



COVID-19 UPDATE

Wednesday, December 23, 2020

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COVID-19 Information

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COVID Data Trends

Today, both the state and county positivity rates have continued to slowly decline, although hospitalizations have increased slightly, and infection rates remain steady. The state positivity rate is 7.36, while the county positivity rate is now 9%. Likewise, new cases in Bowie continue to stay around the same level. As of this morning, Maryland has reported 10,497 COVID-19 vaccinations.

Governor Hogan Takes New Steps to Slow the Spread of COVID-19

Governor Larry Hogan and State health officials announced a series of actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 during the holiday season, including:

- **[New Travel and Testing Requirements](#)**: Requires residents to limit all travel to essential purposes only. Residents traveling outside of Maryland or who travel to Maryland, must either obtain a negative COVID-19 test result or self-quarantine for 10 days. This requirement applies to all states, except Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC. [Health Directive](#) on COVID Testing.
- **[Limits on Large Indoor Gatherings](#)**: Warning residents against all non-essential activities and holiday gatherings with people outside of immediate households. All residents should refrain from attending public and private gatherings of more than 10 people in one location and should practice physical distancing to the maximum extent possible.
- **[Extension of Moratorium on Foreclosures](#)**: Extends the moratorium on foreclosures to January 31, 2021, consistent with the federal CARES Act.
- **[Suspension of In-Person Customer Service Operations](#)**: State agencies directed to suspend in-person customer service operations for two weeks, beginning December 21. Telework continues to be mandatory for state employees who are able to telework, and all businesses are strongly encouraged to institute telework over the holidays.
- **[Additional Economic Relief](#)**: An additional \$180 million in emergency economic relief announced, including more help for businesses, restaurants, hotels and hospitality venues, entertainment

venues, and more; \$40 million to the Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) benefit, which provides a \$100 boost to the TCA benefit for each of the next six months.

He also encouraged Marylanders to support local restaurants this holiday season by using carryout or delivery services, giving to a local charity or food bank, and shopping at local small businesses.

Governor Extends Moratorium on Foreclosures

On December 17, Governor Hogan issued an [executive order](#) that extends the moratorium on foreclosures, residential evictions, and repossessions until January 31, 2021. Information about foreclosure prevention and mortgage relief can be found on the Department of Labor's [COVID-19 Mortgage Relief & Foreclosure consumer pages](#).

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	922 (+7)	878 (+7)	992 (+14)	1,303 (+9)	4,095 (+37)	51,462 (+456)	257,862 (+2,465)
22-Dec	+9	+2	+10	+13	+34	+363	+2,324
21-Dec	+5	+9	+10	+15	+39	+324	+2,265
20-Dec	+9	+5	+6	+12	+32	+337	+2,054
19-Dec	+14	+6	+4	+5	+29	+417	+2,201
18-Dec	+10	+16	+12	+21	+59	+497	+2,569
17-Dec	868	833	936	1,228	3,865	49,068	243,984

7-Day Positivity Rates				
	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
Today	383,894 (+2,418)	9.00%	5,419,999 (+39,810)	7.36%
22-Dec	+2,189	9.17%	+55,698	7.47%
21-Dec	+1,637	9.90%	+40,320	7.72%
20-Dec	+1,770	9.97%	+42,612	7.68%
19-Dec	+1,840	9.81%	+36,405	7.83%
18-Dec	+2,380	9.51%	+44,178	7.77%
17-Dec	+1,507	9.35%	+29,546	7.73%

Cases per 100K Persons			Infection Rates		
	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K		County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
Today	43.58	37.89	22-Dec	0.92	0.91
22-Dec	47.62	38.19	21-Dec	0.92	0.92
21-Dec	47.62	38.19	20-Dec	0.93	0.92
20-Dec	48.78	39.57	19-Dec	0.94	0.93
19-Dec	50.74	42.73	18-Dec	0.95	0.93
18-Dec	50.23	42.84	17-Dec	0.96	0.94
17-Dec	52.99	45.17	16-Dec	0.97	0.95
			14-Day Weighted Average	0.98	0.96

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 consistently below 5%.</i>
Cases per 100K persons	<i>Measures how widespread the virus is in a community. The goal is to have fewer than 5 new cases per 100K persons.</i>
Infection rate	<i>Shows how many people are infected by each positive case. The goal is an infection rate at or below 0.9.</i>
Data sources: <i>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.</i>	

Prince George's County Metrics

Key Metrics	Current status*	Goal
Positivity rate	9.00	Remain below 5%
Cases per 100K	43.58	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	0.92	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:	1,776	3.4%
Acute Care:	1,357	3.0%
Intensive Care	419	4.7%
Ever Hospitalized	25,072	9.7%

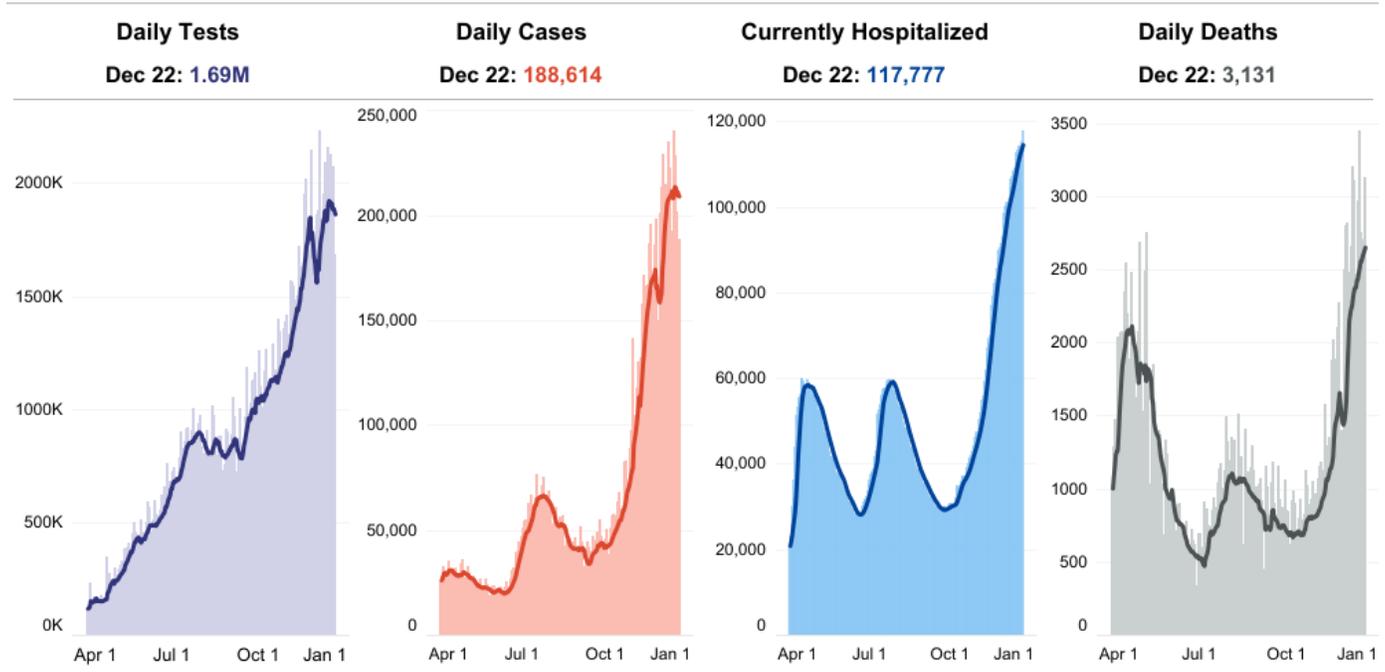
A Look at Nationwide Metrics

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

hospitalizations, and new deaths.

NATIONWIDE COVID-19 METRICS SINCE APRIL 1. 7-DAY AVERAGE LINES

Choose Census Region
All



Questions on Vaccine Distribution?

The Maryland Department of Health and the Prince George's County Health Department are currently leading the distribution process of COVID-19 vaccines. As of December 23, the Maryland Department of Health will be reporting the number of COVID-19 Vaccinations distributed in the State of Maryland. You can view the current vaccination phase, number of vaccinations administered, percent of population vaccinated and more at the bottom of the [Maryland COVID data dashboard](#).

Visit the Maryland Department of Health and the Prince George's County Health Department websites for information and answers to frequently asked questions on the current vaccination plan and planned timings for each phase and priority group.

[Prince George's County vaccination page](#)

[Maryland Department of Health vaccination page](#)

Vaccine Update

Vaccines	Status	Dosing	Efficacy	Potential Side Effects	Initial Doses Available in Phase 1A
Pfizer	Vaccine has been authorized for emergency use	Two doses, delivered three weeks apart	95% effective at preventing serious illness	Injection-site pain, fatigue, headaches, chills	50,700
Moderna	Vaccine has been authorized for emergency use	Two doses, delivered four weeks apart	94.1% effective at preventing serious illness	Injection-site pain, fatigue, muscle aches, joint pain, headaches, chills	104,300
AstraZeneca	Vaccine trials are ongoing	Two doses, delivered four weeks apart NOTE: A half-dose may be recommended for the first dose.	-	Fever, muscle ache, headache, injection-site pain	-

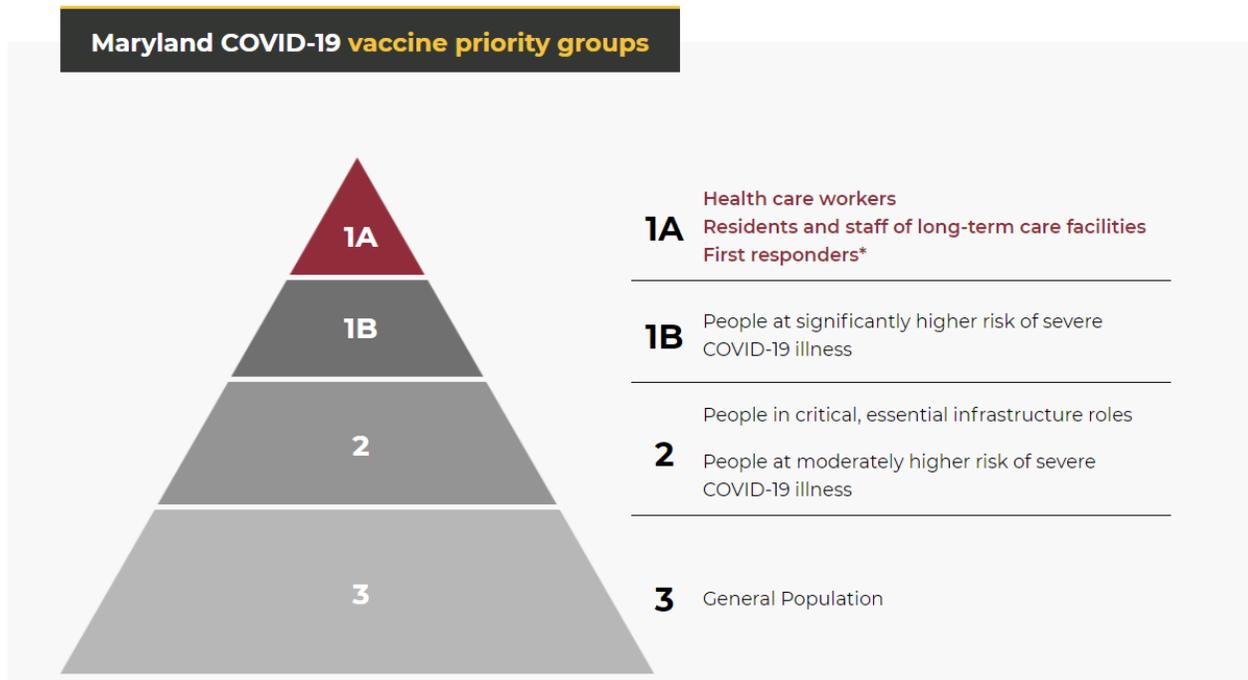
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Arrives In Maryland This Week

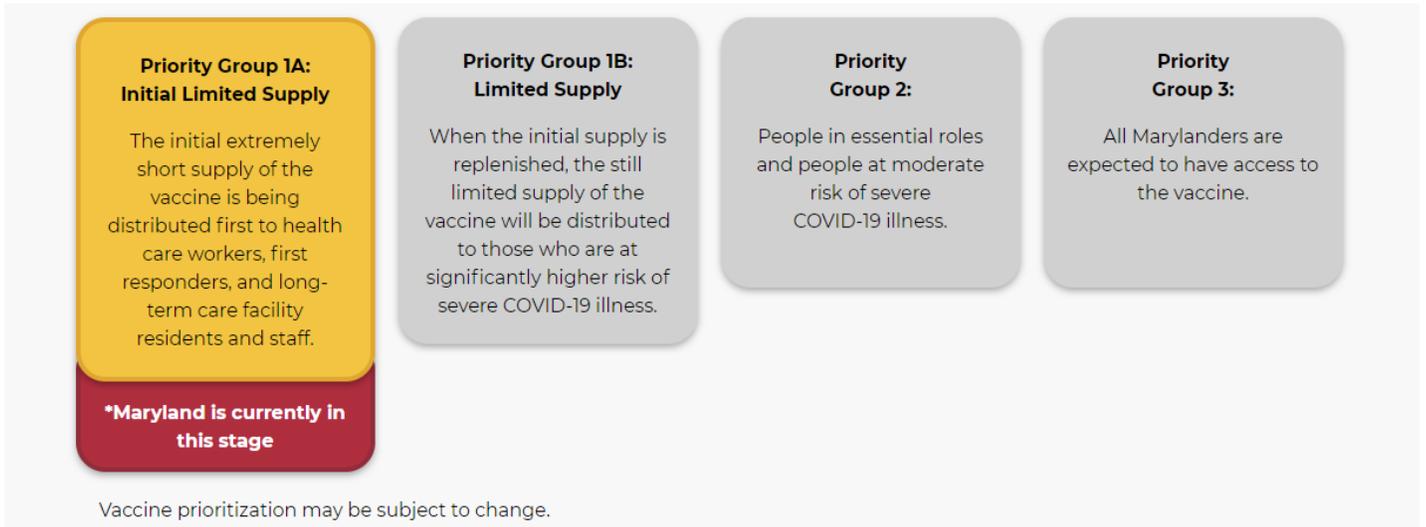
Governor Larry Hogan announced that the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, which was granted emergency use authorization by the FDA on December 18, has begun shipping to recipients in Maryland, and may take several days to be completed over the course of the week. With this addition, Maryland’s allotment of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines now totals over 191,000 total doses for Phase 1A of Maryland’s COVID-19 vaccination prioritization.

Maryland Department of Health Unveils COVID Vaccine Information Page

The Maryland Department of Health has unveiled a new covidLINK vaccine resource [webpage](#) to learn more about the state’s distribution plan, review safety information about the vaccines, and get answers to frequently asked questions.

Based on the Maryland Vaccination Plan, vaccines will be distributed in the state according to the information provided in the graphic below.





(Source: Maryland Department of Health)

Prince George's County Creates New COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage

Learn about the COVID-19 vaccine, why it is safe, and how it will be distributed by visiting <http://health.mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine>. This page will be updated regularly as the vaccine becomes more widely available.

[COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine Benefits and What to Expect after Vaccination

Vaccines help the body develop natural protection against the virus by triggering an antibody response to the virus. The Pfizer vaccine and the various vaccine candidates awaiting approval are not live vaccines, which means they will not cause recipients to become infected with the virus. Vaccinations protect the recipient and will help to prevent the spread of the disease.

The CDC has published an article, [What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#), highlighting key facts with a list of common side effects and helpful tips.

The agency has also published the following COVID-19 updates:

- [Post Vaccine Considerations for Residents](#)
- [View the CDC's Facts on COVID Vaccination](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

Other News

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 12/25 – Christmas holiday – City offices closed. No trash or recycling collection
- 1/1 – New Year's Day holiday – City offices closed. No trash collection. Recycling collection will take place for those on the Friday schedule
- 1/4 – City Council Meeting

Virtual Holiday Happenings

This year, celebrate the holidays with a variety of festive City-sponsored virtual events:

- **Holiday House Decorating Contest Winners** – This year's winners in our Holiday House Decorating Contest have outdone themselves! The displays are festive, creative, and beautiful.

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who entered the contest. View a video of the winners or better still, download the list and see them in person.

[Video of Virtual House Decorating Awards Ceremony \(YouTube\)](#)
[House Decorating Contest Winners \(pdf\)](#)

- **Holiday Tree Lighting**

The debut broadcast was Sunday, December 6. The tree lighting was prerecorded and can be viewed on YouTube and the city website. The video showcases the lighting of multiple trees and sites throughout the City, a message from the Mayor, and some holiday music.

- **Santa Calling** Parents, complete an online request for Santa or Mrs. Claus to call your child (aged 8 or younger).
- **Breakfast with Santa** video. Children can enjoy Santa's reading of *Twas the Night Before Christmas*, then join Mrs. Claus in creating holiday crafts (pick up free craft kits now available at City Hall during regular business hours).
- **Letter to Santa Mailbox** Children may send an electronic letter to Santa and receive a response from the North Pole.
- **December Read Aloud** Community members read seasonal books for our youngest residents. Enjoy stories celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah & Kwanzaa at www.cityofbowie.org/bowiereadsaloud.
- **Gratitude Board** With everything going on in the world, we could all use a reminder about the little things we're all grateful for - friends, family, pets, coworkers, neighbors, and more! Send us a brief message and/or photo that expresses your gratitude via email to CSAdminStaff@cityofbowie.org. Please limit messages to no more than 15 words. Messages and/or photos will be posted on our Virtual Holiday Happenings page, and some will be featured in an album on our Facebook page.
- **Holiday Recipe Cookbook** Our "[Holidays in Bowie](#)" [cookbook](#) is finally out of the oven and ready to serve! Read along and add a few new 'Bowie' dishes to your holiday table. We couldn't have done it without your recipes. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Watch the broadcasts on:

- YouTube - [@CityofBowieMD](#)
- On the web - www.cityofbowie.org/broadcasts

Congratulations to City Employees Celebrating Work Anniversaries

City employees have worked throughout the pandemic to bring critical services to our community. We're very proud of the job all of our workers have done in sometimes very challenging situations. We'd like to single out several of them as they celebrate milestone anniversaries with the City of Bowie in 2020. We thank them for their dedication.

[Employee anniversaries video \(YouTube\)](#)
[List of employees celebrating milestone anniversaries \(PDF\)](#)

Student Artists, Show Us Your Creativity & Win Prizes

The City of Bowie is hosting its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Art Contest to promote understanding about the lasting legacy of Dr. King. The theme for this year's contest is "*Joining Hands for Justice*". There are three different categories within the contest, depending on the grade level of the students. The contest is open to students who live within the municipal limits of Bowie (including home schooled students) or students who attend an eligible school in Bowie. **Entries are due January 4, 2021.** Cash prizes are awarded to winners in each category. Visit <http://www.cityofbowie.org/MLK> for contest details or contact Lori Cunningham at lcunningham@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601.

CITY OF BOWIE

MLK

ART

Contest

Theme: "Joining Hands for Justice"

SUBMISSIONS DUE JAN 4, 2021 @ 5 P.M.

To honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and raise awareness about his accomplishments, the City of Bowie Diversity Committee sponsors an annual art contest for Bowie students*.

The contest divides the participating grades into three groups:

Grades K-2 - coloring contest

Grades 3-5 - poster contest

Grades 6-12 - video contest



Visit www.cityofbowie.org/mlk
for contest rules, applications,
and more information.

Info: lcunningham@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601

Must reside in the City of Bowie or attend an eligible Bowie school to participate

