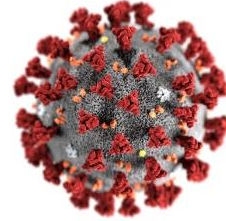




Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update October 15, 2021



Yesterday, the FDA Advisory Panel unanimously recommended Moderna boosters for certain groups who are at increased risk for severe COVID. The FDA has yet to determine if they will act on this regulation. Today, the group also recommended Johnson & Johnson boosters for those 18 and older.

Regional Health Officer Megan Avallone reports that one of the six regions in New Jersey (our Central East region) is showing high levels of activity.

Locally, there were 30 cases identified in Westfield between October 8 and October 14 (with 29 last week and 34 the previous week) The age ranges are broken down as follows:

- Age 9 and under: 3 cases
- Age 10-19: 6 cases
- Age 20-29: 3 cases
- Age 30-39: 4 cases
- Age 40-49: 4 cases
- Age 50-59: 5 cases
- Age 60-69: 3 case
- Age 70-79: 2 cases
- Age 80-89: No cases
- Age 90 and above: No cases

The state's seven-day average for new confirmed cases is down 8% from a week ago and 27% from a month ago, and today marks 22 consecutive days in which the average has dropped. Hospitalizations have also dropped by 23% over the last month. The statewide transmission rate is .94 .

Statewide, vaccination rates have decreased 18% from last week's rate, with an average of 20.6K doses administered per day. More than 5.95 million New Jersey residents are fully vaccinated, representing just over 75% of all those who are eligible. New Jersey is one of only seven states to top a 75% vaccination rate.

In Union County, 360,267 (64.7% of the total population) are fully vaccinated. In Westfield, 93% of adults and 75% of our entire population is fully vaccinated. Additional breakdowns by location and age group can be found at nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_dashboard.shtml.

Any resident interested in receiving the vaccine can call 908-789-4070. The Health Department currently has all three brands of vaccine, and offers primary doses of all, as well as booster doses of Pfizer in the office and pop-up clinics. There is currently no booster authorized for J&J and Moderna but individuals who are immunocompromised can receive a third dose of Moderna. The next pop-up clinic will be held in Westfield on October 28 from 4:00 - 6:30 in the Health Department office -- no appointment necessary.

The full update detailing other topics in Town is available [here](#).