



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Department of Public Health

Contact: Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director

E-mail: jgreen@co.cumberland.nc.us

Telephone: 910-433-3705

COVID-19 Update

146 New Cases, Guidance for Fall Activities Released

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports 146 new COVID-19 cases and two additional deaths since the Tuesday, Sept. 29, report. Cumberland County's case count is now 5,661 with 81 deaths.

Cumberland County currently has 170 cases per 10,000 residents with 7.4% of those tested returning positive for COVID-19. The daily average of positive cases in Cumberland County is 50.7.

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
- 68% were male
- 57% were African American
- 77% were hospitalized
- 88% had at least one comorbidity
- 49% lived in a congregate living setting

Interim Guidance for Halloween from NCDHHS

Any scenario in which many people gather together poses a risk for COVID-19 transmission. Local officials and organizers of Halloween activities should create and implement a plan to minimize the opportunity for COVID-19 transmission.

It is strongly recommended and encouraged that people engage in alternative Halloween activities, instead of the traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating. [View the NCDHHS guidance](#), adapted from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Halloween Guidance](#), that outlines lower and moderate risk activities, as well as the higher risk activities that should be avoided to help keep our communities safe.

Phase 3 Begins Today

North Carolina will enter into Phase 3 on Oct. 2 at 5 p.m. [Executive Order 169](#) will ease cautiously some restrictions while continuing safety measures to combat the spread of COVID-19 in response to more stable measures.

The new provisions include:

- Large outdoor venues with seating greater than 10,000 may operate with 7% occupancy for spectators.

- Smaller outdoor entertainment venues, like arenas or amphitheaters, may operate outdoors at 30% of outdoor capacity, or 100 guests, whichever is less.
- Movie theaters and conference centers may open indoor spaces to 30% of capacity, or 100 guests, whichever is less.
- Bars may operate outdoors at 30% of outdoor capacity, or 100 guests, whichever is less.
- Amusement parks may open at 30% occupancy, outdoor attractions only.
- The limits on mass gatherings will remain at 25 people indoors and 50 people outdoors.
- The 11 p.m. curfew on alcohol sales for in-person consumption in locations such as restaurants and outdoor bars will be extended to Oct. 23.

State and public health officials will continue watching the key COVID-19 trends over the next several weeks to determine if any further restrictions can be eased when the current Executive Order expires Oct. 23.

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.