



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

262 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

(908) 204-2520. Fax (908) 204-3075. www.bernardshealth.org

Contact: Lucy Forgione, Health Officer/Health Director

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2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) **Weekly Update #58 – January 7, 2021**

Signing up for COVID-19 Vaccination – NJVSS

New Jersey will roll out COVID-19 vaccines in a phased approach to all adults who live, work or are being educated in the state. Within 6 months, NJ plans to vaccinate about 70% of the adult population.

- **Pre-Register for the Vaccine through NJVSS (NJ Vaccine Scheduling System)** – Note: NJVSS is a new system and is being accessed by individuals all over the state. There may be delays and the site may move slowly. Please be patient when accessing NJVSS.
<https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/>
- **Learn more about the COVID-19 Vaccination** – COVID19.NJ.GOV has been updated to include important information about the vaccine including how COVID-19 vaccines work, vaccine trials and safety precautions, timelines and priority groups, and where and how to get vaccinated. Visit at
<https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>
- **Visit the New Jersey Department of Health** – For more state specific information on the COVID-19 vaccine visit the [NJDOH site](https://www.nj.gov/health/).
- A letter about COVID-19 vaccination and a list of 1A vaccination sites throughout the state was sent to frontline health care workers (such as pharmacists, EMTs, and doulas) who may not be affiliated with hospitals. Non-affiliated frontline health care workers are eligible to receive vaccination in the Phase 1A and may get vaccinated at sites where they live or work. They should call the site directly for an appointment.

UK COVID-19 Variant Strain Update

- The variant strain of the SARS-CoV-2 virus from the United Kingdom does not appear to cause more severe disease or death than the previous circulating strain. However, it does appear to have a higher rate of transmission, which could lead to more cases overall and more hospitalizations
- The first case in the US was reported on 12/29/20 in Colorado. It is likely that additional cases of the UK variant will be reported in the US including NJ.
- Officials are working hard to better track and understand the new variant. As more is learned, information may change. Until then, people should continue public health measures to reduce the spread of disease.

COVID FAQ Corner

Q: If I get my first COVID-19 vaccine dose and then become infected with COVID-19, do I have to start over?

A: No. Vaccinations of persons with known COVID-19 infection should be deferred until the person has recovered from the acute illness and criteria has been met to discontinue isolation.

Q: I signed up on NJVSS to get the vaccine. What happens now?

A: When you sign up on NJVSS you answer several questions that will categorize you into your designated Phase. While there is no specific timeline on when each Phase will occur, you will be notified when your Phase is up for vaccination. Once you're eligible, you will be able to sign up for a date and time at a clinic location.

Q: I tested positive for COVID-19 and wasn't able to isolate from my family. They are now testing positive a few days later. Does my isolation get extended?

A: No. You can choose to stay home while your family recovers but individuals who test positive for COVID-19 within the last 3 months do not need to quarantine after exposure or travel.

Bernards Township COVID-19 Testing

See below information for upcoming COVID-19 Testing on **January 14, 2021**

*Bernards Township
Community Center
289 South Maple Ave
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Beginning at 9 am*



[Register Here!](#)

[Flyer \(English\)](#)

[Flyer \(Spanish\)](#)

Updated 1/7/2021

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 January 2, 2021.



COVID-19 Activity Level Report
New Jersey Department of Health
Communicable Disease Service
Week ending January 2, 2021 (MMWR week 53)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 1/7/21: 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 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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