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COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

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

Current situation

Case numbers

There are 13 new cases of COVID-19 today, 18 August 2020. There are now 90 active cases of COVID-19 in New Zealand. See our [current cases page](#).

Contact tracing

As is our usual protocol, we are tracing all close contacts of these cases, and getting them tested for COVID-19. All close contacts will remain in self-isolation for 14 days. Most casual contacts do not need to self-isolate and only need to be tested if they develop symptoms. In some specific situations, usually early on in an investigation, some casual contacts may be asked by health officials to get tested and self-isolate until they have returned a negative test. In all situations, if a casual or close contact later develops symptoms, they should get tested, even if they had an earlier test, and self-isolate while awaiting the test result. For more information [see Contact tracing](#).

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.





Health advice for the public

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

News and media updates

- [19 August - Media update](#)
- [18 August - 13 new cases](#)
- [18 August - Media update](#)
- [17 August - 9 new cases](#)
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Resources and tools

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- [COVID-19 Health and Wellbeing Survey](#)
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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:

19 August:

- Updated: [Cancer and screening services](#)

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](#)

Page last updated: **19 August 2020**



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