



# COVID-19

## REOPENING UPDATE

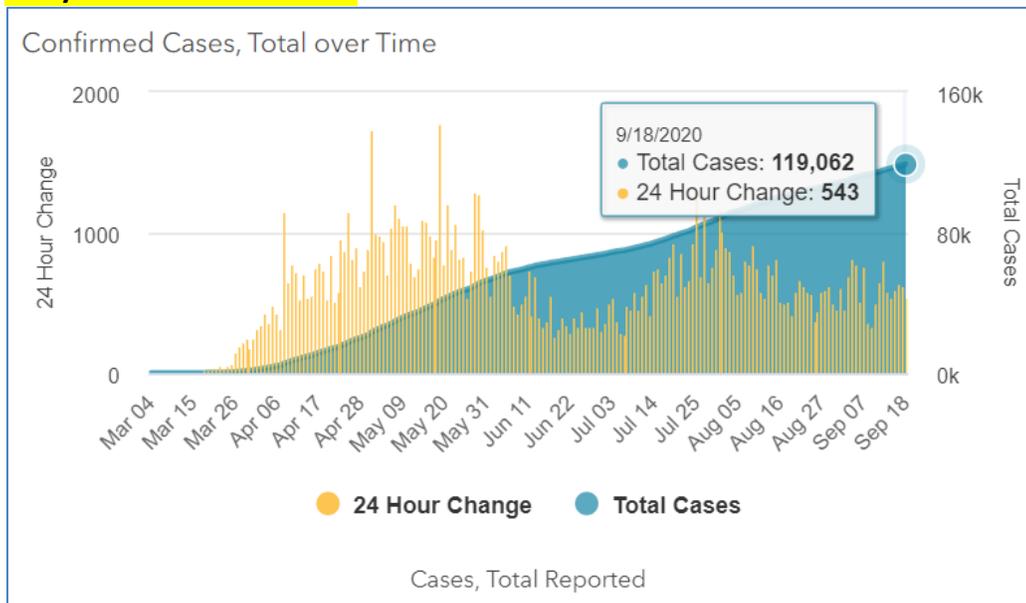
**Friday, September 18, 2020**

<b>Bowie Confirmed Cases:</b> 1,933 (+11)  20715: 375 (+0) 20716: 434 (+3) 20720: 482 (+1) 20721: 642 (+7)	<b>Prince George's County Confirmed Cases:</b> 28,361 (+159)  <b>Total Deaths:</b> 817 (+0) <b>Ever hospitalized:</b> 3,897 (+14) <b>Case Rate per 100k:</b> 15.03  <b>Ranking:</b> 32nd in the nation for highest number of cases.	<b>Maryland Confirmed Cases</b> 119,062 (+543)  <b>Deaths</b> 3,869 (+8)  <b>Case Rate per 100k:</b> 10.49  Released from Isolation: 7,351 (+65) = 6.1%
<b>Testing</b> <b>MD Tests Completed:</b> 2,324,252 (+24,644) <b>Negative Tests:</b> 1,385,805 (+9,982) <b>MD Positivity Rate:</b> 2.73% <b>PGC Positivity Rate:</b> 5.39%	<b>Maryland Hospitalizations Data Tracker</b> Currently Hospitalized: 347 <span style="color: green;">-1.6%</span> Acute Care: 263 <span style="color: green;">-2.5%</span> Intensive Care: 84 <span style="color: red;">1.2%</span> Ever Hospitalized: 15,070 <span style="color: black;">12.6%</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 Cases Over Time



Source: Maryland COVID-19 dashboard

### **National Positivity Rates Increased Last Week**

According to data from the CDC and Johns Hopkins University, the US positivity has increased sharply over the past several days, up from 4.8% on September 10 to 6.1% on September 13. This marks a 27% increase--the highest average reported in the US since August 12. Testing volume decreased sharply over that time as well, falling below 600,000 tests per day for the first time since mid-June.

US has extended non-essential travel restrictions with Canada and Mexico through October 21st. Currently, Johns Hopkins University data shows that 30 states, including DC are trending upward, 16 states are steady (including MD) and 4 states are showing downward trends. Europe is currently seeing a spike in cases after re-opening, forcing some countries to reimpose restrictions.

### **Prince George's County Allows More Businesses to Reopen Under Revised Phase 2 Guidelines**

On September 16, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced changes to the County's Phase 2 of Reopening. The language below is from the County Executive's press release.

- Banquet halls, receptions and meeting rooms in hotels, conference centers and similar establishments that offer dining or meeting facilities to the public may open at 50% capacity or a maximum of 150 persons, whichever is lower. No buffets will be allowed, there can be no more than 6 persons per table, and physical distancing must be enforced.
- Cigar, hookah and vape establishments may open for retail sales only (no smoking on premises) with a maximum of 1 person per 100 square feet of sales space, not to exceed 50% maximum capacity. Physical distancing must be maintained, and employees must wear appropriate PPE.
- Tanning salons may reopen under the same guidelines as other personal services. Customers must be served by appointment only and only 1 customer per 200 square feet of service area, up to a maximum of 50% capacity.
- Indoor pools, both public and private, may open up to 50% maximum capacity. Physical distancing must be maintained, and individuals must wear face coverings when not in the pool.
- Youth sports defined as "medium risk" may now resume in small groups, no more than nine team members and one coach, with a maximum of 100 persons in any given area. This includes sports such as soccer, baseball, and lacrosse. A full list of medium risk sports as defined by Maryland's Sports Commission Return to Play Committee can be found [online](#) here.
- In addition, some guidelines within the County's Phase 2 Executive Order have been revised. For childcare facilities, parents are no longer allowed to enter the establishment for drop-off or pick-up. Also, face coverings are required for all persons in any public indoor location over the age of five, previously over the age of nine. Adults accompanying children ages two through four in these establishments should make reasonable efforts to encourage those children to wear face coverings.

Alsobrooks said the decision to reopen additional businesses was made under the advice of health officials. The county also reiterated it will maintain its existing guidelines on large gatherings, such as festivals, parties and family get-togethers with a limit of one person or family unit per 200 square feet or a maximum of 50 people, whichever is lower.

The city is reviewing this new guidance and evaluating how it may affect city operations. We have requested clarification from the county on some of the language.

### **Help for Small Businesses in Prince George's County**

Emerge Prince George's is a partnership between the Prince George's County Economic Development (EDC) Corporation, and the Prince George's County Financial Services Corporation (FSC First) and the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC). It provides counseling sessions, webinars, and support to small businesses that are struggling because of the pandemic. To learn more, visit [www.emergestrongerpgc.com](http://www.emergestrongerpgc.com)

### **Some Unemployed Marylanders Are Now Eligible for Temporary Federal Supplemental Payment**

The Lost Wages Assistance program offers claimants an additional \$300 per week in retroactive federal benefits amid the coronavirus pandemic. Eligible claimants may receive up to 6 weeks of the extra benefit.

To qualify for the \$300 in federal benefits retroactive to the weeks ending August 1, 2020 through September 5, 2020, the federal program requires that claimants be eligible for a weekly benefit amount of at least \$100. Claimants will not need to file a separate application and will be notified of their eligibility for the LWA program in their BEACON One-Stop portal and by email.

### **Assisted Housing Relief Program**

The state has launched the [Assisted Housing Relief Program](#), an eviction prevention program intended to help bring rental delinquencies current and provide relief for tenants through direct payments to their eligible property management company. Tenants in eligible properties will be credited rent rebates paid directly to the property management company, which will eliminate their rental debt and the threat of eviction. The program serves rental units in multifamily projects financed by DHCD's Community Development Administration using state funds or federal resources. [Learn more about the program here.](#)

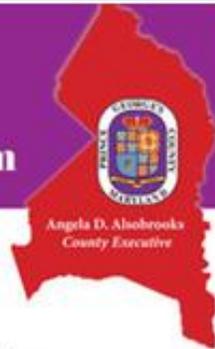
### **Prince George's County Childcare Recovery Program**

The Childcare Provider Recovery Program provides grants to childcare centers that have had to close their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many childcare programs in the County had to close its doors due to lack of revenue and newly established state and local health and safety guidelines. Unfortunately, these closures resulted in a substantial decrease in the number of available, quality childcare seats for Prince George's County families.

Childcare providers in Prince George's County may apply for grants to cover reopening expenses through the Child Care Provider Recovery Program. Eligible childcare providers may receive a grant up to \$20,000 for licensed childcare centers and up to \$3,000 for registered family childcare homes.

**COVID-19** (Coronavirus)

## Prince George's County Child Care Provider Recovery Program



The Child Care Provider Recovery Program provides grants to child care centers that have had to close their doors due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Child care providers may receive a grant up to \$20,000 for licensed child care centers and up to \$3,000 for registered family child care homes to support reopening costs, including personal protective equipment (PPE), payroll, supplies, rent, fixed debt payments and other operating costs.

**Application Period:**  
**September 9, 2020 – October 2, 2020**

### Eligibility:



- Licensed child care center or registered family child care or large family child care home located in the County
- Center is currently closed or recently reopened after July 30, 2020
- Must be in "good standing" with the State of Maryland
- Provide child care to children from birth to the age of five
- Incurred financial losses caused directly or indirectly by the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Not in bankruptcy or litigation
- Have not received funds/support from other County COVID-19 recovery or business relief programs

For more information and to apply,  
please visit: [pgcedc.com/covid-child-care-recovery](http://pgcedc.com/covid-child-care-recovery)

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county



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### Other News

#### Get Lost in a Great Book With One of Our "Celebrity" Book Readers!

Bowie has teamed up with some local readers to provide a series of Read Aloud videos for our youngest residents. We hope you will enjoy seeing some familiar faces and have fun exploring some new books or getting reacquainted with some old favorites. [www.cityofbowie.org/readaloudbooks](http://www.cityofbowie.org/readaloudbooks)

#### A Message from the IRS

The IRS wants beneficiaries of some federal programs to know that they may be eligible to receive payments for eligible children. Specifically, eligible retirees and recipients of Social Security retirement, survivor, or disability benefits (SSDI), Railroad Retirement benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and VA Compensation and Pension (C&P), who do not file a tax return, should have automatically received their Economic Impact payment earlier this year where they normally receive their benefits.

However, some benefit recipients missed the spring deadline to file for their children and didn't receive \$500 for each of their qualifying children. The new deadline to qualify for this payment is September 30. These benefit recipients can find more information in the [Social Security, Railroad Retirement and Department of Veteran Affairs benefit recipients section](#) of the FAQs on the IRS website. You must register with the IRS Non-Filers' tool by September 30, 2020 to qualify. [www.irs.gov/nonfilereip](http://www.irs.gov/nonfilereip).



IRS is reopening the registration for federal beneficiaries who didn't receive \$500 per child earlier this year on their Economic Impact Payments.

Sign up by Sept. 30

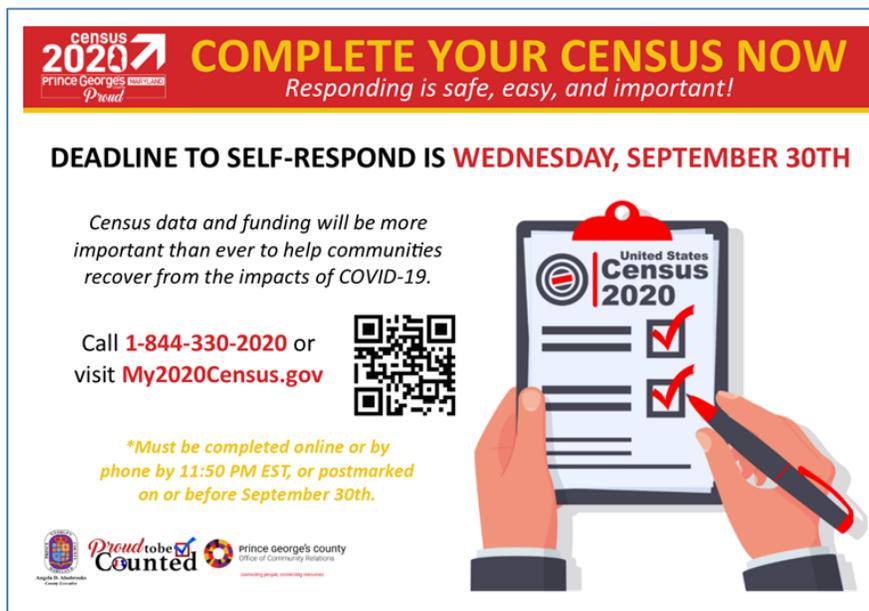


IRS [www.irs.gov/nonfilereip](http://www.irs.gov/nonfilereip)

### The Census Countdown is On!

There are only **12 days left to complete the 2020 Census**. The final deadline for all responses is September 30. Bowie's response rate to date is 83.5%. You can complete the census now at [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) or by calling 844-330-2020. The number to complete the census in Spanish is 844-468-2020.

If you would like to see how your neighborhood is doing in responding, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/census](http://www.cityofbowie.org/census).



**2020 Census**  
Prince Georges County  
Proud

## COMPLETE YOUR CENSUS NOW

Responding is safe, easy, and important!

**DEADLINE TO SELF-RESPOND IS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH**

*Census data and funding will be more important than ever to help communities recover from the impacts of COVID-19.*

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



*\*Must be completed online or by phone by 11:50 PM EST, or postmarked on or before September 30th.*

**Proud to be Counted**

Prince Georges County  
Office of Community Relations  
*connecting people, creating resources*

### Important Election Information & Dates

- General Election: November 3, 2020, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- General Election Early Voting: Monday, October 26, 2020 - Monday, November 2, 2020, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

- The City of Bowie Gymnasium will be a voting site for Early Voting and Election Day Voting; it will also have a drop-off box for completed mail-in ballots.
- The Board of Elections has published the [full list of Election Day Vote Centers and Early Voting locations](#) for Prince George’s County.

[Prince George’s County Board of Elections](#) 301-341-7300  
[Maryland Board of Elections](#) 410-269-2840

**Please note:**

The Postal Service recently sent a postcard to all US households about voting by mail. Unfortunately, some of the information on the card is inconsistent with the State of Maryland’s election guidelines. According to a statement issued by the State Board of Elections, if you wish to vote by mail, you should apply for the ballot as soon as you can. Do not wait. Your application to vote by mail must be received by October 20.

Additionally, no postage is required to return a ballot that a voter received by mail. If you choose to have the mail-in ballot mailed to you, it will come with a pre-paid postage return envelope. If you choose to have your ballot emailed to you, you will need to print your ballot and pay the postage to return it.

Marylanders should visit [elections.maryland.gov](http://elections.maryland.gov) for election information.



**STAND UP & Deliver**  
 Proud to Provide...  
**Grab & Go Groceries/Meals**

Prince George’s County will be distributing groceries/meals to go at the following locations. Groceries/meals will be distributed Saturday while supplies last. One (1) box per car. Please remain in your car.

**~ Saturday, September 19 Locations ~**

 <p><b>Time: 12:00pm</b></p> <p>Creative Suitland Arts Center        4719 Silver Hill Road        Suitland, MD 20746</p>	 <p><b>Time: 12:30pm</b></p> <p>Redeemers Church of Christ        10001 Aerospace Rd        Lanham, MD 20706</p>
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**Don't Wait ★ Vote Safe!** 