

CORONAVIRUS

(COVID-19)

Situational Update

December 2, 2021

[CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV](https://coronavirus.dc.gov)



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THE LATEST ON THE OMICRON VARIANT

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- On November 26, the World Health Organization (WHO) classified a new variant, B.1.1.529, as a Variant of Concern and named it Omicron.
- On November 30, the United States classified Omicron as a variant of concern.
- On December 1, the first case was confirmed in the United States.

There is still a lot to learn about the Omicron variant. We don't yet know the transmissibility or the severity of disease it causes, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is working with international partners to learn more.

Sequencing is used to identify and track emerging variants in our region.

DC Health mandates all District hospitals and private laboratories sequence at least 10% of all SARS-CoV-2 positive specimens and report that information to DC Health. Any lab that cannot perform sequencing is to send specimens to the DC Public Health Laboratory (DC PHL).

The District is among the top 10 states sharing the highest percentage of sequencing data with GISAID to help track the evolution of the coronavirus.



VARIANTS DETECTED IN NOVEMBER

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Last month, the DFS Public Health Lab and other DC laboratories **sequenced 681 positive COVID-19 samples.**

| Variant | Number Detected | Percentage |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Delta (B.1.617.2) | 657 | 96.5% |
| B.1.2 | 5 | 0.7% |
| Alpha (B.1.1.7) | 3 | 0.4% |
| B.1.1.207 | 3 | 0.4% |
| B.1.525 | 3 | 0.4% |
| B.1 | 1 | 0.1% |
| B.1.1 | 1 | 0.1% |
| B.1.526 | 1 | 0.1% |
| B.1.636 | 1 | 0.1% |
| B.1.637 | 1 | 0.1% |
| Unclassified | 5 | 0.7% |

LATEST DC HEALTH METRICS

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COVID-19 Key Metrics Summary Table

Data through December 1, 2021

| | Weekly Case Rate per 100,000 population | Daily Case Rate per 100,000 population | Hospitalization % of COVID-19 Cases | Contact Attempts among "high risk" cases | Interviews among "high risk" cases | Fully Vaccinated DC residents |
|-----------------|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Recent Value | 68.0 | 6.7 | 6.8% | 92.3% | 82.2% | 63.0% |
| One Month Prior | 83.8 | 12.0 | 5.1% | 100.0% | 87.1% | 61.3% |
| 7 Day Trend | Improving | Improving | Worsening | Improving | Worsening | Improving |

Masks indoors: Recommended

Continue to use layered mitigation strategies.

- **Vaccination**
- **Choose your activities wisely**
- **Testing**
- **Wash your hands frequently**
- **Masking**
- **Stay home if you're sick**

**All residents 5 and older should
get vaccinated as soon as
possible.**

Families should also continue to get their flu shots and ensure they are making and going to regular preventive health care appointments (e.g., annual physicals).

- All adults (18 and older) who got J&J before October 1, get a booster
- All adults (18 and older) who got Moderna or Pfizer before June 1, get a booster



As of Monday, December 6:

The whole family can get vaccinated at the same site.

- Pediatric vaccines (ages 5-11) will be available at all library walk-up sites and all pop-up sites
 - *CHEC and Fort Stanton Rec Center, which are operated by Safeway, will continue to be 12+ sites*
- Adults accompanying children at pediatric vaccination clinics can also receive their COVID-19 vaccine, including boosters

Next week, three additional vaccination sites will open and the Capitol View Library will replace Benning Library as a vaccination site. These sites will serve all people 5 and older.

- Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library (901 G Street NW)
- Petworth Library (4200 Kansas Avenue NW)
- Woodridge Library (1801 Hamlin Street NE)

Beginning Monday, December 6, families can make an appointment for an at-home vaccination for children 5-11 years old. All people at the home 5 and older will be able to get vaccinated, including boosters.

Call 1-855-363-0333 to make an at-home vaccination appointment.

1 Walk-up to a District-operated site listed on **vaccinate.dc.gov**

2 Make an at-home vaccination appointment by calling **1-855-363-0333**

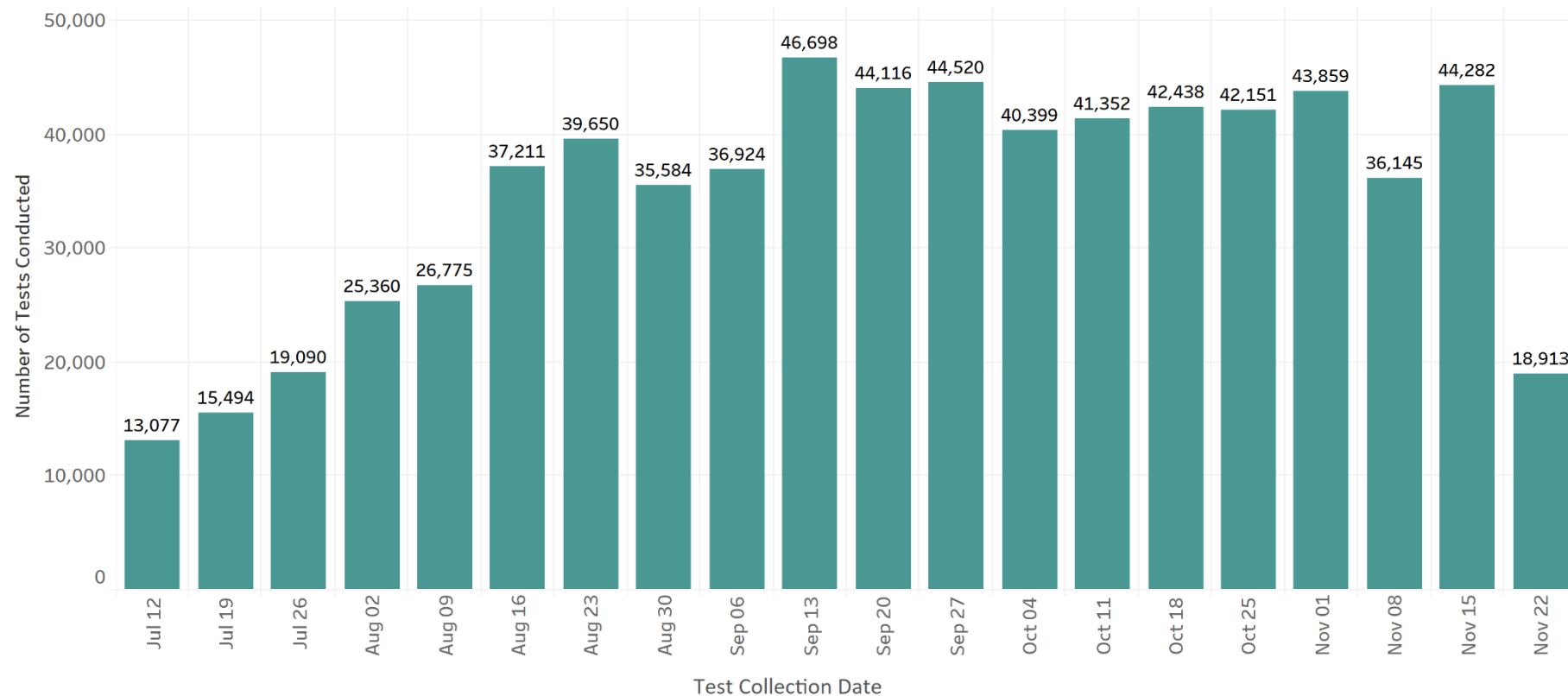
3 Make an appointment with your health care provider

4 Make an appointment at a pharmacy or any site listed on **vaccines.gov**
If you can't get an appointment, go to a walk-up site.

LATEST TRENDS IN TESTING

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Recent COVID-19 Diagnostic Tests Conducted by Week
District of Columbia (2021)



Sources: DC Health and Public Health Labs. Data are subject to change on a daily basis.

Data notes: The weekly report of tests conducted is subject to the timeliness of test results reported from laboratories. These data reflect ongoing data quality improvements.

FOUR WAYS TO GET TESTED

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1 Make an appointment with your health care provider

2 Do an over-the-counter at-home test and log your results at coronavirus.dc.gov/overthecounter

3 Pick up and drop off a free at-home testing kit at any of the 27 sites coronavirus.dc.gov/testyourself

4 Go to a District-operated walk-up site listed on coronavirus.dc.gov/testing

Mayor Bowser has asked the Council to restore the District's emergency procurement authority so that DC can quickly ramp up testing, including more rapid tests.

DC Health will continue to advise and make recommendations on the use masks for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

District of Columbia COVID-19 WEEKLY Case Rate
per 100,000 population

Weekly Case Rate: **68.0**
per 100,000 population



The CDC recommends that all people wear a mask indoors in public if they are in an area of substantial or high transmission.



MASK ADVISORY:

All people, regardless of vaccination status, should wear a mask indoors in public settings.

Masks continue to be **REQUIRED** at:

- Any private business that wants a mask requirement
- Healthcare facilities
- Public transportation like buses and trains, inside train stations, in airports, and while in ride share vehicles
- Schools, childcare facilities, and libraries
- Congregate facilities, such as nursing homes/assisted living facilities, shelters, dorms/residences, and correctional facilities
- DC Government facilities where there's direct interaction between employees and the public (e.g., DMV service center, DHS service center, etc.)

THE DISTRICT'S CONTINUED COVID-19 RESPONSE

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The morning, Mayor Bowser called on the Council to enact emergency legislation to restore the District's emergency procurement authority.

Earlier this year, the Council extended the Mayor's authority to declare a public emergency until January 7, 2021. Unfortunately, in extending the public emergency, an amendment was made to end the District's emergency procurement authority on November 5, 2021.

We strongly encourage the Council to restore the District's emergency procurement authority. This will ensure Washington, DC continues to be well positioned to maintain our robust, comprehensive response to the COVID-19 health crisis and able to meet the critical needs of our residents and businesses.