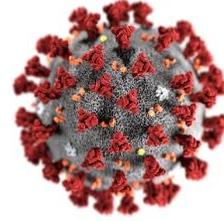




## Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update October 22, 2021



Yesterday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention endorsed booster shots of Moderna's and Johnson & Johnson's vaccines, giving people the freedom to mix and match any of the three vaccines approved for use. Currently, Pfizer and Moderna boosters are recommended six months after the last dose for those over the age of 65, as well as those over 18 who are high-risk or immunocompromised. For those who received the J&J vaccine, a booster is recommended two months after the vaccination for anyone over the age of 18.

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.

Locally, there were 16 cases identified in Westfield between October 15 and October 21 (with 30 last week and 29 the previous week) The age ranges are broken down as follows:

- Age 9 and under: 1 case
- Age 10-19: 4 cases
- Age 20-29: 3 cases
- Age 30-39: 3 cases
- Age 40-49: 1 case
- Age 50-59: 2 cases
- Age 60-69: No cases
- Age 70-79: 1 case
- Age 80-89: 1 case
- Age 90 and above: No cases

The state's seven-day average for new confirmed cases is down 9% from a week ago and 36% from a month ago, the lowest since August 9. The statewide transmission rate is .85 .

Statewide, vaccination rates have increased 8% from last week's rate, with an average of 22.3K 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, 362,943 (65% of the total population) are fully vaccinated. In Westfield, 95% 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](https://nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_dashboard.shtml).

The Health Department is focused on its logistics plan for booster doses, as well as the anticipation of Pfizer doses for ages 5-11 upon authorization. It is anticipated that New Jersey will receive these Pfizer doses in early November, which will be prepositioned to allow for immediate dispensing once the authorization is received.

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

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