



COVID-19

REOPENING UPDATE

Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

Date: Monday, July 20, 2020

Bowie Confirmed Cases: * 1,247 (+24) 20715: 256 (+6) 20716 304 (+4) 20720 309 (+3) 20721 378 (+11)	Prince George's County * Confirmed Cases: * 20,690 (+388) Total Deaths: 723 (+4) Ever hospitalized: 3,259 (+23) Ranking: 29th in the nation for highest number of cases.	Maryland * Confirmed Cases 78,685 (+2,314) Deaths 3,382 (+23) Released from Isolation: 5,286 (+58) = 7%
Testing * MD Tests Completed: 958, 608 (+14,755) Negative Tests: 670,594 (+ 8,940) MD Positivity Rate: 4.9% PGC Positivity Rate: 6.26%		Maryland Hospitalizations * Data Tracker Currently Hospitalized: 463 3.1% Acute Care: 327 2.8% Intensive Care 136 3.8% Ever Hospitalized 11,897 15.1%
<p><i>* These figures represent changes since Friday, 7/17 (3-day change).</i></p>		

Source: Maryland COVID-19 dashboard

Maryland Data

The figures above represent how the data has changed since Friday, July 17. Here's how the figures break down by day, for the last 3 days.

	MD cases	PG cases	Bowie cases
7/17	76,371	20,302	1,223
7/18	+ 835	+ 123	+ 11
7/19	+ 925	+ 164	+ 7
7/20	+ 554	+ 101	+ 6
	78,685	20,690	1,247

Case numbers in Maryland have been increasing for the last two weeks, while the number of deaths

reported each day has stayed about the same this month.

Visit the [Prince George's County COVID-19 dashboard](#) to view data for all zip codes in the County and the [Maryland dashboard](#) for statewide data.

US COVID-19 News

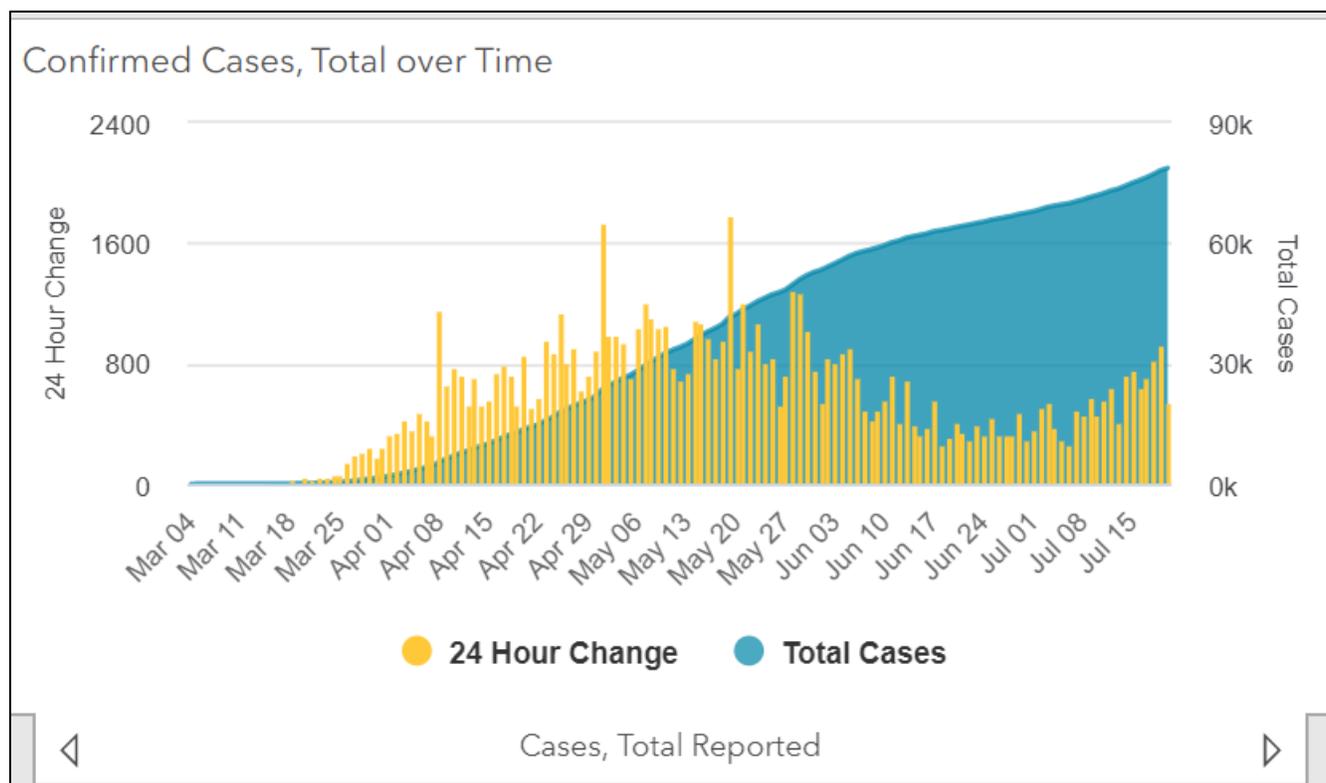
New cases of the virus are surging in Florida, Texas, Arizona and other states. Florida reported the third day in a row with more than 12,000 new cases per day.

The list of nationwide retailers that require or will soon customers to wear masks inside their stores now include: Best Buy, Costco, CVS, Home Depot, Kohls, Lowes, Starbucks, Target, Walgreens, Walmart /Sam's Club.

Vaccine Trials

More than 100 studies are underway to develop a coronavirus vaccine. Researchers in the United Kingdom are reporting that a vaccine being developed by the University of Oxford, is showing positive results. They completed the first phase of their vaccine trials in April and May. A wider, second phase of testing will soon begin. The vaccine is one of 23 Covid-19 vaccines currently in clinical trials globally, according to the World Health Organization.

Maryland Cases Over Time



Source: State of Maryland. Visit the [Maryland COVID-19 Dashboard](#) to view an interactive version of this chart. Hover over the chart on the state site to see the number of new cases for a specific day.

What's in the Numbers?

Many of us are regularly looking at a variety of data related to COVID-19 and trying to make sense of it all. Case numbers, deaths, positivity rates, tests completed, recovered cases, and hospitalizations all tell a piece of the story, but sometimes it's difficult to see the big picture and assess what is important in the numbers.

Case numbers are cumulative and show how many people have tested positive for the virus. They are a factor of how much testing is being done. The numbers do not include those who had the virus, but did not get tested.

Deaths figures are based on the reported cause of an individual's death. Underlying conditions are a huge determinant of deaths. People of all ages are succumbing to the virus; however, the older one is, the greater one's chances are of losing his or her life to the virus.

There are reports that the death rates are declining in Maryland and other locations. Some of the explanations for this are that 1) health professionals have gained more experience on how best to treat their COVID patients, 2) medical equipment, like ventilators, is more readily available in some locations, and 3) young people, while not invincible, are less likely to be hospitalized or to die as a result of the disease. Even though they are now a growing segment of those contracting the virus, they have a better chance of successfully recovering from it because they have fewer underlying medical conditions to cause complications.

Testing helps medical providers, government officials and the public learn how widespread the virus is in a particular jurisdiction. It is dependent on testing availability and who chooses to get tested. Maryland has made it a goal to test at least 10% of the population to help determine who has the virus and how fast it is spreading.

Positivity rates are based on the percentage of positive cases out of all those being tested during a specific timeframe. A downward moving positivity rate is an indicator of declining spread of the disease and a climbing positivity rate shows the infection rate is increasing.

So, for Maryland, there is some good news and some mixed news. Positivity rates are declining as more tests are conducted. Hospitalization rates are jumping around a bit. Case numbers are higher than they were a few weeks ago, but fewer people are dying from the disease. Overall Maryland is in better shape than many other parts of the country, but it is only through continued vigilance, social distancing, wearing masks, and good hygiene that we can prevent another surge in our state.

COVID-19 Information for Young Adults (Ages 15 - 21)

The CDC has produced a series of fact sheets for young adults, ages 15-21. The fact sheets cover a variety of topics, including what test results mean, how to stay safe at the pool or beach, how to wear a face covering and other preventive measures.

- [Wear a Cloth Face Covering to Protect You and Your Friends](#)
- [Help Protect Yourself and Others from COVID-19](#)
- [What Your Test Results Mean](#)
- [Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#)
- [Do it for Yourself and Your Friends](#)
- [Stay Safe at the Pool/Beach](#)

While the information in these publications is directed toward young adults, there is good information in them for everyone.

COVID Testing Information

- Find a testing site on the **Maryland** website – covidtest.maryland.gov

- See where **Prince George's County** is currently operating testing sites - health.mypgc.us/covidtesting or call 301-883-6627

Please note: Some outdoor testing sites have suspended operations during the extreme heat. Check status before going to an outdoor testing site.

Prince George's County Schools Announce Decision for Fall

Today, Schools CEO Monica Golson announced that PGPCS school buildings will not reopen to students in the fall. Instead they will begin the school year with distance learning. For at least the first and second quarters, instruction will be done remotely through a combination of approaches, including recorded lessons and live online sessions. PGPCS will provide devices and internet connectivity for those that need it and the system is developing a means of providing instructional and technical support to families. Additionally, all schools will serve as student meal sites and offer twice-weekly pickups. View the full announcement at www.pgcps.org.

Hand Sanitizer Brands to Avoid

New brand names have been added to the [Food and Drug Administration's \(FDA\) list of hand sanitizers that should be avoided](#) due to the use of the toxic ingredient methanol. Many of these brands list ethanol (or ethyl alcohol) among their ingredients, but have tested positive for methanol, which can have many toxic effects, such as changes in vision, vomiting, nausea, headache, or neurological symptoms. Consumers who may have been exposed to methanol and are experiencing these symptoms should seek medical attention immediately. The public is strongly urged to review and discontinue use of any products that appear on the FDA list.

The FDA also reminds the public that some hand sanitizers do not contain the minimum 60% ethyl alcohol required for effectiveness, and some brands are making misleading claims that their products are FDA approved or that hand sanitizers offer prolonged protection from bacteria or viruses. Hand sanitizer should only be used to replace hand washing when water and soap are not available.

COVID-19 Hourly Employee Relief Fund

Prince George's County Council Chair, Councilman Todd M. Turner (District 4) has partnered with Employ Prince George's (EPG) to provide economic relief to District 4 residents who were recently laid off due to the COVID-19 pandemic. \$200 EPG Visa Cash Cards will be distributed to qualified District 4 applicants in the coming weeks.

EPG will review the COVID-19 Hourly Employee Relief Fund District 4 applicants individually. Cash cards are based on the availability of funding, and priority will be given to District 4 hourly workers who earned \$19 or less prior to being laid off due to the pandemic. Apply for a cash card or make a donation to the fund at www.employpgedge.com.

City of Bowie Gymnasium Open to Members for Basketball Skill Building and Walking

The City Gym reopened to resident members on July 7 for basketball shootarounds and skill building sessions. No games are allowed, because they would involve close contact with others. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Masks are required when not on the court and COVID-19 waivers must be signed before using the facility. Members are encouraged to call ahead to reserve a time slot. More details can be found at www.cityofbowie.org/gym or by calling 301-809-2388.

Starting July 21, members can escape the heat and do their daily walks around the interior perimeter of the Gym. Eleven times around equals one mile. Hours are noon to 1:30 p.m., Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Take Precautions When Temperatures are Soaring

Air temperatures are dangerously hot today and will remain so for the next couple of days. Be sure to drink lots of water and know the signs of heat exhaustion versus heat stroke if you must be outside for any period of time.

The infographic is split into two vertical columns: Heat Exhaustion (orange background) and Heat Stroke (red background). At the top, it says 'HEAT EXHAUSTION OR HEAT STROKE'. A central figure of a person is also split vertically, with the left side orange and the right side red. Various symptoms are listed with lines pointing to the corresponding side of the figure. For Heat Exhaustion: Faint or dizzy (with a dizziness icon), Excessive sweating (with a sweat drop icon), Cool, pale, clammy skin (with a thermometer icon showing a low reading), Nausea or vomiting (with a stomach icon), Rapid, weak pulse (with a heart icon and a weak pulse line), and Muscle cramps (with a lightning bolt icon). For Heat Stroke: Throbbing headache (with a lightning bolt icon), No sweating, Body temperature above 103° (with a thermometer icon showing a high reading and an upward arrow), Red, hot, dry skin, Nausea or vomiting (with a stomach icon), Rapid, strong pulse (with a heart icon and a strong pulse line), and May lose consciousness (with a sad face icon). At the bottom, treatment instructions are provided for each condition. The Heat Exhaustion side lists: Get to a cooler, air conditioned place; Drink water if fully conscious; and Take a cool shower or use cold compresses. The Heat Stroke side lists: Take immediate action to cool the person until help arrives. At the bottom left, there are social media links for Weather.gov. At the bottom center, there are logos for the National Weather Service and the Sacramento Office of Emergency Services. At the bottom right, there are social media links for @SacramentoOES and SacramentoReady.org.

HEAT EXHAUSTION	OR	HEAT STROKE
Faint or dizzy		Throbbing headache
Excessive sweating		No sweating
Cool, pale, clammy skin		Body temperature above 103° Red, hot, dry skin
Nausea or vomiting		Nausea or vomiting
Rapid, weak pulse		Rapid, strong pulse
Muscle cramps		May lose consciousness

HEAT EXHAUSTION

- Get to a cooler, air conditioned place
- Drink water if fully conscious
- Take a cool shower or use cold compresses

HEAT STROKE

CALL 9-1-1

- Take immediate action to cool the person until help arrives

Weather.gov/socialmedia
Weather.gov/heat

@SacramentoOES
SacramentoReady.org

Food Giveaways

- **Prince George's County Schools – Meals for Students**

Breakfast & Lunch (June 29-August 13, Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.)

Bowie Locations:

- Benjamin Tasker Middle School
- High Bridge Elementary School

- Pointer Ridge Elementary School
- **Meals Giveaway for Seniors Age 60+**

County Council Chair Todd Turner and Prince George's County Department of Family Services have teamed up to provide meals to seniors who live in County Council District 4 (Bowie/Greenbelt).

 - Each resident will receive a box with a breakfast and three (3) lunches ready to go.
 - Meals are provided by Martin's Catering.
 - Seniors must [preregister online](#) or contact Evelyn Archie to be eligible for this giveaway.
 - Call Evelyn Archie at 240-619-9775 or email her at ejarchie@co.pg.md.us.
 - Registration deadline is Wednesday, July 22.
 - A meal box can be picked up on behalf of a registered senior by another driver/walk up person with identification or a copy of senior's registration form.
 - Bowie date: July 31 at the Bowie Senior Center.
 - Greenbelt date: July 29 at the Greenbelt Community Center.
 - On pickup dates, those picking up meals must
 - Wear a mask.
 - Check - in at the registration station.
 - Remain inside their vehicle and staff will place meals in the back seat or trunk.