COVID-19 UPDATE

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

COVID-19 Information	
• COVID Data Trends	• Maryland Health Connection
• Prince George's County Metrics	• Tax Filing Deadline for Businesses
• County Vaccine Update	• Bowie Business Recovery Program
• Maryland Vaccine Update	
• Vaccine Recources	**Other News**
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• Maryland hospitalizations	• Christmas Tree Pickup
• New COVID-19 Variant	
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COVID Data Trends

Prince George's County cases are up 24% from this time last week. Statewide hospitalizations are also higher than a week ago, with some hospitals in the state reaching challenging levels of COVID hospitalizations. Over 4,000 COVID deaths were reported in the US yesterday.

Prince George's County Metrics

Key Metrics	Current status*	Goal
Positivity rate	11.49	Remain below 3%
Cases per 100K	50.12	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	1.06	Low risk range (<0.9)
(*) Green represents a decrease in these figures. Red represents an increase and black signifies no change.		
Vaccinations Administered		
Phase 1A	• Hospital and frontline healthcare workers • Residents and staff of nursing homes and long-term care facilities • Frontline first responders/essential public safety workers • Licensed, registered, & certified healthcare providers	
First doses	4,058	
Second does	13	
Total doses	**4,071**	**as of 1/5/21**
***Please note**: If you are not in one of the groups included in Phase 1A, you are currently not eligible for vaccination, nor are you able to register for a future vaccination at this time.*		

County Update on Vaccinations

On January 6, County Executive Alsobrooks and County Health Officer Carter provided an update on COVID-19 and vaccine distribution. Both acknowledged that the vaccination process began slowly

because of a lack of resources and the holidays. With help from the Maryland National Guard and other personnel, the process will be accelerating and more individuals in Phase 1A will soon receive vaccines.

The Prince George's County COVID vaccination webpage provides information about the various phases of its vaccination plan and displays data about vaccines administered. It has been updated to reflect changes in the phasing.

Prince George's County's population is over 900,000. Getting all of the county's residents vaccinated is going to take several months. It is critically important that until herd immunity is reached here, everyone must continue to follow the orders and guidance to limit the spread and protect yourself.

The timetable for vaccinations is as follows, but is subject to change:
- Phase 1A – January & February
- Phase 1B – February & March
- Phase 1C – March & April
- Phase 2 – April & May
- Phase 3 – May & June

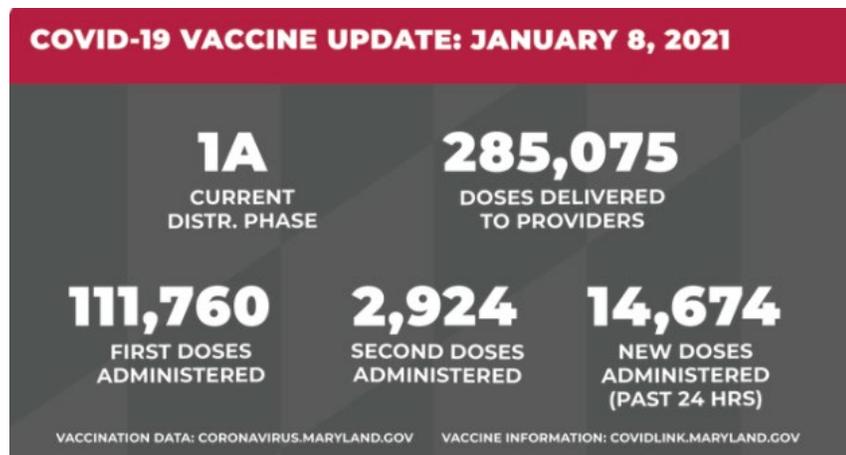View the groups included in each phase on the Prince George's County Vaccination Information page.

State Actions to Accelerate COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution
On January 5, Governor Hogan held a press conference announcing a series of actions to accelerate the current rate of vaccine distribution. These new actions were further supplemented by changes to the priority groups for vaccinations.

New measures to increase the rate of vaccinations:
- Maryland National Guard will assist with emergency vaccinations.
- 700 members of the Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps will assist with vaccine administration.
- All vaccine providers in Maryland must report data within 24 hours of administration.
- More state resources will be available for hospitals.
- Greater accountability will be required for vaccine providers with lower usage rates.
- The state is adopting a rolling vaccine allocation model.
- The priority populations in the state's vaccination plan have been updated and expanded.

Marylanders can stay informed on the vaccination process by texting MDREADY to 898-211 or by visiting https://covidlink.maryland.gov/content/vaccine/.

COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE: JANUARY 8, 2021

1A
CURRENT
DISTR. PHASE

285,075
DOSES DELIVERED
TO PROVIDERS

111,760
FIRST DOSES
ADMINISTERED

2,924
SECOND DOSES
ADMINISTERED

14,674
NEW DOSES
ADMINISTERED
(PAST 24 HRS)

VACCINATION DATA: CORONAVIRUS.MARYLAND.GOV   VACCINE INFORMATION: COVIDLINK.MARYLAND.GOV

Vaccine Websites
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. The vaccination dashboards provide data on vaccinations received, vaccinations administered, and demographic data for those receiving the vaccines.

Maryland
[Maryland Department of Health vaccination information page](#)
[Maryland vaccination dashboard](#)

Prince George's County
[Vaccination information page](#)
[Vaccination dashboard](#)

CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Resources:
- [What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Post-Vaccine Considerations for Residents](#)
- [View the CDC's Facts on COVID Vaccination](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)

More Key COVID-19 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	1,090 (+13)	1,007 (+8)	1,166 (+15)	1,512 (+12)	4,775 (+48)	58,316 (+545)	299,606 (+3,732)
7-Jan	+18	+6	+3	+13	+40	+485	+2,970
6-Jan	+9	+10	+12	+15	+46	+473	+3,146
5-Jan	+11	+3	+4	+11	+29	+422	+1,956
4-Jan	+8	+8	+11	+16	+43	+363	+2,483
3-Jan	+6	+8	+7	+19	+40	+334	+2,148
2-Jan	1,025	964	1,114	1,426	4,529	55,694	283,171

7-Day Positivity Rates

	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
Today	412,406 (+2,006)	11.49%	6,029,482 (+57,050)	9.16%
7-Jan	+1,838	11.87%	+39,652	9.31%
6-Jan	+1,965	11.85%	+38,281	9.44%
5-Jan	+1,600	11.76%	+24,882	9.19%
4-Jan	+1,630	11.92%	+35,491	9.47%
3-Jan	+1,335	11.88%	+26,460	9.15%
2-Jan	+2,293	11.42%	+46,132	8.94%

Infection Rates

	County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
7-Jan	1.06	1.06
6-Jan	1.05	1.06
5-Jan	1.05	1.06
4-Jan	1.05	1.06
3-Jan	1.04	1.05
2-Jan	1.04	1.05
1-Jan	1.03	1.05
14-Day Weighted Average	1.02	1.04

Cases per 100K Persons

	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K
Today	50.12	45.40
7-Jan	49.63	45.40
6-Jan	49.03	44.18
5-Jan	47.96	44.00
4-Jan	46.89	42.82
3-Jan	45.98	41.00
2-Jan	43.61	40.31

Key

Cases	Represents the daily number of new positive cases.
Positivity Rate	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%.
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.

Maryland Hospitalizations

Hospitalizations		
Currently Hospitalized:	1,885	2.7%
Acute Care:	1,438	2.2%
Intensive Care	447	4.6%
Ever Hospitalized	28,068	9.3%

ICU and Acute Hospital Beds for COVID-19, Currently in Use

New COVID-19 Variants

A new variant of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, which was originally reported in the United Kingdom, has now been detected in at least five US states. While this variant and other variants that have been detected do not appear to result in more severe illness, hospitalization, or greater risk of death, the latest variants appear to spread more easily.

In addition to the United Kingdom variant, public health officials are also monitoring other variants including one in South America and another in South Africa and studying the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccines with these emerging viral variants. Read more about new COVID variants on the CDC website.

Staying home whenever possible, wearing a mask, keeping at least six feet away from those outside your household, and quarantining after exposure to the virus continue to be our best defenses against all variants of COVID-19.

Some County Testing Sites to Remain Closed Until January 21

Testing is suspended at the Prince George's County Health Department headquarters and at the Dyer Regional Health Center until January 21, 2021 to allow the county's frontline operational and clinical staff to plan and train for mass vaccinations. COVID-19 testing at the department's partner site in Laurel (Roseu Medical Center) is also be suspended during the same period.

The department's partner sites in Hyattsville and Fort Washington remain open during normal operating hours, weather permitting. Please check the schedule on the County's testing site for locations and hours of operation of those partner sites, as well as additional testing sites using the testing site locator.

Maryland Health Connection

A new open enrollment period has begun for Marylanders needing health insurance. Residents can enroll between now and March 31. Details can be found on the Maryland Health Connection website.

Maryland Extends Filing and Payment Deadlines for some Business Taxes and Payments

The Maryland Comptroller announced an extension to filing and payment deadlines for certain Maryland business taxes, income tax returns, and payments that would be due in January, February and March. The new filing deadline is April 15. No interest or penalties will be assessed and there is no need to file a request for extension.

The Comptroller's Office has established a dedicated email address to assist businesses with extension-related questions. For more details about today's announcement, please see the Comptroller's official Tax Alert.

Bowie Business Recovery Assistance Program
The new Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Assistance program kicks off this month. It will offer eight months of technical assistance programs and online resources to help Bowie businesses meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, build resilience and accelerate their post-COVID-19 economic recovery.

The program is a collaboration between the City of Bowie, the Bowie Innovation Center, and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce and is funded by the City of Bowie. The program is designed to help companies stay open and thrive, access funding, and adjust to the changing business landscape brought on by the pandemic. It includes one-on-one sessions, webinars, workshops, and more. More details will be published soon at www.bowiebusinessrecovery.com.

Other News

Upcoming Meetings & Events
- 1/18 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – City offices closed. No trash or recycling collection.
- 1/19 – City Council Meeting, 8 p.m.
- 1/23 – Community Shredding Event 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Public Works Yard
- 1/30 – Electronics Recycling Event 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Public Works Yard

Christmas Tree Pickup Every Wednesday in January
Public Works will be picking up Christmas trees every Wednesday in January along with yard waste. Please make sure all lights and decorations are removed from the tree, and do not place tree in a plastic bag. Place your tree at the curb by 7 a.m.