



COVID-19 UPDATE

Monday, March 1, 2021

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

COVID-19 Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> COVID Brief Prince George's County Metrics Johnson & Johnson Vaccine Mass Vaccination Sites Scheduling a Vaccine Appointment Vaccine Options Links to Vaccine Appointment Sites Vaccination Hotlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD Special Enrollment Extended to May 15 Foreclosure Moratorium Extended CDC Guidance Update Key Metrics MD Hospitalizations <p><u>Other News</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upcoming Meetings & Events City Gym closed until March 15

Today's COVID Brief

Johnson & Johnson's one-shot vaccine has been approved for emergency use and is being shipped around the country. Maryland has received almost 50,000 doses in its initial shipment. Subsequent shipments may not be as large. Key metrics remain relatively stable. However, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky warned Friday that the decline in new cases may be stalling and leveling off at what is still a very high number of cases. She is concerned about the variants causing a fourth spike in infections and says states should not begin to lift restrictions on businesses and gatherings right now.

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	5.15	Remain below 3%
Cases per 100K	18.27	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	0.99	Low risk range (<0.9)
Vaccinations		% of County Population
First doses	72,297	7.95%
Second doses	32,420	3.57%
Total doses	104,717	

Distribution of the Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) Vaccine is Underway

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine has been cleared by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for use in combatting COVID-19. This vaccine, which is the third to receive

Emergency Use Authorization in the US, is manufactured in Maryland, and is already being shipped around the country. Governor Hogan announced today that the state has received an initial shipment of 49,600 doses and will deploy it to vaccine providers in Maryland this week.

The Johnson & Johnson vaccine requires only one dose and does not have any special ultra-cold shipment and storage requirements. It has been tested in the US, South America, Mexico, and South Africa and because it was developed a little later than the other two vaccines in use, it has been tested against the South African and Brazilian variants of the virus.

The FDA has developed a very useful Frequently Asked Questions document about this new vaccine. It answers questions about who can receive it, clinical trials, how effective its, and why it is difficult to do a head to head comparison between this vaccine and others. We encourage you [to read the FAQ page in its entirety](#).

(Janssen Pharmaceutica is the pharmaceutical arm of the Johnson & Johnson corporation, so you will see the vaccine referred to as the Janssen vaccine on the FDA website and elsewhere.)

In other recent vaccine news...

On Friday, Canadian public health authorities authorized the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine for use in people aged 18 years or older. AstraZeneca is expected to apply for Emergency Use Authorization in the US soon. The FDA has authorized transport and storage of the Pfizer vaccine at standard freezer temperatures for up to two weeks instead of ultra-cold conditions. The new FDA guidelines potentially allow the vaccine to be kept in pharmacy freezers.

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

 WEB	 ALERTS	 SOCIAL MEDIA
Vaccine resources: covidlink.maryland.gov	Maryland 211 text alerts: Text "MdReady" to 898-211	@MDHealthDept @CDCGov @MDMEMA
Vaccine data: coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine	Email updates from Governor Hogan: bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter	@GovLarryHogan

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, and M & T Bank Stadium in Baltimore.

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. The CDC has announced that these federal pharmacy partners will receive some of the new Johnson & Johnson vaccines.

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
- **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.

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](#).

Maryland Foreclosure Moratorium Extended

On February 22, The Maryland Department of Labor announced that the moratorium on new residential foreclosures has been extended through March 31, 2021. The moratorium, originally established by the Governor's executive order in April 2020 has been extended through subsequent executive orders and regulatory guidance.

CDC Updates its Guidance for Older Adults

On February 26, the CDC updated its webpage on COVID and older adults. View the [updated page](#).

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	1,390 (+0)	1,361 (+4)	1,584 (+2)	1,921 (+3)	6,256 (+9)	73,413 (+93)	382,702 (+603)
28-Feb	+10	+7	+5	+3	+25	+171	+827
27-Feb	+2	+0	+5	+2	+9	+159	+836
26-Feb	+1	+5	+3	+3	+12	+202	+970
25-Feb	+4	+5	+3	-1	+11	+179	+976
24-Feb	+2	+8	+15	+8	+33	+193	+862
23-Feb	1,371	1,332	1,551	1,903	6,157	72,416	377,628

7-Day Positivity Rates				
	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
Today	486,174 (+699)	5.15%	7,906,291 (+19,263)	3.52%
28-Feb	+1,245	5.20%	+38,783	3.46%
27-Feb	+1,186	5.26%	+44,150	3.43%
26-Feb	+1,355	5.62%	+48,121	3.66%
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%

Infection Rates			Cases per 100K Persons		
	County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate		County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K
28-Feb	0.99	0.96	Today	18.27	13.55
27-Feb	0.98	0.95	28-Feb	18.82	13.57
26-Feb	0.97	0.94	27-Feb	18.16	13.08
25-Feb	0.97	0.93	26-Feb	18.43	12.91
24-Feb	0.96	0.92	25-Feb	18.88	13.00
23-Feb	0.95	0.91	24-Feb	18.96	13.02
22-Feb	0.94	0.90	23-Feb	18.85	12.78
14-Day Weighted Average	0.93	0.89			

Maryland Hospitalizations

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	7,438 (+26)	35,069 (+69)	904 (+4.1%)	1,329 (+0)	7,879 (+10)
28-Feb	+0	+73	868 (-2.6%)	+1	+13
27-Feb	+21	+79	892 (-5.4%)	+1	+18
26-Feb	+20	+89	943 (-0.9%)	+0	+33
25-Feb	+22	+87	952 (-0.8%)	+13	+16
24-Feb	+15	+95	960 (-1.8%)	+5	+27
23-Feb	7,334	34,577	978	1,309	7,762

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.

City Gymnasium Closed for Minor Renovations and Maintenance

The City Gymnasium will be closed for the next two weeks for renovation and maintenance work. It is expected to reopen to the public for volleyball and pickleball on March 15. Basketball is still not permitted at the Gym, per a Prince George's County order.

Bowie Business Recovery Program Offerings



The graphic features a blue background with a white rounded rectangle at the top containing the Bowie Business Recovery Program logo. Below the logo, the text 'THIS WEEK' is underlined, followed by 'MAR. 1st-5th'. A white rounded rectangle at the bottom contains two event listings, each with a calendar icon.

Bowie
BUSINESS RECOVERY PROGRAM
Powering Business Success

THIS WEEK
MAR. 1st-5th

 **MAR. 4TH 4PM-5:30PM**
BUSINESS RECOVERY ROUNDTABLE:
UPDATES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO SBA'S PPP, EIDL, AND SVOG PROGRAMS

 **MAR. 4TH 5-6PM**
BUSINESS EDUCATION AND RESILIENCE WEBINAR:
BUILDING EQUITY AND VALUATION IN YOUR BUSINESS!

Learn more at <https://bowiebusinessrecovery.com>.