Aging and medically frail North Carolinians in nursing homes:

Higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19

Live in high-risk settings
Early and aggressive action helped slow the spread in nursing homes.

North Carolina’s 5-point strategy

- Prevention
- Staffing
- Testing
- Outbreak Management
- Oversight
We’re seeing results:

• Fewer people become sick when there is an outbreak.
• Outbreaks are shorter.
Improved infection controls mean fewer nursing home residents become sick when there is an outbreak.
Improved infection control means nursing home outbreaks are shorter.
Avg. Number of Nursing Home Cases per 1,000 Residents

N.C = 94.8 cases
Prevention

Sent every nursing home in the state a 2-week supply of PPE.

- Increased trainings
- Employee screenings
- Mask requirement for staff
- No visitors or group activities
Staffing

Helping to fill staffing shortages.

- Funding to keep and train staff
- Reciprocity for out-of-state nurse aides
Testing

Testing all nursing home residents and staff. More than 49,000.

- Testing for all staff and residents when one person tests positive
- Staff testing every other week, weekly if case is detected
Outbreak Management

Required weekly testing of all staff and residents if outbreak

- Required reporting to Local Health Department within 24 hours
- Technical assistance throughout outbreak
Oversight

Inspected all 428 CMS certified nursing homes. Completed one-month ahead of schedule.

• Follow-up infection control inspection if nursing home has first resident case
New funding for nursing home testing.

Staff testing every other week mandated in new Order.

NC to pay for testing through November
Adding More Infection Control Teams

10 new regional prevention support strike teams
Everyone can do their part to protect aging North Carolinians.

**WEAR** a cloth face covering.

**WAIT** 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.

**WASH** your hands often or use hand sanitizer.