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COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

This section provides the latest updates, information and advice on COVID-19.

Current situation

There are 9 new cases of COVID-19 today, 17 August 2020.

As is our usual protocol we are tracing all close and casual contacts of these cases, and getting them tested for COVID-19. All close contacts will remain in self-isolation for 14 days, and all casual contacts will remain in self isolation until they have returned a negative test.

There are now 78 active cases of COVID-19 in New Zealand. See our [current cases page](#).

Alert levels

Until 11.59 pm Wednesday 26 August the Auckland region (Auckland Council area) is at **Alert Level 3** and the rest of New Zealand is at **Alert Level 2**. Find out more on the [Unite Against COVID-19 website](#).

Where to get a test for COVID-19 in Auckland

If you have symptoms you can:

- get a test at most GPs – call ahead to find out if you need a test and follow their advice
- get a test at a [Community Testing Centre](#) – this list will continue to be updated.

People in other regions can check their [local district health board website](#) to find out about testing in their area.

Regional exemptions at Alert Level 3

The Auckland city 'border' is currently closed. Some exemptions will be allowed. For more information, including how to apply, [see advice for travellers](#).

For COVID-19 health advice and information, contact the Healthline team (for free) on [0800 358 5453](#) or [+64 9 358 5453](#) for international SIMS.

Health & Disability Services at :

[Alert Level 3](#)

Auckland

[Alert Level 2](#)

Rest of New Zealand

NZ COVID Tracer app

The official Ministry of Health contact tracing app helps you keep a digital diary of the places you've been.

[Find out more >](#)



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News and media updates

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Resources and tools

- [NZ COVID Tracer app](#)
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Latest updates

Our advice is under active review and is updated regularly. The latest updates include the following changes to the website:

17 August:

- Updated: [Mental health and addiction providers](#)
- Updated: [Assessment and testing for COVID-19](#)
- Updated: [Advice for community allied health, scientific and technical providers](#)
- Updated: [Occupational health guidance for vulnerable community-based self-employed midwives](#)

15 August:

- Updated: [Supporting a person with dementia at home](#)
- Updated: [PPE for workers](#)
- Updated: [Aged care providers](#)
- Updated: [Advice for travellers](#)

14 August:

- Updated: [Epidemic notice and Orders](#)
- Added: [Usage data for the NZ COVID Tracer app](#)
- Updated: [Aged care providers](#)
- Updated: [Information for pregnant women, and those who have recently given birth](#)
- Added: [Occupational health guidance for vulnerable community-based self-employed midwives](#)
- Updated: [Recommendations on handling of the whenua/placenta for COVID confirmed or probable women](#)
- Updated: [Information for community-based midwives](#)
- Updated: [Health and disability services at Alert Level 2 and Alert Level 3](#)
- Updated: [Guidance on personal protective equipment use in health and disability care settings at Alert Level 2 and 3](#)
- Updated: [Frequently asked questions about PPE and COVID-19](#)
- Updated: [Assessment and testing for COVID-19](#)
- Added: [COVID-19 situation reports: January to May 2020](#)

13 August:

- Updated: [Guidance for Well Child Tamariki Ora providers at Alert Level 2 and 3](#)
- Updated: [Guidance for disability support services at Alert Level 2 and 3](#)
- Updated: [Testing guidance for COVID-19](#)

12 August:

- Added: [Health and disability services at Alert Level 2 and Alert Level 3](#)
- Updated: [Cancer and COVID-19](#)
- Updated: [Use of masks in the community](#)
- Updated: [Aged care providers](#)
- Updated: [Information for parents](#)
- Updated: [NZ COVID Tracer QR codes](#)
- Updated: [COVID-19 questions and answers](#)

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