

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

6 September 2021

## Daily Updates

### Health & Border

#### Community Cases

There are 704 active cases that have been identified in the community. Today, 20 new cases were confirmed, all in Auckland.  
Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 1.27 PM

#### Contact Tracing

1,127 close plus contacts have been identified.

1,125 (99%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 339 have returned a positive result, while 572 have tested negative.

33,607 close contacts have been identified. 30,384 (90%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 141 have returned a positive result. 24,374 have returned a negative test result.

There are 3,324 casual plus contacts.  
Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 1.27 PM

#### Vaccination

To date, there have been 2,564,936 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,325,242 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,919,698 future bookings.  
Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 10.10 AM  
Information as of 5 September 2021 11.59 PM

#### Testing

There were 4,750 tests yesterday, 9% of surge testing capacity. This is lower than the level of testing the day before.

There are sufficient supplies for 262,137 tests on hand.  
Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 9.29 AM

#### PPE

The National PPE and Critical Medical Supply Chain has adequate PPE stocks, with at least a month's reserves to meet high pandemic demand.

Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 11.24 AM

### Health & Border

#### ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity at each DHB except Wairarapa and the West Coast which have no ICU beds available. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 25 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capacity at Capital and Coast DHB has over 10 ICU beds and over 35 ventilators available.  
Ministry of Health: 6 September 1.27 PM

#### COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,152,716 registered users. 10,196 people registered today. There have been 676,581 scans today.

Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 2.45 PM

#### Healthline

Healthline had 3,747 contacts yesterday. 1,776 were to the COVID-19 Info Line. 59% of enquiries were seeking information and 25% of those calling were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 1.27 PM

#### Air Border

There are 242 passengers anticipated, and 15 flights (red zone, and freight).

NZ Customs Service: 6 September 2021 2.28 PM

#### Maritime Border

There are 25 merchant vessels in ports. 7 vessels are scheduled to arrive today with an estimated 119 crew.

NZ Customs Service: 6 September 2021 2.28 PM

#### MIQ Capacity

There are 3,795 people in managed isolation (84% of MIQ operational capacity, which is 57 less people than yesterday).

There are 757, people in quarantine facilities, which is 11 more than yesterday. (66% of capacity).

MBIE: 6 September 2021 1.48 PM

### Health & Border

#### Health System

There are 40 hospitalised cases, all of which are associated with the current outbreak. 6 cases are in ICU and 4 of those require ventilation. There was one death from COVID-19 on 3 September.

Ministry of Health: 6 September 2021 1.27 PM.

### Compliance

#### Non-Compliance

5 people were prosecuted for COVID-19 related offences, 2 fewer than the previous day. 13 people were warned yesterday, 5 more than the previous day. There were 189 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, 67 more than the previous day. The increase was driven by non-essential travel occurring in AL4 areas.

From midnight on 7 September, everyone age 12 and over will be required to sign into most locations they attend. Mandatory record-keeping is part of an effort to strengthen contact tracing. Media reporting has already highlighted concerns around how this data will be used and/or stored.

New Zealand Police: 6 September 2021 7.23 AM.  
Information as of 5 September 5.00 PM.

#### Online Breach Notifications

There were 611 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is an increase of 85 breach notifications compared to the previous day.

Of the breaches, 79% (480) related to gatherings, 15% (92) related to businesses, and 6% (39) related to individuals.

New Zealand Police: 6 September 2021 7.23 AM.  
Information as of 5 September 5.00 PM.

### Compliance

#### Travel Compliance

Approximately 21,474 vehicles were recorded going through checkpoints in the 24 hours to 1530hrs 5 September 2021. 835 vehicles (3.8%) were turned around for not having an exemption/permitted travel.

New Zealand Police: 6 September 2021 4.30 PM

#### Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social media commentary indicates that people are divided following MIQ system changes: some are happy, others discouraged by a lack of booking prioritisation.

Thursday's MIQ incidents are driving discussion about the training MIQ staff receive and whether purpose-built managed isolation facilities are required.

People are also discussing the impacts of lockdown on small/independent business and on industries with scarcity of materials/labour. People are concerned about pressures on essential workers.

Overall, 54% of COVID-related online sentiment is negative, and 34% is neutral.

DPMC: 6 September 10.09AM

#### Section

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#### Section 6(c)

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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## Daily Updates

### AOG Coordination

#### Communications

The focus for communications includes preparing Alert Level 2 messaging, planning communications regarding Alert Level boundaries, addressing disinformation, and clarification of rules for students on premises at Alert Level 3. There is also a focus on media queries concerning rules governing flights out of Auckland, and what counts as 'local' for exercise purposes.

DPMC: 6 September 2021 12.22PM

#### Policy

DPMC are preparing to work through any issues arising from today's Cabinet decision on Alert Levels. This includes any issues arising from the Order and responding to questions and requests for clarification from across government.

DPMC: 6 September 2021 2.19PM

### Regional Coordination

#### Fire and Emergency Resourcing

83 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest. This is the same number as yesterday. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 6 September 2021 2.00 PM

#### Corrections Resourcing

77 Corrections staff are awaiting test results. 169 staff are self isolating

Department of Corrections: 6 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Police Resourcing

There are approximately 200 Police assigned to Auckland boundary checkpoints. Additional Police resources may be required.

New Zealand Police: 4 September 2021 3.22 PM

### Social & Community

#### Mental Health

On Saturday there were 654 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?". This is 37 more than the previous day.

Ministry of Health, 5 September 2021 1.05 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Traffic

Traffic in all major cities except Auckland has increased compared to last week: by 110% to 140% for light traffic, and 20% to 110% for heavy traffic. Auckland has had a 12% increase in light traffic and a 4% drop in heavy traffic compared to last week.

Ministry of Transport, 6 September 2021 10.02 AM

#### Travel Exemption Requests

As of 2.30pm today, MPI has received 398 exemption requests.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 6 September 2021 4.02 PM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Infrastructure Resourcing

Watercare have 37 staff self-isolating (14 fewer than Friday) and Citycare have 2 staff self-isolating (no change from Friday).

MBIE: 6 September 2021 2.20 PM

#### Supermarket Resourcing

Foodstuffs North Island has 47 staff self-isolating (34 fewer than Friday).

As of Friday, Countdown has 2,100 staff not currently working due to COVID-19 risks, including 1,100 staff self-isolating. More recent data is not available.

3 Countdown stores are closed.

No Foodstuffs stores are closed.

MBIE: 6 September 2021 2.20 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure

No critical digital infrastructure issues have been reported.

An internet disruption was notified on Friday 3 September. Services to affected agencies and Vocus customers were restored that afternoon. The disruption appeared to be linked to a cyberattack on a Vocus customer; Vocus is still working to understand the cause.

Department for Internal Affairs, 6 September 2.24PM

#### Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

MBIE, 6 September 2021 2.20 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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## The Bigger Picture

### Health & Border

#### Healthline and Testing Hesitancy

Themes have emerged over the past 3-4 days of higher testing hesitancy amongst callers to Healthline. Reasons for the increase in hesitancy are concerns around having to go into MIQ, positive case shaming, and essential worker wage pressure, despite the "COVID-19 Short-Term Absence" payment available. Concerns around entering MIQ have been exacerbated by negative news and social media reports.

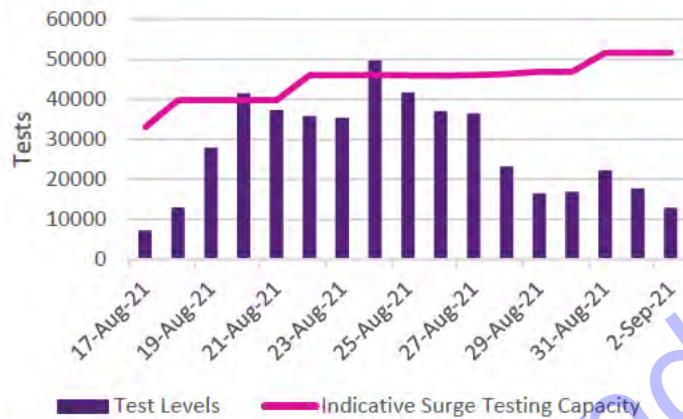
Ministry of Health: 5 September 2021 1.05 PM

#### Testing Levels Declining

Testing levels have been declining since 24 August (see chart).

Ministry of Health: 3 September 2021

#### Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered



#### PPE – Adequate Stocks, Reduced Demand

PPE demand has fallen by a third over the last week when compared to the first week of the response. Stocks remain adequate, with at least a month's reserves available.

Ministry of Health: 5 September 2021 1.05 PM

#### Calls to Healthline Decreasing

Calls to Healthline about COVID-19 have been gradually declining since 24 August and are now at a lower level daily than at the beginning of the response.

Ministry of Health, 6 September 2021 1.27 PM

#### COVID-19 Calls to Healthline



#### AL3 Guidance for Workplaces

Business.govt AL3 workplace guidance has been updated to align with the new Health Order, including workplace operations at COVID-19 Alert Levels and Exemption Applications for North and South Borders.

MBIE: 5 September 2021 12.55 PM

#### Managed Isolation Facilities Nearing Capacity

Managed isolation facilities are at 84% of capacity (3,795 people). The number isolating has been increasing since 3 September.

MBIE: 6 September 2021 1.48 PM

#### Number of People currently in Managed Isolation Facilities



#### MIQ Security and Staffing Measures

The number of First Security and NZDF staff has been increased at the Novotel Ibis Eilerslie and Holiday Inn in response to a review of security, health, and hotel workforce measures at those sites. MIQ staff continue to review whether changes to health workforce staffing levels or operating procedures could further improve conditions and mitigate escape risk. MIQ staff have been warned of risks of poor behaviour among recent arrivals following a report from Air New Zealand of poor behaviour on yesterday's emergency allocation flight from Australia.

MBIE: 5 September 2021 12.55 PM

#### MIQ Staff Wellbeing

Behavioural issues from community cases housed in MIQ continue to place strain on staff. MIQ leadership are providing regular communications to staff and advertising channels staff can go to for help. Wellbeing is expected to improve as community cases and MIQ occupancy decrease.

MBIE: 5 September 2021 12.55 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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## The Bigger Picture

### Social & Community

#### Social Support in Northland

Northland Indian Business Association and Whangarei District Council have raised concerns regarding the accessibility of MSD support services among elderly, disabled, and migrant populations. This could be due to social stigma and confidentiality issues around providing personal information to Government.

Ministry of Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities: 3 September 2021 5.20 PM

#### Food Access for Migrant Groups

Requests for food parcels are increasing among migrant workers and international students.

Ministry of Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities: 3 September 2021 5.20 PM

#### Elderly Support Needs

Age Concern Auckland has highlighted the need to deliver practical support in accessing online information, replenishing food supplies, and accessing prescription medication to elderly populations.

Ministry of Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities: 3 September 2021 5.20 PM

#### Food Access

Foodbanks and community providers are receiving an unprecedented demand for food, with many organisations reporting a high risk of running out of food.

Increasing numbers of Pacific families are continuing to go without essentials, with reports suggesting families are not comfortable requesting support.

Auckland Regional Church leaders are collaborating with service providers and agencies to facilitate the push of aid packages to families in need.

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples is connecting church and community leaders to service providers to deliver these services safely.

Ministry of Social Development, 6 September 4.23 PM

#### Welfare Triage Centre

Auckland Emergency Management, and MSD have established a Welfare Triage Centre, with 36 staff providing outbound calling to people testing positive and/or self-isolating to match them with appropriate agencies.

National Emergency Management Agency: 5 September 2021 2.50 PM

#### Housing

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development have secured approximately 60 additional motel units, in Auckland, Whangārei, Wellington, Nelson and Christchurch in response to requests from Housing First providers for additional capacity to enable people experiencing homelessness/rough sleepers to be housed.

The Ministry is working with a range of community and government agencies in regional locations to address location-specific needs, for example women seeking refuge and support services for rangatahi.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 6 September 2021 1.34 PM

#### Ethnically-Centred Vaccination Sites

On September 3, Asian Family Services requested a group vaccination site for ethnic communities. This is being progressed by Auckland DHB.

Ministry of Diversity, Inclusion, and Ethnic Communities: 3 September 2021 5.20 PM

As a percentage of the population fully vaccinated by ethnicity, 35% of the Asian population are fully vaccinated, 33% of the European/Other population, 28% of the Pacific population, and 21% of the Māori population.

Ministry of Health, 6 September 2021 10.13 AM

#### Vaccination Outreach

The process to implement further mobile vaccinations is underway. Auckland DHB has been working with Housing First providers to schedule outreach vaccinations for high density motels starting on 6 September, commencing initially with three of the larger Kāhui Tū Kaha residences.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 6 September 2021 1.34 PM

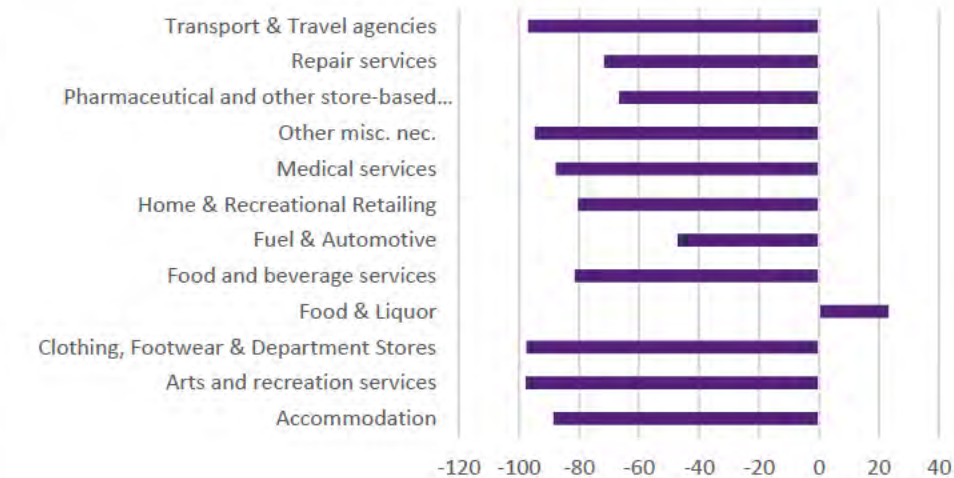
#### Economic Indicator – Consumer Spending

As an indicator of spending, consumer spend by BNZ card holders was down 38.2% in the week ending 5 September compared to the same week in 2019. Spending by BNZ card holders in most major categories fell except for food and liquor where spending grew 23.2%

Between 20 August and 27 August \$811.6 million in wage subsidies were paid, supporting 723,417 jobs.

MBIE: 6 September 2021 3.55 PM, Ministry for Social Development: 6 September 2021, 4.32 PM

Consumer Spend Vs Same Week in 2019 (BNZ card holders)



#### Economic Indicator – Wage Subsidy

Between 20 August and 27 August \$811.6 million in wage subsidies were paid, supporting 723,417 jobs.

MBIE: 6 September 2021 3.55 PM, Ministry for Social Development: 6 September 2021, 4.32 PM

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## The Bigger Picture

### Compliance

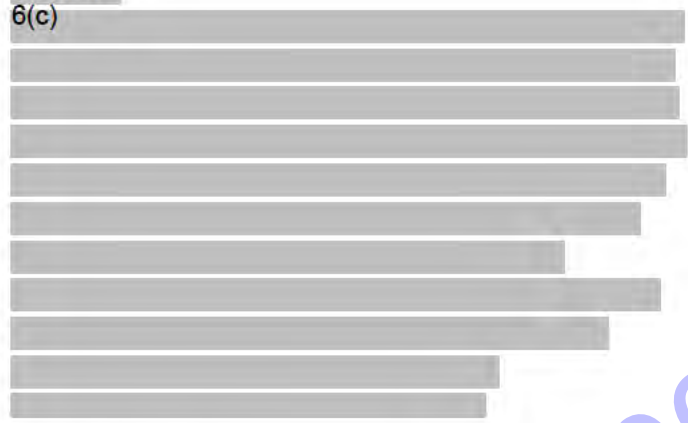
There are several protest, false-information, and non-compliance activities occurring during the current response. Some of the most high-profile ones are highlighted below.

### False Information

Misinformation continues. This includes the suggestion that Ivermectin (typically used as a horse de-wormer) can be ingested orally as a Covid cure. Misinformation is likely to hinder the COVID-19 response. There may also be health issues arising from people using Ivermectin.

New Zealand Police 4 September 3.22PM

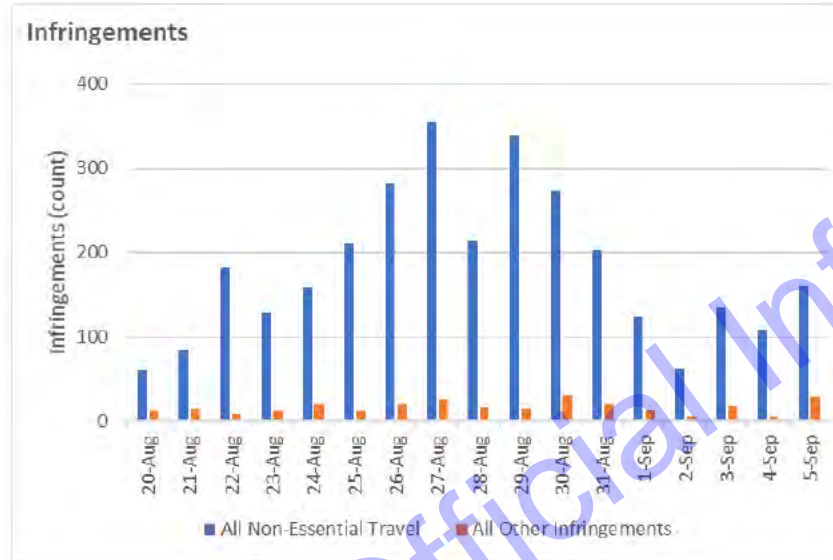
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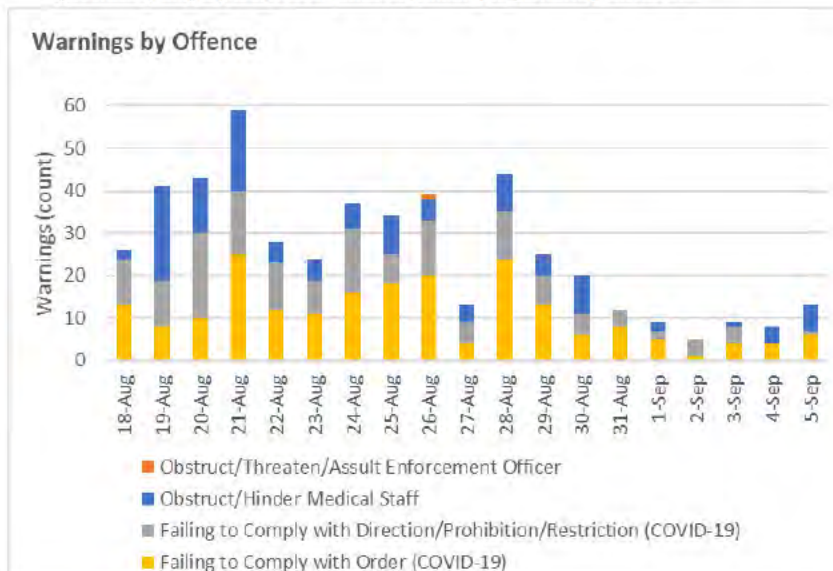
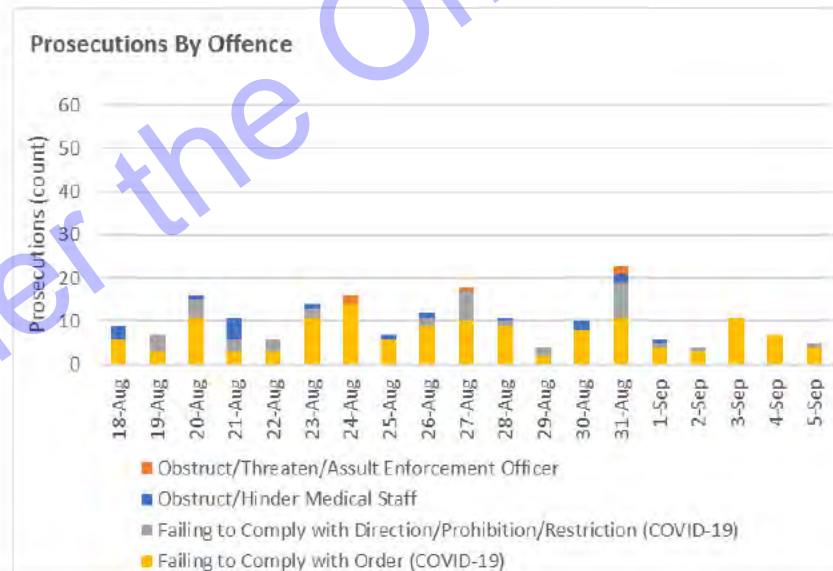
### Infringements, Prosecutions, and Warnings

Since the change to Alert Level 3 in areas south of Auckland, infringements, prosecutions, and warnings related to COVID-19 have decreased. Decreases in infringements appear to be driven by decreases outside Auckland. In Auckland, there does not appear to be any change to infringement rates, and infringements remain particularly high in the Counties/Manukau policing district. There does not appear to be any regional trend in prosecutions or warnings.

New Zealand Police: 6 September 2021 7.23 AM. Information as of 5 September 5.00 PM.



Note: Other infringements include failure to physically distance, wear a mask in premises or on public transport, comply with Orders or the Health Act, close premises, display a QR code, and organising a gathering outdoors.



## COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

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## Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	<a href="mailto:electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz">electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz</a> s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	<a href="mailto:AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz">AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz</a> 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	<a href="https://www.police.govt.nz/covid-19-compliance">COVID-19 compliance   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a>
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	<a href="https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html">https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html</a>
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	<a href="https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment">https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment</a>
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	<a href="mailto:alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz">alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz</a>

This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group.  
If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz)

## Daily Updates

### Health & Border

#### Community Cases

There are 856 total cases that have been identified in this outbreak. Today, 15 new cases were confirmed, all in Auckland.  
Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.00 PM

#### Contact Tracing

1,143 close plus contacts have been identified.

1,117 (97%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 361 have returned a positive test result, while 583 have tested negative.

33,549 close contacts have been identified. 30,428 (90%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 135 have returned a positive test result, while 24,346 have tested negative.

There are 3,326 casual plus contacts.  
Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.00 PM

#### Vaccination

To date, there have been 2,662,131 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,370,579 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,871,934 future bookings.  
Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 10.43 AM  
Information as of 7 September 2021 11.59 PM

#### Testing

There were 13,230 tests yesterday, 25% of surge testing capacity. This is significantly higher than the level of testing the day before, (an increase of almost 6,000 tests). There are sufficient supplies for 258,844 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 9.13 AM

#### PPE

Current usage rate remains within low pandemic usage. There is currently 8 weeks of PPE supply at high pandemic response use.

Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 4 26 PM

### Health & Border

#### ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity available at all DHBs. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 20 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capital and Coast DHB has less than 10 ICU beds and over 30 ventilators available.  
Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.00 PM

#### COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,174,325 registered users. 5,419 people registered today. There have been 1,433,928 scans today.

Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.45 PM

#### Healthline

Healthline had 5,130 contacts yesterday, an increase of 592 since Monday. Calls to the COVID-19 Info Line also rose from 3,260 to 3,561 over the same period, likely as a result of recent alert level changes.

Ministry of Health, 8 September 2021 1.52 PM

#### Maritime Border

There are 24 merchant vessels in ports. 4 vessels are scheduled to arrive today with an estimated 85 crew.

NZ Customs Service: 8 September 2021 2.25 PM

#### MIQ Capacity

There are 3,859 people in managed isolation (86% of operational capacity, and four more than yesterday). There are 736 people in quarantine facilities, which is 32 less than yesterday. (68% of capacity).

MBIE: 8 September 2021 1.17 PM

#### Quarantine-Free Travel to Australia

Australia has further extended its pause on QFT from all of New Zealand until 11:59pm (AEST) on 14 September.

Ministry of Transport: 8 September 2021 3.22 PM

### Health & Border

#### Health System

There are 37 hospitalised cases, all of which are associated with the current outbreak. 6 cases are in ICU and 4 of those require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.56 PM.

#### Transboundary Travel for Vaccination

Some callers to Healthline have raised concerns regarding crossing the AL4 boundary to access pre-booked vaccination appointments in Auckland. Although permitted under the Health Order, they have been turned away at the boundary.

Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.56 PM.

### Compliance

#### Non-Compliance

3 people were prosecuted for COVID-19 related offences, 10 fewer than the previous day. 14 people were warned yesterday, 1 fewer than the previous day. There were 161 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, 18 fewer than the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 6 28 AM.  
Information as of 7 September 5.00 PM

#### Online Breach Notifications

There were 274 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 174 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 52% (143) related to gatherings, 36% (99) related to businesses, and 121% (33) related to individuals. The rate of reports is falling steadily and is now less than half the peak rate of two weeks ago.

New Zealand Police: 6 September 2021 7 23 AM.  
Information as of 5 September 5.00 PM.

#### Protests

Activists continue to serve civil servants with cease and desist notices as a method of harassment.

Department of Corrections: 8 September 2021 2 36 PM

### Compliance

#### Travel Compliance

Approximately 14,459 vehicles were recorded going through checkpoints in the 24 hours to 11:59 PM, 7 September 2021. 92 vehicles (0.6%) were turned around for not having an exemption/permitted travel.  
New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 2.16 PM

#### Public Sentiment

Conversation around AL4 timeframes, contact tracing and testing, and the vaccine rollout peaked on Monday following the post-Cabinet briefing, following high levels of conversation about the vaccine rollout over the weekend.

Sentiment about the vaccine rollout is 50% negative and 37% neutral. Conversation on the vaccine rollout was driven by news articles regarding border workers challenging the government's mandate to be vaccinated and a Picton backpacking accommodation's decision that all guests must be vaccinated. Discussion included the topics of freedom of choice, human rights and herd immunity.

DPMC: 6 September 2021 4 39PM and 7 September 5.40 PM

#### AL2 Gatherings

AL2 allows indoor gatherings of up to 50 people. Police anticipate possible breaches at places of worship this weekend and are engaging community leaders on social distancing practices.

New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Attempted Checkpoint Crossings

There has been an increase of people seeking to travel through checkpoints without the appropriate documentation, specifically to join sick relatives. All were referred to MOH to obtain the necessary exemptions.

New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 3.00 PM

## Daily Updates

### AOG Coordination

#### Communications

The focus for communications includes Alert Level 2 messaging, communications regarding Alert Level boundaries, and addressing disinformation in the Pacific and Chinese communities. The recent COVID death and David Seymour's tweet has generated concern in Māori communities

DPMC: 8 September 2021 12.19 PM

#### Policy

DPMC is preparing Ministerial advice regarding boundaries and permissions with a core focus on AL2 and AL3, due to Ministers tomorrow. This will underpin the AL Review Cabinet Paper to be considered on September 13.

DPMC: 8 September 2021 1.26 PM

### Regional Coordination

#### Travel Exemption Requests

As of 4.30pm today, MPI has received 418 exemption requests. 134 have been approved, 122 declines while the remainder have either been withdrawn or require further information

Ministry of Primary Industries: 8 September 2021 4 51 PM

As of 19.47 07 September, the Ministry of Health received a total of 2,002 requests for a boundary exemption, 1637 of which have been completed, with 87 approved, 1,243 declined and 307 referred to MBIE. This means of the 1330 exemption requests considered within the Ministry of Health's mandate, 6.5% were approved. Please note that the online application system was taken down at 1900hrs yesterday to enable the system to be modified with regard to the new Alert Level 4/2 boundary permissions. The system came back online after 1200hrs today.

Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 4.51 PM

### Regional Coordination

#### Fire and Emergency Resourcing

73 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 2 fewer than yesterday. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 8 September 2021 2.00 PM

#### Corrections Resourcing

64 Corrections staff are awaiting test results. 119 staff are self-isolating

Department of Corrections: 8 September 2021 2 36 PM

#### Police Resourcing

Police report no concerns with current levels of resourcing at Auckland boundary checkpoints.

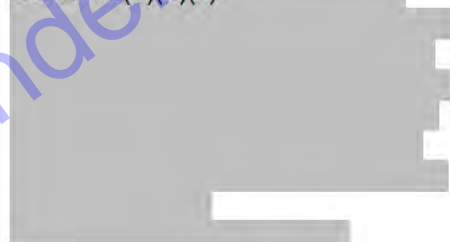
New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 3 00 PM

#### Aviation Security

Discussions are taking place regarding L2 at airports; most prefer Avsec staff to maintain a presence. At this stage, there is capacity for staff to do so. It is expected that the main focus of the support will be on compliance with mask wearing and signing in.

Ministry of Transport: 7 September 3.12 PM

#### Section 9(2)(b)(ii)



### Social & Community

#### Mental Health

There were 675 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?" yesterday. This is 21 more than Monday.

Ministry of Health, 8 September 2021 1.52 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Traffic

Traffic in all major cities except Auckland increased between 75% and 180% after the change to AL3 but remains below baseline levels from the same time in 2019. In Auckland, traffic is around 31% of baseline levels but light and heavy vehicle traffic is increasing at a rate of 1-3% per day, indicating increasing amounts of movement as AL4 continues.

Ministry of Transport, 7 September 2021 9 59 AM

#### Transport

Bus usage increased 71% in Wellington and 79% in Christchurch relative to AL4. No issues were reported on the first day of the "no standing rule" on public transport and Waka Kotahi anticipates most services will not be affected under AL2. Updated transport operator guidance has been drafted reflecting AL changes.

Waka Kotahi and MoT are working with operators who have expressed concern about the capacity constraints this will create. The Transport COVID-19 Response Team remains active; Ministry and agencies meet daily. DPMC has approved draft guidance which MoT has shared with operators.

Ministry of Transport: 7 September 2021 3.12 PM and 8 September 2021 3.22 PM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Supermarket Resourcing

As of yesterday, Countdown has 800 staff not currently working as a result of COVID-19 risks. This is down from 2100 on September 2. Two Countdown stores remain closed, with eight fewer stores being identified as locations of interest than September 6 (decreasing from 27 to 19). Foodstuffs North Island has 36 staff self-isolating, one fewer than yesterday.

MBIE: 8 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Infrastructure Resourcing

Watercare have 37 staff self-isolating and Citycare have two staff self-isolating (no change from Monday). There are 100 staff self-isolating across the fuel sector, while Vector and Genesis have five staff in self-isolation in the electricity and gas sectors respectively.

MBIE: 8 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Vaccinating Essential Workers

Watercare reports that 69% of staff have received their first vaccine dose, with 34% fully vaccinated. By contrast, only 29% of Citycare workers have received at least one dose of the vaccine. MBIE and Auckland DHB are working to prioritise vaccinations for essential workers, but reasons for this discrepancy are unclear at this stage.

MBIE, 8 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure

No critical digital infrastructure issues have been reported.

Department for Internal Affairs, 8 September 2.50 PM

#### Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

MBIE, 8 September 2021 3.00 PM



# The Bigger Picture

## Health & Border

### Healthline and Testing Hesitancy

Higher testing hesitancy is being recorded among callers to Healthline. Reasons for this include concerns around having to go into MIQ, positive case shaming, and essential worker wage pressure, despite the "COVID-19 Short-Term Absence" payment available. Concerns around entering MIQ have been exacerbated by negative news and social media.  
Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.52 PM

### Testing Levels – Recent Increase, Overall Decline

Testing rates increased to 13,230 yesterday from 4,750 the day before. This follows an overall trend of decline in testing levels since 24 August (see chart). These decreases are partly indicative of lower cases and reduction in circulation of respiratory infections in the community due to restricted movement, but may also be indicative of the testing hesitancy indicated above. However recent increases are likely to be sustained by the need to test boundary-crossing essential workers from September 10.  
Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 (latest)

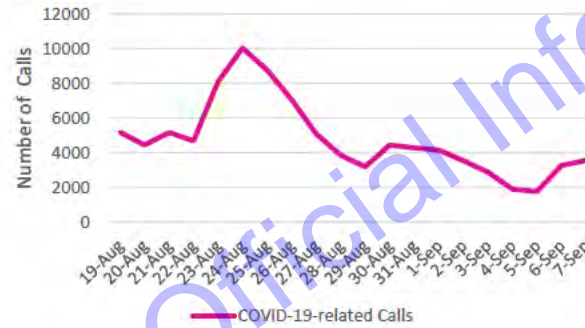
### Calls to Healthline Decreasing

Daily call volumes to Healthline about COVID-19 have been gradually declining since 24 August and are now at a lower level daily than at the beginning of the response. As expected, however, the last two days have seen a slight increase due to the announcement of alert level changes.  
Ministry of Health, 8 September 2021 1.52 PM

### Managed Isolation Facilities Nearing Capacity

Managed isolation facilities are at 86% of capacity (3,852 people). After a brief fall on 5 September, the number of people isolating has increased in recent days. Regular monitoring is needed to ensure continued capacity of these facilities.  
MBIE: 8 September 2021 1.17 PM

COVID-19 Calls to Healthline



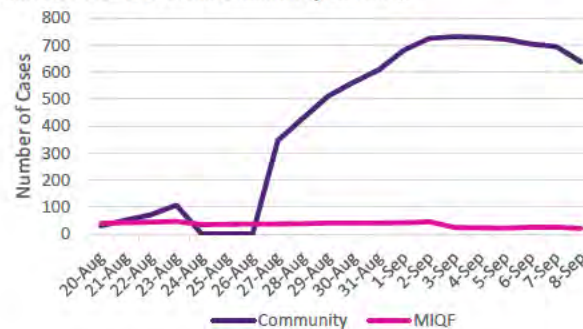
Number of People currently in Managed Isolation Facilities (Capacity: 4500)



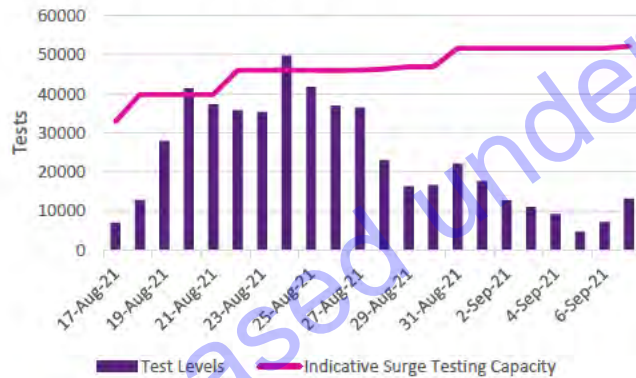
### Active COVID-19 Cases Stabilising

Since September 2, the number of active cases of COVID-19 in both MIQF and the wider community has stabilised. As the infected population begins to recover, active cases in the community have decreased from 725 to 636 over the past week.  
Ministry of Health, 8 September 2021 1.52 PM (latest)

Active COVID-19 Cases in Community and MIQF



Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered



# The Bigger Picture

## Social & Community

### Food Access

Access to food continues to be a big issue for communities with the number of food grants a third higher than pre-outbreak levels. Foodbanks, community, and iwi providers are receiving unprecedented demand for food. Some organisations are highlighting risks of running out of food in the coming days, and the difficulty in acquiring more supply. MSD has made a fund immediately available to partner with iwi responding to critical unmet needs. Ministry of Social Development, 8 September 11.20 AM

### Food Access For Pacific Peoples

Pacific providers are reporting a five to seven day wait for families to receive food and support packages. The Ministry for Pacific Peoples is addressing this issue directly with MSD. Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 7 September 2021 5.30 PM

### Education

Educational facilities may open no earlier than Thursday morning. Schools are reporting challenges with student engagement with distance learning and deepening concerns about participation levels when they can return to onsite learning. Caring for Communities, 8 September 11 20 AM

### School Attendance Under AL3

As at 1 September, attendance at AL3 was 7.4% at early learning centres and 2.7% at schools (including primary and secondary). Attendance is in line with expected levels. No issues have been reported. Ministry of Education: 8 September 2021 11.13 AM

### Family Harm

Family Harm events in Auckland over the current lockdown period are trending lower in comparison to the same timeframe during the April 2020 AL4 lockdown. Counties Manukau District currently has the highest volume of reported family harm cases during this lockdown. New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 3 00 PM

### Mental Health Needs Stablising

After peaking on August 30, calls to 1737 Need to Talk? have been steadily declining. If trends continue, these will return to levels observed at the beginning of the outbreak in the coming days. Ministry of Health: 8 September 2021 1.52 PM (latest)

Mental Health: Calls to 1737 Need to Talk?



## Economic Indicators

### Economic Indicator – Wage Subsidy

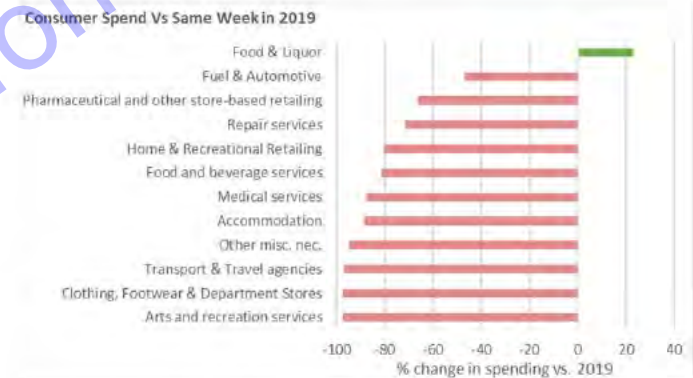
27,305 wage subsidy applications were received yesterday, a decrease of 6,377 from the previous day.

As at 7 September, \$1.504 billion has been paid in wage subsidies to support 1.016 million jobs, including employees of 256,395 businesses and 127,875 self-employed people.

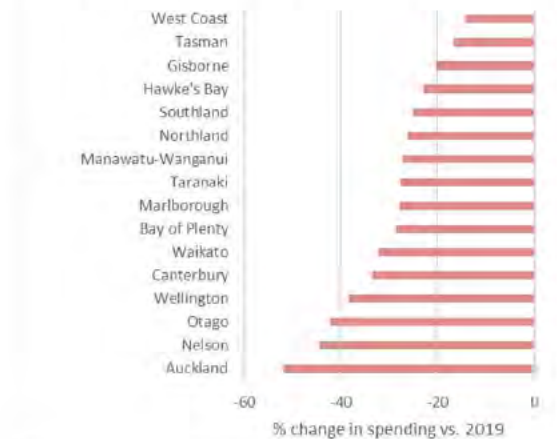
Ministry for Social Development: 8 September 2021 8.46 AM

### Economic Indicator – Consumer Spending

In the week ending 5 September, consumer spend by BNZ card holders was down in all regions. It decreased by 51% in Auckland and 28% in the rest of the country compared to the same week in 2019. Spending by BNZ card holders fell in all categories except for food and liquor, where spending grew 23.2% relative to the same week in 2019. MBIE: 6 September 2021 3.55 PM



Change in Regional Spend Vs Same Week in 2019



# The Bigger Picture

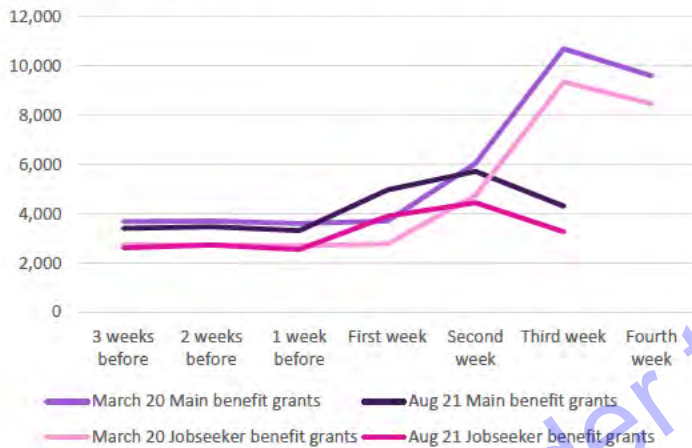
## Social & Community

### Benefit Payments and Jobseeker Grants

Payments of both main benefits and jobseeker grants has been significantly lower during the current response than during the initial lockdown in March 2020. The earlier rise and peak on this occasion implies increased literacy in accessing support among recipients, while the earlier fall may reflect the movement from AL4 to AL3 south of Auckland.

Ministry of Social Development, 8 September 2021 10.08 AM

March 2020 and August 2021 wage subsidies: main benefit and jobseeker grants by week



### Food Grants

The trend in the provision of food grants aligns with the trend visible in benefit payments and jobseeker grants, which reinforces the suggestion that the movement to AL3 has eased pressure on those needing social support. However, the significantly higher demand in the first two weeks of this response may indicate increased economic vulnerability among this group than was present in March 2020.

Ministry of Social Development, 8 September 2021 10.08 AM

March 2020 and August 2021 wage subsidies: food grants by week



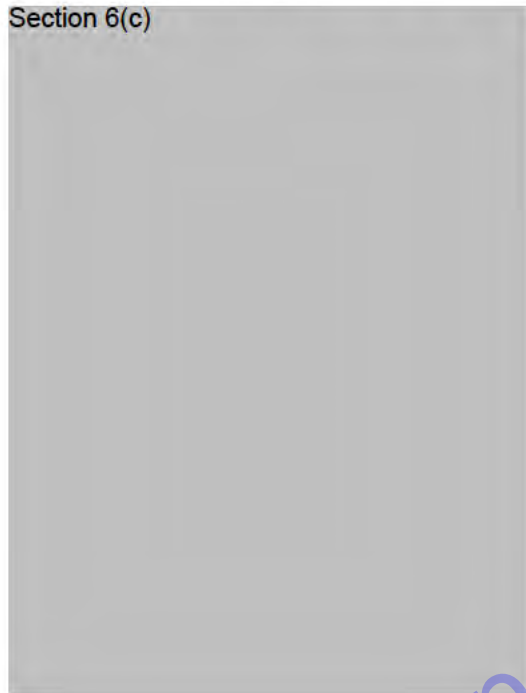
Released under the Official Information Act 1982

# The Bigger Picture

## Compliance

There are several protest, false-information, and non-compliance activities occurring during the current response. Some of the most high-profile ones are highlighted below.

### Section 6(c)



### Infringements, Prosecutions, and Warnings

Since the change to Alert Level 3 in areas south of Auckland, infringements, prosecutions, and warnings related to COVID-19 have decreased. Decreases in total infringements appear to be driven by decreases outside Auckland. In Auckland, infringement rates appear to be decreasing but at a slower rate than the rest of the country. Infringements remain particularly high in the Counties/Manukau policing district. There does not appear to be any regional trend in prosecutions or warnings.

New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 6.28 AM. Information as of 7 September 5.00 PM

Infringements

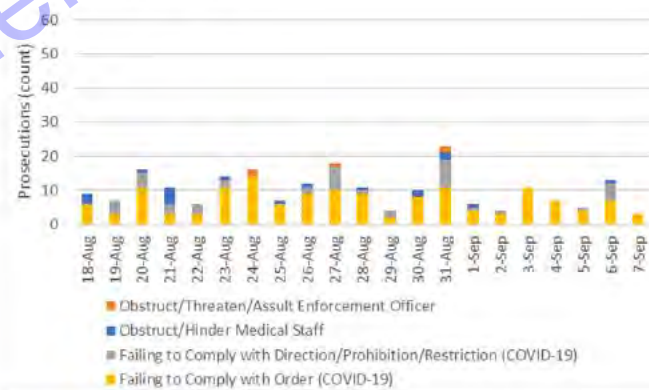


Infringements: All Other Infringements (Not Including Non-Essential Travel)

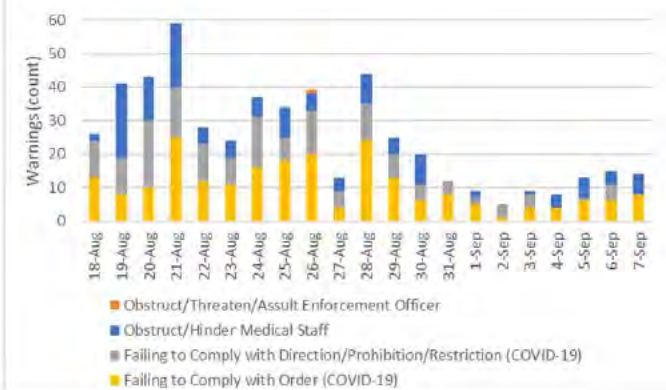


Note: Other infringements include failure to physically distance, wear a mask in premises or on public transport, comply with Orders or the Health Act, close premises, display a QR code, and organising a gathering outdoors.

Prosecutions By Offence



Warnings by Offence



## COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

8 September 2021

## Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	<a href="mailto:electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz">electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz</a> s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	<a href="mailto:AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz">AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz</a> 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	<a href="https://www.police.govt.nz/covid-19-compliance">COVID-19 compliance   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a>
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	<a href="https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html">https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html</a>
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	<a href="https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment">https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment</a>
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	<a href="mailto:alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz">alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz</a>
This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.		<a href="mailto:COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz">COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz</a>

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

10 September 2021

## Daily Updates

### Health & Border

#### Community Cases

There are 879 total cases that have been identified in this outbreak. Today, 11 new cases were confirmed, all in Auckland.  
Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### Contact Tracing

1,158 close plus contacts have been identified.

1,144 (98%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 372 have returned a positive test result, while 585 have tested negative.

33,547 close contacts have been identified. 30,531 (91%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 133 have returned a positive test result, while 24,388 have tested negative.

There are 3,356 casual plus contacts.  
Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### Vaccination

There have been 2,758,597 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,404,821 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,812,680 future bookings.  
Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 10.40 AM  
Information as of 9 September 2021 11.59 PM

#### Testing

There were 14,281 tests yesterday, 27% of surge testing capacity. This signals a reduction of more than 3,000 from the previous day, on which 17,684 tests were conducted. There are sufficient supplies for 181,587 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### PPE

PPE usage has recently decreased to within low pandemic rates. There is currently eight weeks of PPE supply available at high pandemic response use rates.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 2.47 PM

### Health & Border

#### ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity available at all DHBs. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 20 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capital and Coast DHB has more than 10 ICU beds and over 30 ventilators available.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.00 PM

#### COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,195,408 registered users, increasing by over 20,000 since Wednesday. There have been 2,198,570 scans today, up from 1,433,928 on Wednesday, signaling increased movement of people.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### Healthline

Healthline had 4,323 contacts yesterday, 807 fewer than Tuesday. Of those contacts, 2,429 were calls to the COVID-19 Info Line, 1,132 fewer than Tuesday. There are increasing numbers of calls about testing protocols for cross-boundary travel.

Ministry of Health, 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### MIQ Capacity

There are 3,768 people in managed isolation, 91 fewer than yesterday. 92% of operational capacity (total available MIQ rooms) is allocated.

There are 665 people in quarantine facilities, which is 71 less than yesterday. 489 of 686 rooms are filled (71%).

MBIE: 10 September 2021 1.13 PM

#### Transboundary Travel for Vaccination

Some callers to Healthline have raised concerns regarding crossing the AL4 boundary to access pre-booked vaccination appointments in Auckland, and that although permitted under the Health Order, they have been turned away at the boundary.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM.

### Health & Border

#### Health System

There are 27 hospitalised cases, 10 fewer than yesterday. Four cases are in ICU, all of whom require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM.

#### Maritime Border

There are an estimated 26 merchant vessels currently in ports around NZ today. Seven merchant vessels are scheduled to arrive into NZ today with an estimated 146 crew in total. Four merchant vessels are scheduled to depart NZ today with an estimated 80 crew in total.

NZ Customs Service: 10 September 2021 2.11 PM

#### Air Border – Pre Departure Test Screening

Customs continue to screen 100% of passengers requiring pre-departure tests, with one warning noted for Wednesday 8 September.

NZ Customs Service: 10 September 2021 2.11 PM

#### Air Border - Staffing

Staffing levels are adequate to cover all shifts and flight requirements.

NZ Customs Service: 10 September 2021 2.11 PM

#### Air Border – Vaccine Shipment

Auckland Airport have confirmed that security is in place for the safe movement of today's vaccine shipment.

NZ Customs Service: 10 September 2021 2.11 PM

### Compliance

#### Non-Compliance

In Auckland, 1 person was prosecuted yesterday for a COVID-19 related offence, 2 fewer than the previous day. 3 people were warned yesterday, 5 fewer than the previous day. There were 42 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, 39 fewer than the previous day.

New Zealand Police: 10 September 2021 6.32 AM.  
Information as of 9 September 5.00 PM.

### Compliance

#### Online Breach Notifications

There were 101 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 31 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 58% (59) related to gatherings, 31% (31) related to businesses, and 11% (11) related to individuals. The rate of reports continues to fall steadily and is less than 10% of the peak of two weeks ago.

New Zealand Police: 10 September 2021 6.32 AM.  
Information as of 9 September 5.00 PM.

#### Travel Compliance

Approximately 15,227 vehicles were recorded going through checkpoints in the 24 hours to 11.59 PM, 9 September 2021. 174 vehicles (1.1%) were turned around for not having an exemption/permitted travel.

New Zealand Police: 10 September 2021 12.00 PM

#### Public Sentiment

Analysis of online public social media sentiment showed that conversation around mental health increased by 19% this week, with people discussing the effects of ongoing lockdown on mental health. Mental health organisations are also engaging in conversations to highlight Mental Health Awareness week later this month. Most online conversation continues to focus on the virus, lockdown decisions (43% negative and 48% neutral sentiment), effects on businesses (35% negative and 57% neutral), and the vaccine rollout (48% negative and 40% neutral).

DPMC: 9 September 2021 4.59 PM

Section 6(c)

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

10 September 2021



## Daily Updates

### AOG Coordination

#### Communications

The focus for communications includes Alert Level 2 messaging, Alert Level boundaries, and addressing disinformation in the Pacific and Chinese communities. The recent COVID-19 death and David Seymour's tweet has generated concern in Māori communities

DPMC: 9 September 2021 2:34 PM

#### Policy

DPMC is preparing two Cabinet papers for consideration on 13 September: a review of Alert Levels; and a short paper on extending the suspension of Trans-Tasman Quarantine Free Travel. DPMC are also continuing to work through issues agencies have identified with the current Order.

DPMC: 10 September 2021 9:58 AM

### Regional Coordination

#### Travel Exemption Requests

As at 4.00 PM 10 September, MPI has received 432 requests for a boundary exemption, an increase of 14 since Wednesday. 124 requests were approved, 94 declined, and the remainder either withdrawn or are awaiting further information.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 10 September 2021 4.00 PM

#### Ministry of Health - Boundary Exemptions

As at 8.14 AM on 10 September, the Ministry of Health received a total of 2,847 requests for a boundary exemption. Of these, 2,349 have been completed, with 114 approved, 1,817 declined, and 418 referred to MBIE. Of the 1,931 exemption requests considered within the Ministry of Health's mandate, 5.9% were approved.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 8.14 AM

#### Fire and Emergency Resourcing

69 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 4 fewer than yesterday. Personnel availability remains adequate nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 10 September 2021 2.02 PM

#### Police Resourcing

Police report that a number of staff have been stood down for visiting recently announced locations of interest. Data on the exact number of staff are not yet available. Police report this may impact resourcing in Auckland but did not provide an assessment of likelihood or potential impacts of any resourcing shortage.

New Zealand Police: 10 September 2021 1.30 PM

### Social & Community

#### Mental Health

There were 677 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?" yesterday, 10 more than the previous day.

Ministry of Health, 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### Access to Food

There are issues with food delivery services not willing to deliver food to apartment dwellers. This has been escalated to MOH who are working on public information for high density housing settings.

NEMA, 10 September 2021 1.24 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Traffic

In Auckland, traffic is approximately 31% of baseline levels (compared to the same week in 2019) but light and heavy vehicle traffic is increasing at a rate of 1-3% per day, indicating increasing amounts of movement as AL4 continues. Outside of Auckland, traffic remains below baseline levels in Christchurch (50% vs. the same week in 2019), Wellington (57%), Hamilton (76%) and Dunedin (71%).

Ministry of Transport, 10 September 2021 9.50 AM

#### Transport

Wellington bus patronage this week was 19% of patronage in the same week in 2019, and Christchurch was at 29% compared to 2019. No issues have been reported related to the "no standing rule" on public transport and Waka Kotahi anticipate most services will not be affected under AL2. Waka Kotahi and MoT are working with operators to monitor capacity issues under AL2.

Ministry of Transport: 10 September 2021 9.05 AM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Supermarket Resourcing

As at September 7, Countdown has approximately 800 staff not currently working as a result of COVID-19 risks, down from 2,100 on September 2. Two Countdown stores remain closed. Foodstuffs North Island has eight staff self-isolating, 28 fewer than on September 8.

MBIE: 10 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Infrastructure Resourcing

In the water sector, Watercare have 11 staff self-isolating (26 fewer than September 8). Citycare have no staff self-isolating (two fewer than September 8). There are 24 staff self-isolating across the fuel sector (76 fewer than September 8), and five staff self-isolating in the electricity and gas sectors respectively.

MBIE: 10 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Mandatory Testing at Alert Level Boundary

MBIE are monitoring the impact of mandatory COVID-19 testing for Alert Level boundary travel, as mandatory testing of essential workers has the potential to disrupt operations and the ability for key utilities to respond to unforeseen emergencies. MBIE are working with Ministry of Health, Crown Law, Police and supermarkets to seek clarity about mandatory testing requirements and ensure smooth implementation.

MBIE, 10 September 2021 3.00 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure

DIA staff are experiencing remote connection issues and are investigating whether this impacts customer-facing services. Technical support will work over the weekend to resolve issues. No other issues were reported.

Department for Internal Affairs, 10 September 3.14 PM

#### Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

MBIE, 10 September 2021 3.00 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

10 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Health & Border

#### Healthline and Testing Hesitancy

Testing hesitancy continues among callers to Healthline. Reasons for this include concerns around having to go into MIQ, positive case shaming, and essential worker wage pressure, despite the "COVID-19 Short-Term Absence" payment available. Concerns around entering MIQ have been exacerbated by negative news and social media.

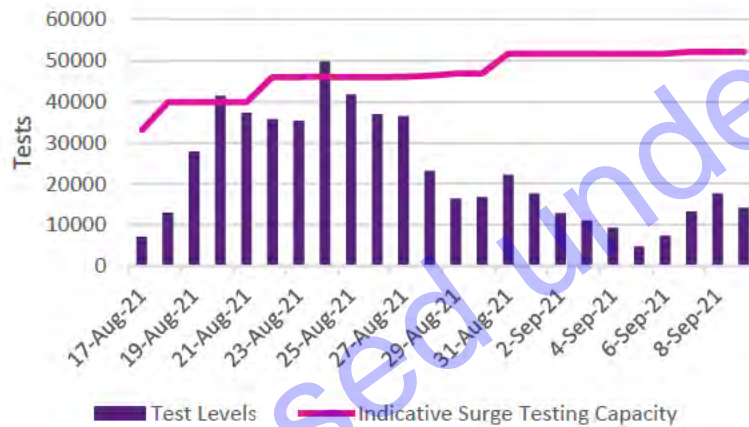
Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

#### Testing Levels Low

There were 14,281 tests yesterday. This follows an overall trend of decline in testing levels since 24 August. This is partly attributable to lower cases and reduced circulation of respiratory infections in the community due to restricted movement, but may also be indicative of the testing hesitancy. However, recent increases are likely to be sustained by the need to test boundary-crossing essential workers from today onwards.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 (latest)

#### Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered



#### Calls to Healthline Decreasing

Call volumes to Healthline regarding COVID-19 have been declining since 24 August and are now at a lower level daily than at the beginning of the response.

Ministry of Health, 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

COVID-19 Calls to Healthline



#### Active COVID-19 Cases Stabilising

After peaking on September 2, the number of active cases of COVID-19 in both MIQF and the wider community has been gradually falling. As the infected population begins to recover, active cases in the community have decreased from 731 to 590 over the past week (a drop of 19%).

Ministry of Health, 10 September 2021 1.02 PM (latest)

Active COVID-19 Cases in Community and MIQF

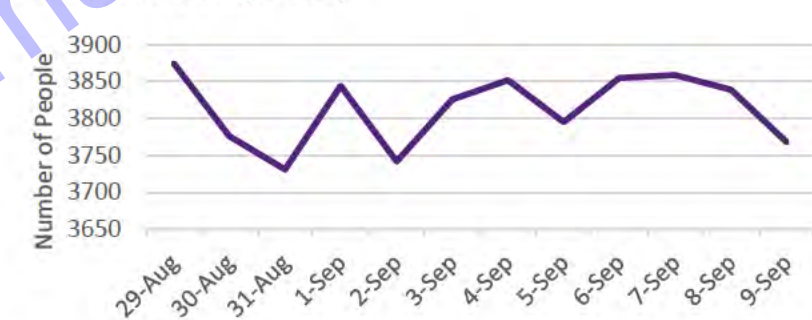


#### Managed Isolation Facility Capacity Easing

There are 3,768 people in managed isolation, 91 fewer than yesterday. 92% of operational capacity (total available MIQ rooms) is allocated.

MBIE: 10 September 2021 1.13 PM

Number of People currently in Managed Isolation Facilities (Capacity: 4500)



#### Mental Health Calls Stabilising

After peaking on August 30, calls to '1737 Need to Talk?' have been steadily declining. If trends continue, these will return to levels observed at the beginning of the outbreak in the coming days.

Ministry of Health: 10 September 2021 1.02 PM

Mental Health: Calls to 1737 Need to Talk?



#### Family Harm

Family Harm events in Auckland continue to trend lower in comparison to the same timeframe during the April 2020 AL4 lockdown. The volume of reports from the past two days were lower than at any time since AL4 began on 18 August 2021.

New Zealand Police: 8 September 2021 3.00 PM



# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

10 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Social & Community

#### New 0800 Number for Support

Auckland City Council, MSD, MPP and NEMA are working together to develop an MSD 0800 number for support. The Auckland City Council is redirecting more than 30 staff to support this work and triage requests.

The Council is also providing 100 larger-than-usual food parcels to better meet the needs of large intergenerational families living in the same house. MPP are reconnecting with more than 150 Pacific leaders who have already requested food on behalf of their communities, to assess any outstanding needs.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 10 September 2021 5.00 PM

#### Vaccination For Pacific Peoples

As at 9 September, 57% of Pacific peoples have had their first vaccination dose (9% below the average for the general population), and 29% are fully vaccinated (4% below the average of the general population).

Recent Pacifica-targeted vaccination related events appear to have been well received. The Malu'i Ma'a Tonga (MMT) Stay Safe for Tonga vaccination drive-through event saw strong turnout, positive feedback, and good exposure in the community and media (including One News, RNZ and Tagata Pasifika, PMN).

Several other events are ongoing or upcoming. The Ministry is supporting Etu Pasifika (a clinic in Christchurch) with a vaccination drive-through event this weekend.

The Auckland Tongan community launches a large-scale event tomorrow, 'Kolo Tonga' Mal'u Ma'a, in Mangere, Auckland.

Te Kāika Medical has partnered with the Otago Māori and Pacific student association to run a clinic in Forsyth Barr stadium in Dunedin, with a focus on vaccinating students and their whole flatting communities.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 9 September 2021 5.34 PM

DPMC: 9 September 2021 5.15pm

#### Vaccination for Pacific Peoples

Pacific community groups continue to raise Pacific vaccination rates as a concern. In particular, community leaders have raised requests for support to transport families to vaccination sites and concerns about COVID-19 and vaccination conspiracy theories targeting Pacific youth. MPP have launched vaccination videos in nine Pacific languages and are monitoring the outcomes of a pilot programme providing free transportation to vaccination centres for Pacific families.

Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 10 September 2021, 5.00 PM

#### Vaccination For Māori

43% of the eligible Māori population has received a first vaccine dose, compared to 66% of non-Māori. 21% of Māori have received both doses, compared to 34% of non-Māori. Efforts are being made to vaccinate vulnerable and difficult-to-reach populations, for example Kahui Tu Kaha have vaccinated 235 people in transitional housing or homeless in North Shore, Henderson and Otahuhu (75% of whom were Māori) and Waikato DHB and iwi leads are discussing a targeted rangatahi vaccination program with tumuaki of Wharekura.

DPMC: 9 September 2021 5.15pm

#### Education – Learning Devices

The Ministry of Education continues to provide devices to schools in Auckland. As at 7 September, MoE had provided 6,968 devices to schools and students predominantly in Auckland, as well as NCEA hardcopy packs and other learning materials. Schools continue to report challenges with student engagement with distance learning and deepening concerns about participation levels when they can return to onsite learning.

Caring for Communities, 8 September 11.20 AM, Ministry of Education, 8 September 2.00 PM

#### Education – Support Payments for Relief Teachers

The Ministry of Education made emergency payments to relief teachers on 8 September to support staff paid by timesheet and who would not otherwise have been paid under AL3 and AL4. 16,658 employees received the payment in the two weeks prior to 7 September. The total amount paid since 17 August is \$18.3 million.

Ministry of Education, 8 September 2.00 PM

#### Economic Indicator – Wage Subsidy

14,930 wage subsidy applications were received yesterday, a decrease of 3,028 from the previous day.

Ministry for Social Development: 10 September 2021 8.24 AM

As at 9 September, \$1.689 billion has been paid in wage subsidies to support 1.078 million jobs, including employees of 267,310 businesses and 136,130 self-employed people.

Ministry for Social Development: 10 September 2021 8.24 AM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

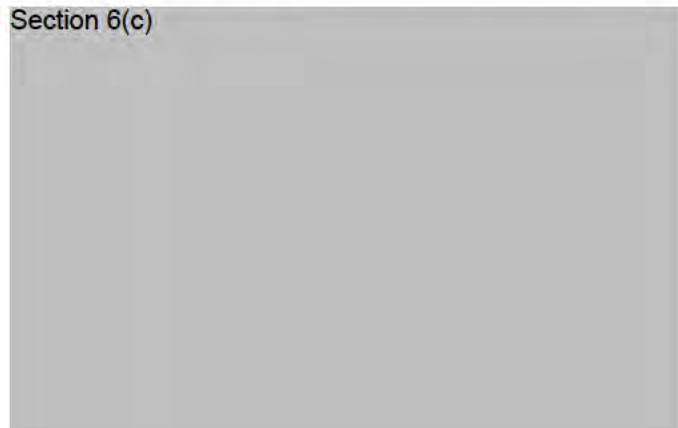
10 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Compliance

There are several protest, false-information, and non-compliance activities occurring during the current response. One of the most high-profile is highlighted below.

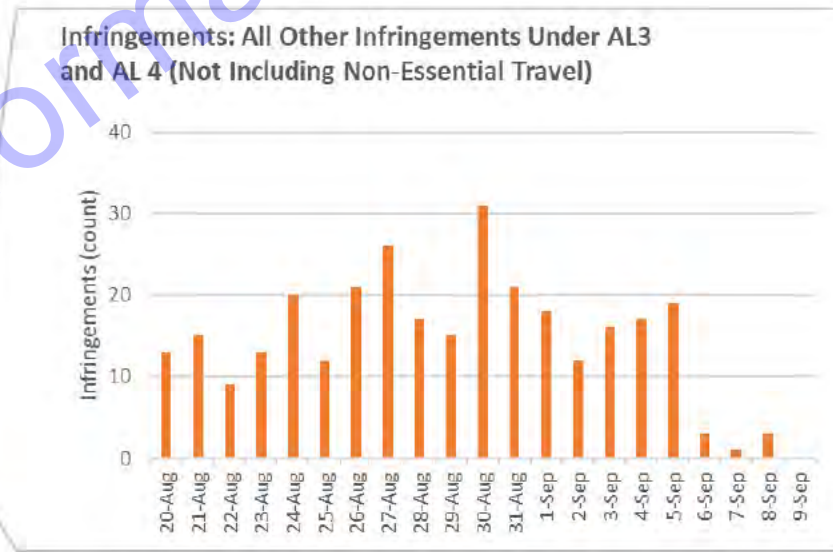
Section 6(c)



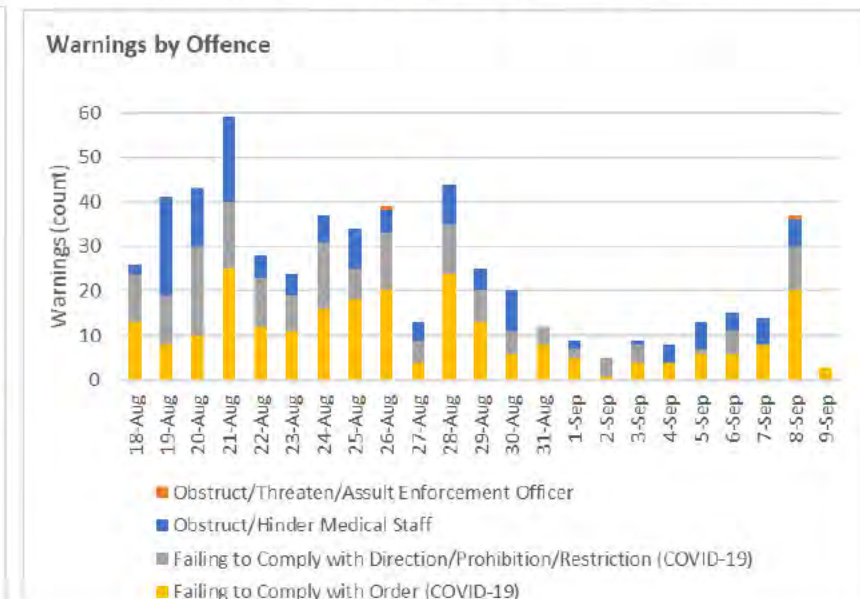
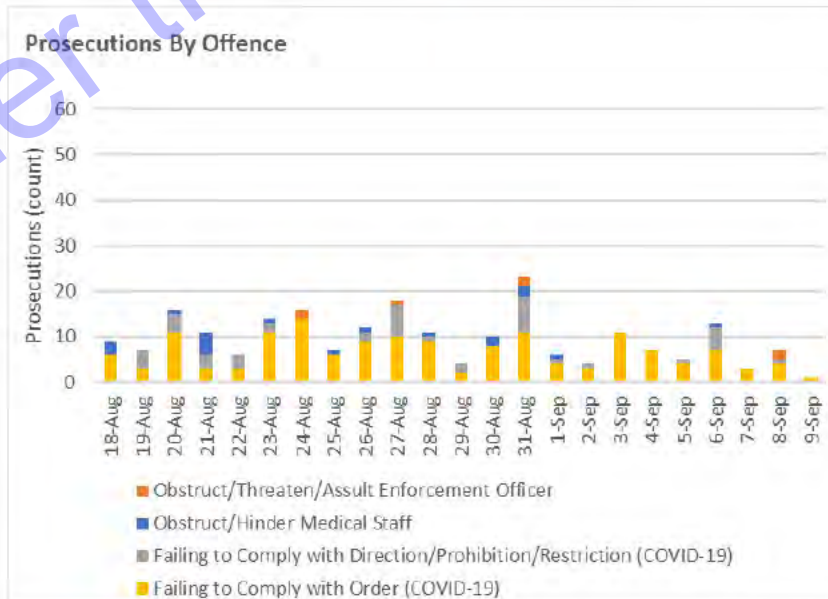
### Infringements, Prosecutions, and Warnings

Since the change to Alert Level 3 in areas south of Auckland at 11.59 PM on 31 August 2021, infringements, prosecutions, and warnings related to COVID-19 have decreased. As of 9 September, Police no longer report infringements outside AL4. In Auckland, infringement rates appear steady under AL4.

New Zealand Police: 10 September 2021 6.32 AM. Information as of 9 September 5.00 PM.



Note: Other infringements include failure to physically distance, wear a mask in premises or on public transport, comply with Orders or the Health Act, close premises, display a QR code, and organising a gathering outdoors.



## COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

10 September 2021

## Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	<a href="mailto:electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz">electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz</a> s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	<a href="mailto:AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz">AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz</a> 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	<a href="https://www.police.govt.nz/covid-19-compliance">COVID-19 compliance   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a>
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	<a href="https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html">https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html</a>
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	<a href="https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment">https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment</a>
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	<a href="mailto:alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz">alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz</a>

This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz)

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021

## Daily Updates

### Health & Border

#### Community Cases

There are 955 total cases that have been identified in this outbreak. Today, 33 new cases were confirmed, all in Auckland.  
Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 1.05 PM

#### Contact Tracing

1,215 close plus contacts have been identified.

1,205 (99%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 408 have returned a positive test result, while 623 have tested negative.

33,806 close contacts have been identified. 30,781 (91%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 137 have returned a positive test result, while 24,660 have tested negative.

There are 3,660 casual plus contacts.  
Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 1.05 PM

#### Vaccination

There have been 2,862,765 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,462,725 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,716,932 future bookings.  
Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 3.52 PM  
Information as of 12 September.

#### Testing

There were 8,657 tests yesterday, 16.6% of surge testing capacity. This signals a reduction of 2,301 from the previous day, on which 10,958 tests were conducted. There are sufficient supplies for 191,611 tests on hand.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 1.25 PM

#### PPE

There is currently eight weeks of PPE supply at high pandemic response use. Current usage rate remain within low pandemic usage.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 4.15 PM

### Health & Border

#### ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity available at all DHBs. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 30 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capital and Coast DHB has less than 10 ICU beds and over 30 ventilators available.  
Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 1.04 PM

#### COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,209,541 registered users, increasing by over 14,133 since Friday. There have been 2,200,284 scans today, similar to the 2,198,570 scans on Friday.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 10.000 AM

#### Healthline

Healthline had 3,216 contacts on Saturday 12 September. Of those contacts, 1,501 were calls to the COVID-19 Info Line, 23% were sent for testing and 65% were seeking information.

Ministry of Health, 13 September 2021 1.05 PM

#### MIQ Capacity

There are 3,412 people in managed isolation. 3,627 rooms are allocated (91% of operational capacity).

There are 519 people in quarantine facilities. 474 of 686 quarantine rooms are filled (69% of capacity).

MBIE: 13 September 2021 11.42 AM

#### Mental Health

There were 575 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?" on Saturday, 107 less than the contacts reported on Friday.

Ministry of Health, 13 September 2021 1.04 PM

### Health & Border

#### Health System

There are 21 hospitalised cases, 6 less than on Friday. Four cases are in ICU, all of whom require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 1.04 PM.

#### Maritime Border

The Rio de la Plata arrived in Tauranga on Sunday, with suspected COVID-19 cases onboard. Preparations were made across government for this situation, and the vessel will be operated under quarantine.

NZ Customs Service: 13 September 2021 3 PM

There are an estimated 32 merchant vessels currently in ports around NZ today. Three merchant vessels are scheduled to arrive into NZ today with an estimated 57 crew in total. Two merchant vessels are scheduled to depart NZ today with an estimated 44 crew in total.

NZ Customs Service: 13 September 2021 3 PM

#### Air Border – Pre Departure Test Screening

Customs continue to screen 100% of passengers requiring pre-departure tests, with no breaches noted.

NZ Customs Service: 13 September 2021 3 PM

### Compliance

#### Non-Compliance

In Auckland, 1 person was prosecuted yesterday for a COVID-19 related offence, 4 fewer than the previous day. 1 person was warned yesterday, 2 fewer than the previous day. There were 54 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches.

New Zealand Police: 13 September 2021 6.24 AM.

Information as of 12 September 5.00 PM.

### Compliance

#### Online Breach Notifications

There were 160 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 94 breach notifications compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 80% (128) related to gatherings, 11% (17) related to businesses, and 9% (15) related to individuals. The rate of reports continues to fall steadily and is less than 10% of the peak of two weeks ago.

New Zealand Police: 13 September 2021 6.24 AM.  
Information as of 12 September 5.00 PM.

#### Travel Compliance

Approximately 134,378 vehicles were recorded going through checkpoints in the 24 hours to 11.59 PM, 12 September 2021. 1565 vehicles (1.1%) were turned around for not having an exemption/permitted travel.

New Zealand Police: 13 September 2021 4.22 PM

#### Public Sentiment

Analysis of online public social media sentiment on Saturday highlighted conversation around the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, with people discussing the impact on Alert Level changes and opening borders. People were also sharing positive experiences of booking and receiving their vaccinations.

Most online conversation continues to focus on the virus (43% negative and 48% neutral), lockdown decisions (46% negative and 45% neutral sentiment) and effects on businesses (37% negative and 56% neutral). There were no major shifts in sentiment on Saturday, however most categories rose slightly in negative sentiment compared to the previous day.

DPMC: 12 September 2021 4.42 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021



## Daily Updates

### AOG Coordination

#### Communications

The focus for communications includes preparing messaging for today's Alert Level review for Auckland, as well as updates to shared custody arrangements between AL4 and AL2, and addressing disinformation.

There was a misleading post shared on Facebook and Twitter linking the death of a New Zealander to the COVID-19 vaccine. In response, Facebook assessed and removed the post, and Twitter locked one of the poster's accounts.

DPMC: 13 September 2021 12.49 PM

#### Policy

DPMC are preparing two Cabinet papers for consideration: a short paper for 15 September on extending the suspension of Trans-Tasman Quarantine Free Travel, and a paper on options to require all non-New Zealanders arriving from 1 November to be vaccinated. DPMC are continuing to work through issues with the Order and are preparing advice on how to reduce the risk of further outbreaks while the vaccine rollout continues.

DPMC: 13 September 2021 2.04 PM

### Regional Coordination

#### Fire and Emergency Resourcing

61 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 9 fewer than Friday. Personnel availability remains good nationwide.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 13 September 2021 2.29 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Traffic

In Auckland, traffic is 31% of baseline levels (compared to the same week in 2019). Light vehicle traffic dropped by 1% and heavy vehicle traffic increased by 5% compared to the previous week. Outside of Auckland, traffic remains below baseline levels in Christchurch (60% vs. the same week in 2019), Wellington (73%), Hamilton (86%) and Dunedin (85%).

Ministry of Transport, 13 September 2021 9.45 AM

#### Transport

Wellington bus patronage last week was 31% of patronage in the same week in 2019. Christchurch bus patronage was at 43% compared to 2019. Councils have indicated patronage is generally still at a manageable level under AL2 despite the new "no standing rule", which reduces capacity by approximately 40%.

Two councils (Northland Regional Council and Hawke's Bay) reported some passengers being left behind this week due to a lack of capacity, however there have been no significant issues to date.

Waka Kotahi: 13 September 2021 9.10 AM, Ministry of Transport: 13 September 2021 2.55 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Travel Exemption Requests

MPI has received 464 requests for a boundary exemption. 132 requests were approved, 101 declined, and the remainder either withdrawn, revoked, or are awaiting further information.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 13 September 2021 1.42 PM

#### Ministry of Health - Boundary Exemptions

As at 8 AM on 13 September, the Ministry of Health has received a total of 3,412 requests for a boundary exemption. Of these, 3,193 have been completed, with 153 approved; 2,487 declined; and 553 closed, referred to MBIE, permitted under the Order, or declined multiple times.

Of the 2,640 exemption requests considered within the Ministry of Health's mandate, 5.8% were approved.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 8.02 AM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Supermarket Resourcing

As of September 13, Countdown has approximately 500 staff not working as a result of COVID-19 risks, down from 800 on September 7. Two Countdown stores remain closed. Foodstuffs North Island has two staff self-isolating, six fewer than on September 10.

MBIE: 13 September 2021 2.54 PM

#### Infrastructure Resourcing

In the water sector, Watercare have 11 staff self-isolating (no change from 10 September). There are 24 staff self-isolating across the fuel sector (no change from 10 September), and seven staff self-isolating in the gas sectors (up two from 10 September). There are no staff self-isolating in the electricity sector (down five since 10 September).

MBIE: 13 September 2021 2.54 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure

A solution was implemented over the weekend to resolve the remote connection issues experienced by DIA staff on Friday. Customer facing websites have not been impacted. No new issues were reported.

Department of Internal Affairs: 13 September 12.00 PM

#### Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

MBIE: 13 September 2021 2.54 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

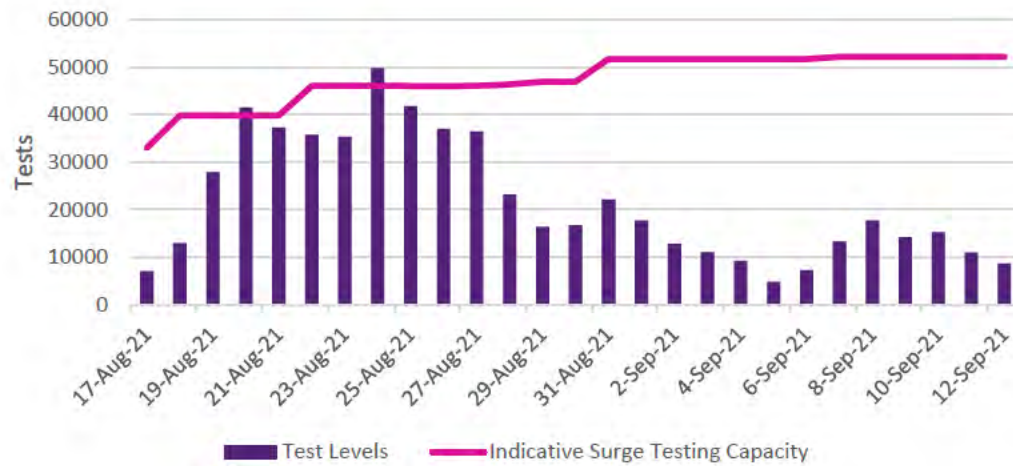
### Indications of Public Sentiment

#### Testing Levels Decreasing

There has been an overall general reduction in testing levels since 24 August. Low testing overall may be partly attributable to lower cases and reduced circulation of respiratory infections in the community due to restricted movement, but may also be indicative of testing hesitancy.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 9.38 AM

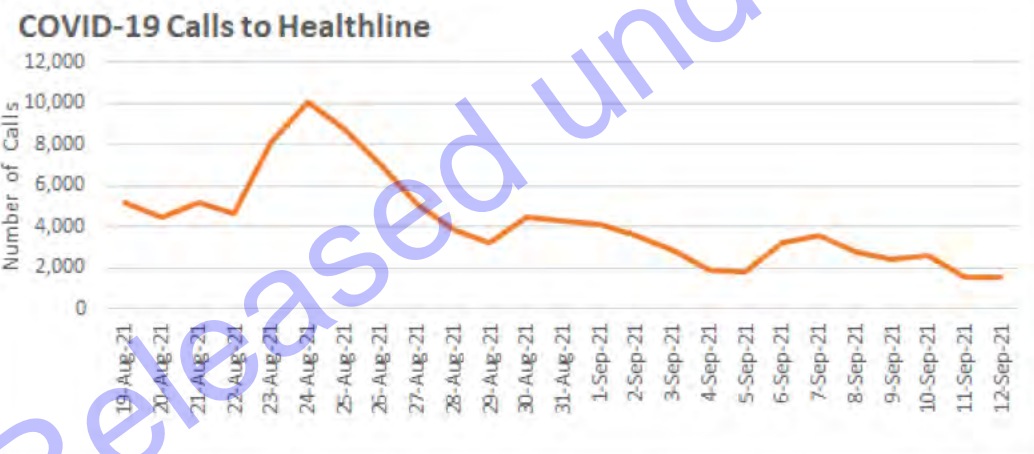
Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered



#### Calls to Healthline Decreasing

As at 12 September, call volumes to Healthline regarding COVID-19 have reduced and are now at the lowest level since the beginning of the recent COVID-19 outbreak.

Ministry of Health, 13 September 2021 1.00 PM

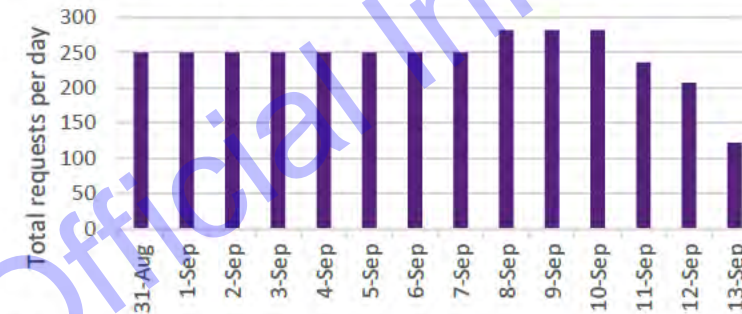


#### Health, MBIE, and MPI Boundary Exemptions

Health receive around 200 requests each day for exemptions to cross the AL4 boundary. The rate of requests appears to be decreasing. Health approve around 5% of all requests directly and refer some requests to MBIE and MPI. MBIE and MPI approve between 10% and 30% of the requests they receive.

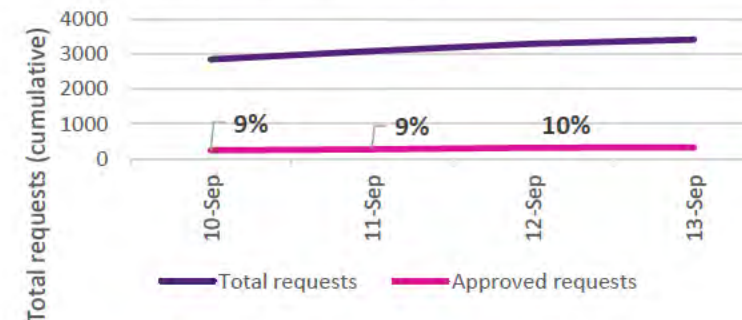
Ministry of Health, 13 September 2021 8.02 AM

Approximate Daily Volume of Requests to MOH for Boundary Travel Exemptions to Leave AL4 Areas



Note: the data for Aug 31-7 Sept and 8-10 Sept represent daily averages for those periods, as daily data was unavailable.

Total Requests/Approvals to MOH, MBIE, MPI and Other Agencies for Boundary Travel Exemptions



#### Checkpoint Breaches

At checkpoints less than 1% of vehicles stopped between 1 to 9 September were turned back. There has been one incident of an individual failing to stop.

A range of reporting indicates that a small amount of people may be seeking to evade checkpoints by using farm or private roads, foot tracks, train tracks, small trucks (which are not stopped), abusing official paperwork at crossing points, and attempting to cross at different checkpoints after being turned away from one. This is likely related to the growing level of 'unrest' noted in calls to Healthline regarding people needing to cross the Auckland Boundary. New Zealand Police 7.20AM 11 September, Ministry of Health 1.00PM 11 September

#### Concerns Regarding MIQ for Vaccinated People

Some New Zealander's have begun to question the reasoning behind the 14 day stay in MIQ facilities after they have been vaccinated. There is a sentiment amongst some members of the public that vaccinated travellers are lower risk than unvaccinated New Zealanders going through MIQ facilities on return from overseas.

RNZ News: 13 September 2021 1.02 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Indications of Public Sentiment

Section 6(c)

[Redacted content]

#### Complaints About Mask Wearing

Some people who are exempt from wearing a mask, such as those with a disability or health condition, are feeling embarrassed and/or discriminated against after being turned away from supermarkets, even with proof of exemption.

There are also reports of "anti-maskers" abusing exemption accreditations, making it more difficult to identify those who are genuinely exempt. An interagency working group monitoring face mask discrimination and exemption issues has identified the need to support those who qualify for exemptions by updating messaging, providing resources, and having ongoing discussions with supermarkets to ensure frontline staff have the right information.

DPMC: 13 September 2021 2:13 PM, NZ Herald: 9 September 2021 5:45PM

#### Infringements, Prosecutions, and Warnings

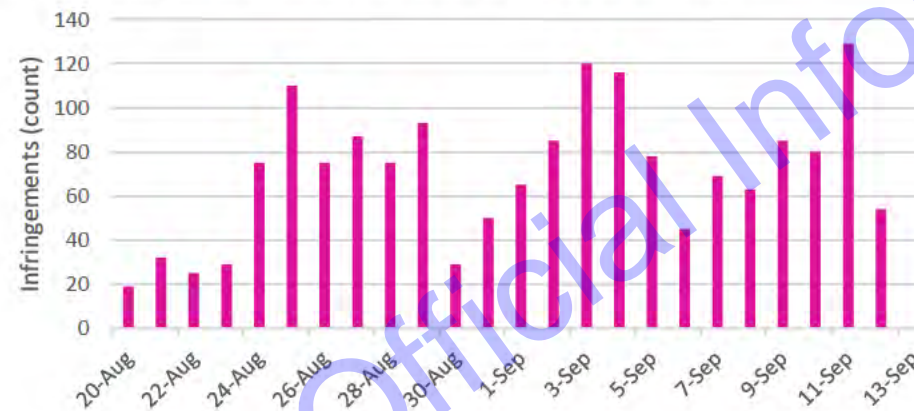
Compliance is generally high, however, there has been a recent spike in infringements in Auckland, which has since decreased.

Reporting of Alert Level 4 breaches largely related to people from different bubbles congregating in public places.

New Zealand Police: 13 September 2021 6.24 AM. Information as of 12 September 5 PM

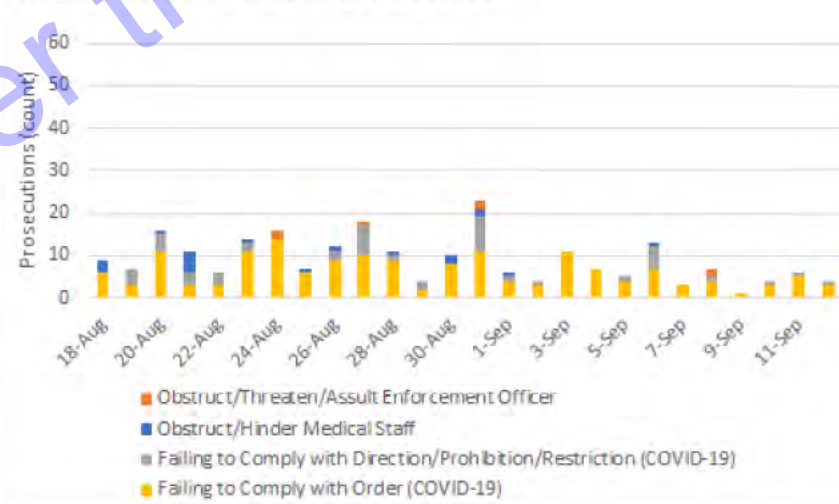
Note: As of 9 September, Police no longer report infringements outside AL4.

#### Total Infringements under AL3 and AL4 - Auckland Only

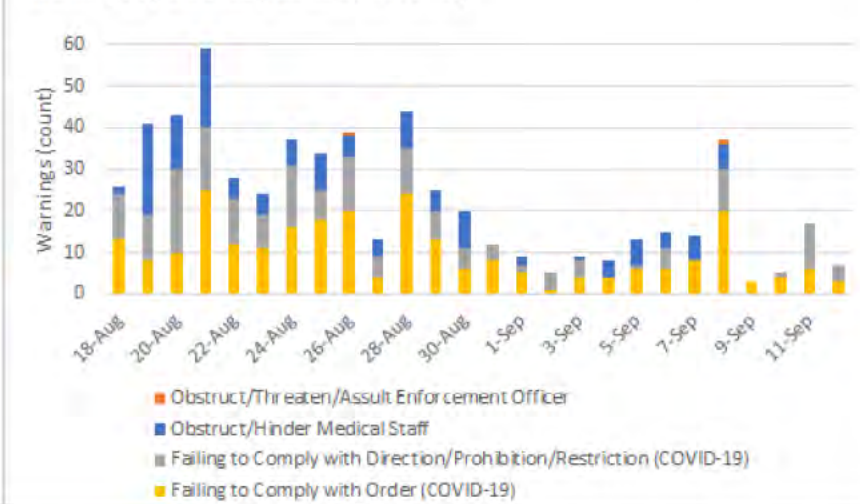


Note: Infringements include non-essential travel, failure to physically distance, wear a mask in premises or on public transport, comply with Orders or the Health Act, close premises, display a QR code, and organising a gathering outdoors.

#### Prosecutions By Offence (AL3 and AL4 Areas)



#### Warnings by Offence (AL3 and AL4 Areas)



# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Social & Community

#### Education - Special Needs Education Challenges

Special Education Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) are reaching out for mental health resources to support whānau of students with complex behaviour needs. As lockdown goes on, behaviour is becoming more dysregulated, leading to incidents of whānau feeling unsafe due to no longer being able to follow safety plans effectively. MoE are helping to broker access to relevant agencies and community groups.

Ministry of Education: 10 September 2021 4.00 PM

#### Education – Student Wellbeing During Alert Level 4

Secondary School Youth Workers contacting students/whānau in Auckland have found some are in dire straits without funds and food. MoE report food parcels are being delivered.

Ministry of Education: 10 September 2021 4.00 PM

#### Education – Distance Learning

The Ministry of Education continues to provide devices to schools. As at 9 September, MoE had distributed 9,187 devices nationwide, fulfilling 93% of total requests (9,906). Of these, 5,736 devices were for Auckland. 719 requests for devices remain outstanding, with 1,200 devices left in the warehouse, and additional stock of 1,500 devices currently stuck off-shore. MoE are currently meeting the needs of the education sector and are monitoring stock levels in case demand changes.

Ministry of Education, 10 September 4.00 PM

The Ministry of Education are developing four weeks of new content for Home Learning | Papa Kāinga TV. The first tranche of scripts has been through quality assurance and is now ready for production.

Ministry of Education, 10 September 4.00 PM

#### Education – ‘Learning Village’ for Migrant Students

Approximately 100 migrant and former refugee students in 47 intermediate and secondary schools are enrolled in the “Learning Village”, an online English course funded by MoE. The provider has connected with schools and teacher aides during lockdown to support them in delivering lessons remotely. There has been no drop in usage, and an increase in engagement for some students during the lockdown period.

Ministry of Education, 10 September 4.00 PM

#### Education – Schools Closed in Tai Tokerau Region

Five schools and two Early Childhood Education providers are impacted by staff living in the Auckland area unable to cross the border to Tai Tokerau. One kura and two ECE are closed.

Ministry of Education, 10 September 4.00 PM

#### Government Support for Food Access

The Government is responding to a need for support in Auckland and has committed a further \$10 million to help people access ongoing food and other essential items. This latest tranche is targeted at the Auckland region, helping providers and organisations to distribute over 50,000 more food parcels, and 20,000 essential wellbeing packs

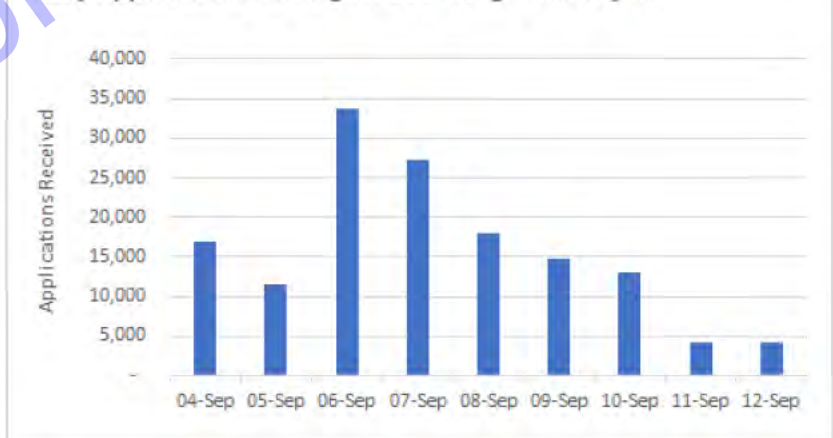
Caring for Communities: 13 September 2021 12.05 PM

#### Economic Indicator – Wage Subsidy

4,170 applications for the August 2021 Wage Subsidy #2 were received on 12 September, a decrease of 15 from the previous day, and a decrease of 8,350 from two days prior. The number of applications has continued to decrease each day since Monday 6 September, when it peaked at 33,682.

Ministry for Social Development: 13 September 2021 10.19 AM

Daily Applications for August 2021 Wage Subsidy #2



As at 12 September, \$1.793 billion has been paid in wage subsidies to support 1.124 million jobs, including employees of 274,246 businesses and 140,835 self-employed people.

Ministry for Social Development: 13 September 2021 9.53 AM

#### Family Harm

Family Harm events in Auckland continue to trend lower in comparison to the same timeframe during the April 2020 AL4 lockdown. The volume of reports from the past two days have remained below any point in the previous month.

New Zealand Police: 11 September 2021 2.00 PM



# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Health & Border

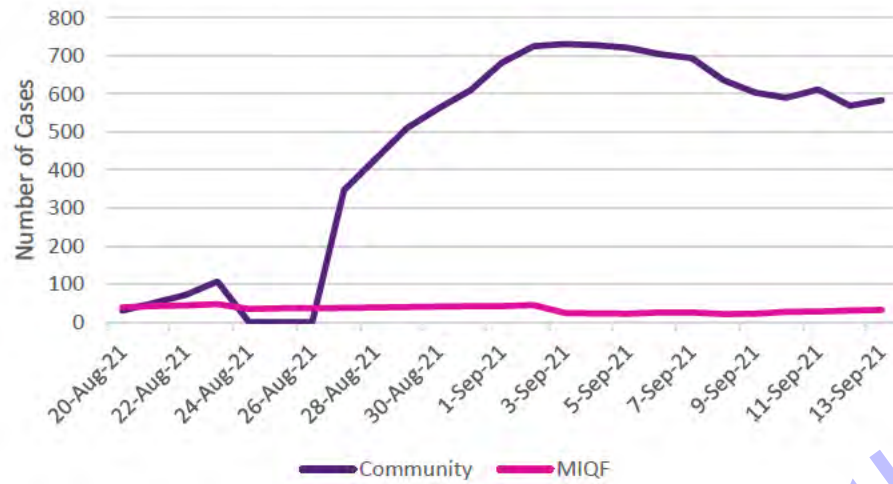
#### Active COVID-19 Cases Stabilising

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the community peaked at 731 on 3 September and has since declined.

The numbers of active COVID-19 cases identified in the community is 582, a rise of 14 from Sunday. The number of active COVID-19 cases identified in MIQ facilities (border cases) peaked on 2 September and has since declined reaching 32 on 13 September.

Ministry of Health, 13 September 2021 1.05 PM

Active COVID-19 Cases in Community and MIQF

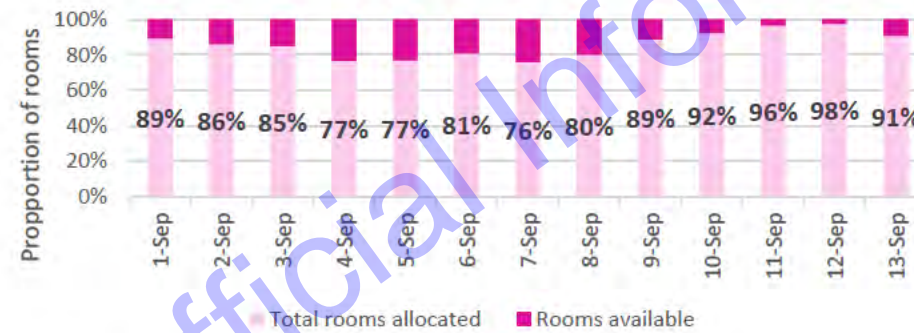


#### Managed Isolation and Quarantine

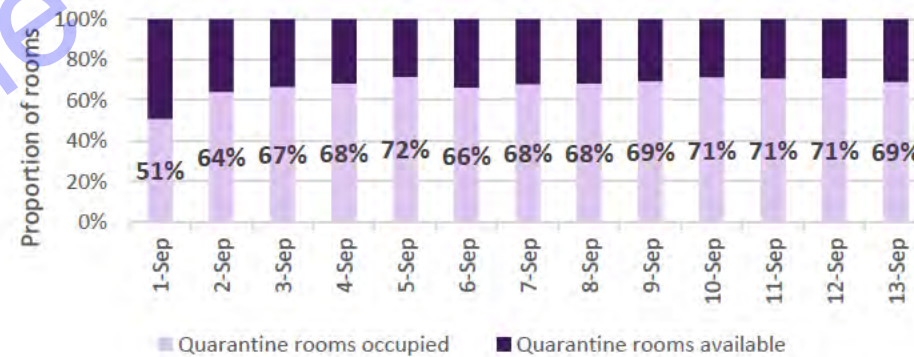
MIQ's current managed isolation capacity is 4,000 rooms. An additional 686 Quarantine rooms are available. Occupancy in managed isolation room has fluctuated between 75% and 98% since 1 September. Occupancy in quarantine rooms has mostly hovered between 64% and 72%.

MBIE: 13 September 2021 10.00AM

Managed Isolation Rooms Allocated as a Proportion of Total Capacity



Quarantine Rooms Allocated as a Proportion of Total Capacity



Released under the Official Information Act 1982

## COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

13 September 2021

## Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	<a href="mailto:electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz">electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz</a> s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	<a href="mailto:AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz">AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz</a> 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	<a href="https://www.police.govt.nz/covid-19-compliance">COVID-19 compliance   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a>
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	<a href="https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html">https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html</a>
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	<a href="https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment">https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment</a>
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	<a href="mailto:alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz">alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz</a>

This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz)

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021

## Daily Updates

### Health & Border

#### Community Cases

There are 983 total cases that have been identified in this outbreak. Today, 14 new cases were confirmed, all in Auckland.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 1.46 PM

#### Contact Tracing

Note: the Ministry of Health is now only reporting traced contacts that are currently being managed, i.e. those that are awaiting testing and results.

264 close plus contacts have been identified. 263 (99%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 0 have returned an initial positive result. 706 close contacts have been identified. 661 (93%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. 642 have had an initial test, and 1 has returned an initial positive result.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 1.47 PM

#### Vaccination

There have been 2,937,591 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,506,474 people have been fully vaccinated.

There are 1,734,985 future bookings.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 10.35 AM  
Information as of 14 September.

#### Testing

There were 15,105 tests yesterday, 28.9% of surge testing capacity. This is an increase of 5,826 from the previous day, on which 9,279 tests were conducted. There are sufficient supplies for 174,932 tests.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 9.10 AM

#### Worker Testing

Staff from a range of industries in Auckland have been asked to get tested, even if they do not have COVID-19 symptoms. These include healthcare, emergency services, petrol stations, transport workers, supermarkets and dairies, and transport workers.

Caring for Communities, 15 September 2021 11.00 AM

### Health & Border

#### ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity available at all DHBs. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 20 ICU beds and over 60 ventilators.

Capital and Coast DHB has less than 10 ICU beds and over 30 ventilators available.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 1.46 PM

#### COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,219,508 registered users, increasing by 2,130 since yesterday. There have been 2,215,655 scans today, compared to 2,145,540 scans yesterday.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 5.20 PM

#### Healthline

Healthline had 4,568 contacts on Tuesday. Of those contacts, 2,582 were calls to the COVID-19 Info Line, of which 69% were seeking information, and 23% were sent for testing.

Ministry of Health, 15 September 2021 1.00 PM

#### MIQ Capacity

There are 3,687 people in managed isolation. 3,834 managed isolation rooms are allocated (96% of operational capacity). This figure includes some rooms not in use as a result of cohorting, or cleaning before they can be reoccupied. There are 444 people in quarantine facilities. 464 of 686 quarantine rooms are filled (68% of capacity).

MBIE: 15 September 2021 11.35 AM

#### Mental Health

There were 626 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?" on Tuesday, 4 less than the contacts reported on Monday.

Ministry of Health, 15 September 2021 1.46 PM

#### PPE

Current usage rates remain within low pandemic usage.

There is currently eight weeks of PPE supply at high pandemic response use.

Ministry of Health: 13 September 2021 2.10 PM

### Health & Border

#### Health System

There are 20 hospitalised cases, 1 less than on Monday. Four cases are in ICU, all of whom require ventilation.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 1.46 PM.

#### Maritime Border

The Rio de la Plata arrived in Tauranga on Sunday. The Medical Officer of Health in Tauranga granted permission to unload with appropriate COVID-19 testing arrangements.

NZ Customs Service: 13 September 2021 3 PM

There are an estimated 37 merchant vessels currently in ports nationwide. Seven merchant vessels will arrive in New Zealand today, with an estimated total crew of 138. Three merchant vessels are scheduled to depart NZ today with an estimated 37 crew in total.

NZ Customs Service: 15 September 2021 1.00 PM

#### Air Border – Testing and Arrivals

Customs continue to screen 100% of passengers requiring pre-departure tests, with no breaches noted.

A red zone MIQ flight from Sydney is scheduled to arrive at 5.30 PM today, with 73 passengers on board.

NZ Customs Service: 15 September 2021 1.00 PM

### Compliance

#### Non-Compliance

In Auckland, 1 person was prosecuted yesterday for a COVID-19 related offence, the same number as the previous day. 2 people were warned on Monday. No data related to warnings was provided for yesterday. There were 34 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches.

New Zealand Police: 15 September 2021 6.35 AM.  
Information as of 14 September 5.00 PM.

### Compliance

#### Online Breach Notifications

There were 59 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday. This is a decrease of 174 compared to the previous day. Of the breaches, 46% (27) related to gatherings, 41% (24) related to businesses, and 14% (8) related to individuals. The rate of reports continues to fall steadily and is less than 10% of the peak of two weeks ago.

New Zealand Police: 15 September 2021 6.35 AM.  
Information as of 14 September 5.00 PM.

#### Travel Compliance

Approximately 15,172 vehicles were recorded going through checkpoints in the 24 hours to 11.59 PM, 14 September 2021. 118 vehicles (0.8%) were turned around for not having an exemption/permitted travel.

New Zealand Police: 15 September 2021 11.59 AM

#### Public Sentiment

Analysis of social media sentiment on Monday showed conversation in the 'Team of 5 Million' category increased by 73%, and positive sentiment around this topic increased by 6%. With the announcement that Auckland would remain in AL4, people are encouraging Aucklanders to continue their good work at AL4, thanking them for their efforts to keep the country safe, and expressing frustration towards those not keeping to the rules. Most online conversation continues to focus on the virus (47% negative and 44% neutral sentiment), #NZPOL (45% negative and 42% neutral), the vaccine rollout (49% negative and 37% positive), and alert level timeframes (34% negative and 49% neutral). Most categories decreased in negative sentiment compared to the previous day.

DPMC: 14 September 2021 5.09 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021



## Daily Updates

### AOG Coordination

#### Communications

The focus for communications includes updated messaging on Auckland boundary testing, addressing AL2 questions from the public, and preparing topics in advance of any move between alert levels next week. Total views of the Unite Against COVID-19 website were 382,903 on September 13, up 95% on the previous day. Traffic to the Book your Vaccination website spiked following the announcement of AL4 continuity, while communications continue to foreground the theme of vaccination in Auckland.

DPMC: 15 September 2021 3.50 PM

#### Policy

DPMC are preparing a Cabinet paper for the alert level review on Monday, September 20; and a Cabinet paper exploring options for requiring all non-New Zealanders arriving from 1 November to be vaccinated. In addition, joint advice on the domestic use of vaccine certification is underway with the Ministry of Health.

DPMC: 15 September 2021 1.03 PM

### Regional Coordination

#### Fire and Emergency Resourcing

62 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest, 1 less than Friday. Personnel availability constraints are concentrated in AL4 regions, with 85% of staff available compared to 95-100% elsewhere.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 15 September 2021 2.51 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Traffic

In Auckland, traffic is at 31% of baseline levels (compared to the same week in 2019). Auckland had a 5% increase in light vehicle traffic and a 2% increase in heavy vehicle traffic compared to the previous week.

Outside of Auckland, traffic remains below baseline levels in Christchurch (67% vs. the same week in 2019), Wellington (84%), Hamilton (91%) and Dunedin (95%). In each city, light vehicle traffic increased compared to the previous week, by 32% to 84%. Heavy vehicle traffic increased by 3% to 27%, except for Christchurch, which decreased by 0.3%.

Waka Kotahi: 15 September 2021 9.28 AM

#### Transport

As at 14 September, under AL4, Auckland public transport patronage (including buses, trains, and ferries) was 5.4% of the same week in 2019.

Under AL2, bus patronage continues to increase, with Wellington at 50% of the same week in 2019 (up 574% from the previous week) and Christchurch at 58% of the same week in 2019 (up 291% from the previous week).

The Ministry of Transport continues to work with the sector, Ministry of Health, and All of Government representatives to support implementation of the "no standing rule" on public transport, and monitor the impact on capacity.

Waka Kotahi: 15 September 2021 9.08 AM, Ministry of Transport: 15 September 2021 3.32 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Travel Exemption Requests

MPI has received 507 requests for a boundary exemption. 136 requests were approved, 115 declined, and the remainder either withdrawn, revoked, or are awaiting further information.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 15 September 2021 3.35PM

#### Ministry of Health - Boundary Exemptions

As at 8 AM on 15 September, the Ministry of Health has received a total of 4,234 requests for a boundary exemption. Of these, 3,800 have been completed, with 188 approved; 2,988 declined; and 624 closed, referred to MBIE, permitted under the Order, or declined multiple times.

Of the 3,800 exemption requests considered within the Ministry of Health's mandate, 4.9% were approved.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 8.08 AM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Supermarket Resourcing

Countdown has approximately 400 staff not working as a result of COVID-19 risks, down by 100 since September 13. Two Countdown stores remain closed. Foodstuffs North Island has two staff self-isolating, no change from 13 September. High demand for products and some purchase limits have been placed on some goods to maintain supply.

MBIE: 15 September 2021 3.23 PM

#### Infrastructure Resourcing

In the water sector, Watercare have 10 staff self-isolating (one less than 13 September). There are 24 staff self-isolating across the fuel sector (no change from 13 September), and five staff self-isolating in the gas sectors (down two from 13 September). There are no staff self isolating in the electricity sector.

Three staff are isolating in the waste sector.

MBIE: 15 September 2021 3.23 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure – Legal Process Continuity

Remote participation in court hearings has been scaled up since last year, including a 30% increase in capacity facilitated in collaboration with Spark. Some sessions continue to require in-person presence, and capacity gaps remain.

Department of Internal Affairs: 15 September 12.00 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure – Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) Attack

Following an initial notification on 14 September, there has been a sustained DDoS attack against several New Zealand organisations. CERTNZ is the incident lead, and the Government Chief Digital Officer is scheduled to distribute its advice to government organisations today.

Department of Internal Affairs: 15 September 12.00 PM

#### Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

MBIE: 15 September 2021 3.23 PM



# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

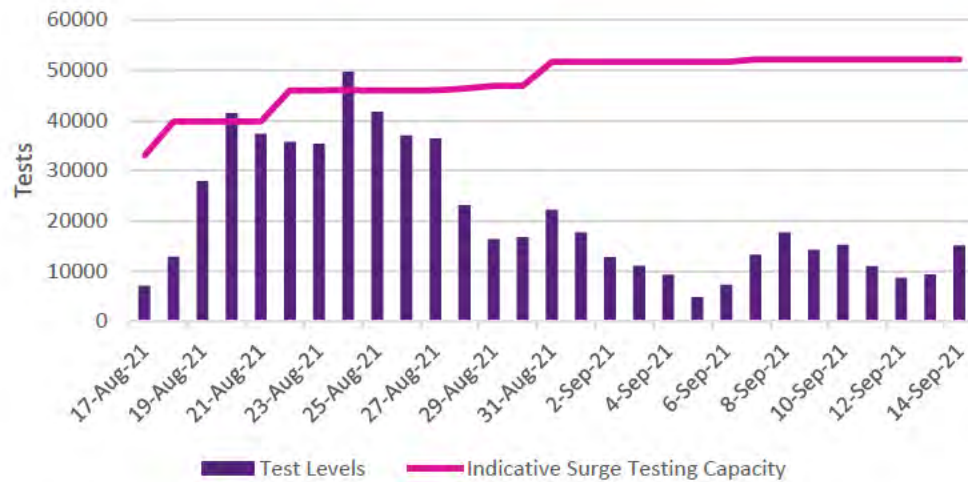
### Indications of Public Sentiment

#### Testing Levels Increasing

After an overall reduction in testing levels since 24 August, testing rates have begun to increase. However, this remains far lower than peak levels. Low testing rates may be partly attributable to reduced circulation of respiratory infections in the community due to restricted movement, but may also be indicative of testing hesitancy and COVID-19 fatigue in the community.

Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 9.50 AM

Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered



#### Calls to Healthline Decreasing

There has been a daily average of 2,326 COVID-19 related calls to Healthline in the last week, a 25% decrease from the previous week's daily average (3,115). Recent themes in the calls include concerns around the Hotel SO MIQ case reported in the media being the start of another outbreak, police seeking testing advice about lockdown breaches for people with symptoms, and vaccination side effects.

Ministry of Health, 15 September 2021 1.00 PM

COVID-19 Calls to Healthline

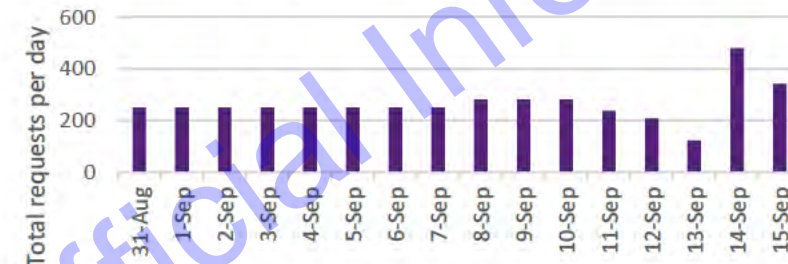


#### Health, MBIE, and MPI Boundary Exemptions

Health are receiving 200-300 requests each day for exemptions to cross the AL4 boundary; the volume of requests appears to be increasing. Health are approving around 5% of these requests directly and refer some requests to MBIE and MPI. MBIE and MPI approve between 10% and 30% of the requests they receive.

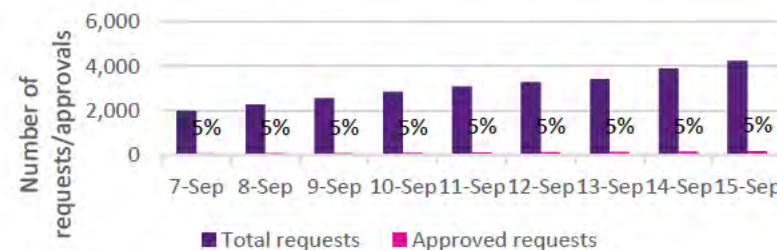
Ministry of Health, 15 September 2021 8.08 AM

Approximate Daily Volume of Requests to MOH for Boundary Travel Exemptions to Leave AL4 Areas

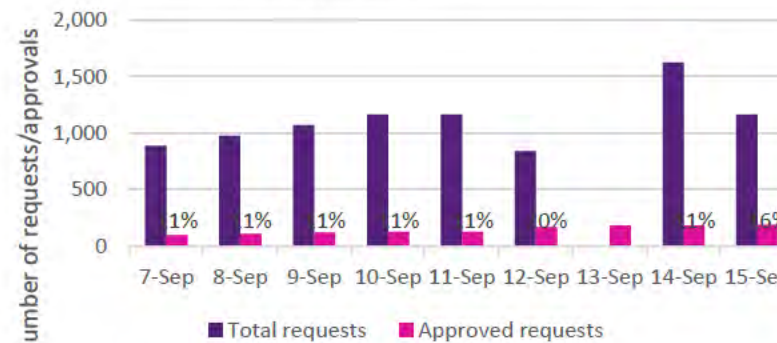


Note: the data for Aug 31-7 Sept and 8-10 Sept represent daily averages for those periods, as daily data was unavailable.

Cumulative Travel Exemption Requests and Approvals - MoH



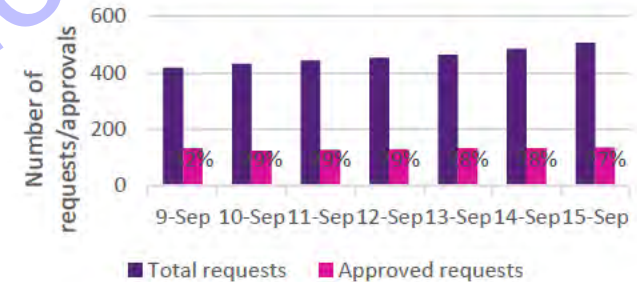
Cumulative Travel Exemption Requests and Approvals - MBIE, others



Note: the data for the total requests on 13 September was unavailable.

#### Health, MBIE, and MPI Boundary Exemptions

Cumulative Travel Exemption Requests and Approvals - MPI



#### Checkpoint Breaches

At checkpoints, 0.78% of vehicles were turned back on September 14. This is the lowest proportion compared with the past week, and less than a third of that over the weekend. This is despite significantly higher volumes of vehicles.

Police have been stopping more vehicles on average travelling into and out of Auckland since the rest of the country moved from AL3 to AL2. The misuse of essential worker status to cross the borders continues to be an issue, with generic letters that do not explicitly state that the holder is permitted to cross the borders being received at the checkpoints. Old exemption letters from the April 2020 lockdown have also been received. Police staff are remaining vigilant when inspecting documents.

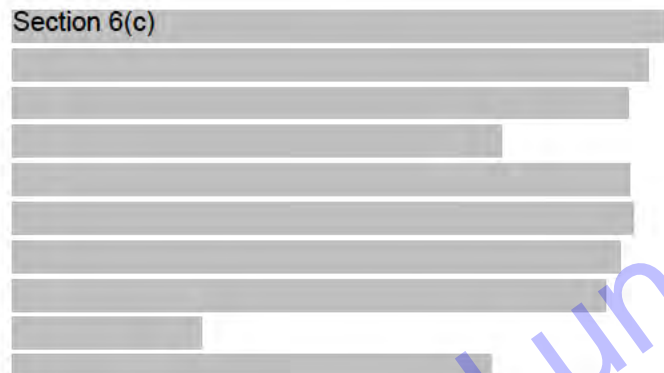
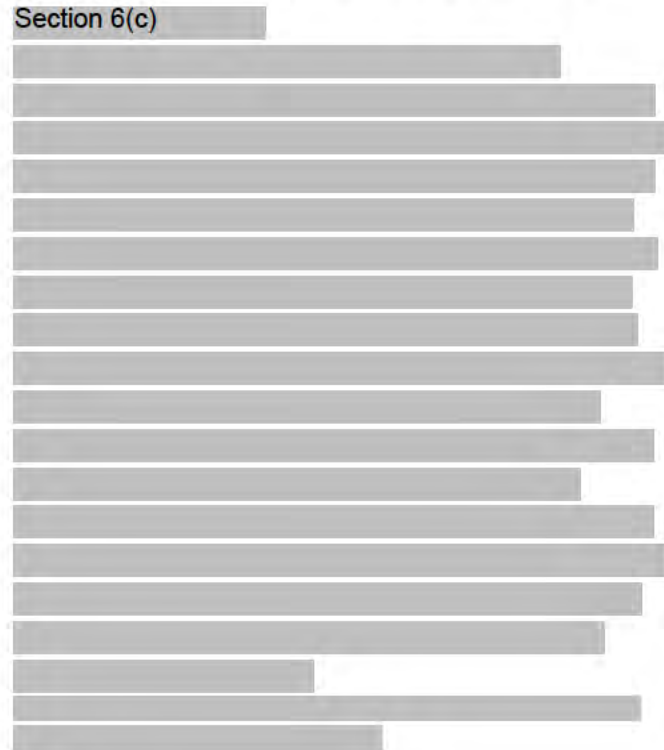
New Zealand Police, 15 September 2:42 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Indications of Public Sentiment



#### Infringements, Prosecutions, and Warnings

Compliance is generally high, however, there has been a recent spike in infringements in Auckland, which has since decreased.

Reporting of Alert Level 4 breaches largely related to people from different bubbles congregating in public places.

New Zealand Police: 15 September 2021 6.35 AM. Information as of 14 September 5 PM

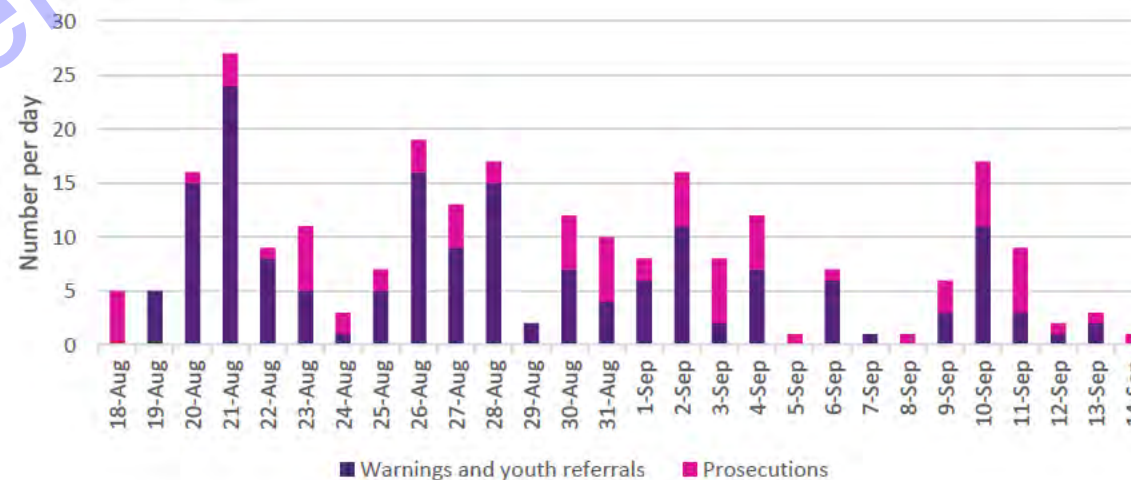
Note: As of 9 September, Police no longer report infringements outside AL4.

#### Total Infringements under AL3 and AL4 - Auckland Only



Note: Infringements include non-essential travel, failure to physically distance, wear a mask in premises or on public transport, comply with Orders or the Health Act, close premises, display a QR code, and organising a gathering outdoors.

#### Warnings and Prosecutions under AL3 and AL4 – Auckland Only



#### Public Sentiment about Vaccines and the Future

Analysis of social media indicates that public sentiment about the vaccine rollout continues to be low with 49% expressing negative sentiments about the rollout of the vaccines. Some concerns have also been raised about the need to prioritise Auckland to get out of Level 4 as the vaccination rates continue to be low.

Annalect Report: 12 September 2021 4:42 PM. RNZ: 13 September

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Social & Community

#### Food Security and Distribution in Pacific Communities

Food security and distribution continues to be a key issue for Pacific communities. Long call wait times and delayed delivery highlight the strain on Pacific providers, and the need for additional resources and funding. MPP and MSD are working to better identify where need is greatest, align their efforts, and ensure food demand is being met.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 14 September 2021 5.00 PM

#### Food Access

Foodbanks across Auckland continue to experience high demand, with Pacific and elderly populations requiring particular attention and some providers reporting levels greater than throughout the 2020 lockdown. For example, the Auckland City Mission report their food parcel demand is triple that experienced during March/April 2020.

Centre for Communities, 15 September 2021 11.00 AM

#### Family Harm

Family Harm events in Auckland over the current lockdown period are trending lower than during the April 2020 AL4 lockdown. However, there has been an increase of cases over the past week.

Centre for Communities, 15 September 2021 11.00 AM

#### Education – Devices for Distance Learning

The Ministry of Education continues to provide devices to schools. As at 13 September, MoE had distributed 10,200 devices nationwide. Of these, 5,740 devices were for Auckland. The existing stock of available devices has fallen to 197, which is shortly due to be bolstered by 1,000 laptops arriving from Sydney.

Ministry of Education, 14 September 7.40 AM

#### Education – Internet Connectivity

Since the introduction of AL4 on August 18, 515 household internet connections have been facilitated for education with a focus on Auckland, Tai Tokerau, Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Wellington.

Ministry of Education, 14 September 7.40 AM

#### Access to Educational Devices and AL4 Impact on Exams

School principals are raising concerns about 'COVID fatigue' and the expected impacts on NCEA exams, particularly among the most disadvantaged students. Pacific leaders suggest that this is exacerbated by inequalities of access to educational resources and devices.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 14 September 2021 5.00 PM

#### Education – Equity Concerns

An MSD provider has reported concerns that even though young people in South Auckland received chrome books and internet access, only a few of them are accessing online lessons. They report that there is too much going on at home for them to concentrate on their lessons – e.g. large families who are all at home, and there not being any quiet spaces.

Caring for Communities, 15 September 11.00 AM

#### Tertiary Students Fear Falling Behind

Tertiary students subject to AL4 restrictions in Auckland have expressed concerns regarding the impact of ongoing lockdown on their learning.

RNZ, 15 September 2021 7.17 AM

#### Face Covering Policies Causing Issues for People with Disabilities

Ongoing reports are being received around mandatory face covering policies creating issues and discrimination for people with disabilities.

DPMC: 15 September 2021 3.50 PM

#### Business Continuity under AL4

Following the extension of AL4 in Auckland, businesses have indicated concern for their survival prospects despite having access to resurgence support and the wage subsidy.

One News, 15 September 2021 7.31 AM

#### Businesses Suffering from Reduced Demand and Support under AL2

Businesses across the country are reporting suffering from a combination of reduced customer traffic and a lack of access to Government support under AL2.

One News, 15 September 2021 5.44 AM

#### Economic Indicator – Wage Subsidy

12,963 applications for the August 2021 Wage Subsidy #2 were received on 14 September, a decrease of 1,937 (13%) from the previous day, and a decrease of 14,251 (52%) from the same day last week. Overall, applications have trended downwards since WS #2 opened on 3 September.

Ministry for Social Development: 15 September 2021 9.48 AM

#### Daily Applications for August 2021 Wage Subsidy #2



As at 14 September, \$1.943 billion has been paid in wage subsidies to support 1.165 million jobs, including employees of 285,077 businesses and 148,866 self-employed people.

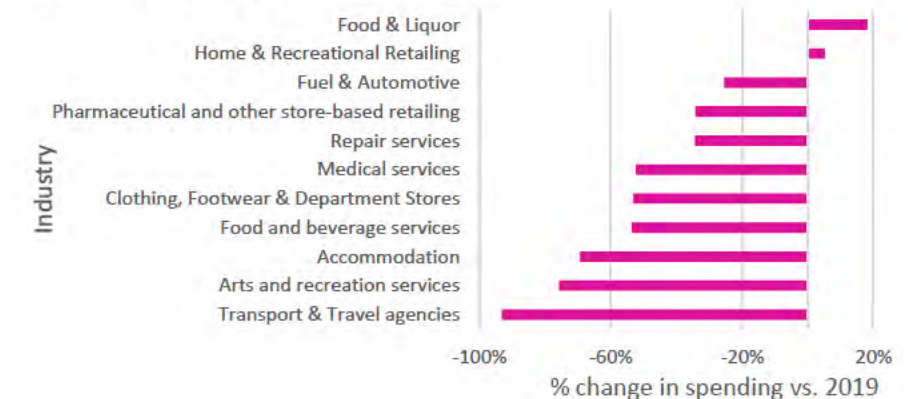
Ministry for Social Development: 15 September 2021 9.48 AM

#### Economic Indicator – Consumer Spending

As an indicator of spending, consumer spend (through Paymark EFTPOS) was down 16.4% in the week ending 12 September, compared to the same week in 2019. Spending decreased in all major categories except Food & Liquor, which grew by 18%, and Home & Recreational Retailing, which grew by 5%.

MBIE: 13 September 2021 5:00PM

#### Consumer Spend Vs Same Week in 2019



# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Health & Border

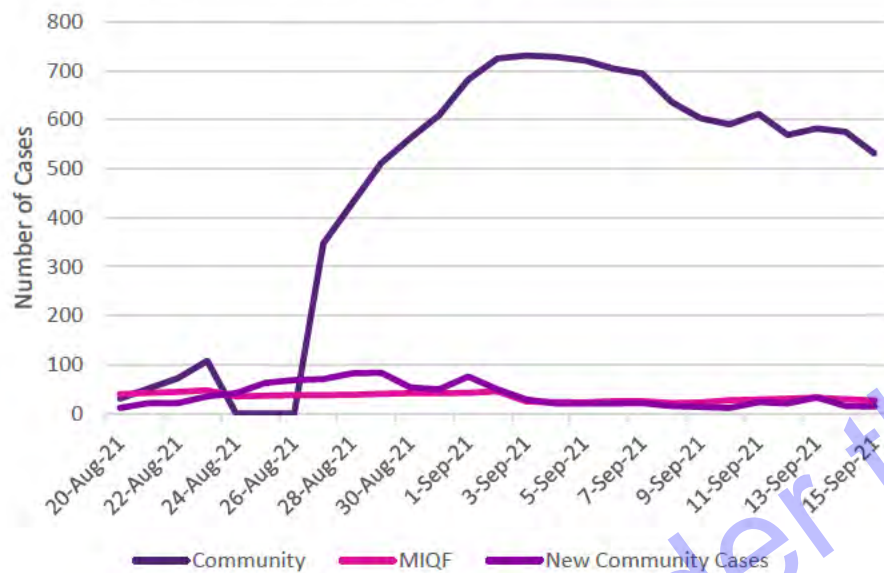
#### Active COVID-19 Cases Decreasing

The number of active COVID-19 cases in the community peaked at 731 on 3 September and has since declined, with brief and temporary increases on September 11 and 13.

The numbers of active COVID-19 cases identified in the community is now 530, a net reduction of 45 from yesterday. The number of active COVID-19 cases identified in MIQ facilities (border cases) has declined from 29 to 26 over the same period, after increasing between September 10-13.

Ministry of Health, 15 September 2021 1.45 PM

Active COVID-19 Cases in Community and MIQF



#### Anxiety and Depression Spiking

In the past week, 14% of New Zealanders report experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression. This is similar to previous AL4 reporting during 19-31 August (15%), but double that in the week ending 2 August 2020 (during AL1).

Ministry of Health, 14 September 2021

#### Mental Health Incidents Increasing

Reports of mental health incidents continue to trend higher than the 12-month weekly average. The largest increase was in Counties Manukau, with an increase of 16.

Caring for Communities, 15 September 2021 11.00 AM

#### Mental Health Concerns in Auckland and Northland

MEC, the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission (MHWC), and Auckland Emergency Management (AEM) have encountered several mental health concerns in Auckland and Northland, as a result of linguistic barriers, isolation, a lack of targeted mental health support for ethnic communities and the social stigma associated with seeking help. This is reinforced by the composition of calls to the 1737 Need to Talk? Helpline, which come predominantly from AL4 regions.

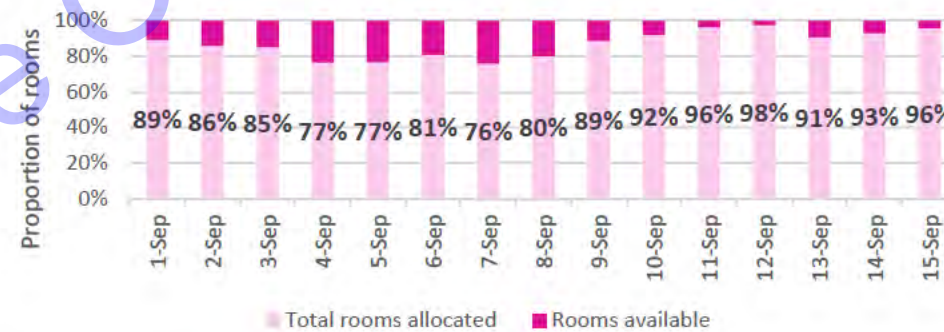
Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities, 14 September 2021 5.00 PM; National Emergency Management Agency, 2.19 PM

#### Managed Isolation and Quarantine

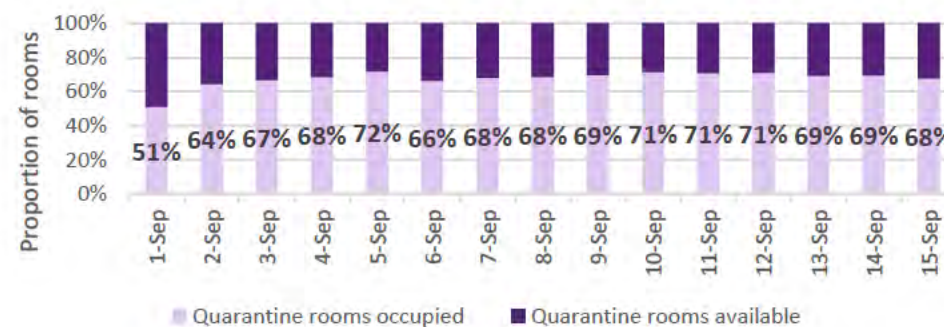
Occupancy of managed isolation rooms has fluctuated between 76% and 98% since 1 September, though space has been tighter recently, with over 90% occupancy since 10 September. Occupancy in quarantine rooms has mostly hovered between 64% and 72%.

MBIE: 15 September 2021 11.50AM

Managed Isolation Rooms Allocated as a Proportion of Total Capacity



Quarantine Rooms Allocated as a Proportion of Total Capacity



#### Vaccination Rates by Ethnicity

Ministry of Health data illustrates vaccination rates among Māori (22.7%) and Pacifica (31.2%) are behind those of Asian (40.5%) and European (37%) populations. However, this may be more reflective of access and age demographics than differences in vaccine sentiment. The median ages for Māori and Pacifica are 25 and 23 respectively, significantly lower than those among Asian (31) and European (41) groups.

Ministry of Health, 14 September 2021 11.59 PM

#### Vaccine Access for Specific Groups

The Latin American community has requested a targeted vaccine clinic. MOH and MEC are working with Capital and Coast DHB to establish this clinic in Porirua. ChangeMakers Resettlement Forum (CRF) and community leaders are requesting walk-in clinics for refugees who are unable to book vaccinations online or by phone. Muslim communities in Auckland are also requesting access to faith-based vaccination facilities, citing fears of racial abuse after the New Lynn mall terrorist incident. The In response, the New Zealand Muslim Association (NZMA) has recently established a dedicated facility in Epsom.

Ministry for Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities, 14 September 2021 5.00 PM; Caring for Communities, 15 September 2021, 11.00 AM



## COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

15 September 2021

## Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	<a href="mailto:electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz">electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz</a> s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	<a href="mailto:AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz">AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz</a> 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	<a href="https://www.police.govt.nz/covid-19-compliance">COVID-19 compliance   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a>
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	<a href="https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html">https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html</a>
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	<a href="https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment">https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment</a>
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	<a href="mailto:alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz">alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz</a>

This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz)

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

17 September 2021

## Daily Updates

### Health & Border

#### Community Cases

There are 1,007 total cases that have been identified in this outbreak. Today, 11 new cases were confirmed, all in Auckland.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 1.19 PM

#### Contact Tracing

1,242 close plus contacts have been identified. 1,230 (99%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. Of these, 455 have returned an initial positive result. 34,027 close contacts have been identified. 31,027 (91%) have been contacted and advised to isolate. There have been 3,696 casual plus contacts identified  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 1.19PM

#### Vaccination

There have been 3,015,345 first doses of vaccine administered and 1,553,910 people have been fully vaccinated.  
There are 1,574,902 future bookings.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 10.31 AM

#### Testing

There were 15,419 tests yesterday, 29.5% of surge testing capacity. This is a decrease of 2,159 from the previous day, when 17,578 tests were conducted. There are sufficient supplies for 169,656 tests.  
Ministry of Health: 15 September 2021 9.10 AM

#### ICU Beds and Ventilators

There is ventilator and ICU capacity available at all DHBs, except Hawkes Bay and Wairarapa, where all ICU capacity is in use for non-COVID related health issues. Available capacity at Auckland DHB is over 20 ICU beds and over 50 ventilators. Capital and Coast DHB has less than 10 ICU beds and over 30 ventilators available.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 1.19 PM

### Health & Border

#### COVID APP Usage

The NZ COVID Tracer app has 3,225,380 registered users, increasing by 792 since yesterday. There have been 1,825,311 scans today.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 2.47 PM

#### Healthline

Healthline had 3,876 contacts on Thursday. Of those contacts, 2,087 were calls to the COVID-19 Info Line, of which 74% were seeking information, and 15% were sent for testing.  
Ministry of Health, 17 September 2021 1.19 PM

#### MIQ Capacity

There are 3,464 people in managed isolation. 3,689 managed isolation rooms are allocated (92% of operational capacity). This figure includes some rooms not in use as a result of cohorting, or cleaning before they can be reoccupied. There are 363 people in quarantine facilities. 410 of 686 quarantine rooms are filled (60% of capacity).  
MBIE, 17 September 2021 2.57 PM

#### Mental Health

There were 528 contacts to "1737 Need to talk?" on Thursday, 98 less than the contacts reported on Monday.  
Ministry of Health, 17 September 2021 1.19 PM

#### PPE

Current usage rate remains within low pandemic usage. There is currently eight weeks of PPE supply at high pandemic response use.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 12.21 PM

#### Health System

There are 14 hospitalised cases, 6 less than on Wednesday. 3 cases are in ICU, all of whom require ventilation.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 1.19 PM.

### Health & Border

#### Maritime Border

There are 6 small craft inbound to Opuā. There are 2 small vessels in port at Opuā with crew isolating on board and 1 small vessel with 2 crew in MIQ. Cross agency planning for small vessel season will occur on 22 September 2021. 6 merchant vessels will arrive today, 3 will depart today and 35 are currently in ports.  
NZ Custos Service: 17 September 2021

#### Air Border – Testing and Arrivals

Auckland has 1 green zone flight arriving from the Cook islands, 19 red zone freight arrivals and 11 red zone freight departures expected today. Christchurch has two red flights arriving with 240 passengers. 100% of passengers requiring PDTs continue to be screened with no breaches noted. COVID-19 testing order requirements of staff are being met and adequate staffing levels are being maintained.  
NZ Customs Service: 17 September 2021 1.43 PM

### Compliance

#### Non-Compliance

In Auckland, 1 person was prosecuted yesterday for a COVID-19 related offence, the same number as the previous day. Two people were warned on Monday. No data related to warnings has been provided since this date. There were 25 infringements issued yesterday for COVID-19 related breaches, a drop from 83 the previous day.  
New Zealand Police: 17 September 2021 6.33 AM.  
Information as of 16 September 5.00 PM.

### Compliance

#### Online Breach Notifications

There were 79 compliance breaches reported to Police online yesterday, almost half the 154 reported the previous day. Of the breaches, 53% (42) related to gatherings, 38% (30) related to businesses, and 9% (7) related to individuals. The rate of reports continues to fall steadily and is only 5.8% of its peak on August 22.  
New Zealand Police: 17 September 2021 6.33 AM.  
Information as of 16 September 5.00 PM.

#### Travel Compliance

Approximately 15,824 vehicles were recorded going through checkpoints in the 24 hours to 11.59 PM, 16 September 2021. 119 vehicles (0.75%) were turned around for not having permission to travel.  
New Zealand Police: 17 September 2021 11.43 AM

#### Public Sentiment

Analysis of public social media sentiment on Wednesday highlighted conversation around the topic of Financial Stability, with people and businesses sharing resources and guiding people to where support can be found. A few people were discussing how the current support measures are not covering all different family set-ups. There was mixed sentiment from those receiving wage subsidy payments, with some finding the process straightforward and swift, and others frustrated at delays. Most online conversation continues to focus on #NZPOL decisions (42% negative and 47% neutral sentiment), the virus (44% negative and 48% neutral), the vaccine rollout (45% negative and 41% neutral), and alert level timeframes (35% negative and 52% neutral). Sentiment remained stable across most categories.  
DPMC, 15 September 2021 5.00 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

17 September 2021



## Daily Updates

### AOG Coordination

#### Communications

The focus for Communications includes updated messaging on Auckland boundary testing, addressing AL2 questions from the public, and preparing topics in advance of any move between alert levels next week.

DPMC: 15 September 2021 3.50 PM

#### Policy

DPMC are preparing a Cabinet paper for the alert level review on Monday, September 20; and a Cabinet paper exploring options for requiring all non-New Zealanders arriving from 1 November to be vaccinated.

Joint advice on the domestic use of vaccine certification is underway with the Ministry of Health. Policy is also working through issues identified in the current Public Health Order.

DPMC: 17 September 2021 10.44 AM

### Regional Coordination

#### Fire and Emergency Resourcing

56 Fire and Emergency personnel are isolating after visiting locations of interest (no change from yesterday).

Personnel availability constraints are concentrated in the AL4 region, with 85% of staff available compared to 95-100% elsewhere.

Fire and Emergency NZ: 17 September 2021 3.49 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Traffic

In Auckland, traffic is at 31% of baseline levels (compared to the same week in 2019). Auckland had a 1% increase in light vehicle traffic and a 2% decrease in heavy vehicle traffic compared to the previous week.

Outside of Auckland, traffic remains below baseline levels in Christchurch (67% vs. the same week in 2019), Wellington (88%), Hamilton (91%) and Dunedin (98%). In each city, light vehicle traffic increased compared to the previous week, by 1% to 10%. Heavy vehicle traffic increased by 1% to 5%, except for Wellington and Hamilton, which decreased by 2.3% and 0.9% respectively.

Waka Kotahi, 17 September 2021 9.56 AM

#### Transport

As at 16 September, Auckland public transport patronage under AL4 was 5.2% of the same week in 2019 and down 12% from the previous week in AL4.

Under AL2, bus patronage continues to increase. Wellington's is 63% compared to the same week in 2019, and up 34% from the previous week in AL2. Christchurch bus patronage stands at 66% of the same week in 2019, increasing 15% from the previous week.

Waka Kotahi: 17 September 2021 8.55 AM, Ministry of Transport: 15 September 2021 3.03 PM

### Travel & Transport

#### Travel Exemption Requests

MPI has received 549 requests for a boundary exemption. 144 requests were approved, 120 declined, and the remainder either withdrawn, revoked, or are awaiting further information.

Ministry of Primary Industries: 17 September 2021 4.11 PM

#### Ministry of Health - Travel Exemptions

As at 8 AM on 17 September, the Ministry of Health has received a total of 4,787 requests for a travel exemption. Of these, 4,527 have been completed, with 213 approved; 3,572 declined; and 739 closed, referred to MBIE, permitted under the Order, or declined multiple times.

Of the 4,527 exemption requests considered within the Ministry of Health's mandate, 4.7% were approved.

Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 8.53 AM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Corrections

Two people in Corrections care are considered close contacts of a growing COVID-19 cluster in the Auckland community (one at Auckland Regional Corrections Facility and one at Mt Eden Corrections Facility). Both returned a negative day 0 test and were tested on Thursday for their day 3 test, and are awaiting results.

19 members of Corrections staff are currently awaiting COVID-19 test results, with no reported disruptions to operations.

Department of Corrections, 16 September 2021 3.00 PM

### Workplace & Infrastructure

#### Supermarket Resourcing

Countdown has approximately 500 staff not working as a result of COVID-19 risks, up by 100 since September 15.

One Countdown store remains closed. Foodstuffs North Island has 32 staff self-isolating, up 30 from 15 September.

High demand for products and some purchase limits have been placed on some goods to maintain supply.

MBIE: 17 September 2021 2.52 PM

#### Infrastructure Resourcing

In the water sector, Watercare have 6 staff self-isolating (four less than 15 September).

There are 24 staff self-isolating across the fuel sector (no change from 15 September), and four staff self-isolating in the gas sectors (down one from 15 September).

There are no staff self-isolating in the electricity sector.

Three staff are isolating in the waste sector.

MBIE: 17 September 2021 2.52 PM

#### Digital Infrastructure – Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) Attack

The Government Chief Digital Officer sent advice on 15 September following the recent DDoS attacks to Government agencies asking they check with their providers around their resilience to withstand attacks. Short intermittent disruptions are expected to continue and CERT is the incident lead agency.

Department of Internal Affairs: 17 September 12.00 PM

#### Telecommunications, Energy, Water, Waste

No issues reported.

MBIE: 17 September 2021 2.25 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

17 September 2021

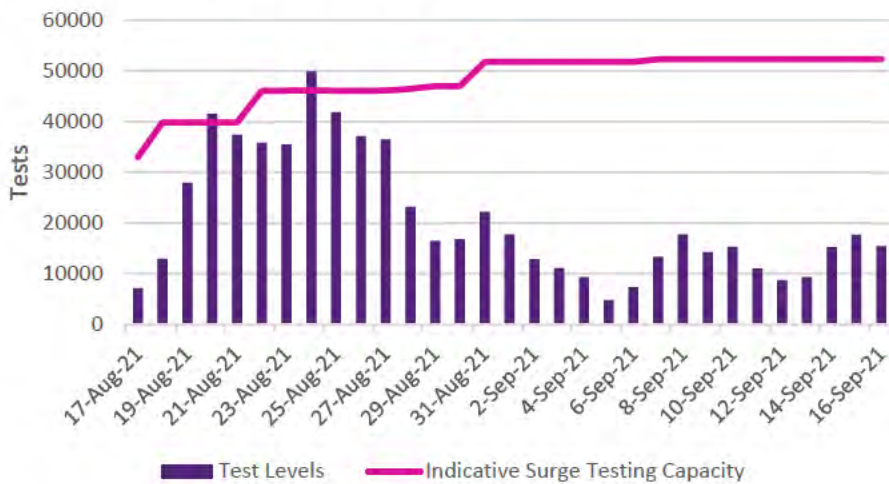
## The Bigger Picture

### Indications of Public Sentiment

#### Testing Levels Relatively Low

After testing rates peaked at 49,745 on 24 August 2021, they declined reaching a low of 4,750 on 5 September 2021. Since then, testing rates have varied between 7,255 and 17,684. Testing hesitancy may be one reason rates are low.  
Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021 9:52 AM

Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered



#### Themes of Calls to Healthline and 1737 Need to Talk?

There has been an increase in calls from people in the suburbs of interest, seeking information on where they can get a test. Distress related to regional boundaries continues to be a theme. The distribution of mental health and addiction contacts has changed recently with a greater proportion coming from callers in AL4 areas, with common themes including lockdown anxiety, isolation, and uncertainty around work, and school and relationship issues.

Ministry of Health, 17 September 2021 1:19 PM

COVID-19 Calls to Healthline

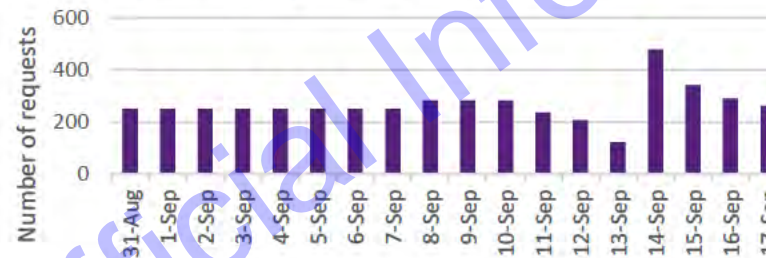


#### Health, MBIE, and MPI Boundary Exemptions

In the week ending 17 September, Health received an average of 277 requests each day for exemptions to cross the AL4 boundary. Requests peaked on 14 September at 480. Health are approving around 5% of these requests directly and refer some requests to MBIE and MPI. MBIE approves roughly 10% of requests, while MPI has an approval rate of approximately 30%.

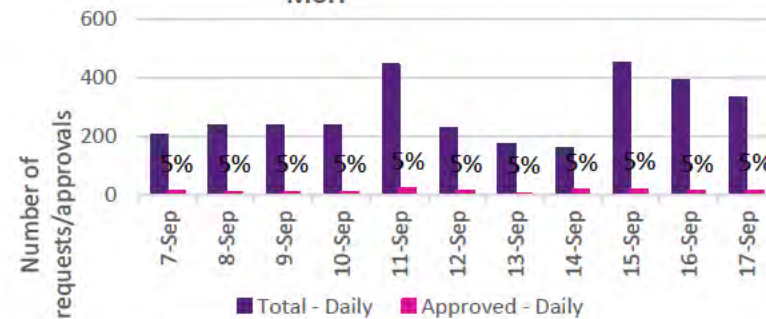
Ministry of Health, 17 September 2021 8:53 AM

#### Approximate Daily Volume of Requests to MOH for Boundary Travel Exemptions to Leave AL4 Areas

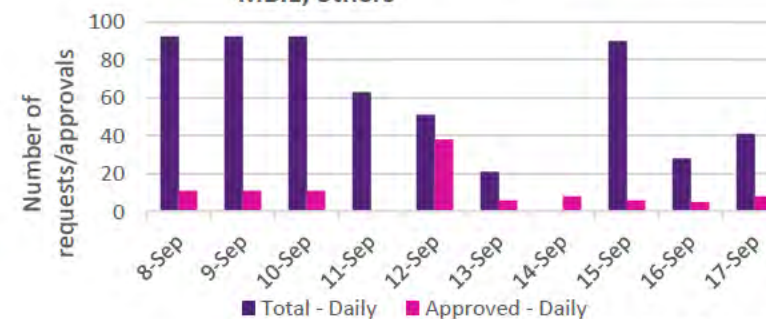


Note: the data for Aug 31-7 Sept and 8-10 Sept represent daily averages for those periods, as daily data was unavailable.

#### Daily Travel Exemption Requests and Approvals - MoH



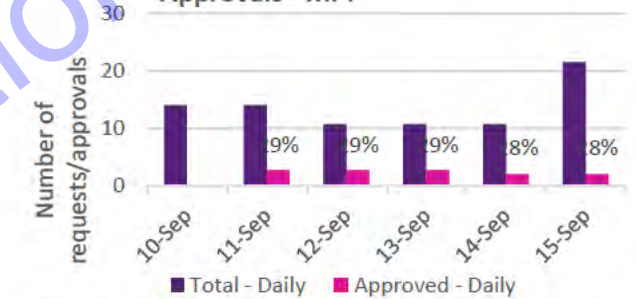
#### Daily Travel Exemption Requests and Approvals - MBIE, others



Note: the data for the total requests on 13 September was unavailable.

#### Health, MBIE, and MPI Boundary Exemptions

Daily Travel Exemption Requests and Approvals - MPI



#### Checkpoint Breaches

At checkpoints, 0.75% of vehicles were turned back on September 16. This is the lowest proportion since September 8, and less than a third of that over the weekend. This is despite significantly higher volumes of vehicles.

New Zealand Police, 17 September 11:43 AM

Police are investigating a number of incidents relating to individuals travelling out of Auckland, with some exploiting their essential worker status in order to circumvent checkpoints. There have also been reports of people trying to breach checkpoints by renting small trucks to use the truck lanes, as well as walking around checkpoints at night or using train tracks and waterways, to avoid being stopped. Police will continue to monitor the situation.

New Zealand Police, 16 September 3:00 PM

#### Mandatory Testing for Border Travel

As of 11:59 PM on 16 September, permitted workers crossing through AL4 checkpoints need to show proof of having had a COVID-19 test. To manage traffic flows, not all vehicles will be stopped, however travellers are required to carry this information and produce it when requested by an enforcement officer. There will likely be a transition period, which may cause frustration directed at checkpoint staff from members of the public.

New Zealand Police, 16 September 3:00 PM

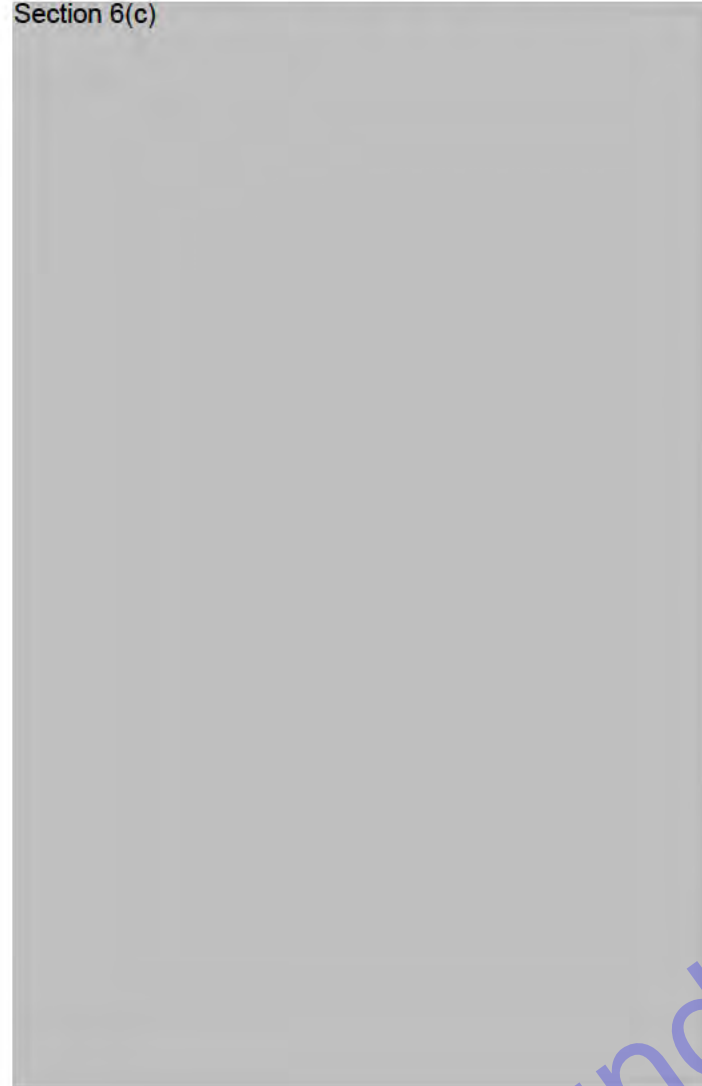
# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

17 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Indications of Public Sentiment

Section 6(c)



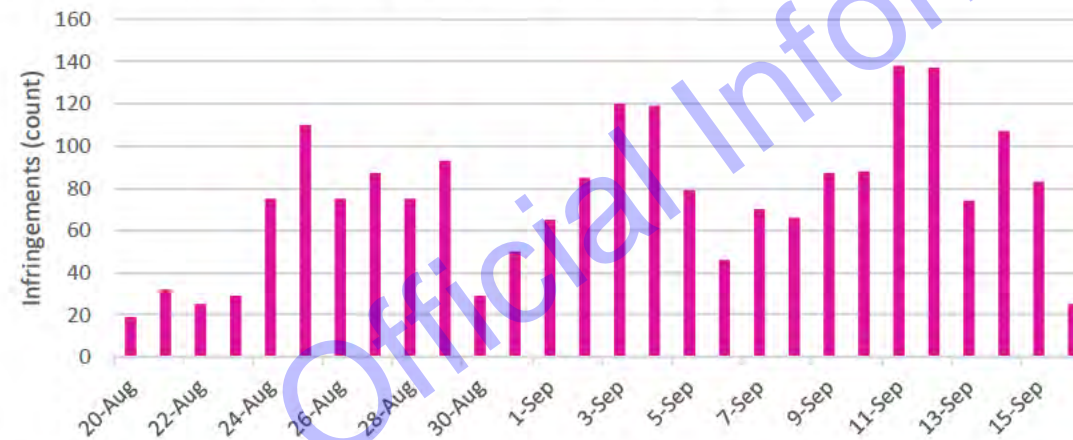
#### Infringements, Prosecutions, and Warnings

Compliance with AL4 rules is generally high. Trends reveal that non-compliance tends to spike over the weekends, subsequently declining throughout the week. Reporting of Alert Level 4 breaches largely related to people organising and/or participating in large gatherings.

New Zealand Police: 17 September 2021 6.33 AM. Information as of 16 September 5.00 PM

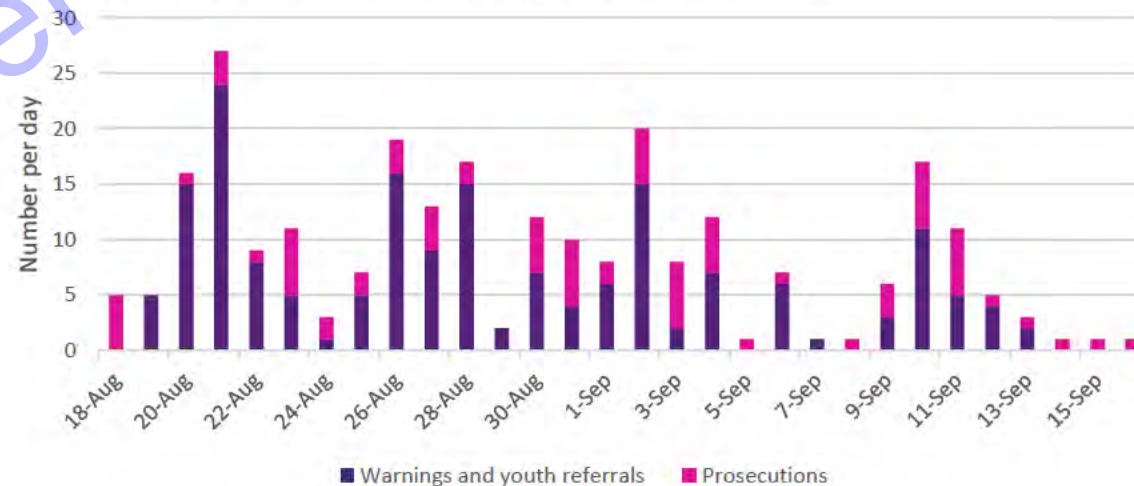
Note: As of 9 September, Police no longer report infringements outside AL4.

#### Total Infringements under AL3 and AL4 - Auckland Only



Note: Infringements include non-essential travel, failure to physically distance, wear a mask in premises or on public transport, comply with Orders or the Health Act, close premises, display a QR code, and organising a gathering outdoors.

#### Warnings and Prosecutions under AL3 and AL4 – Auckland Only



#### Confusion re Differing Isolation and Quarantine Requirements

Some members of the public are expressing that it is confusing that the time required for people to spend in MIQ after testing positive for COVID-19 differs from the time a person is required to be in MIQ on return to New Zealand. This followed media reports of the release of a person who had tested positive for COVID-19 after 10 days in MIQ. The duration of MIQ upon return to NZ is 14 days and isolation after testing positive is 10 days after symptom onset if there have been no symptoms for the past 72 hours.

Newshub: 16 September 2021, DPMC: 30 August; 15 September

#### Frustration Regarding Silver Ferns Travel Exemption Under AL4

A decision to grant the Auckland-based Silver Ferns a travel exemption to play in Christchurch next week has been met with public outrage. People are questioning why sport should get special dispensation over other people and businesses, especially when others are unable to leave Auckland to attend a family funeral, or even travel to hospital under AL4 with their loved ones.

Newshub, 17 September 2021 8:00 AM

## The Bigger Picture

### Social & Community

#### Food Security and Distribution in Pacific Communities

Food security and distribution continues to be a key issue for Pacific communities. MPP and MSD are working to better identify where need is greatest, align their efforts, and ensure food demand is being met. MPP is assessing 176 food security follow ups and will escalate to MSD as required.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 16 September 2021 5.00 PM

#### Food Access for Older People

NEMA and Auckland Council are working with MSD around the funding of food parcels with concerns around access to food for older people.

Caring for Communities, 17 September 2021 11.09 AM NEMA, 17 September 2021 2.34

#### Food Access at Ethnic Food Distribution Centres

Food parcel demand is also high at ethnic food distribution centres with one running out of food for two days due to the demand.

Caring for Communities, 17 September 2021 11.09 AM NEMA, 17 September 2021 2.34

#### Food Access in Apartments

NEMA have received concerns about food delivery for apartments and have raised this with MoH.

Caring for Communities, 17 September 2021 11.09 AM NEMA, 17 September 2021 2.34

#### Access to Education for Pacific Peoples

School principals have raised concerns about 'COVID fatigue' and the expected impacts on NCEA exams, particularly among the most disadvantaged students. Pacific leaders suggest that this is exacerbated by inequalities of access to educational resources and devices.

MPP are arranging an education focused zoom fono with MoE to establish a way to escalate issues.

Outside of Auckland, 73% of Pacific students went back to school at Level 2.

Ministry for Pacific Peoples: 16 September 2021 4.54 PM

#### Peer-Pressure Regarding Masks in Schools

There are some concerns that peer pressure in schools not to wear masks is taking precedence over recommended guidelines to wear a mask during class time at Level 2.

There has been a call from an epidemiologist for the Government to require mask wearing in schools, but some Principals have indicated that would be difficult to enforce. RNZ, 17 September 2021 10.28am

#### Mixed Response to School Holiday Decision

There has been a mixed response to the decision to leave school holiday dates unchanged. Some Principals welcomed the decision as it gives teachers and students certainty, whereas some parents are frustrated because they will need to continue to balance work and home schooling. Some parents also indicated concern that students will miss more classroom learning.

Stuff, 17 September, 1.09 PM

#### Education – The Digital Divide

The digital divide continues to be an issue for Māori in Auckland, this includes access to bandwidth, appropriate data caps and access to devices.

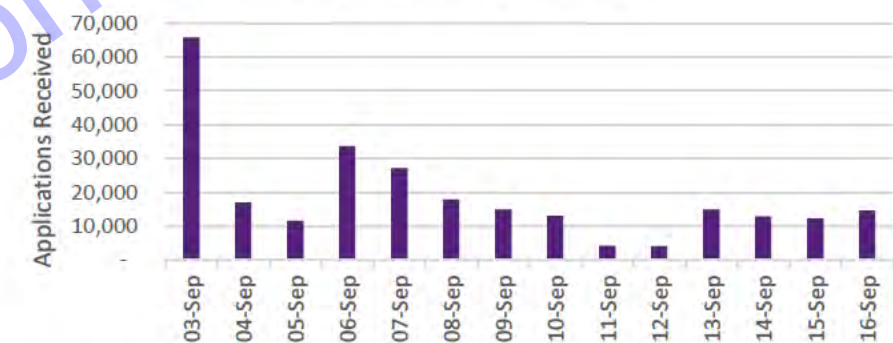
Te Puni Kōkiri, 16 September, 3.43

#### Economic Indicator – Wage Subsidy

14,621 applications for the August 2021 Wage Subsidy #2 were received on 16 September, an increase of 2,327 (19%) from the previous day, and a decrease of 247 (2%) from the same day last week. Overall, applications have continued to trend downwards since WS #2 opened on 3 September.

Ministry for Social Development, 17 September 2021 10.58 AM

#### Daily Applications for August 2021 Wage Subsidy #2



As at 16 September, \$2.098 billion has been paid in wage subsidies to support 1.198 million jobs, including employees of 293,591 businesses and 154,734 self-employed people.

Ministry for Social Development: 17 September 2021 9.27 AM

#### Public Transport – Free for Vaccination Appointments

Waka Kotahi are discussing the possibility of free public transport for people travelling to vaccination appointments to address the concern transport may be a barrier for some and will provide guidance on this as soon as possible.

Ministry of Transport: 15 September 2021 3.03 PM

#### Public Transport – “No Standing” Rule

The Ministry of Transport are continuing to work with the sector, Ministry of Health and All of Government representatives to support implementation of the “no standing rule” for public transport, especially to ensure accessibility is supported and staff are being kept safe.

Waka Kotahi has raised concerns about capacity with the restriction in place, after public servants have been encouraged to return to offices next week.

Ministry of Transport: 15 September 2021 3.03 PM

# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

17 September 2021

## The Bigger Picture

### Health & Border

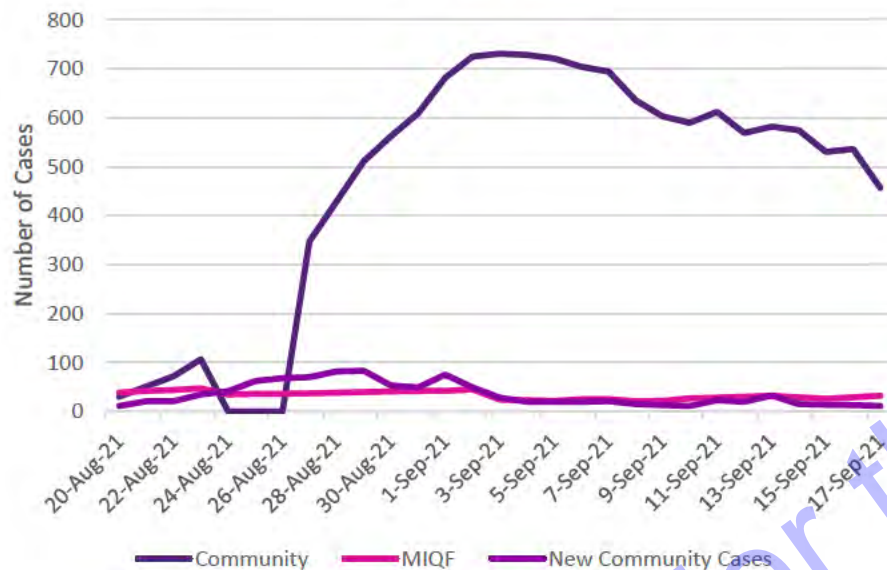
#### Active COVID-19 Cases Decreasing

The number of active COVID-19 community cases peaked at 731 on 3 September and has since declined, with brief and temporary increases on September 11 and 13.

The numbers of active COVID-19 cases identified in the community is now 457, a net reduction of 79 from yesterday. The number of active COVID-19 cases identified in MIQ facilities (border cases) increased slightly from 29 to 32 over the same period.

Ministry of Health, 17 September 2021 1.19 PM

Active COVID-19 Cases in Community and MIQF



#### Anxiety and Depression Afflicting 1 in 7 New Zealanders

From 8-14 September, 13% of New Zealanders reported experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression.

This is similar to previous AL4 reporting during 19-31 August (15%), but double that of the week ending 2 August 2020 during AL1 (7%).

Ministry of Health: 17 September 2021

#### Pasifika Concerns About Deportation

Pasifika community leaders and epidemiologists are advocating for an amnesty on Pasifika overstayer deportations to allay stress and anxiety. Deportations continued last year, and this added to concerns.

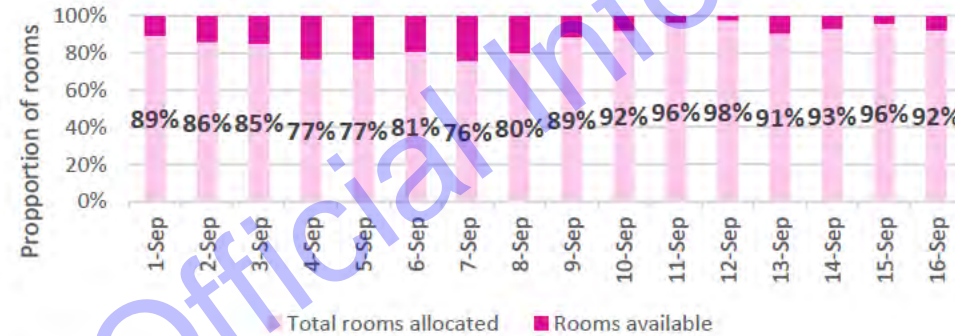
Ministry of Pacific Peoples: 16 September 2021, 5.00 PM

#### Managed Isolation and Quarantine Occupancy

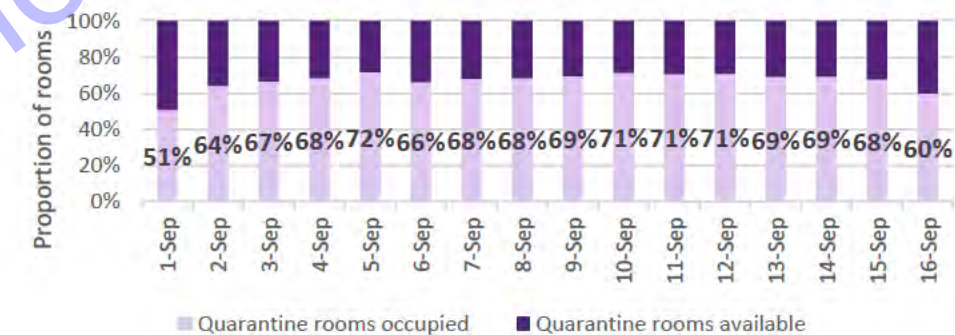
Occupancy of managed isolation rooms has fluctuated between 76% and 98% since 1 September, though space has been tighter recently, with over 90% occupancy since 10 September. Occupancy in quarantine rooms has mostly hovered between 64% and 72%, but has fallen to 60% today.

MBIE: 15 September 2021 2.57 PM

#### Managed Isolation Rooms Allocated as a Proportion of Total Capacity



#### Quarantine Rooms Allocated as a Proportion of Total Capacity



#### Vaccination Rates by Ethnicity

Vaccination rates among Māori (23.8%) and Pacifica (32.7%) are behind those of Asian (42.6%) and European (38.7%) populations, although these have increased by 1-2% across all ethnicities. This may be more reflective of access and age demographics than differences in vaccine sentiment. The median ages for Māori and Pacifica are 25 and 23 respectively, significantly lower than those among Asian (31) and European (41) groups.

Ministry of Health, 16 September 2021 11.59 PM

#### Vaccine Sentiment Encouraging

Despite scattered protests and isolated incidents of non-compliance, the vast majority of New Zealanders are supportive of the vaccination drive. The latest vaccine hesitancy research highlights that 79% of Kiwis are actively in favour of being vaccinated, 7% are hesitant and could be convinced, 14% say they're unlikely to get vaccinated, and only 7.4% completely opposed.

NewsHub, 16 September 2021

## COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

17 September 2021

## Key Contacts

Purpose	Agency	Contact
Queries from Elected Officials	DPMC	<a href="mailto:electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz">electedofficials@dpmc.govt.nz</a> s9(2)(a)
Business Queries	MBIE	<a href="mailto:AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz">AL4BusinessServices@mbie.govt.nz</a> 0800 424 946
COVID-19 Health Advice	Healthline	0800 358 5453
To Report a Breach	Police	<a href="https://www.police.govt.nz/covid-19-compliance">COVID-19 compliance   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a>
Information/Apply for Wage Subsidy	MSD	<a href="https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html">https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/wage-subsidy/index.html</a>
Resurgence Payment Support	IRD	<a href="https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment">https://www.ird.govt.nz/covid-19/business-and-organisations/resurgence-support-payment</a>
Exemption requests for Alert Level 4 measures <i>Note that if you have a general enquiry where someone is simply asking whether or not something is permitted and you are able to respond based on the Order, you can do so. If you are unclear at all, please forward to this new email.</i>	MoH	<a href="mailto:alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz">alertlevel4.generalenquiries@health.govt.nz</a>

This report is produced by the Insights and Reporting Team in DPMC's COVID-19 Group. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

[COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:COVID-19insights@dpmc.govt.nz)



# COVID-19: Across Government Daily Situation Report

21 September 2021

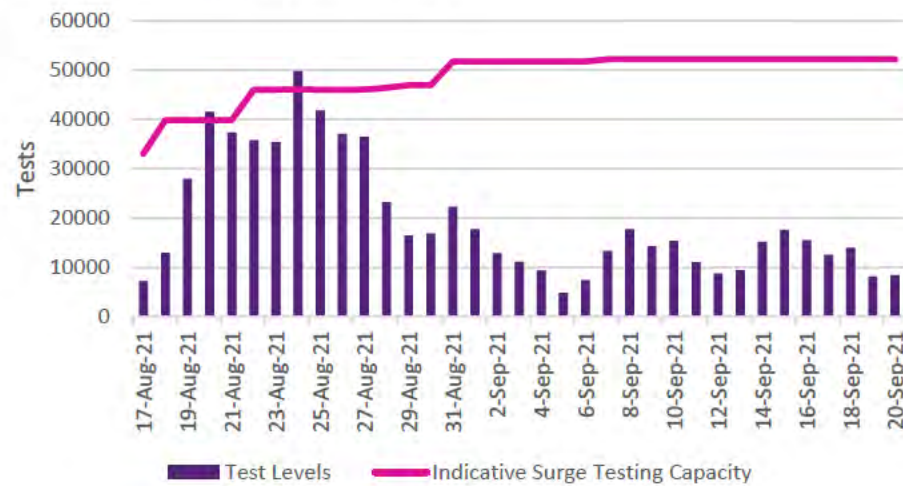
## The Bigger Picture

### Social & Community

#### Testing Levels Relatively Low

After testing rates peaked at 49,745 on 24 August 2021, they declined reaching a low of 4,750 on 5 September 2021. Since then, testing rates have varied between 7,255 and 17,684. Testing hesitancy may be one reason rates are low. Ministry of Health: 21 September 2021 8.55 AM

Testing Capacity vs Tests Administered

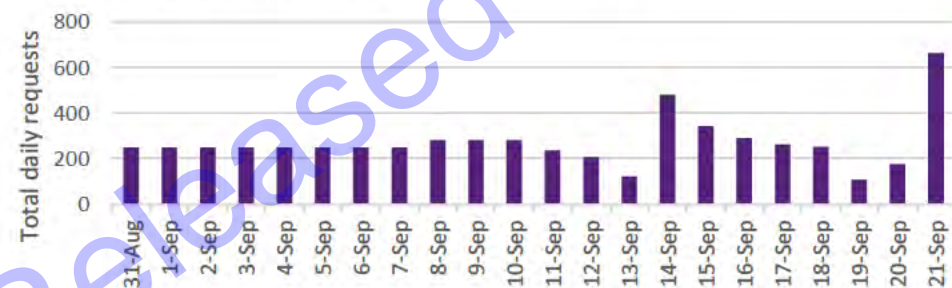


#### Health, MBIE, and MPI Boundary Exemptions

Over the past week, the Ministry of Health has received an average of 299 requests each day for exemptions to cross the Alert Level 4 boundary. After steadily declining, these requested spiked to 664 today. Health are approving 3.28% of these requests directly on average, and receives advice on some requests from MBIE and MPI. MBIE recommends for approval to the Ministry of Health roughly 15% of requests, while MPI has recommends for approval to the Ministry of Health approximately 20-25%.

Ministry of Health, 21 September 2021 8.11 AM

Approximate Daily Volume of Requests to MOH for Boundary Travel Exemptions to Leave AL4 Areas



Note: the data for Aug 31-7 Sept and 8-10 Sept represent daily averages for those periods, as daily data was unavailable.

#### Themes of Calls to Healthline and 1737 Need to Talk?

In the 4 days leading up to Sunday 19 September, there were an estimated 1,500 – 2000 calls from people wanting to travel into the Auckland regional boundary to provide support for Aucklanders when level 3 comes into effect. Examples of support include nursing sick relatives, visiting terminally ill friends or family and providing family support. Many indicated they are prepared to make a one way crossing until Auckland moves to alert level 2. There was also an increase in calls on Sunday following the announcement of cases in Waikato. Calls relating to essential worker testing were also noted. Calls spiked again on Monday after the alert level announcement. Residents of the Upper Hauraki area reported being unable to access food and medical supplies. People asked whether Auckland will be brought down to alert level 2 if 90% vaccination levels are reached. The fact that Auckland's alert level wont be reviewed until the Tuesday after the start of school holidays was the biggest theme and cause of distress.

Ministry of Health, 20 September 2021 1.28 PM and 21 September 2021 1.16 AM

#### Concerns Face Mask Exemptions are Ignored

There are some concerns that valid exemptions to not wear a face mask issued by the Disabled Persons Assembly are being ignored. Some people report showing their exemption card in stores only to be denied entry and told to leave unless they wear a mask.

Stuff: 20 September 2021, 11:20 AM.

COVID-19 Calls to Healthline

