



COVID-19 UPDATE

Monday, November 16

Here's what you will find in today's update:

COVID-19 Information

- [Trends update](#)
- [Metrics charts](#)
- [Key county metrics](#)
- [Maryland hospitalizations](#)
- [Nationwide trends graphs](#)
- [County Orders New Restrictions](#)
- [Maryland Travel Advisory](#)
- [COVID data for schools](#)
- [Testing Information](#)
- [COVID Exposure Notifications](#)
- [Food resources](#)
- [Rental Housing Assistance](#)
- [Courts Take a Step Back](#)

Other News

- Leaf Collection is underway

COVID Data Trends

We continue to see double-digit increases in Bowie case numbers each day. The coronavirus is spreading rapidly throughout the state. There were record breaking increases in cases on Saturday and the number of Marylanders hospitalized is nearing 1,000. The last time there were that many COVID-related hospitalizations was in June.

Key Metrics Charts

These charts provide data for the last seven days on key COVID-19 metrics that are being tracked and analyzed to identify trends and to make reopening decisions.

COVID-19 New Case Tracking

	20715	20716	20720	20721	Bowie Cases	Prince George's Cases	Maryland Cases
Today	546 (+7)	566 (+5)	669 (+7)	871 (+8)	2,652 (+27)	36,486 (+217)	167,656 (+1,726)
15-Nov	+2	+1	+5	+7	+15	+217	+1,840
14-Nov	+8	+9	+10	+6	+33	+386	+2,321
13-Nov	+7	+6	+5	+10	+28	+330	+1,869
12-Nov	+2	+2	+3	+4	+11	+190	+1,477
11-Nov	+1	+5	+12	+12	+30	+290	+1,714
10-Nov	519	538	627	824	2,508	34,856	156,709

7-Day Positivity Rates

	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
Today	304,562 (+2,270)	7.97%	3,894,566 (+34,833)	6.45%
15-Nov	+217	8.46%	+28,574	6.57%
14-Nov	+1,848	7.83%	+37,627	6.16%
13-Nov	+1,730	7.26%	+32,019	5.87%
12-Nov	+1,221	6.91%	+31,598	5.63%
11-Nov	+1,785	6.76%	+27,257	5.60%
10-Nov	+1,773	6.32%	+24,549	5.24%

Cases per 100K Persons

	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K
Today	29.61	28.20
15-Nov	28.37	26.41
14-Nov	25.07	24.25
13-Nov	23.80	23.48
12-Nov	23.49	22.82
11-Nov	21.49	21.13
10-Nov	19.31	19.79

Infection Rates

	County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
15-Nov	1.27	1.27
14-Nov	1.27	1.27
13-Nov	1.26	1.27
12-Nov	1.25	1.26
11-Nov	1.25	1.26
10-Nov	1.24	1.26
9-Nov	1.23	1.25
14-Day Weighted Average	1.22	1.25

Key

Cases	<i>Represents the daily number of new positive cases.</i>
Positivity Rate	<i>The 7-day positivity rate is a rolling weekly average of the percent of new cases relative to the number of tests conducted. The goal is a positivity rate</i>

	consistently below 5%.
Cases per 100K persons	Measures how widespread the virus is in a community. The goal is to have fewer than 5 new cases per 100K persons.
Infection rate	Shows how many people are infected by each positive case. The goal is an infection rate at or below 0.9.
Data sources: Except for the infection rate, all data provided here is from the State of Maryland's COVID dashboard. The infection rate is tracked by www.covidactnow.org . It is subject to adjustments and may have a 1 to 3-day lag time in reporting.	

Prince George's County Metrics

Key Metrics	Current status*	Goal
Positivity rate	7.97	Remain below 5%
Cases per 100K	29.61	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	1.27	Low risk range (<0.9)

(*) Green represents a decrease in these figures. Red represents an increase and black signifies no change.

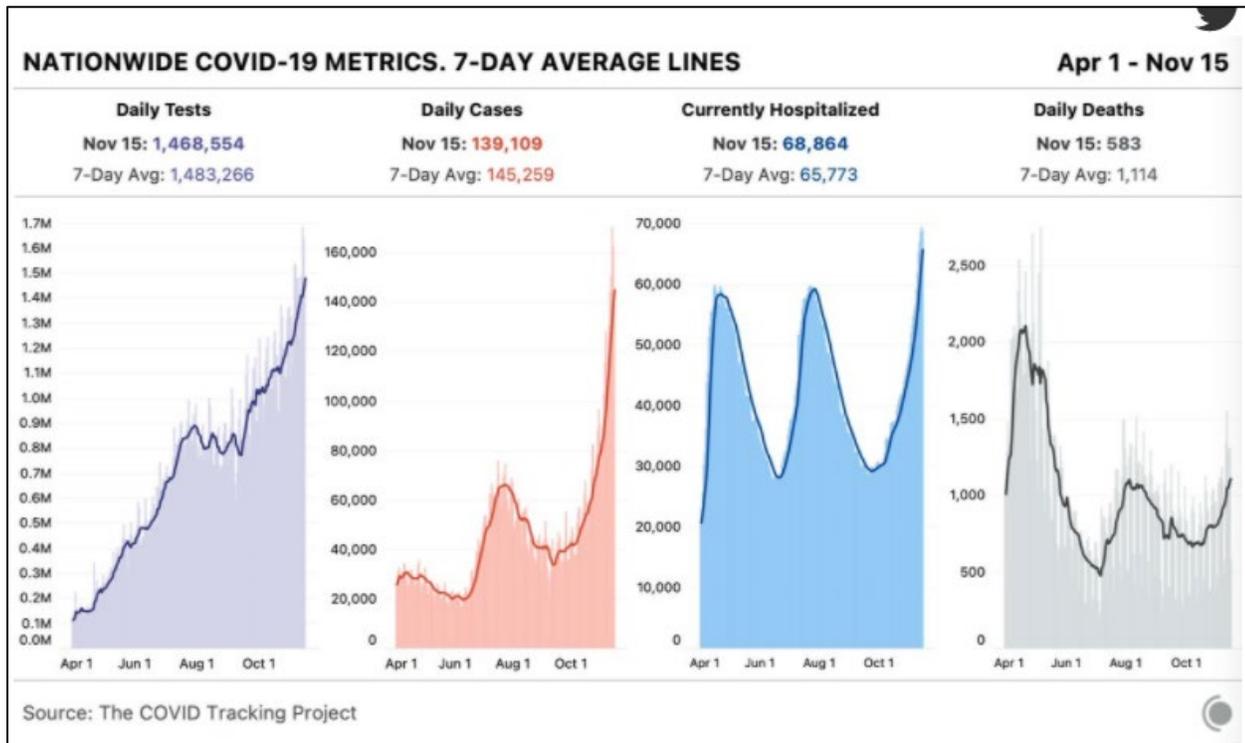
Maryland Hospitalizations

Hospitalization Data Tracker		
Currently Hospitalized:	985	7.7%*
Acute Care:	748	5.9%*
Intensive Care	237	13.9%*
Ever Hospitalized	18,688	11.1%

Weekly Summary of Hospitalizations and Deaths					
	Prince George's Hospitalizations to Date	Maryland Hospitalizations to Date	Currently Hospitalized in Maryland	Prince George's County Deaths	Maryland Deaths
Today	4,203 (+18)	18,688 (+112)	985 (+5.0%)	890 (+1)	4,309 (+7)
15-Nov	+0	+118	938 (+1.8%)	+6	+9
14-Nov	+4	+177	921 (+0.7%)	+3	+20
13-Nov	+7	+142	914 (+5.9%)	+2	+12
12-Nov	+8	+127	863 (+7.2%)	+2	+12
11-Nov	+3	+98	805 (+5.7%)	+3	+16
10-Nov	4,163	17,914	761	873	4,233

A Look at Nationwide Metrics

The graphic below provides a nationwide look at four key metrics - new tests, new confirmed cases, hospitalizations, and new deaths.



County Executive Orders More Restrictions to Address Surging Cases

The following new orders are now in effect in Prince George's County:

- Face coverings required outside the home**
Face coverings are now required whenever you leave your home (both indoors and outdoors). The only exceptions are for children under age 5 (recommending for ages 2 to 4) and during vigorous outdoor exercise.
- Essential businesses – 50% capacity**
Essential businesses, such as grocery stores, food stores, and big box stores, may operate at 50% of capacity.
- Non-essential businesses – 25% capacity or 1 per 200 feet**
All other businesses, currently open in Phase 2, must limit occupancy to 25% of capacity or 1 person per 200 square feet, whichever is less.
- Business must follow all safety orders and guidance**
All businesses must follow and enforce mask wearing, social distancing, and other safety guidance at their establishments.
- Restaurants – 25% capacity indoors and 50% capacity outdoors**
Restaurants are limited to 25% capacity indoors and 50% outdoors. All persons must be seated to be served.
- Gyms – 25% capacity or 1 per 200 feet, whichever is lower**
Gyms and fitness centers may operate at 1 person per 200 square feet or 25% of capacity up to a maximum of 50 people. Masks are required while working out at fitness centers.
- Indoor gatherings – 10-person limit or 1 per 200 feet, whichever is lower**
Indoor gatherings, whether in public or private locations, are limited to 1 person per 200 square feet or 10 persons, whichever is less.
- Outdoor gatherings – limited to 25 persons**

Outdoor gatherings are limited to 25 persons.

These measures are in addition to existing State of Maryland orders, advisories, and guidance. If there is a difference between Prince George's County and State directives, the stricter orders shall apply.

The Prince George's County Health Department Order provides more specific information about restrictions for various types of establishments and locations. Read the full documents at the links below:

- [County Press Release About New Orders](#) (issued 11/12/20)
- [Prince George's County Health Department Order](#) (issued 11/12/20/effective 11/15/20)
- [County Guidance about the Holidays](#)



WEAR A MASK - It's the Law *

- When you go for a walk
- When you're chatting with a neighbor
- In line outside the grocery store
- When you're pumping gas
- On public transport
- Indoors at businesses, stores, and public spaces



...and in just about every other indoor and outdoor setting

The bottom line is masks are required anytime you leave your home.

* Exceptions: during vigorous exercise outdoors and for children under 5 (recommended for ages 2-4)

A Word About Enforcement

Widespread community transmission of the coronavirus is now occurring in Maryland and the state is perilously close to uncontrolled spread. These measures have been put in place to reduce the spread, alleviate the growing strain on hospitals, keep our economy open, and to protect all Marylanders. If they are not enough, the Governor has indicated that he will take stronger measures if necessary.

The current State of Maryland and the Prince George's County orders and directives carry the weight of law. The Governor has directed police departments, including the Bowie Police Department, and other state and local officials to enforce these orders.

The first priority of the City of Bowie government is to protect the health and safety of all who live and work here. We will work to educate the public about these changes, to encourage compliance, and ultimately to enforce the law.

Please help us in this effort by wearing a face covering when you leave your home, staying six feet apart from those outside your household, following capacity restrictions, and by reporting establishments or gatherings that are disregarding or not closely following these orders.

Violations should be reported to Prince George's County at 3-1-1 or email covidcompliance@co.pg.md.us.

The County has a COVID-19 Ambassador Compliance Team that will investigate businesses to ensure they are enforcing all safety protocols and will take appropriate action as necessary. You can also contact the Bowie Police Department at 240-544-5700.

Maryland Travel Advisory

The Maryland Department of Health has issued a new travel advisory that strongly encourages Marylanders to avoid nonessential travel and that specifically advises against traveling to states with positivity rates of 10% or higher or states where the case rate per 100K is more than 20.

It is important to note that [positivity rates are being calculated differently](#) by different agencies and organizations, which sometimes makes it difficult to compare data. The CDC Tracker provides case trends, testing, and other information. Cumulative positivity rates can be found on the [testing page](#). The [case trends page](#) provides a good representation of cases per 100K and where the spread has been most active over the previous seven days.

The Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center also tracks testing trends. You can view the percentage of new tests that are positive using a seven day rolling average on their [percentage positive tracker map](#).

Case Data for Maryland Schools

Last week the State of Maryland began reporting on COVID outbreaks in public and non-public K-12 schools in the state. The data comes from local health department reports to the Maryland Department of Health. It does not include childcare facilities or institutions of higher education.

[View outbreak data for schools](#)

COVID Testing

Please visit the Prince George's County [COVID-19 testing webpage](#) for site locations and testing schedules. You'll also find links there to information about [State of Maryland testing locations](#). If you have additional questions about the County's testing program, call the coronavirus hotline at 301-883-6627 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday.

JOIN THE TEAM

GET TESTED FOR COVID-19

- Wear Your Mask Properly
- Locate Your Testing Site: Dial 311
- Physically Distance for Safety
- Avoid Social Gatherings
- Wash Your Hands Frequently

Prince Georges Proud

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Prince George's County

COVID Link

The Maryland Department of Health launched a new COVID website and a new tool to help notify Marylanders if they have been exposed to the coronavirus. The new COVID-19 Exposure Notifications system is called *MD COVID Alert*. It uses Bluetooth Low Energy technology to quickly notify mobile phone users who might have been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 with the goal of reducing infections in Maryland. You can view the new COVID website and learn more about the alerting tool at <http://covidlink.maryland.gov>.

Food Programs

There are a variety of programs underway in Bowie and in the surrounding community to help make sure that no one goes hungry during these uncertain times. We have gathered the information together on a new page on our website so that it is easy to find and easy to navigate. If you are in need of food or know someone who is experiencing food insecurity, we encourage you to visit www.cityofbowie.org/food.

City of Bowie Launches COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program

On November 11, the City of Bowie is launching a COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program for tenants who have suffered a loss of income due to the pandemic. The Rental Assistance Program will provide short term assistance to low- and moderate-income families who meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income limit guidelines. If eligible, approved households may receive a maximum of one month's rent (one-time only) paid directly to their landlord.

The COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program is funded through the CARES ACT as a HUD Community Development Block Grant to "prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)". The City has decided to use part of these funds to help those affected by the pandemic to meet their housing obligations and to avoid eviction. Applicants must be US citizens, permanent residents or qualified aliens, (8 U.S.C. 1641), and City of Bowie residents. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/cobcares for more information.

Maryland Courts Take a Step Back

Effective today, the Maryland Judiciary will restrict operations to Phase III of its five-phased reopening plan in response to the surge in COVID-19 cases. In Phase III, courts will hear a broad range of matters, including certain non-jury trials. Clerks' offices in the District Court of Maryland and Circuit Courts throughout the state will remain open to the public, with limited in-person services being offered. The Judiciary had resumed full operations under Phase V, including jury trials on October 5.

Other News

Leaf Collection Underway

The City of Bowie Curbside Vacuum Leaf Collection Program runs through mid-December. Every single-family neighborhood will have two collections during that time.

The schedule is posted by week this year, rather than by specific date. You can view the 2020 schedule at www.cityofbowie.org/leaves to see which two weeks your neighborhood will have leaf collection.

Leaves should be raked to the curb (but not in the street), by 7 a.m. on Monday of your scheduled week. Each afternoon, the progress will be posted on the city website at www.cityofbowie.org/leaves. It will show each neighborhood scheduled for that week and whether it has been completed. Please note that once the truck passes through your street, they will not return to it again that week.

Please call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344 if you have questions about the Curbside Leaf

Collection Program. If you prefer to bag your leaves, they will be picked up on Wednesdays with yard waste. Use paper yard waste bags (no plastic bags).

City Council Meeting Tonight, 8 p.m.

View agenda at www.cityofbowie.org/agenda