



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

262 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920
 (908) 204-3070. Fax (908) 204-3075. www.bernardshealth.org

Contact: Lucy Forgione, Health Officer/Health Director
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2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019)
Update #87– September 9, 2021

Bernards Township COVID-19 Testing

See below information for upcoming COVID-19 Testing Dates:

Sep 16th Sep 23rd
Sep 30th



Bernards Township Community Center
 289 South Maple Ave **9/16 Flyer - [English](#)**
 Basking Ridge, NJ **[Spanish](#)**
Appointments begin at 9am [Register for 9/16](#)

BTHD COVID-19 September Vaccine Clinics

Vaccine: J & J (single dose, ages 18+)

Wednesdays - September 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 3-5pm

@ BT Community Center

289 South Maple Ave., Basking Ridge NJ 07920

Make your appointment at www.signupgenius.com/go/BTHDJJ

Need help? Call the BTHD Vaccine Line at **908-204-2522**

Walk-ins welcome. No ID or insurance needed. Click the photo to view full flyer or [register directly here](#).

K-12 School Guidance for 2021-2022 School Year

With the new school year comes updated guidance for students and staff members. This guidance is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of COVID-19 and is subject to change as additional information is learned. These recommendations are used by local health departments to aid schools in developing a layered prevention strategy to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Schools should implement as many layers as feasible, although the absence of one or more of the strategies outlined in this document does not preclude the reopening of a school facility for full-day in-person operation with all enrolled students and staff present. [Public Health Recommendations for K-12](#), [Screening Testing for K-12 Schools](#), [The Road Forward: Health and Safety Guidance](#).

Variants of Concern (VOC) vs Variants of Interest (VOI)

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the term “variant” has come up more in conversation as the World Health Organization (WHO) [continues to track these variants](#) across the globe.

Variants of Concern (VOC)

- Already meets VOI criteria (below)
- Has been demonstrated to be associated with one or more of the following changes at a degree of global public health
 - Increase in transmissibility or detrimental change in COVID-19 epidemiology, **OR**
 - Increase in virulence or change in clinical disease presentation, **OR**
 - Decrease in effectiveness of public health and social measures or available diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics.

WHO Label	Original Label	Earliest Documented Samples	Date of Designation
Alpha	B.1.1.7.	UK – Sept 2020	Dec 18, 2020
Beta	B.1.351	South Africa – May 2020	Dec 18, 2020
Gamma	P.1	Brazil – Nov 2020	Jan 11, 2021
Delta	B.1.617.2	India – Oct 2020	VOI – Apr 2021 VOC – May 2021

Variant of Interest (VOI)

- A variant with genetic changes that are predicted or known to affect virus characteristics such as transmissibility, disease severity, immune escape (*when the immune system of a host isn't able to recognize and eliminate a pathogen*), diagnostic or therapeutic escape (*when a pathogen is difficult to identify*) **AND**

A variant identified to cause significant community transmission or multiple COVID-19 clusters in multiple countries with increase prevalence alongside overall case count or other epidemiologic impact.

WHO Label	Original Label	Earliest Documented Samples	Date of Designation
Eta	B.1.525	Multiple countries – Dec 2020	Mar 17, 2021
Iota	B.1.526	United States – Nov 2020	Mar 24, 2021
Kappa	B.1.617.1	India – Oct 2020	Apr 4, 2021
Lambda	C.37	Peru – Dec 2020	Jun 14, 2021
Mu	B.1.621	Colombia – Jan 2021	Aug 30, 2021

Updated 9/9/2021

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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 COMM care by the Bernards Township Health Department.

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 overall **MODERATE**. Central West (Somerset) is **Moderate**, and Northwest (Morris) is **Moderate**.
- Click [here](#) to view this week's report ending Sept 4th.
- Click [here](#) to view past week's reports.

NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

- <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/>
- <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ](#)
- [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System](#)
- [Docket App](#)
- [V-Safe After Vaccine Health Checker](#)

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 [here](#). Includes vaccination overview, hospital census, case and mortality summaries, school data, contact tracing data, long-term care information, veteran's memorial homes, state psychiatric hospitals and Cases by Municipality Data (Municipalities with populations over 20K)
- Somerset County NJ COVID-19 Status Dashboard available [here](#). [More information 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 Medical Questions (24/7)
 - Text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive alerts.
 - Download COVID Alert NJ app [here](#)
- **NJ COVID-19 Vaccine Phone Lines:**
 - State of NJ Hotline – (855) 568-0545 – Schedule a vaccine appt. Staffed with live agents from 8am-8pm daily.

COVID-19 Variant Information

- [CDC Variant Classifications & Definitions](#)
- [NJDOH COVID-19 Variant FAQs](#)
- [Variant Report Week 33](#)

Testing Updates – 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** – [Click here for Morris County Testing Locations](#).
 - **Somerset County** – [Click here for Somerset County Testing Locations](#).

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