



New Zealand – Situation Update

11 August 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.
- Several crew on maritime vessels arriving in New Zealand in July and August 2021 tested positive for COVID-19, with the Delta variant confirmed among these cases. These events are being managed in accordance with public health protocols and are considered low risk.
- On 9 August 2021, New Zealand confirmed that following routine testing of the container ship 'Rio De La Plata', eleven of the 21 crew on board were positive for COVID-19. The ship was berthed at Port of Tauranga for the period 4 to 7 August 2021, over which time a number of port workers had contact with the ship.
 - All 110 port workers deemed contacts have returned negative test results. This includes two pilots and 72 port workers who boarded the vessel while it was docked. The two pilots will remain in isolation for 14 days post possible exposure and 70 of the port workers will require an additional Day 3 test.
 - The ship is linked to a COVID-19 case in an Australian pilot who was onboard the vessel in July 2021 in Queensland and who later developed symptoms and tested positive nine days after being aboard the vessel.
 - Crew members aboard the vessel remain asymptomatic and the vessel left New Zealand as at 11 August 2021.
- The 'Mattina' container ship remains in quarantine at a secure berth in Bluff. As at 11 August 2021, thirteen of the original 21 mariners remain onboard the vessel. The remaining mariners continue to be in managed isolation and/or accommodation arrangements in Christchurch.
 - New Zealand assesses that due to infection control protocols, there was minimal risk to the public and these events are 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>

| Summary | Total |
|--|-------|
| Cumulative confirmed cases – last week | 2,523 |
| New cases – managed quarantine | 29 |
| New cases – locally acquired | 0 |
| Cases removed or reclassified | - 4 |
| Cumulative confirmed cases – this week | 2,548 |

Hospitalisations and deaths

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Cumulative deaths | 26 |
| Currently hospitalised | 3 |

Summary of locally acquired cases

| | Notification Date | Number of days |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Last locally acquired case | 20/04/2021 | 113 |
| Last locally acquired case of unknown source | 13/02/2021 | 179 |

Travel impacts

- Quarantine-free travel from all Australian states and territories to New Zealand was suspended from 23 July 2021 due to the worsening COVID-19 situation in Australia. The suspension will be for a minimum period of eight weeks and will be reviewed in September 2021.
- Aside from managed return flights operating between 9 to 22 August 2021 from New South Wales, flights are currently not operating to New Zealand from elsewhere in Australia.



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11 August 2021