



# DEB'S DISTRICT UPDATE

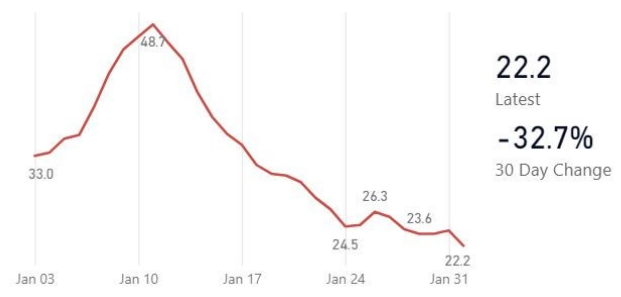
## Deb Jung • District Four

Greetings everyone! I have heard from many of you about your concerns regarding this past weekend's vaccination clinics. Those concerns and suggested improvements have been reported personally to the County Executive, the Health Department Director, and on the weekly COVID update for elected officials. As we obtain information that can be publicly disseminated, we will publish it to you. I know people want to be informed about the vaccination process, particularly for those in the over 75+ group (Phase 1B). On a positive note, the County's positivity rate and confirmed cases are on a significant decline. Thanks for reaching out to me. Stay well — the last mile is the hardest.

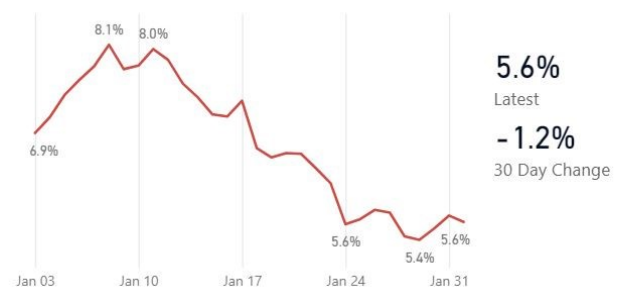
*Deb*

### 30 Day Trend 1/3/21 - 2/1/21

Confirmed Cases - 7 Day Average per 100,000



Positivity Rate - 7 Day Average



# Howard County COVID Updates

## COVID VACCINATION APPOINTMENTS

Currently there are two primary distribution routes for those eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine: local health departments and private pharmacies/facilities. The Howard County Health Department is holding periodic clinics depending on the week's vaccine supply from the State. Limited supplies of doses have been released to certain private pharmacies and hospitals throughout the State.

## HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Since the beginning of January, the County's Health Department has been vaccinating Phase 1A and Phase 1B priority groups. Pre-registration is required as the first step in the appointment process. Once registered you will receive an email notification to claim one of the first come, first serve appointments at an upcoming clinic. Clinics are scheduled based on vaccine supply for the week. Click [here](#) for more or call 410-313-6284 to reach a staff person.

**Appointment Tips:** If you're registering an older adult who is not tech savvy, consider entering your own email address as the contact so that you'll be able to respond quickly to an appointment invitation. Available appointments get snatched up quickly.

Residents attending clinics this past weekend reported long lines and wait times and expressed frustration over the distance of the line and standing outside in the cold. I have been informed that you will be asked if you have mobility issues, which will allow you to remain in your vehicle to accommodate your disability.

The Health Department asks that you observe your scheduled appointment times by arriving **no more than 10 minutes** prior. Make sure you have an appointment before you go to the vaccination clinic. Appointments cannot be made on site.

**STATE MASS VACCINATION SITE** The State is also making plans for mass vaccination sites to open February 5. The closest site is the Baltimore Convention Center. I have been told that they will perform vaccinations in the morning and testing in the afternoon. Then, on February 17, a second Baltimore City site will open at M & T Bank. There is currently no sign-up

# Howard County COVID Updates

## PRIVATE PHARMACIES/FACILITIES

As of February 1, certain retail pharmacies, hospitals, and large group practices throughout Maryland will be offering COVID vaccinations. There are currently two retail pharmacy locations in Howard County:

### GIANT Vaccine Locations

6020 MARSHALEE DRIVE, ELKRIDGE, MD 21075

9200 BALTIMORE NATIONAL PIKE, ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043

The State Health Department has also announced that certain **Safeway** and **Rite Aid** locations would be offering vaccinations but there are currently no Howard County locations. There are more options if you are willing to travel out of the County.

Click [here](#) for a list of locations where appointments can be made.

**Appointment Tips:** Appointments for all retail locations should be made on the State Health Department's website. Click [here](#) for more.

When using this site to check availability, I have found it easiest to use this procedure:

Find a Vaccination Site

About  $\frac{3}{4}$  down the page, you will see . Above that button is an area to enter your address, zip code or place name. I just enter my zip code (21044) and then press the red button to search.

On the next page you will see a slider at the top that looks like this:



You can slide the blue circle to extend the radius for your search up to 50 miles. Mine shows all vaccination sites within 15 miles.

Schedule an Appointment

Many sites will have a box like this that you can click to check availability. Unfortunately, you must check each site individually. You might get lucky and find an open appointment, but the vaccine supply is very limited, and these locations really have no idea when they will receive a vaccine doses or how many there will be.

# Howard County COVID Updates

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**County Council Monthly Meeting:** February 8 , 1pm; the Council will discuss the vaccine rollout with the Howard County Health Department, Howard County Public School System, and Senator Van Hollen’s office. Click [here](#) for more.

**Vaccine Telephone Town Hall:** February 8, 6pm; the County Executive and members of relevant Departments will answer questions from residents about vaccine distribution. Residents should pre-register in order to participate. Click [here](#) for more.

## VACCINE PHASING IN HOWARD COUNTY

The State has adopted a rolling vaccine allocation model, which means vaccine distribution to the Counties varies per week. To date, Howard County’s weekly receipt of vaccines from the State has not been sufficient to support advancement beyond Phase 1B. Here’s a weekly progress report since the rollout began:

**January 11:** Howard County Health Department received 4,500 doses and administered 93% of it to county first responders and healthcare providers/workers.

**January 27:** The Health Department received 4,500 vaccine doses for distribution. The priority groups expanded to Phase 1B. The County opened its second vaccination clinic at Howard Community College. The Health Department requested 20,000 vaccines to meet the pre-registration needs of Phase 1B.

# CDC VACCINATION PHASES

