



COVID-19 REOPENING UPDATE

Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

Date: Monday, August 10, 2020

Today's COVID-19 Numbers

Bowie Confirmed Cases: * 1,535 (+47) 20715: 305 (+9) 20716 365 (+7) 20720 392 (+18) 20721 473 (+13)	Prince George's County Confirmed Cases: * 23,832 (+460) Total Deaths: 755 (+6) Ever hospitalized: 3,484 (+52) Ranking: 28th in the nation for highest number of cases.	Maryland Confirmed Cases * 96,258 (+2,452) Deaths 3,591 (+26) Released from Isolation: 5,910 (+72) = 6%												
<p style="text-align: center;">Testing</p> MD Tests Completed: 1,468,470 (+29,732) Negative Tests: 960,552 (+16,710) MD Positivity Rate: 3.19% PGC Positivity Rate: 5.4%	<p style="text-align: center;">Maryland Hospitalizations Data Tracker</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Currently Hospitalized:</td> <td>534</td> <td>1.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acute Care:</td> <td>415</td> <td>4.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Intensive Care</td> <td>119</td> <td>-7.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ever Hospitalized</td> <td>13,247</td> <td>13.7%</td> </tr> </table>		Currently Hospitalized:	534	1.7%	Acute Care:	415	4.5%	Intensive Care	119	-7.0%	Ever Hospitalized	13,247	13.7%
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<p><i>* These figures represent changes since Friday, 8/7 (3 day change).</i></p>														

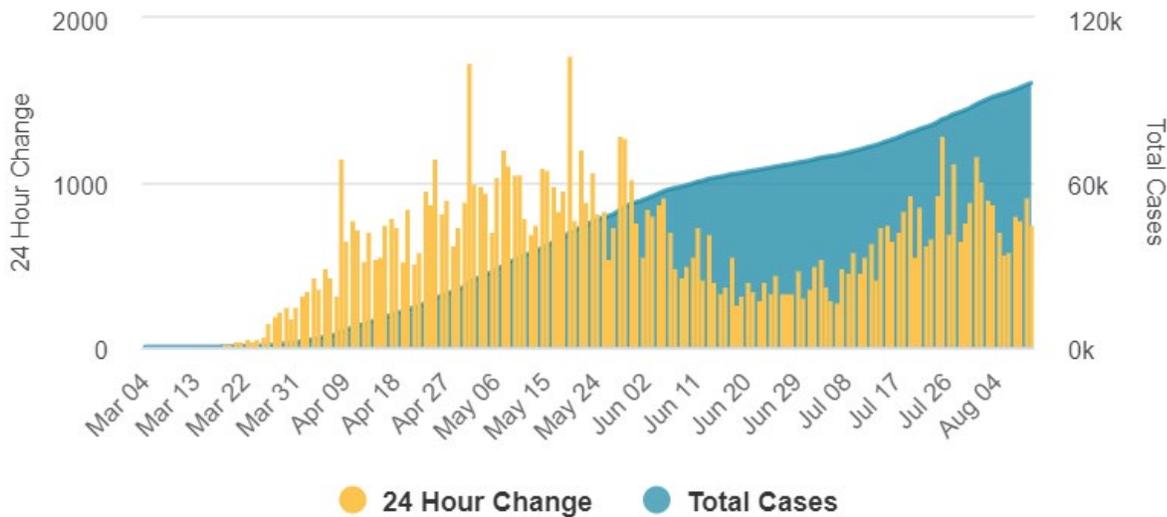
	MD Cases	PG Cases	Bowie Cases
8/7	93,806	23,372	1,488
8/8	+775	+182	+15
8/9	+922	+143	+17
8/10	+755	+135	+15
	96,258	23,832	1,535

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 Cases Over Time

Confirmed Cases, Total over Time



Cases, Total Reported

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.

Positivity Rate for Under 35 Declines, but Mitigation Strategies are Key

Over the last several weeks, state health officials have focused on addressing rising infection rates among young people. The positivity rate among Marylanders under 35 has steadily declined over the last two weeks, down nearly 30% since July 23.

“Our mitigation strategies are working, but this is no time to be complacent: it’s important to wear a mask, wash your hands, and practice physical distancing,” said Governor Hogan. “98% of our economy is now open and able to operate in a safe way. We are doing much better on our health metrics and economic recovery than most of the rest of the country—let’s continue to work together and do what it takes to keep it that way.”

Getting Tested and Getting Results in a Timely Manner Can Be Challenging

The need for testing has exploded across the nation. This increased demand for testing has caused delays in obtaining results, as the major lab companies have been flooded with processing COVID-19 tests, in addition to keeping up with their regular workloads.

Unfortunately, Maryland has not been spared these growing response times, as is evidenced by news articles and social media posts complaining of days, or even weeks, of waiting for test results. These wait times are not only stressful for residents who are often isolating until they receive their results, but they also hinder the ability of the contact tracers to do their jobs effectively.

Marylanders have two options when choosing where to get a test: private companies and government sponsored sites. Private companies are conducting tests and sending them out to their own contracted labs. Some of these companies have quick turn-around times; others are struggling to keep up. Unfortunately, there is no way to know for sure how quickly your results will be returned when you are selecting one of these private testing sites.

Testing sites operated by the state of Maryland or a local government can often return results within 5 days, sometimes sooner. These are the sites being operated at locations like Six Flags, the convention centers in Baltimore and Ocean City, Vehicle Emissions (VEIP) facilities and other “pop up” sites around the state. The downside is that in some cases, testing is not offered every day, and sometimes the hours are limited.

You can find a list of all COVID-19 testing sites in Maryland at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing>. You can also call the Prince George’s County Health Department testing line for information about County testing locations at 301-883-6627.

Prince George’s County Health Department CoVID-19 Testing Policy

The Prince George’s County Health Department offers **FREE COVID-19 tests for individuals with or without symptoms** that have been exposed to or suspected to have been exposed to a COVID-19-positive person.

Patients do not need an appointment, a doctor’s prescription, or insurance to get tested. All County-run testing sites accommodate testing for those in a car or on foot. To receive more than one test from the Prince George’s County Health Department, you must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- have a known/suspected exposure to a positive case
- have symptoms
- are part of a County contact tracing case investigation and were directed to be tested

The Health Department also considers other retest requests on a case-by-case basis. The on-site registered nurse will assess and determine if retesting outside of the above criteria meets [CDC guidelines](#).

Call the **coronavirus hotline at 301-883-6627** between the hours of **8 a.m. and 8 p.m.** if you have questions about the County’s testing program.

Please visit the [Health Department’s website](#) for a list of the current sites where testing is being offered or call 3-1-1.

Maryland Health Exchange Reopens to Allow New Applicants

Maryland announced the reopening of the coronavirus emergency special enrollment period for health insurance. The Maryland Health Connection plans will cover testing, visits relating to testing, and treatment of COVID-19, as well as other medical conditions. Consumers will not be billed for a copay, coinsurance, or deductible for services to test, diagnose, and treat COVID-19. Marylanders do not need to be sick to enroll in coverage. This special enrollment is for private health plans only. Those who qualify for Medicaid may enroll any time of year.

To enroll, visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov or download the free “Enroll MHC” mobile app. For free consumer assistance, call 855-642-8572 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. Help is available in more than 200 languages through the call center, as well as relay service for the deaf and hard of hearing. Trained navigators and brokers statewide offer free help enrolling by phone.

Maryland Insurance Administration Moves to Restrict Health Insurance Cancellations

Maryland Insurance Administration is using emergency powers to prevent health insurance companies from canceling or refusing to renew individual health benefit plan policies for nonpayment of premiums for the next sixty days. Individual health benefit plan policies that were scheduled to terminate due to unpaid premiums on or after July 31, will remain in effect through September 30. This action will help keep

Marylanders who are unable to pay health insurance premiums covered during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prince George's County Compliance Efforts

More than 80 inspectors from various County agencies are working to ensure compliance with State and County orders regarding social distancing, large gatherings, and the wearing of masks. Yesterday County Executive Alsobrooks announced that while education and compliance are preferred, the County will be imposing fines and other penalties on those who are willfully ignoring the orders. Call 3-1-1 to report a violation or email covidcompliance@co.pg.md.us.

Recovered COVID Patients Urged to Donate Plasma

The American Red Cross, in coordination with the US Food and Drug Administration, is asking individuals who are fully recovered from COVID-19 to sign up and donate plasma to help current COVID-19 patients. Those who have fully recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies in their plasma that may be able to attack the virus in others who are fighting the disease. This convalescent plasma is being evaluated as treatment for patients with serious or immediately life-threatening COVID-19 infections, or those judged by a healthcare provider to be at high risk of progression to severe or life-threatening disease.

[Details on the Plasma Donation Program](#)

[FDA Information on Plasma Program](#)

Bowie Ice Arena is Open with Some Limitations

The Bowie Ice Arena is welcoming back skaters to its facility. There are limitations in place to comply with state and county directives and to protect patrons and employees.

Permitted activities include:

- Stick & Puck
- Pickup Figure Skating
- Public Sessions
- Ice Rentals

Other limitations in place:

- Prepaid reservations are required
- No rental skates or skating aides are available for use during public skating sessions
- Masks must be worn, on and off the ice
- Social distancing must be observed
- Skaters must submit to temperature checks and present signed waiver forms
- No games or scrimmages

More information can be found in the Return to Skate at the Bowie Ice Arena document on the city website.

<https://www.cityofbowie.org/DocumentCenter/View/10119/Return-to-Skate-at-BIA>

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. More information about the Pantry can be found at www.bowiefoodpantry.org.

Other Food Resources

- [Capital Area Food Bank Food Assistance](#)
- [Prince George's County Senior Nutrition Program](#)
- [United Communities Against Poverty Food Pantry](#)

- [Maryland Meals Site Search](#)
- [Prince George's County Public Schools Meal Sites](#) (for PGCPs Children)

Bowie Census Update

Bowie residents are making great progress on getting counted in the 2020 census. The city has now surpassed its response rate from 2010, but we're still a long way from 100% participation. Whether you live in a single home, a townhouse, a condominium, or an apartment, or a senior living facility, it's important that every household completes the census. Every person counted equals approximately \$18,500 in funding over the next ten years for schools, public safety, and public health. Make sure that Bowie gets counted and that our area receives all of the funding and representation that it is entitled to.



 **COMPLETE YOUR CENSUS NOW**
DOOR-TO-DOOR FOLLOWUP HAS BEGUN

**THERE IS STILL TIME
TO SELF-RESPOND**

Beat the knock at the door by completing your Census NOW

Call **1-844-330-2020** or visit **My2020Census.gov**

**PROUD TO
BE COUNTED**

FIND OUT MORE AT www.PGCensus2020.org OR www.2020Census.gov