District 2 Public Health
Zachary Taylor, M.D., M.S., Health Director
1280 Athens Street • Gainesville, Georgia 30507
PH: 770-535-5743 • FAX: 770-535-5958 • www.phdistrict2.org

Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Natasha Young, Public Information Officer

DATE: February 28, 2022

PH: 770-531-5679 • FAX: 770-535-5958
natasha.young@dph.ga.gov

New CDC COVID-19 Tool Available to Help Determine Prevention Measures

GAINESVILLE –As we enter this new phase in the COVID-19 pandemic, we now have a new tool in our fight against COVID-19 to prevent community spread.

The CDC has developed a tool to help communities Know Your COVID-19 Community Level. This tool provides a county-by-county look at COVID-19 levels throughout the U.S.

It is designed to help communities decide what prevention steps are needed based on several factors: hospital beds in use, hospital admissions and total of new cases in the area. The data is then categorized into low, medium and high levels. Based on your community level, you can determine what precautions to take to protect yourself and others against COVID-19.

For more information about this tool and to determine your community level visit the CDC website at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

Low	Medium	High
• Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms	• If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms	• Wear a mask indoors in public • Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines • Get tested if you have symptoms • Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness

People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

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