



## BERNARDS TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

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# 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) Update #93 - December 2, 2021

### **Bernards Township COVID-19 Testing**

Upcoming COVID-19 testing clinic dates:

**12/9, 12/16, 12/22 (Wed) & 12/30**

*Bernards Township Community Center  
289 South Maple Ave  
Basking Ridge, NJ*

[Click here to sign up for 12/9](#)  
Appointments begin at 9am

Flyer - [English](#)  
[Spanish](#)



### **BTHD COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Reminders**

Please visit [www.bernardshealth.org](http://www.bernardshealth.org) for the most updated dates and times. A reminder that all Pfizer (12+), Moderna and J&J clinics can accept limited walk-ins at each clinic but cannot guarantee vaccine. Pfizer (5-11) clinics are by appointment only. This is to ensure a positive experience for all participants and staff. If you come for a booster shot, please remember your vaccine card. As the weather gets colder, remember to wear easily accessible layers of clothing to streamline your vaccine appointment. Thank you!

### **Classification of Omicron (B.1.1.529) Variant**

On Nov 26, 2021 the World Health Organization (WHO) designated variant B.1.1.529 a variant of concern, Omicron which was first reported in South Africa. This variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are concerning. Preliminary evidence suggests an increased risk of reinfection with this variant compared to others. The number of cases with the Omicron variant appear to be increasing in almost all provinces in South Africa. Current PCR tests can detect Omicron.

On Dec 1, 2021 the California and San Francisco Departments of Public Health confirmed a recent case of COVID-19 in an individual residing in California caused by the Omicron. The individual had minor symptoms and has been isolating since testing positive. They had recently returned from South Africa and all close contacts have been contacted and tested negative. To stay up to date on Omicron and other COVID-19 variants visit the [WHO website](#), and the [CDC website](#).

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Updates**

If you are 18 or older [you are eligible](#) for a “booster shot” at any vaccine location. If you are moderately or severely immunocompromised you are eligible for a “third dose” of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 weeks after your second shot. The third dose should be of the same product as the primary series. If it’s not available, Pfizer or Moderna may be substituted for the other.

- **J&J COVID-19 Vaccine:** People who are 18 and older who received a single-dose J&J vaccine can receive a booster shot of any of the 3 available vaccines at least 2 months after their shot.
- **Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines:** People who are 18 and older who received two doses of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines can receive a booster shot of any of the 3 available vaccines at least 6 months after their second shot.

#### **What’s the difference between a booster and third dose?**

For immune compromised individuals, the two-dose vaccine may not provide the same immunity as it does to non-immunocompromised individuals. A “third dose” of the vaccine helps build their immune system to protect the body against COVID-19. Immune compromised individuals may be those who:

- Have been receiving active cancer treatment.
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system.
- Received a stem cell transplant in the last 2 years.
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome or Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome).
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection.
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress the immune response.

With the holidays approaching and with both the Delta variant impacting the state and possible arrival of Omicron, all eligible individuals are encouraged to get booster shots as they consider travel and gatherings for the holiday season. Vaccine appointments can be made at [any existing vaccination location](#) without a prescription. The State’s toll-free vaccination hotline (1-855-568-0545) is available from 8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week to register individuals in the NJ Vaccine Scheduling System, answer questions about the vaccine, provide contact information for sites, and check registration status. Don’t forget to bring your vaccine card to your appointment in order to record your third dose or booster dose. If you can’t find your card, you can bring other documentation like via digital record like the Docket App.

Updated 12/2/2021

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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 Commcare 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:** **HIGH**

**Central West (Somerset):** **HIGH**

**Northwest (Morris):** **MODERATE**

- Click [here](#) to view this week's report ending November 27, 2021.
- 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](#)

### COVID-19 Variant Information

- [CDC Variant Classifications & Definitions](#)
- [World Health Organization VOI/VOC Monitoring](#)
- [NJDOH COVID-19 Variant FAQs](#)
- [Variant Surveillance Report Week 45](#)

### 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.
- **NJ COVID-19 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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