
Joint COVID-19 Response Legislative Workgroup

Teleconference Meeting

***THIS MEETING WILL *
*BEGIN SHORTLY***

**September 16, 2020
10:00 a.m.**

Agenda Overview

(10:00 a.m. - 10:05 a.m.)

- I. Opening Remarks
- II. Briefing from Maryland Department of Health
- III. Briefing from Dr. Tom Inglesby
- IV. Closing Remarks

Briefing from MD Dept. of Health

(10:05 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.)

- Robert R. Neall, Health Secretary
Dennis R. Schrader, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Jinlene Chan, Acting Deputy Secretary,
Public Health Services
- Limited Questions and Answers
- Contact:
Webster Ye
webster.ye@maryland.gov



Update on MD COVID-19 Response to the Joint COVID-19 Response Legislative Workgroup

Robert R. Neall, Secretary
Dennis R. Schrader, MDH Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Jinlene Chan, (Act.) Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services

September 16, 2020

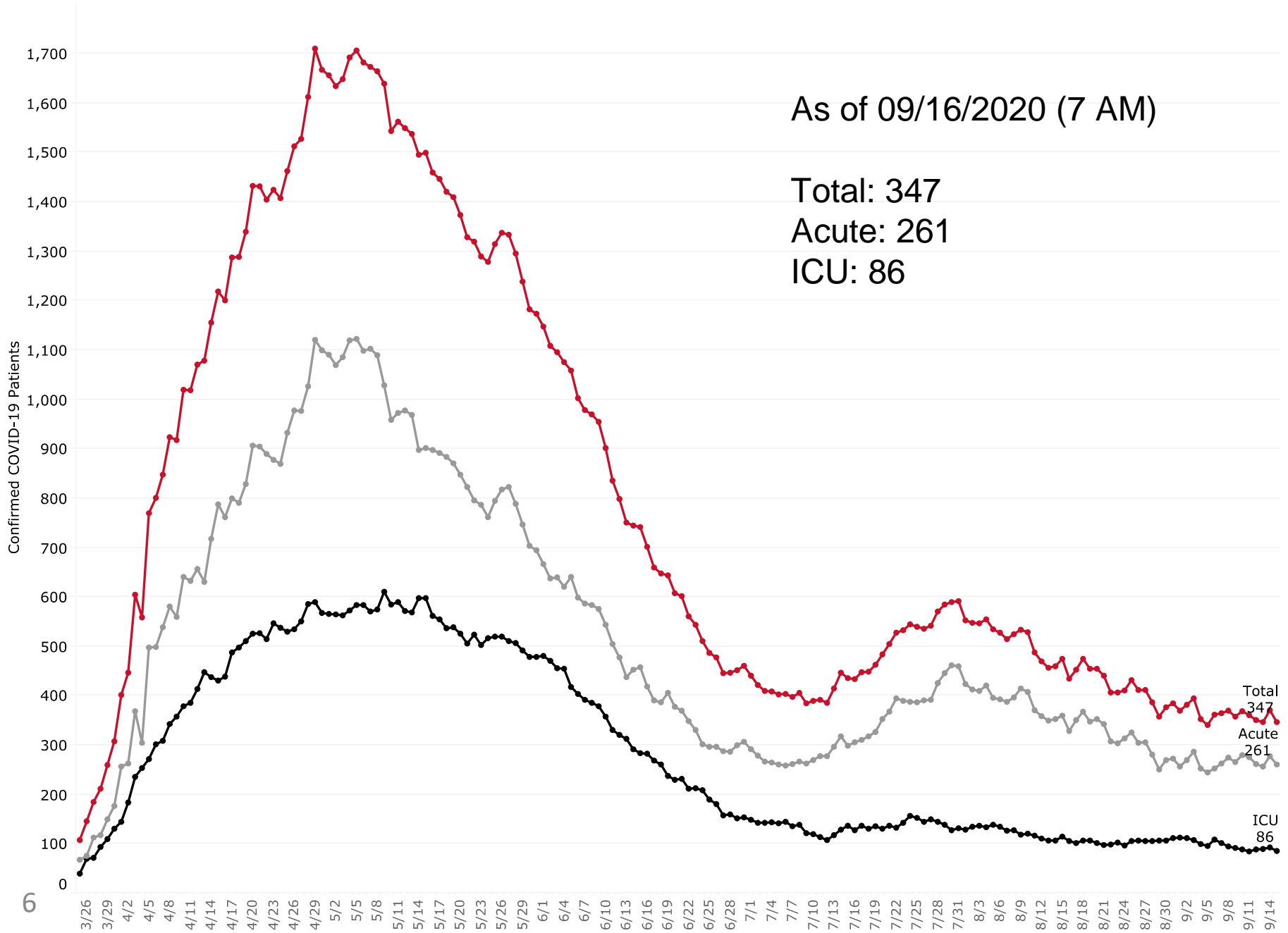
Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery

- **Testing** - 2.2 million cumulative PCR tests conducted in the State of Maryland, with testing volumes of over 20,000 tests a day within the State.
- **Contact Tracing** - Over 33,000 cases and over 41,000 contacts reached and interviewed by Contact Tracers throughout the State
- **PPE** - Over 78 million pieces of Personal Protective Equipment distributed, with requests being fulfilled as we speak including supplies for schools and the November Election
- **Hospital Surge Capacity** - Approximately 6,700 surge beds were identified, and we continue to make Advanced Medical Tents, ICU Modulares, and Alternate Care Sites available for COVID patients.

COVID-19: What We've Done

- Any Medicaid recipient is able to get COVID-19 tested with no co-pay and no limits through their managed care organization.
- The two largest state-backed testing sites are located at the Baltimore Convention Center and at Six Flags America (Prince George's County).
- The state has provided logistical and/or financial support to community-based testing sites (VEIPs, pop-up sites) across the state, including many in minority communities.
- Working with our hospital, community, urgent care, provider practice, and retail partners to increase access to COVID-19 testing:
 - Most PCR-based test labs are within a 24-48 hour turnaround window.
 - Securing 250,000 rapid antigen tests (the Becton Dickinson Veritor system) and negotiating for another 250,000 rapid tests with other manufacturers.
 - Reviewing other rapid test platforms to lower the turnaround time of COVID-19 testing.

Statewide Acute/ICU Beds Occupied by COVID Patients



7-Day Avg. Percent Positive Testing by Age Group

Age Group

35+
<35

As of 9/16 (7AM)

35+: 2.64%

<35: 4.85%

Positivity

7

40%

35%

30%

25%

20%

15%

10%

5%

0%

3/14

3/29

4/13

4/28

5/13

5/28

6/12

6/27

7/12

7/27

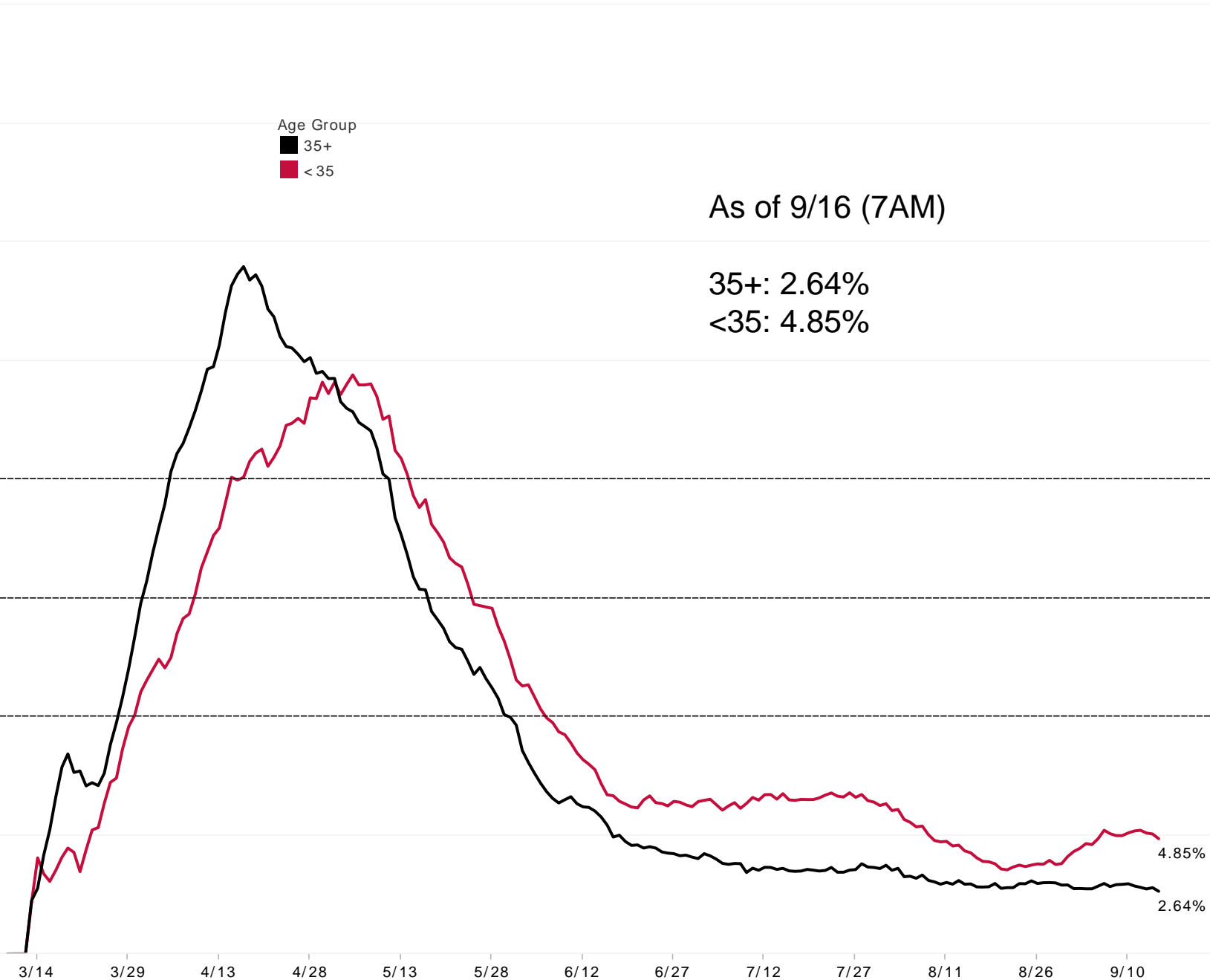
8/11

8/26

9/10

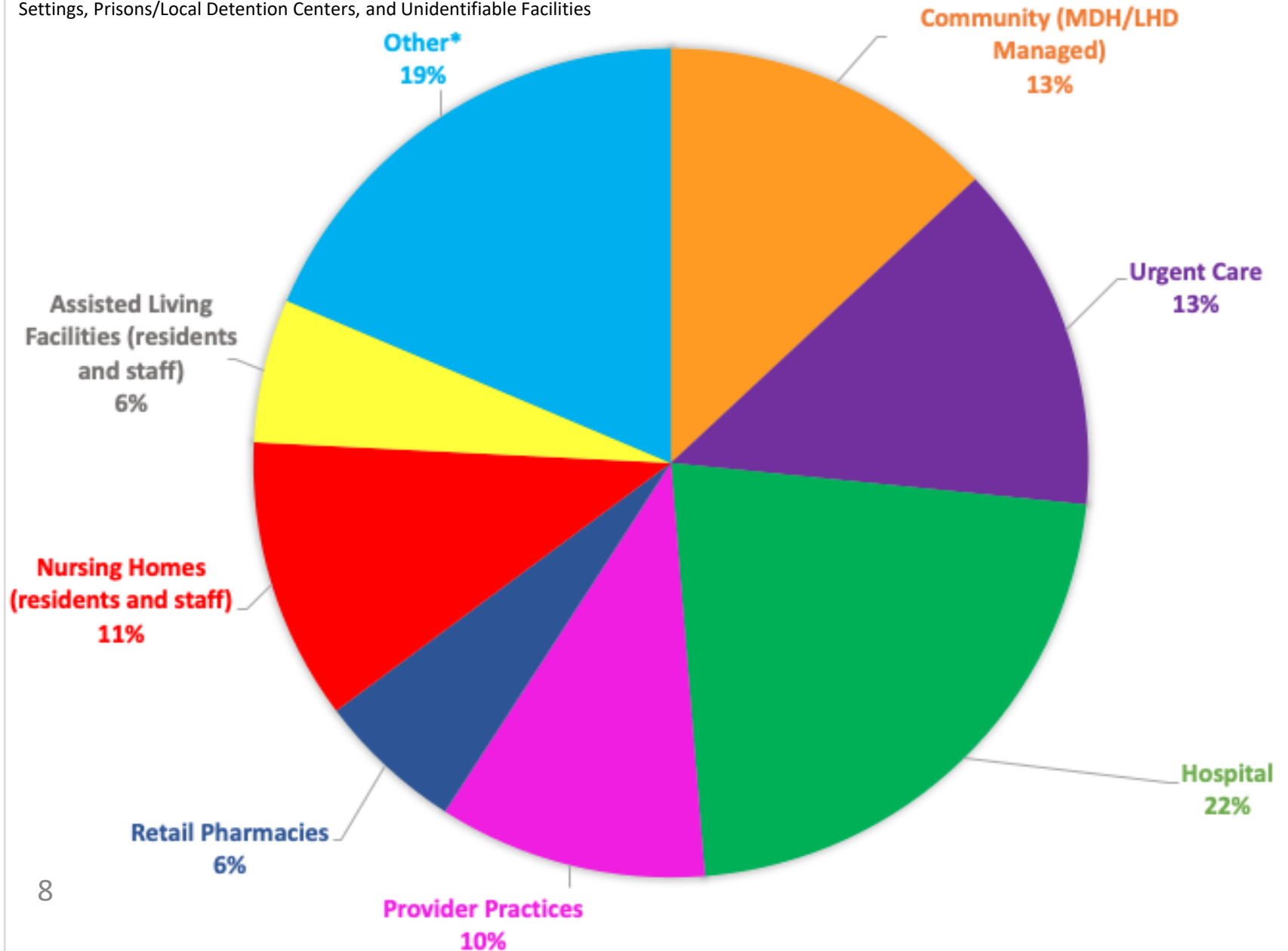
4.85%

2.64%



Testing Average Percent of Total Tests by Facility Type: 6/15/2020 - 9/8/2020

* Other includes Corporate Partners, FQHCs, Universities, State Agency Congregate Settings, Prisons/Local Detention Centers, and Unidentifiable Facilities



COVID-19 Testing Sites:

To find a site, go to: covidtest.maryland.gov



- Green - cost-free
- Purple - drive-through
- Red - online scheduling
- Light blue - no appointment
- Blue - all other sites

Testing Report

- Use of LabGun COVID-19 test assays (as of 9/15)
 - Over 210,000 assays used over the summer.
 - 130,000 assays deployed to CIAN in Frederick, over 72,000 used.
 - 370,000 assays deployed to UMPA lab, over 138,000 used.
 - Used in settings ranging from campuses and nursing homes to community-based sites.
 - Procurement unanimously approved by the Board of Public Works on September 2.

Antigen and Rapid Point of Care Testing

- Purchase of 250,000 Becton Dickinson Veritor system tests last week
- Benefits of rapid point of care tests, including antigen-based tests, are fast results, low costs, and simplicity of use.
- Tests in 15 minutes can enable healthcare professionals to make decisions about isolation, patient care and identifying symptomatic individuals in the earliest stages of infection.
- Rapid tests can be paired with PCR-based diagnostic tests, which remain the most accurate.
- MD is working through the large-scale deployment of these test platforms with the assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation.
- Deployment in congregate care settings will allow new options against the spread of the novel coronavirus and to help assist in Maryland's recovery.

#MasksOnMaryland Campaign

- First phase of a three-phase multimedia strategic communications effort
- Campaign focuses on the benefits of wearing a mask, rather than the mandate; positions masks as a way to carry on doing things we enjoy, not as a barrier to life.
- To date, has produced two toolkits — one specifically for Hispanic audiences — both shared with other state agencies, local health departments and community-based partners



#MasksOnMaryland - Events

- MDH is supporting mask distribution events in communities statewide.
- The events reinforce the importance of masks, get masks into the hands of Marylanders who need them the most, and establish dialogue and good will.
- MDH has hosted several events since late July, including partnering with community-based organizations such as local NAACP chapters.
- MDH is developing a plan to provide materials (masks, branding, guidance) for communities to host their own events.
- This concept can be effective in any community in the state.



#MASKSONMARYLAND

GET A MASK, GET A TEST

D. LEONARD DYER REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER

9314 PISCATAWAY ROAD, CLINTON, MD 20735

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

BEGINS AT 10 AM; AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



COVID-19: Minority Outreach

- Launching a multimodal, multimedia, and multilingual communications and messaging campaign that includes
 - WMAR - (July / August) - 100,000 digital ads on free statewide testing
 - English/Spanish PSAs on Bounce-TV on testing
 - Other PSAs airing on EffecTV (Balt) WBOC-LT (Telemundo Salisbury), Hearst Anyscreen OTT (statewide), MPT, Urban Networks/Radio One, and social media.
- Utilizing a mobile public health education unit to provide COVID-19 education and messaging to minority communities by selected zip codes.
- Providing support to HBCUs undertaking COVID-19 and minorities survey research projects.
- MDH has partnered with Anne Arundel, Balt. City and County, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties' local health departments on COVID-19 outreach, including \$1.2 million in state funding.


Hispanic Outreach Task Force

- An interagency task force of partners from the State (MDH/MEMA/DHS), Baltimore City, and faith-based/community organizations.
- Goal is to reduce the rate of positivity within the Hispanic community starting with the 21224 zip code.
- Focus is on providing operational support and technical assistance to Baltimore City and non-governmental partners for:
 - Human and social services
 - Non-congregate housing/isolation strategies
 - Communications and outreach (mobile outreach, flyers and educational materials, and a sound truck in targeted neighborhoods to deliver educational messages)
 - Contact tracing
 - Prevention and mitigation
- Exploring a short-term COVID-19 Intervention Pilot Program for individuals who test positive and their families.
 - The pilot will serve 10 families and includes isolation, medical care and services, cash assistance, food delivery, and wrap around services.
- Based on the pilot program, an Intervention Protocol will be established.
 - Depending on the success of the pilot, it may be expanded to other Hispanic communities as needed in the fall.

Sample Hispanic Outreach Material

COVID-19: Información Im

¿Cuáles son los síntomas más comunes de COVID-19?



Fiebre

Tos

Escalofríos

Pérdida del gusto o el olfato

Dra. Michelle LaRue,
CASA de Maryland

COVID-19



Mantenga una distancia de 6 pies

Lave sus manos con frecuencia

Evite a las personas enfermas

NO comparta platos, cubiertos, comidas o bebidas, especialmente entre padres alimentando a los niños o las familias compartiendo un mismo plato de comida.

Realizar tratamiento o pruebas de COVID NO PODRÁ en riesgo su estado migratorio. ¡HÁGASE LA PRUEBA!



¿Tengo que hacerme la prueba?

- ¿Está enfermo? Hágase la prueba.
- ¿Estuvo en contacto con alguien con COVID-19? Hágase la prueba.
- En algunos centros, se realizan pruebas sin cargo. Encuentre un centro de pruebas aquí: covidtest.maryland.gov.

Quédese en casa mientras espera los resultados.

- Si su prueba es negativa, vuelva a su trabajo y a sus actividades habituales.
- Si su prueba es positiva, aíslese de los demás por 10 días o hasta que no tenga más síntomas.

Si su prueba es positiva, DEBE aislarse

- Manténgase alejado de los demás
- No comparta vasos o platos, controles remotos u otros objetos
- Quédese en una sola habitación, y si puede use un baño separado
- Use mascarilla y haga que las personas que lo ayuden usen una mascarilla también
- Lávese las manos y todas las cosas que toque

Si necesita ayuda habitacional para aislarse, llame al 800-000-0000.



Si la prueba es positiva, recibirá la llamada de un Rastreador de Contactos

- El ID de la llamada dirá MD COVID o (240) 466-4488
- Le preguntarán con quienes estuvo en contacto, para poder avisarles que se realicen la prueba
- Su nombre no se compartirá con esos contactos
- Su información personal y la de sus contactos NO SE COMPARTIRÁ con otras agencias gubernamentales
- NO se le pedirá dinero, datos de tarjeta de crédito o cualquier otra documentación no relacionada con la prueba de COVID
- Si lo necesita, pida que le comuniquen con un rastreador de contactos que hable español



¡NO TENGA MIEDO!

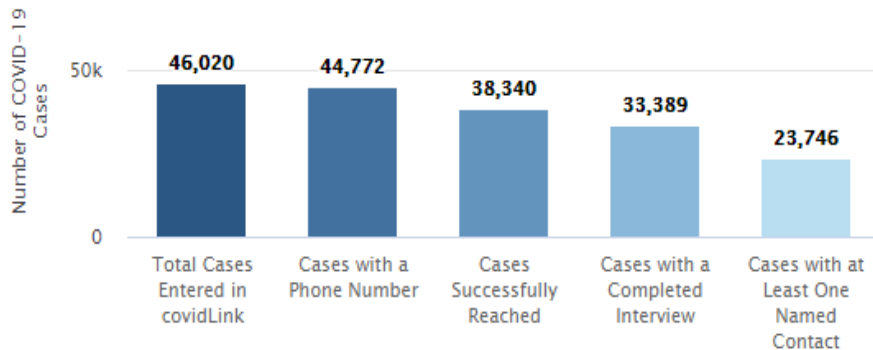
La Carga Pública NO aplica a los servicios asociados con el COVID-19. Ayuda con su empleador: llame al 800-000-0000. Alimentos y otras necesidades básicas: llame al 800-000-0000



Contact Tracing Overview

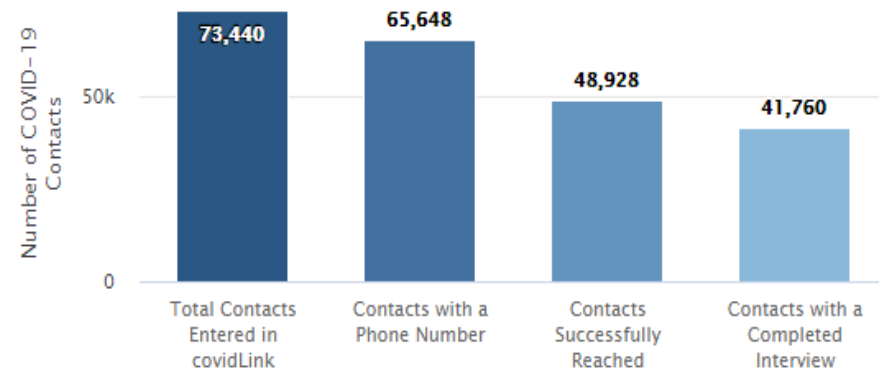
Cases Reached and Interviewed - Cumulative

6/15/20 - 9/05/20



Contacts Reached and Interviewed - Cumulative

6/15/20 - 9/05/20



- Focusing on public awareness and participation with interviews.
- Support cases and contacts through isolation and quarantine
- Working with the Department of Information Technology to develop a plan to implement the Apple-Google exposure notification technology.
- Reduce barriers to testing for contacts

COVID-19 Vaccine

- Operation Warp Speed (OWS): Federal effort to accelerate the delivery of safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines to states.
- What we know:
 - Vaccines may need 2 doses, ultra-cold temperature storage
 - First shipments will have limited numbers of vaccine, with increase in volume over time
 - Initial priority populations will likely include high-risk populations and health care workers
- Planning efforts underway:
 - Vaccine Tracking
 - Communication & outreach
 - Logistics and operational

Next Steps

Our focus in the Fall is to

- a. Expand and Communicate the #MasksOnMaryland Campaign as well as Flu Vaccination Outreach
- b. Prepare for COVID-19 vaccine deployment
- c. Roll out new antigen testing and other rapid Point of Care test platforms to keep Maryland open
- d. Refine our data analytics to improve our publicly available COVID-19 data
- e. Integrate our contact tracing analysis with testing efforts for more targeted intervention
- f. Ensure hospital surge capacity for COVID + Flu

Briefing from Dr. Tom Inglesby

(10:45 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.)

- Thomas V. Inglesby, MD
Director, Center for Health Security,
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of
Public Health
- Limited Questions and Answers
- Contact:

Elizabeth Hafey
Elizabeth.Hafey@jhu.edu

Closing Remarks

- Check Hearing Schedule on Maryland General Assembly website for committee meetings
- Next meeting TBD