



COVID-19 UPDATE

Monday, March 22, 2021

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COVID-19 Information	
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Today's COVID Brief

Case metrics have been trending up lately, both locally and around the US. New cases in Maryland have been over 1,000 for four days before dipping lower yesterday as they usually do on Sundays. The National Capital Region has seen a 16% increase in the last week.

As this data shows, the virus is very much still with us. Health officials are warning the public to stay cautious. Wear a mask, stay distanced from others, wash your hands often, and maintain the precautions that limit the spread of the virus.

Prince George's County Metrics

Currently vaccinating **Phase 1C**. [Description of groups eligible for vaccination now.](#)

Key Metrics	Friday's stats	Today's stats*	Goal
Positivity rate	5.01	5.48	Remain below 3%
Cases per 100K	16.20	16.56	New cases below 5 per 100K (low risk)
Infection rate	0.97	1.02	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	147,064		16.17%
Second does	58,873		6.474%
Single doses	9,051		0.995%
Total doses	214,988		

Prince George's County has entered Phase 1C for vaccine distribution. Pre-registered individuals who live or work in the County and are eligible in Phase 1C will begin to receive appointments at County Health Department's vaccination clinics.

CDC Updates Social Distancing Guidelines for Schools

The CDC has revised the [guidelines for social distancing in schools](#). Students in elementary school can now sit

three feet apart while wearing masks, regardless if community transmission is low, moderate, or high. In middle and high schools, the CDC also recommends students should be at least three feet apart in classrooms where mask use is universal and in communities where transmission is low, moderate, or substantial. If transmission is high, students in middle and high school should remain six feet apart.

Maryland Expands Vaccine Eligibility

In anticipation of a substantial increase in vaccine shipments beginning next week, Maryland has laid out a timetable for expanded vaccine eligibility. Effective immediately, any Marylander 60+ can pre-register at one of the state's mass vax sites by visiting www.covidvax.maryland.gov or calling 1-855-MD-GOVAX. The graphic below outlines the remainder of the vaccine phases.

Please note: The above information applies to Maryland mass vaccination sites, pharmacies, and hospital systems. We await information from the Prince George's County Health Department as to when eligibility will expand at Health Department locations. **For now, the Prince George's County Health Department remains in Phase 1C.**

2A

WHO: Marylanders age 60 and older

WHEN: March 23

2B

WHO: Marylanders age 16 and older with underlying medical conditions that increase the risk for severe COVID-19 illness

WHEN: March 30

2C

WHO: Marylanders age 55 and older, as well as essential workers in critical industries

WHEN: April 13

3

WHO: All Marylanders age 16 and older

WHEN: April 27

Issued March 18, 2021. Timeline may accelerate depending upon vaccine supply.

Maryland Vaccine Equity Initiatives

State and county officials have partnered with houses of worship and other community organizations to bring vaccines to communities hardest hit by the pandemic. In Prince George's, these include:

- Reid Temple in Glenn Dale (Luminis)
- First Baptist Church of Glenarden (University of Maryland Medical system)
- First Baptist Church of Highland Park (Safeway)

- First Methodist Church of Hyattsville (Luminis)

Some appointments at these sites are being given to those on the County pre-registration list who are eligible in Phase 1. You can also try to schedule appointments by going to the website for the clinical provider listed in parentheses above.

Other efforts include:

- A pilot program to provide vaccines to **primary care practices** throughout Maryland in order to administer vaccines directly to vulnerable populations they serve. The program begins with 37 practices chosen based on their connection to largely African American and Hispanic communities and areas with less geographic access to vax sites.
- Establishment of a **Community Vax Grant Program** to support hospital efforts to engage in community-based vaccination efforts. The program will provide \$12 million for community-based vaccination initiatives led by hospitals.
- **Mobile clinics** in hard-to-reach areas of the state, staffed by the University of Maryland School of Nursing and the Maryland National Guard.

Vaccine Appointment Scheduling

Not only are the numbers of vaccines increasing, but so too are the number of locations in Maryland offering vaccine appointments. There are now more than 300 vaccine locations in the state.

There are four major options for scheduling vaccine appointments:

1. **Mass vaccination sites**, such as Six Flags, M & T Bank, & Regency Stadium in Waldorf. Preregister at covidvax.maryland.gov or by calling the state's COVID-19 vaccination support center at 1-855-MD-GOVAX (1-855-634-6829). Six Flags is administering approximately 4,000 shots per day. Up to 2,100 appointments per week are set aside for Prince George's County residents on the County pre-registration list.
2. **Prince George's Health Department clinics** (see list below) [Preregister](#) or call 3-1-1 for assistance with pre-registration.
3. **Pharmacies** – [Giant](#), [Safeway](#), [CVS](#), [Rite Aid](#), [Walgreens](#) and [Walmart](#) and now independently owned pharmacies under the EPIC pharmacies umbrella.
4. **Healthcare systems** – [Luminis](#) (Anne Arundel Hospital/Doctor's Hospital), [University of Maryland](#), (includes Prince George's Hospital), [MedStar](#), [Holy Cross Hospital](#), [Johns Hopkins](#) and [Adventist](#). Appointments may be at hospitals or community clinics that the healthcare system is supporting, such as the Luminis-run clinic at Reid Temple in Glenn Dale.

The Maryland vaccination website has links to available appointments at the above locations or you can visit each organization's website to see what is currently available. Some of the healthcare systems also have their own pre-registration processes.

You may also wish to join the [Vaccine Hunters Group on Facebook](#). Group members share information in real time about when appointments open up at various pharmacies, hospitals or other vaccination sites. They also provide tips such which days or what time of day a particular pharmacy chain updates their information.

Prince George's County Health Department Vaccine Clinics

The Health Department currently operates five vaccination clinics:

- [Cedar Heights Community Center in Seat Pleasant](#)
- [Cheverly Health Center in Cheverly](#)

- [Kentland Community Center in Landover](#)
- [Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center in Laurel](#)
- [Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Center in Fort Washington](#)
- [Sports and Learning Complex in Landover](#) - *temporarily closed 3/13 – 3/28

Complete the County [pre-registration](#) form to secure an appointment at one of these sites.

The following information is from the Prince George’s County COVID vaccination webpage:

“The Prince George’s County Health Department offers free COVID-19 vaccines by appointment only. No walk-ups are being accepted at our vaccination clinics. COVID-19 vaccines are free for all individuals who live and work in Prince George’s County regardless of insurance coverage or immigration status. Information that patients provide to get vaccinated will NOT be used by the federal, state, or local government for any civil or criminal prosecution or enforcement, including, but not limited to, immigration enforcement. Your information will be private and protected.”

CDC: When You’ve Been Fully Vaccinated

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released [guidance for people who have been fully vaccinated](#). People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Maryland Department of Health Hosting Virtual Town Hall on Vaccines

The Maryland Department of Health is conducting a virtual town hall to encourage all Marylanders to protect themselves, their families and communities by getting vaccinated against COVID-19 when they become eligible. The town hall will offer interactive, live opportunities for Marylanders to learn more about the COVID-19 vaccines and Maryland’s vaccination plan. It takes place on March 30 at 6:30 p.m. – Radio One Town Hall Event access: <https://www.facebook.com/MDHealthDept>

CDC Launches New Website Tracking COVID-19 Variants in U.S.

The CDC launched a new [website](#) that identifies new and emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants to determine implications for COVID-19 diagnostics, treatments and vaccines. There are currently five strains that the CDC classifies as “Variant of Concern” in the U.S. and four of them have been detected in Maryland.



Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Prince George's County Updated Phase 2 Guidelines



Effective Friday, March 12, 2021 at 5:00 PM

	Banquet Halls, Receptions & Meeting Rooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity, applicable to the specific room where the event will be held 		Personal Services (beauty salons, barber shops, tattoo parlors, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity • Appointment only
	Bingo Halls, Bowling Alleys & Pool Halls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity 		Professional & Collegiate Sporting Events, Concert Venues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of the venue's maximum occupancy
	Casinos & Gaming Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity 		Recreation Facilities (Indoor) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% maximum capacity
	Cigar Bars, Hookah Bars, Vape Shops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity • Open for retail sales only 		Restaurants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor and outdoor dining limited to 50% of maximum capacity
	Gyms, Fitness Centers, & Other Indoor Physical Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity • Face coverings must be worn when working out 		Retail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity
	Houses of Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor services limited to 50% of maximum capacity, with social distancing requirements • Outdoor services limited to 50% maximum capacity of outdoor area, with social distancing, masks and access to hand washing or hand sanitizer 		Social & Fraternal Clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity, depending on activity
	Indoor & Outdoor Pools (public and private) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open up to 50% maximum capacity 		Theaters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity
	Indoor Skating Rinks (roller and ice skating) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of maximum capacity 		Youth & Amateur Sports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low and medium risk sports allowed in small groups, no more than 22 team members • Spectators limited to no more than 50 persons

For additional information, please visit: mypgc.us/reopen

Unless otherwise expressed in our Executive Order, indoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 20 persons. Outdoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 50 persons.

City of Bowie Museums Re-Open March 26

The City of Bowie Museums will reopen starting March 26. The museums will open on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

All visitors will be expected to follow CDC and social distancing guidelines including:

- Submitting to a temperature check and health questionnaire upon entry to each museum.
- Signing a COVID-19 waiver form. (Parents/legal guardians must sign for individuals under the age of 18 and be under adult supervision at all times).
- Wearing a mask at all times in all areas, both inside and outside.
- Abiding by all social distancing guidelines and remaining at least 6 feet apart.

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	1,440 (+4)	1,432 (+6)	1,664 (+6)	2,010 (+1)	6,546 (+17)	76,481 (+111)	400,705 (+682)
21-Mar	+4	+5	+3	+6	+18	+174	+1,007
20-Mar	+4	+8	+4	+8	+24	+174	+1,118
19-Mar	+2	+3	+4	+4	+13	+175	+1152
18-Mar	+2	+3	+3	+5	+13	+128	+1,113
17-Mar	+2	+4	+3	+2	+11	+178	+917
16-Mar	1,422	1,403	1,641	1,984	6,450	76,022	397,898

7-Day Positivity Rates				
	County Tests Completed	County %	State Tests Completed	State %
Today	507,502 (+655)	5.48%	8,511,991 (+17,260)	4.37%
21-Mar	+1,035	5.45%	+31,634	4.40%
20-Mar	+1,215	5.19%	+30,078	4.27%
19-Mar	+1,139	5.01%	+38,700	4.61%
18-Mar	+1,067	4.70%	+32,867	4.07%
17-Mar	+1,294	4.65%	+24,615	3.96%
16-Mar	+675	4.49%	+12,199	3.96%

Cases per 100K Persons			Infection Rates		
	County Cases per 100K	State Cases per 100K		County Infection Rate	State Infection Rate
Today	16.56	15.71	20-Mar	1.02	1.10
21-Mar	16.42	15.55	19-Mar	1.02	1.09
20-Mar	15.96	15.21	18-Mar	1.02	1.09
19-Mar	16.20	15.17	17-Mar	1.01	1.09
18-Mar	15.65	14.78	16-Mar	1.01	1.08
17-Mar	15.95	14.34	15-Mar	1.00	1.08
16-Mar	15.24	14.30	14-Mar	1.00	1.07
			14-Day Weighted Average	0.99	1.07

Maryland Hospitalizations

Hospitalizations		
Currently Hospitalized:	866	6.1%*
Acute Care:	661	10.5%*
Intensive Care	205	-5.9%*
Ever Hospitalized	36,855	9.1%

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	7,701 (+24)	36,855 (+82)	866 (+1.6%)	1,373 (+0)	8,184 (+14)
21-Mar	+0	+95	852 (+0.2%)	+3	+12
20-Mar	+9	+99	850 (+4.1%)	+3	+26
19-Mar	+14	+90	816 (+2.2%)	+6	+19
18-Mar	+19	+83	798 (-0.8%)	+5	+14
17-Mar	+9	+98	805 (+0.0%)	+2	+19
16-Mar	7,626	36,308	805	1,354	8,080

Other News

Revised Income Tax Filing Deadlines

Both the Maryland Comptroller's Office and the Internal Revenue Service have extended filing deadlines for filing income taxes.

Maryland taxes due: July 15, 2021

Federal taxes due: May 17, 2021

Bowie Business Recovery Program

The new Bowie COVID-19 Business Recovery Assistance program provides 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. It is a collaboration between the Bowie Business Innovation Center business acceleration hub and the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce, and is funded by the City of Bowie.

A graphic for the Bowie Business Recovery Program. It features a blue background with a yellow and green diagonal stripe in the top left corner. At the top center is the Bowie logo, which consists of the word "Bowie" in a bold, sans-serif font, with a stylized bar chart element integrated into the letter 'i'. Below the logo is the text "BUSINESS RECOVERY PROGRAM" and "Powering Business Success". In the center, the text "THIS WEEK" is written in a large, bold, black font, underlined. Below that, "MAR. 22nd-26th" is written in a similar bold, black font. At the bottom, there is a white rounded rectangle containing three calendar icons and their corresponding event details:

- MAR. 23RD 8:30-9:30AM**
BUSINESS RECOVERY ROUNDTABLE:
CONNECTING THE DOTS: NEW WAYS FOR RESTAURANTS TO THRIVE AND GROW DURING THE PANDEMIC
- MAR. 25TH 5-6PM**
BUSINESS EDUCATION AND RESILIENCE WEBINAR:
TYING IT ALL TOGETHER: A ONE-YEAR PLAN OF ACTIVITIES
- MAR. 25TH 6-7:30PM**
BUSINESS RECOVERY OPEN DOOR ONE-ON-ONE SESSION:
GENERAL OR COVID-RELATED CPA QUESTIONS

Applications Open for Teen & Young Adult Workforce Development Program

Bowie residents between the ages of 15 and 25, are you looking to learn more about the skills and to get ahead in your career? Apply now for the City of Bowie's 2021 Workforce Development & Life Skills Training Program. This program will cover life skills topics such as effective communication, stress management, and decision-making, as well as highlighting careers in STEM industries such as cyber security, IT, and healthcare.

Applications are open from now until March 26 at www.cityofbowie.org/worktraining. For more information, please contact Kay Starr, program coordinator, at 301-809-3009 or email worktraining@cityofbowie.org.

Dine Prince George's

For the next several weeks, the Prince George's Economic Development Corporation will promote local restaurants through a restaurant contest. [Vote for your favorite restaurant](#). Winners will be announced weekly and will receive cash prizes. Each week's voting opens on Monday and ends on Friday afternoon. Vote early

and often!



Vote For Your Favorite County Restaurant

Voting Rules

1. Voting opens each Monday at 12am EST and closes Friday at 3pm EST
2. Winners Will Be Announced Friday at 4pm EST
3. Restaurants can only win once
4. Vote Early and Vote Often!

#DinePrinceGeorges