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Testing for COVID-19

Information on lab testing and capacity and testing rates by ethnicity and DHB.

Last updated 1pm 25 February 2021.

All data on this page is as at 9:00 am on 25 February 2021 unless otherwise stated.

Change to the updating schedule for this page

Data on this page is now updated daily.

Data is collected from the EpiSurv database (administered by ESR) unless otherwise stated.

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- [How testing works - Unite against COVID-19](#)

Testing summary, status, and results

COVID-19 viral testing

| People tested | Test results delivered in past 24 hours | Test results delivered during past week |
|--|---|---|
| People who travelled internationally | 972 | 7581 |
| People working at the border, in managed facilities, or near people travelling internationally | 960 | 5521 |
| Within New Zealand, not linked to the border | 7271 | 40107 |
| Other | 66 | 488 |
| Total | 9269 | 53697 |

COVID-19 testing status

| | Total |
|---|-----------|
| All COVID-19 viral tests administered* | 1,683,551 |
| Testing kits in stock (updated weekdays only) | 244,234 |

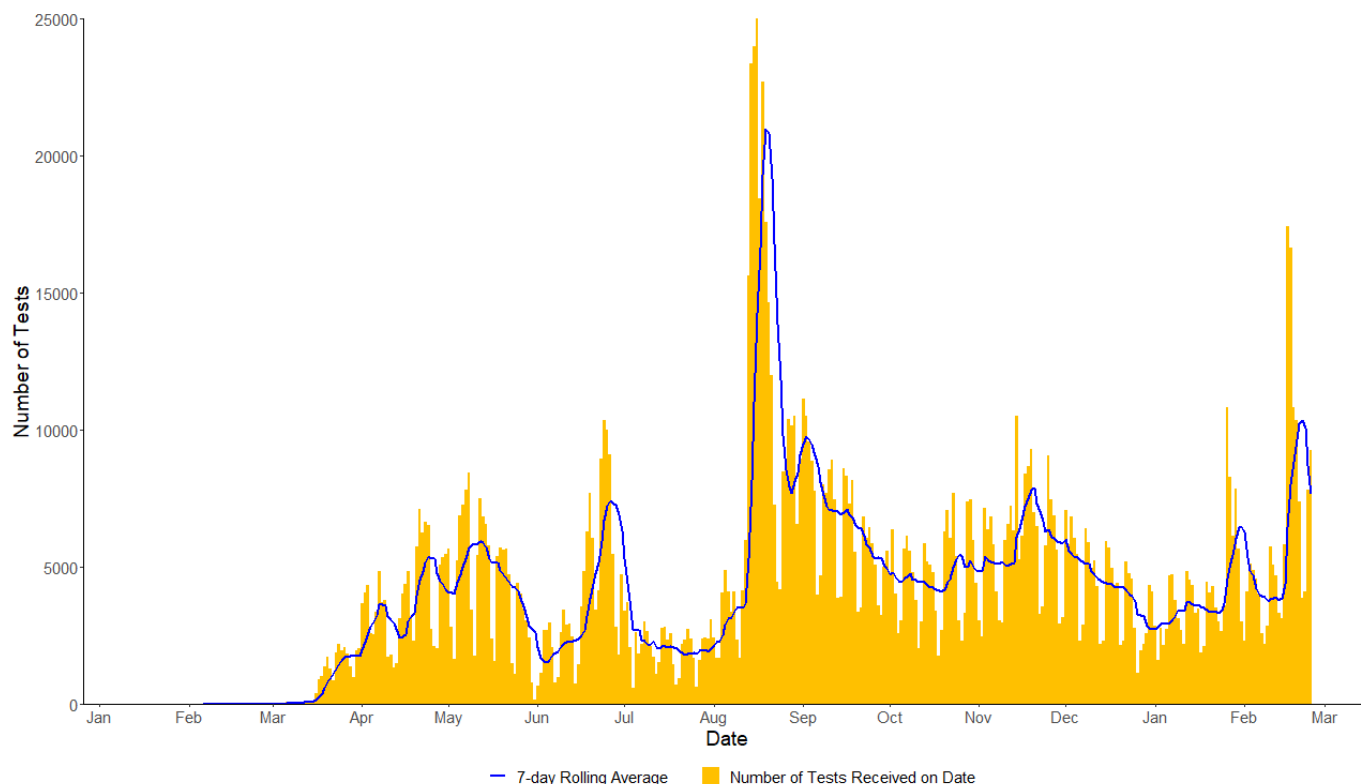
* Covers the period from 22 January 2020 (first test in New Zealand) to 25 February 2021. Note that some people are tested more than once.

Testing results from 22 January 2020* to 25 February 2021

| Test results | In managed facilities | Within NZ communities | Total |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|
| Tested positive for COVID-19 | 821 | 1941 | 2762 |

| Test results | In managed facilities | Within NZ communities | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Tested negative (no COVID-19) | 197562 | 1482975 | 1680537 |
| Inconclusive result for COVID-19 | 4 | 248 | 252 |
| Total (all tests) | 198387 | 1485164 | 1683551 |

* First test for COVID-19 in New Zealand was on 22 January 2020. Note that some people are tested more than once.



Daily number of tests completed for COVID-19 (with seven-day rolling average)

Testing over the past 4 weeks

Tests at managed facilities and within the community in district health boards (DHBs)

| DHB of Patient Domicile | 25 Jan to 31 Jan | 1 Feb to 7 Feb | 8 Feb to 14 Feb | 15 Feb to 21 Feb |
|--|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Managed isolation and quarantine facilities | 7630 | 7249 | 7328 | 7240 |
| Auckland | 5212 | 3116 | 3008 | 7892 |
| Bay of Plenty | 1087 | 774 | 759 | 1843 |
| Canterbury | 2471 | 2091 | 1953 | 4125 |
| Capital and Coast | 1169 | 969 | 885 | 2570 |
| Counties Manukau | 5006 | 3333 | 3620 | 22174 |
| Hawkes Bay | 358 | 368 | 320 | 1029 |
| Hutt Valley | 389 | 309 | 252 | 915 |
| Lakes | 460 | 314 | 331 | 931 |
| MidCentral | 591 | 526 | 394 | 1161 |
| Nelson Marlborough | 457 | 451 | 362 | 841 |
| Northland | 4420 | 427 | 415 | 1140 |
| South Canterbury | 139 | 114 | 131 | 319 |
| Southern | 1100 | 775 | 877 | 2068 |
| Tairāwhiti | 141 | 119 | 130 | 351 |
| Taranaki | 412 | 280 | 218 | 1733 |
| Waikato | 1579 | 1019 | 1099 | 4083 |
| Wairarapa | 100 | 77 | 89 | 209 |
| Waitematā | 10356 | 3438 | 3132 | 8273 |
| West Coast | 60 | 36 | 29 | 64 |
| Whanganui | 113 | 109 | 73 | 430 |

| DHB of Patient Domicile | 25 Jan to 31 Jan | 1 Feb to 7 Feb | 8 Feb to 14 Feb | 15 Feb to 21 Feb |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Unknown | 2129 | 1715 | 1648 | 2979 |
| Total | 45379 | 27609 | 27053 | 72370 |

Note: some people are tested more than once. We cannot give you detailed information about tests in your district, city or town, as we must protect the privacy of the people concerned.

Tests by ethnicity

| Ethnicity | 25 Jan to 31 Jan | 1 Feb to 7 Feb | 8 Feb to 14 Feb | 15 Feb to 21 Feb |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Maori | 5678 | 2700 | 2841 | 10807 |
| Pacific peoples | 3533 | 2562 | 2797 | 11477 |
| Asian | 7221 | 4542 | 4304 | 12768 |
| European/Other | 23954 | 13290 | 12601 | 31322 |
| Unknown | 4993 | 4515 | 4510 | 5996 |
| Total | 45379 | 27609 | 27053 | 72370 |

Tests in managed isolation and quarantine

| Test result | 25 Jan to 31 Jan | 1 Feb to 7 Feb | 8 Feb to 14 Feb | 15 Feb to 21 Feb |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Tested positive for COVID-19 | 35 | 35 | 24 | 21 |
| Tested negative (no COVID-19) | 7595 | 7214 | 7304 | 7219 |
| Inconclusive result for COVID-19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Tests within NZ communities

| Test result | 25 Jan to 31 Jan | 1 Feb to 7 Feb | 8 Feb to 14 Feb | 15 Feb to 21 Feb |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Tested positive for COVID-19 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 11 |
| Tested negative (no COVID-19) | 37735 | 20348 | 19716 | 65119 |
| Inconclusive result for COVID-19 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 |

Total tests

| Test result | 25 Jan to 31 Jan | 1 Feb to 7 Feb | 8 Feb to 14 Feb | 15 Feb to 21 Feb |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Tested positive for COVID-19 | 45 | 44 | 33 | 32 |
| Tested negative (no COVID-19) | 45330 | 27562 | 27020 | 72338 |
| Inconclusive result for COVID-19 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 |

Testing rate and results by location and ethnicity

All tests by DHB and in managed isolation and quarantine facilities from 22 January 2020 to 25 February 2021

| Location | Total tests | Tested positive (%) | Test rate per 1000 people |
|---|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Managed isolation and quarantine facilities | 198387 | 0.41% | NA |
| Auckland | 208513 | 0.15% | 372.01 |
| Bay of Plenty | 57749 | 0.08% | 236.14 |
| Canterbury | 126175 | 0.12% | 216.56 |
| Capital and Coast | 83218 | 0.16% | 255.81 |
| Counties Manukau | 271179 | 0.09% | 467.67 |
| Hawkes Bay | 33303 | 0.14% | 198.36 |
| Hutt Valley | 30677 | 0.08% | 202.04 |
| Lakes | 30626 | 0.04% | 274.27 |
| MidCentral | 37633 | 0.1% | 206.09 |
| Nelson Marlborough | 30003 | 0.11% | 196.11 |
| Northland | 41378 | 0.08% | 224.94 |
| South Canterbury | 10578 | 0.21% | 175.84 |
| Southern | 69493 | 0.39% | 206.13 |
| Tairāwhiti | 11858 | 0.03% | 239.91 |
| Taranaki | 24728 | 0.05% | 203.19 |
| Waikato | 103686 | 0.19% | 241.65 |
| Wairarapa | 8717 | 0.05% | 189 |

| Location | Total tests | Tested positive (%) | Test rate per 1000 people |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Waitematā | 233118 | 0.13% | 361.45 |
| West Coast | 3154 | 0.16% | 98.75 |
| Whanganui | 11889 | 0.03% | 182.75 |
| Unknown | 57489 | 0.09% | NA |
| Total | 1683551 | 0.16% | 283.87 |

Tests by ethnicity from 22 January 2020 to 25 February 2021

| Ethnicity* | Total test | Tested positive (%) | Test rate per 1000 people |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Māori | 237906 | 0.09% | 300.64 |
| Pacific peoples | 193680 | 0.11% | 595.22 |
| Asian | 235794 | 0.18% | 293.91 |
| European/Other | 892405 | 0.19% | 286.92 |
| Unknown | 123766 | 0.2% | NA |
| Total | 1683551 | 0.16% | 310.14 |

* The prioritised ethnicity classification system is used in this table and below. This means each person is allocated to a single ethnic group, based on the ethnic groups they identify with. Where people identify with more than one group, they are assigned in this order of priority: Māori, Pacific Peoples, Asian, and European/Other. So, if a person identifies as being Māori and New Zealand European, the person is counted as Māori. See [Ngā tapuae me ngā raraunga: Methods and data sources](#) for further information.

The data categorized by ethnicity come from National Health Index (NHI) data collection, linked to data held in the EpiSurv database.

Testing rates per 1000 people by location and ethnicity from 22 January 2020 to 25 February 2021

| Location | Māori | Pacific peoples | Asian | European/Other |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Auckland | 410.74 | 554.6 | 258.94 | 407.01 |
| Bay of Plenty | 258.27 | 433.63 | 160.08 | 231.4 |
| Canterbury | 212.36 | 284.15 | 196.62 | 215.82 |
| Capital and Coast | 256.24 | 304.51 | 170.57 | 268.21 |
| Counties Manukau | 466.01 | 777.98 | 358.66 | 364.85 |
| Hawke's Bay | 204.48 | 340.35 | 129.66 | 192.4 |
| Hutt Valley | 198.19 | 252.77 | 165.7 | 203.26 |
| Lakes | 296.91 | 424.86 | 220.09 | 259.28 |
| MidCentral | 199.8 | 264.87 | 128.91 | 212.83 |
| Nelson Marlborough | 208.64 | 348.56 | 139.49 | 193.71 |
| Northland | 252.1 | 247.59 | 162.82 | 212.67 |
| South Canterbury | 176.82 | 495.85 | 169.09 | 172.33 |
| Southern | 190.4 | 303.96 | 152.44 | 209.93 |
| Tairāwhiti | 259.73 | 304.31 | 229.73 | 213.57 |
| Taranaki | 202.55 | 289.98 | 192.52 | 201.22 |
| Waikato | 271.24 | 332.47 | 199.83 | 228.27 |
| Wairarapa | 199.86 | 321.13 | 195.98 | 181.72 |
| Waitematā | 378.56 | 541.4 | 287.1 | 364.19 |
| West Coast | 91.72 | 200.53 | 131.37 | 97.09 |
| Whanganui | 180.75 | 239.14 | 131.45 | 184.24 |
| Total | 283.04 | 559.83 | 252.51 | 260.97 |

Note: some people are tested more than once. We cannot give you detailed information about tests in your district, city or town, as we must protect the privacy of the people concerned.

Percentage of tests returning a positive result by DHB and ethnicity from 22 January to 25 February 2021

| Location | Māori | Pacific peoples | Asian | European/Other |
|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| Auckland | 0.07 | 0.19 | 0.13 | 0.15 |
| Bay of Plenty | 0.04 | 0 | 0.15 | 0.1 |
| Canterbury | 0.06 | 0.19 | 0.1 | 0.12 |

| Location | Māori | Pacific peoples | Asian | European/Other |
|--------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| Capital and Coast | 0.04 | 0 | 0.11 | 0.2 |
| Counties Manukau | 0.02 | 0.07 | 0.1 | 0.12 |
| Hawke's Bay | 0.03 | 0.18 | 0.24 | 0.17 |
| Hutt Valley | 0.13 | 0 | 0 | 0.09 |
| Lakes | 0.03 | 0 | 0.04 | 0.05 |
| MidCentral | 0.05 | 0 | 0 | 0.12 |
| Nelson Marlborough | 0.12 | 0 | 0 | 0.12 |
| Northland | 0.06 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.1 |
| South Canterbury | 0.1 | 0 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| Southern | 0.4 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.42 |
| Tairāwhiti | 0.02 | 0 | 0 | 0.06 |
| Taranaki | 0 | 0 | 0.08 | 0.06 |
| Waikato | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.26 | 0.24 |
| Wairarapa | 0.06 | 0 | 0 | 0.05 |
| Waitematā | 0.21 | 0.23 | 0.09 | 0.12 |
| West Coast | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.19 |
| Whanganui | 0 | 0 | 0.48 | 0.03 |
| Total | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.18 | 0.19 |

Note: we cannot give the total number of people testing positive per DHB and ethnicity for privacy reasons.

Testing rate and results by age and sex

Tests by age group from 22 January to 25 February 2021

| Age group | Total people tested | Tested positive (%) | Test rate per 1000 people |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 0 to 9 | 143534 | 0.09% | 227.45 |
| 10 to 19 | 153072 | 0.13% | 238.81 |
| 20 to 29 | 313964 | 0.2% | 420.35 |
| 30 to 39 | 304869 | 0.18% | 447.04 |
| 40 to 49 | 244593 | 0.16% | 401.73 |
| 50 to 59 | 238990 | 0.16% | 376.66 |
| 60 to 69 | 171021 | 0.16% | 319.77 |
| 70 to 79 | 77748 | 0.14% | 213.86 |
| 80+ | 35759 | 0.16% | 191.55 |
| Unknown | 1 | 0% | NA |
| Total | 1683551 | 0.16% | 334.75 |

Tests by sex from 22 January to 25 February 2021

| Sex | Total people tested | Tested positive (%) | Test rate per 1000 people |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Female | 853269 | 0.16% | 335.37 |
| Male | 719826 | 0.19% | 289.66 |
| Unknown | 110456 | 0.08% | NA |
| Total | 1683551 | 0.16% | 312.78 |

New Zealand's approach to COVID-19 testing

New Zealand has a goal of eliminating COVID-19. Planned, targeted testing is one of the tools that can help meet this goal. We don't test without planning.

COVID-19 is a new disease, so we had to build a completely new testing capability.

Related information

- [Assessment and testing for COVID-19](#)

- [COVID-19 testing plan and testing guidance](#)
- [COVID-19 surveillance strategy](#)
- [COVID-19 elimination strategy](#)

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