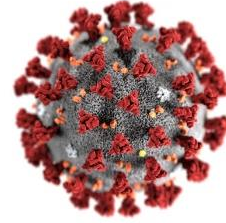




Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update October 29, 2021



On Tuesday, a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee voted to recommend the Pfizer vaccine for emergency use authorization for those ages 5 to 11. The decision is scheduled to go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's outside immunization advisers on November 2 to recommend how to use the vaccine, meaning that providers are expected to be able to give the two-dose regimen as soon as the first week of November.

Regional Health Officer Megan Avallone reports that, once again, one of the six regions in New Jersey (our Central East region) is showing high levels of activity. However, Union County's transmission rate, as measured by the CDC, is in the moderate category -- one of just two counties in New Jersey and a handful in the northeast. It's important to note that the New Jersey regional activity metrics include multiple counties, which in our case, groups Union with counties that currently have much higher levels of transmission (such as Ocean County).

Locally, there were 18 cases identified in Westfield between October 22 and October 28 (with 16 last week and 30 the previous week) The age ranges are broken down as follows:

- Age 9 and under: 5 cases
- Age 10-19: 1 case
- Age 20-29: 2 cases
- Age 30-39: 4 cases
- Age 40-49: 2 case
- Age 50-59: 2 cases
- Age 60-69: 1 case
- Age 70-79: No cases
- Age 80-89: 1 case
- Age 90 and above: No cases

The state's seven-day average for new confirmed cases is down 7% from a week ago and 34% from a month ago, the lowest since August 6. The statewide transmission rate is .85.

Statewide, vaccination rates have increased 33% from last week's rate, with an average of 29.6K doses administered per day. More than six million New Jersey residents are fully vaccinated, representing just over 75% of all those who are eligible.

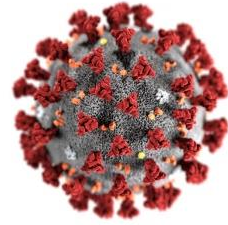
In Union County, 365,402 (65.6% of the total population) are fully vaccinated. In Westfield, 95% of adults and 76% of our entire population is fully vaccinated. Additional breakdowns by location and age group can be found on the [NJ COVID Dashboard](#).

The Health Department has started its complete booster push, administering all three brands of vaccine for primary and booster doses through clinics, walk-ins and home visits. They also continue to plan for the age 5-11 Pfizer vaccine authorization, and will communicate details on vaccine availability for this age group over the next week.

Any resident interested in receiving the vaccine can call 908-789-4070.



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