



New Zealand – Situation Update

22 September 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

- New Zealand has officially recorded a total of **1,108** locally acquired cases in the current outbreak at the time of this report.
- Currently, all New Zealand except for Auckland is at Alert Level 2.
- **On 21 September 2021, Auckland moved to Alert Level 3 with the Government of New Zealand to review Alert Levels for all regions on Monday 4 October 2021.**
- **On 20 September 2021, due to detection of cases associated with approved travel of a person from Auckland, temporary Alert Level 4 restrictions were applied to the Upper Hauraki region.**
- **As widespread testing did not detect any cases beyond the immediate household, the area moved to Alert Level 3 on 22 September 2021.**

Outbreak Summary

- The current outbreak commenced on 17 August 2021.
- Of the **1,108** cases reported in the current outbreak, **28** cases are not yet epidemiologically linked.
- There are currently **13** hospitalisations, with **two** in ICU.
- Of the locally acquired cases, **1,091** are in Auckland and **17 (all now recovered)** of these cases were in Wellington.
- **At 1200 hrs NZT 22 September 2021, there are 129 locations of interest events tabled that have been reported across the North Island, all of which are in the greater Auckland region.**
- **As at 1300 hrs NZT 22 September 2021, 1,282 active contacts are being managed.**
 - **93** per cent of these people have been contacted, and **89** per cent have returned at least one test result.
- **There have been no unexpected detections of COVID-19 in wastewater testing.**

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

Summary	Total
Cumulative confirmed cases – last week	3,625
New cases – managed quarantine	17
New cases – locally acquired	125
Cases removed or reclassified*	- 4
Cumulative confirmed cases – this week	3,763

**Reclassified cases are calculated from New Zealand Ministry of Health official reports, daily press conferences and media releases, as they are not uniformly reported via one source.*

Hospitalisations and deaths

Cumulative deaths	27
Currently hospitalised	13

Summary of locally acquired cases

	Notification Date	Number of days
Last locally acquired case	22/09/2021	0
Last locally acquired case of unknown source	17/08/2021	36

Travel impacts

- On **21 September 2021**, the Australian Chief Medical Officer announced that the Australian Government would continue the pause of green zone flights from New Zealand to Australia until 11:59pm (AEST) on **5 October 2021**. Until this time, all flights originating in New Zealand will be classified as Red Zone flights. **The pause will be reviewed on 5 October 2021.**
- 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. **This suspension was extended by the New Zealand Government for at least a further eight weeks on 17 September 2021 and is scheduled to be reviewed in late November 2021.**



Professor Paul Kelly
Chief Medical Officer
23 September 2021