



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

health@bernards.org

2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-2019) **Weekly Update #54 – December 10, 2020**

Executive Order 207: Breaking It Down

In preparation for the arrival of COVID-19 vaccines to New Jersey, Governor Murphy signed [Executive Order 207](#) which automatically enrolls residents **who choose to receive the COVID-19 vaccine** into the state's existing vaccine registry.

The New Jersey Immunization Information System (NJIS)

provides current recommended immunization schedules for all ages and consolidates immunization information from all providers into one record. NJIS assists state and federal agencies with population assessments in the event of a preventable disease outbreak and helps communities assess their immunization coverage.

Currently, all individuals born on or after January 1, 1998 are *automatically enrolled* in the registry unless they opt-out of the registry. Any individual born prior to January 1, 1998 can elect to opt-in. The Governor's Executive Order changes inclusion from an opt-in to an opt-out program for residents who elect to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. That group of residents will be automatically enrolled into the system and will then be permitted to opt-out of the registry 30 days after the public health emergency expires.

This change does not force persons to receive the vaccine.

Here are some example scenarios:

- **Jake (born 3/12/00)** – When Jake was born, he was enrolled in NJIS. When the COVID-19 vaccine becomes available, Jake decides to get vaccinated. Because he chose to get the vaccine, Jake's information in NJIS is updated with the COVID-19 vaccine along with his other past immunizations.
- **Sarah (born 6/12/90)** – Sarah was born prior to 1998 so when she was born, her parents opted to register her in NJIS. Sarah decided she does not want to get vaccinated against COVID-19. She has an NJIS record from childhood but with no COVID-19 vaccine recorded.
- **Alexandra (born 4/1/97)** – Alexandra was born prior to 1998 and her parents opted not to register her in NJIS. She decides to get vaccinated for COVID-19 which opts her into NJIS. 30 days after the Public Health emergency is lifted, Alexandra decides to opt out of NJIS.

Morris County At Home Testing

Morris County is now offering free at-home COVID-19 saliva and nasal testing at no cost to people who want to be tested.

- Only Morris County residents and people who work in Morris County are eligible.
- If you work in Morris County but don't live there, you must submit proof of employment.
- You will be asked for health insurance information, but you will not be billed.
- Due to limited supplies, individuals will be limited to two tests per month.

[Sign up for free at-home testing at morriscountycovid19.org](#)

NJ Travel Advisories

- New Jersey strongly discourages all non-essential interstate travel at this time.
- Travelers and residents returning from **any US state or territory** beyond the immediate region (NY, CT, PA and DE) should self-quarantine at their home.
- If travel is unavoidable should consider getting tested with a viral test 1-3 days before the trip and again 3-5 days after the trip.
- If travelers test positive, they should **self-isolate for at least 10 days and should postpone travel**.
- If travelers test negative, they should **quarantine for a full 7 days after travel**.
- If testing is not available, travelers should **quarantine for 10 days after travel**.
- For more information on travel both domestic and international [visit covid19.nj.gov](#).

COVID-19 Vaccination Information from the CDC

For reliable and up to date information on the COVID-19 vaccination visit the [CDC website](#). Learn more about the US's vaccination plan, benefits of getting the vaccine, differences between the vaccines, vaccine safety, FAQs and other recommendations.

Updated 12/10/2020

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>



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

health@bernards.org

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. New cases since previous week also added to New Cases by Month Graph.**

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 5, 2020.



COVID-19 Activity Level Report
New Jersey Department of Health
Communicable Disease Service
Week ending December 5, 2020 (MMWR week 49)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 12/10/20:

- **NJ Testing Sites** – [click here](#) for the most up to date information including new locations and testing criteria.
 - **Morris County** – Sign up for at-home saliva or nasal testing for Morris County residents [here](#).
 - **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. **The next test date is Wed, December 16th from 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](#).

Updated 12/10/2020

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>