



**City of Clifton
Department of Health
900 Clifton Ave.
Clifton, NJ 07013**



**Clifton Health Department
Public Health**
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

John E. Biegel, III
Health Officer
Director Human Services

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Please note that information highlighted in yellow reflects new and updated information.

Updated: May 15, 2021 5:30pm

(Clifton) - The Clifton Health Department, in consultation with the City Manager, Mayor and Council, understands that residents are concerned about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The City of Clifton has had **51 new COVID-19 cases since last Sunday, 5/9**, bringing the total COVID-19 case count to **12,076**. **3 cases were found to be out of our jurisdiction and transferred out and 1 case was found to be a duplicate of an existing case; these cases have been removed from the overall spreadsheet count.**

With sadness, we are announcing an additional 5 COVID-19-related deaths, involving a 45-year old male, a 60-year old male, a 73-year old female, an 81-year old female, and an 81-year old male. Our sincerest condolences go out to the loved ones of these community members, as well as the loved ones of all individuals who have lost their lives from this virus.

The City of Clifton now has a total of 258 deaths.

Of these deaths, 45 have involved residents at the Daughters of Miriam Nursing Home. Please be advised that this number is reflective of the deaths identified in the Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System.

The City of Clifton has administered the following COVID-19 vaccine doses between January, 6, 2021 and May 15, 2021:

1st doses	7,725
2nd doses	5,632
Total number of doses	13,357

Everyone who lives, works or studies in New Jersey, ages 12+, is now eligible to be vaccinated. Currently, ONLY the Pfizer vaccine is authorized for individuals 12-17. Please remember that minors must be accompanied by an adult and have parent/guardian consent.

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As per Governor Murphy's announcement on 5/3, effective 5/19, the following will take place, *as long as there is no unexpected surge in COVID-19 cases:**

- **Outdoor gathering, outdoor performance, and outdoor catered event limits will be lifted (currently limited to 500 people)**
- **The general indoor gathering limit will increase to 50 people (currently limited to 25 people)**
- **Indoor religious services and celebrations, as well as indoor performances at entertainment centers will be able to be held at 100 percent of a room's capacity, but no more than 250 individuals, so long as social distancing can be maintained (currently limited to 50 percent of a room's capacity, but no more than 250 people so long as social distancing can be maintained)**
- **There will be an increase in indoor large venue capacity**

Beginning 4/29, walk-in vaccinations are open to all New Jerseyans age 16+ at all six vaccine mega-sites during select times. For more information, please visit <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>

This week, New Jersey Transit launched VAXRIDE, a system offering free tickets for rides to and from COVID-19 vaccine appointments for New Jersey residents. For more information, please visit njtransit.com/vaxride.

The most recent list of locations offering the vaccine, as well as registration instructions can be found here: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/covid-19-vaccine-locations-for-eligible-recipients>

If you are a Clifton or Little Falls resident without access to the internet, and need assistance, please call 973-470-2039. Please note that this is an automated system and a Health Department employee will return your call as soon as possible. Although we understand your frustration, please continue to be patient due to the overwhelming and unprecedented demand for this vaccine.

If you need support with the New Jersey Vaccine Scheduling System, you can:

- Complete an online form using this link: covid19.nj.gov/vaccinehelp or
- Call 1-855-568-0545 for phone support

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As a reminder to the community, even as the vaccination process continues, THE PANDEMIC IS NOT OVER. We must continue to avoid large gatherings, wear face masks, practice social distancing, and to take this virus seriously.

Also effective March 19th, the following businesses can increase indoor capacity to 50%:

- Restaurants
- Recreational and amusement
- Gyms and fitness clubs
- Barber shops, salons, and other personal care businesses

As per Governor Murphy's recent announcement, effective immediately, houses of worship and religious services can operate at 50% capacity. Masks are required and members of different households must be at least six feet apart at all times.

For a list of most Governor Murphy's current and past executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic, please refer to this link: <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/>

Please note that all non-essential out-of-state travel is discouraged. Residents and visitors coming to New Jersey, with limited exceptions, are to observe a 14-day self-quarantine. This recommendation excludes transient travel.

Residents can find helpful resources (e.g. health insurance, job assistance, food assistance, etc.) that provide support during the COVID-19 pandemic here:
<https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/assistance-and-benefits/what-types-of-benefits-or-assistance-are-available-to-me-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

For a list of locations near you that are offering COVID-19 testing, please refer to this link for the most up-to-date information: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing#test-sites>

Due to a high volume of total cases, the "follow-up status" column on our spreadsheet attachments has been removed. We will still provide information on which cases are asymptomatic and those that are deceased.

Due to an increasing volume of cases, you will notice that many of the boxes in the case information attachment are labeled "under investigation." We are still in the process of following-up with individuals and obtaining this data. We will continue to update this spreadsheet as this information becomes available.

It is very important to remember the following preventative steps you can take to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19:

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Practice handwashing regularly for at least 20 seconds

- Wear a face covering in public settings
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

In addition, be sure to practice the following social distancing measures:

- Keep a distance of at least 6 feet with other people
- Avoid unnecessary physical contact, such as handshaking
- Avoid attending crowded events and social gatherings. Consider replacing in-person gatherings with video chatting, voice messaging and phone calls

As a reminder to residents, if you are being tested, remain home while awaiting your results, whether or not you're showing symptoms, to avoid potentially infecting other people. Also remember, you cannot test out of quarantine. A negative test means you are negative at the time of testing and you can still test positive during the quarantine period.

In the attachment, you will notice that we have now included ALL cases we have received so far, including Little Falls cases and transferred cases. This does not change today's total case count, and it is being done for our convenience in order to better track our cases.

If you receive a call from the Clifton Health Department for case follow-up, there are specific questions we would ask. We would **never** ask for your social security number, so if you receive a call from anyone claiming to be a representative of the Clifton Health Department who asks for your social security number, please hang up immediately and report it to the Police Department at 973-470-5911.

As of 4/3/2020, the CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies). The CDC advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings should: fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face, be secured with ties or ear loops, include multiple layers of fabric, allow for breathing without restriction, be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

Please note: the Health Department does not have the capacity to distribute masks, sanitizers, and other supplies to the public.

The CDC has recently expanded its list of COVID-19 symptoms to include the following:

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- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Some people who are exposed may show mild symptoms, while others may show severe illness. Remember that symptoms can appear **anywhere from 2-14 days after an exposure.**

For general questions pertaining to COVID-19, please call the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline at 211 or text NJCOVID to 898-211. Please also feel free to visit <https://covid19.nj.gov/> for more information. For mental health-related concerns during COVID-19, call the Disaster Distress Hotline at 1-800-985-5990 or text “talk with us” at 66746. If you wish to get in touch with the Clifton Health Department for general COVID-19 questions, please email Health Educator Loyal Helwani at Lhelwani@cliftonnj.org.

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