



New Zealand – Situation update

28 July 2021

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

Current Assessment Summary

- There have been no locally acquired cases of COVID-19 in the last 7 days.
- There have been three maritime vessels that have arrived in New Zealand this month that have a number of crew return positive test results for COVID-19, including the Delta variant being confirmed for some cases. These events are being managed in accordance with public health protocols and are considered a low risk.
 - The 'Viking Bay' fishing vessel is currently docked in Queens Wharf Wellington. **Fourteen crew members are in quarantine on board the Viking Bay. Six crew members remain in managed isolation in a Wellington isolation facility.** Genome sequencing confirms that 12 of the crew members are infected with the Delta variant. The cases are all linked, but not all are linked to the initial case on the vessel or to any confirmed case found in New Zealand.
 - **Sixteen of the 18 crew members of the 'Playa Zahara' fishing vessel currently docked at Lyttelton have tested positive for COVID-19. All crew members have recovered, with none remaining onshore in managed isolation. The vessel was deep cleaned on 23 and 28 July 2021, and is expected to depart Lyttelton on 28 July 2021.**
 - **Fifteen cases of COVID-19 have been reported aboard the 'Mattina' container ship docked at Bluff. All confirmed cases remain aboard the vessel. Nine of the cases are confirmed to have the Delta variant.**
- New Zealand assesses that due to infection control protocols, there was minimal risk to the public and these events are all considered a low risk.
 - There are no associated locations of interest.
- All of New Zealand is at Alert Level 1.

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

	Total
Cumulative confirmed cases – last week	2,472
New cases – managed quarantine	41
New cases – locally acquired	0
Cases removed or reclassified	- 5
Cumulative confirmed cases – this week	2508

Hospitalisations and deaths

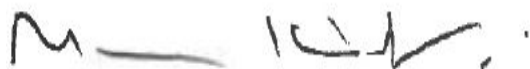
Cumulative deaths	26
Currently hospitalised	0

Summary of locally acquired cases

	Notification Date	Number of days
Last locally acquired case	20/04/2021	99
Last locally acquired case of unknown source	13/02/2021	165

Travel impacts

- Quarantine-free travel from all Australian states and territories to New Zealand was suspended from 2359 hrs (NZST) Friday 23 July 2021 due to the worsening COVID-19 situation in Australia. The suspension will be for a minimum period of eight weeks.
- New Zealand residents in Australia (except for those in NSW) have until 2359 NZST Friday 30 July 2021 to return home without requiring quarantine on arrival in New Zealand.



Acting Chief Medical Officer
Professor Michael Kidd
28 July 2021