



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 27, 2020

Department of Public Health

Contact: Dr. Jennifer Green, Health Director

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

Telephone: 910-433-3705

COVID-19 Update **206 New COVID-19 Cases, Cluster Report from Private Gatherings Now Available**

FAYETTEVILLE – The Department of Public Health reports 206 new COVID-19 cases and three additional deaths since the last report on Friday, Oct. 23. Cumberland County has 6,897 total COVID-19 cases in Cumberland County since the onset of the pandemic.

Using case information from Oct. 23, 6,021 cases are considered recovered. The total death toll in Cumberland from COVID-19 is 101.

Recovery data is reported using the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) estimated median time to recover of 14 days from the date of specimen collection for non-fatal COVID-19 cases who were not hospitalized, or if hospitalization status is unknown. The estimated median recovery time is 28 days from the date of specimen collection for hospitalized non-fatal COVID-19 cases. Estimates are used since patient-specific data on the actual time to resolution of all symptoms are not available for all COVID-19 cases in North Carolina.

Reporting Clusters and Guidance for Private Gatherings

In the past two weeks, North Carolina has seen an increase in COVID-19 clusters from social events and other gatherings such as parties, family gatherings, weddings and funerals according to a [new weekly report](#).

NCDHHS recently added a [NC Cluster Report on the Dashboard](#) to reflect cases associated with community spread.

NCDHHS defines clusters of COVID-19 in non-congregate living settings as:

- A minimum of five cases with illness onsets or initial positive results within a 14-day period
AND
- Plausible epidemiologic linkage between cases*

**Cases should be present in the same general setting during the same time period (e.g., same shift, same classroom, same physical area) and there should not be a more likely source of exposure for identified cases (e.g., household or close contact to a confirmed case in another setting).*

The department has also released new guidance for [private gatherings](#). Any scenario in which people gather poses a risk for COVID-19 transmission. This includes private gatherings, like cookouts or holiday parties. The new guidance will help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

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.