



# COVID-19 UPDATE

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

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## COVID Brief

New COVID cases in Prince George's County are down 34% in the last seven days. Vaccination rates are climbing as Maryland reports 65% of adults have received one dose and Prince George's County reports 50% are now at least partially vaccinated. Due to improve metrics statewide, Governor Hogan announced an easing of the state's COVID restrictions on May 15.

World cases have been surging for the last eight weeks, but on Friday, May 7 India finally had some good news as new cases decreased for the first time since their latest surge began.

## State and Local COVID-19 Data

For more detailed data visit The CDC [COVID tracker](#), the Maryland [COVID dashboard](#), and the Prince George's County Health Department [COVID dashboard](#).

Covid-19 Data			
	Maryland	PG County	Bowie
Cases	454,271 (+471)	84,069 (+82)	<b>Cases: 7,302 (+4)</b>
Deaths	8,879 (+9)	1,484 (+2)	
Positivity Rate	2.74%	3.04%	20715: 1,607 (+0)
Case Rate Per 100K	8.46	8.88	20716: 1,599 (+1)
Currently Hospitalized	770 (+3.6%)	NA	20720: 1,857 (+3)
Total Hospitalized	42,341	8,505 (+6)	20721: 2,239 (+0)
Vaccine Progress	Maryland		PG County
1st of 2 Dose Received	2,918,369 (48.27% pop.)		350,326 (38.53% pop.)
2nd of 2 Dose Received	2,225,518 (36.81% pop.)		260,080 (28.6% pop.)
Single Dose	207,243 (3.43%)		20,658 (2.27% pop.)

## Governor's Press Conference

Governor Hogan held a press conference this afternoon to provide an update on COVID metrics and to allow for a major easing of COVID restrictions. He was joined by Deputy Secretary of Health Jinlene Chen, who addressed plans for administering Pfizer vaccines to adolescents age 12 to 15.

### **Current COVID Metrics for Maryland:**

- As of today, over 5.3 million COVID-19 vaccines have been administered.
- 86% of those 65+ and 65.4% of those 18+ are now vaccinated.
- The case rate per 100K has dropped by 64% over the past 4 weeks to its lowest rate since late September 2020.
- The positivity rate is down to 2.74%
- Hospitalizations are down 60% from the winter peak.

### **Due to the improvements in metrics, the following changes can go into effect on May 15:**

- Indoor and outdoor venues may resume normal operations. All remaining capacity restrictions will be lifted on outdoor entertainment and art and sports venues, as well as all indoor entertainment venues and conventions.
- Restaurants and bars may resume normal operations. All remaining restrictions will be lifted on both indoor and outdoor dining.
- The cruise terminal in Baltimore City is authorized to reopen. The CDC is working directly with ports and cruise industry representatives on safe reopening plans.
- The statewide indoor mask requirement will be lifted as soon as 70% of Maryland adults receive at least one dose of a COVID vaccine. (Maryland is currently at 65.4%.) Masks are still required at outdoor venues.
- The Maryland Department of Labor will work with federal officials to reinstate the work search requirements for unemployment benefits.

***Please note: It will be up to each County to determine whether restrictions will be lifted locally. Until Prince George's County acts, the current restrictions will remain in place here.***

### **Vaccinations for Adolescents**

Deputy Health Secretary Chen offered the following comments:

- The CDC Advisory Committee on Inoculations voted today to support vaccinating adolescents age 12 to 15 with the Pfizer vaccine. Final CDC approval is expected this evening.
- In anticipation of that CDC approval, the 11 state vaccination sites that offer Pfizer vaccines will begin vaccinating 12 to 15-year-olds tomorrow.
- Vaccinating adolescents will prevent more children from getting COVID, it will protect against complications, and will limit the spread to others.

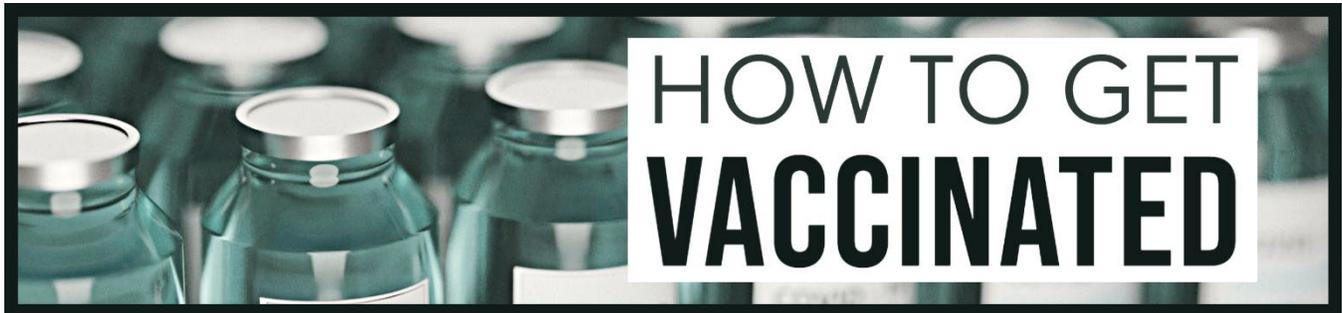
She encouraged parents to make informed decisions about vaccinating children after consulting with their medical providers.

### **Colonial Pipeline Update**

Governor Hogan also provided an update on the effects of the cyber-attack on the Colonial Pipeline, which supplies gasoline and other petroleum products to much of the east coast.

- The attack is causing some short-term problems with supply in Maryland.
- In response to the disruption, the Governor has authorized the MD Department of Transportation and other state agencies to take emergency measures to respond to the incident and ensure continuity of fuel supply throughout the state.
- The actions will temporarily lift certain weight and hours of service restrictions on fuel transport to make sure supplies can be distributed.
- While the Governor acknowledged that the supply chain is working a little more slowly than usual, he emphasized that there is no need for panic buying. The pipeline company has already reopened one of the pipelines and expects to resume the rest of its operations soon.

- He also noted that the state is doing better than other states supplied by this pipeline, since it also receives fuel supplies by ship through the port of Baltimore.



City of Bowie	
<b>Who:</b>	Open to all age 16+ *
<b>What:</b>	First & second dose vaccinations (Pfizer)
<b>When:</b>	Clinic days: Sundays & Wednesdays
<b>Where:</b>	Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive
<b>How:</b>	<p><b>Appointments:</b> Call 301-262-6200 or sign up at <a href="http://www.cityofbowie.org/vax">www.cityofbowie.org/vax</a></p> <p><b>Walk-ins:</b> Follow @CityofBowie on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CityofBowie">Facebook</a> or Twitter for availability or sign up for Alert Bowie at <a href="http://www.cityofbowie.org/alerts">http://www.cityofbowie.org/alerts</a></p>
Prince George's County Health Department	
<b>Who:</b>	Open to all age 16+ *
<b>What:</b>	First & second dose vaccinations (Pfizer, Moderna, & Johnson & Johnson)
<b>When:</b>	Dates/times vary
<b>Where:</b>	Health Department clinics in Landover, Oxon Hill & Laurel
<b>How:</b>	<p><b>Appointments:</b> Schedule at <a href="http://mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine">http://mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine</a> or call 3-1-1</p> <p><b>Walk-ins:</b> None</p>
<b>Other options:</b>	The County is deploying mobile vax units and hosting no appointment pop up events. Pharmacies and hospitals in the county are also offering vaccinations. Use the <a href="#">Prince George's County Vaccine Locator tool</a> to find a location near you.
State of Maryland	
<b>Who:</b>	Open to all age 16+ * (Beginning 5/13, MD expects to vaccinate 12-15 year olds if CDC authorization is granted this evening.)
<b>What:</b>	First & second dose vaccinations (Most state sites offer Pfizer vaccines)
<b>When:</b>	Dates/times vary
<b>Where:</b>	13 MD mass vax sites. Nearest sites to Bowie are Six Flags (Bowie), Navy Stadium (Annapolis), & Greenbelt Metro
<b>How:</b>	<p><b>Appointments:</b> Schedule at <a href="http://covidvax.maryland.gov">covidvax.maryland.gov</a> or call 1-855-634-6829</p> <p><b>Drive-ups (no appointment needed):</b> <i>Six Flags, Regency Stadium (Waldorf), &amp; Ripken Stadium (Aberdeen)</i></p> <p><b>Walk-ins:</b> Available at other mass vax sites Drive-up and walk-in hours vary by site. Check before going. Greenbelt Metro - Johnson &amp; Johnson (18+) &amp; Pfizer second doses. All other mass vax sites offering Pfizer vaccines.</p>
<b>Other options:</b>	Pharmacies and healthcare providers are also offering vaccinations throughout MD. Visit <a href="http://covidvax.maryland.gov">covidvax.maryland.gov</a> for locations.

(\*) Pfizer is the only vaccine authorized for teens age 16 and 17. This is expected to change very soon.

## CDC News

Yesterday, the CDC issued the following updated COVID-19 guidance:

- [Information about COVID-19 Vaccines for People who Are Pregnant or Breastfeeding](#)
- [Living in or Visiting Retirement Communities or Independent Living Facilities](#)

The CDC has updated its public guidance confirming that the **transmission of the virus can occur through exposure to respiratory fluids from more than six feet away**. Although infections through inhalation at distances greater than six feet from an infectious source are less likely than at closer distances, the phenomenon has been repeatedly documented under certain preventable circumstances.

On May 5, the CDC released new guidance for **cruise ships** with all the requirements and recommendations needed to resume voyages. Cruise lines will be required to go through a series of preparatory phases before they will be eligible to receive Conditional Sailing Certificate approval for a return to cruising.

## Vaccine Updates

### ***Pfizer Vaccine for 12 to 15 year-olds***

Today, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices met and unanimously voted to recommend distribution of the Pfizer vaccine to adolescents age 12 to 15. Earlier this week, the FDA expanded the emergency use authorization of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 12 to 15 years old. The final step in the approval process is CDC authorization, which is expected to come very soon.

### ***Johnson & Johnson Vaccine***

As of May 4, more than 8.4 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson (JNJ) COVID-19 vaccine have been given in the US. Through its safety monitoring programs, the CDC and FDA have identified 23 confirmed reports of people who got the JNJ COVID-19 Vaccine and later developed blood clots with low platelets. The condition is called thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS). The CDC reports that for all women, this is a rare adverse event. For women 50 years and older and men of all ages, this adverse event is even more rare.

### **Prince George's County Vaccination News**

On May 14 Prince George's County will co-host a 24-hour Vaccine-a-thon at the Wayne Curry Sports & Learning Complex. The event is open to ages 16 and over and will feature prizes, special guests, snacks, and give-a-ways. Minors under the age of 18 must have parental consent and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Register at <http://bit.ly/24HourMDVax>.

The County has also launched an outreach initiative in certain targeted communities inside the beltway that had high COVID rates or have other factors that may make them vulnerable to the effects of the pandemic. The County's Vaccine Outreach Team is traveling door-to-door in several communities in the County, reaching out face to face, via phone and text to residents to address vaccine concerns, schedule appointments, and share important information about government resources such as rental assistance. While Bowie is not a target of this effort, some local residents are receiving text messages about county services related to COVID as part of this outreach campaign.

Joe Clair  
Radio Personality  
WPEC 95.5FM

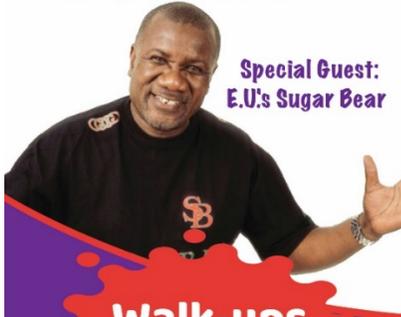


Fri. & Sat.  
**14-15**  
May 2021

Start  
time  
9am

PRINCE GEORGE'S  
**1,000 STRONG**

- Ages 16 and over\*
- College students returning back to campus
- On your way to work
- Coming home from work



Special Guest:  
E.U.'s Sugar Bear

**Walk-ups  
welcomed!**

MARKY MARC



Lots of great prizes and give-a-ways:  
movie tickets, McDonald's gift cards,  
masks, lunchboxes, T-shirts,  
fresh grocery boxes

Yummy goodies & items from partners  
such as: fresh popcorn, Rita's Italian  
Ice, Furlough Cheesecake samples,  
Henry's Soul Food sweet potato pie,  
Nando's and Ledo's

**REGISTER AT:**  
<http://bit.ly/24HourMDVax>

**\*PLEASE NOTE:**

Minors under the age of 18 must have parental consent  
and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Join us Friday, May 14 through  
Saturday, May 15, 2021 for our  
24-hour vaccination clinic:

Day 1: Wayne K. Curry Sports & Learning Center  
8001 Sheriff Road | Landover, MD 20785

Day 2: Mobile Unit

Snacks, Fun, Special Guests  
to cheer you on for being **Proud**  
to be **PROTECTED**

**24  
HOUR**

**Vaccine  
-a-  
thon**

In partnership with  
Prince George's County  
Commission for Fathers,  
Men and Boys



Prince  
Georges  
**Proud**  
Get to Know Us



Angela D. Alsobronks  
County Executive

WAYNE K. CURRY  
& LEARNING CENTER

### Free Rides to Vaccination Sites

Ride-sharing companies Uber Inc and Lyft Inc will provide free rides to and from COVID-19 vaccination sites until Sunday, July 4. Rides will be promoted to and from tens of thousands of vaccination sites through their apps, which will launch on both apps in the coming weeks. Both companies were providing free/discounted rides in some circumstances prior to the announcement.

### Have You Lost a Loved One to COVID?

FEMA will provide funeral assistance to families that have lost loved ones to COVID. The benefit is retroactive to January 20, 2020. Call the COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line at 844-684-6333 to file for this benefit. [Funeral Assistance FAQ](#)

### Some County Libraries Have Re-opened

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System is gradually resuming in-person services over the course of the coming months. Phase 2 services are now available at Accokeek, Bowie, Greenbelt, Laurel, New Carrollton, Oxon Hill, South Bowie, and Spauldings Branch libraries. You can now book a

computer, do limited browsing, and pick up materials through curbside appointments. Learn more at <http://pgcmls.info/reopening>.

## Other News

### **Bowie Field of Honor**

Between May 28 and June 6, Sussex Lane Park will be transformed into a Field of Honor, featuring a display of US flags flying in solemn formation. The park will be filled with flags dedicated in honor of veterans, active military, workers that have kept us safe during the pandemic, other helpers, and loved ones lost.

Through a partnership with the Colonial Flag Foundation, anyone can participate in the tribute. Visit the [Field of Honor webpage](#) on the city website to order a flag for \$30 and dedicate it to a person or group of your choice. (Purchase deadline is May 26.) Purchased flags can be picked up at City Hall after the display concludes. For more information, contact Matt Corley, Special Events Manager at [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org) or 301-809-3078.

*Sussex Lane Park is located across from Bowie High School, in the open area between Sussex Lane and Annapolis Road, located across from Bowie High School.*

### **Bowie Police Family Fun Ride and Cookout – May 16**

Join the Bowie Police Department at the next Family Fun Ride on May 16 at 10 a.m. This free event is open to cyclists of all ages. Afterwards, participants are invited to join Police Officers for a community cookout. Social distancing & masks required (when not cycling).

Check in will begin at 9 a.m. This event is open to cyclists of all ages! The BeechTree Pedalers will be joining in the fun, so bring the whole family! To register, visit [here!](#)

This ride begins and ends at the Bowie Police Department, 15901 Excalibur Road. For more information, contact 240-544-5792 or [COPS@cityofbowie.org](mailto:COPS@cityofbowie.org)

