



Mayor Brindle's  
COVID-19 Update  
May 28, 2020



**CONFIRMED CASES**

- Today, there are 157,815 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, with another 1,162 still under investigation. Currently, the County reports 15,475 cases, with Westfield reporting no new cases again today, keeping our total at 274.
- For a more detailed breakdown of statewide numbers, visit the [NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

## STATE UPDATES

Last week, approximately 34,400 unemployment claims were filed in New Jersey, which represented the lowest weekly total since mid-March. In total, approximately 1.17 million residents of New Jersey have filed unemployment claims since COVID-19 began. As of this past Saturday, 911,000 of these claims have been fulfilled. Employees in casinos, retailers, food service contractors, restaurants, and airlines continue to be the hardest-hit.

Drive-thru COVID-19 testing is now available at 56 CVS Pharmacy locations across New Jersey, a critical step toward making testing more accessible. For more information on these tests and locations, visit [cvshealth.com/covid-19/testing-information-locations](https://cvshealth.com/covid-19/testing-information-locations).

## LOCAL UPDATES

- With just over 92% of our second quarter property tax payments collected, many thanks to everyone who has made their timely payment. Please remember that the extended grace period ends on Monday, June 1, which is the last day to pay without penalty. Any payments received starting June 2 must be charged interest retroactive to the May 1 due date. In addition to mailing your payment or paying online ([www.westfieldnj.gov/taxcollector](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/taxcollector)), we have installed a temporary mailbox behind Town Hall where payments can be deposited.
- Do you have the distinction of living in Westfield longer than any other resident, having the most grandchildren in Town, or perhaps being our oldest graduate of Westfield High School? These are a few of the milestones that Lifelong Westfield is looking to recognize as part of this year's Westfield 300 celebration. If you or someone you know may qualify for a Westfield Milestone Award, please complete our survey by June 15 at [www.westfieldnj.gov/westfield300milestones](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/westfield300milestones).
- Thanks to everyone who joined Councilpersons Linda Habgood and Dawn Mackey and me today for the DWC's "Girls Night In" pre-party on Zoom. Hosted by DWC Executive Director Bob Zuckerman, we heard from many of our downtown merchants who shared beauty tips, recipe secrets, cooking demonstrations, and merchandise specials, concluding with a great performance from Valencia Music. Watch the replay on the DWC Facebook page, and be sure to check out how to create fake bangs to cover up grey roots!
- Thanks also to the Union County County Board of Chosen Freeholders for dropping off 150 surgical masks today to be used as needed in the community. We are designating them for the DWC to be included in the reopening kits that will be distributed to downtown businesses as soon as we get the green light for all of them to open.
- Our census completion rate is now at 78%, which is up slightly from last week. Although we are well above the County average at 64%, we continue to trail behind several other local municipalities. Our overall completion rate for the 2010 Census was 80.4%, which I firmly believe we can and should surpass in order to ensure proper representation (and maybe even another liquor license). If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to make sure you are counted at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov).

- As a reminder, the parking lots reopen at our schools and parks at 8:00AM tomorrow (with the exception of Mindowaskin and the Tamaques lots other than the tennis courts lot), allowing for broader community use as we continue to see favorable trends in public health data. Restrooms will be open as well. Thanks in advance for your continued diligence in the important habits that protect the community -- maintaining proper distance, washing your hands regularly, and wearing a face covering.

Lastly, thanks to Joe Mindak for painting and delivering this fantastic pallet to my home, which I'm also using as an opportunity to shamelessly share a photo of my dog. Stay well everyone