



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Health

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COVID-19 Update

398 New Cases, Significant Increase in Cases with 9 Percent Positivity Rate

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports 398 new COVID-19 cases and four additional deaths since the last report on Tuesday, Nov. 17. Cumberland has a total of 8,705 COVID-19 cases and 115 deaths.

Cumberland County currently has 160 cases per 100,000 residents with 9.1% of those tested returning positive for COVID-19. The daily average of positive cases in Cumberland County is 64.

According to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) COVID-19 dashboard, of the deaths in Cumberland County:

- 79% were age 65 and older
- 69% were male
- 51% were African American
- 3% were Hispanic
- 73% were hospitalized
- 84% had at least one comorbidity
- 49% lived in a congregate living setting

County Alert System Launches

[NCDHHS announced a new COVID-19 County Alert System to pinpoint counties with the highest levels of viral spread and offer specific recommendations to bring numbers down.](#) This system will help give local leaders another tool to understand how their county is faring and to make decisions about actions to slow viral spread. The map will be updated every four weeks.

The system uses metrics informed by the White House Coronavirus Task Force and North Carolina's key metrics to categorize counties into three tiers:

- Yellow: Significant Community Spread
- Orange: Substantial Community Spread
- Red: Critical Community Spread

[Cumberland County is Orange.](#) Because no one metric provides a complete picture, the COVID-19 County Alert System uses a combination of three metrics: case rate, the percent of tests that are positive, and hospital impact within the county.

To see Frequently Asked Questions on the alert system, visit the [alert page](#).

Test Before the Holidays

NCDHHS is partnering with Optum Serve and Carlie C's to provide free COVID-19 testing ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. The testing will take place Nov. 20 – 22, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., at 600 Cedar Creek Rd., Fayetteville. Preregistration is welcome but not required. Register online at <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>. Call 877-562-4850 for more information.

Staying Updated

Cumberland County has made it easy for you to stay updated on the latest information about COVID-19. You can visit our [COVID-19 webpage](#), which has a list of [COVID-19-related closures and service changes](#). The county is also sharing important information on its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.