



New Zealand – Situation update

24 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, 24 March 2021		
	Total	Change in last 7 days
Confirmed cases	2114	36
Deaths	26	0
Current hospitalised	0	-1

Source of acquisition of cases* for the 7 days to 24 March 2021	
Overseas acquired/associated	35
Locally acquired	1**

* 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'.

**This number is the managed isolation worker who returned a positive test result to COVID-19 on 22 March 2021.

New Zealand – COVID-19 Situation

- On 22 March 2021, New Zealand reported a positive COVID-19 test result in a border worker at a managed isolation and quarantine facility in Auckland.
 - The case (Case A) was asymptomatic and identified through routine surveillance testing, a requirement of their employment.
 - The case lives in a household of 5.
 - One household member initially returned a weak positive test result but repeat PCR and serological testing were both negative. This person is classified as a close contact and not a confirmed case.
 - The remaining household members returned negative test results.
 - Case A and the household member that initially returned a weak positive test result are in a managed isolation facility.

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

- Remaining household members, and other close contacts for Case A, are self-isolating at home.
- Whole genome sequencing showed that Case A was infected with the B.1.1.7 strain of COVID-19, and a close match to a person that had returned from overseas that was in the facility between 13 – 15 March 2021.
- The New Zealand Ministry of Health website has published one location of interest in relation to Case A: Mt Roskill Countdown supermarket in Auckland on Saturday 20 March.
- We are in close contact with the New Zealand Ministry of Health concerning this event and are monitoring the situation closely.
- New Zealand is currently at Alert Level 1.

Summary of locally acquired cases

Date	Locally acquired cases	Rolling 3-day average
18 March 2021	0	0
19 March 2021	0	0
20 March 2021	0	0
21 March 2021	0	0
22 March 2021	1	0.33
23 March 2021	0	0.33
24 March 2021	0	0.33

	Notification Date	Number of days
Last locally acquired case	22/03/21	2
Last locally acquired case of unknown source	13/02/21	39



Chief Medical Officer
 Professor Paul Kelly
 24 March 2021