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# COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

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

## Current situation

There are 13 new cases of COVID-19 today, 18 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 90 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 >](#)



## Health advice for the public

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## Current situation

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- [COVID-19 Surveillance plan and testing strategy](#)
- [PHU Contact Tracing "Deep Dive": Rapid reports](#)

## News and media updates

- [18 August - 13 new cases](#)
- [18 August - Media update](#)
- [17 August - 9 new cases](#)
- [17 August - Media update](#)
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- [15 August - 7 new cases](#)

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## Resources and tools

- [NZ COVID Tracer app](#)
- [COVID-19 Health and Wellbeing Survey](#)
- [New Zealand Sign Language](#)
- [Easy Read](#)
- [Learning modules](#)
- [Information sheets for the general public](#)
- [Posters](#)

## Latest updates

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

### 18 August:

- Updated: [Border Orders](#)

### 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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[Healthline](#)

[Dial 0800 611 116](#)

[Poisons](#)

[Dial 0800 POISON \(0800 764 766\)](#)

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