

New Zealand COVID-19 Protection Framework

Factors for considering a shift between levels: vaccination coverage; capacity of the health and disability system; testing, contact tracing and case management capacity; and the transmission of COVID-19 within the community, including its impact on key populations.

Localised lockdowns: will be used as part of the public health response in the new framework across all levels, and there may still be a need to use wider lockdowns (similar to the measures in Alert Level 3 or 4).

Vaccination certificates: Requiring vaccination certificates will be optional for many locations. There are some higher-risk settings where they will be a requirement in order to open to the public. Some places won't be able to introduce vaccination requirements, to ensure everyone can access basic services, including supermarkets and pharmacies.

GREEN

COVID-19 across New Zealand, including sporadic imported cases.

Limited community transmission.

COVID-19 hospitalisations are at a manageable level.

Whole of health system is ready to respond – primary care, public health, and hospitals.

General settings

- Record keeping/scanning required
- Face coverings mandatory on flights, encouraged indoors
- Public facilities – open
- Retail – open
- Workplaces – open
- Education (schools, ECE, tertiary) – open

- Specified outdoor community events – allowed

No limits if vaccination certificates are used for:

- Hospitality
- Gatherings (e.g. weddings, places of worship, marae)
- Events (indoor/outdoor)
- Close contact businesses

- Gyms

If vaccination certificates are not used, the following restrictions apply:

- Hospitality – up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing, seated and separated
- Gatherings (e.g. weddings, places of worship, marae) – up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing
- Events (indoor/outdoor) – up to 100 people based on 1m distancing, seated and separated
- Close contact businesses – face coverings for staff, 1m distancing between customers

- Gyms – up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing

ORANGE

Increasing community transmission with increasing pressure on health system.

Whole of health system is focusing resources but can manage – primary care, public health, and hospitals.

Increasing risk to at risk populations.

General settings

- Record keeping/scanning required
- Face coverings mandatory on flights, public transport, taxis, retail, public venues, encouraged elsewhere
- Public facilities – open with capacity limits based on 1m distancing
- Retail – open with capacity limits based on 1m distancing

- Workplaces – open
- Education – open with public health measures in place
- Specified outdoor community events – allowed

No limits if vaccination certificates are used for:

- Hospitality
- Gatherings (e.g. weddings, places of worship, marae)
- Events (indoor/outdoor)
- Close contact businesses

- Gyms

If vaccination certificates are not used, the following restrictions apply:

- Hospitality – contactless only
- Gatherings (e.g. weddings, places of worship, marae) – up to 50 people, based on 1m distancing

- Close contact businesses, events (indoor/outdoor) and gyms are not able to operate

RED

Action needed to protect health system – system facing unsustainable number of hospitalisations.

Action needed to protect at-risk populations.

General settings

- Record keeping/scanning required
- Face coverings mandatory on flights, public transport, taxis, retail, public venues, recommended whenever leaving the house
- Public facilities – open with up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing
- Retail – open with capacity limits based on 1m distancing
- Workplaces – working from home encouraged

- Education – schools and ECE open with public health measures and controls
- Specified outdoor community events – allowed with capacity limits

With vaccination certificates, the following restrictions apply:

- Hospitality – up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing, seated and separated
- Gatherings (e.g. weddings, places of worship, marae) – up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing
- Events (indoor/outdoor) – up to 100 people based on 1m distancing, seated and separated
- Close contact businesses – public health requirements in place

- Gyms – up to 100 people, based on 1m distancing
- Tertiary education – vaccinations required for onsite delivery, with capacity based on 1m distancing

If vaccination certificates are not used, the following restrictions apply:

- Hospitality – contactless only
- Gatherings (e.g. weddings, places of worship, marae) – up to 10 people
- Close contact businesses, events (indoor/outdoor) and gyms are not able to operate
- Tertiary education – distance learning only