



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst
Purpose: Receive briefing and have discussion – no vote expected
Keywords: Coronavirus, COVID-19

AGENDA ITEM #3A
 January 12, 2021
Discussion

SUBJECT

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update (County Council sitting as the Board of Health)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Dr. Travis Gayles, County Health Officer and Chief of DHHS Public Health Services
 Dr. Earl Stoddard, Director, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
 Dr. Raymond Crowel, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Council sitting as Board of Health to receive updates.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Council will receive an update on the public health data and emergency response to the COVID-19 public emergency from Dr. Gayles, Dr. Stoddard, and Dr. Crowel.

State and County Data on January 6, 2021 (Maryland.gov website)

January 6, 2021	Confirmed Cases	Confirmed Deaths	Probable Deaths
Maryland	292,904	5,960	172
Montgomery County	48,864	1,114	43

Vaccine Allotments and Distribution

On December 23, 2020, the Montgomery County Health Department received its first allotment of vaccine to be distributed in accordance with the Maryland State vaccination plan. Vaccine allotted to the County Health Department does not include vaccine directly distributed to hospitals or administered to long-term care facilities through contracts with private pharmacies. Attached at pages 1-14 are briefing slides presented by Dr. Gayles at the January 6, 2021 press briefing. They indicate that the County received 100 doses on December 23 and 4,200 doses on December 29. The County has administered 94.1% of those doses (4,047). The County received 8,600 doses on January 5, 2021 and planned clinics for priority 1A eligible persons for January 6, January 7, and January 8. Pages 6-12 provide detail on the tiers within Priority 1A – 1C and who is responsible for administration of vaccine.

The County has posted a vaccine information website that allows people to sign up for updates:
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/vaccine/>

The State of Maryland’s January 7 update reports that 284,975 vaccine doses have been distributed (this is not only to local health departments); the State is currently in Priority 1A; 98,536 people have received their first dose of vaccine (statewide); and 1,474 people have received a second dose of vaccine.

Montgomery County Case Metrics (from Montgomery County website)

Montgomery County has updated its metrics that are used for determining when it is safe to move to different phases of reopening businesses and other activities. Each indicator also has a metric for Very High, High, Moderate, Low, or Very Low risk of transmission/utilization. Indicators can be viewed at: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/data/>

Primary Indicators

Seven-day average number of new confirmed cases per 100,000 population. As of January 6, there is a **VERY HIGH** risk of transmission.

31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
37.3%	38.1%	38.9%	39.9%	41.3%	40.9%	41.8%

Fourteen-day average percentage of tests administered resulting in a positive test. As of January 5, there was a **MODERATE** risk of transmission.

31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
6.8%	7.0%	7.4%	7.6%	7.6%	7.8%	NA

Secondary Indicators

Percent change in new cases per 100,000 population during the last seven days compared to the previous seven days. As of January 6, there was a **VERY HIGH** risk of transmission.

31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
1.4%	1.9%	2.1%	2.6%	5.6%	7.9%	9.1%

Percent of hospital inpatient beds in the community that are occupied. As of January 6, there was a **MODERATE** rate of utilization.

31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
80.5%	77.9%	77.5%	79.2%	76.6%	80.1%	81.6%

Percent of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds in use. As of January 6, there was a **MODERATE** rate of utilization for the system. Certain hospitals may be at capacity.

31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
73.5%	72.5%	77.5%	76.9%	77.6%	79.2%	82.8%

Percent of inpatient beds in the community occupied by patients with COVID-19. As of January 6, there was a **VERY HIGH** rate of utilization.

31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
22.0%	21.4%	21.7%	22.4%	21.8%	22.1%	22.5%

The State and County websites include information on cases and deaths by age. The following is a summary of the State information for January 6 and County information for January 4.

Maryland	Confirmed	Confirmed	% of Cases	% Confirmed
January 6, 2021	Cases	Deaths	By Age	Deaths by Age
Age:				
0-9 years	13,467	1	4.6%	0.0%
10-19 years	26,685	4	9.1%	0.1%
20-29 years	54,057	27	18.5%	0.5%
30-39 years	51,321	63	17.5%	1.1%
40-49 years	45,270	179	15.5%	3.0%
50-59 years	44,079	460	15.0%	7.7%
60-69 years	29,520	928	10.1%	15.6%
70-79 years	16,936	1,506	5.8%	25.3%
80+ years	11,569	2,789	3.9%	46.8%
Not available	0	3	0.0%	0.1%
Total	292,904	5,960	100.0%	100.0%

The following is the State website report on statewide case and death data for race and ethnicity.

Montgomery County	Confirmed	Confirmed	% of Cases	% Confirmed
January 4, 2021	Cases	Deaths	By Age	Deaths by Age
Age:				
0-9 years	2,638	0	5.5%	0.0%
10-19 years	4,576	0	9.5%	0.0%
20-29 years	8,421	0	17.5%	0.0%
30-39 years	8,357	16	17.4%	1.5%
40-49 years	7,832	39	16.3%	3.6%
50-59 years	7,041	70	14.6%	6.4%
60-69 years	4,429	142	9.2%	12.9%
70-79 years	2,300	230	4.8%	21.0%
80+ years	2,511	600	5.2%	54.7%
Not available	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Total	48,105	1,097	100.0%	100.0%

Maryland	Confirmed	Confirmed	% of Total	% Confirmed
January 6, 2021	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
African American (NH)	84,111	2,164	28.7%	36.3%
Asian (NH)	6,129	193	2.1%	3.2%
White (NH)	96,496	2,885	32.9%	48.4%
Hispanic	50,017	584	17.1%	9.8%
Other (NH)	13,534	63	4.6%	1.1%
Not available	42,617	71	14.5%	1.2%
Total	292,904	5,960	100.0%	100.0%

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Vaccine Update



Vaccine Allotments Received & Distributed

Quantity

100

Received

Dec. 23, 2020

4,200

Dec. 29, 2020

As of Jan. 5, the County administered

**4,047 doses
(94.1%)**



New Vaccine Allotment Received & Distributed

Quantity

8,600

Received

Jan. 5, 2021

- Two clinic sites this week

Wed., Jan. 6

Thur., Jan 7

Fri., Jan. 8

- Estimated doses administered by Friday

5,500



Vaccine Allotment Received & Distributed

Total doses of vaccine received to date

12,900

Estimated total doses administered by Friday

9,500



State & Local Vaccine Responsibilities

- ***Maryland Department of Health*** is responsible for providing vaccines for hospitals.
- ***CVS and Walgreens*** are responsible for long-term care facilities, including nursing homes.
- ***Montgomery County Health Department*** is responsible for vaccinating first responders and some healthcare workers who are not affiliated with hospitals/health systems and long-term care facilities.



Non-Local Vaccine Responsibilities

Priority Group 1 A (Tier 1)

- Hospital personnel
- *Long Term Care Facilities (staff & residents)
- *Development Disability Agency group homes
- *Assisted Living Facilities
- *Rest & Rehabilitation Facilities

**via pharmacy partnership*



Who is the County Vaccinating?

Priority Group 1 A (Tier 2)

Populations with frequent exposure to individuals with known COVID-19 and/or providing services essential to the maintenance of public health and healthcare systems during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- EMS
- Vaccinators (LHD, school nurse, etc)
- Testing sites – testers/onsite registration
- Public Health – COVID response
- Urgent care
- Primary care



Who is the County Vaccinating?

Priority Group 1A (Tier 3)

Populations with risk of exposure to individuals with suspected COVID-19 and/or providing services essential to the maintenance of public health and health care systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. Includes populations

- Dental practices
- Pharmacists
- Other health care professionals (e.g., outpatient specialties, optometrists, physical therapists, podiatrists, community health workers, in-home nursing staff)
- Detention Centers staff
- Homeless shelters staff
- Law enforcement (patrol/public-facing)



Who is the County Vaccinating?

Priority Group 1A (Tier 3)

- Fire rescue
- 9-1-1 dispatchers
- Behavioral health (non-telehealth) – e.g., residential/recovery
- School nurses (non-vaccine/non-testers)
- Lab workers
- Morticians/funeral home staff
- Surgical centers
- Other providers licensed by MD



Who is the County Vaccinating?

Priority Group 1B (Tier 1)

- Adults \geq age 75 years



Who is the County Vaccinating?

Priority Group 1B (Tier 2)

Front-line essential workers hold critical jobs essential to the functioning of society and have potential occupational exposure to individuals with COVID-19. A subset of frontline essential workers has the highest risk for potential exposure as they are unable to work from home or control social distancing.

- Public transit workers (e.g. transport for seniors and persons with disabilities)
- Education sector (teachers & support staff)
- Child care workers
- Food and agricultural workers
- Postal service workers
- Grocery store workers



Who is the County Vaccinating?

Priority Group 1C

- Tier 1: Individuals over the age of 65
- Tier 2: Adults 16(18)-64 years old w/medical conditions → risk for severe COVID-19
- Tier 3: Essential employees not covered in PG 1A, 1B



Why Should Montgomery County Residents Get Vaccinated?

Protective:

- It helps to protect you from having symptomatic COVID-19
- When most of us have been immunized it will bring an end to the COVID-19 pandemic

Promising Results:

- Early clinical trials show the vaccines are highly effective in preventing symptomatic and serious illness



What Can We Do To Stay Safe As the Vaccine Rolls Out?

As we vaccinate people over the next few months, we must continue to do our part to slow the spread and be patient.

- Keep wearing your mask...#MaskUpMoCo
- Maintain physical distancing of at least six feet
- Washing your hands frequently
- Continue to get tested and quarantine if you expect exposure or show symptoms
- Avoid gatherings

