



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Department of Public Health  
Contact: Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director  
Telephone: 910-433-3705  
[jgreen@co.cumberland.nc.us](mailto:jgreen@co.cumberland.nc.us)

## ***COVID-19 Update*** **Cumberland's Count Jumps to 154 Cases**

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports there are 154 positive COVID-19 cases involving Cumberland County residents. The count has grown by 21 cases since Tuesday's update, the largest daily increase in positive cases since the first two cases were reported on March 19.

“As local providers and labs increase their capacity for testing and decrease the turnaround time for results, it is not surprising to see a jump in the number of cases,” said Health Director Dr. Jennifer Green.

The Health Department sends test kits to the North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health. Testing is also available at private providers and health care systems. The Health Department is prioritizing testing for those that meet the criteria for the state lab on a case by case basis. The department will test symptomatic individuals who meet the following criteria:

- Hospitalized patients
- Healthcare workers or first responders (e.g., EMS, law enforcement, fire department)
- Patients who live in or have regular contact with a high-risk setting (e.g. long-term care facility, homeless shelter, correctional facility, migrant farm worker camp)
- Persons who are at higher risk of severe illness and for whom a clinician has determined that results would inform clinical management.

Testing will take place at the Health Department, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., by appointment only. Please call in advance for assessment and screening: 910-433-3655 or 910-433-3645.

Information is available on the Cumberland County COVID-19 webpage at [co.cumberland.nc.us/covid19](https://co.cumberland.nc.us/covid19) and the NC DHHS website at [ncdhhs.gov](https://ncdhhs.gov).

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