



# COVID-19 UPDATE

**Friday, March 5, 2021**

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## Today's COVID Brief

Governor Larry Hogan has proclaimed today to be Maryland's COVID-19 Day of Remembrance, a day to honor the Marylanders who have lost their lives due to COVID-19 over the past year. One year after the first reported COVID case in Maryland, the state has reported a new one-day record of 46,384 shots administered, and 1,482,780 vaccinations overall. Vaccine providers statewide are averaging 36,619 shots per day.

## 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	<b>4.24</b>	Remain below 3%
Cases per 100K	<b>15.77</b>	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	<b>0.93</b>	Low risk range (<0.9)
<b>Vaccinations</b>		
		<b>% of County Population</b>
First doses	84,621	9.31%
Second doses	37,908	4.17%
<b>Total doses</b>	<b>122,529</b>	

## Governor Hogan Press Conference

At a press conference Thursday afternoon, Governor Hogan provided an update on state efforts to ensure equity in the vaccination process.

[Watch the press conference](#) | [View the slides from the press conference](#) | [Read the press release](#)

### **County Executive's Press Conference**

Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks provided an update Thursday morning on vaccination efforts in the county. [Read the press release summary of the conference.](#)

### **COVID Day of Remembrance in Maryland on March 5**

Governor Larry Hogan today issued a proclamation recognizing Friday, March 5 as COVID-19 Day of Remembrance to honor the Marylanders who have lost their lives due to COVID-19 over the past year. At the governor's direction, the Maryland flag will be lowered to half-staff to mark the occasion and government buildings across the state will be lit up in amber.

### **COVID Data Tracker Weekly Review**

Every Friday the CDC publishes a Weekly COVID review, summarizing the COVID stats and news for the week. Read this week's Weekly Review on the CDC [website](#).

### **Don't Give into COVID Fatigue**

We're all tired of wearing masks, social distancing, and being away from those we care about. But now is not the time to let down your guard. Health experts acknowledge the case numbers are decreasing, but the more contagious strains of the virus are spreading in Maryland and elsewhere and could possibly become the dominant strains by the end of March.

Prince George's County's order requiring the wearing of masks whenever you leave your home remains in effect and capacity limits are still in place for grocery stores, retail establishments, restaurants, and other public places. See the [latest information on county restrictions](#). County residents are asked to report COVID-19 safety protocol violations to the Ambassador Compliance Team by calling 311. A County COVID-19 Ambassador Compliance Team member will visit the location and take necessary actions to ensure compliance.

### **V-safe Health Checker Frequently Asked Questions**

Individuals who receive a COVID-19 vaccine are asked to sign up with V-safe, the after-vaccination health checker. V-safe is a tool developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to understand how the vaccines affect recipients, from common side effects to adverse reactions. The CDC has developed a V-safe Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) webpage to help users understand how to access the tool; how it works; patient confidentiality; the pregnancy registry; how information provided helps the CDC; and whether medical advice is available through the tool. V-safe is a smartphone-based tool that uses web surveys to collect post-vaccine symptom information. The FAQ provides information for vaccine recipients who do not have smartphones but would like to submit a report of symptoms.

### **Vaccine Information**

The FDA has developed a very useful Frequently Asked Questions document about the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. It answers questions about who can receive it, clinical trials, effectiveness, and the dangers of comparing this vaccine with others. We encourage you [to read the FAQ page in its entirety](#).

### **Maryland Tests Text-Based Vaccine Appointment Booking for Prince George's County**

Maryland officials have begun testing booking vaccine appointments through text messages for eligible Prince George's County residents at the Six Flags America mass vaccination site. During beta testing of this appointment-making tool over the weekend, the state conducted outreach to a subset of the Prince George's County pre-registration list and invited those individuals to sign up for appointments. On Sunday, this led to

filling all 300 slots that were available. [Press Release](#)

### Mass Vaccination Sites Update

The new mass vaccination site in Waldorf officially opened Thursday at the Regency Furniture Stadium. Like Six Flags, this site is also a drive-through one.

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: <a href="https://covidlink.maryland.gov">covidlink.maryland.gov</a>	Maryland 211 text alerts: Text "MdReady" to 898-211	@MDHealthDept @CDCGov @MDMEMA
Vaccine data: <a href="https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine">coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine</a>	Email updates from Governor Hogan: <a href="https://bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter">bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter</a>	@GovLarryHogan

### Phase 1 Vaccine Appointment Options

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. 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.

#### 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.

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.

#### Volunteer Vaccine Navigators Needed

The City of Bowie Neighbors Helping Neighbors program is looking for volunteers to serve as vaccine navigators to assist seniors who may be having difficulty pre-registering for their COVID vaccination or scheduling an appointment. Navigators must have their own computer and internet connection and be willing to use their own phone to call seniors. If you are interested, please complete a Neighbors Helping Neighbors application at [www.cityofbowie.org/nhn](http://www.cityofbowie.org/nhn). If you have any questions, please contact Lori Cunningham at [lcunningham@cityofbowie.org](mailto:lcunningham@cityofbowie.org).

#### 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>1,395 (+0)</b>	<b>1,368 (+1)</b>	<b>1,594 (+6)</b>	<b>1,941 (+2)</b>	<b>6,298 (+9)</b>	<b>73,994 (+160)</b>	<b>385,678 (+913)</b>
4-Mar	+1	+3	+4	+5	+13	+149	+809
3-Mar	+2	+3	+0	+10	+15	+176	+786
2-Mar	+2	+0	+0	+3	+5	+96	+468
1-Mar	+0	+4	+2	+3	+9	+93	+603
28-Feb	+10	+7	+5	+3	+25	+171	+827
<b>27-Feb</b>	<b>1,380</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>1,577</b>	<b>1,915</b>	<b>6,222</b>	<b>73,149</b>	<b>381,272</b>

7-Day Positivity Rates				
	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
<b>Today</b>	<b>490,100 (+1,106)</b>	<b>4.24%</b>	<b>8,024,078 (+41,728)</b>	<b>3.28%</b>
4-Mar	+930	4.28%	+33,723	3.24%
3-Mar	+1,231	4.33%	+31,296	3.28%
2-Mar	+659	4.58%	+11,040	3.35%
1-Mar	+699	5.15%	+19,263	3.52%
28-Feb	+1,245	5.20%	+38,783	3.46%
27-Feb	+1,186	5.26%	+44,150	3.43%

Cases per 100K Persons			Infection Rates		
	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K		County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
<b>Today</b>	<b>15.77</b>	<b>12.39</b>	<b>4-Mar</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.95</b>
4-Mar	16.43	12.52	3-Mar	0.93	0.95
3-Mar	16.90	12.92	2-Mar	0.93	0.94
2-Mar	17.17	13.10	1-Mar	0.93	0.94
1-Mar	18.27	13.55	28-Feb	0.93	0.94
28-Feb	18.82	13.57	27-Feb	0.93	0.93
27-Feb	18.16	13.08	26-Feb	0.93	0.93
			<b>14-Day Weighted Average</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.92</b>

### Maryland Hospitalizations

Hospitalizations		
Currently Hospitalized:	849	-0.8%
Acute Care:	620	-3.1%
Intensive Care	229	6.0%
Ever Hospitalized	35,378	9.1%

## Other News

### Upcoming Meetings & Events

- 3/15 – City Council meeting, 8 p.m.

### 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.

### Maryland State Arts Council Opens Emergency Grant Applications for Artists and Arts Organizations

The Maryland State Arts Council's (MSAC) Emergency Grant Program will provide funding to arts organizations and artists for losses sustained because of COVID-19. MSAC Emergency Grant funding is available to independent artists, arts organizations, County Arts Agencies, and Arts & Entertainment District management entities. Apply [online](#) by 5 p.m. on April 1, 2021 to be considered for funding.

Register to take part in an informational [webinar](#) on Wednesday, March 10th, at 2 p.m. providing an overview of the grant, its process, and how to apply.