



**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

Phone: 973-470-5760
Fax: 973-470-5768
Email: jbiegel@cliftonnj.org

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

Updated: October 15, 2021 12:00pm

(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 **85 NEW COVID-19 cases since last Friday, 10/8**, bringing the total COVID-19 case count to **13,135. Upon further investigation, 2 cases were transferred out and 2 cases were found to be duplicates of previous cases; these cases have been removed from the total spreadsheet count, and have resulted in a slightly decreased number of OVERALL cases.**

The City of Clifton has a total of 288 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 October 7, 2021:

<u>1st doses</u>	<u>8,171</u>
<u>2nd doses</u>	<u>7,124</u>
<u>3rd doses</u>	<u>51</u>
<u>Total number of doses</u>	<u>15,346</u>

Guidance on Moderna booster doses for the general public is forthcoming from the CDC and the New Jersey Department of Health. Once we have this information, we will keep the community informed about how to receive the booster shot.

The Clifton Health Department is now holding clinics for third doses of the Moderna vaccine every Wednesday from 9am-11am. Appointments for third dose clinics are REQUIRED, and can be made by calling the COVID-19 hotline at 973-470-2039. A representative of the Clifton Health Department will return your call to ask a series of questions to confirm eligibility to receive a third dose, and make the appointment for you.



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At this time, these clinics are open to immunocompromised individuals ONLY. Please note that these doses are NOT booster doses, and are NOT available for the general population at this time.

The Clifton Health Department continues to hold weekly vaccination clinics for first and second doses of the Moderna vaccine at Clifton City Hall, across from Parking Lot #4, on Wednesdays at 9am-11am. Appointments are not necessary. For more information, please call 973-470-2039

Per Executive Order 253 signed by Governor Murphy on 8/23, all state employees – including those at state agencies, authorities, and public colleges and universities – are required to complete a full vaccination course or undergo regular testing at a minimum of once to twice each week. Additionally, all preschool-through-grade 12 school personnel are required to complete a full vaccination course or undergo regular testing at a minimum of once to twice each week. **This requirement includes bus drivers.** Full compliance is required by October 18th.

Currently, the Clifton Health Department ONLY administers the Moderna vaccine. The Clifton Health Department Does NOT administer the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

As per the CDC's Statement on ACIP Booster Recommendations on September 24th, 2021. The CDC recommends:

- People 65 years and older and residents in long-term care settings, should receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series,
- People aged 50–64 years with underlying medical conditions should receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series,
- People aged 18–49 years with underlying medical conditions may receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks, and
- People aged 18-64 years who are at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting may receive a booster shot of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine at least 6 months after their Pfizer-BioNTech primary series, based on their individual benefits and risks.



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In accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health and CDC's guidelines, those currently eligible for THIRD doses include:

- **Individuals who have been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood**
- **Individuals with advanced or untreated HIV infection**
- **Individuals undergoing active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress immune response**
- **Individuals who have received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system**
- **Individuals who have received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system**
- **Individuals with moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)**

Cases have been increasing in the City of Clifton, as well as across the state and country. The Health Department urges residents to be vigilant, and take the steps necessary to protect themselves and loved ones. Get vaccinated if you have not already, wear a mask indoors, especially where there is an increased risk of transmitting the virus, and take other preventative steps to protect yourself and loved ones from this virus.

As per Governor Murphy's announcement on 8/6/2021, all students, educators, staff, and visitors will be required to wear masks inside of school buildings – regardless of vaccination status – for the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.

Governor Murphy and the New Jersey Department of Health strongly recommend that BOTH vaccinated and unvaccinated residents wear masks in indoor settings when there is increased risk.

Examples of increased risk situations where masks are recommended include:

- **Crowded indoor settings**
- **Indoor settings involving activities with close contact with others who may not be fully vaccinated**
- **Indoor settings where the vaccine status of other individuals in the setting is unknown**
- **Where an individual is immunocompromised or at increased risk for severe disease**

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



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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.

Effective Friday, June 4, 2021, indoor gathering limits have been removed. The New Jersey Department of Health reminds us that COVID-19 remains a threat, particularly at indoor gatherings with unvaccinated individuals, and encourages us to follow the safety tips described in this article: <https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/reopening-guidance-and-restrictions/how-can-people-safely-get-together-what-are-the-limits-for-indoor-and-outdoor-gatherings>

There are no capacity limits for outdoor gatherings or outdoor performances.

Face masks are still required for all individuals on public transportation, health care facilities, including nursing homes and office-based health care settings, child care centers, K-12 schools, summer camps, homeless shelters, and correctional facilities, which remain subject to existing requirements and/or recommendations.

Effective 5/19, the outdoor mask mandate has been lifted, although unvaccinated individuals should continue to exercise caution.

Effective 5/19, the travel advisory has been lifted.

With regards to **domestic travel**, New Jersey residents returning home and travelers visiting New Jersey do not need to quarantine, but should follow travel guidance from the CDC, the NJ Department of Health, and all local health and safety protocols of their travel destination. The CDC continues to recommend delaying travel until you are fully vaccinated. The CDC also currently recommends that unvaccinated individuals traveling domestically get tested 1-3 days before their trip, 3-5 days after travel, and stay home and quarantine for 7 days after travel, even with a negative test. If no test is taken, a 10-day quarantine is recommended. Travelers should continue to wear masks and monitor for symptoms. For more information, refer to the CDC's guidance for domestic travel, found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

With regards to **international travel**, the CDC requires all air passengers arriving in the United States from a foreign country to get tested for COVID-19 no more than 3 days before their flight departs and to present the negative result or documentation of having recovered from COVID-19 to the airline before boarding the flight. The CDC continues to recommend delaying travel until you are fully vaccinated. The CDC also currently recommends that unvaccinated individuals traveling internationally get tested 1-3 days before their trip, 3-5 days after travel, and stay home

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and self-quarantine for 7 full days after travel, even if you test negative. If no test is taken, a 10-day quarantine is recommended. Travelers should continue to wear masks and monitor for symptoms. For more information, refer to the CDC's guidance for domestic travel, found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/international-travel-during-covid19.html>

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/>

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, those that were unreachable, and those that are deceased.

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:

Practice handwashing regularly for at least 20 seconds

- 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, if you are not vaccinated:

- 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

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.



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In the attachment, you will notice that we have included ALL cases we have received so far, including Little Falls cases and transferred cases. This does not change the current 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.

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

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

- 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 Layal Helwani at Lhelwani@cliftonnj.org.

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