



Mayor Brindle's  
COVID-19 Update  
May 27, 2020



**CONFIRMED CASES**

- Today, there are 156,628 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, with another 1,172 still under investigation. Currently, the County reports 15,324 cases, with Westfield reporting no new cases again today, keeping our total at 274. Unfortunately, I do have to report four additional fatalities, and I ask you to please keep these residents and their families in your thoughts. Three of the fatalities are associated with a long term care facility (two males, ages 73 and 62, and a female, age 90) who died in April and were only now reported to us as Westfield residents. There was also a recent death of an 87 year-old female. This brings our total number of fatalities to 41.
- For a more detailed breakdown of statewide numbers, visit the [NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

## STATE UPDATES

- Governor Murphy reports that New Jersey has more tests available per capita than 46 other states in the country, with 164 testing sites – both public and private. The State has surpassed its goal of 20,000 tests per day by the end of May and aims to get as many people tested as possible to strengthen public health data, which will help drive the restart of the economy. For details on testing sites, visit [covid19.nj.gov/testing](https://covid19.nj.gov/testing).

## LOCAL UPDATES

- As I indicated in last night's comments, the local health data is supportive of us continuing to lift restrictions in our parks for broader use, which is a credit to the community's collective diligence and commitment to one another. We are making the following changes in partnership with the Board of Education, effective 8:00AM Friday:
  - Parking lots will be open at schools and parks. The exceptions will be in Mindowaskin Park, which remains closed to vehicular traffic as paving work continues, and Tamaques Park, where the current vehicular restrictions and traffic pattern will remain in place until organized sports are permitted to resume. As a reminder, the only open Tamaques lot is the one adjacent to the tennis courts. Cars must enter the park on Dickson Drive and exit on Lamberts Mill Road.
  - Park restrooms will reopen with an enhanced cleaning and sanitizing schedule.
  - Now that we have the DPW back from staggered to full shifts, we can resume Sunday trash collection in the parks.
  - Outdoor fitness classes can resume, provided they have fewer than 25 people who are socially distanced and the proper permits are secured for the use of public property.

Note that playgrounds and basketball courts remain closed, and organized sports are still prohibited. Please remember that masks are strongly encouraged in the parks, especially as more people will now be using them.

- To close out Historic Preservation Month, please join the HPC Historic Walking Tour Challenge! Check out the map on our website ([www.bit.ly/HPCwalkingtour](http://www.bit.ly/HPCwalkingtour)) and then take advantage of this beautiful Spring weather to stroll around our historic downtown, stop at your favorite iconic spot, take a picture or a selfie, and tell us what you love most about it. Post your pictures and memories on the Historic Preservation Commission's Facebook page so they can be shared with the community. Many thanks to the HPC for their ongoing dedication to preserving Westfield's unique history.
- Lastly, thanks to the Westfield Police Department and Public Works team for their assistance today in making some very special drop-offs to the Westfield High School Class of 2020! What a thrill to see these students recognized with these drive by deliveries of their lawn signs as they prepare to graduate in unprecedented times.