



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 #17(A)
April 30, 2020
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 (DHHS)

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 and Dr. Stoddard.

Frequently Asked Questions about Testing (Maryland website):

https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/coronavirus_testing_FAQ.pdf

Frequently Asked Questions about VEIP Testing Site (Maryland website):

https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/FAQ_covid19_veip_testing.pdf

Frequently Asked Questions about Strike Teams (nursing homes – Maryland website):

https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/FAQ_covid19_strike_teams.pdf

Frequently Asked Questions – Older Adults (Maryland website):

https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/FAQ_covid19_older_adults.pdf

The following is data from the Maryland website on April 28, 2020:

- 20,113 confirmed cases statewide compared to 19,487 yesterday (increase of 626 cases or 3.2%).
- 4,003 confirmed cases in Montgomery County compared to 3,843 yesterday (increase of 160 cases or 4.2%).
- 929 confirmed deaths statewide, represents 4.6% of total cases. In addition, there are 87 “probable deaths” that have not been confirmed by testing.

- 201 confirmed deaths in Montgomery County; an increase of 11 from yesterday. Represents 5.0% of confirmed cases. In addition, there are 20 “probable deaths” that have not been confirmed by testing.
- 1,528 people are currently hospitalized; 977 are in acute care.
- 4,268 cumulative hospitalizations statewide; represents 21.2% of confirmed cases.
- 1,295 persons have been released from isolation statewide.
- 87,672 negative tests statewide.

Statewide Demographic Data

The State provides statewide demographic data; it does not provide data by county.

Sex:	Confirmed Cases (N= 20,113)	Confirmed Deaths (N=929)	Probable Deaths (N=87)
Male	9,363	480	37
Female	10,750	449	50
Not available	0	0	0
Race:	Confirmed Cases (N= 20,113)	Confirmed Deaths (N=929)	Probable Deaths (N=87)
African American (NH)	7,432	365	25
Asian (NH)	424	36	2
White (NH)	4,708	362	46
Hispanic	3,309	58	2
Other (NH)	721	15	0
Not Available	3,519	93	12

The following is information from the Montgomery County website on the age groups for confirmed cases as of April 24, 2020. The rate is per 100,000 population.

Montgomery Co	Male	Male	Female	Female	Total	Total
Age Group	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
0-17	37	29.7	32	26.8	69	28.3
18-49	746	350.6	779	351.9	1525	351.3
50-64	499	500.5	435	392.4	934	443.6
65+	350	534.7	303	350.9	653	430.1
TOTAL	1632	324.8	1549	288.1	3181	305.8

COVID-19 Background (from Maryland.gov)

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is a new virus that hasn't caused illness in humans before. Worldwide, COVID-19 has resulted in thousands of infections, causing illness and in some cases death. Cases have spread to countries throughout the world, with more cases reported daily.

COVID-19 is thought to be able to spread like the cold or flu through:

Coughing and sneezing, which creates respiratory droplets

Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands

Touching an object or surface with the virus on it

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

Fever

Coughing

Shortness of breath

In more severe cases, pneumonia (infection in the lungs)

The vast majority of people recover from this infection. Most people will have mild or moderate symptoms. Older people and those with pre-existing medical conditions have a greater risk for more serious illness.

Link to County Website:

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus.html>

Link to Maryland Website:

<https://governor.maryland.gov/coronavirus/>

Link to CDC Website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Board of Health is continuing its regular briefings on the status of cases in Montgomery County and ongoing coordination and collaboration with federal, State, and local agencies and healthcare providers.

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