

COVID-19 Update



Local and State COVID-19 Trends

Loudoun's seven-day test positivity rate has decreased since January 5. The latest positivity rate stands at 10.8% while the seven-day average remains above 10%. On January 5, the county saw a positivity rate of 18.6% and 14.3% on January

17. However, Loudoun has also seen an increase its seven-day moving average of daily cases since January 13. <u>Loudoun's data dashboard</u> shows that the seven-day moving average has increased significantly from 105.4 daily cases to 239.7 daily cases as of January 20.

In contrast, Virginia's statewide seven-day moving average of cases has decreased since January 8, where it stood at 5,093 cases. The latest available data from the Virginia Department of Health shows that the state's seven-day moving average has since decreased to 4,065 cases.

Data resources provided by Loudoun County can be accessed <u>here</u>.

View Comprehensive Data on the Virginia Department of Health Website:

- Cases, demographics, localities, outbreaks, testing, and more
- Virginia's Key COVID-19 Measures
- COVID-19 Data Insights
- COVID-19 Vaccinations Summary

COVID-19 Vaccine Update: Limited Supply; Limited Appointments Limited Supply; Limited Appointments Loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine

COVID-19 Vaccine Registration Update

During the first week of the expansion of vaccination efforts into <u>Phase 1b</u> of Virginia's vaccination priorities, the Loudoun County Health Department has received more than 50,000 inquiries

regarding appointments for vaccination. At this time, all currently available vaccine doses in Loudoun are allocated to individuals who are included in the Phase 1a or Phase 1b priority groups, and vaccination continues on a daily basis. As a result, there will be a delay in making additional appointments for those who have completed the pre-screening survey until more vaccine arrives in Loudoun.

What You Need to Know if You Already Submitted Your Information

The Health Department has received tens of thousands of pre-screening surveys from people who are eligible for vaccination in Phase 1a or Phase 1b. There are currently many more people who have signed up to receive a vaccine than there are doses of vaccine available in Loudoun. As a result, thousands of individuals are currently waiting to be contacted by the Health Department when vaccination appointments become available, which is dependent on the arrival of additional shipments of COVID-19 vaccine.

If you have already submitted your pre-screening survey, you do not need to contact the Health Department again to verify whether you are on our list. The survey does not provide a confirmation email indicating you are registered; however, submitting your contact information online or by phone completes the first step for getting a vaccination appointment.

After submitting your information to the Health Department, you must be patient. At this time, it will likely be several weeks before you are contacted by the Health Department for a vaccination appointment. There is no need to resubmit your information through the pre-screening survey or to call the Health Department to verify whether you are registered. The Health Department is unable to verify that a survey has been completed by phone. When more vaccine arrives, more appointments will become available, and the Health Department will contact you. If you submitted an email address, you will be contacted by email. If you submitted only a phone number, you will be contacted by phone to schedule an appointment.

Residents May Continue to Submit a COVID-19 Pre-Screening Survey Online

If you are eligible for vaccine in the Phase 1a or Phase 1b priority groups and you have not already been contacted by your employer, or you have not already submitted the online pre-screening survey, you may submit the survey to register

for vaccination with the Health Department. Please note that going forward many employers of essential workers in the Phase 1a and Phase 1b groups will have the opportunity to facilitate vaccination at employer-based clinics. You are encouraged to contact your employer about vaccination if you have not already done so.

Residents over the age of 65, and adults with high-risk medical conditions, and other essential workers in the Phase 1a and Phase 1b groups who are not receiving vaccine through their employers, may submit the online pre-screen survey. (<u>Learn more about who is currently eligible for vaccination in the Phase 1a and Phase 1b priority groups</u>.)

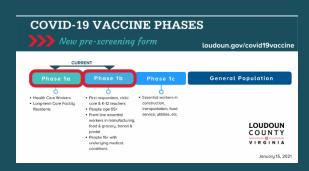
- Submit an online pre-screening survey.
- The fastest and most efficient method to obtain an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine is to submit the online form. This form verifies your eligibility and provides your contact information. Please submit one form and use one unique email address for each individual who needs a vaccine (do not use the same email address for multiple people). You will not receive a confirmation email after submitting the survey; however, you will be registered in our system. After submitting the form, it may be several weeks before you receive a response because vaccine supplies are limited. Please be patient; once you submit an online pre-screening survey, there is no need to call the Health Department as survey status cannot be verified by phone. Eventually, you will be contacted by email to schedule an appointment.
- If you do not have access to the internet, you may call Loudoun County's COVID-19 information line at 703-737-8300 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Due to significant call volume, there may be a delay in reaching an operator.

Future Expansion of Vaccination Opportunities

We anticipate that vaccine supplies will increase in the coming months. As a result, vaccination opportunities in the community will also increase. The Health Department will continue to offer vaccination appointments as long as necessary; however, you may begin to find opportunities to receive a vaccine from your doctor or local pharmacy. You should continue to monitor for the availability of COVID-19 vaccine and seek vaccine from the most convenient source available according to the vaccination priorities set by the Virginia Department of Health. Sign Up to Receive Alerts

Additional information about the ongoing vaccination efforts will be published as it becomes available. To stay informed about when it is your turn to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, residents should sign up to receive text or email updates about COVID-19 from Loudoun County:

- Text LCCOVID19 to 888777 to receive text alerts in English.
 - Text LCCOVIDESP to 888777 to receive text alerts in Spanish.
- Sign up for email and text updates on COVID-19 in Notify Me, Blogs category, "Coronavirus (COVID-19)".
- Follow Loudoun County on Facebook and Twitter.
- Visit the county's website, <u>loudoun.gov/coronavirus</u>



Loudoun Launches Online COVID-19 PreScreening Survey

Currently, the Health Department continues to accept requests for vaccination from only people who are in the Phase 1a and Phase 1b

vaccination priority groups. At this time, supplies of vaccine in Loudoun remain limited. There are significantly more requests for vaccine than there are vaccine doses available. As a result, the Health Department cannot schedule additional appointments at this time; however, the online pre-screening survey may be submitted by people in Phase 1a or Phase 1b and when additional vaccine supplies arrive in Loudoun, additional appointments can be offered.

How to Sign Up for a COVID-19 Vaccine

Many members of the Phase 1a and 1b priority groups may be enrolled for vaccination by their employers; this is the most efficient way of getting signed up for vaccinations. Employers, members of the 1a and 1b groups who have not been contacted by their employers, residents over the age of 65, and adults with high risk medical conditions may begin the process for scheduling an appointment by contacting the Loudoun County Health Department in one of two ways:

1. Complete this <u>online pre-screen survey</u>. The fastest and most efficient method to obtain an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccine is to submit the online form. This form verifies your eligibility and provides your contact information. After submitting the form, it may take days to weeks before you receive a response because the Health Department is currently not scheduling appointments because vaccine supplies are limited. As more vaccine arrives in Loudoun, additional appointments will be made and those who have submitted the online pre-screening survey will be offered vaccination appointments in priority order. Please be patient; once you submit an online pre-screening survey, there is no need to call the Health Department. NOTE: Please submit one form per person using a separate email address for each person. If you share an email

- address, you may use one email on one form and a phone number on all other forms. If you do not have an email address, you may submit your form with a phone number.
- 2. If you do not have access to the internet, you may call Loudoun County's COVID-19 information line at 703-737-8300 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Due to significant call volume, there may be a delay in reaching an operator.

NOTE: The Health Department is no longer accepting emails to request vaccination appointments. Any email requests will not result in an appointment. Anyone who emails the Health Department will be re-directed to the online prescreening survey.

Where Will I Get the Vaccine?

Right now, because supplies of COVID-19 vaccine are limited in Loudoun County, the Health Department has scheduled only a limited number of appointments. The Health Department is coordinating the expansion of vaccination opportunities to include other providers in the community, including employer-based clinics, doctors' offices and health care providers, and local pharmacies. As vaccine supplies in Loudoun increase and more and more providers offer vaccine, Loudoun County ultimately will not be the primary provider of COVID-19 vaccine.

COVID-19 TESTING

Wednesday, January 27 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Claude Moore Park 46150 Loudoun Park Lane Sterling, 20164

Drive-thru onlu. Free & open to everyone.

loudoun.gov/COVID19testing

Loudoun County Hosts Free COVID-19 Testing Event January 27

Loudoun County has scheduled another free drive-thru COVID-19 testing event: Wednesday, January 27, 2021, from

10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at <u>Claude Moore Park, 46150 Loudoun Park Lane in Sterling</u>. The January 27 testing event is open to all. There are no age or residency requirements. No prescriptions or appointments are necessary. A person does not have to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 in order to be tested. A PCR test (nasal swab) will be administered, which tests for the novel coronavirus. No antibody or rapid tests will be offered. No COVID-19 vaccine will be available at this event.

Registration Form

To help reduce wait times, people who plan to attend the testing event are strongly encouraged to complete a registration form for each person who will be receiving a test prior to arriving at the testing site. The registration form is required and asks for general demographics and contact information, including name, date of birth, address, phone number and current symptoms, if any.

• Registration Form: <u>English (PDF)</u> | <u>Spanish (PDF)</u>

The fillable form may be downloaded, filled out, printed and completed forms should be brought with you to the testing site. Forms will also be available at the testing site for individuals who do not have access to a printer or otherwise are unable to complete the forms in advance. The forms are also available at loudoun.gov/COVID19testing.



Online Communitywide Survey Now Open to All Loudoun County Residents

An online version of the Loudoun County 2021 Community Survey is now open to all Loudoun County

residents. Loudoun County surveys its residents periodically to get their feedback on government services, the county's quality of life and priorities for government initiatives. Residents may take the survey online by visiting <u>loudoun.gov/survey</u> through February 1, 2021.

The online version of the survey allows all residents to provide their feedback. In addition, surveys were mailed to a statistically representative sampling of Loudoun County households in December. Responses are anonymous and will be analyzed to provide a full picture of the Loudoun County community.

The county contracts with the National Research Center, Inc., to participate in The National Community Survey, which was developed with the assistance of the International City/County Management Association. This scientific survey allows Loudoun to make comparisons with peer counties and has been used in more than 700 jurisdictions across 46 states.

Loudoun is one of many communities across the United States that use this tool to help improve governmental performance, guide policy decisions, strengthen communications with community stakeholders and identify clear priorities for use in goal and budget setting.

Results of the survey are expected to be presented to the Board of Supervisors later this year. For more information on the 2021 Loudoun County survey, call 703-777-0539 or send an <u>email</u>. To view results of previous surveys conducted by the county, visit loudoun.gov/survey.



Loudoun Organizations Unite to Launch New Social Campaign Supporting Restaurant Industry

The three Loudoun County organizations behind Loudoun Is Ready have created a new chapter to this successful program in order to support the restaurant industry as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact local businesses. Visit

Loudoun, Loudoun Economic Development and Loudoun Chamber of Commerce announced this week the launch of the #LoveLoudounFood Restaurant Sweepstakes—a social media campaign aimed at driving business to local restaurants throughout the winter.

The new initiative, which will run through mid-March, encourages people to dine in or order out from their favorite Loudoun restaurant and post a picture of their meal on Instagram using #LoveLoudounFood. People who do so, and also tag and follow the restaurant they order from, will have a chance to win one of three dining experiences from a local eatery. Each social media post using #LoveLoudounFood is considered an entry, so the more people frequent local restaurants, the more entries they can submit. Prizes include a family meal for six on Super Bowl Sunday, a dinner for two on Valentine's Day and a family meal for six on St. Patrick's Day.

Details about the campaign can be found on the Loudoun Is Ready website, which showcases Loudoun businesses that have pledged to follow the latest safety guidelines outlined by the Virginia Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The website also features a Restaurant Randomizer that will suggest a place to dine.



President Biden Announces National COVID-19 Strategy

The National Strategy provides a roadmap to guide America out of the worst public health crisis in a century. It outlines an actionable plan across the federal government to address the COVID-19 pandemic, including twelve initial executive actions that will be issued by President Biden during his first two days in office:

The National Strategy is organized around seven goals:

1. Restore trust with the American people.

- 2. Mount a safe, effective, and comprehensive vaccination campaign
- 3. Mitigate spread through expanding masking, testing , data , treatments, health care workforce, and clear public health standards.
- 4. Immediately expand emergency relief and exercise the Defense Production Act.
- 5. Safely reopen schools, businesses, and travel while protecting workers.
- 6. Protect those most at risk and advance equity, including across racial, ethnic and rural/urban lines.
- 7. Restore U.S. leadership globally and build better preparedness for future threats.

To execute on the National Strategy, the White House will establish a COVID-19 Response Office responsible for coordinating the pandemic response across all federal departments and agencies. Through implementation of the National Strategy, the United States will make immediate progress on the seven goals. To monitor outcomes, the National Strategy includes the creation of publicly accessible performance dashboards, establishing a data-driven, evidence-based approach to evaluating America's progress in the fight against COVID-19.

The federal government cannot solve this crisis alone. Full implementation of the National Strategy for COVID-19 will require sustained, coordinated, and complementary efforts of the American people, as well as groups across the country, including State, local, territorial, and Tribal governments; health care providers; businesses; manufacturers critical to the supply chain, communities of color, and unions. It will also require a global effort to contain the virus and advance health.



Governor's Updates

Governor Ralph Northam held a press conference today regarding vaccination efforts throughout the Commonwealth. Virginia is currently administering about 20,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine per day and Governor Northam has set an ambitious goal to increase daily dosages to 50,000. Furthermore, Governor Northam intends to use the Virginia National Guard to assist with vaccination efforts once enough

personnel return from Washington, DC. A recording of the press conference can be watched here.



How to Receive Updates or get Questions Answered

Loudoun County staff continues to coordinate answering your COVID-19 health related constituent questions. Please call the Health Department COVID-19 Information Hotline at 703-

737-8300 for a quick response (Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or <u>Email the Health Department</u>.

Please visit the <u>County's COVID-19 webpage</u>. The <u>questions and answers</u> page is continually updated.

Please encourage your constituents to view and sign up for updates from Loudoun

- Text LCCOVID19 to 888777 to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19
- <u>Sign up for email and text updates on COVID-19 in Notify Me, Blogs</u> category
- Follow the <u>Loudoun County Government Facebook Page</u> and Twitter @LoudounCoGovt

At the January 19 Business Meeting, the County Government Center placed 170 luminaries to honor the 170 Loudoun residents who lost their lives to the COVID-19 pandemic.



If you are having trouble paying your utilities because of COVID-19, visit the County's webpage on COVID-19 Utilities. You will find program information on:

Columbia Gas
Dominion Power
Loudoun Water
NOVEC
Washington Gas
Wi-fi Connectivity

For More Current COVID-19 Information

Visit: www.loudoun.gov/CoronaVirus
Call: (703) 737-8300
Email: Health@Loudoun.gov

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