumulative number of reported cases in the West Central Health District is 40,687, up from 40,290 last week. The number of cases in the last two weeks is 347, down from 480 last week. The number of deaths from the virus currently stands at 1,104, up from 1,089.

### 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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