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PRESS RELEASE Contact: Eddie Settle Chairman, Wilkes County Board of Commissioners  
May 4, 2020  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wilkes County would like to provide citizens an update on the recent spike of cases in our County. Wilkes currently has 127 COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases with a majority linked to the Tyson Foods outbreak, however, not all of them are. We currently have 5 hospitalized and 40 that has recovered as of today. In addition, the Wilkes County Health Department is onsite at Tyson conducting 200 COVID-19 tests today. We do expect our case count to increase based on the onsite testing. Tyson Foods announced they have teamed up with Matrix Medical Network to provide healthcare services at many of their facilities in a continued effort to help their frontline workers. Tyson will be conducting more onsite testing later this week as well. Wilkes County Health Department is working closely with Tyson and all facilities to provide them with the most up to date CDC guidance available and they are also working diligently on tracing, testing, and educating citizens of Wilkes. You can sign up for notifications from the Wilkes County Health Department for case count and other COVID- 19 updates by signing up for notifications on the Wilkes County Webpage [www.wilkescounty.net](http://www.wilkescounty.net) .

We would like to remind the public to use caution and follow recommended guidelines from the CDC and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Your cooperation in this regard is critical, since we are trying to limit opportunities for this virus to be passed to others.

Below is the latest demographics for cases in Wilkes:

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Male	54%	0 to 25	13%
Female	41%	26 to 50	48%
Unknown	5%	51 and older	32%
		Unknow	7%

<u>Zip Code</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Mode of Transmission</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
28659	36%	Community Transmission	20%
28697	35%	Close Contact	80%
28651	8%		
28624	1%	28670	2%
28654	6%	28649	1%
28635	2%	28669	2%
Unknown	5%	28685	1%