



# COVID-19 REOPENING UPDATE

Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

**Date: Friday, July 24, 2020**

<b>Bowie Confirmed Cases:</b> 1,296 (+23)  20715: 265 (+3) 20716 319 (+5) 20720 315 (+3) 20721 397 (+12)	<b>Prince George’s County Confirmed Cases:</b> 21,210 (+172)  <b>Total Deaths:</b> 726 (+1) <b>Ever hospitalized:</b> 3,289 (+12)  <b>Ranking:</b> 28th in the nation for highest number of cases.	<b>Maryland Confirmed Cases</b> 81,766 (+930)  <b>Deaths</b> 3,422 (+13)  <b>Released from Isolation:</b> 5,434 (+0) = 7%
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Testing</b></p> <b>MD Tests Completed:</b> 1,040,442 (+24,220) <b>Negative Tests:</b> 722,584 (+14,379) <b>MD Positivity Rate:</b> 4.33% <b>PGC Positivity Rate:</b> 6.23%	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Maryland Hospitalizations Data Tracker</b></p> Currently Hospitalized: 533 <span style="float: right;">1.0%</span> Acute Care: 390 <span style="float: right;">-1.2%</span> Intensive Care 143 <span style="float: right;">7.5%</span> Ever Hospitalized 12,119 <span style="float: right;">14.8%</span>	
<p><i>* These figures represent changes in the last 24-hours.</i></p>		

Source: Maryland COVID-19 dashboard

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.

### Maryland News

Excerpt from a statement by the Governor today:

“We are monitoring all of the numbers very closely and continue to be concerned about a potential resurgence of this virus in our region,” said Governor Hogan. “As we have from the beginning, we will continue to follow the advice of our doctors and public health experts, and we will not hesitate to take statewide actions if and when we deem them to be necessary. But I want to again make very clear to the people of Maryland—you can help stop the spread of COVID-19 by wearing masks and continuing to follow the public health guidelines.”

61.9% of the state's new COVID-19 cases are Marylanders under the age of 40. The positivity rate among Marylanders under 35 (6.79%) is 86% higher than the positivity rate for Marylanders age 35 and older (3.65%).

### US COVID-19 News

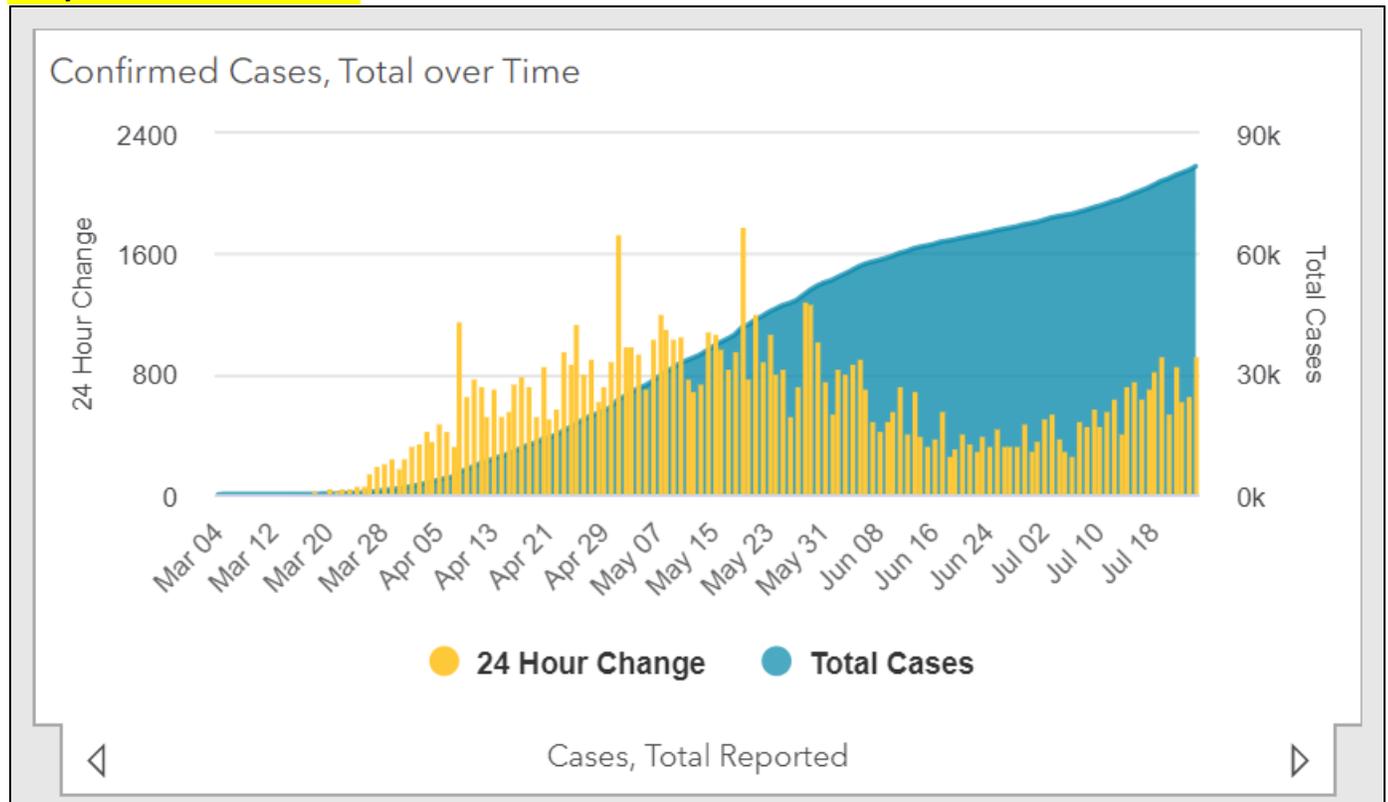
[The Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center website](#) shows how new cases are trending in each state. McDonalds and Chipotle join other retails in mandating masks within their establishments

### Regional News

Due to increases in some metrics, local governments in the region have enacted these changes:

- Washington, DC Mayor Bowser issued a new very strict [mask order](#) on July 22 that requires masks to be worn when outside of the home, with very few exceptions. Violators are subject to a fine of up to \$1,000.
- Baltimore will suspend indoor dining at bars and restaurants in the city and expand its [orders regarding face coverings](#) (effective 7/24, 5 p.m.)
- [Anne Arundel County](#) will require food service to stop in bars and restaurants at 10 p.m. and will restrict the numbers of persons permitted at indoor and outdoor social gatherings. (effective 7/24, 5 p.m.)

### 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.

### COVID Testing Information

- Find a testing site on the **Maryland** website – [covidtest.maryland.gov](https://covidtest.maryland.gov)
- See where **Prince George's County** is currently operating testing sites at [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3472/COVID-19-Testing](https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3472/COVID-19-Testing) or call 301-883-6627.

**Please note:** Some outdoor testing sites are suspending operations when air temperatures exceed 90 degrees. Check the current status before going to an outdoor testing site.

### **Symptoms of COVID-19**

The CDC list of COVID-19 symptoms has expanded over time as health professionals have gained more experience with the disease. People with COVID-19 report a wide variety of symptoms ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

People with these symptoms **may** have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. Individuals without symptoms may also test positive for the virus. These asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic people can spread the virus unknowingly.

### **Contract Tracing**

Tracing how the coronavirus is spreading in an area is an important tool in combatting a potential surge in positive cases. The contract tracing process involves identifying infected people, determining who they have been in close contact with while infectious, and asking people who are potentially infected to stay home until it is clear they are not sick.

Governor Hogan stressed the importance of contract tracing at a recent press conference and shared this information:

- From June 11 to July 18, the state's contact tracers consistently conducted outreach to more than 80% of confirmed COVID-19 cases within 24 hours of the case being entered into COVIDLink, data management platform.
- Contact tracers have been successful in reaching nearly 75% percent of cases.
- Marylanders are encouraged to cooperate with the state's contact tracing efforts by answering calls from 'MD COVID,' or 240-466-4888. Learn more about COVIDLink and contact tracing in Maryland [here](#).

### **COVID-19 Hourly Employee Relief Fund**

Employ Prince George's (EPG) provides financial assistance to hourly workers who were making less than \$19 an hour before they lost their job due to the pandemic. Assistance is in the form of a \$200 EPG Visa

Cash Card. Learn more about this program and how to apply at [www.employpg.org/covid19](http://www.employpg.org/covid19). The Bowie City Council recently voted to make a \$20,000 donation to this fund.

### **Evictions Remain on Hold in Maryland**

In March, Governor Hogan issued an emergency order that prohibits Maryland courts from ordering the eviction of any tenant who can demonstrate that their inability to pay rent was the result of COVID-19—for example, because of lost or reduced employment, or needing to care for a school-aged child—or because they are diagnosed with, or under investigation for, COVID-19. The order remains in place during the state of emergency. The District Court of Maryland has delayed any hearings on failure to pay rent cases until August 31.

Read about other efforts to help Maryland renters at <https://governor.maryland.gov/2020/07/24/hogan-administration-announces-open-enrollment-for-assisted-housing-relief-program/>

### **Prince George's County Creates COVID-19 Ambassador Compliance Team**

On July 17, the County Executive announced the formation of a COVID-19 Ambassador Compliance Team. This group, comprised of more than 70 inspectors from multiple County agencies, is responsible for conducting inspections at restaurants, retail establishments and businesses across the County, ensuring that these establishments are adhering to COVID-19 protocols such as facial covering requirements and social distancing.

Initially they are focusing on distributing information packets regarding COVID-19 protocols, monitoring for capacity compliance, appropriate social distancing and face coverings, and ensuring hand washing and sanitizer is staged for use by patrons and staff.

Business and retail establishments that are violating these protocols will be given a short period of time to come into compliance. If they are not in compliance during a second visit, they could be subject to a fine of \$1,000. Those who remain non-compliant on a third visit, would be shut down until they come into compliance. More information on safety protocols for businesses can be found online here. Any resident who would like to report a violation of COVID-19 safety protocols can call 311 or send an email to [covid-19@co.pg.md.us](mailto:covid-19@co.pg.md.us).

### **Food Giveaways**

Food giveaways are taking place regularly in different parts of Prince George's County. If you are in immediate need of groceries, please call 311 to find out when the next event is scheduled. You can also visit the Bowie Pantry (located behind the Kenhill Center) on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday mornings from 9 - 11 a.m. (and on the evening of 7/28). More information about the Pantry can be found at [www.bowiefoodpantry.org](http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org).

#### **• Meals Giveaway for Seniors Age 60+ - – Application Deadline Extended to Monday, 7/27**

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 for this giveaway.
- Call Evelyn Archie at 240-619-9775 or email her at [ejarchie@co.pg.md.us](mailto:ejarchie@co.pg.md.us).
- 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.
- **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

## Other News...

### Upcoming Hearings about the Future of the Sears Property

Seritage SRC Finance, owners of the Sears property, have filed a Basic Plan Amendment. They propose to redevelop the existing 10.81 acre former Sears property with up to 800 residential dwelling units (multifamily, townhouses, not to exceed 150 units and/or beds in an assisted living facility); retail uses, including restaurants and shops; a hotel use with a maximum of 150 rooms; and/or office uses.

Public hearings on the Bowie Town Center/Sears Redevelopment Parcel Basic Plan Amendment application will take place on the following dates:

- Bowie Advisory Planning Board (BAPB): July 28, 7 p.m.
- Bowie City Council: Monday, August 3, 8 p.m.

Testimony for the July 28 BAPB public hearing must be submitted to Planning Director Joseph Meinert at [jmeinert@cityofbowie.org](mailto:jmeinert@cityofbowie.org) by 6 p.m. on July 28. Register to participate in the Zoom virtual hearing at <https://bowie.fyi/BTC-BAPB-publichearing>.

The August 3 City Council meeting will be broadcast live on Bowie Channel 10 (FIOS) and 71 & 996 (Comcast), at [www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings](http://www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings), or on the city's [YouTube channel](#). Testimony for this public hearing must be submitted to the City Clerk at [ahernandez@cityofbowie.org](mailto:ahernandez@cityofbowie.org) by 7 p.m. on August 3.

### Census Update

Overall, Bowie households are making good progress on completing the census, with 79.4% of households responding.

The census count will continue into the fall. It enters a new phase next week when enumerators will spread out across the country to attempt to reach people who have not responded to repeated requests to complete their census form. Mask wearing enumerators will be knocking on doors of homes in an effort to get everyone counted. You can avoid a visit to your door by completing the census now online or by phone.

The 2020 Census will help to determine funding for schools, public safety, roads, healthcare, and more for the next 10 years and will determine congressional and state legislative representation. Every person not counted equates to approximately \$18,000 per person in lost funding over the course of 10 years. A complete count helps to make sure our county and our city get their share of funding. Remember every dollar received in federal funding, is money that does not have to be raised through local taxes or other

means.

In Bowie, response rates vary greatly by census tract (from 55 – 85%). We're aiming for 100% all over the city, so please get counted now Bowie! Complete the census online at [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020 to do it by phone.

Finally, we'd like to give a special shout out to the residents of census tract 800403, which includes the neighborhoods of Rockledge, Saddlebrook West, Whitehall, and Old Chapel Estates. Their response rate is 85.9%, which is among the highest in the state of Maryland. So far only 100 cities in the US have reached that kind of response rate! Way to go!

prince george's county  
Office of Community Relations  
connecting people, connecting resources

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Proud to be Counted

Angela D. Alsobrooks  
County Executive

#Proudtobecounted

**FREE**

**DRIVE-UP U.S. CENSUS 2020 COMPLETION & DISTRIBUTION EVENT**

Saturday, July 25th • 10AM-12PM  
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College Park, MD 20740

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