

## 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:

<b>Pre- &amp; Border Settings, Managed Isolation &amp; Quarantine</b> <i>Strong but proportionate border settings flex and adapt as health security settings shift</i>	
<b>Detection &amp; Surveillance</b> <i>Best-evidence protocols ensure cases are detected and transmission is controlled</i>	
<b>Contact Tracing &amp; Case Management</b> <i>Targeted and timely activities minimise impacts of new outbreaks across the community and health system</i>	
<b>Stronger Public Health Measures</b> <i>Public adherence to tailored health interventions is high due to trust and confidence in our health settings</i>	
<b>Health System Preparedness &amp; Resilience</b> <i>Proactive planning ensures a proportionate response to manage future impacts of COVID-19 and maintain other services</i>	
<b>PRIORITY: COVID-19 Immunization Programme</b> <i>Targeted and timely roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine to manage and mitigate the risk of on-going harm to the community. Updates on this Programme are provided separately.</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 19 February 2021, there are 7 active community case and 43 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

The seven active community cases are apart of the February Auckland Cluster. This cluster comprises of two separate households with three cases in the first home and four in the second. Both households have children who attend Papatoetoe Highschool.

Genomic sequencing has yet to determine the initial vector for transmission.

All seven cases are currently at the Jet Park quarantine facility.

The first COVID-19 vaccine has arrived and is safely in storage. The team is ready to begin vaccinations at Jet Park on Saturday 20 February 2021.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- The Testing Operations team will continue to work alongside the Auckland DHBs/NHRCC to ensure that adequate steps are taken to minimize the spread of COVID-19.
- Continue testing activities relating to iOS device issues in the COVID-19 Tracer App and deploy the first fix.
- Ensure sufficient PPE is available within the sector to respond to changes in Alert Levels.
- Continue with the COVID-19 operational response and manage the contacts associated with cases in the February outbreak.
- MIQF ventilation reviews will continue.
- Ensure that we remain on track with the COVID-19 immunisation roll-out.
- Continue to manage post surge testing volumes and work to ensure saliva testing at Managed Quarantine and Dual use facilities is continuing.

## CONTACT TRACING

**Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.**

For cases notified week 10 – 16 February 2021

Contact tracing activity	Target	Performance
Time notification to case interview	≥80% within 24 hours	80%
Time case notification to isolation / quarantine of contact	≥80% within 48 hours	90%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	96%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	90%

For week 10 – 16 Feb

(cases notified during this period)



90%

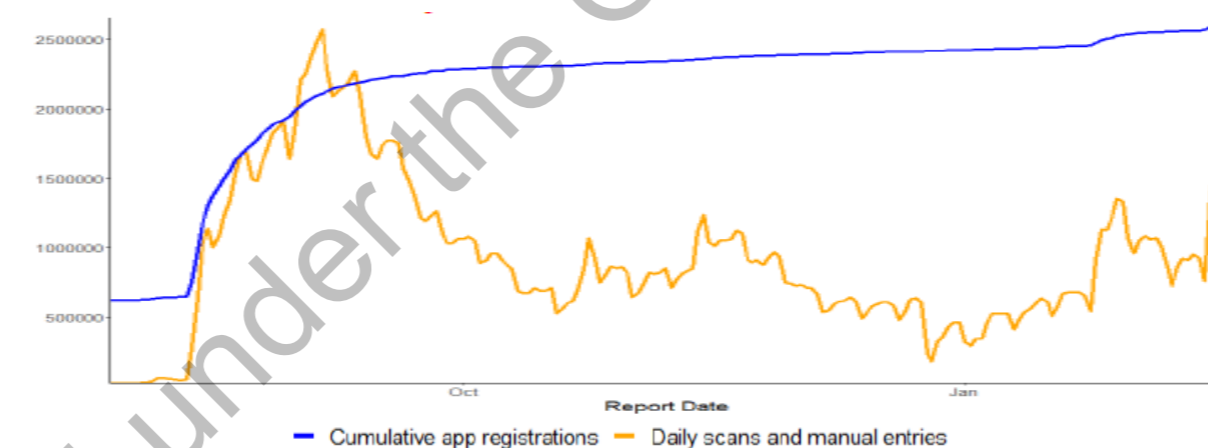
Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification

Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## NZ COVID TRACER APP

The team has been developing and testing two fixes for issues that had the potential to impact all iOS users. The first fix will be released early next week and will also allow older iPhones (5S, 6, 6+) to turn on Bluetooth tracing, exchange and upload keys. The second fix will be deployed in early March which will allow these older iPhones to receive Bluetooth alerts. Release 6 has been delayed to early April.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 18 February 2021



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

**Status: Vaccination for border workers begins this weekend.**

Vaccination rollout begins this weekend. This has added pressure to already stretched services. Pullman has returned to accepting returnees at only a 50% capacity. Ventilation assessments for facilities are ongoing.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3790	Isolation: 188	Isolation: 343	Isolation: 121	Isolation: 918	Isolation: 5540	↓
	Quarantine: 73			Quarantine: 2	Quarantine: 2		Quarantine: 77
Number of Community Cases	5	0	0	0	0	5	↑
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.**

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 for all items. This does not include N95s for which we have a 6-week stock minimum. We are receiving additional N95 stock on a regular basis.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 15 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage) *	*
Nitrile gloves	263,283,691	2,697,265	98	▬
Isolation gowns	16,596,157	85,428	194	↑
N95s	2,340,787	38,524	61	▬
Procedure masks	279,672,429	376,002	744	↑
Face shields	1,201,664	15,669	77	↓
Goggles/Glasses	1,737,297	2,195	792	↓
Aprons	12,361,855	53,044	233	↑
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,297,668	9,243	140	▬

## LAB TESTING

**Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.**

As at 18 February 1,640,686 tests have been conducted

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	8,843	↑
Total tested across New Zealand between 12 Feb – 18 Feb	61,900	↑

### NATIONAL CAPACITY

Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 18 February	32,388	↑
Test supplies in stock as at 18 February	221,969	↓



## MIQ GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 21 Jan – 27 Jan	Total tested 28 Jan – 3 Feb	Total tested 4 Feb – 10 Feb	Total tested 4 Feb – 10 Feb
Departures from facilities	↑	3014	2791	2843	2870
Day 3	↑	2982	2755	2800	2820
Day 12	↑	2962	2743	2798	2819
Percentage tested at day 3	↓	98.9%	98.7%	98.5%	98.3%
Percentage tested at day 12	↓	98.3%	98.3%	98.4%	98.2%
High risk departures	↓	812	1150	1664	1789
Day 0	↓	793	1113	1621	1563
Percentage tested day 0	↓	97.7%	96.8%	97.4%	87.4.5% (1)

- Data up to 19 February 2021. 1: The listed Day 0/1 testing percentage is subject to revision, as we work to further refine our data and tracking processes. The percentage listed above is subject to change and at time of revision (the following report) it will be reflective of targets identified and will sit at approximately 98%. The Ministry is currently investigating this issue.
- 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		21 Jan – 27 Jan	28 Jan – 3 Feb	4 Feb – 10 Feb	11 Feb – 17 Feb
Total	↑	30	31	26	64
Child (1)	↑	11	16	5	12
Clinical reasons	↓	1	1	2	0
No consent given	↓	5	2	3	1
Other (2)	↑	13	12	16	51 (3)

- 1: "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age
  - 2: "Other" reasons include guests who had a symptomatic test instead or had a swab in a hospital.
  - 3: There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data
- 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 21 Jan – 27 Jan	Total tested 27 Jan – 3 Feb	Total tested 4 Feb – 10 Feb	Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↓	7616	7427	7354	7303	7500
Border Workers – MIQ	↑	224	198	217	307	300
Border Workers – MIF	↓	3073	2519	3081	2955	3000
Border Workers – Air Crew	↑	403	299	354	363	400
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↑	1356	1284	1220	2165	1400
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↑	899	892	861	1173	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↓	20	39	32	3	30
Background Community Testing (General Practice and other Primary Care)	↑	12363	12581	7901	25362	15000
CBAC Testing	↑	8883	7458	5307	13291	10000
Contact Tracing*	↑	1393	1520	534	3238	1000
<b>Total</b>	↑	<b>36230</b>	<b>34217</b>	<b>26861</b>	<b>56160</b>	<b>39530</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 10 – 16 February 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	45	30	29	89	1,1173
Breakdown of testing sites by type 3 – 9 February 2021					
978	41	29	27	94	1,169

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

**Auckland / NRHCC:** to ensure adequate testing facilities are available, two additional testing centres were stood up in Metro Auckland. NRHCC also extended the hours of their six regular testing centres and set up a Close Contact Community Testing Centre located at Papatoetoe High School. The main focus this week continues to be close contact tracing testing at Papatoetoe High School. NRHCC and ARPHS are working closely with the Ministry of Health's contact tracing team and have a process in place for testing priorities.

**Rest of NZ:** DHBs across the rest of New Zealand have prepared for an increased demand in testing following the Auckland community cases; with pop-ups being implemented or planned as appropriate. DHBs have confirmed that they have the capacity to meet current demand and are continuing to work with providers to ensure systems and processes are in place to maintain readiness for increased testing demand. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications with testing locations.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** voluntary saliva testing has continued at Jet Park quarantine facility in Auckland throughout the period of the community outbreak and is averaging 15-20 swabs per day.

Testing at the dual-purpose facility in Christchurch at the Commodore continues with a smaller number (five) being tested over the past week.

Wellington has just started its voluntary testing initiative at the Grand Mercure, following the arrival of a positive case at its dual facility.

**Airports/Air Crew:** a larger testing facility was stood up at Auckland Airport on 15 February which doubled the capacity of the clinic at the airport and allowed greater queuing space to facilitate physical distancing. Additional staff have been deployed throughout the airport to actively reach out to airport workers and explain why it was important that they come to the new testing facility.

**Ports/Maritime:** Routine testing of port workers continues around the country. DHBs continue to review testing processes and associated communication with port employees, to ensure that the testing system remains fit-for-purpose.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other	Total
Auckland	18.05	25.8	15.86	19.09	18.86
Bay of Plenty	11.76	30.4	8.37	10.46	11.05
Canterbury	9.59	15.4	10.53	9.26	9.76
Capital and Coast	10.51	11	8.81	11.31	11.07
Counties Manukau	31.44	58.4	35.87	21.63	34.87
Hawkes Bay	9.5	36	7.86	7.61	9.35
Hutt Valley	8.02	11.4	8.95	7.01	7.9
Lakes	13.02	20	14.19	9.59	11.54
MidCentral	9.59	12.3	5.16	7.82	8.21
Nelson Marlborough	9.1	71.6	8.49	7.55	8.87
Northland	10.44	11.4	7.74	7.25	8.48
South Canterbury	8.29	53.3	11.83	6.39	7.24
Southern	8.76	18.6	9.07	8.68	9.05
Tairāwhiti	10.57	12.5	18.85	7.96	9.78
Taranaki	17.95	22.3	15.09	13.4	14.7
Waikato	16.42	18.1	12.33	10.12	12.22
Wairarapa	5.64	12	6.42	5.89	6.12
Waitemata	16.92	24.7	16.03	15.37	16.52
West Coast	3.61	23.7	10.81	2.78	3.34
Whanganui	6.62	13.1	7.86	7.2	7.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>15.7</b>

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<b>Pre- &amp; Border Settings, Managed Isolation &amp; Quarantine</b> <i>Strong but proportionate border settings flex and adapt as health security settings shift</i>	
<b>Detection &amp; Surveillance</b> <i>Best-evidence protocols ensure cases are detected and transmission is controlled</i>	
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## 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 26 February 2021, there are 11 active community cases and 56 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

The eleven active community cases are a part of the February Auckland Cluster. Genomic sequencing has yet to determine the initial vector for transmission.

All cases associated with this cluster are currently at the Jet Park quarantine facility in Auckland.

Vaccinations started on 20 February 2021 for Border and MIQ workers in Auckland and were rolled out to Wellington and Christchurch workers on 22 and 23 February 2021.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- Continue with the COVID-19 operational response and manage the contacts associated with the cases in the February Auckland cluster. The Testing Operations team will continue to work alongside the three Auckland DHBs and the NRHCC to manage and contain the potential spread of COVID-19 in the community.
- Continue to test the Bluetooth tracing upgrade for the COVID-19 Tracer App.
- Replenish contingency stocks of PPE for long term residential facilities.
- Continue the ongoing implementation of Saliva testing at Managed Quarantine and dual use facilities.
- The COVID-19 Vaccination and Immunisation Programme (CVIP) has split into two key work streams and will work to stand up the Operations Centre to manage the current roll-out and continue to design and build towards the wider population roll-out later in the year.

## CONTACT TRACING

**Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.**

For cases notified week 17 – 23 February 2021

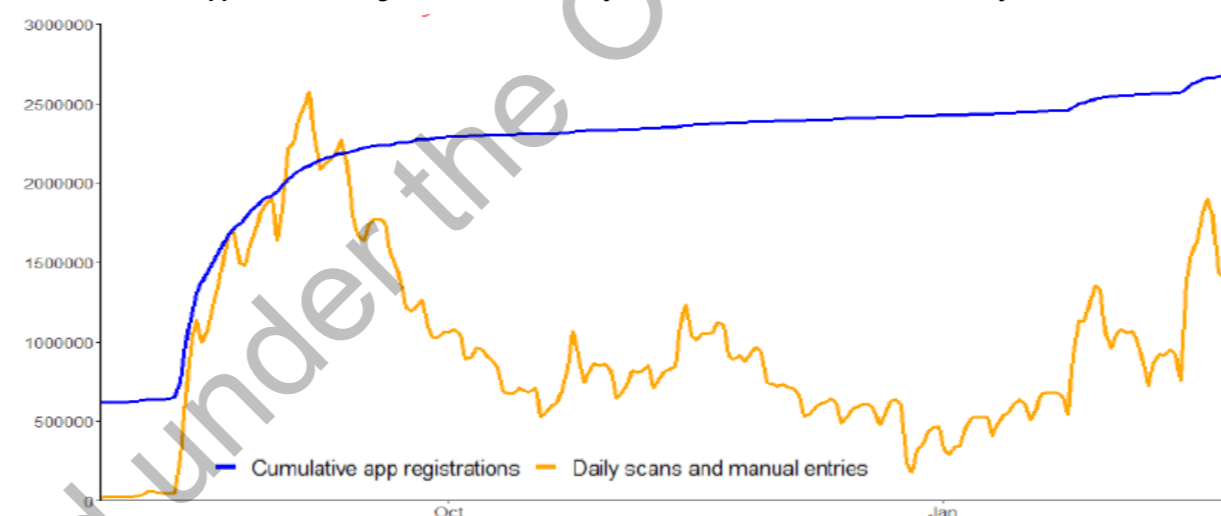
Contact tracing activity	Target	Performance
Time notification to case interview	≥80% within 24 hours	84%
Time case notification to isolation / quarantine of contact	≥80% within 48 hours	83%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	97%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	83%

For week 17 – 23 Feb (cases notified during this period) **83%** Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification  
 Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## NZ COVID TRACER APP

An initial fix was released on Monday to allow older iPhones (5S, 6, 6+) to turn on Bluetooth tracing, exchange and upload keys. The next fix will upgrade Bluetooth Tracing to Google/Apple Exposure Notification Framework v2 (EN v2) and is on track to be deployed early March. This will allow these older model iPhones to receive Bluetooth alerts.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 25 February 2021



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

**Status: Ventilation reviews continue around the country**

The vaccination rollout has begun successfully in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. This rollout will continue across the country in the following weeks.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3608	Isolation: 221	Isolation: 472	Isolation: 53	Isolation: 954	Isolation: 5308	↓
	Quarantine: 100			Quarantine: 4	Quarantine: 1	Quarantine: 105	↑
Number of Community Cases	3	6	0	0	0	3	↓
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.**

There is sufficient stock of all 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 for all items. This does not include N95s for which we have a 6-week stock minimum. We are receiving additional N95 stock on a regular basis.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 22 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	264,550,844	2,676,418	99	↑
Isolation gowns	16,791,293	86,092	195	↑
N95s	2,823,056	65,266	43	↓
Procedure masks	279,667,456	1,143,796	245	↓
Face shields	1,197,194	17,821	67	↓
Goggles/Glasses	1,752,446	2,456	714	↓
Aprons	13,317,219	59,179	225	↓
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,296,949	9,753	133	↓

## LAB TESTING

**Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.**

As at 25 February 1,693,679 tests have been conducted

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	7,570	↑
Total tested across New Zealand between 19 Feb – 25 Feb	52,990	↑
<b>NATIONAL CAPACITY</b>		
Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 25 February	34,372	↑
Test supplies in stock as at 25 February	244,231	↑



## MIQF GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 28 Jan – 3 Feb	Total tested 4 Feb – 10 Feb	Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb
Departures from facilities	↓	2791	2843	2903	2697
Day 3	↓	2755	2800	2852	2657
Day 12	↓	2743	2798	2852	2669
Percentage tested at day 3	↑	98.7%	98.5%	98.2%	98.5%
Percentage tested at day 12	↑	98.3%	98.4%	98.2%	99.0%
High risk departures	↓	1150	1664	1818	1669
Day 0	↓	1113	1621	1590	1553
Percentage tested day 0	↑	96.8%	97.4%	87.5% <sup>(1)</sup>	91.9% <sup>(1)</sup>

Data up to 24 February 2021. (1) The listed Day 0/1 testing percentage is subject to revision, as we work to further refine our data and tracking processes. The percentage listed above is subject to change and at time of revision (the following report) it will be reflective of targets identified and will sit at approximately 98%. The Ministry is currently investigating this issue. 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		28 Jan – 3 Feb	4 Feb – 10 Feb	11 Feb – 17 Feb	18 Feb – 24 Feb
Total	↑	31	26	64	65
Child <sup>(1)</sup>	↑	16	5	12	14
Clinical reasons	↔	1	2	0	0
No consent given	↑	2	3	1	6
Other <sup>(2)</sup>	↓	12	16	51 <sup>(3)</sup>	45 <sup>(3)</sup>

(1) "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age

(2) "Other" reasons include guests who had a symptomatic test instead or had a swab in a hospital.

(3) There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data

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 27 Jan – 3 Feb	Total tested 4 Feb – 10 Feb	Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↑	7427	7354	7303	7581	7500
Border Workers – MIQ	↓	198	217	307	237	300
Border Workers – MIF	↓	2519	3081	2955	2608	3000
Border Workers – Air Crew	↓	299	354	363	357	400
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↓	1284	1220	2166	1290	1300
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↓	892	861	1173	971	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↑	39	32	3	58	30
Background Community Testing (General Practice and other Primary Care)	↑	12582	7873	23925	24948	15000
CBAC Testing	↓	7511	5335	14728	11450	10000
Contact Tracing <sup>(1)</sup>	↑	1520	534	3238	4197	2000
<b>Total</b>	↓	<b>34217</b>	<b>26861</b>	<b>56161</b>	<b>53697</b>	<b>40430</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 17 – 23 February 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	40	31	30	88	1,169
Breakdown of testing sites by type 10 – 16 February 2021					
980	45	30	29	89	1,173

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

**Auckland/NRHCC:** The region has confirmed they have the ability to increase capacity and respond to developments as required. There is a strong network of designated practices and urgent care clinics that are maintaining the testing capacity within Metro Auckland. The pop-up Community Testing Centres (CTC) established as part of the February Auckland Case at Papatoetoe High School and Kohuora Park were wound down last weekend. However, due to the rise in cases the region has now extended the hours of their CTCs, and re-opened the CTC at Botany and the pop-up at Papatoetoe High School, as of 23 February. The region has confirmed that additional providers are on standby, ready to stand-up further testing centres if required.

**Rest of New Zealand:** There was a noted increase in demand for testing following the Auckland community cases. However, this week has seen that demand decrease. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications to reflect current testing locations. District health boards have the capacity to stand up additional facilities should there be a need.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** Voluntary saliva testing continues to be offered to workers in quarantine facilities and dual-purpose facilities as a means of supplementing their mandatory testing regime. As of 24 February, 202 saliva test samples had been provided across the three participating facilities in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

**Airports/Air Crew:** Testing activity at the air border has returned to business-as-usual levels after the increase in testing numbers last week. The increase was the result of the Auckland International Airport conducting a testing sweep.

**Ports/Maritime:** Some DHBs have identified compliance issues regarding port employees presenting for testing as required under the Required Testing Order. Lyttelton Port Company identified incidences of non-compliant workers through the Border Workers Testing Register. The Ministry of Health, WorkSafe and the port company are working together to address this. The Hawkes Bay DHB is working cooperatively with employers to ensure compliance by workers at Napier Port. Employers are aware that the issue will be raised with WorkSafe if non-compliance proves to be an ongoing problem. Vaccine delivery is beginning to roll out at ports around the country. Messaging continues to be delivered to remind port workers that mandatory testing will continue. Some DHBs are expecting an increase in testing numbers this coming week.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other	Total
<b>Auckland</b>	25.93	33.1	19.26	23.46	<b>23.46</b>
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	14.57	27	9.44	12.03	<b>12.8</b>
<b>Canterbury</b>	11.9	18.8	11.88	11.05	<b>11.58</b>
<b>Capital and Coast</b>	14.1	16.2	10.14	13.82	<b>13.69</b>
<b>Counties Manukau</b>	46.62	80.6	53.33	34.68	<b>51.42</b>
<b>Hawkes Bay</b>	10.54	14.3	9.06	8.89	<b>9.63</b>
<b>Hutt Valley</b>	11.43	13.1	10.12	9.38	<b>10.21</b>
<b>Lakes</b>	14.09	21.9	14.6	11.67	<b>13.14</b>
<b>MidCentral</b>	10.77	13.9	5.68	8.82	<b>9.22</b>
<b>Nelson Marlborough</b>	10.47	32.4	8.35	8.6	<b>9.26</b>
<b>Northland</b>	12.34	14.9	9.19	8.95	<b>10.29</b>
<b>South Canterbury</b>	9.6	59.4	11.83	8.36	<b>9.16</b>
<b>Southern</b>	11.41	22.7	10.39	10.64	<b>11.07</b>
<b>Tairāwhiti</b>	12.83	17.9	10.28	9.45	<b>11.45</b>
<b>Taranaki</b>	22.4	23.7	16.86	17.21	<b>18.49</b>
<b>Waikato</b>	18.74	20.3	13.75	12.01	<b>14.19</b>
<b>Wairarapa</b>	8.27	16.8	7.22	7.48	<b>7.98</b>
<b>Waitemata</b>	22.4	30	19.22	19.23	<b>20.48</b>
<b>West Coast</b>	4.9	15.8	10.81	3.52	<b>4.03</b>
<b>Whanganui</b>	10.77	15.1	10.59	8.62	<b>9.61</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>20.3</b>

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

## 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 March 2021, there are 9 active community cases and 59 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

The nine active community cases are a part of the February Auckland Cluster. Genomic sequencing has yet to determine the initial vector for transmission.

All cases associated with this cluster are currently at the Jet Park quarantine facility in Auckland. Six cases associated with the Auckland cluster are classified as recovered.

Vaccinations started on 20 February 2021. Since that date 68% of the estimated 12,600 Border Workers in the Tier 1 population have been vaccinated.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- Continue with the COVID-19 operational response and manage the contacts associated with the cases in the February Auckland cluster.
- The Testing Operations team will continue to work alongside the three Auckland DHBs and the NRHCC to manage and contain the potential spread of COVID-19 in the community associated with the current outbreak.
- Continue to test the Bluetooth tracing upgrade for the COVID-19 Tracer App. Deploy a minor upgrade to the Rapid QR poster service to better support private and temporary events.
- Ensure the movement of stocks of PPE to general practice, pharmacy, and long-term residential care facilities, with the priority being the Auckland region.
- Continue to manage post surge testing volumes and the work around Saliva testing at Managed Quarantine and dual use facilities.
- We will continue to vaccinate border workers and their household contacts as well as some members of the frontline health workforce who fall within Tier 2. Work continues to scale up the programme for the Phase 2 roll-out

## CONTACT TRACING

**Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.**

For cases notified week 24 February – 2 March 2021

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	87%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	94%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	88%

For week 24 Feb – 2 Mar (cases notified during this period) **87%** Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification  
 Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## LAB TESTING

**Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.**

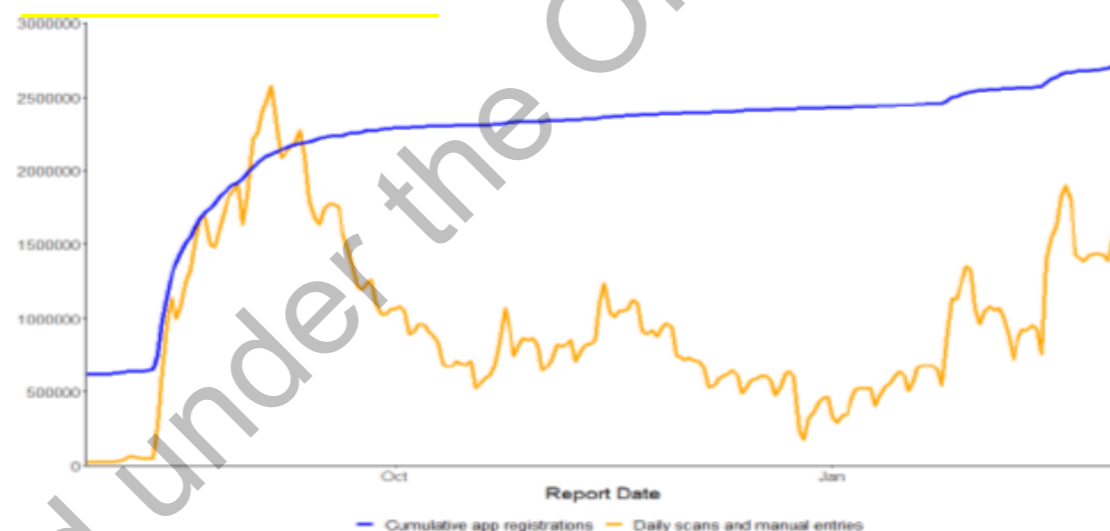
As at 4 March 1,763,008 tests have been conducted

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	9,903	
Total tested across New Zealand between 26 Feb – 04 Mar	69,322	
<b>NATIONAL CAPACITY</b>		
Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 4 March	32,372	
Test supplies in stock as at 4 March	233,722	

## NZ COVID TRACER APP

Testing of the Bluetooth Tracing to Google/Apple Exposure Notification Framework v2 (EN v2). This will allow older model iPhones to receive Bluetooth alerts. Technical issues were discovered in the initial testing process and this will delay the update by a week.

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



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

**Status: Ventilation reviews continue around the country**

The vaccination rollout has begun successfully in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch. This rollout will continue across the country in the following weeks.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3608	Isolation: 221	Isolation: 472	Isolation: 53	Isolation: 954	Isolation: 5308	
	Quarantine: 100			Quarantine: 4	Quarantine: 1	Quarantine: 105	
Number of Community Cases	3	6	0	0	0	3	
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.**

There is sufficient stock of all 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 for all items. This does not include N95s for which we have a 6-week stock minimum. It is expected that that we will reach an 8-week stock minimum for N95s by the end of March.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 29 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	265,875,164	2,537,287	105	
Isolation gowns	16,998,422	82,048	207	
N95s	3,169,863	116,104	27	
Procedure masks	277,262,724	1,548,090	179	
Face shields	1,241,063	12,850	97	
Goggles/Glasses	1,800,625	2,445	736	
Aprons	14,072,457	57,847	243	
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,288,599	7,805	165	



## MIQ GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 4 Feb – 10 Feb	Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar
Departures from facilities	↓	2843	2905	2835	2579
Day 3	↓	2800	2854	2793	2534
Day 12	↓	2798	2853	2805	2549
Percentage tested at day 3	↓	98.5%	98.2%	98.5%	98.3%
Percentage tested at day 12	↓	98.4%	98.2%	98.9%	98.8%
High risk departures	↓	1664	1819	1708	1564
Day 0	↓	1621	1591	1562	1485
Percentage tested day 0	↑	97.4%	87.5% (1)	91.5% (1)	94.9%

Data up to 24 February 2021. (1) The listed Day 0/1 testing percentage is subject to revision, as we work to further refine our data and tracking processes. The percentage listed above is subject to change and at time of revision (the following report) it will be reflective of targets identified and will sit at approximately 98%. The Ministry is currently investigating this issue. 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		4 Feb – 10 Feb	11 Feb – 17 Feb	18 Feb – 24 Feb	25 Feb – 3 Mar
Total	↑	26	64	65	71
Child (1)	↑	5	12	14	18
Clinical reasons	↔	2	0	0	0
No consent given	↓	3	1	6	3
Other (2)	↑	16	51 (3)	45 (3)	50 (3)

(1) "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age  
 (2) "Other" reasons include guests who had a symptomatic test instead or had a swab in a hospital.  
 (3) There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data  
 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 4 Feb – 10 Feb	Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↑	7354	7303	7582	7430	7500
Border Workers – MIQ	↑	217	307	237	231	250
Border Workers – MIF	↑	3081	2955	2608	2779	3000
Border Workers – Air Crew	↑	354	363	357	333	350
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↓	1220	2166	1290	1585	1500
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↓	861	1173	971	1039	1000
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↓	32	3	58	71	50
Background Community Testing (General Practice and other Primary Care)	↓	7859	23841	24548	32502	25000
CBAC Testing	↓	5349	14812	11854	18835	15000
Contact Tracing (1)	↑	534	3238	4197	3244	4000
<b>Total</b>	↓	<b>7354</b>	<b>56161</b>	<b>53702</b>	<b>68049</b>	<b>57650</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 24 February – 2 March 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	43	32	32	85	1,172
Breakdown of testing sites by type 17 – 23 February 2021					
980	40	31	30	88	1,169

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

**Auckland/NRHCC:** Auckland Metro / NRHCC region is actively reviewing options for relocating or increasing testing capacity in the East Auckland area. This is in anticipation of a possible increase in testing demand due to Day 14 testing (which will take place between 3 and 4 March) from the Kmart Botany exposure. This may involve the establishment of a medium to long term testing centre in this district. The region will continue with their weekday operation of six CTCs (Balmoral, Northcote, Otara, Henderson, New Lynn and Wiri) with ability to increase capacity and respond to developments as needed. All three DHBs confirm that there is a strong network of Designated Practices and Urgent Care Clinics to help maintain testing capacity within Metro Auckland.

**Rest of New Zealand:** DHBs across the rest of New Zealand report that a high demand for testing continues following the initial Auckland community cases and the recent subsequent changes in Alert Levels. All DHBs have confirmed they have the capacity to meet current demand and are working with providers to ensure systems and processes are in place to maintain readiness for any further increase in testing demand. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications with testing locations.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** Voluntary saliva testing continues to be offered to workers in quarantine and dual-purpose facilities. Most of the tests are attributed to workers at Jet Park, the country's only dedicated quarantine facility. However, the three affected DHBs all report low uptake of this additional form of worker testing.

**Airports/Air Crew:** Testing activity at the air border remains at steady levels with returnee numbers known several weeks ahead of arrival due to the managed isolation booking requirements. Testing for air border workers and crew also remains at expected levels and continues to take place as per the Air Border Order and Required Testing Order.

**Ports/Maritime:** The ongoing vaccine rollout may see an increase in the numbers of port workers tested. This is due to some workers occasionally boarding vessels and therefore not being tested regularly. These workers will be encouraged to be tested while they are waiting in the post-vaccination area. Crew testing numbers have risen this week, particularly at Port of Tauranga. There is not usually a high demand at the Port of Tauranga, however the Bay of Plenty DHB was required to test the entire crew of two vessels last week so that the ships could be released from isolation and quarantine to allow New Zealand based fumigators to board to carry out their work and sail with the ships as ships' crew.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

Rate per 1000 people tested for COVID-19 from 19 February to 4 March 2021

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other	Total
<b>Auckland</b>	29.6	38.8	19.1	25.7	<b>25.3</b>
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	15.1	30.6	10.4	12.6	<b>13.4</b>
<b>Canterbury</b>	12.9	19.4	11.9	12.7	<b>13.0</b>
<b>Capital and Coast</b>	15.5	19.4	10.0	16.6	<b>15.9</b>
<b>Counties Manukau</b>	50.2	78.5	53.6	40.3	<b>53.7</b>
<b>Hawkes Bay</b>	10.2	17.0	8.0	10.0	<b>10.3</b>
<b>Hutt Valley</b>	11.3	11.7	9.0	10.8	<b>10.8</b>
<b>Lakes</b>	15.8	18.0	13.8	13.6	<b>14.6</b>
<b>MidCentral</b>	9.4	17.1	6.5	9.7	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Nelson Marlborough</b>	12.2	29.1	8.1	10.2	<b>10.7</b>
<b>Northland</b>	12.4	12.2	11.5	11.0	<b>11.6</b>
<b>South Canterbury</b>	9.0	38.9	10.6	8.5	<b>8.9</b>
<b>Southern</b>	12.9	23.5	11.8	12.7	<b>13.0</b>
<b>Tairāwhiti</b>	14.0	23.3	11.1	12.2	<b>13.4</b>
<b>Taranaki</b>	11.8	10.1	12.0	13.6	<b>13.3</b>
<b>Waikato</b>	16.4	23.3	14.6	13.9	<b>15.0</b>
<b>Wairarapa</b>	8.4	10.8	8.8	9.3	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Waitemata</b>	21.7	30.7	18.4	20.5	<b>21.0</b>
<b>West Coast</b>	5.2	11.9	4.3	5.5	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Whanganui</b>	9.8	13.8	6.5	9.0	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>22.0</b>

## PILLARS OF THE COVID-19 ELIMINATION STRATEGY

New Zealand's elimination strategy is a sustained approach to 'Keep it Out', 'Prepare for It', 'Stamp it Out' and 'Manage the Impact'. We do this through:

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

## 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 12 March 2021, there is one active community case and 85 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

The active community is the last remaining case in the February Auckland Cluster, and remains at the Jet Park quarantine facility in Auckland.

Genomic sequencing has yet to determine the initial vector for transmission.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- Complete testing and deploy the Bluetooth Tracing upgrade for the COVID-19 Tracer App. This will allow older model iPhones (5s, 6, 6+) to receive Bluetooth alerts from next week.
- Continuing to ensure PPE is available to the sector.
- Implementing changes to strengthen and enhance the Post-MIQ wellness check, and defining requirements for changes to the NZeTA to support contact tracing operations within a quarantine free travel arrangement.
- Progress procurement options for saliva testing.
- Continuing to vaccinate border workers and their household contacts, as well as some members of the frontline health workforce who fall within Tier 2.

## CONTACT TRACING

Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.

For cases notified week 3 - 9 March 2021

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	95%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	95%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	95%

For week 3 - 9 March (cases notified during this period) **95%** Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification  
 Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## LAB TESTING

Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.

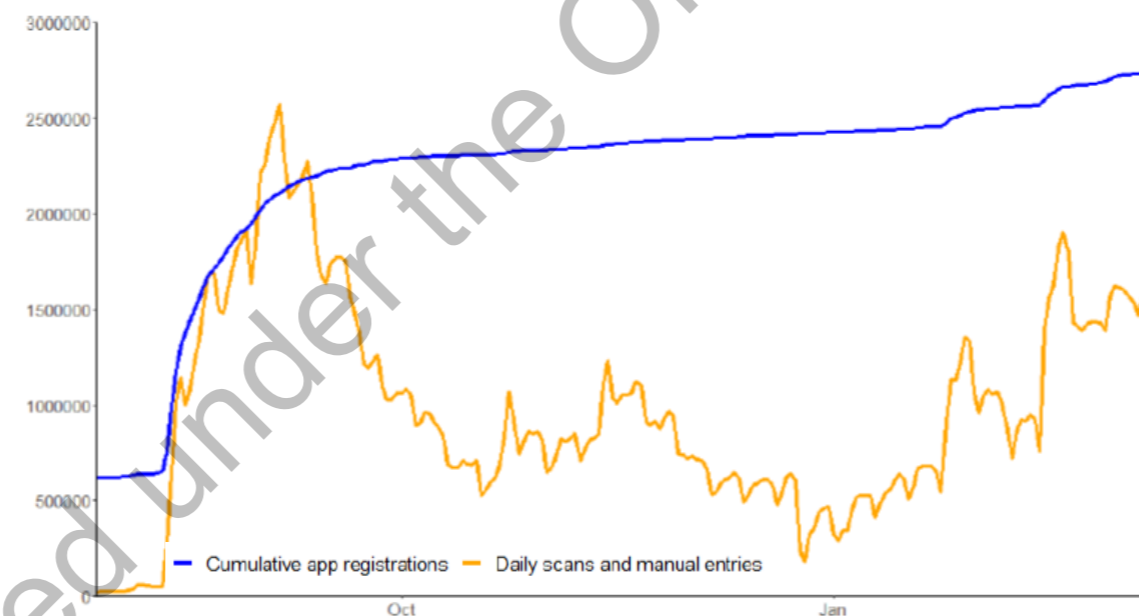
As at 11 March 1,808,406 tests have been conducted.

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	6,486
Total tested across New Zealand between 5 - 11 Mar	45,399
<b>NATIONAL CAPACITY</b>	
Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 11 March	32,372
Test supplies in stock as at 11 March	222,571

## NZ COVID TRACER APP

A minor upgrade to the Rapid QR poster service was deployed to better support private and temporary events. Testing of the Bluetooth Tracing upgrade (EN v2) in the App is on track to be completed this week.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 11 March 2021



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3,652	Isolation: 240	Isolation: 482	Isolation: 140	Isolation: 709	Isolation: 5,223	
	Quarantine: 112					Quarantine: 112	
Number of Community Cases	1	0	0	0	0	1	
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.

There is sufficient stock of all PPE supplies in the country, and demand continues to be below low pandemic usage levels. Significant stocks of PPE has been pushed out across the sector over the last fortnight in response to the recent outbreaks and to replenish contingency in general practice, pharmacy and long-term residential care facilities. Additional stocks of all items continue to arrive regularly, and additional orders continue to be placed.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 29 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	277,759,568	2,680,557	104	
Isolation gowns	17,153,433	142,671	120	
N95s	3,144,366	126,903	25	
Procedure masks	276,036,367	2,209,529	125	
Face shields	1,195,002	18,969	63	
Goggles/Glasses	1,736,780	5,959	291	
Aprons	14,058,954	104,279	135	
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,274,111	11,487	111	



## MIQF GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Total tested 4 Mar – 12 Mar
Departures from facilities	↓	2905	2835	2607	2603
Day 3	↓	2854	2793	2562	2551
Day 12	↓	2853	2805	2577	2554
Percentage tested at day 3	↓	98.2%	98.5%	98.3%	98.0%
Percentage tested at day 12	↓	98.2%	98.9%	98.8%	98.1%
High risk departures	↑	1819	1708	1591	1795
Day 0	↑	1591	1562	1511	1638
Percentage tested day 0	↓	87.5% (1)	91.5% (1)	95.0%	91.3% (1)

(1) This is likely to be a data error with the NCTS border data. The Ministry is currently investigating this issue. Day 0/1 testing is only required from countries other than Australia, Antarctica and some Pacific Islands.

## REASONS FOR NO TEST BY DEPARTURE DATE FROM FACILITY

Reason		11 Feb – 17 Feb	18 Feb – 24 Feb	25 Feb – 3 Mar	4 Mar – 12 Mar
Total	↑	64	65	70	106
Child (1)	↑	12	14	18	23
Clinical reasons	↔	0	0	0	0
No consent given	↑	1	6	2	4
Other (2)	↑	51 (2)	45 (2)	50 (2)	79 (2)

(1) "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age

(2) There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data.

## TESTING AND TESTING SITES

Stream		Total tested 11 Feb – 17 Feb	Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↓	7303	7582	7431	7217	7500
Border Workers – MIQ	↑	307	237	231	240	250
Border Workers – MIF	↑	2955	2608	2779	2913	3000
Border Workers – Air Crew	↑	363	357	333	363	350
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↓	2166	1290	1585	1355	1250
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↓	1173	971	1039	808	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↑	3	58	71	134	90
Background Community Testing GPs and other Primary Care)	↓	23487	24015	30618	20658	18000
CBAC Testing	↓	15166	12387	20719	14244	12000
Contact Tracing (1)	↓	3238	4197	3244	2235	2000
<b>Total</b>	↓	<b>56161</b>	<b>53702</b>	<b>68050</b>	<b>50167</b>	<b>45340</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 3 – 9 March 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	43	30	28	91	1,172
Breakdown of testing sites by type 24 February – 2 March 2021					
980	43	32	32	85	1,172

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

**Auckland/Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC):** the Auckland Metro region and NRHCC has options to relocate and increase testing capacity in the East Auckland area. Options were deployed to meet demand for day 12 testing (on 3 and 4 March) from the Kmart Botany exposure. The region is also assessing and exploring options for a medium to long term testing centre in this district.

**Rest of New Zealand:** DHBs across the rest of New Zealand report that the initial high demand for testing following the Auckland community cases is slowly reducing. All DHBs have confirmed that they have the capacity to meet current demand as well as maintaining readiness for any further increased testing demand. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications with testing locations.

DHBs are very aware of the need to ensure that testing queues are well managed, including traffic management, toilet facilities and access to water. The Ministry is rolling out an e-ordering process into the community testing centres that will significantly reduce the time it takes for people to undertake tests.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** Voluntary saliva testing continues to be offered to workers in quarantine facilities and dual-purpose facilities as a means of supplementing their mandatory testing regime.

**Airports/Air Crew:** Testing activity at the air border remains at steady levels with returnee numbers known several weeks ahead of arrival due to the managed isolation booking requirements. Testing for air border workers and crew also remains at expected levels and continues to take place as per the Air Border Order and Required Testing Order.

**Ports/Maritime:** With the onset of the tropical cyclone season, there has been a decrease in testing of crew and passengers at Opua Marina in Northland, due to a significant decline in the numbers of small craft arriving. Mandatory testing of port and border workers under the Required Testing Order is ongoing at ports around the country.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

Rate per 1000 people tested for COVID-19 from 26 February – 11 March 2021

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				Total
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other	
Auckland	27.2	37.11	21.57	26.27	31.28
Bay of Plenty	15.42	45	17.35	13.88	15.31
Canterbury	14.02	20.66	14.84	13.91	14.78
Capital and Coast	15.77	17.59	12.15	17.91	17.06
Counties Manukau	41.41	63.63	45.1	34.75	44.94
Hawkes Bay	11.93	24.46	15.28	11.1	12.33
Hutt Valley	10.9	12.5	11.03	11.31	11.36
Lakes	17.88	19.18	22.2	14.81	16.95
MidCentral	9.43	17.84	8.13	10.93	10.79
Nelson Marlborough	13.46	59.48	11.99	11.88	13.33
Northland	13.1	13.57	13.78	11.47	12.35
South Canterbury	9.23	30.72	10.56	8.61	9.13
Southern	13.35	26.14	15	14.36	14.75
Tairāwhiti	13.8	25.05	39.41	12.76	14.28
Taranaki	9.59	11.49	13.65	12.04	11.91
Waikato	17.54	26.18	18.6	14.81	16.46
Wairarapa	9.4	9.62	12.03	9.75	10.12
Waitemata	20.88	30.18	19.52	20.39	21.19
West Coast	5.42	7.92	5.41	5.41	5.62
Whanganui	7.43	15.11	6.15	9.81	9.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>20.5</b>



## PILLARS OF THE COVID-19 ELIMINATION STRATEGY

New Zealand's elimination strategy is a sustained approach to 'Keep it Out', 'Prepare for It', 'Stamp it Out' and 'Manage the Impact'. We do this through:

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

## 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 19 March 2021, there are no active community cases. There are 55 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

There are no active cases associated with the February Auckland Cluster.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

Working through the RFP process for Saliva Testing.

Continuing to progress the implementation of electronic ordering for COVID-19 testing.

Complete testing and deploy the Bluetooth Tracing upgrade for the COVID-19 Tracer App. This will allow older model iPhones (5s, 6, 6+) to receive Bluetooth alerts from next week.

Finalising the community outreach escalation pathway for close contacts.

Ongoing work to implement changes to strengthen and enhance the post-MIQ wellness check.

Defining requirements for changes to the New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) to support contact tracing operations within a quarantine free travel arrangement.

## CONTACT TRACING

Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.

For cases notified week 10 - 16 March 2021

Contact tracing activity	Target	Performance
Time notification to case interview	≥80% within 24 hours	96%
Time case notification to isolation / quarantine of contact	≥80% within 48 hours	100%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	100%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	100%

For week 10 - 16 March (cases notified during this period) **100%** Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification  
 Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## LAB TESTING

Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.

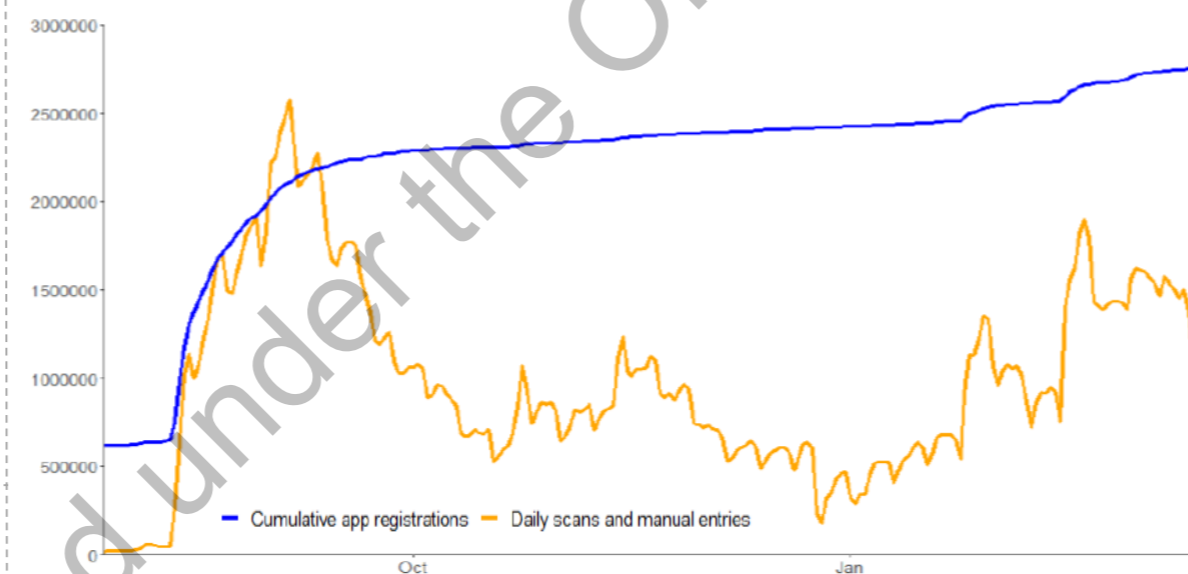
As at 18 March 1,840,473 tests have been conducted.

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	4,581
Total tested across New Zealand between 12 - 18 Mar	32,064
<b>NATIONAL CAPACITY</b>	
Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 18 March	32,872
Test supplies in stock as at 18 March	200,208

## NZ COVID TRACER APP

Release of Bluetooth Tracing upgrade (EN v2) functionality has been delayed for a week due to issues discovered during testing. These have been resolved and testing is on track to be completed next week.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 17 March 2021



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

Desktop ventilation assessments of MIQs are complete, and progress on actions remains underway. Planning for the phase two on-site ventilation assessments is well underway.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3,639	Isolation: 232	Isolation: 321	Isolation: 127	Isolation: 825	Isolation: 5,144	
	Quarantine: 85					Quarantine: 85	
Number of Community Cases	0	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.

There is sufficient stock of all other PPE supplies in the country, and demand continues to be below low pandemic usage levels. Stocks of all items continue to arrive regularly, and additional orders continue to be placed as required.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 29 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	293,509,377	2,961,625	99	
Isolation gowns	17,013,316	147,655	115	
N95s	3,364,429	124,211	27	
Procedure masks	274,310,466	2,153,614	127	
Face shields	1,237,381	18,290	68	
Goggles/Glasses	1,736,226	5,407	321	
Aprons	13,838,490	108,952	127	
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,239,554	13,828	90	



## MIQ GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Total tested 11 Mar – 17 Mar
Departures from facilities	↓	2835	2607	2836	2735
Day 3	↓	2793	2562	2788	2686
Day 12	↓	2805	2577	2791	2694
Percentage tested at day 3	↓	98.5%	98.3%	98.3%	98.2%
Percentage tested at day 12	↑	98.9%	98.8%	98.4%	98.5%
High risk departures	↓	1708	1591	1856	1543
Day 0	↓	1562	1511	1705	1438
Percentage tested day 0	↑	91.5% (1)	95.0% (1)	91.9% (1)	93.2% (1)

(1) This is likely to be a data error with the NCTS border data. The Ministry is currently investigating this issue. Day 0/1 testing is only required from countries other than Australia, Antarctica and some Pacific Islands.

## REASONS FOR NO TEST BY DEPARTURE DATE FROM FACILITY

Reason		18 Feb – 24 Feb	25 Feb – 3 Mar	4 Mar – 10 Mar	11 Mar – 17 Mar
Total	↓	65	70	106	39
Child (1)	↓	14	18	23	16
Clinical reasons	↔	0	0	0	0
No consent given	↓	6	2	4	0
Other (2)	↓	45 (2)	50 (2)	79 (2)	23(2)

(1) "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age

(2) There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data.

## TESTING AND TESTING SITES

Stream		Total tested 18 Feb – 24 Feb	Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Total tested 11 Mar – 17 Mar	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↓	7582	7431	7217	6495	6500
Border Workers – MIQ	↓	237	231	240	235	250
Border Workers – MIF	↓	2608	2779	2913	2428	2400
Border Workers – Air Crew	↓	357	333	363	311	300
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↑	1290	1585	1355	1501	1500
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↑	971	1039	808	975	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↓	58	71	134	31	50
Background Community Testing GPs and other Primary Care)	↓	24012	30510	20658	12181	12000
CBAC Testing	↓	12390	20827	14244	9131	9000
Contact Tracing (1)	↓	4197	3244	2235	876	900
<b>Total</b>	↓	<b>53702</b>	<b>68050</b>	<b>50167</b>	<b>34164</b>	<b>33800</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 10 – 16 March 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	42	30	28	91	1,171
Breakdown of testing sites by type 3 – 9 March 2021					
980	43	30	28	91	1,172

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

**Auckland/Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC):** the Auckland Metro/NRHCC region continues with their weekday operation of six community testing centres (CTCs), with the ability to increase capacity and respond to developments as needed. Four of the six CTCs are planned to be open over the weekend with shortened hours. This is consistent with previous "steady state" hours.

**Rest of New Zealand:** DHBs across the rest of New Zealand continue to report that demand for testing following the Auckland community cases is reducing. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications with their testing locations.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** voluntary saliva testing continues to be offered to workers in quarantine facilities and in dual-purpose facilities as a means of supplementing their mandatory testing regime, however uptake remains low.

**Airports/Air Crew:** testing activity at the air border remains steady with returnee numbers known several weeks ahead of arrival due to the managed isolation booking requirements. Testing for air border workers and air crew also remains at expected levels and continues to take place as per the Air Border Order and Required Testing Order. As expected, Auckland personnel continue to comprise the majority of air borders workers tested, with 84.1% for the week ended 14 March, against 15.4% for Christchurch and 0.5% for Wellington.

**Ports/Maritime:** testing activity for port workers and maritime crew remains consistent. Some DHBs are arranging for testing of crew sailing to Singapore, to meet Singapore's new requirements.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

Rate per 1000 people tested for COVID-19 from 5 March -18 March 2021

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				Total
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other	
<b>Auckland</b>	17.17	21.86	16.40	17.90	<b>22.64</b>
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	11.47	33.52	13.78	10.50	<b>11.64</b>
<b>Canterbury</b>	10.45	14.53	13.58	10.63	<b>11.51</b>
<b>Capital and Coast</b>	10.81	11.18	10.08	12.57	<b>12.20</b>
<b>Counties Manukau</b>	21.36	33.38	23.89	18.22	<b>23.64</b>
<b>Hawkes Bay</b>	7.70	16.98	11.24	7.40	<b>8.21</b>
<b>Hutt Valley</b>	7.90	10.62	8.74	8.12	<b>8.44</b>
<b>Lakes</b>	10.86	11.74	18.50	10.09	<b>11.40</b>
<b>MidCentral</b>	7.61	13.16	6.26	7.92	<b>8.05</b>
<b>Nelson Marlborough</b>	9.79	34.39	9.97	9.01	<b>9.92</b>
<b>Northland</b>	8.28	12.77	10.52	7.37	<b>8.13</b>
<b>South Canterbury</b>	8.85	10.24	5.07	6.99	<b>7.25</b>
<b>Southern</b>	9.80	17.14	12.17	10.00	<b>10.42</b>
<b>Tairāwhiti</b>	9.32	17.89	25.70	8.87	<b>10.03</b>
<b>Taranaki</b>	6.25	7.90	12.36	7.50	<b>7.74</b>
<b>Waikato</b>	10.12	13.13	13.05	9.22	<b>10.16</b>
<b>Wairarapa</b>	8.52	9.62	10.43	8.30	<b>8.70</b>
<b>Waitemata</b>	14.81	21.39	15.46	14.35	<b>15.39</b>
<b>West Coast</b>	3.09	3.96	5.41	3.26	<b>3.50</b>
<b>Whanganui</b>	5.18	12.49	8.20	7.11	<b>7.03</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.60</b>	<b>24.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>11.40</b>	<b>13.70</b>

## PILLARS OF THE COVID-19 ELIMINATION STRATEGY

New Zealand's elimination strategy is a sustained approach to 'Keep it Out', 'Prepare for It', 'Stamp it Out' and 'Manage the Impact'. We do this through:

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

## 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 26 March 2021, there are 0 active community cases. There are 74 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

There are two border-related cases associated with the Grand Millennium Central Auckland Managed Isolation Facility (MIF). Case A is an employee at the MIF, and Case B is a household member. Both are at the Jet Park quarantine facility.

A source investigation has been initiated following the confirmation of a genomic link between residents of the Grand Mercure Hotel Auckland MIF. There are two cases, and approximately 250 returnees who stayed at the MIF between 10 and 24 March inclusive are being contacted. They are being asked to get tested immediately, stay at home until a result has been returned, and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- Testing for Release 6 of the COVID-19 Tracer App, which includes improvements suggested to encourage app use, a dashboard link to COVID-19 Testing locations, and a flashlight for scanning.
- Monitoring PPE supplies across New Zealand.
- Supporting operational contact tracing for the Grand Mercure departees.
- Progressing saliva testing RFP process.
- Ongoing work to implement changes to strengthen and enhance the post-MIQ wellness check.

## CONTACT TRACING

Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.

For cases notified week 17 – 23 March 2021

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	100%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	100%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	100%

For week 17 - 23 March (cases notified during this period) **100%** Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification. Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## LAB TESTING

Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.

As at 25 March 1,875,086 have been conducted.

Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	4,944
Total tested across New Zealand between 19 - 25 Mar	34,610
<b>NATIONAL CAPACITY</b>	
Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 25 March	32,902
Test supplies in stock as at 25 March	210,650

## NZ COVID TRACER APP

The Bluetooth Tracing upgrade was completed this week, which now allows older model iPhones (5s, 6, 6+) to receive Bluetooth alerts.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 25 March 2021



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

Progress on actions remain underway for desktop ventilation assessment. Planning for the phase two on-site ventilation assessments is well underway.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 3562	Isolation: 185	Isolation: 271	Isolation: 130	Isolation: 1086	Isolation: 5235	
	Quarantine: 115					Quarantine: 115	
Number of Community Cases	0	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.

There is sufficient stock of all other PPE supplies in the country, and demand continues to be below low pandemic usage levels. Stocks of all items continue to arrive regularly, and additional orders continue to be placed as required.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 29 February 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	292,852,897	2,977,395	98	
Isolation gowns	17,168,424	245,035	70	
N95s	3,657,808	96,744	38	
Procedure masks	275,068,686	1,747,506	157	
Face shields	1,267,758	16,863	75	
Goggles/Glasses	1,735,908	5,075	342	
Aprons	13,414,042	209,166	64	
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,230,713	20,824	59	

## MIQ GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Total tested 11 Mar – 17 Mar	Total tested 18 Mar – 24 Mar
Departures from facilities	↓	2607	2831	2810	2440
Day 3	↓	2563	2786	2760	2382
Day 12	↓	2578	2791	2769	2381
Percentage tested at day 3	↓	98.3%	98.4%	98.2%	97.6%
Percentage tested at day 12	↓	98.9%	98.6%	98.5%	97.6%
High risk departures	↓	1591	1853	1619	1519
Day 0	↓	1512	1703	1512	1425
Percentage tested day 0	↑	95.0%	91.9%* (1)	93.4%* (1)	93.8* (1)

(1) This is likely to be a data error with the NCTS border data. The Ministry is currently investigating this issue. Day 0/1 testing is only required from countries other than Australia, Antarctica and some Pacific Islands.

## REASONS FOR NO TEST BY DEPARTURE DATE FROM FACILITY

Reason		25 Feb – 3 Mar	4 Mar – 10 Mar	11 Mar – 17 Mar	18 Mar – 24 Mar
Total	↑	70	106	39	82
Child (1)	↑	18	23	16	22
Clinical reasons	↑	0	0	0	1
No consent given	↑	2	4	0	2
Other (2)	↑	50 (2)	79 (2)	23 (2)	57 (2)

(1) "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age

(2) There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data.

## TESTING AND TESTING SITES

Stream		Total tested 25 Feb – 3 Mar	Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Total tested 11 Mar – 17 Mar	Total tested 18 Mar – 24 Mar	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↑	7431	7222	6497	6975	6500
Border Workers – MIQ	↓	231	240	235	231	250
Border Workers – MIF	↓	2779	2913	2429	2321	2400
Border Workers – Air Crew	↓	333	363	311	304	300
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↓	1585	1355	1501	1185	1500
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↓	1039	808	975	847	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↑	71	134	31	42	50
Background Community Testing GPs and other Primary Care)	↓	30505	20182	12057	11485	12000
CBAC Testing	↓	20832	14721	9253	7467	8000
Contact Tracing (1)	↑	3244	2235	876	1167	1000
<b>Total</b>	↓	<b>68050</b>	<b>50173</b>	<b>34165</b>	<b>32024</b>	<b>32900</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 17 - 23 March 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	42	28	30	91	1,171
Breakdown of testing sites by type 10 – 16 March 2021					
980	42	30	28	91	1,172

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

**Auckland/Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC):** Auckland Metro/NRHCC will be completing a February outbreak testing review which will include a specific review of geographic and ethnic coverage. The analysis from this review is expected to inform future plans in the area, including the need for targeted testing.

**Rest of New Zealand:** DHBs across the rest of New Zealand continue to report that demand for testing following the Auckland community cases is reducing. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications with their testing locations and hours.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** a worker at the Grand Millennium managed isolation facility in Auckland has tested positive for COVID-19 as part of their routine fortnightly surveillance testing. Testing of the worker and household resulted in one family member also testing positive. The worker and family member have been transferred to Jet Park, whilst the remaining household members isolate at home.

**Airports/Air Crew:** with the anticipated commencement of a quarantine-free travel zone with Australia, airports receiving 'green' flights will be subject to the mandatory testing requirements under the Required Testing Order (RTO), which will affect additional groups of workers who have not to date been subject to the requirements. Therefore, more air border workers will need to undergo 7-day and 14-day tests.

Affected airports (Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch airports) will need to expand or implement testing capabilities (Queenstown airport). Affected employers will need to be made aware of their requirements under the RTO. During a meeting with DHB testing leads this week, the Ministry opened discussions with Capital and Coast and Southern DHBs to discuss the logistics of standing-up testing facilities to enable the regular testing of border workers at Wellington and Queenstown Airports.

**Ports/Maritime:** overall, numbers at ports around the country appear consistent with expected testing cycles. The Ministry is working alongside WorkSafe to follow up any cases of suspected non-compliance.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

Rate per 1000 people tested for COVID-19 from 12 March - 25 March 2021

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO					Total
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other		
<b>Auckland</b>	13.9	19.3	15.2	16.4	<b>20.7</b>	
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	9.4	23.4	12.1	8.7	<b>9.6</b>	
<b>Canterbury</b>	8.1	11.1	12.7	8.9	<b>9.8</b>	
<b>Capital and Coast</b>	9.9	10.8	9.4	11.2	<b>11.1</b>	
<b>Counties Manukau</b>	15.1	25.3	16.7	13.2	<b>17.1</b>	
<b>Hawkes Bay</b>	5.4	11.4	9.2	6.0	<b>6.4</b>	
<b>Hutt Valley</b>	7.1	9.2	9.2	6.9	<b>7.5</b>	
<b>Lakes</b>	8.0	13.7	15.1	8.4	<b>9.2</b>	
<b>MidCentral</b>	5.8	11.5	6.2	6.2	<b>6.5</b>	
<b>Nelson Marlborough</b>	8.0	15.8	9.4	8.3	<b>8.7</b>	
<b>Northland</b>	6.2	9.3	9.2	6.4	<b>6.8</b>	
<b>South Canterbury</b>	7.2	22.5	7.2	5.5	<b>5.9</b>	
<b>Southern</b>	7.4	12.2	10.6	8.2	<b>8.5</b>	
<b>Tairāwhiti</b>	7.3	6.3	22.3	7.2	<b>7.9</b>	
<b>Taranaki</b>	4.9	6.5	14.9	6.1	<b>6.5</b>	
<b>Waikato</b>	7.3	10.5	11.9	7.4	<b>8.2</b>	
<b>Wairarapa</b>	7.2	10.8	11.2	7.3	<b>7.7</b>	
<b>Waitemata</b>	12.5	18.5	14.5	12.8	<b>13.7</b>	
<b>West Coast</b>	3.1	4.0	6.5	2.9	<b>3.2</b>	
<b>Whanganui</b>	3.3	8.5	9.2	5.1	<b>5.0</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>11.5</b>	

## PILLARS OF THE COVID-19 ELIMINATION STRATEGY

New Zealand's elimination strategy is a sustained approach to 'Keep it Out', 'Prepare for It', 'Stamp it Out' and 'Manage the Impact'. We do this through:

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

## 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 1 April 2021, there are 0 active community cases. There are 67 active imported cases in Managed Isolation Facilities.**

There are two border-related cases associated with the Grand Millennium Central Auckland Managed Isolation Facility (MIF). Case A is an employee at the MIF, and Case B is a household member. Both are at the Jet Park quarantine facility. All Close and Close + contacts have returned negative results at initial testing.

A source investigation has been initiated following the confirmation of a genomic link between residents of the Grand Mercure Hotel Auckland MIF. There are two cases, and 343 returnees identified as having stayed at the MIF at the same time as the case. 333 have been tested and negative results have been returned. One has returned a positive result, which is a historical case and has been reported. There are 10 outstanding results.

## FOCUS FOR WEEK AHEAD

- Evaluation of responses to Saliva Testing RFP.
- Deploying Release 6 of the COVID-19 Tracer App to the public Beta group. This release includes improvements suggested to encourage app use, a dashboard link to COVID-19 Testing locations, and a flashlight for scanning.
- Building operational contact tracing capacity to prepare for quarantine free travel.
- Monitoring PPE supplies across New Zealand

## CONTACT TRACING



Status: Sufficient capacity and continuing to improve speed.

For cases notified week 24 - 30 March 2021

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	89%
Time from close contact identification to isolated/quarantined	≥80% within 24 hours	99%
Proportion of contacts traced	≥80% within 48 hours	89%

For week 24 - 30 March (cases notified during this period) **89%** Of contacts traced within 2 days of case notification. Target: 80% within 2 days of case notification

## LAB TESTING



Status: Sufficient capacity for current demand.

As at 31 March 1,902,915 tests have been conducted.

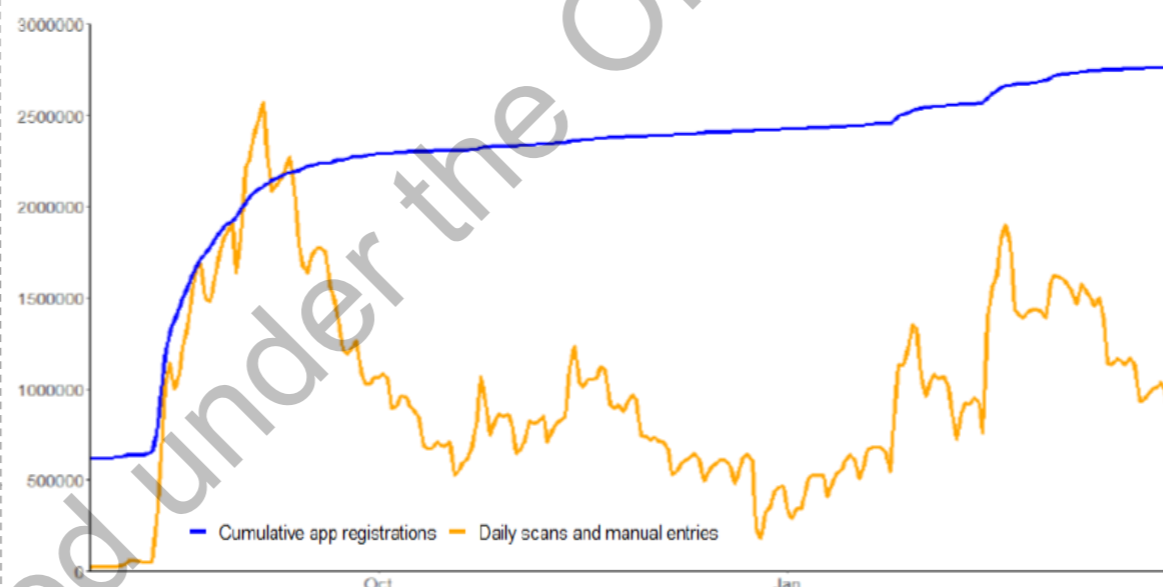
Average daily number of tests this week (rolling)	4,992
Total tested across New Zealand between 25 - 31 Mar	34,946
<b>NATIONAL CAPACITY</b>	
Maximum daily testing capacity across all labs as at 31 March	32,972
Test supplies in stock as at 31 March	216,108

## NZ COVID TRACER APP



Release 6 testing is nearing completion and designs are being considered for the inclusion of Immunisation information into the App for Release 7.

COVID-19 Tracer App cumulative registered users and daily scans/manual entries as at 31 March 2021



## CAPACITY AT BORDER SERVICES (MIQ)

Progress on actions remain underway for desktop ventilation assessment. A preliminary on-site assessment of the Grand Mercure AKL has been undertaken to inform the case investigation.

CAPACITY	AKL	WKO	ROT	WLG	CHCH	TOTAL	
Current Occupancy	Isolation: 2,747	Isolation: 216	Isolation: 525	Isolation: 75	Isolation: 846	Isolation: 4,409	
	Quarantine: 127				Quarantine: 2		Quarantine: 129
Number of Community Cases	0	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.

There is sufficient stock of all other PPE supplies in the country, and demand continues to be below low pandemic usage levels. Stocks of all items continue to arrive regularly, and additional orders continue to be placed as required.

Item	Quantity on hand week commencing 27 March 2021	Current Usage (weekly)	Weeks on hand (current usage)	
Nitrile gloves	292,936,711	3,193,341	92	
Isolation gowns	17,137,016	246,052	70	
N95s	3,752,393	47,786	79	
Procedure masks	275,023,965	1,413,238	195	
Face shields	1,293,850	16,113	80	
Goggles/Glasses	1,735,653	4,937	352	
Aprons	14,368,559	211,136	68	
Hand sanitiser (500ml equiv)	1,229,860	20,388	60	

## MIQ GUEST TESTING

Stream		Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Total tested 11 Mar – 17 Mar	Total tested 18 Mar – 24 Mar	Total tested 25 Mar – 31 Mar
Departures from facilities	↑	2831	2810	2460	2592
Day 3	↑	2786	2761	2402	2552
Day 12	↑	2791	2769	2401	2550
Percentage tested at day 3	↑	98.4%	98.3%	97.6%	98.4%
Percentage tested at day 12	↑	98.6%	98.5%	97.6%	98.3%
High risk departures	↑	1853	1619	1539	1677
Day 0	↑	1703	1512	1443	1620
Percentage tested day 0	↑	91.9% (1)	93.4% (1)	93.8% (1)	96.6%

(1) This is likely to be a data error with the NCTS border data. The Ministry is continuing to investigate this issue. Day 0/1 testing is only required from countries other than Australia, Antarctica and some Pacific Islands.

## REASONS FOR NO TEST BY DEPARTURE DATE FROM FACILITY

Reason		4 Mar – 10 Mar	11 Mar – 17 Mar	18 Mar – 24 Mar	25 Mar – 31 Mar
Total	↓	106	39	82	54
Child (1)	↑	23	16	22	30
Clinical reasons	↓	0	0	1	0
No consent given	↑	4	0	2	5
Other (2)	↓	79 (2)	23 (2)	57 (2)	19 (2)

(1) "Child" generally refers to under 6 months of age

(2) There are a large number of day 0/1 tests entered in error as the guest was not from a high-risk country so was not required to be tested. These appear as 'other' in the data.

## TESTING AND TESTING SITES

Stream		Total tested 4 Mar – 10 Mar	Total tested 11 Mar – 17 Mar	Total tested 18 Mar – 24 Mar	Total tested 25 Mar – 31 Mar	Estimated tests next week
Guest – MIF and MIQ	↓	7222	6497	6975	6503	6500
Border Workers – MIQ	↓	240	235	231	196	250
Border Workers – MIF	↑	2913	2429	2321	2507	2500
Border Workers – Air Crew	↑	363	311	304	366	300
Border Workers – Airport Staff	↑	1355	1501	1196	1526	1500
Border Workers – Sea port staff	↑	843	1032	908	964	900
Border Workers – Maritime crew	↓	134	31	42	17	50
Background Community Testing GPs and other Primary Care)	↑	20154	11833	10927	13420	12500
CBAC Testing	↑	14714	9420	7953	8232	8500
Contact Tracing (1)	↑	2235	876	1167	1215	1500
<b>Total</b>	↑	<b>50173</b>	<b>34165</b>	<b>32024</b>	<b>34946</b>	<b>34500</b>

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

Breakdown of testing sites by type 24 - 30 March 2021					
General Practice	CBAC	Mobile Service	Swabbing Centre	Other (including Corrections, NZDF, DHB facilities)	Total
980	42	28	29	91	1,170
Breakdown of testing sites by type 17 – 23 March 2021					
980	42	28	30	91	1,171

## TESTING COMMENTARY

### Testing and testing sites

District Health Boards (DHBs) across New Zealand continue to report that demand for testing following the Auckland community cases has steadied. DHBs are continuing to update Healthpoint and other channels of communications with their testing locations and hours.

### Border testing

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities:** voluntary saliva testing continues to be offered to workers in quarantine facilities and in dual-purpose facilities as a means of supplementing their mandatory testing regime.

**Airports/Air Crew:** with quarantine-free travel zones between New Zealand and the Cook Islands and one or more Australian states or territories expected to commence later this year, airports and DHBs within those regions are continuing to explore the implications for their COVID-19 testing programmes and resources.

**Ports/ Maritime:** testing of port workers subject to the Required Testing Order continues at ports around the country. Testing of maritime crew seeking shore leave in New Zealand and of on and off-signing crew is arranged as needed.

The Ministry of Health is working with WorkSafe and has a framework in place for addressing potential compliance issues identified at ports.

## DHB TESTING BY ETHNICITY

Rate per 1000 people tested for COVID-19 from 18 March - 31 March 2021

DHB of Domicile	Prioritised ethnicity MPAO				
	Maori	Pacific	Asian	Other	Total
Auckland	14.7	21.4	16.3	17.7	21.9
Bay of Plenty	9.0	19.6	11.0	8.2	9.0
Canterbury	7.7	10.1	12.8	8.3	9.4
Capital and Coast	9.3	11.3	9.2	10.4	10.5
Counties Manukau	14.9	26.6	17.6	13.1	17.6
Hawkes Bay	5.6	10.4	8.7	6.1	6.5
Hutt Valley	6.3	7.9	9.2	6.7	7.2
Lakes	7.5	15.7	14.3	7.9	8.8
MidCentral	5.6	10.5	6.4	6.0	6.3
Nelson Marlborough	7.5	22.3	8.8	8.3	8.7
Northland	5.4	7.7	7.9	6.2	6.5
South Canterbury	6.8	20.5	8.9	5.2	5.6
Southern	7.4	12.5	9.5	8.3	8.5
Tairāwhiti	7.3	9.8	7.7	6.6	7.3
Taranaki	4.5	5.7	15.1	5.4	6.0
Waikato	6.5	10.6	12.1	6.7	7.5
Wairarapa	6.5	9.6	11.2	6.6	7.0
Waitemata	12.4	19.2	15.2	13.3	14.3
West Coast	4.1	7.9	7.6	2.7	3.1
Whanganui	2.4	5.3	7.2	3.7	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>11.5</b>