FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
DECEMBER 2, 2021

COVID-19 Updates for Frederick County

Level of Community Transmission in Frederick County, MD: HIGH

According to CDC, masks are recommended for everyone (including fully vaccinated people) in areas of substantial or high community transmission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frederick County Fully Vaccinated</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases: 26,036 (+127 in last 24 hrs)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Confirmed Deaths: 386 (+3 in last 24 hrs)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positivity Rate: 7.68%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Case Rate: 25.32/100,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Fredrick County residents fully vaccinated by age group:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of Population 5-11 Years</th>
<th>% of Population 12-17 Years</th>
<th>% of Population 12+ Years</th>
<th>% of Population 18+ Years</th>
<th>% of Population 65+ Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>69.7%</td>
<td>80.9%</td>
<td>82.1%</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please check our dashboard for statistics: http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/COVIDstats.

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Update on Vaccine for Children 5-11 Years Old

More appointments for children 5-11 have been added to our website for our 800 Oak Street clinic location (entrance off Himes Ave, directions). Appointments are required, and only available for children 5-11 years old. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

- Monday, Dec. 4 from 4-7pm Click to schedule walk-ins welcome, but schedule to guarantee an appointment.
- Saturday, Dec. 11 from 2-5pm Click to schedule
- Saturday, Dec. 18 from 2-5pm Click to schedule

Vaccine for children 5-11 years old is also available other places in our community. Check with your local pediatrician, or you can also find local pharmacies and other locations online at covidvax.maryland.gov or vaccines.gov. Frederick County Public Schools is also holding vaccination clinics in schools, and is sending out details through Find Out First.

COVID-19 Testing

On Nov. 24, Governor Hogan announced that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) will make 500,000 Abbott BinaxNOW Ag At-Home COVID-19 test kits available through a new program being launched statewide. Each kit contains two COVID-19 tests that are approved to be used by one person, and the tests are to be used at least 36 hours apart and within three days of each other. The tests are self-administered, and results are available in 15 minutes.

In collaboration with Frederick County Public Libraries (FCPL), Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) offered limited free Abbott BinaxNOW Antigen At-Home COVID-19 test kits to help people prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Kits were distributed this morning, and all locations are now out of test kits. The Testing website and social media will be updated when we are able to offer them again. Please check your local pharmacy for other FDA approved self-test kits.

Other testing options can be found at covidtest.maryland.gov.

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Update about Omicron Variant

Following warnings by the World Health Organization that the COVID-19 Omicron variant poses a high risk of infection surges across the globe and the first confirmed U.S. case in California, yesterday Governor Larry Hogan detailed Maryland’s preparedness efforts and continued to urge all eligible Marylanders to get a booster shot as soon as possible.

Omicron has mutations that make it different from Delta and other known variants. These mutations may make omicron spread more easily or evade some immune protection from infections or vaccines, but not enough is known yet. See CDC’s statement about Omicron and CDC’s page about variants for more information.

As the State of Maryland begins to see the anticipated seasonal uptick in some key health metrics and data showing waning immunity after six months, all Marylanders age 18 and older are urged to get a booster shot for additional protection against the virus.

PCR testing remains widely available at more than 300 locations across Maryland. All Marylanders who feel sick or who are returning from travel are encouraged to get tested. To find the nearest testing location, visit covidtest.maryland.gov.

Trending Questions from Maryland Department of Health

Who in Maryland is currently eligible to get a COVID-19 booster shot?

If you got the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine: Individuals 18 years and older are eligible for a booster dose of any FDA approved or authorized COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after the primary series.

If you got the Janssen (Johnson &Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine: Individuals 18 years and older are eligible for a booster dose of any FDA approved or authorized COVID-19 vaccine at least 2 months after the primary dose.

Did you miss last week’s questions?

You can find out the answer to other trending COVID-19 vaccination questions at covidLink Trending Questions and Answers. Be sure to check out covidLINK for even more information on the COVID-19 vaccine, testing, and contact tracing.

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All Marylanders 5 and older are eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination. Please note that only Pfizer is authorized for people 5-17 years old. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Frederick County Health Department has clinics in a variety of locations throughout the county. This list can be found at http://frederickcountymd.gov/covidvaccine. New links are added on Mondays.

- Call 855-634-6829 Monday – Friday, 8am-8pm to:
  - Schedule an appointment
  - Schedule an in-home vaccination
  - Arrange for a free Lyft ride to a vaccination clinic. Those who need a ride to get vaccinated can visit www.uwfrederick.org/rideunited for more information. The first $25 of each one-way ride is completely free to the rider.

- For other dates/times, check out Frederick Health Hospital and other locations.

**Childcare option:** KinderCare, Learning Care Group, and YMCA are all offering free child care to help parents and caregivers get vaccinated. For more information, visit the provider’s website.

For the most current and accurate information about this situation, please refer to the following:

- For testing: [https://covidtest.maryland.gov/](https://covidtest.maryland.gov/)
- For vaccination: [https://www.vaccines.gov/](https://www.vaccines.gov/) or [http://frederickcountymd.gov/covidvaccine](http://frederickcountymd.gov/covidvaccine)
- Frederick County Health Department: [health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus](http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus)
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): [coronavirus.gov](https://coronavirus.gov)

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