






PILLARS OF THE COVID-19 ELIMINATION STRATEGY

New Zealand's elimination strategy is a sustained approach to keep it out, find it and stamp it out. We do this through:

Pre- & Border Settings, Managed Isolation & Quarantine <i>Strong but proportionate border settings flex and adapt as health security settings shift</i>	
Detection & Surveillance <i>Best-evidence protocols ensure cases are detected and transmission is controlled</i>	
Contact Tracing & Case Management <i>Targeted and timely activities minimise impacts of new outbreaks across the community and health system</i>	
Stronger Public Health Measures <i>Public adherence to tailored health interventions is high due to trust and confidence in our health settings</i>	
Health System Preparedness & Resilience <i>Proactive planning ensures a proportionate response to manage future impacts of COVID-19 and maintain other services</i>	

See below for an update on these measures to support our elimination strategy, and an overview of health system utilisation.

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS

New Zealand has performed well against its elimination strategy; however, we need to continue to remain vigilant and responsive, especially given the novel COVID-19 variant strains.

As at 10.30am 5 February 2021, there are 3 active community cases and 58 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.

The three active community cases are border-related and are ex-returnees who completed their managed isolation at the Pullman Hotel managed isolation facility.

They are currently at the Jet Park quarantine facility.

The Northland community case, announced on 24 January 2021, is deemed recovered.

FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- Developing a framework for testing during long weekends and large events
- Continuing development and testing activities for the next release (R6) of the COVID-19 Tracer App in early March.
- Work is ongoing to strengthen Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practice and PPE provision within MIQFs.
- Continuing work to roll out saliva testing at MIQFs.
- Continuing to provide support to the laboratories in responding to the community cases.

CONTACT TRACING



Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.

For cases notified week 27 January – 2 February

Contact tracing activity	Target	Performance
Time notification to case interview	≥80% within 24 hours	100%
Time case notification to isolation / quarantine of contact	≥80% within 48 hours	93%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	89%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	100%

For week 27 Jan – 2 Feb (cases notified during this period)



93%

Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification
Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

NZ COVID TRACER APP



The first call-back requests were sent with location alerts this week, allowing Healthline to proactively manage their COVID-19 call queue. Work has begun on improving the QR poster service to better support temporary and private events.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 1300 3 February 2021



CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)



Status: Investigation into the Pullman Managed Isolation Facility (MIF) is ongoing.

Due to not using the Pullman MIF, there has been an increase in flights going to other regions. Workforce pressures are still too of mind and are being worked through with DHBs.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3,781	Isolation: 299	Isolation: 568	Isolation: 153	Isolation: 959	Isolation: 5,760	↑
	Quarantine: 91			Quarantine: 0	Quarantine: 1	Quarantine: 92	↓
Number of Community Cases	3	0	0	0	0	0	↑
Capacity for Region (MIF only)	4102	337	552	178	1092	6261	↔

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Status: We have sufficient PPE stocks for the health and disability workforce currently. However, ongoing vigilance is required.

N95s remain constrained due to the hold place on QSI masks in the National reserve in December 2020 and January 2021. Additional stocks are being expedited into the country; however expanded use will increase the draw on the supply. There is sufficient stock of all other PPE supplies in the country, and demand continues to be below low pandemic usage levels. We currently have 8 weeks stock minimum (at high pandemic usage) held nationally of all other items.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 1 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	237,553,838	2,618,207	91	↑
Isolation gowns	15,866,470	106,251	149	↑
N95s	1,839,622	38,787	47	↓
Procedure masks	283,320,963	443,519	639	↑
Face shields	1,191,771	12,902	92	↓
Goggles/Glasses	1,739,522	1,254	1,387	↓
Aprons	11,474,534	59,977	191	↑
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,300,701	10,227	127	↓

LAB TESTING



Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.

As at 03 February 1,546,832 tests have been conducted

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	4,888	↓
Total tested across New Zealand between 28 Jan – 3 Feb	34,217	↓

NATIONAL CAPACITY

Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 3 February	32,088	↑
Test supplies in stock as at 3 February	242,195	↓



MIQF GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 7 Jan – 13 Jan	Total tested 14 Jan – 20 Jan	Total tested 21 Jan – 27 Jan	Total tested 28 Jan – 3 Feb
Departures from facilities	↓	2576	2667	3012	2737
Day 3	↓	2527	2607	2981	2701
Day 12	↓	2496	2615	2961	2693
Percentage tested at day 3	↓	98.1%	97.8%	99.0%	98.7%
Percentage tested at day 12	↑	96.9%	98.1%	98.3%	98.4%
Arrivals into country	↓	812	1176	1670	1639*
Day 0	↓	794	1138	1621	1483*
Percentage tested day 0	↓	97.8%	96.8%	97.1% **	90.5% ***

* Data up to 2 February 2021 ** In the Weekly Situation Update of 29 January, this number was underreported as 91.2%. This is because approximately 100 people who were tested at day 0 on 21 January did not have an assigned NHI number in the border register at the time of being testing. This issue was investigated and has now been resolved. *** The low Day 0/1 testing rate is a result of an issue with tests completed on 30 January. It appears that most of these tests were completed within the Day 0/1 timeframe but were not recorded as arriving at the lab until Day 2. The Ministry is working to establish whether swab times can be tracked in addition to lab processing times.

Day 0/1 testing is only required from countries other than Australia, Antarctica and some Pacific Islands. Therefore, we are reporting on Day 0/1 using arrivals into NZ rather than departures from facilities.

REASONS FOR NO TEST BY DEPARTURE DATE FROM FACILITY

Reason		7 Jan – 13 Jan	14 Jan – 20 Jan	21 Jan – 27 Jan	28 Jan – 3 Feb
Total	↑	24	34	30	33
Child*	↑	8	15	11	16
Clinical reasons	↔	3	2	1	1
No consent given	↓	11	5	5	4
Other**	↓	2	12	13	12

* "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age ** "Other" reasons include guests who had a symptomatic test instead or had a swab in a hospital.

These figures are based on numbers of times no test is performed, not on individuals (i.e. as tests are performed on day 3 and day 12, there will be multiple times an individual may not receive a test)

TESTING AND TESTING SITES

Stream		Total tested 7 Jan – 13 Jan	Total tested 14 Jan – 20 Jan	Total tested 21 Jan – 27 Jan	Total tested 28 Jan – 3 Feb	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↓	6689	6692	7616	7427	7500
Border Workers – MIQ	↓	172	182	224	198	200
Border Workers – MIF	↓	2624	2438	3073	2519	2500
Border Workers – Air Crew	↓	368	298	403	299	350
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↓	1237	1154	1356	1284	1250
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↓	953	951	899	892	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↑	82	14	20	39	40
Background Community Testing (General Practice and other Primary Care)	↑	7611	6803	12554	12930	10000
CBAC Testing	↓	5633	4640	8692	7109	7000
Contact Tracing*	↑	561	496	1393	1520	300
Total	↓	25930	23668	36230	34217	30040

* For the purposes of this table, contact tracing numbers are netted off from the CBAC testing volumes.

Breakdown of testing sites by type 27 January – 2 February 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
977	40	29	27	95	1,168
Breakdown of testing sites by type 21 – 27 January 2021					
973	38	31	29	96	1,167

TESTING COMMENTARY

Testing and testing sites

Most DHBs continue to report that testing numbers remain consistent and steady, notwithstanding the recent increase in Auckland and Northland's testing numbers due to the latest COVID-19 cases in the community. This has seen a high demand at the community testing centres in these regions.

Metro Auckland extended their hours of testing and extra staff from sites south of Auckland were transferred to the North Shore. Additional facilities were also stood up in Northland.

Planning for access to testing around Waitangi weekend in Northland is well underway with additional pop-up testing available in Paihia. In addition, Te Hau O Ngapuhi in Kaikohe will be open for testing by appointment. 8 Community Testing Centres are available in Northland between 2 February – 9 February to ensure testing is available over the long weekend.

Border testing

Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities: following the 22 January announcement by the Minister for COVID-19 Response about the progressive roll-out of saliva testing for high-risk border workers, Jet Park started its roll-out on 25 January. This was then paused following the detection of cases in the community. It is expected to recommence its implementation from 9 February. Canterbury DHB is planning to commence voluntary saliva testing from 9 February. Canterbury DHB has three dual-purpose managed isolation and quarantine facilities, two of which are currently active.

Airports/Air Crew: testing activity for air border workers and air crew remains broadly at expected levels.

Ports/Maritime: Hawkes Bay DHB has noted some concern regarding compliance of Napier port workers with the Required Testing Order, with the testing of stevedores noted as a particular concern. The Ministry is discussing the concerns with the DHB and there is a good working relationship locally between the PHU and the Port. If the Ministry identifies that the issue is not being resolved satisfactorily at the local level, the Ministry will consider raising this with Worksafe - the lead agency for PCBU compliance with the Order.

DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

Rate per 1000 people tested for COVID-19 from 22 January to 4 February 2021.

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				Total
	Māori	Pacific	Asian	Other	
Auckland	15.7	17.58	15.8	17.83	20.75
Bay of Plenty	7.86	36.9	9.39	8.43	9.06
Canterbury	6.2	8.89	10.71	7.56	8.37
Capital and Coast	6.65	8.25	7.69	8.33	8.37
Counties Manukau	13.08	19.94	15.6	11.67	14.87
Hawkes Bay	4.55	61.23	7.09	5.11	7.38
Hutt Valley	4.18	8.22	7.41	4.87	5.44
Lakes	6.73	11.35	13.26	7.74	8.23
MidCentral	5.85	7.93	6.51	5.91	6.2
Nelson Marlborough	6.86	40.87	6.6	6.79	7.5
Northland	23.26	23.94	21.88	29.17	27.05
South Canterbury	6.21	26.63	10.14	4.37	5.01
Southern	5.6	11.62	7.95	6.35	6.71
Tairāwhiti	6.01	12.53	11.99	5.43	6.14
Taranaki	4.41	7.9	10.92	5.83	6.01
Waikato	6.48	9.68	9.02	6.22	6.86
Wairarapa	3.89	4.81	12.03	4.26	4.61
Waitemata	19.64	20.59	23.08	22.62	22.54
West Coast	2.84	7.92	3.24	3.6	3.62
Whanganui	3.86	5.91	5.46	3.72	4.04
Total	9.8	18.2	14.7	10.7	12.3