



COVID-19 UPDATE

Thursday, February 18, 2021

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Today's COVID Brief

The COVID-19 pandemic has crossed the one-year mark. About 27 million cases and about 470,000 deaths have been reported to CDC since the first case was identified in the United States on January 20, 2020. A national milestone in vaccinations was reached on February 11 with about 34.7 million people receiving at least one dose of vaccine, which is 10.5% of the U.S. population.

The ongoing series of winter storms is causing significant delays in federal vaccine shipments to providers. If you have an appointment in the coming days, be sure to check with your provider to see whether your vaccination clinic will be operating. Due to the winter weather sweeping the nation, Prince George's County will likely see a delay of the 4,200 first doses of vaccine allotted for this week.

Prince George's County Metrics

Key Metrics	Current status*	Goal
Positivity rate	5.72	Remain below 3%
Cases per 100K	17.61	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	0.77	Low risk range (<0.9)
<i>(*) Green represents a decrease in these figures. Red represents an increase. Black signifies no change.</i>		
Vaccines Administered		% of County Population
First doses	50,609	5.57
Second doses	16,440	1.81%
Total doses	67,049	

Current vaccination phase is 1C. See [description of groups eligible for vaccination now](#).

Vaccine Update from County Executive Angela Alsobrooks

The following message was posted to the County Executive's Twitter feed this afternoon:

“Yesterday, we received notification from the Maryland Department of Health informing us that due to the winter weather sweeping the nation, we will likely see a delay of the 4,200 first doses of the vaccine we were promised this week. **We are hopeful that we may receive this shipment Friday, but if we don't, this will likely require the County Health Department to cancel first dose appointments Friday, and during our weekend clinics.**

On Friday, February 12, we had 4,023 first doses. We held a clinic on Sunday, February 14, where we administered 516 first doses. On President's Day, we administered 179 first doses, and on Tuesday, February 16 we administered 1,316 first doses. In addition, we gave 750 doses to hospital partners to hold weekend appointment-only clinics to vaccinate more of our seniors, and on Wednesday, February 17, we administered 689 first doses, which means the Health Department has 573 remaining.

Since Friday, February 12, we have administered 2,700 first doses, and 1,899 second doses of vaccine. We look forward to receiving this week's allotment of vaccine as soon as possible so that we may continue giving first dose vaccines but in the meantime we will continue to give second dose vaccines to those who are scheduled to receive them and we have sufficient second doses to continue uninterrupted. If we must cancel first dose appointments, we will reschedule as soon as possible.”

Brazilian COVID Variant Detected in Maryland

Governor Larry Hogan announced that state health officials have confirmed a case of COVID-19 in Maryland caused by the new Brazil variant of the coronavirus. The case announced involves an adult older than 65 from the National Capital Region who recently died following international travel. Comprehensive contact tracing efforts are underway to ensure that potential contacts are quickly identified, quarantined, and tested. For more information, view the [full press release](#).

County Vaccination Clinics Closed due to Weather; Appointments to be Rescheduled

Due to the inclement weather forecast, the County Health Department's COVID-19 vaccination clinics are closed Thursday, February 18. Individuals with appointments for February 18 will be contacted to reschedule their appointments for next week.

New Maryland Call Center Helps Those Without Internet Schedule Appointments

Maryland's new COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center is now available at 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829) to help those without internet access schedule appointments. It will be open seven days a week from 7 a.m. – 10 p.m. Callers can get information on vaccines, identify providers in their area, and schedule appointments at Maryland's mass vaccination sites.

The Vaccination Support Center is available to all Marylanders who are eligible for a vaccine, including anyone who will benefit from a telephone-based system. All Marylanders age 65 and over are eligible for COVID-19 vaccines in Phase 1C of Maryland's vaccination plan, and the state has asked vaccine providers to prioritize Marylanders 65 and over. [Press release](#)

Prince George's County COVID-19 Vaccine Registration Hotline for Seniors – Dial 3-1-1

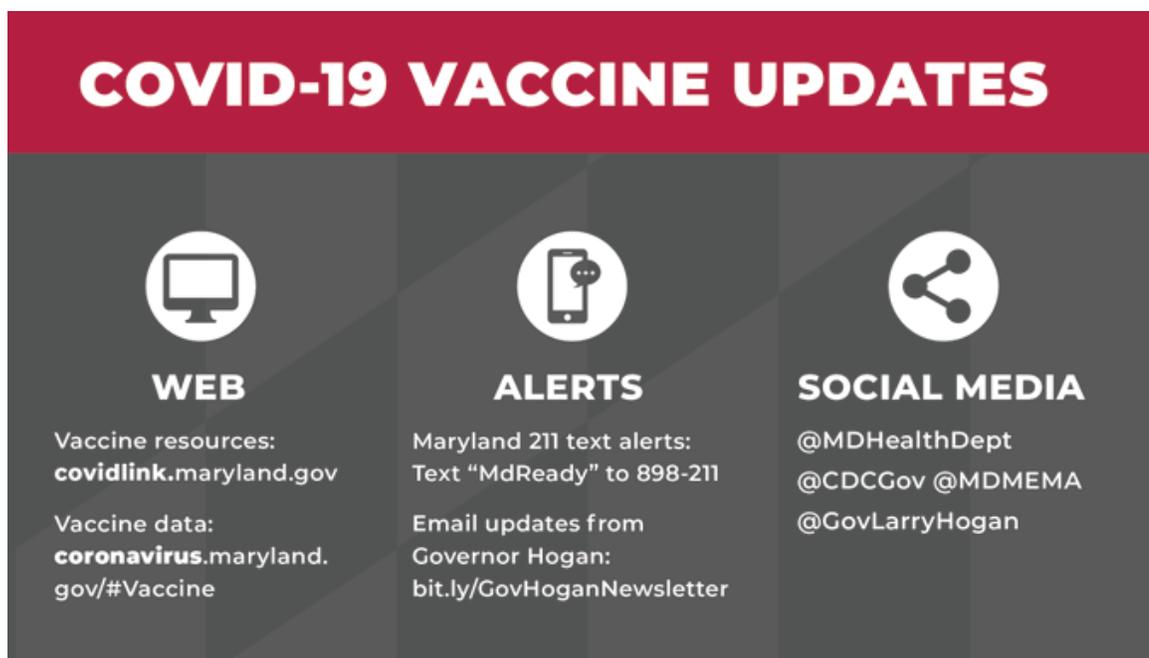
The Prince George's County COVID-19 Vaccine Registration Hotline is live for seniors and others who need

assistance with pre-registering for a vaccine appointment at a Prince George's County Health Department location. **To access the hotline, dial 311 (press # after the call is answered).**

Six Flags America Mass Vaccination Site Update

The Maryland Department of Health is partnering with Prince George's County to allocate a portion of the vaccine appointment slots at the Six Flags mass vaccination site to eligible county residents who have pre-registered on the County website. This is part of a state effort to boost vaccinations in Prince George's County, which currently has the lowest vaccination rate in the state. Representatives from the State call center will attempt to reach the registrant three times by phone and will send an email notifying them that they will receive a call about scheduling an appointment.

For additional vaccine updates, check <https://massvax.maryland.gov>. You can also text MDReady to 898-211 to register for Maryland vaccine alerts. Other ways to keep up with COVID announcements from the state of Maryland are provided in the graphic below.



The graphic is a dark grey rectangle with a red header at the top that reads "COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATES" in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below the header, the graphic is divided into three vertical columns, each with a white circular icon at the top, a bold title, and text below. The first column has a computer monitor icon, the title "WEB", and text: "Vaccine resources: covidlink.maryland.gov" and "Vaccine data: coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine". The second column has a smartphone with a speech bubble icon, the title "ALERTS", and text: "Maryland 211 text alerts: Text 'MdReady' to 898-211" and "Email updates from Governor Hogan: bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter". The third column has a social media share icon, the title "SOCIAL MEDIA", and text: "@MDHealthDept", "@CDCGov @MDMEMA", and "@GovLarryHogan".

Scheduling a Vaccine Appointment

There is a lot of confusion and frustration around the scheduling of vaccine appointments right now. Each organization providing vaccinations has its own appointment process. Links to all of the vaccine appointment sites can be found at the [Maryland Vaccination Locator site](#) and they are also listed below for your convenience.

Securing a vaccination appointment is extremely difficult to do because of the high demand and the limited amount of vaccine supplies available. It is taking a lot of persistence and a good bit of luck to find an appointment slot on one of these sites. However, we are hearing from residents who have been successful in scheduling an appointment after many attempts, often over the course of many days.

Federal Vaccine Program with CVS and Walgreens

This week **CVS** will begin scheduling appointments at select sites in Maryland, including one in Bowie. This plan is through a partnership with the federal government. The CDC will be supplying vaccines directly to the pharmacies through this program, rather than having the supplies managed through a state allocation process.

According to FEMA, the weekly vaccine allocation will increase from 1 million to 2 million doses this week. See <https://cvshealth.com/covid-19/vaccine-faq> for more information.

Walgreens is also partnering with the federal government to provide vaccinations in Maryland. Sign up on their website at <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>. Some Bowie residents have already been successful in scheduling appointments through this site.

Current Vaccination Options for those in Phase 1

1. **County Health Department Facilities** – Requires pre-registration (see link below). When an appointment is available you will receive an email inviting you to schedule your appointment.
2. **Hospital systems** – University of Maryland, Luminis, MedStar, Johns Hopkins, and Adventist are offering appointments as supplies permit. Johns Hopkins is also scheduling appointments through a lottery process (for eligible patients as supplies permit).
3. **Retail pharmacies**, such as Giant and Safeway. (So far, none of the Rite Aid and Walmart locations are in our area).
4. **Maryland Mass Vaccination Locations** – Six sites are planned around the state. Three are now open at Six Flags, the Baltimore Convention Center, and Timonium Fairgrounds.

The [Maryland vaccination website](#) provides links to schedule appointments with hospital systems and retail pharmacies or you can use the direct links below.

Links to Vaccine Appointment Information / Scheduling Sites

- **Maryland vaccination locator site:** covid.maryland.gov
- **Prince George's County pre-registration site:** <https://covid19vaccination.princegeorgescountymd.gov/>
- **Giant** - <https://giantfood.com/pages/covid-info>
- **Safeway** - <https://www.mhealthappointments.com/covidappt>
- **Walgreens** - <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>
- **Medstar Health** - <https://www.medstarhealth.org/mhs/about-medstar/covid-19-vaccine-information/>
- **University of Maryland Medical System** (includes Prince George's Hospital) - <https://www.umms.org/capital>
- **Luminis Health (includes Anne Arundel Medical Center and Doctor's Hospital, and Reid Temple in Glenn Dale)** <https://living.aahs.org/community-vaccine-clinics/>
- **Adventist Health** - <https://www.adventisthealthcare.com/coronavirus-covid-19/vaccine/>
- **Baltimore Convention Center mass site** – <https://www.umms.org/coronavirus/covid-vaccine/get-vaccine/baltimore-convention-center-vaccine> or call 443-462-5511 for assistance with making an appointment. If eligible to be vaccinated at this time, you must fill out a [form](#) to request a vaccination appointment at the Baltimore Convention Center. Once an appointment is available, you will be contacted.
- **Johns Hopkins** - <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine/maryland.html>
- **Six Flags** – <https://massvax.maryland.gov/>

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	1,357 (+2)	1,323 (+3)	1,537 (+4)	1,883 (+1)	6,100 (+10)	71,586 (+184)	373,966 (+986)
17-Feb	+4	+3	+8	+2	+17	+186	+759
16-Feb	+1	+1	+6	+4	+12	+98	+516
15-Feb	+2	+6	+5	+5	+18	+138	+722
14-Feb	+5	+2	+6	+6	+15	+162	+847
13-Feb	+1	+2	+1	+3	+7	+172	+1,159
12-Feb	1,342	1,306	1,511	1,862	6,021	70,646	368,977

7-Day Positivity Rates				
	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
Today	475,460 (+1,014)	5.72%	7,555,013 (+35,950)	4.13%
17-Feb	+917	5.76%	+23,155	4.17%
16-Feb	+550	5.74%	+9,967	4.23%
15-Feb	+792	6.44%	+19,761	4.53%
14-Feb	+949	6.57%	+36,438	4.63%
13-Feb	+1,341	6.73%	+41,128	4.76%
12-Feb	+1,343	7.01%	+44,606	4.87%

Cases per 100K Persons			Infection Rates		
	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K		County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
Today	17.61	14.42	17-Feb	0.77	0.75
17-Feb	18.19	14.92	16-Feb	0.77	0.76
16-Feb	18.79	15.80	15-Feb	0.78	0.76
15-Feb	21.04	16.90	14-Feb	0.78	0.77
14-Feb	21.68	17.33	13-Feb	0.79	0.77
13-Feb	23.17	19.03	12-Feb	0.79	0.78
12-Feb	24.93	19.83	11-Feb	0.80	0.78
			14-Day Weighted Average	0.80	0.79

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: Except for the infection rate, all data provided here is from the State of Maryland's COVID dashboard. The infection rate is tracked by. It is subject to adjustments and may have a 1 to 3-day lag time in reporting.

Maryland Hospitalizations

Hospitalizations

Currently Hospitalized:	1,048	-4.3%
Acute Care:	769	-6.6%
Intensive Care	279	2.5%
Ever Hospitalized	34,168	9.1%

PGCPS Update

Prince George's County Public Schools announced plans to reopen for in-person hybrid teaching and learning starting in April while giving families the opportunity to continue distance learning through the end of the school year. PGCPS will distribute a survey to all families to select to either to continue virtual learning for the remainder of the school year or begin hybrid instruction two days a week. Families will have until February 28 to complete the survey. Learn more about these plans on the [PGCPS website](#).

Volunteers Needed

Maryland is recruiting volunteers for its **Maryland Responds Medical Reserve Corps** to support vaccination clinics across the state. Both medical and non-medical volunteers are needed. [Sign up to volunteer at a vaccination clinic.](#)

Stand Up & Deliver Meals and Groceries



Friday, February 19 at 2:30 PM (Groceries/Meals)

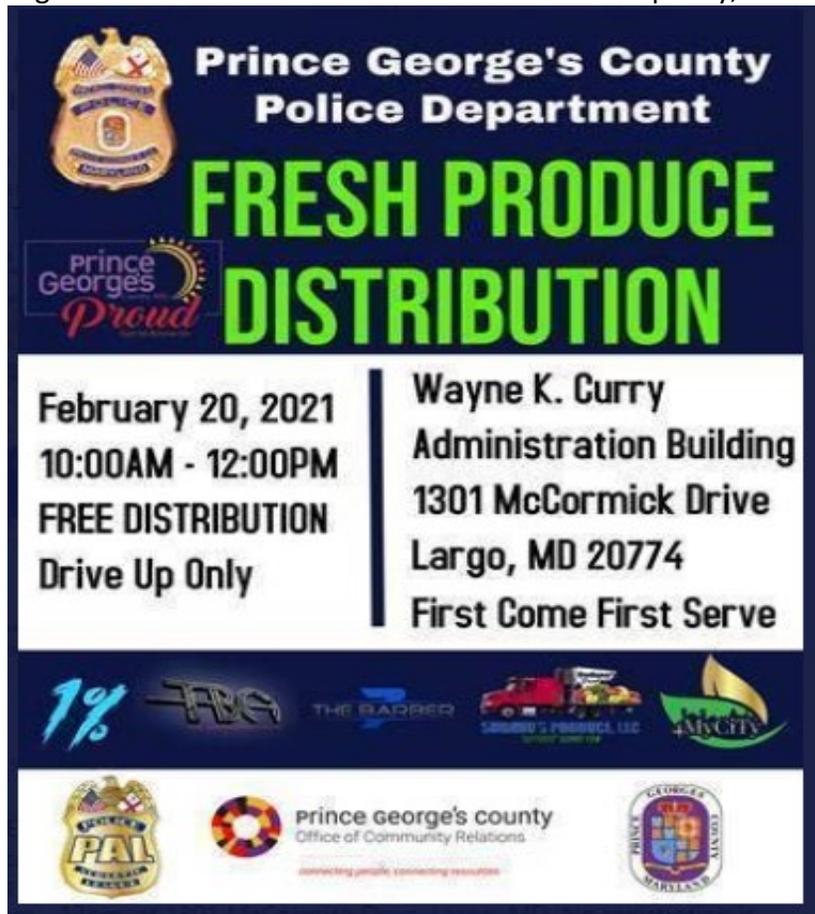
- Beltsville Seventh-Day Adventist Church – 4220 Ammendale Road, Beltsville, MD
- St. Paul Church – 6419 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD
- Faith Temple No. 2 Free Will Baptist Church – 211 Maryland Park Drive, Capitol Heights, MD

Saturday, February 20 at 10:00 AM (Groceries)

- Kingdom Fellowship at Hight Point High School – 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, MD
- New Home Baptist Church – 8320 Landover Road, Landover, MD
- United Baptist Church – 7701 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton, MD

Fresh Food Giveaway – February 20

The Prince George's County Police Department and the County Office of Community Relations are hosting a fresh produce distribution Saturday, February 20 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., at 1301 McCormick Drive in Largo. No registration is needed. Food distribution is drive up only, while supplies last.



The poster features the Prince George's County Police Department badge in the top left. The main title "FRESH PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION" is in large, bold, green letters. Below it, the date and time "February 20, 2021 10:00AM - 12:00PM" are listed, along with "FREE DISTRIBUTION" and "Drive Up Only". The location "Wayne K. Curry Administration Building 1301 McCormick Drive Largo, MD 20774" and the instruction "First Come First Serve" are also included. The bottom of the poster displays logos for various partners: 1% (a blue logo), FPG (a stylized logo), THE RAIDER (a blue logo), SOUTHERN PRODUCE, LLC (a red truck logo), and AMCTV (a green logo). At the very bottom, there are logos for the Prince George's County Office of Community Relations, the Prince George's County seal, and the PAL (Princess Anne's Law Enforcement) logo.

**Prince George's County
Police Department**

**FRESH PRODUCE
DISTRIBUTION**

February 20, 2021
10:00AM - 12:00PM
FREE DISTRIBUTION
Drive Up Only

Wayne K. Curry
Administration Building
1301 McCormick Drive
Largo, MD 20774
First Come First Serve

1% FPG THE RAIDER SOUTHERN PRODUCE, LLC AMCTV

Prince George's county
Office of Community Relations
connecting people, connecting resources

Department of Veteran Affairs Vaccines

The Department of Veteran (VA) Affairs has administered one million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to veterans and VA health care workers. Each VA facility makes determinations about who will be vaccinated based on supply, local needs, and the age of the veterans under care. Learn more at <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/>.

Other News

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 2/25 – #BowieSpeaks Community Conversations
- 3/1 – City Council meeting, 8 p.m.

#BowieSpeaks Community Conversations

On February 25, the City of Bowie will host the second community conversation in the #BowieSpeaks social justice series. The next conversation is entitled, *The Role of Religious Organizations in the Quest for Social Justice*. The event will be held at 7 p.m. on Zoom and will be moderated by members of the Community Outreach and Diversity Committees and panelists from Faith Works, Temple Solel, United Parish of Bowie and Village Baptist Church.

Attendees must register at <https://bowie.fyi/bowiespeaks>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email and Zoom link to join the webinar. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Cunningham at lcunningham@cityofbowie.org.

ORGANIZED BY THE CITY OF BOWIE COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE & THE DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

#BOWIESPEAKS

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

ADDRESSING RACISM AND THE
NEED FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



FEBRUARY 25, 7 P.M.

The #BowieSpeaks program will discuss the role of religious organizations in our quest for social justice and their impact on the community. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions.

Zoom link: <https://bowie.fyi/bowiespeaks>

Panelists

• Rev. Chris Deacon
United Parish of Bowie

• Rabbi Steve Weisman
Temple Solel

• Rev. Emily Holiday
Village Baptist Church

• Khalil Shadeed
Faith Works