

Department of Health

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Englewood Health Department Communication – Jan 25, 2021 James Fedorko, Health Officer, City of Englewood, NJ

Englewood NJ, Jan 25, 2021 – We regret to report that there have been a total of **71 cumulative deaths of Englewood residents** that have occurred. There were **11 new positive cases reported since Friday, 1/22**, with a **total (cumulative) of 2,072 known positive COVID-19 cases of Englewood residents**. It is likely there are more positive cases that have yet to be identified.

[NJ COVID-19 Activity Level Report](#) (includes Percent Positivity) – Week ending 01/16/2021 (Week 2)
New Jersey's Current Activity Level: **High**

*It is important that you continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, and wear a face covering/mask to minimize the spread of the virus and to continue to flatten the curve. Social distancing means that you should limit social contact with others and, if you must interact with people, **maintain a distance of at least six feet**.*

Vaccination

The Health Department has been approved as a vaccine provider by the State of New Jersey Department of Health. Staff is currently working on registration and distribution procedures. Our new COVID-19 Vaccine Information telephone number is 201-871-6440. All messages will be addressed within 24 hours if at all possible. Additional information will be provided as it is available.

Visit often the New Jersey Department of Health [website](#) for COVID-19 vaccination updates as information becomes available. The State's website allows pre-registration for vaccination. Add your name to the list here: covidvaccine.nj.gov

If you have already preregistered, and are now eligible, you should soon be receiving your email that it is your time to make an appointment at a site near you to get your first vaccine dose. There are already 1.2 million individuals in New Jersey pre-registered. Individuals seeking vaccines should be patient. They will become more available with the provision of an increased vaccine dosage supply, and vaccination programs will continue to operate on an appointments-based regime.

Those who are pre-registered can look at the [list of COVID-19 vaccination locations](#) on the information hub and call the individual sites to register at a location near them. These sites will continue to be updated as more vaccination sites become available, and more sites are opening every day. Visit the Englewood Health [website](#) for their most recent COVID-19 vaccine update and to receive updates on vaccine availability at the hospital.

On January 25th, the State is launching a COVID-19 Vaccination Call Center to assist people without internet access in making appointments. The call center — which can be reached at 855-568-0545 — will be available in both English and Spanish.

From New Jersey Spotlight news: [New Jersey seeks retired Health Care Workers](#) to speed the pace of **#COVID19 #vaccinations** As the state plans to open vaccination megasites, it's recruiting retired physicians, nurses, pharmacists, paramedics and others whose training and license allows them to immunize patients.

Eligibility:


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As of January 14, 2021, the following groups are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine:

- ✓ **Paid or unpaid persons working or volunteering in a healthcare setting**
- ✓ **Residents of long-term care facilities and other congregate settings**
- ✓ **Frontline first responders**
- ✓ **Persons aged 65 and older**
- ✓ **Persons aged 16 to 64 years old who have at least one chronic medical condition that poses high-risk for severe COVID-19:**
 - Cancer
 - Chronic Kidney Disease
 - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
 - Down Syndrome
 - Heart conditions (e.g. heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies)
 - Immunocompromised (weakened immune system) due to organ transplant (consult with your doctor)
 - Obesity (e.g. body mass index of 30kg/m² or higher)
 - Pregnancy (consult with your doctor)
 - Sickle cell disease
 - Smoking
 - Type 2 diabetes mellitus

These groups can start making vaccination appointments. More groups will become eligible in the coming weeks.

For a list of open vaccination sites nearest to you and register for a COVID-19 vaccine visit [covid19.nj.gov/vaccine](https://www.covid19.nj.gov/vaccine)



Testing:

On September 18th, CDC issued a clarification to its COVID-19 testing guidelines. Their [website testing overview](#) now reads: *Due to the significance of asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic transmission, this guidance further reinforces the need to test asymptomatic persons, including close contacts of a person with documented SARS-CoV-2 infection.*

All Bergen County Testing information is available [HERE](#) or State of NJ Testing [HERE](#)

COVID-19 Symptoms

CDC's current list of symptoms of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) includes: fever or chills; cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea. This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19. **If you believe that you may have been exposed or have symptoms, contact your medical provider before you go there.**

13 symptoms for the coronavirus overlap with infections of other viruses, including [influenza](#) and [rhinovirus](#), the virus that causes the common cold. It may be difficult to determine whether you have [COVID-19 or the flu](#) with a test. However, no matter which you have, you should [still stay home](#), [wear a mask](#), frequently [wash your hands](#) and [keep your distance](#) from others. The same goes for the common cold as well.

How to Protect Yourself and Others – CDC currently recommends that everyone should:

- Clean your hands often
- Avoid close contact
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily

While the CDC still recommends a quarantine period of 14 days, [new guidelines](#) have been introduced that shorten the quarantine time period as a means to reduce the burden and increase willingness to adhere to public health recommendations. According to the [new guidelines](#), quarantine can end after day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring, or after day 7 after receiving a negative test result (test must occur on day 5 of quarantine or later). CDC's modified definition of a close contact specifies 15 minutes or more of close contact (within 6 feet) of exposure to an infected person during a 24-hour period in which the infected person is infectious (cumulative exposure).

State of NJ news

[Administrative & Executive Orders – NJ](#)

Jan. 20 -- Gov. Murphy extended the public health emergency for an additional 30 days.

Travel Advisory:

New Jersey strongly discourages all non-essential interstate travel at this time. Travelers and residents returning from any U.S. state or territory beyond the immediate region (New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Delaware) should self-quarantine at their home, hotel, or other temporary lodging for 14 days. This includes travel by train, bus, car, plane and any other method of transportation. The self-quarantine is voluntary, but **compliance is expected**. For more information, visit: [Covid19.nj.gov/travel](https://www.nj.gov/travel) [OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Open enrollment on the health insurance marketplace is OPEN until January 31, 2021 at <https://www.nj.gov/getcoverednj/>. In the midst of a pandemic, access to affordable, high-quality health care is more important than ever. Enroll by 12/31 for January coverage.

NJ school news

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) Communicable Disease Service disseminated a letter on 1/6/2021, through the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, outlining the recent modified recommendation for return to school for children with COVID-19 compatible symptoms outlined in the NJDOH COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools. The NJDOH recommends that any child with COVID-19 compatible symptoms should not return to school until they have either received a negative viral test (molecular or antigen) for SARS-CoV-2 or they have completed an isolation period of at least 10 days since symptom onset and at least 24 hours after resolution of fever without fever-reducing medications with symptom improvement. A purely clinical alternative diagnosis is no longer acceptable.

City of Englewood Procedures/Policies

The City's COVID Committee, in an abundance of caution, has decided that sponsorship of public events will continue to be withheld for at least the first three months of 2021. Additional information will be provided as it is available.

Tennis and Basketball courts re-opened as of July 6th 2020. Residents are required to adhere to SOCIAL DISTANCING in the City Parks when possible. Additionally, the WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS is strongly encouraged when practical, as well as frequent washing of hands and/or the use of hand sanitizer. The following areas of City parks remain closed: Playgrounds, Bathrooms, Picnic Areas, Pavilions, Water Fountains, Exercise Stations and Equipment, Athletic Fields (soccer, baseball, etc.). Parking lots will be limited to 50% capacity.

Please refer to the City of Englewood website at www.cityofenglewood.org/Coronavirus for periodic updates. We will continue to inform the community of further important updates.

Please sign up for NIXLE to receive local updates. Simply text any zip code to 888777 and receive **real-time alerts** and advisories directly from your local police department and other local agencies. There is no charge for registering, but standard text messaging rates associated with your mobile phone service will apply.

For more information, visit the CDC website at www.CDC.gov/COVID19 or contact the New Jersey State Department of Health Hotline (NJPIES) at 1-800-222-1222 or at 1-800-962-1253 if in New Jersey but using a non-NJ cell phone. The NJPIES hotline is available 24/7.