

# COVID-19 Update: Board of Education

Carroll County Health Department


April 13, 2022

Robert Wack, M.D., Deputy Health Officer



Due to a statewide network security incident, data access is still limited. **Please note all data is subject to change.**

# Maryland and U.S. Data Trends

- Cases in MD have increased about 45% over the past week
  - About half of states in U.S. seeing cases rise
  - Mask mandates being reinstated at some colleges (JHU, Georgetown, American) and cities (Philadelphia)
- 

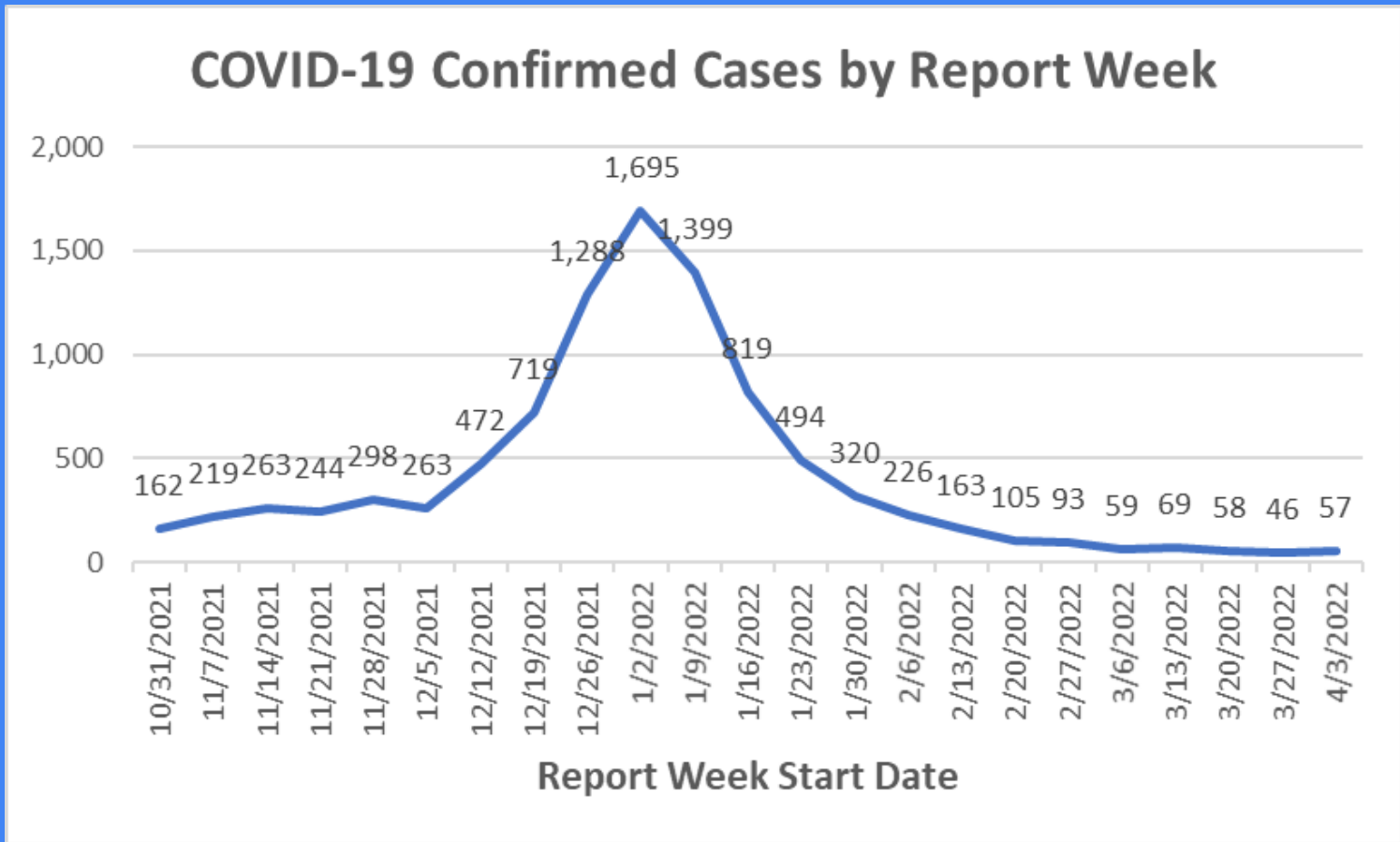
# Carroll County Data through 4/11/22

- 21,439 confirmed cases (+345 since last month)
- 3.1% positivity (state 2.5%)  
(down from 4.3% a month ago, but up from 1.7% on 3/22)
- 390 deaths (+7 since last month)

**\*Please note, we are now using state data to report these numbers. This data does NOT include at-home tests or any antigen tests (probable cases).**

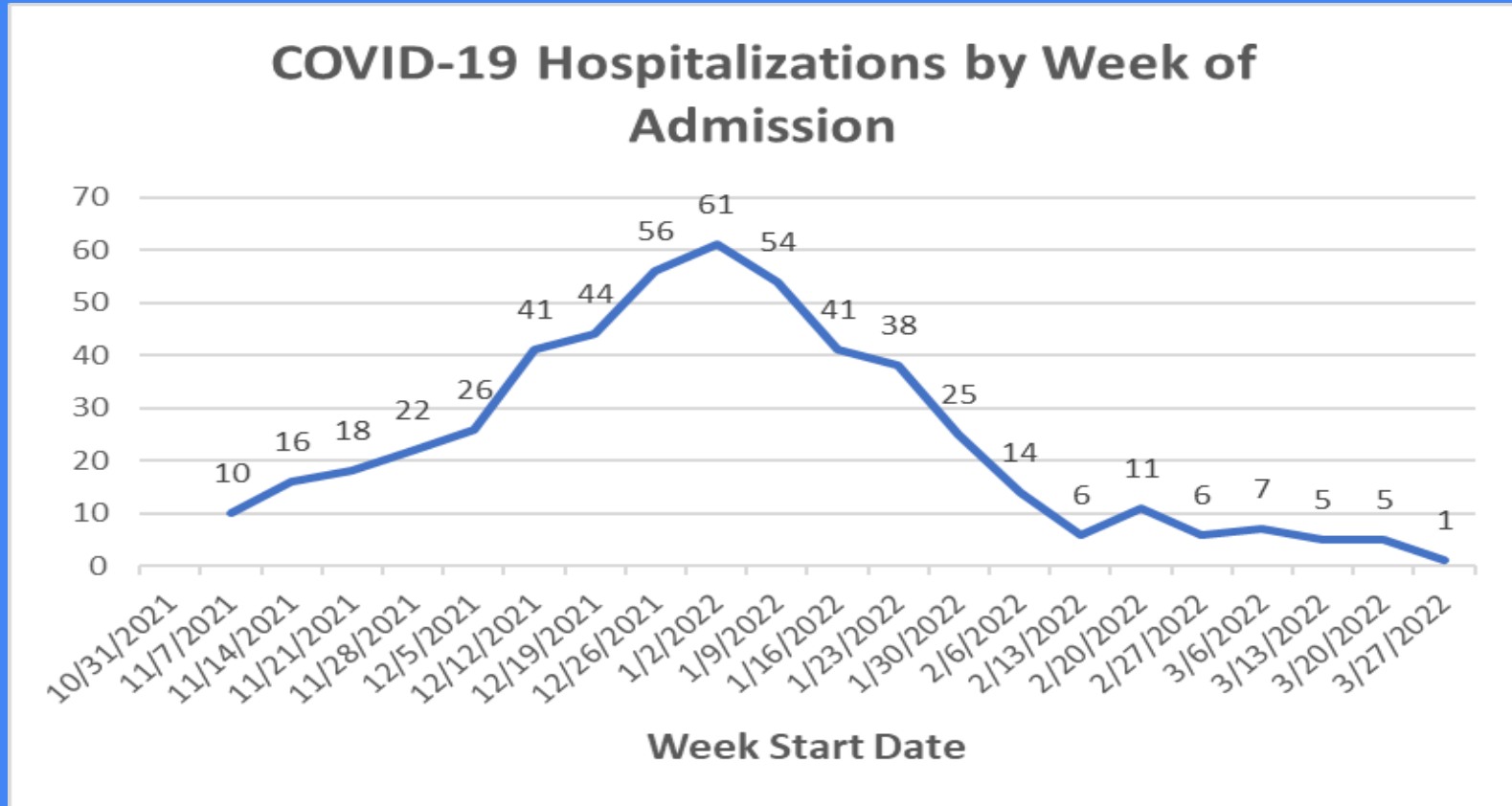
Please note:

- Local data tracking
- 57 cases last week
- Confirmed cases only.
- **Positive antigen tests (probables) and at-home tests are not included in these totals.**



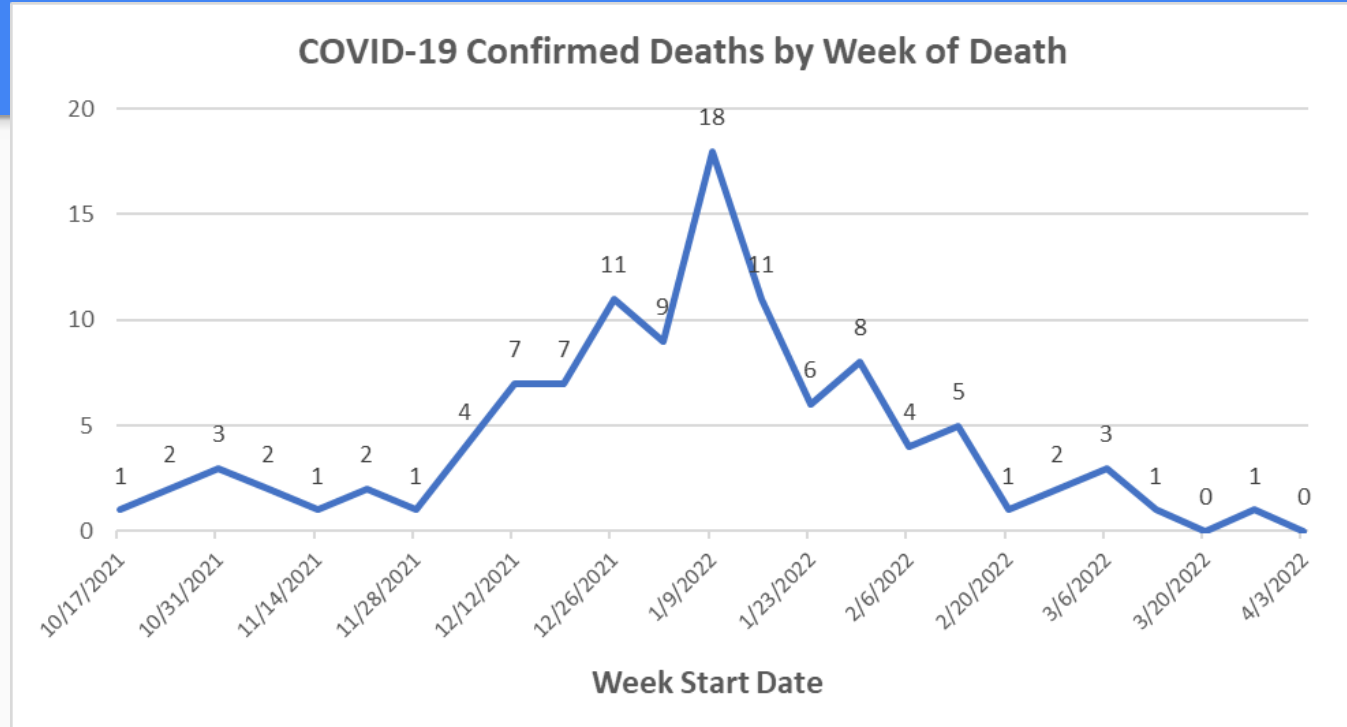
# Hospitalizations for COVID

This data is delayed by one week.



# COVID-19 Deaths

Deaths lag cases and hospitalizations and data is not complete.



# Vaccinations

Population	% Fully Vaccinated	Fully vaccinated, % with Booster
Total Population	74.0%	55.9%
Population $\geq 5$ Years of Age	78.3%	—
Population $\geq 12$ Years of Age	81.7%	58.6%
Population $\geq 18$ Years of Age	83.0%	60.8%
Population $\geq 65$ Years of Age	95.0%	78.1%

# COVID news

- ❖ Most areas of the country are still considered in low transmission with new CDC Community Levels. These levels focus more on reducing severe illness and strain on the healthcare system, not as much on reducing cases.
- ❖ BA-2 is now causing over 85% of cases in U.S.
- ❖ Not sure how BA2 will impact Maryland or the U.S. - Immunity is relatively high in U.S. population for now, due to vaccination, boosters, and infection-induced protection.
- ❖ Vaccines and testing in good supply, treatment availability is increasing.
- ❖ Still critical to protect vulnerable populations and monitor cases, variants.



# At **LOW** community levels, CDC recommends that individuals:

- Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters
- Improve ventilation of indoor spaces
- Follow CDC quarantine guidance if you are exposed to COVID-19 or isolation guidance if you have symptoms
- If you test positive, follow isolation guidance, inform your close contacts, and contact your healthcare provider about treatments.
- Guidance may depend on vax status/infection in last 90 days and includes testing, staying home, masking, avoiding people who are high risk, and postponing travel.

Especially at medium levels:

- Take extra precautions around people who are at higher risk of serious illness
- If you are at higher risk, talk to your healthcare provider about prevention and treatment.

# Take extra steps if you are at higher risk for severe illness:

- Older adults: over 80% of COVID-19 deaths occur in people over age 65.
- People with chronic health conditions including heart disease, cancer, diabetes, obesity, COPD, and some mental health conditions: the risk of severe illness increases with the number of underlying medical conditions
- Pregnant women
- People who live in congregate settings
- People with limited access to care
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

# New booster guidance

Which primary vaccine series did you complete?	Pfizer-BioNTech or Comirnaty	Moderna or Spikevax	Janssen (J&J)
You may get a single booster dose if:	It's been at least 5 months since completing a primary series <b>AND</b> you are age 12+	It's been at least 5 months since completing a primary series <b>AND</b> you are age 18+	It's been at least 2 months since completing the primary vaccination <b>AND</b> you are age 18+
If eligible, you may get a single booster dose of:	Pfizer-BioNTech* Moderna Janssen (J&J)	Moderna Pfizer-BioNTech Janssen (J&J)	Janssen (J&J) Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna
You may get a second booster dose if:	It's been at least 4 months since the first booster dose <b>AND</b> you are age 50+ <b>OR</b> age 12+ with certain kinds of immunocompromise	It's been at least 4 months since the first booster dose <b>AND</b> you are age 50+ <b>OR</b> age 18+ with certain kinds of immunocompromise	It's been at least 4 months since the first booster dose <b>AND</b> you are age 50+ <b>OR</b> age 18+ with certain kinds of immunocompromise
If eligible, you may get a second booster dose of:	Pfizer-BioNTech* Moderna	Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna	Pfizer-BioNTech Moderna

# Vaccinations for children

- Children with medical or immune system conditions are more likely to get severely ill from COVID-19, kids without these conditions can also get very sick. Almost half of children under 18 hospitalized with COVID-19 have no underlying conditions.
- Clinical trials and ongoing safety monitoring show that COVID-19 vaccination is safe for children and teens.
- A booster is recommended for children age 12-17, 5 months after their primary series.
- Children ages 5 through 11 years who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should receive 3 doses; kids 12-17 should receive 4 doses.
- Vaccine manufacturers and FDA still reviewing data to determine most effective dose of vaccine for children under 5.
- CCHD is working with local pediatric practices to prepare to offer the vaccine to that age group as soon as it is available.

# Treatment

Treatments work best when started early. There are several options for accessing treatment:

- Contact your healthcare provider. Primary care and urgent care providers can make referrals for treatment. More pharmacies can fill prescriptions for COVID-19 treatments.
- New test-to-treat sites - CVS in Westminster and Eldersburg, some urgent cares: <https://aspr.hhs.gov/testtotreat/Pages/default.aspx> OR call 1-800-232-0233; people with disabilities can call 1-888-677-1199, or email [DIAL@usaginganddisability.org](mailto:DIAL@usaginganddisability.org)
- Telehealth Self-Referral Program
- Monoclonal antibodies are available in Westminster and at home for some people
- More information on our web page: <https://cchd.maryland.gov/treatments-for-covid-19/>
- Treatments used for COVID-19 should be prescribed by a healthcare provider. People have been seriously harmed and even died after taking products not approved for use to treat or prevent COVID-19.

# Long COVID

Funding may be available to support the study and treatment of long COVID.

Some people experience symptoms that can last weeks or months after a COVID infection, even if the illness was mild, or if they had no symptoms. People commonly report combinations of the following symptoms:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Tiredness or fatigue
- Difficulty thinking or concentrating (“brain fog”)
- Cough
- Chest or stomach pain
- Headache
- Fast-beating or pounding heart
- Diarrhea
- Joint or muscle pain
- Pins-and-needles feeling
- Sleep problems
- Fever
- Lightheadedness
- Rash
- Mood changes
- Change in smell or taste
- Changes in menstrual period cycles

Some people who had severe illness with COVID-19 experience:

- multiorgan effects (heart, lung, kidney, skin, and brain)
- autoimmune conditions causing inflammation or tissue damage in the affected parts of the body

While it is very rare, some people, mostly children, experience multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS)

# Health Department Planning and Preparedness:

We will:

- Continue to monitor cases, hospitalizations, and deaths
- Focus contract tracing on higher risk populations - nursing homes, correctional facilities, homeless shelters
- Provide and help coordinate vaccination and testing as needed
- Offer PPE and test kits as supplies last
- Gradually resume other functions
- Plan for future surges

COVID is still a reportable disease so cases must be reported to the Health Dept.

# COVID-19 Service Updates

## Vaccinations

- Clinics for ages 5+ scheduled around the county, currently scheduled through April

## Testing

- Currently at the Health Dept. Mondays-Thursdays 9 am - 1 pm, may decrease
- Test kits through libraries, other community groups and agencies
- Can order test kits online, can get reimbursement from insurance, Medicare



Any questions?

