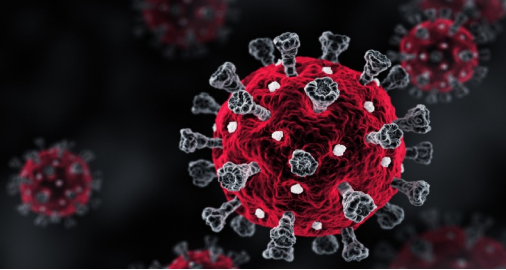


Vax Matters



August 27, 2021/Sept. 3, 2021



News

Vaccination Events Set in East Orange, Millville

The New Jersey Department of Health's (NJDOH) Mobile Command Center large blue bus will be at several upcoming free vaccination clinics.

To date, over 2,000 vaccine doses have been administered through this effort.

The Pfizer (ages 12+), Moderna (ages 18+) and J&J (ages 18+) vaccines will be available.

No appointments are needed.

The **East Orange** sites include:

- Aug. 31: 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., Oval Park, 130 Eaton Place
- Sept. 2: 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., East Orange City Hall, 44 City Hall Plaza
- Sept. 5: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Bethel Haitian Baptist Church, 320 Springdale Ave.

Millville sites:

- Aug. 31: 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., Memorial High School (maintenance garage parking lot), 625 North 7th St.
- Sept. 2: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Lakeside Middle School, 2 Sharp St.

Vaccinations Continue Through CUMAC in Paterson

COVID-19 vaccinations are continuing at Paterson-based CUMAC every Friday through September 10. NJDOH, CUMAC and the Passaic County Department of Health Services are partnering to offer free vaccinations.

The clinics take place at CUMAC at 223 Ellison St. in Paterson, and are open to CUMAC clients and the general public ages 18 and over. No appointments are needed; walk-ins are welcome. The remaining clinics will be open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For information, call (973) 742-5518.

Push Continues to Get 12- to 17-Year-Olds Vaccinated Before School Opens

Hundreds of parents attended virtual Back to School vaccination promotion and education events this week as health officials and community groups continued the push to vaccinate as many adolescents and teens as possible before school starts.

On Wednesday, several hundred parents and other community members attended a Facebook Live event with New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) Commissioner Judith Persichilli, school nurses and other health and education officials on keeping children safe as in-person schools fully resume. (See page 2)

NJDOH Chief of Staff Andrea Martinez-Mejia joined Univision Thursday afternoon for a Back to School virtual town hall on Facebook for the Latinx community. Statewide, the rate of vaccination among the Hispanic community has been steadily climbing to 16 percent.

Statewide, 53.6 percent of those ages 12-17 have gotten at least one shot and some communities like Trenton have increased the rate among 12- to 17-year-olds to 52 percent – a 13 percent increase in three weeks.

In New Jersey, the percentage of adults ages 18-29 with at least one shot stands at 67.7 percent.

NJDOH's designated county vaccination ambassadors have been working to boost vaccination rates in 11 counties where rates have been low.

The goal: An initial milestone of 70 percent of adults ages 18 or older in all municipalities receiving at least one dose.

Since the county ambassador initiative began on June 21, Hudson and Passaic counties have so far reached that initial goal with others not far behind. These counties are continuing to push on, with additional focus on 12- to 17-year-olds as schools ready to fully reopen in person.

In addition to Hudson and Passaic, the other targeted counties include Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean and Union.

School-located vaccination clinics have been designated in each of the targeted counties.

(continued on page 2)



NJDOH recently worked with Trenton schools and local and city health officials on a series of vaccination events for students, faculty, staff, parents and other community members.

Vaccination Progress

- ◆ 11M+ vaccine doses administered in N.J.
- ◆ 5.5M+ fully vaccinated people



Find the latest pop-up and mobile vaccination events at covid19.nj.gov/communitycalendar.

(continued from page 1)

Among other highlights:

Elizabeth has seen a 12 percent increase among 12- to 17-year-olds, and Newark a 10 percent increase for this age group since August 2.

Targeted cities such as Newark and Orange in Essex County; Cliffside Park, Elmwood Park, Fairview, Fort Lee, Hackensack, Lodi, Lyndhurst and Mahwah in Bergen County; Ewing in Mercer County; Freehold

Township, Hazlet, Long Branch, Middletown, Millstone and Neptune Township in Monmouth County; and Elizabeth, Plainfield and Union in Union County have all reached the 70 percent milestone.

Vaccination efforts continue with community and inter-faith partners with pop-up events at houses of worship, mobile pop-up sites, food pantries, malls and other businesses, and community events among other events.

N.J. Sets Vaccination or Testing Requirement

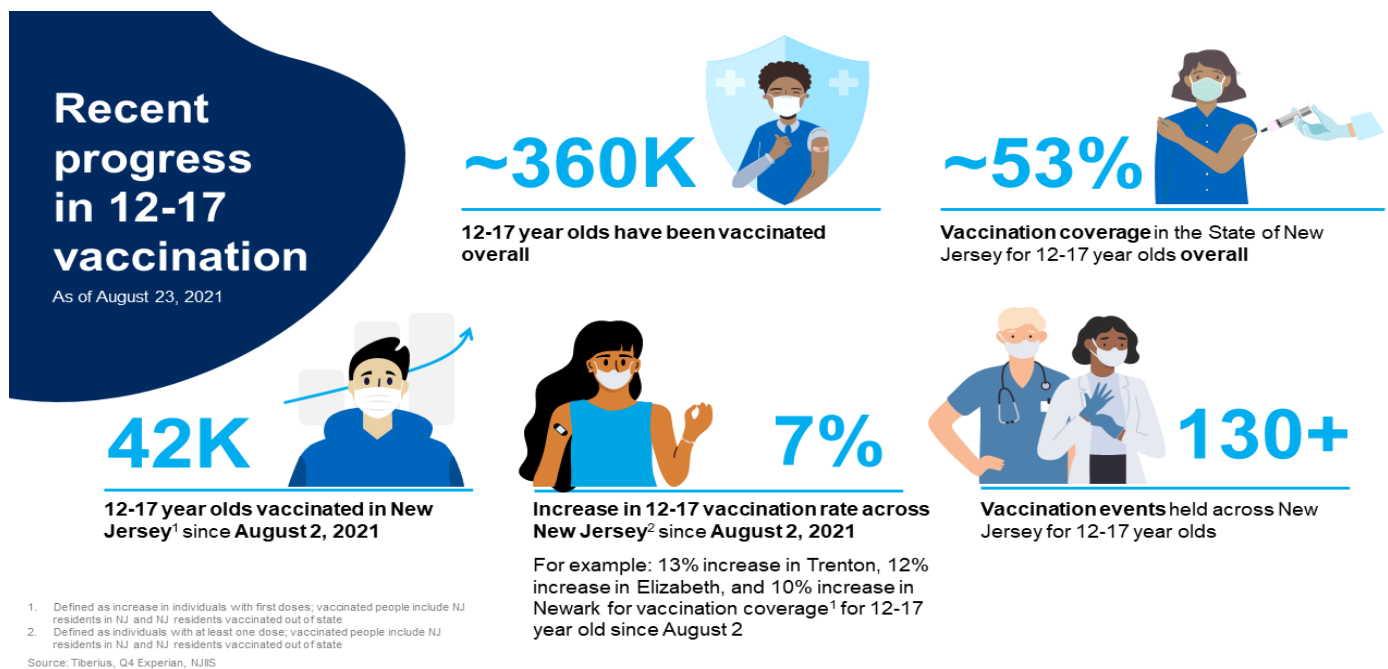
All pre-school to grade 12 school personnel and all State employees are now required to be fully vaccinated by October 18 or be subject to COVID-19 testing at minimum one to two times per week, the Murphy Administration announced this week.

Executive Order No. 253, signed by Governor Murphy, applies to all public, private, and parochial pre-school programs, elemen-

tary, and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools.

State employees in certain healthcare and correctional facilities were already subject to the vaccination or testing requirement under Executive Order No. 252.

This week's announcement expands the scope to all workers of State agencies, authorities, and colleges and universities.



Facebook Live Answers Parents Back to School Questions

A Back To School Facebook Live event with Commissioner Persichilli, Special Advisor Dr. Meg Fisher; school nurses and the Department of Education answered questions from parents and community members and drew hundreds of viewers.

[Watch it here.](#)

The panel included: high school nurse Eileen Gavin, president-elect of the New Jersey School Nurses Association, and Dr. Cynthia Samuel, an elementary school nurse and education chair of the association, and Colleen Schulz-Eskow, COVID-

19 liaison to state Department of Education Acting Commissioner Angelica Allen-McMillan.



The panel conversation covered questions on masking, COVID-19 vaccines for children; catching up on childhood immunizations; COVID-19 school safety tips, testing; school lunchrooms and more.

"We are all working together to make sure that we have the safest school year that we can have," said Health Commissioner Persichilli during the event.

COVID-19 Resources

NJDOH's COVID-19 resource page has numerous **flyers, infographics and FAQs** – many in several languages – on all aspects of COVID-19 vaccination and the virus that can be downloaded for your use and to share.

[Check them out.](#)

[Sign up for Vax Matters](#)