

CARTERET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

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For Immediate Release

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Carteret County COVID-19 Updates to COVID-19 Case Reporting Press Release #81

Carteret County, NC - Effective Friday, November 6, Carteret County will revise the County's COVID-19 reporting and data dashboard. These revisions will include additional demographic data reported every Friday.

What is Staying the Same?

- a) **Active Cases:** The County will continue providing updates on active cases Monday-Friday.
- b) **Recovered Cases:** The County will continue providing updates on recovered cases Monday-Friday.
- c) **Deaths:** The County will continue updating the public when a COVID-associated death is reported.
- d) **Hospitalizations:** The County will continue providing updates on COVID-associated hospitalizations at Carteret Health Care Monday-Friday.
- e) **Zip codes:** The County will continue providing COVID numbers by zip code Monday-Friday.

What is Going Away?

- a) **Negative Results:** The County will no longer report negative results. Negative results reported on the County website only represent what the Health Department has received from local medical providers, not the total number of negative test results. Laboratories and medical providers are not required to let the Health Department know of every negative test result. However, most laboratories used by local medical providers feed results into the state's system.
- b) **Pending Results and Total Tested:** Pending and Total Test reported on the County website only represent what the Health Department has received from local medical providers, not the total number of tests. The County will transition to sharing a weekly graph from the NCDHHS that provides a more accurate total number of tested individuals for our County.
- c) **Inconclusive Results:** The County will no longer report inconclusive results, but will continue asking patients with inconclusive results to be re-tested.

What is Being Added?

Each Friday, the Health Department will report the following demographic information for COVID-19 positive cases in the County:

- a) **Age:** The County will report the percentage of confirmed cases by age group.
- b) **Gender:** The County will report the percentage of confirmed cases by gender.
- c) **Race:** The County will report the percentage of confirmed cases by race.
- d) **Ethnicity:** The County will report the percentage of confirmed cases by ethnicity.



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- e) **Percent Positive/Testing Graph:** The County will be sharing the total tests completed/percent positive graph that is shared with the Health Department on a weekly basis. This graph will show how many estimated tests were completed for the week prior using the data submitted electronically by the labs into the state's reporting system. Also on this graph is the percent positive rate for Carteret County since the beginning of the pandemic.

For more information about COVID-19 in Carteret County, please call the Citizens Inquiry Hotline at 252-726-7060, Monday – Friday from 8am to 5 pm.

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