



GRANVILLE VANCE

public health

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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UPDATE: As of April 13, 2020, there are 95 known confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Granville County. Sixty-six of the 95 cases in Granville County are inmates at the Federal Bureau of Prisons Complex in Butner, NC, while the other 29 are community-based cases. Vance County has 21 confirmed active cases of COVID-19.

Sadly, we have had our first reported deaths due to complications from COVID-19 in both counties. A 72-year old male from Vance County died yesterday, April 12, 2020. He was hospitalized and had multiple pre-existing health conditions that worsened as a result of COVID-19. In Granville County, the Bureau of Prisons and reported four deaths to Granville Vance Public Health today. On April 11, 2020, an 81 year-old male died, on April 12, 2020, a 57 year-old male and a 78 year-old male died, and on April 13, 2020, a 46 year-old male died, all from complications related to COVID-19. All individuals were also hospitalized and experienced underlying health conditions.

Granville Vance Public Health maintains frequent communication with individuals who test positive. A number of people report feeling better and a few have been released from isolation. The communicable disease team at your local health department continues to perform contact tracing for individual cases with known positive test results. Other than the outbreak at the federal prison, there is no concentration of COVID-19 cases in any one specific area.

Granville Vance Public Health continues to strongly encourage everyone to continue to stay at home unless absolutely necessary to leave, in accordance with the Governor's Executive Orders. When you do travel to stores for essential services, you will notice they are implementing additional social distancing policies for your safety. CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. However, a cloth mask is **not** a substitute for social distancing and proper hand hygiene. It is important to continue to practice regular and thorough hand washing, avoid touching your face, and stay more than 6 feet apart from others at all times. The efforts

everyone has participated in to stay home and stay healthy have helped flatten the epidemic curve and will continue to make a difference in stopping the spread of this virus.

Call your doctor if you have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 to see if you should be tested or need medical care. If you have mild symptoms, such as fever and cough, without shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, you may not need to be tested. Instead, you should isolate yourself at home and monitor how you are feeling. This will reduce the risk of making the people around you sick.

Testing is most important for people who are seriously ill, in the hospital, in high-risk settings like nursing homes or long-term care facilities, and for healthcare workers and other first responders who are caring for those with COVID-19.

Granville Vance Public Health will provide the most up-to-date and accurate information for COVID-19 in our district online at <https://gvph.org/covid-19>. Demographic data are available and are most meaningful at a state level. A data dashboard offering information about COVID-19 across the state is available online at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19/covid-19-nc-case-count>. To learn more about North Carolina's response and to find the Governor's latest executive order you may visit the NC Department of Health and Human Services online at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina>.