



New Zealand – Situation update

17 March 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 11:00 AEDT, 17 March 2021 | | |
|--|-------|-----------------------|
| | Total | Change in last 7 days |
| Confirmed cases | 2078 | 24* |
| Probable cases | 356 | 0 |
| Total (confirmed and probable) | 2434 | 24 |
| Deaths | 26 | 0 |
| Current hospitalised | 0 | 1 |

*New Zealand has reported via media releases 25 cases in the last 7 days, however, one has since been reclassified during the last 7 days as ‘under investigation’ and therefore, the change in total number of confirmed cases is only 24.

| Source of acquisition of cases* for the 7 days to 17 March 2021 | |
|---|-----|
| Overseas acquired/associated | 23 |
| Locally acquired | 0** |

* 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’.

**2 cases reported on 13 March 2021 were historical and not infectious but classified by New Zealand as locally acquired.

New Zealand – COVID-19 Situation

- The South Auckland based cluster of 15 community acquired cases that had the B.1.1.7 (UK) variant initially reported on 14 February 2021, no longer presents a risk to Australia through ‘green zone’ flights from New Zealand to Australia.
- On this basis, the Chief Medical Officer de-listed Auckland as a declared Hotspot for the Commonwealth on 11.59 pm AEDT, 11 March 2021, allowing green zone flights to resume as of 11.59 pm AEDT, 11 March 2021.

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

- This decision also took into consideration a confirmed case of COVID-19 for an Air New Zealand crew member servicing flights between Japan and New Zealand, reported on 7 March 2021.
 - This case did not have a variant of concern, and all other members of the same crew and their contacts have tested negative to COVID-19.
 - Since this date (7 March 2021), no further cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the community.
- New Zealand is currently at Alert Level 1.
- Note: some jurisdictions have implemented arrangements which differ to those above.

Summary of locally acquired cases

| Date | Locally acquired cases | Rolling 3-day average |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11 March 2021 | 0 | 0 |
| 12 March 2021 | 0 | 0 |
| 13 March 2021 | 0** | 0 |
| 14 March 2021 | 0 | 0 |
| 15 March 2021 | 0 | 0 |
| 16 March 2021 | 0 | 0 |
| 17 March 2021 | 0 | 0 |

**2 cases reported on 13 March 2021 were initially classified by New Zealand as locally acquired, however these were historical and not infectious in the community therefore counted as '0'.

| | Notification Date | Number of days |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Last locally acquired case | 01/03/21* | 16 |
| Last locally acquired case of unknown source | 13/02/21** | 32 |

*The most recent case infectious while in the community, the crew member notified on 7 March 2021, was classified as overseas acquired

**As there is no identified source of infection for Case A at 24 February 2021, this constitutes a case of unknown source. 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
 17 March 2021