



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

262 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920
(908) 204-2520. Fax (908) 204-3075. www.bernardshealth.org

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2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) Weekly Update #57 – December 31, 2020

A Message from the NJDOH Health Commissioner

On December 29th Department of Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli released a letter to the public with information and tips regarding COVID-19 vaccination planning:

1. Encourage your community to stay up to date:

- Learn the latest from the New Jersey Department of Health:
https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019_vaccination.shtml.
- Subscribe to *Vax Matters*, the weekly newsletter issued by NJDOH focused on key updates regarding COVID-19 vaccination in New Jersey:
<https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/vmsignup.shtml>.
- Read the latest from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>.

2. Share factual and reliable information:

- Follow @NJDeptofHealth, @NJGov, and @GovMurphy on social media.
- Visit covid19.nj.gov for information on the State's COVID-19 response.
- Join a COVID-19 Vaccination Essentials webinar co-hosted by the New Jersey Department of Health, Rutgers Project ECHO, and the Nicholson Foundation:
<https://rwjms.rutgers.edu/communityhealth/other/project-echo/covid-19>.

3. Inform Phase 1A health care workers to pre-register for COVID-19 vaccination

- During early 2021, New Jersey will launch its statewide vaccine scheduling system, the New Jersey Vaccine Scheduling System (NJVSS), to help all potential Phase 1A vaccine recipients to identify nearby points of dispensing sites (PODs) and schedule an appointment. Upon receiving the follow-up email, please share the NJVSS link with health care workers in your network.
- A link to NJVSS will also be posted on covid19.nj.gov.

To learn more about New Jersey's vaccine planning, [click here](#). For the entire letter [click here](#) to view. For more info on Phase 1A, [click here](#).

Other NJ Updates

On January 2, 2021 - Indoor practices and competitions for organized sports may resume in accordance with health and safety protocols -- however, indoor interstate youth sports competitions continue to be prohibited in New Jersey. [Click here for more updates on indoor sports.](#)

Statement from the Bernards Township Health Department

The distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccinations using both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine is at the beginning of operations. Vaccine will be administered firstly to health care and emergency service personnel. Simultaneously the CDC and NJDOH has contracted with Walgreens and CVS corporations to administer COVID-19 vaccinations to all residents and staff in long term care facilities. The distribution and administration of the COVID-19 Vaccine to other personnel and community groups will be done in a sequential manner which is still under 'roll-out'. Please be patient as state, county and local health department facilitate this fight against COVID-19. Keep informed by receiving the Bernards Township Health Department weekly COVID-19 Update:

<http://www.bernardshealth.org/covid19.aspx>

Vaccine Planning – What We Know So Far

- The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is now in New Jersey and is being incorporated vaccine planning as Phase 1A continues throughout the state. As more doses are received, more individuals will be vaccinated in the Phase 1A group.
- Vaccinations at skilled nursing facilities began December 28, 2020. Both residents and staff will be vaccinated on-site by either CVS or Walgreens as part of the federal pharmacy program.
- The NJDOH will add the total number of vaccinated individuals in the COVID-19 Dashboard in the coming weeks.



Updated 12/31/2020

The Bernards Township Health Department is the contractual health agency serving Bernards Township, Bernardsville Borough, Chester Borough, Long Hill Township, Mendham Borough, and Peapack and Gladstone Borough. For update links and more information, visit: <http://www.bernardshealth.org>



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2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) Resources and Links

COVID-19 Case Graphs per Municipality – Case counts come directly from raw data imported from Commcare by the Bernards Township Health Department. Dotted line indicates cases for the current month.

Somerset County

- [Bernards Township](#)
- [Bernardsville Borough](#)
- [Peapack and Gladstone Boroughs](#)

Morris County

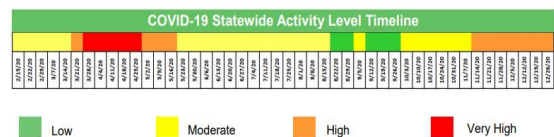
- [Chester Borough](#)
- [Long Hill Township](#)
- [Mendham Borough](#)

COVID-19 Weekly Activity Reports

- Provides data on COVID-19 transmission by six regions in NJ.
- Updated every Thursday.
- Used to determine school exclusion and other re-openings.
- This week NJ is in **HIGH RISK**
- Click [here](#) to view this week's report ending Dec 26, 2020.



COVID-19 Activity Level Report
New Jersey Department of Health
Communicable Disease Service
Week ending December 26, 2020 (MMWR week 52)¹



New Jersey COVID-19 Resources

- <https://covid19.nj.gov/> - Visit this webpage to get information on all things COVID-19 in New Jersey.
- COVID-19 New Jersey Dashboard + Positive Test Results available [here](#). Now including trends, hospital census, long term care facilities, psychiatric hospitals, demographics, contact tracing and school info. Updated daily.
- Somerset County NJ COVID-19 Status Dashboard available [here](#).
- Morris County NJ COVID-19 Status Dashboard available [here](#).
- Phone/Text Lines:
 - 2-1-1 for General COVID-19 questions (7am-11 pm)
 - 1-800-962-1253 for Clinical Questions (24/7)
 - Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts
 - Text your zip code to 898-211 for live text assistance

Testing Updates – As of 12/31/20: Click [here](#) for more information on free testing across New Jersey

- **NJ Testing Sites** – [click here](#) for the most up to date information including new locations and testing criteria.
 - **Morris County** – Morris County offers several testing options, [click here to learn more](#).
 - **Somerset County** – Joint testing site with Hunterdon County at Raritan Valley Community College, 118 Lamington Road, Branchburg, NJ 08876. Drive thru testing by appointment only. **Next testing date is Wednesday, January 6th 10am -1pm.** Subject to change. Check status of test site at <http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/covid19status>. Residents of Somerset County ONLY can make an appointment at <https://somerset-hunterdon.adlabscovidtest.com/>.
- Most doctor's offices, urgent cares and hospitals are testing symptomatic patients. If you are feeling unwell, call ahead to your healthcare provider. **DO NOT** just show up to an office, urgent care or ER.
- For more information on testing - [visit the CDC website on testing](#).

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