



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
health@bernards.org

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) Update #94 - December 17, 2021

Bernards Township COVID-19 Testing

Upcoming COVID-19 testing clinic dates:

12/22 (Wed, 9am-1pm) & 12/30

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

[Click here to sign up for 12/22](#)

Appointments begin at 9am

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



REMINDER: The WEDNESDAY 12/22 clinic will run from 9am-1pm.
Normal date and time resumes 12/30.

Free At-Home COVID-19 Saliva Testing for NJ Residents

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services and Vault Medical Services have partnered to offer a free, at-home COVID-19 saliva test kit that is available to every New Jersey resident who thinks they need a test - even if they don't have symptoms.

For more information or help ordering a kit, visit learn.vaulthealth.com/nj/.



BTHD COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

Check back soon for 2022 clinic dates, times and locations!

Expansion of Pfizer Boosters for Ages 16-17

The expansion of Pfizer booster doses to include 16 and 17 year-olds, as recommended by the CDC offers needed protection against COVID-19 and its variants, particularly as we continue a busy holiday and traveling season.

With vaccine immunity waning over time and the continued threat of the Delta, and now Omicron variants, the NJDOH encourages everyone to get their booster dose. The Pfizer booster doses are available and recommended for individuals 16 years and older six months after completion of their primary Pfizer vaccination (2 dose series).

On Wed., Dec 15th, the state marked the one year anniversary of administering the first COVID-19 vaccination in New Jersey by designating it as **Boost NJ Day** to encourage residents ages 16 and older to receive booster doses. The NJDOH is working with more than 2,000 vaccination sites across the state to offer expanded walk-in availability and extended hours to increase vaccine accessibility.

Individuals who have yet to be vaccinated are encouraged to get their first dose today to protect themselves, their families, and their community. Visit covid19.nj.gov/finder to locate a vaccination site near you.

Updated Quarantine Timeframes and K-12 School Guidance

The NJDOH Communicable Disease Service has updated guidance on [Recommended Minimum Quarantine Timeframes](#):

CDC and NJDOH continue to recommend a 14-day quarantine period for persons who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, unless they are fully vaccinated or recently recovered from COVID-19. While a 14-day quarantine period is optimal, NJDOH considers the CDC options to shorten quarantine to be acceptable alternatives in most community settings.

1. **7-Day quarantine with testing.** Unvaccinated persons can end quarantine after Day 7 after receiving a negative COVID-19 test result collected between Day 5 and Day 7. Quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.
2. **10-Day quarantine without testing.** Unvaccinated persons can end quarantine after Day 10 if they haven't been tested for COVID-19

There were also updates to [COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools](#) including:

1. During **moderate** and high transmission levels, individuals with COVID-19 symptoms **and no known exposure to a COVID-19 case in the last 14 days**, regardless of vaccination status, may follow the [NJDOH School Exclusion List](#) to determine when they may return to school **only if they have an alternative diagnosis** (i.e., strep throat, influenza, etc) supported by clinical evaluation.
2. **While a 14 day quarantine period is optimal**, during all levels of community transmission, individuals who are close contacts of staff or students who tested positive for COVID-19 and who are asymptomatic may use a reduced exclusion period of 10 days (or 7 days with negative test results collected at 5-7 days) but continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.

For school guidance, please check with your district for specific policies

Updated 12/17/2021

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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): **HIGH**

- Click [here](#) to view this week's report ending December 11, 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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