



New Zealand – Situation update

24 February 2021

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Information presented in this assessment is based on New Zealand's publicly available information provided on the New Zealand Ministry of Health website. ¹

Summary of Cases as at 1100h, 24 February 2021

	Total	Change in last 7 days
Confirmed cases	2009	25*
Probable cases	356	0
Total (confirmed and probable)	2365	25
Deaths	0	0
Current hospitalised	0	0

* While 28 cases were reported in the past seven days, the total number of cases only increased by 25 because 3 previously reported cases were reclassified as 'under investigation'.

Source of acquisition of cases* for the 7 days to 24 February 2021

Overseas acquired/associated	22**
Locally acquired	6

* New Zealand categorises overseas acquired/associated cases (including those in managed isolation in New Zealand) as 'at the border'; New Zealand categorises locally acquired cases as 'in the community'.

** While 28 cases were reported in the past seven days, the total number of cases only increased by 25 because 3 previously reported cases were reclassified as 'under investigation'.

¹ <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

New Zealand quarantine-free travel criteria

- Since 14 February, the New Zealand Ministry of Health has reported 11 new cases of COVID-19 in one cluster (Cases A to K) linked to Papatoetoe high school in South Auckland, spanning three households. The most recent cases were reported 23 February 2021. All confirmed cases are in an Auckland quarantine facility.
- Whole Genome Sequencing for Cases A, B, D, E, F, G, H and I indicates the cases are linked, and the virus isolate in question is the UK variant B1.1.7.
- No new cases of COVID-19 have been identified in the community on 24 February 2021.
- All of New Zealand is at Alert Level 1.

Advice for green zone flights from New Zealand

- On 24 February 2021, the Chief Medical Officer advised: As a result of the recent community transmission of a variant of concern in Auckland, New Zealand, Auckland will be designated a Commonwealth hotspot. No person who has been in Auckland in the last 14 days will be permitted to board a green flight into Australia. Auckland airport, for the purposes of travel only, is exempt. Normal green flight arrangements will continue for travellers who have not been in Auckland in the last 14 days.
- These arrangements will commence at 11.59 pm AEDT Wednesday, 24 February 2021 and operate until 11.59 pm AEDT 6 March 2021. A review of these arrangements will occur on 27 February 2021. There is no change to the arrangements for air crew.
- **Note: some jurisdictions have implemented arrangements which differ to those above. All travellers should check the arrangements in both their place of arrival and place of final destination.**

Summary of locally acquired cases

Date	Locally acquired cases	Rolling 3-day average
18 February 2021	1	1.00
19 February 2021	1	1.33
20 February 2021	0	0.67
21 February 2021	0	0.33
22 February 2021	1	0.33
23 February 2021	1	0.67
24 February 2021	2*	1.33

* These cases were reported via media on 23 February 2021, but only added to New Zealand's official totals on 24 February 2021.

	Notification Date	Number of days
Last locally acquired case	24/02/21	0
Last locally acquired case of unknown source	13/02/21*	11

*There is no identified source of infection for Case A at 24 February 2021, and therefore, this constitutes a case of unknown source. We note the New Zealand Ministry of Health has not yet classified this case as the last locally acquired of unknown source in New Zealand.



Chief Medical Officer
Professor Paul Kelly
24 February 2021