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Coronavirus in Israel: 765 new cases, 1.38% of tests return positive

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By JERUSALEM POST STAFF   JULY 15, 2021 12:00

Israelis perform tests for the coronavirus at a Maccabi Test Center, in Ramle. January 7, 2021
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Some 765 new cases of the novel coronavirus were reported in Israel on Wednesday, with 1.38% of tests returning positive, according to a Thursday morning update by the Health Ministry.

Of those infected, 54 were in serious condition and 16 were on ventilators. The death toll stood at 6,443.

Some 50% of the new cases were already vaccinated with 61.1% of the patients in serious condition being already vaccinated.

Some 1,100 children received the first dose of the coronavirus vaccination on Wednesday.

Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said in a joint press conference with Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz on Wednesday that with the cooperation of the public, the country can defeat the current outbreak in five weeks without the need for new lockdowns.

"The Delta variant is overwhelming the world," Bennett said, asking Israelis to take the situation seriously.

The prime minister stressed that the government is committed to protect public health with minimum disruption of daily life, but that in order to avoid severe restrictions, everyone needs to show personal responsibility, get vaccinated, wear a mask indoors and maintain social distance practices, such as avoiding shaking hands.

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