



COVID-19 UPDATE

Thursday, May 13, 2021

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COVID Brief

As of today in Maryland, 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 improving metrics statewide, Governor Hogan announced an easing of the state's COVID restrictions effective May 15.

Following the lead of the FDA, and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, late yesterday the CDC announced that it now recommends the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine be used among adolescents aged 12 to 15. CDC Director Walensky says providers may begin these vaccinations right away. The Maryland Department of Health strongly supports use of the Pfizer vaccine in this age group and has begun vaccinating them at all state mass vaccination clinics, except Greenbelt. Pharmacies are beginning to vaccinate these adolescents as well. The City of Bowie is scheduling appointments at its clinic for 12 to 15 years-olds now.

State and Local COVID-19 Data

	Maryland	PG County	Bowie
Cases	454,745 (+474)	84,149 (+80)	Cases: 7,303 (+1)
Deaths	8,896 (+17)	1,485 (+1)	
Positivity Rate	2.66%	2.96%	20715: 1,608 (+1)
Case Rate Per 100K	8.22	8.66	20716: 1,599 (+0)
Currently Hospitalized	730 (-5.1%)	NA	20720: 1,857 (+0)
Total Hospitalized	42,422	8,509 (+4)	20721: 2,239 (+0)
Vaccine Progress	Maryland	PG County	
1st of 2 Dose Received	2,929,115 (48.45% pop.)	352,199 (38.73% pop.)	
2nd of 2 Dose Received	2,258,567 (37.36% pop.)	263,672 (29.0% pop.)	
Single Dose	208,596 (3.45%)	20,898 (2.3% pop.)	

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

Governor's Press Conference

Governor Hogan held a press conference on Wednesday providing 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.

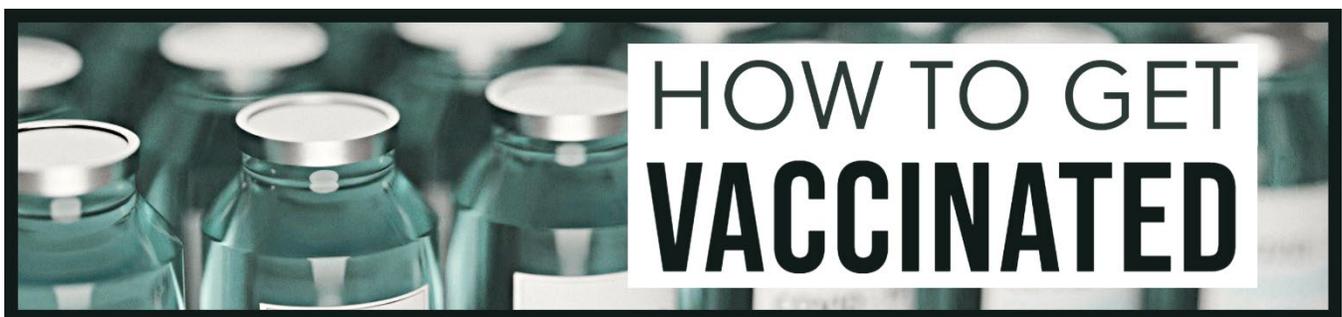
Due to the improvements in metrics, the following changes can go into effect on May 15 (although counties, such as Prince George's, will have different orders in place):

- 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.
- Masks are still required at outdoor venues. 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%.)

Prince George's County Reopening Updates

Effective Monday May 17 at 5 p.m., Prince George's County will lift restrictions regarding maximum capacity levels for most business establishments and activities in the County. [Press Release](#)

- Most establishments will be able to operate at full capacity, with social distancing (maintaining six feet of distance, except for members of the same household).
- Exceptions include: banquet halls and meeting rooms at hotels, concert venues, pro and college sporting events, and indoor theaters, which must operate at 50% of capacity.
- Certain limits also remain for day camps, high risk sports, youth and amateur sports, and other recreational activities.
- Masks are still required for all indoor venues and while on public transportation, as well as in crowded outdoor venues like sports stadiums or concert venues.
- Indoor gatherings, including at private homes, are limited to 20 persons and outdoor gatherings are limited to 50 persons.



City of Bowie	
Who:	Open to all age 12+ *
What:	First & second dose vaccinations (Pfizer)
When:	Clinic days: Sundays & Wednesdays
Where:	Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive
How:	Appointments: Call 301-262-6200 or sign up at www.cityofbowie.org/vax Walk-ins: Follow @CityofBowie on Facebook or Twitter for availability or sign up for Alert Bowie at http://www.cityofbowie.org/alerts

Prince George's County Health Department	
Who:	Open to all age 16+. Will be changing to include 12-15 year olds at sites offering Pfizer*
What:	First & second dose vaccinations (Pfizer, Moderna, & Johnson & Johnson)
When:	Dates/times vary
Where:	Health Department clinics in Landover, Oxon Hill & Laurel
How:	<p>Appointments: Schedule at http://mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine or call 3-1-1</p> <p>Walk-ins: None</p>
Other options:	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 Prince George's County Vaccine Locator tool to find a location near you.
State of Maryland	
Who:	Open to all age 12+ *
What:	First & second dose vaccinations (Most state sites offer Pfizer vaccines)
When:	Dates/times vary
Where:	13 MD mass vax sites. Nearest sites to Bowie are Six Flags (Bowie), Navy Stadium (Annapolis), & Greenbelt Metro
How:	<p>Appointments: Schedule at covidvax.maryland.gov or call 1-855-634-6829</p> <p>Drive-ups (no appointment needed): <i>Six Flags, Regency Stadium (Waldorf), & Ripken Stadium (Aberdeen)</i></p> <p>Walk-ins: Available at other mass vax sites Drive-up and walk-in hours vary by site. Check before going. Greenbelt Metro - Johnson & Johnson (18+) & Pfizer second doses. All other mass vax sites offering Pfizer vaccines.</p>
Other options:	Pharmacies and healthcare providers are also offering vaccinations throughout MD. Visit covidvax.maryland.gov for locations.

(*) Pfizer is the only vaccine authorized for teens ages 12-17.

CDC News

The CDC recently 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](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens](#)

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.

Vaccine Updates

Pfizer Vaccine for 12 to 15 year-olds

The CDC endorsed the safety and effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine and its use in 12-15 year old adolescents. CDC now recommends that this vaccine be used among this population, and providers may begin vaccinations right away. Today, COVID-19 vaccine eligibility for adolescents 12-15 years of age will begin in the state of Maryland. Eleven of the state's mass vaccination sites and hundreds of pharmacy locations will administer the Pfizer vaccine to individuals in this age group. Marylanders will be able to search for providers vaccinating adolescents at covidvax.maryland.gov.

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
WP6C 95.5FM



Angela D. Alsbrooks
County Executive

24
HOUR

Vaccine
-a-
thon

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



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

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

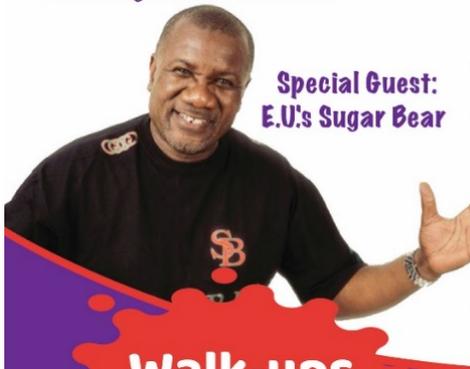
Day 1: Wayne K. Curry Sports & Learning Center
8001 Sheriff Road | Landover, MD 20785

Day 2: Mobile Unit

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



Special Guest:
E.U.'s Sugar Bear



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>

Walk-ups
welcomed!

***PLEASE NOTE:**

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

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 Spaldings 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 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



The State Highway Administration Wants Feedback on Pedestrian Safety Issues

The Maryland State Highway Administration is working on its Pedestrian Action Safety Plan. The SHA is asking residents to identify areas where there are pedestrian safety issues. If you have a concern about a particular location or segment of state road that has pedestrian safety issues, you can use their online map to pinpoint the location and offer feedback to the SHA. [Share your thoughts here](#).

Virtual Meeting on Temporary Closure of Church Road

Prince George's County plans to close a section of Church Road from Mary Bowie Parkway to Dormansville Boulevard from June 2021 through December 2021 to complete needed repairs and enhancements to the roadway and supporting infrastructure.

A virtual public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 7 p.m. to discuss the plans for the closure and detour. Join the virtual meeting [online](#) or by phone at 301-715-8592. The Meeting ID is 921 2729 2629, and the password is 032971. Questions? Contact Elizabeth F. Miller at 301-883-5642.