



TODAY'S COVID-19 SNAPSHOT

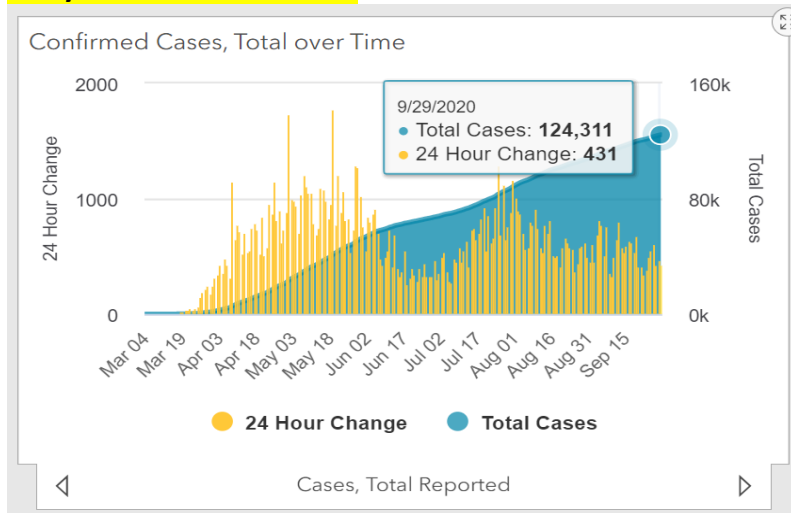
Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Bowie Confirmed Cases: 2022 (+17) 20715: 395 (+1) 20716: 454 (+5) 20720: 493 (+1) 20721: 680 (+10)	Prince George's County Confirmed Cases: 29,416 (+111) Total Deaths: 828 (+0) Ever hospitalized: 4,008 (+4) Case Rate per 100k: 10.62 Ranking: 34 th in the nation for highest number of cases.	Maryland Confirmed Cases 124,311 (+431) Deaths 3,946 (+8) Case Rate per 100k: 7.83 Released from Isolation: 7,509 (+33) = 6%
Testing MD Tests Completed: 2,588,690 (+15,083) Negative Tests: 1,485,999 (+6,780) MD Positivity Rate: 3.16% PGC Positivity Rate: 3.97%		Maryland Hospitalizations Data Tracker Currently Hospitalized: 344 10.1% Acute Care: 265 13.7% Intensive Care 79 -3.6% Ever Hospitalized 15,460 12.4%
* <i>These figures represent changes in the last 24 hours.</i>		

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

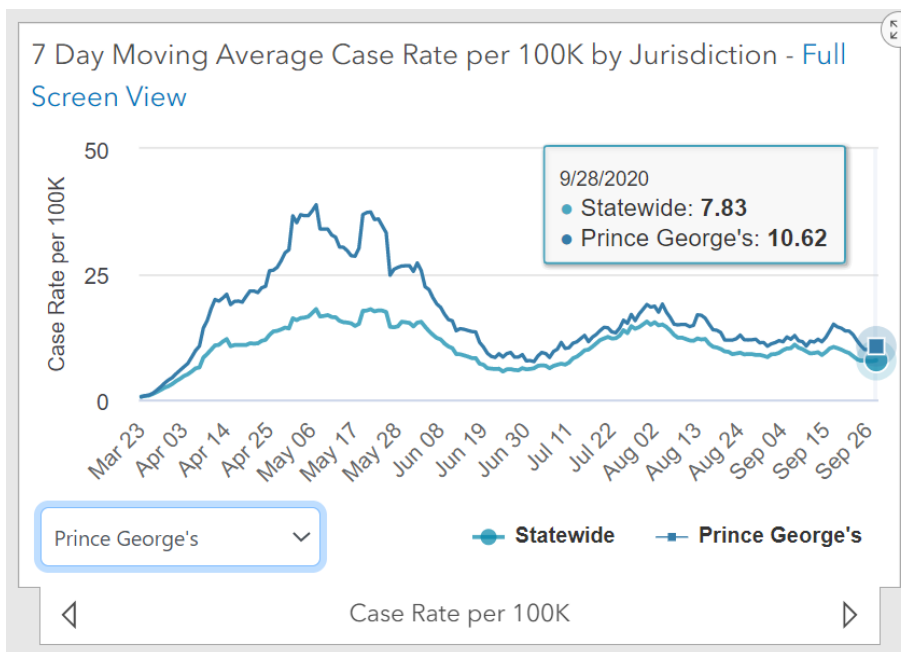
COVID Data Trends

State hospitalizations increased today, but the number of ICU patients remains low. Key county metrics were up slightly.

Prince George's County Metrics

Prince George's County remains in Reopening Phase 2. It is not likely to move to Phase 3 for a few more weeks or until three key metrics show consistent progress.

- **A positivity rate below 5%.**
Today it is at 3.97%
- **Infection rate at .9 or lower (low risk range)**
Infection rates measure how many people are infected by a person who has the virus. The goal is to consistently reach a rate of .9 or lower. The county's current rate is below 1.0, but still in the "medium risk" range.
- **News cases per 100K residents at or below 5.0**
At present, Prince George's County is averaging **10.62** new cases per 100K residents. That is considered in the "high risk" category.



Maryland Plans for How Vaccines Will Be Prioritized

The state has announced that when a COVID-19 vaccine is available, staff and residents at nursing homes and assisted living facilities will be prioritized for the first round of COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as senior daycare attendees and employees, healthcare workers, essential workers, public safety officials, and educators.

Food Drive for Bowie Pantry – October 4

Help support those in need by donating food and other personal items to the Bowie Pantry. A drive-through food drive takes place 10/4, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Kenhill Center. Monetary donations,

made out to the Bowie Interfaith Pantry, will also be accepted.

Employ Prince George's Offers Gift Cards to Hourly Workers Laid off Due to Pandemic

Employ Prince George's, in partnership with the Greater Washington Community Foundation, continues to accept applications for the Prince George's County COVID-19 Hourly Employee Relief Fund. Prince George's County residents who have been laid off due to the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible for a \$200 EPG Visa Cash Card and can apply at employprincegeorge.com.

Employ Prince George's is also offering Prince George's County residents whose employment has been affected by the pandemic the opportunity to take advantage of career planning services, free skills training, and job placement and job readiness assistance through the Employ Prince George's COVID-19 Workforce Development Recovery Program. Residents can complete step 1 of this program by submitting their information [here](#).

Bowie Youth & Family Services

Bowie Youth & Family Services is currently offering free virtual counseling and support groups for Bowie area youth and parents. Staff members are licensed clinicians who each hold a graduate degree in a mental health specialty and who have years of training and experience in treating children, teens and their families. Please call **513-817-3158** for more information or visit www.cityofbowie.org/youthservices.

Maryland Extends Deadline to Apply for Homeowners' and Renters' Property Tax Credits

The Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation is extending the deadline to apply for 2020 Homeowners' and Renters' Property Tax Credits from October 1 to October 31. These two tax credit programs can reduce the tax bills of both homeowners and renters.

The **Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program** provides relief for eligible homeowners by setting a limit on the amount of property taxes owed, based on their income. The **Renters' Property Tax Credit Program** provides tax relief for eligible renters who pay high monthly rent relative to their total income and do not receive federal or state housing subsidies or reside in public housing. The credit is issued in the form of a direct check payment of up to \$1,000.

In addition, Maryland homeowners are encouraged to submit an application for the **Homestead Tax Credit** if they have never done so. Once approved, the Homestead Credit accrues over time by limiting the increase in taxable assessment each year to a fixed percentage. It is a one-time application without a specific filing deadline. For additional questions about these credits, applicants should visit <https://dat.maryland.gov/Pages/Tax-Credit-Programs.aspx> or contact one of the following State program offices:

- Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program: sdat.homeowners@maryland.gov, 410-767-4433
- Renters' Property Tax Credit Program: sdat.renters@maryland.gov, 410-767-4433
- Homestead Property Tax Credit Program: sdat.homestead@maryland.gov, 410-767-4433

Other News

Upcoming Virtual Meetings

- 9/29, 7 p.m. – Virtual Town Hall Meeting for Old Bowie/Huntington
- 9/30, 7 p.m. – Master Plan Chat on Housing and Neighborhoods
- 10/1, 6 p.m. – Master Plan Chat on Healthy Communities

- 10/5, 8 p.m. – City Council Meeting (Agenda items: Police Department Update, City Development Policies)

Visit www.cityofbowie.org/calendar.aspx for more information and links to the virtual meetings.

Old Town Bowie/Huntington Virtual Town Hall Meeting – September 29

Residents of Old Bowie/Huntington: Do you have questions or comments about local issues such as crime, traffic, and economic development? Please join the virtual Town Hall meeting to get your questions answered and share your thoughts about your community's needs. The meeting will take place on Zoom. The Zoom link is <http://bowie.fyi/oldbowietownhall>.

Some of the items to be discussed tonight are listed below:

- New businesses moving into Old Bowie
- Parking challenges and resident feedback on parking
- 10th Street Park improvements
- Crime on 6th Street, speed bikes, policing
- Code enforcement questions and issues
- Road and sidewalk improvements and challenges
- Interest in new development, possible senior center

County Seeks Input on Bowie Master Plan Update

The County Planning Department is working on an update to the Bowie-Mitchellville and Vicinity Master Plan. The Master Plan will carefully examine existing conditions and issues, and revisit the vision for the area. This document will also help to guide development in the area for the next several years. The project team is interested in engaging the community as much as possible in the process through a series of virtual chats on eight different planning elements. Visit www.mncppc.org/4957/Community-Chat-Series for the Zoom links to each chat.

Nature Discovery Trail at Whitemarsh Park Needs Updating

Volunteers are needed to help update descriptive trail markers at Whitemarsh Park. Over 20 years ago, a nature trail was created at the park to honor Bowie resident and long-time nature activity Ben Bereskin. When it was installed, the markers contained information about what could be seen at that location on the trail. A marker might have been a particular kind of tree, or plant, or the wildlife that lived nearby. Over the years, some of the markers have disappeared and the landscape has changed – trees have fallen and new plants have replaced old ones, making some of the markers obsolete.

The City is looking for a small group of volunteers who would be interested in re-imagining the wording on the markers and making the trail more relevant for a new generation of nature lovers. If you are interested in learning more and perhaps putting your creativity to work and your boots on the ground for this trails project, please contact Community Services Director Sally Hein at shein@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3014.

Whitemarsh Park, located off of MD Route 3, is one of the lesser known jewels of the city's park system. It offers a sports themed playground, restrooms, and is home to one of the City's artificial turf ballfields. Tucked away at the rear of the park is a large picnic pavilion, the Bowie Playhouse (currently closed due to the pandemic) and several miles of hiking/biking trails. You can learn more about the trails at Whitemarsh and other city parks in our new [City Trails video](#) or visit www.cityofbowie.org/parks.

Hydrant Flushing Underway

The City of Bowie Public Works Department will begin the annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. Hydrant flushing began **September 28, 2020** and will take place Monday through Friday from approximately **9 a.m. until 3 p.m.** in accordance with the following schedule:

Hydrant Flushing

Hydrant flushing will take place in areas served by Bowie Water, Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., according to the schedule below:

DATES	NEIGHBORHOODS
SEPT 28 & 29	Buckingham, Derbyshire, & Forest Dr
SEPT 30 & OCT 1	Somerset & Bowie Forest
OCT 1 & 2	Tulip Grove
OCT 5 & 6	Foxhill & Long Ridge
OCT 7, 8 & 9	Kenilworth
OCT 12	Heather Hills
OCT 13, 14 & 15	Meadowbrook
OCT 16	Gradys Walk & Glenridge
OCT 19	Chapel Forge
OCT 20	Victoria Heights & Race Track Rd Townhouses
OCT 21	Idlewild
OCT 22	Yorktown & Overbrook
OCT 23	Whitehall
OCT 26	Rockledge

Flushing may cause some discoloration of the water for up to 24 hours.
Clothes washing should be avoided during this time.

Visit www.cityofbowie.org/flushing for more information

Census Deadline is Approaching

Make sure that every Bowie household is counted. Complete the census now at www.my2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020 to complete it by phone. (Spanish language line: 844-468-2020).

The Prince George's County School System, in partnership with the Office of Community Relations and the US Census Bureau, will be hosting a **Bilingual Census Information Event** virtually on Tuesday, September 29, 7 p.m. To access this Zoom meeting, please visit <https://zoom.us/join> and then enter the Zoom Meeting ID: 842 586 1577.

Election Information

Last week, the State Board of Elections began sending out mail-in ballots to those who applied for them. Ballots can be returned in the mail (no postage necessary) or at a voting drop box. The deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot is October 20.

If you have already requested a mail-in ballot:

- Monitor your mailbox in the coming days.

- Once you receive your ballot, fill it out completely, place it in the return envelope, sign the voter oath on the envelope, and seal the envelope.
- Return it to a secure ballot drop box located throughout the County by 8 p.m. on November 3, or via mail with a postmark on or before November 3. A secure ballot drop box has now been placed outside the City Gymnasium and is being guarded 24/hours a day.

Links to more information

- [List of Ballot Drop Boxes](#) (not all boxes have been delivered yet)
- [List of Election Day Vote Centers and Early Voting locations](#) for Prince George’s County.
- [Frequently Asked Questions \(and Answers\)](#) about the Election
- [Prince George’s County Board of Elections](#) 301-341-7300
- [Maryland Board of Elections](#) 410-269-2840
- [Prince George’s County FAQ page](#) about the General Election

