



# COVID-19 UPDATE

**Friday, February 26, 2021**

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## Today's COVID Brief

Maryland providers have administered 1,226,447 total doses of COVID-19 vaccines, with more than 30,000 shots per day on average. Maryland hospitalizations continue their steady decline, still sitting at about mid-November levels.

The Food and Drug Administration's vaccine advisory panel is holding an all-day meeting today to consider whether the coronavirus vaccine made by Johnson & Johnson should be authorized by federal regulators. The panel is expected to endorse the vaccine.

## Prince George's County Metrics

Current vaccination phase **1C** (pre-registration). [Description of groups eligible for vaccination now.](#)

Key Metrics	Current status*	Goal
Positivity rate	5.62	Remain below 3%
Cases per 100K	18.43	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	0.90	Low risk range (<0.9)
<i>(* ) Green represents a decrease in these figures. Red represents an increase. Black signifies no change.</i>		
<b>Vaccines Administered</b>		<b>% of County Population</b>
First doses	64,903	7.14%
Second doses	28,573	3.14%
<b>Total doses</b>	<b>93,476</b>	

## State COVID-19 Update

The Governor and other health officials provided a series of COVID-19 updates during a press conference on February 23. Here are the main points from the conference:

- **New FEMA-Supported Mass Vaccination Site in Southern Maryland** - The next mass vaccination site will open in Charles County, at Regency Furniture Stadium. It is expected to open by March 11.
- **Expanded Surveillance of Coronavirus Variants** - To assist with tracking the variants, the state has entered into agreements with the University of Maryland, Baltimore and Johns Hopkins to increase the state's genetic sequencing capacity, with the goal of being able to test more than 10% of cases.
- **Johnson & Johnson Allocations Expected as Early as Next Week** – States have been notified to expect allocations of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine as early as next week, pending FDA approval.
- **Executive Order Requiring Face Coverings in School Settings** - The governor has issued an executive order clarifying that face coverings are required for anyone over the age of five, in any area of a school setting where interaction with others is likely.
- **Warning on Vaccine Fraud** – Remember: no one can charge you for a vaccine or a vaccination or a vaccination appointment and no one should be asking for a social security number when you schedule an appointment. If you suspect fraudulent activity, please notify law enforcement immediately.

[View the full press release](#) | [View the presentation](#)

### CDC: “Improve How Your Mask Protects You”

Correct and consistent mask use is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. Masks work best when everyone wears them, but not all masks provide the same protection. When choosing a mask, look at how well it fits, how well it filters the air, and how many layers it has. The CDC urges people to help cut down on the spread of the coronavirus by 1) choosing a mask with a nose wire, 2) using a mask fitter or brace, 3) checking that your mask fits snugly over your nose, mouth, and chin, 4) layering two masks, and 5) knotting and tucking ear loops of a 3-ply mask. Visit the [CDC website](#) for more information.




### United States Flag and Maryland Flag Are at Half-Staff

In memory of the more than 500,000 Americans that have died from COVID-19, the president has ordered all US flags to be lowered to half-staff until sunset, on Friday, February 26, 2021. As a matter of protocol, the Maryland flag is lowered to half-staff as well.

### Mass Vaccination Sites Update

The best way to keep up with appointment availability at the state's mass vaccination sites is to sign up for updates from the State of Maryland. Text MDReady to 898-211 to register for Maryland vaccine alerts. You can also check appointment availability at <https://massvax.maryland.gov>. Other ways to keep up with COVID announcements from the state of Maryland are provided in the graphic below.

## COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATES

 <p><b>WEB</b></p> <p>Vaccine resources: <a href="https://covidlink.maryland.gov">covidlink.maryland.gov</a></p> <p>Vaccine data: <a href="https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine">coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine</a></p>	 <p><b>ALERTS</b></p> <p>Maryland 211 text alerts: Text “MdReady” to 898-211</p> <p>Email updates from Governor Hogan: <a href="https://bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter">bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter</a></p>	 <p><b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b></p> <p>@MDHealthDept @CDCGov @MDMEMA @GovLarryHogan</p>
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## Phase 1 Vaccine Appointment Options

Vaccine appointments are still very difficult to secure due to limited supplies of the vaccine. Each organization providing vaccinations has its own appointment process and even the mass vaccination sites for the state have different registration processes, depending on who the medical partners for the different sites.

Visit the [Maryland Vaccination Locator site](#) for links to the more than 200 vaccination sites in the state. We have also provided direct links to each of the organizations administering vaccinations below.

### Current Vaccination Options for those in Phase 1

1. **Prince George's 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. Efforts remain focused getting those in Phase 1A and 1B vaccinated. They county hopes to begin scheduling Phase 1C appointments sometime in March.
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, Safeway, CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens and Walmart.
4. **Maryland Mass Vaccination Locations** – Six sites are planned around the state. Three are now open at Six Flags, the Baltimore Convention Center,

CVS and Walgreens are the designated Federal Pharmacy Program providers in Maryland They receive their vaccine shipments directly from the CDC, while the other retail pharmacies listed above receive their vaccine allocations from the State of Maryland.

As vaccine supplies increase, the state plans to increase the number of vaccinations they can administer at the mass vaccination sites. Prince George's County also expects to increase its vaccine appointment offerings when supplies permit. If you are interested in getting your vaccination at a Prince George's County site when eligible, pre-register now to get your name on the list. Prince George's County will use the pre-registration list to invite people to schedule appointments when they are eligible. The mass vaccination sites, pharmacies, and hospital systems have their own appointment scheduling processes.

### Links to Vaccine Appointment Information / Scheduling Sites

- **Maryland vaccination locator site:** [covid.maryland.gov](https://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. You must fill out a [form](#) to request a vaccination appointment.
- **Johns Hopkins** - <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/coronavirus/covid-19-vaccine/maryland.html>
- **Six Flags** – <https://massvax.maryland.gov/>
- **M & T Bank Stadium** – <https://www.umms.org/coronavirus/covid-vaccine/get-vaccine/mtb-stadium>

### Maryland and Prince George’s County COVID-19 Vaccine Hotlines

These hotlines are intended for seniors who need assistance and those without internet access.

- **Maryland’s COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center:**  
1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829)  
Open seven days a week from 7 a.m. – 10 p.m.
- **Prince George’s County COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-registration Hotline:**  
Dial 311 (press # after the call is answered)  
This hotline will assist seniors and others without internet access get pre-registered.

### Stand Up & Deliver Food Giveaway



## Grab & Go Groceries/Meals



Prince George’s County will be distributing groceries/meals to go at the following locations. Groceries/meals will be distributed Saturday, while supplies last. One (1) box per car. Please remain in your car.

~ Saturday, February 27 Locations ~  
Time: 10:00am



Ebenezer Church of God  
7550 Buchanan Street  
Landover Hills, MD 20784



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
OF HIGHLAND PARK  
Bible Believing ♦ Christ Centered ♦ Spirit Led

First Baptist Church of Highland Park  
6801 Sheriff Road  
Landover, MD 20785



Angela D. Alsobrooks  
County Executive

## Maryland Health Connection Special Enrollment Period Extended to May 15

The Maryland Health Connection has extended its COVID-19 special enrollment period. If you need health coverage for yourself or your family, you now have until May 15 to sign up. Sign up to get covered on the Maryland Health connection [website](#).

## 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
<b>Today</b>	<b>1,371 (+1)</b>	<b>1,350 (+5)</b>	<b>1,572 (+3)</b>	<b>1,913 (+3)</b>	<b>6,213 (+12)</b>	<b>72,990 (+202)</b>	<b>380,436 (+970)</b>
25-Feb	+4	+5	+3	-1	+11	+179	+976
24-Feb	+2	+8	+15	+8	+33	+193	+862
23-Feb	+5	+3	+2	+2	+12	+166	+662
22-Feb	+3	+3	+5	+3	+14	+128	+611
21-Feb	+0	+0	+1	+5	+6	+129	+618
<b>20-Feb</b>	<b>1,363</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>1,893</b>	<b>6,125</b>	<b>71,993</b>	<b>375,737</b>

7-Day Positivity Rates				
	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
<b>Today</b>	<b>483,044 (+1,355)</b>	<b>5.62%</b>	<b>7,804,095 (+48,121)</b>	<b>3.66%</b>
25-Feb	+1,086	5.88%	+37,184	3.74%
24-Feb	+1,005	6.10%	+29,249	3.80%
23-Feb	+696	6.19%	+12,535	3.90%
22-Feb	+579	5.86%	+22,188	3.91%
21-Feb	+780	6.06%	+32,164	4.08%
20-Feb	+1,016	6.03%	+25,434	4.17%

Cases per 100K Persons			Infection Rates		
	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K		County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
<b>Today</b>	<b>18.43</b>	<b>12.91</b>	<b>24-Feb</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>0.81</b>
25-Feb	18.88	13.00	23-Feb	0.90	0.81
24-Feb	18.96	13.02	22-Feb	0.89	0.81
23-Feb	18.85	12.78	21-Feb	0.89	0.81
22-Feb	17.78	12.43	20-Feb	0.88	0.81
21-Feb	17.94	12.69	19-Feb	0.88	0.81
20-Feb	18.46	13.23	18-Feb	0.87	0.81
			<b>14-Day Weighted Average</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.81</b>

Key	
<b>Cases</b>	<i>Represents the daily number of new positive cases.</i>

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

### Maryland Hospitalizations

Hospitalizations		
Currently Hospitalized:	943	-0.9%
Acute Care:	698	-1.5%
Intensive Care	245	0.8%
Ever Hospitalized	34,759	9.1%

### Other News

#### Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 3/1 – City Council meeting, 8 p.m.

At this meeting, City Council will discuss a new City Health Officer position and will talk about Economic Development Strategy. The presentation about a proposed Jesuit Retreat Center has been withdrawn from the meeting agenda at the request of the property owner.