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**MINISTRY OF
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**NEW ZEALAND
CUSTOMS SERVICE**
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA



BORDER EXECUTIVE BOARD



**NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE**
MANATŪ AORERE



COVID-19 Response Weekly Report

10 June 2021

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1. Status Summary

Key		
Symbol	Colour	Meaning
●	Green	On track, no roadblocks, no significant delays anticipated
●	Amber	Slow progression, some delays, some roadblocks present
●	Red	Not progressing, on hold, significant delays

Focus Area	Sub-Focus Area	Last Week	→ This Week	Agency	Agency Comment on Status
Vaccine and Immunisation Programme	Purchasing and approvals	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No barriers anticipated.
	Population definition and sequencing	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No barriers anticipated.
	Distribution and inventory management	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are scalability challenges to building a more flexible network which are being addressed via co-design with DHBs. Some improvements have already been made, but area will remain at amber until plan is finalised, with co-design wrapping up early May 2021 and any further technology and process solutions implemented following that. Changes to the supply chain following Medsafe's approval for new storage conditions for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine include new labelling to reflect the new expiry date and gradually increasing volumes of vaccine sent to DHBs and vaccination sites. The provider portal is due to be released on 10 June 2021. This will streamline distribution and ordering, provide greater visibility of vaccine supply throughout the country and enable scaling for Group 4.
	Health workforce	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the end of Tuesday 8 June 2021, 7,141 vaccinators have completed vaccine training nationally and 2,761 vaccinators have been active in the programme. There are scalability challenges with the health work force. Work continues to scale this workforce through implementation of improvements to the surge workforce database and developing and enabling a safe and appropriate additional workforce. These actions are on track for scale in June. The Hands Up database has now gone live. This is the enhanced surge database and will make it much easier for DHBs to scale their workforce.
	Provider engagement	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pricing agreed. DHBs continue to deliver against the national plan, with cumulative performance of 110 percent to the week ending 6 June 2021. The Ministry is working with the sector to support the implementation of the planning blueprint for existing healthcare settings.
	Registration, appointment and immunisation	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trial of the National Immunisation Booking System in two DHBs has been successfully concluded and the system has now shifted to 'go-live' mode, in order to progressively onboard all remaining DHBs by 30 June. A further two DHBs are being onboarded to the NIBS this week, taking the total number of DHBs to six (Auckland, Canterbury, Taranaki, Wairarapa, Hawkes Bay and Tairāwhiti). Rollout of the NIBS DHB by DHB is a significant exercise and amber rating reflects the criticality of this rollout to Programme success and the tight timeframes for this to take place. Rating will move to green once all DHBs are onboarded, expected by the end of June
	Post event	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No barriers anticipated. Last week, the automated-triage functionality within the COVID-CARM AEFI reporting system went live.

Focus Area	Sub-Focus Area	Last Week	→ This Week	Agency	Agency Comment on Status
Elimination Strategy	Keep it out	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trans-Tasman and Cook Island QFT have gone live. Lessons are being learned about management of international incidents. QFT, and ongoing outbreak in Australia has added additional complexity to an already challenging area, learning from recent events will take some time to become embedded into standard practices.
	Prepare for it	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No barriers are anticipated to the broader programme. Risks related to the vaccine programme are outlined above.
	Stamp it out	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce remains under pressure, work ongoing with DHBs to support including capacity and capability review and development of surge workforce.
	Manage the impact	●	●	MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No barriers anticipated. Process for embedding, tracking and reporting on reviews, recommendations, learning and continuous improvement activities being refined.

Focus Area	Sub-Focus Area	Last Week	→ This Week	Agency	Agency Comment on Status
MIQ Workforce	Vaccination of MIQ workers	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site access checks have reported no issues of workers gaining access who do not meet the vaccination requirements. MIQ-issued vaccination certificates continue to be issued periodically as vaccination status data is being updated. An audit of vaccination evidence being presented on-site has shown that the vast majority of workers are using the DHB issued vaccination cards. There were no exceptions for unvaccinated workers requested last week. Further information is included in the report.
	Staff testing	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance on site was 90% for the week 31 May through to 6 June 2021 (down from 91% in the previous week) . Compliance figures are still being impacted by the cyber-attack on Waikato DHB (affecting compliance results for the three Hamilton MIQ facilities). Compliance reporting for Hamilton facilities is down to 7-11% (previously around 90%). If you remove the Hamilton data, then compliance is at 94% for the rest of the country (in line with previous weeks, with 96% in the previous week). This indicator will remain amber while work is underway to determine the approach to implementing saliva testing.
Operations	Ventilation systems	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MBIE-led onsite testing of ventilation systems is complete for all sites. The Ventilation Work Group (VWG) have reviewed 26 of 31 reports. Status remains amber as we assess implications on the MIQ system from these reports. Meetings have been held with 25 of 31 facilities and the results from the Ventilation Working Group have been shared. We have received one remediation proposal this week, bringing the total to 10 remediation proposals received. These are being reviewed. Next steps, leading to green, will be looking across the whole portfolio to schedule the remedial work whilst balancing room capacity.

Focus Area	Sub-Focus Area	Last Week	This Week	Agency	Agency Comment on Status
Operations	Renewing contracts	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We have been working through agreeing extended terms to take the facilities out to April 2022.All contracts have been extended to 31 July 2021 under their existing terms. Note, that should we still be working through these extended terms we have the ability to extend the existing terms of contracts for another three months.15 of 31 hotels have agreed to the extended terms of the agreement (last week 14 of 31 hotels).The Rydges Auckland have issued their notice of termination as at 31 October 2021. Further information is included in the report.This indicator will remain amber as we close out the terms with the remaining hotels.
	Reducing Transmission risk – Grand Mercure and Grand Millennium	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Grand Mercure and the Grand Millennium remain empty with no further returnees assigned to these hotels until the ventilation remediation work is complete.The step to take this towards green is completion of the maintenance work expected to be complete this week. Following, we will receive an update on test results expected from both facilities within the next week.Once the Independent Qualified Persons (IQP) retest results for these facilities have been received they will be reviewed and, if satisfactory, we will commence reoccupation as soon as practicable.
	Transition to cohorting	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No change from last week.Cohorting has been implemented with the majority of facilities having fully transitioned.The implementation will be monitored and a review completed during June 2021. We will report back on these findings when available. The indicator will remain amber until the review is complete.
	RSE workers	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none">This focus area remains red as work to contract with industry to cover the additional MIQ costs has not progressed.A letter has been sent from the Minister to industry reconfirming the need for a single counterparty and industry has requested a meeting with officials to discuss this letter.Industry have confirmed in writing a start date of 4 July 2021 and arranged flights for this date. There remains uncertainty on if they will meet MIQ deadlines.Industry continue to challenge MIQ operational parameters set for flight arrival times.Issues at a regional level have become increasingly difficult for iwi, DHB, and other regional partners because of the above.MIQ has prepared communication/engagement material for employers to enhance understanding of MIQ systems. MIQ has re-confirmed that industry cannot recover any MIQ-related costs from their workers under the terms of this border exception. More information is included in the report.
	Fees collection / debt recovery	●	●	MBIE MIQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The new invoicing platform went live 31 May 2021. The post 25 March 2021 invoices are being processed at pace. In the initial week (4 working days) of operation 1,650 invoices were generated with a value of \$6.4m. These invoices are for the period 25 March To 2 April 2021.Finance and Operations team are working together on the handover of weekly reporting functions.A more detailed update on the invoicing project was provided in an aide memoire provided to your office this week.

Focus	Sub-Focus Area	Last Week	→ This Week	Agency	
Quarantine Free Travel	Cook Islands quarantine-free travel (two way)	●	●	MFAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Officials have provided you with advice on a potential response planning/response management visit to the Cook Islands by officials. This would enable New Zealand and Cook Islands officials to further coordinate their response planning and to conduct scenario-testing.In the meantime, officials continue to work with the Cook Islands on the details of a response to an outbreak, including on deploying personnel to the Cook Islands and managing the return or shelter-in-place of travellers.Of note, on 6 June the Cook Islands notified their first COVID-19 case. This was deemed a historical case initially identified in New Zealand with low public health risk for transmission, and the Cook Islands appropriately and rapidly managing testing and identifying contacts.
	Niue quarantine-free travel (two-way)	●	●	MFAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Niue has confirmed its position that two-way QFT should not commence until sometime after its vaccination roll-out is complete, which is scheduled to commence for the general population on 10 June (NZT). Officials are currently considering a prospective timeline towards commencement, on which they will consult Niue when the details have been worked through.The timing of the switch from 'amber' to 'green' will be able to be better assessed following these discussions.
	Trans-Tasman quarantine-free travel	●	●	MFAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In response to ongoing community cases of COVID-19 centred in the greater Melbourne area, the Government extended a pause on travel from Victoria to New Zealand until at least 7.59pm (NZT) on Thursday 10 June. People who have been in a location of interest may not travel to New Zealand from anywhere in Australia for 14 days after exposure, while those who were in Victoria from 25 May can fly to New Zealand provided they have a negative pre-departure test (and they have not been in the Greater Melbourne lockdown area after 27 May) and meet all other QFT travel requirements.The New Zealand Government has also announced that from 9 June, travellers will be able to return from Melbourne on 'green' flights if they meet eligibility criteria, have a negative pre-departure test, have completed travel and health declarations and have confirmed they have not visited a location of interest. Travellers are responsible for covering the costs of these flights and should speak directly to their airlines about arrangements.

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2. COVID-19 Insights

2.1 Insights of Note

2.1.1 Israel – Snapshot of COVID-19 Approach

The Insights and Reporting Team in the COVID-19 Group, have analysed Israel's response to COVID-19. This is intended as a brief snapshot. Further information is available if required.

Israel has a population of approximately 8.6 million people.¹ There have been approximately 840,000 cases of COVID-19, (about 9% of the population), resulting in approximately 6,000 fatalities.²

Israel has a tradition of emergency preparedness exercises that includes a well-established community based primary health care system.³ The Israeli Ministry of Health indicated the system was key to combating COVID-19. All residents are required to be a member of one of four Health Maintenance Organisations ("HMO's"), and appoint a primary care physician. The HMO's provide most public health services, including specialty services, and in-home care. The Ministry of Health oversees the provision of service and treatment by the HMO's, and in early 2021 the operational management of Israel's pandemic response was shifted to HMO's.

s6(a)

Israel has a highly developed electronic health record system capable of both identifying high-risk persons and reaching out to them.⁵ s6(a)

Israel informed individuals of the benefits of vaccination, and the freedoms it provided from COVID-19 restrictions.⁷ Approximately 63% of the population (5.4 million people) have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, and about 59% (5.1 million) are fully vaccinated.⁸

In early June Israel extended vaccine eligibility to children aged from 12 to 15.⁹ Parents wanted children to be vaccinated to avoid home quarantine after international travel. An unvaccinated child who returns from overseas must quarantine at home for two weeks even if the parents are fully vaccinated.

Israel requires travellers to have a PCR test on entering the country, at the travellers expense.¹⁰ They have a 14-day isolation requirement for unimmunised travellers, or those that have not had, and recovered from, COVID-19.¹¹ This can be shortened to 10 days if the results of two tests taken at set intervals are negative. They have a 14-day isolation requirement for all arrivals from 'high risk' countries, currently including Argentina, Brazil, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Namibia, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, and Ukraine.¹² This isolation is either at home, or in a motel. Recovered and vaccinated passengers who have valid certification of this, and who have not visited a 'high risk' country in the 14-day period before arrival, are exempt from isolation upon entry.¹³

Until recently, there were restrictions on entry to foreign tourists. However, as of late May the government is allowing entry to small groups of tourists from countries that are using vaccines it has approved.¹⁴ They need to show a negative PCR test before flying, and also submit to a further PCR test on arrival.

Within Israel, confirmed COVID-19 cases are required to go into isolation, until declared recovered by a doctor or certified nurse.¹⁵

Until the beginning of June, Israel utilised a 'Green Pass' which individuals had to show to obtain entry to businesses to prove they did not have COVID-19.¹⁶ To obtain a pass, individuals had to be vaccinated, recovered, or pass a PCR swab test within a specific time-period.

Israel is conducting both PCR and rapid tests,¹⁷ as well as serological tests. They are conducting approximately 100,000 PCR tests a day.¹⁸ Israel appears to be testing adequately, with a daily test positivity rate of approximately 0.08%, identifying approximately 16 cases a day (compared to 0.04% for New Zealand, with two cases a day).¹⁹ A low percent positive means the level of COVID-19 transmission, relative to amount of testing, is low.²⁰

Rapid testing, until recently was occurring at the entrance of venues as part of the Green Pass system. If a person tested positive, they were required to go into isolation, and take a PCR test to confirm the results. If they tested positive in the PCR test, they were required to complete isolation. If they tested negative in the PCR test, they were exempt from the isolation requirement. If the person failed to take the PCR test, they were required to complete the isolation period, even if they tested negative later.

Recently many restrictions have been removed, with the government retiring its 'Green Pass' system at the beginning of June,²¹ and both vaccinated and unvaccinated citizens can access venues. Restrictions on the sizes of gatherings, and social distancing requirements have also been lifted. The remaining restriction is a requirement to wear masks in closed public spaces.²² Israel's Health Minister indicated at the beginning of June that this will be lifted on June 15.²³ Future COVID-19 restrictions will be determined by local councils, using a traffic light system based on new cases, positive test results, and the infection rate.²⁴

Israel has an app, "HaMagen", which is used by individuals to tell whether they have been in the presence of anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.²⁵ The individual can review, confirm, or reject the notification based on the time and location. If confirmed, the individual is referred to the Ministry of Health website and can report the exposure to the Ministry. The app cross-checks the GPS history of the mobile phone with historical geographic data of patients from the Ministry of Health that is sent to the individual. The GPS data does not leave the mobile phone.

New technology is being trialled, such as tracking bracelets for travellers, to exempt them from a quarantine hotel, and instead allow them to quarantine at home.²⁶ The system includes an electronic bracelet, a smartphone, and wall mounted tracker, and alerts authorities if someone removes the bracelet or goes too far from home. Bracelets have been produced, however there are some government procedures that are required before roll-out.

There is also a trial of an antiviral nasal spray, "NONS" (Nitric Oxide Nasal Spray) by SaNOtize, to help prevent the transmission of the COVID-19 virus.²⁷ It is designed to kill viruses in the upper airways, preventing them from incubating and spreading to the lungs. Manufacturing has begun, and it is expected to be on sale soon. The company is also seeking approval to distribute the product in New Zealand.²⁸

Israel has noted that many individuals who have had COVID-19 are requiring long-term medical support, including those who initially did not display any major symptoms, as their immune system has deteriorated.²⁹

Further, as a result of lockdowns, many citizens avoided accessing medical treatment, and now are reporting with other diseases, and late stage diagnoses is making it difficult to provide treatment, meaning health outcomes are less positive than prior to COVID-19.³⁰

Thank you to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the National Assessments Bureau for contributions to this insights section.

2.1.2 International Flights Arrivals and Departures

For the period 19 April to 8 June (following the opening of Quarantine Free Travel with Australia) there were a total of 153,197 arrivals to New Zealand, and 150,302 departures.¹ This is 2898 more people that arrived in New Zealand than departed. This is illustrated in figure 1 and a breakdown of these is shown below in figure 2 (arrivals) and figure 3 (departures).

Figure 1: International Flight Arrivals and Departures – 19 April to 8 June

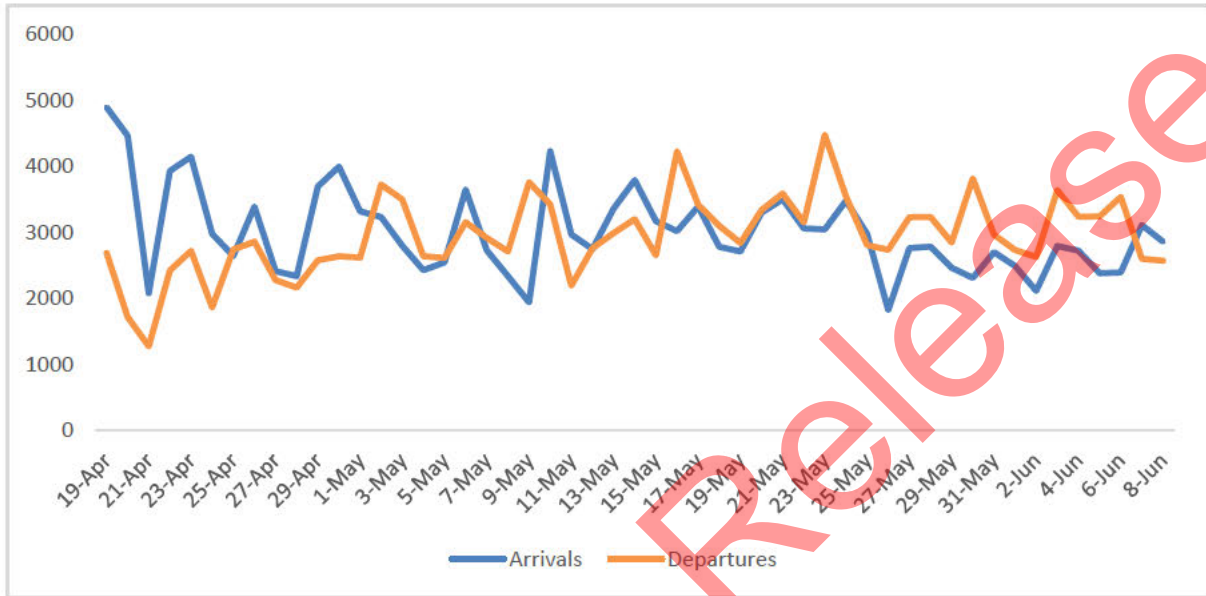


Figure 2: International Flight Arrivals – 19 April to 8 June



¹ Commercial Flights. New Zealand Customs Service. Personal Communication. 9 June 2021.

Figure 3: International Flight Departures – 19 April to 8 June



Thank you to the New Zealand Customs Service for contributions to this insights section.

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3. Ministry of Health Weekly Report



3.1 Items to Note/Updates

3.1.1 Publication of fortnightly COVID-19 disease indicator summary report

The Ministry of Health plans to release the most recent fortnightly COVID-19 disease indicator summary report (the indicator report) on the Ministry's website covering the period from 7 May 2021 to 20 May 2021.

This report was developed based on recommendations in the Rapid Audit of Contact Tracing for COVID-19 in New Zealand. It provides an end-to-end view of the public health response to COVID-19 for cases and close contacts.

The key points of interest for this indicator report are:

- This period involves no community cases and associated contacts. Consequently, all metrics for community cases in this reporting period have no available data.
- There were 23 cases in managed isolation and quarantine facilities during this period.

Next steps

The indicator report will be released on the Ministry of Health's website in the week of 22 June 2021.

3.1.2 Community managed isolation and quarantine

The Ministry of Health has sent out contracts to all district health boards for the provision of enhanced support for cases and higher needs contacts isolating/quarantining in the community.

Community managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) is intended to augment and integrate with current community options for isolation/quarantine if a region experiences a small outbreak of COVID-19 or needs to manage a higher needs contact.

Community MIQ includes the provision of wrap-around services and alternative accommodation if required.

3.2 Policy/Programme Updates

3.2.2 COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme

As at 11:59 pm on 8 June 2021, 775,444 vaccinations have been delivered, including 276,774 people who are fully vaccinated. Of those fully vaccinated, nine percent are Māori, six percent are Pasifika, and 18 percent are Asian.

129 sites were active on 8 June 2021.

The allocation plan for the next seven days is for 84,641 doses across New Zealand.

Pfizer delivery

A total of 1.25 million doses of the Pfizer vaccine will have been delivered to New Zealand by the end of Quarter 2. The size of weekly shipments will increase in two steps throughout July 2021, with a further 1 million doses expected during this month. Despite the increases in delivery, vaccine supply is expected to remain constrained until the second half of July 2021. Pfizer is still only able to provide detailed delivery allocations four weeks in advance, but a total of 4.25 million doses are expected to be delivered across Quarter 3.

Group 3 notification

Vaccination of Group 3 is underway throughout New Zealand and will steadily ramp up in line with the sequencing framework. All DHBs started Group 3 by May 2021, but there is variation in rate of progress across the country. Some DHBs are well underway with mass invitations to people in Group 3, others are vaccinating smaller numbers with mass invitations planned in July 2021. It is anticipated that by the end of July 2021 DHBs will have provided all people in Group 3 with an invitation to book a vaccination appointment. The majority of DHBs are using their primary health organisations and primary care communities to support this.

Highly localised campaigns (regional print, social media and radio) will commence in each region this week to communicate how Group 3 is being activated in the area.

'Book My Vaccine' (National Immunisation Booking System) – DHB dates for being brought onboard

A further two DHBs (Hawke's Bay and Tairāwhiti) are being brought onboard to Book my Vaccine this week. This will bring the number of DHBs onboard to six, with the remaining DHBs expected to be brought onboard throughout mid-late June 2021.

Segmentation for Group 4

We propose managing the move into Group 4 general population via a staged rollout by age bands. The age bands are still to be agreed, however it would start with an age band from 65 and below (for example 65 to-60).

This option is preferred over alternative segmentation approaches as the categories are clear and easily communicated, and it will provide protection to older people with the highest risk of severe disease from COVID-19 first. This is consistent with the tested approach used by Australia and the United Kingdom.

Equity will be built into this approach through the range of delivery settings that are available, and by enabling priority populations to include their whānau in their vaccination experience where appropriate.

Additional detail on this will be provided in the Cabinet paper that is expected to be submitted on 14 June 2021.

General practice and pharmacy rollout

The programme has appointed a Change Manager to support the implementation of the planning blueprint for existing healthcare settings developed in collaboration with the sector. Our focus continues to be on ensuring that we can support primary care to participate in the programme while maintaining business as usual.

Māori COVID-19 vaccine rollout delivery and investment

48,650 Māori have received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, which represents ten percent of the total population who have received their first dose as at 8 June 2021.

Funding to Māori and Pacific providers for vaccine readiness (Tranche 1) has been released to 77 Māori health providers and 23 Pacific health providers. Each of the 77 Tranche 1 Māori health providers will also receive funding for two community champions.

Contracts have been sent to DHBs for Māori (\$17.5 million) and Pacific vaccination (\$10.5 million) co-ordination and navigator roles as part of vaccine support services funding (Tranche 2). This money will also be used to support Māori and Pacific health providers.

Māori workforce

The Ministry will run a closed procurement process with the Māori health providers that it is currently supporting as part of the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine programme. The application form on workforce funding will be sent to the Tranche 1 Māori health providers by 5 June 2021 for completion by 14 June 2021. The Ministry of Health intends to process the applications, allocate and contract the funding by 30 June 2021.

Disability

Applications have opened for specific funding for disabled persons communication, with the objective of increasing access, uptake, support informed consent and information dissemination to New Zealand's disabled community. A total pool of \$2 million has been made available for these purposes and applications are being invited for grants of up to \$50,000. Applications close on 11 June 2021 and recipients will be determined by a funding panel that consists of disabled people experts, communication experts and representatives from the Ministry and the Ministry of Social Development.

Workforce

As of 8 June 2021, 7,141 vaccinators have completed COVID-19 vaccinator training and 2,761 vaccinators have actively vaccinated in the programme so far.

The Ministry has prepared material for the announcement by Ministers of the new COVID-19 vaccinators. In the interim, the Ministry has continued engaging with the sector to ensure that they understand the parameters of the new role and plan and forecast for this new vaccination workforce.

We continue working with the DHBs on their workforce planning forecast with a focus on the period to 1 August 2021. The new COVID-19 vaccinators, Hands Up database enhancements, workforce planning and management will support the increase in the DHBs access to vaccination workforces.

Distribution and inventory management

As at end of day 8 June 2021, we have made 1,031 deliveries to sites across the country. This equates to delivery of 134,844 vials or 809,064 doses.

Last week changes were put in place following Medsafe's approval on 27 May 2021 of an extension to the storage time from five days to 31 days for unopened vials of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at normal fridge temperatures (2° Celsius to 8° Celsius). Changes to the supply chain include new labelling to reflect the new expiry date and gradually increasing volumes of vaccine sent to DHBs and vaccination sites. The Ministry of Health has asked sites to submit orders for a week's worth of stock. This gradual increase to order will ensure enough controls remain in place to reduce vaccine wastage.

Rollout of the vaccine to Polynesia

Cook Islands

Vaccination in the Cook Islands continues, with the administration of first doses in Rarotonga and Aitutaki both now finished. Attention has now shifted to the remaining islands around Aitutaki in the Southern Region, before Phase 3 in the Northern Region begins.

As of 8 June 2021, a total of 9,567 vaccines have been administered in the Cook Islands.

Niue

Vaccination of vaccinators in Niue took place last week, with general population rollout commencing this week following a consignment sent from New Zealand on 9 June 2021. As of 8 June 2021, a total of 32 vaccines have been administered in Niue.

Tokelau

Work is ongoing to address the logistics challenges in transporting the vaccine to Tokelau. A better idea of approximate vaccine rollout date in Tokelau should be available by the end of this week.

Next steps

We will provide you with a further update in the next Weekly Report.

3.3 Technical Advisory Group: Update

The COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group (CVTAG) did not meet in the week commencing 31 May 2021. The next CVTAG meeting is scheduled for 8 June 2021.

The COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group (TAG) did not meet in the week commencing 31 May 2021. The next TAG meeting is scheduled for 28 June 2021.

3.4 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities

As at 10 June 2021

Date	Activity	Lead agency	Comms material	Ministerial involvement
9-Jun-21	Air Border Order for quarantine-free travel between New Zealand and Victoria	Health	New order published to Ministry of Health website, referenced in Ministry press release	No
10-Jun-21	Decision on QFT pause with Victoria	Health	Ministerial press release, website content	Yes

4. Managed Isolation and Quarantine Weekly Report



4.1 Top Items to Note

4.1.1 Staff testing update – compliance statistics for 31 May to 6 June 2021

The ransomware attack on the Waikato DHB continues to cause delays in swab testing results. This delay has again impacted this week’s compliance figures for Waikato based border workers in MIQ.

From now on we will be reporting all ‘active’ workers in BWTR, in line with MoH’s reporting, as well as a subset of this which we usually report on, that is, the workers who were on site last week. As at 8 June 2021, there are 6,063 active MBIE MIQ workers. Of that, 4,030 (66%) worked on site during the week of Monday 31 May to Sunday 6 June 2021.

The definition of ‘Active’ workers in BWTR covers:

- those who have recently done work at the border (in the last 14 days); or
- those who have not fulfilled their last testing requirement; or
- those recently added as a new worker (who then become inactive if they don’t work in their next testing period); or
- those added to the border worker testing register who are awaiting their NHI to be matched (these are not included in the percentage compliance in the table above, as compliance can’t be determined until NHI-matched).

Active workers	Total	Percentage of active	No swab
Compliant NHI-matched workers	4,483	76%	
Overdue NHI-matched workers	1,428	24%	173
Total active workers with NHI match	5,911	100%	
Need NHI-match	152		
Total active workers	6,063		

Workers on site 31 May – 6 June 2021	Total	Percentage of total NHI-matched workers on site
Compliant NHI-matched workers	3,577	90% (94% if Hamilton excluded)
Overdue NHI-matched workers	403 (205 if Hamilton excluded)	10% (6% if Hamilton excluded)
Need NHI-match	50	
Workers on site with NHI match	4,030	

- Caveat – the number of total ‘active’ workers will continually fluctuate; workers will become inactive or active depending on how they fit in the criteria above. The numbers included in our report are as at the time the report was run, 8 June 2021.

It is worth noting that the ‘active’ category includes instances:

- where a worker may have two or more NHI numbers and test results are uploading against an NHI number that is not linked to the BWTR profile;
- where workers who were signed-in on location didn’t actually enter a facility;
- where workers have not been on site in some time (in some cases months) but are considered ‘active’ as they are awaiting a test to make them compliant. As previously reported, from following up with employers, it became evident that many employers and employees were unaware they were required to have a final test after their last shift. New

communications material for 'off-boarding' workers as well as regular follow-ups with employers should reduce these type of non-compliant workers going forward.

Another 'spot check' was completed to check that sign-in data in Whos-on-Location (WOL) matches who was rostered on to work. NZ Police provided MBIE with its staff work roster for two MIQ facilities from 31 May to 6 June 2021. The roster information was matched against sign-in data from the WOL application and found there was only two instances where an individual hadn't signed in, which is being looked into further.

4.1.2 Vaccination of frontline staff update

Employers are still working through employment processes with 11 unvaccinated workers, and these workers are not able to work in the MIQF while this process is occurring. The total workers unable/unwilling to be vaccinated has increased as a small number (7) of workers have chosen not to have their second dose, some due to their reaction to the first dose.

There were a very small number of workers who were unable to secure their second vaccination prior to 5 June 2021 (sick leave, annual leave, appointment availability) who are required to receive it and provide proof before they are granted site entry. Employers have indicated these workers are not unable/unwilling to be vaccinated.

According to BWTR, the total number of unvaccinated workers on site was 95 (2% of the workforce). Follow up on these records showed that of these 95 workers, 50 have yet to be NHI matched and have their vaccination status confirmed in BWTR which leaves all 45 where their vaccination status is unknown. Follow ups with employers have confirmed these people were vaccinated, but NHI matching issues and integration issues between BWTR and the Covid Inoculation Register (CIR) mean this data is not being pulled through to BWTR to complete assurance reporting.

Automated updates into BWTR of Worker Vaccination status are not yet available, requiring manual updates from MoH staff until this functionality is delivered in early June 2021.

We're continuing to work with MoH on aligning our reporting moving forward.

4.2 Operational update

4.1.1 Capacity update

On 9 June 2021, a total of 1,340 rooms were released into MIAS. These rooms were split across the months with 730 rooms released for August, 300 rooms released for September and 310 rooms released for October 2021.

As at 7am 10 Jun 2021, there are a total of 320 rooms remaining available in MIAS. Almost all of the remaining rooms are for the months of August and September 2021 with no current availability in June or July 2021.

We anticipate that with the expected return of the two Auckland facilities that we will be able to provide some further capacity in July once they are back online.

4.1.2 Renewing Hotel Contracts

- The Rydges Auckland (267 rooms) have issued their notice of termination as at 31 October 2021.

- We are yet to accept as we need to understand what this loss would look like on our occupancy levels across the network.
- They are willing to extend past this date on a month by month.
- Note, the hotel is unwilling to pay the Living Wage and there is no on-site exercise area.
- The Rydges hotel management company are willing to stay on as an MIQ facility however the owners wish to exit.

4.1.3 Dedicated MIF for overseas aircrew

In March 2021, you agreed that direct invoicing arrangements between six airlines (Emirates, Cathay Pacific, Qatar Airways, Singapore Airlines, Malaysian Airlines, Korean Air) and hotels functioning as Managed Isolation Facilities (MIFs) should be phased out. As a result, all airlines must pay the relevant MIQ fee of \$3100 (\$221.43 per day, pro-rated).

Since that time, we have undertaken work to transition the M Social MIF into a dedicated, short-stay MIF for all overseas aircrew. This has a number of operational advantages:

- Enabling more efficient use of existing MIQ capacity;
- Enhancing our ability to give effect to cohorting measures;
- Reducing need for health and security resource;
- Providing for ease of enforcement of MIQ requirements.

We have advised the six affected airlines of both changes, alongside the Board of Airline Representatives New Zealand.

Having worked through a number of concerns raised by these airlines, alongside the Ministry of Transport, we have advised airlines that both changes will take effect on 10 July 2021.

4.2 Schedule of Reviews

Review	Date commenced	Expected completion date	Current status	Purpose
Rapid Assessment	February 2021	Complete	Preparing for proactive release - TBC	Commissioned by the MBIE Chief Executive to help identify practical recommendations for improvement opportunities across the MIQ system.
Sudden Death Critical Incident Review	January 2021	June 2021	Complete	To identify any lessons learnt from the response to the death of a guest in a MIF and determine if any changes should be put in place.
Financial Management Review	May 2021	June 2021	In progress	Identify opportunities for improvement in process and procedures for supplier invoicing, review of financial reporting that is currently in place, review of financial delegations framework.
MIQ Staff Unwell - Health Checks (control hotspot)	May 2021	June 2021	In progress	The purpose of this review is to determine the degree of implementation of published risk, assurance and quality controls and treatments; the capability and effectiveness of the system in ensuring continual application, review and improvement of these controls and treatments for potential improvement of the wider MIQ system integrating continuous improvement and risk-based thinking through evidence-based assurance
MIQ PCBU Health and Safety Obligations Review	April 2021	July 2021	In progress	This review is to identify MBIE's responsibilities as a lead PCBU and assess how well these responsibilities are fulfilled to support other PCBUs meet their health and safety obligations.
MIQ KPI Review	Scheduled to start June 2021	July 2021	Planning	The purpose of this review is to test the accuracy, completeness and validity of the calculation and supporting data for the Estimates Performance Measures that reported by Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ) in MBIE's 2020/21 Annual Report.

Review	Date commenced	Expected completion date	Current status	Purpose
Fees and Waiver Review	Scheduled to start June 2021	August 2021	Planning	TBC
MIQ Exemptions Review	Scheduled to start June 2021	August 2021	Planning	To assess consistency, transparency and fairness of the exemptions from managed isolation process for people entering New Zealand.
Onsite Ventilation Assessments	February 2021	<p>Testing: May 2021</p> <p>Programme of work: August 2021</p>	<p>All 31 sites have provided full or provisional onsite test results to MBIE.</p> <p>The Ventilation group (VWG) have reviewed the results of 26 facilities and meetings have been held with 25 facilities with remediation proposals requested from these facilities. Some facilities have already commenced maintenance/ remediation work to address initial findings with detailed remediation proposals received for 10 sites.</p>	A comprehensive understanding of MIQF ventilation systems, remediation work completed (if required) to optimise the performance of the systems and additional operational practices implemented to complement the ventilation system operations.
Information Management Assurance Review	Scheduled to start July 2021	September 2021	Planning	The purpose of the review is to analyse the current information management practices within MIQ.
Audit NZ Annual Review: Revenue management - focus on MIQ	TBC - Not sure on start date but will coincide with the annual review audit.	30 September 2021	Planning	The audit of MBIE's 2020/21 Annual report by Audit NZ will also cover MIQ. As a new function and revenue stream for the 2020/21 financial year we would expect it to be an area of audit focus.
MIQ Rapid Assessment (Phase 2)	Scheduled to start August 2021	October 2021	Planning	This will be a follow-up review following the MIQ Rapid Assessment which was completed earlier this year.
Rapid review of Border Worker Testing (BEB led)	April 2021	Two part review. Part one (focused on MIQ) due to be presented to BEB in June. Part two (focused on wider border) still TBC when it will be completed	In progress	To assess the arrangements in place to support compliance with the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Required Testing) Order 2020.
Regular, ongoing reviews				
MoH Infection Prevention Control Audits of MIQ facilities	July 2020	-	Ongoing	The Ministry of Health conducts regular audits into infection prevention and control (IPC) at the managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ) facilities around New Zealand. MIQ facilities are an important part of our border measures to keep COVID-19 out of the community. It's critical to the health of the country that MIQ facilities are well-maintained and any infection brought in by people entering New Zealand cannot spread into the community.

Review	Date commenced	Expected completion date	Current status	Purpose
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) Systems Assurance Framework	March 2021	-	Ongoing	DPMC are working on a COVID-19 systems assurance framework that will give visibility of the end-to-end COVID-19 response system.
Ombudsman OPCAT Reviews	February 2021	-	Provisional reports received	Aotearoa New Zealand has international human rights obligations under the United Nations Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT). The purpose is to monitor and carry out such inspections of managed isolation and quarantine facilities to ensure that people are being treated humanely and their human rights are being respected and protected.

4.3 Large Group Arrivals Update

Summary of approved group arrivals as at 8 June 2021

Group	Date of Arrival	Allocation Approved	Final number of rooms allocated	Comments
Refugees – Cohort 3	24 – 28 May 2021	76	34	A family of five did not arrive due to testing positive for COVID-19. This reduced the total arrivals for Cohort 3 from 76 pax to 71 (26 family groups utilising 34 rooms). This is the Final refugee arrival for the 2020/21 financial year.
Olympic athletes	6 May – 1 Jul 2021	157	43	These are returnees from Tokyo Olympic qualifying events, with various return dates. 157 allocated, only 45 pax using allocation. This is due to some obtaining vouchers through MIAS, events being cancelled and athletes choosing not to travel.
NZDF Operation WHIO	4 Jun 2021	45	45	
	26 Jul 2021	35	35	
	29 Jul 2021	16	16	
RSE	4 Jul 2021 – Mar 2022	150 rolling entry per 16 days	TBC	Industry have a confirmed 4 July 2021 start date. This now sets the schedule for a group arrival every 16 days to March 2022. This includes a reduction in numbers in October 2021 as directed by Ministers. The start date of the October 2021 reduction will depend on Industry maintaining the schedule cadence from 4 July 2021. These RSE arrivals will be accommodated at two MIFs in Hamilton for duration of the arrivals.
Rugby Fiji	18 Jun 2021	47	35	The Fijian rugby team will be arriving from multiple locations and will go into Christchurch. An exemption to train has been approved. The Fijian based contingent (10 pax) will be arriving one day after the rest of the contingent due to constraints around flights. This will not impact the exemption to train however it does increase the operational complexity of the group.
Cricket – Black Caps	18 Jun 2021	11	11	These are returning cricketers with no special training requirements.
	26 Jun 2021	22	22	
International Students	2 Jun 2021	100	4	MoE have experienced difficulty in filling up the flights but expect numbers to increase for the 23 June 2021 arrival.
	9 Jun 2021	100	12	
	16 Jun 2021	100	7	
	23 Jun 2021	100	TBC	
Refugees – Intake 1	24 Jun – 2 Jul 2021	115	67	Refugee families will arrive across 8 intakes for the 2021/22 financial year. All intakes will be accommodated at the Holiday Inn. Intake 1 will arrive from 24 June 2021 from Thailand, Malaysia, Lebanon, Ecuador, Iran, Ethiopia, and Cambodia. Onsite interpreter services will be extended to include the first four days and the final three days at the MIF.
Construction Accord	Jun 2021	60	0	Confirmed that they will not use the June 2021 allocation.
	Jul 2021	60	TBC	
	Aug 2021	60	TBC	

Group	Date of Arrival	Allocation Approved	Final number of rooms allocated	Comments
	Sep 2021	60	TBC	
Winter Games	19 Jul 2021	30	TBC	Major Events advised that there are non-MIQ related obstacles that may prevent this event proceeding.
Antarctic USAP	16 Jul 2021	34	TBC	This group will be entering on charter flights direct into Christchurch.
	19 Jul 2021	170	TBC	
Netball – English Roses	19 Jul 2021	30	TBC	Planning to begin for this group on 11 June 2021. This will be the first sports team under the new full cost recovery model.
Returning Olympic Athletes (3 cohorts)	2 Aug 2021	~200	TBC	This will be athletes, staff and media returning from the Olympics on three charter flights. Planning for managing these large returns in Christchurch is underway
	8 Aug 2021	~200	TBC	
	10 Aug 2021	~200	TBC	
Paralympic athletes	Sep 2021	100	TBC	This is athletes and management returning from the Paralympics in Tokyo. They are returning as multiple smaller groups, with the majority of MIQ secured via MIAS. The remaining group allocation is to be reviewed on 11 June 2021. Planning to support their arrivals is underway.

4.3.1 RSE

The issues with RSE arrivals continue and are still to be resolved. The key issues are:

- **Work to contract with industry to cover the additional MIQ costs has resumed.** A letter has been sent from your office to industry reconfirming the need for a single counterparty and industry has requested a meeting with officials to discuss this letter. The lack of a signed contract continues to be a risk to MIQ for the costs associated with continued planning for RSE arrivals. The first date of arrival has been confirmed in writing by industry, but it is still uncertain as to whether Industry will be able to meet the INZ processing deadlines required for arrivals to actually enter on 4 July 2021. There is a risk that rooms currently reserved in Hamilton for RSE will be wasted if dates shift continuously and cannot be filled with other returnees. There is also limited ability to recover the costs of those wasted rooms.
- **Industry continue to challenge the operational planning requirements set by MIQ,** requesting landing times that will push us past safe operating limits. Industry have requested that MIQ accepts flights outside of the prescribed window due to challenges with securing charter flight landing times for first arrivals, and as a contingency for future flights. MIQ will continue to work with industry where necessary to support any conversations with Auckland in regards to meeting that arrival window.
- **There continues to be issues at a regional level because of the above.** Ongoing uncertainty of Industry's ability to meet 4 July 2021 arrival means that the confirmation of workforce plans, translators, and support services at MIFs are entering a phase which has financial implications to MIQ and delivery partners.

MIQ has prepared a comprehensive information pack for industry that provides detailed information about how MIQ operates and why. We continue to respond to operational questions via the MBIE point of contact in order to maintain planning momentum.

MIQ have been advised that 43 applications have been received by Immigration, with a remaining 102 due next week.

4.3.2 Russian mariners

Twenty-three mariners entered MIQ on 3 June 2021. This group has been well behaved and strictly followed MIQ rules. The fishing company has voluntarily supplied a translator who has greatly helped the MIF staff.

One of the mariners tested positive on day 3 and has been transferred to Jet Park. The fishing company are continuing to support with interpreting over the phone.

As at June 2021, we have identified a total of 362 mariners from Russia and Ukraine have booked vouchers in MIAS, including those currently in isolation. The majority of the mariners are booked to arrive in MIQ from mid-September through to early October 2021. The mariners will be arriving in small groups, ranging anywhere between 15 to 50 people, every couple of days. We have identified these bookings as mariners by the Ocean Law email address used. If there are other smaller groups of mariners, we have not been able to capture them in our total.

Planning is underway, alongside fishing companies, to ensure that any risks posed by these groups are managed effectively through the MIQ system. This includes ensuring the availability of translators and reviewing cohorting options within suitable facilities.

4.3.3 Fijian rugby team

Players from the Fijian rugby team are coming from the UK, France and Fiji. Those in Europe will congregate in Singapore and take a direct flight to Christchurch together, arriving 18 June 2021.

New Zealand Rugby (NZR) have been unable to get Fiji-based players out of Fiji in time for the approved 18 June 2021 arrival date. Currently no commercial flights operate in/out of Fiji and the players have received a special exemption from the Fijian Government for them to be able to leave the country.

NZR have organised a cargo flight from Fiji to Auckland and MIQ (paid for by NZR) from Auckland to Christchurch for the Fiji-based members of the team. They will arrive on 19 June 2021, one day later than the rest of the team. Although this has posed significant challenges for both MIQ and the MoH, this change has been accommodated and it will have no impact on their training exemption. It has been noted that this is an exception and all teams going forward will be required to arrive as a single unit.

4.3.4 Expressions of Interest for Group Allocation

The window for agencies to submit expressions of interest for group allocations for groups arriving from November 2021 through to the end of March 2022 closes on 11 June 2021. The window for the Operational and Health assessment has been condensed so the Group Allocation package can be prepared for the SOG and BEMG, with decisions expected early July.

4.4 Upcoming Communications Issues and Activities

As at 8 June 2021

Date	Activity	Lead Agency	Comms Material	Ministerial Involvement Y/N
Jun 2021	Onsite survey of all MIF ventilation followed by remediation work	MIQ	Reactive information	N
9 June 2021	Expected publication in NZ Herald of 6 June interview with Brig Bliss	MIQ	Proactive communications	N
Mid-June 2021	Rapid Assessment of MIQ	MIQ	Proactive PR	N

Date	Activity	Lead Agency	Comms Material	Ministerial Involvement Y/N
17 June 2021	Thanks from Iso' exhibition - Rotorua Lakes Council Galleria	Accor / MIQ / Rotorua Lakes Council	Proactive communications	N
Late June 2021	Saliva testing of frontline border workers prototype starts in Canterbury	MIQ/MOH	Reactive information	N
23 June 2021	Estimates	MoH/MBIE/MIQ	Preparatory communications	Y

4.5 Fees

4.5.1 Invoicing

The table below shows the number of invoices issued up to 6 June 2021. These relate to people who arrived in managed isolation up to 23 May 2021, noting that invoices are issued after the two-week stay.

Not all of those identified as 'potentially liable' will receive an invoice.

The 'Invoices to be confirmed' column includes temporary visa holders and others who require further contact to confirm their liability. It also includes people who are in contact with us about waivers. These people will not be invoiced until their enquiry or application has been resolved.

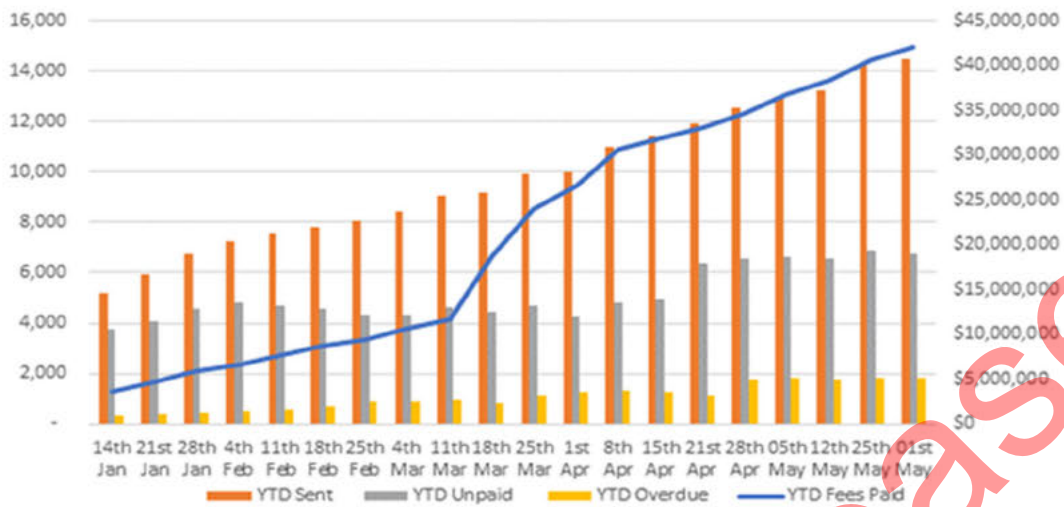
Invoices are due 90 days from the date on the invoice and are sent 'per room'.

	People potentially liable for charges	Rooms potentially needing invoice	Waivers approved	Invoices to be confirmed	Invoices sent	Paid #	Paid (\$NZD)	Unpaid 0 – 90 days	Overdue	90+ days Overdue	180+ days Overdue
Groups	3,155	35	0	0	35	35	\$13,756,659	0	0	0	0
Maritime	1,523	331	0	0	331	186	\$802,876	125	20	5	0
Aircrew	2,517	209	0	5	204	102	\$706,516	38	64	4	0
All other arrivals	39,757	30,153	4,292	11,989	13,872	7,726	\$27,964,013	4,228	1,918	606	84
Total	46,952	30,728	4,292	11,994	14,442	8,049	\$43,230,064	4,391	2,002	615	84

Note: The '90+ days Overdue' and '180+ days Overdue' columns represent the number of invoices from the 'Overdue' column that have been outstanding for 90+ days or 180+ days since they have become overdue, meaning invoices in these columns are issued between 181-270 days and 271+ days previously.

Note: These figures do not include the invoices generated from the new invoicing platform. Since the platform went live on the 31 May 2021, 1,650 invoices were generated with a value of \$6,494,820.

MIQ Invoicing Over 2021



4.5.2 Waivers

- The table below breaks down the waiver application information between 11 Aug 2020 and 6 Jun 2021.

	Waiver applications received	In progress	Total completed	Total financial hardship applications	Total special circumstances applications	Approved waiver applications		Declined waiver applications	
						Financial Hardship	Special Circumstances	Financial Hardship	Special Circumstances
Total	6,892	1,089	5,803	739	5,064	83	4,377	656	687

4.6 Emergency Allocation Applications

- 3,250 applications have been processed since 30 October 2020.
- 37 applications were received in the week ending 6 June 2021 and 5 applications were processed.
- From the applications processed in the week ending 6 June 2021, 80% of the applications were approved.

Emergency Allocation Applications	Weekly Totals 31 May 2021 to 6 Jun 2021	Year to Date Totals 30 Oct 2020 to 6 Jun 2021
Approved	4	1,808
Declined	1	1,442
Applications processed*	5	3,250

*This number does not reflect applications declined at triage stage, rather incomplete applications, or applications not submitted within 14 days of intended departure.

Total Rooms Approved	4
Rooms Allocated in MIAS	4
Cancelled by the applicant	0
Awaiting flight details or MIAS registrations from the applicants to complete the room allocation process	0

4.7 Resolutions Update

- Data from the Complaints and Feedback Customer Management System for the week 1 June to 7 June 2021 is as follows:

Week	Received	Active Cases	Resolved
1 Jun 2021 – 7 Jun 2021			
Complaints	51	34	43
Improvements	0	0	0
Compliments	3	0	3
Queries	5	0	5
Ombudsman	8	22	11
Parliamentary/OIA	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total	67	56	62

- The average number of complaints received each week since the start of MIQ is 102. For the last 4 weeks the average is 69 per week.
- This week we have received 67 new cases and have resolved 62 cases.
- We have observed a decrease in complaints about facilities, while numbers for other areas remain steady. Of these complaints, fee waivers were the highest, featuring in 33% of all complaints, with facilities dropping to 27% from being in two thirds of all complaints in the previous week.

5. Border Executive Board Report



5.1 Key Issues Being Considered by the Executive Board

5.1.1 Border Workforce

Staff who are included in the Vaccinations Order are only working at the border if they have had two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination (unless they became an affected person on or after 1 May 2021 in which case they have 35 days to have received their second vaccination).

On-boarding of new border staff and rotation of border personnel continues with clear processes and guidelines.

5.1.2 Travel Health Pass

On 15 April 2021, the Ministry of Transport briefed you on the scope of the Travel Health Pass Work Programme. It advised at the time that it would aim to provide you with more substantive advice on the design of a travel health pass in end June 2020.

Agencies continue to investigate options for a travel health pass, and the Ministry of Transport intends to provide you with a report back on progress in early July. A few more weeks will be necessary to finalise the advice to you. The briefing will provide indicative options for a Travel Health Pass for outbound and inbound travel, identify potential resourcing and operational impacts for agencies, and indicative timeframes where known.

As you are aware, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) is working on a mobile app to help travellers store and manage their certifications for COVID-19 tests or vaccines.

s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)

The Board and agencies' view, informing work to date, is that the way in which New Zealand might operate a travel health pass:

should be agnostic to the software solution / service, which allows an individual to transact their vaccination or testing certificate;

the software solution / service must be able to operate within the existing border ecosystem.

Critically, government agencies must be able to be assured of the certificates validity and confirm the connection between the certificate holder and their identity prior to departure.

Agencies also note that in its current format, the IATA travel pass does not enable the traveller to share a vaccine certificate with border agencies prior to departure which is one of the principles/criteria that agencies have for the use of a travel pass.

s9(2)(b)(ii)

Greg Foran from Air New Zealand is scheduled to meet with the Border Executive Board on 8 July 2021, to discuss the IATA trial.

The Ministry of Transport will keep you updated through the weekly report on its ongoing engagement with Air New Zealand and IATA, s9(2)(b)(ii)

5.1.3 Very High Risk Countries

Travel pathways from Very High Risk countries (India, Pakistan, Brazil, and Papua New Guinea) remain very limited with no direct flights available.

Although Dubai had previously been the transit point for most passengers travelling between India and New Zealand, this has been closed off as Emirates has suspended all flights from India (until at least 30 June 2021). Travel via Doha on Qatar Airways is now the preferred route for passengers travelling from India or Brazil.

Travel from Papua New Guinea is also generally not possible as there are no “red” (quarantine) flights for connecting passengers on the Tasman although some travel by New Zealand citizens has occurred from Papua New Guinea via Singapore.

Airline check-in staff are required to take all reasonable steps to ensure that passengers due to depart from one of the flight routes currently available are;

- aware that they are prohibited from arriving in New Zealand if they have been in a very high risk country within the 14 days immediately before the date of their arrival in New Zealand; and
- not allowed to board the flight unless they have verbally stated that they have not been in a very high risk country within that period.

Airline staff continue to check with Immigration NZ’s Border Officers regarding any concerns over a non-New Zealand citizen’s eligibility to travel from a Very High Risk country.

Passengers may also be referred for further interaction with Customs Officers on arrival in New Zealand if there are concerns over travel routes.

5.1.4 Border Clearance Levy – Consultation

The NZ Customs Service and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) have begun public consultation on options for resetting Border Clearance Levy rates to fully recover border processing costs. Consultation started this week and includes one-on one consultation with key stakeholders.

Submissions close on 2 July 2021. Customs and MPI will then consider the feedback and provide advice to the Minister of Customs and the Minister for Biosecurity.

6. New Zealand Customs Service Weekly Report



6.1 Items to Note/Updates

- For the period 31 May 2021 to 6 June 2021, one infringement was issued.

- s6(c)

Passengers

	Date	31 May	1 June	2 June	3 June	4 June	5 June	6 June	Week Total	%
	Total Passengers	2593	2484	2061	2756	2786	2443	2421	17544	
	Passengers subject to PDT	327	237	120	266	193	235	262	1771	10.1%
Primary Actions (Passport Control)	Test Certificate Verified	303	222	115	249	178	224	251	1666	94.0%
	Exemption Verified	15	6	3	13	4	10	5	57	3.2%
	Referred to Secondary Area	9	9	2	4	11	1	6	48	2.7%
Secondary Area Actions	Compliant	9	9	2	4	11	1	5	47	98.0%
	Warned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infringement	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2.0%
	Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Crew

	Date	31 May	1 June	2 June	3 June	4 June	5 June	6 June	Week Total	%
	Crew subject to PDT	51	64	64	48	57	72	3	359	
Primary Actions (Passport Control)	Test Certificate Verified	51	64	64	48	57	72		359	100%
	Exemption Verified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Referred to Secondary Area	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Secondary Area Actions	Compliant	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Warned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Infringement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Prosecution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

6.2 Passenger Numbers – Cook Islands

- Cook Island passenger arrival and departure numbers for the period 25 May 2021 to 8 June 2021 (flights are not daily).

Date	25 May	29 May	30 May	1 June	3 June	5 June	6 June	8 June	TOTA
Arrival	152	172	140	182	137	181	202	285	1451
Departure	303	293	265	266	287	306	278	265	2263

7. COVID-19 Chief Executives Board

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7.1 Items to Note/Updates

The COVID-19 Chief Executives' Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday 8 June was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for 22 June, after which we will provide you with an update on the outcome of the meeting.

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8. COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group

8.1 Items to Note/Updates

The Group's review of the Auckland February 2021 outbreak has been finalised and sent to your office on Friday 4 June, accompanied by a letter from Sir Brian Roche, Group Chair. You are reporting back to Cabinet on Monday 14 June on the high-level findings of the review and on the future focus and forward work programme of the Group. The Group's high-level forward work programme has been sent to the Chief Executives of the Ministry of Health, Te Kawa Mataaho – Public Service Commission, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, New Zealand Customs Service, and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment for feedback and it will be finalised and sent to your office by the end of this week. The Group is meeting on Tuesday 15 June as the first of its regular fortnightly meetings to discuss initial priorities in the delivery of its work programme.

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9. Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group

9.1 Items to Note

The Group met with Dr Ian Town, Chief Science Advisor, at the Ministry of Health. Dr Town provided the Group with insight into the organisational structure of the Ministry's COVID-19 response. The Group discussed the value of its ability to take a longer-term, strategic view of the system's response and requirements. The members agreed that they would meet weekly for the next two weeks to finish considering and providing advice on the Reconnecting New Zealand document. They will then move back to fortnightly meetings unless situations demand otherwise. The next meeting is on Wednesday 16 June.

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10. Business Leaders Forum

10.1 Items to Note/Updates

The Business Leaders' Forum is meeting with the Prime Minister and yourself on Friday 11 June. The agenda includes discussion of the vaccination rollout and planning for border reopening.

11. Government Modelling Group

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11.1 Updates

The Modelling Steering Group officials met with Professor Hendy on Tuesday 8 June. We discussed:

- the next module of modelling work, which builds on the initial results, and explores the potential frequency and severity of outbreaks, given different assumptions about policy settings at the border and in the community. Officials will provide a further update to

Ministers on the likely conclusions and implications of this work once the material has been further refined.

- Release plans for the initial modelling results, where Professor Hendy indicated that the publication date is likely to be later than previously advised. We will update Ministers when we have further information on publication plans.


Members of the Modelling Steering Group met with Rodney Jones (Wigram Capital) to discuss the international outlook and impacts of vaccination programmes. In summary, there is significant divergence in outcomes observed in other countries, even amongst the subset of countries with the highest rates of vaccination, such as the UK, USA and Israel. This indicates that a number of key questions regarding the impacts of vaccination can't yet be answered fully. DPMC officials will incorporate insights from this discussion into the forthcoming briefing which will discuss the initial TPM/ESR modelling results in respect of this international context.

The Modelling Steering Group is due to meet with ESR modellers next week. They discussed their work with Ministry of Health officials last week. We will seek further information on when this material may be published and will update Ministers as we know more.

Proactively Released

12. Upcoming Cabinet Papers

s9(2)(f)(iv)



Proactively Released

13. Official Information Act Requests

13.1 Ministry of Health

Date due	Requestor	OIA Request	Status
12 May 21	Chris Bishop	The full Ministry of Health paper dated 26 January 2021 referred to in the House; and any covering report or aides-mémoire from the Ministry relating to it; the "several updated delivery schedules from Pfizer" referred to in the House, and "the model" the government operates to that was referred to in the House.	In progress
9 Jun 21	Chris Bishop	Information relating to the "very high risk" category of overseas countries.	At Minister's office
9 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Information relating to the "very high risk" category of overseas countries.	In progress
10 Jun 21	Chris Bishop	Advice on maximising the uptake of the BWTR on 26 February 2021	In progress
16 Jun 21	Chris Bishop	The full Review of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Required Testing) Order 2020 received on 17 February 2021. I also request the review referred to from March and the advice that relates to it.	In progress
18 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	List of, and information about, papers about proof of COVID-19 vaccination, and dates of oral briefings on the subject, from 1 November 2020.	In progress
25 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Annexes to the December 18, 2020 briefing "Supply agreement for purchase of COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer New Zealand Ltd." Information relating to the "Decision to Use Framework". Questions and information in relation to New Zealand's purchase and receipt of COVID-19 vaccinations through the COVAX initiative.	In progress
29 Jun 21	Chris Bishop	Briefings/reports/aides-mémoire to you and your office from the Ministry of Health relating to saliva testing in 2021	In progress
30 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Advice received by the Minister concerning validation of vaccinations for those vaccinated overseas, or for Kiwis vaccinated here travelling overseas.	In progress
1 Jul 21	Chris Bishop	Information relating to feedback received from Pfizer, specifically containing the phrase "lock-step".	In progress

13.2 Managed Isolation and Quarantine

Note: Any OIA highlighted in **bold** is a new addition from the previous report.

Date due	Requestor	Media/Opposition	OIA Request	Status
1 Sep 20	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	All docs etc. for MIQ charges policy incl. for treaty obligations & BORA.	Overdue
23 Dec 20	s9(2)(a)	Stuff	Complaints lodged by residents of managed isolation facilities.	Under review
18 Mar 21	s9(2)(a)	NZ Herald	Subsequent advice from meetings with iwi about MIQ facilities.	Decision on request sent
29 Mar 21	s9(2)(a)	Newshub	Complaints at MIQ - Workers who has been dismissed and reasons at MIQ.	Under review
20 Apr 21	s9(2)(a)	Stuff	What advice was given/research conducted regards alternative MIQ options.	Minister's office
30 Apr 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Risk management programme for each and every premises used for MIQ.	Under review
30 Apr 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	All docs re COVID contact tracing card trial at Bay Plaza in Welly 7/12/20.	Decision on request sent
4 May 21	s9(2)(a)	Newshub	Corr. and query regarding COVID card trial in MIQ cost.	Decision on request sent
7 May 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	Info RE establishing purpose-built quarantine facility in New Zealand.	Minister's office
11 May 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Identity of certain NZDF staff at an MIQ facility.	Under review
17 May 21	s9(2)(a)	NZ Herald	Advice to Minister's on current testing rates and addressing challenges.	Under review

Date due	Requestor	Media/Opposition	OIA Request	Status
21 May 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Expansions of MIQ facilities for reports to officials, Ministers & studies.	Minister's office
24 May 21	s9(2)	Not applicable	Records for security purposes.	Under review
24 May 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Information around Oriental Bay Plaza Wellington requesting no MIQ signs.	Gathering information
25 May 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Details around any security breaches at MIQ facility on Oriental Parade.	Gathering information
27 May 21	s9(2)(a)	NZ Herald	Request for paper on assessment of proposals for sport MIQ.	Under review
2 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Newshub	RE corr. regarding building of purpose built MIQ facilities, including non-hotels.	Minister's office
4 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	Correspondence relating to increase in MIQ fees & data on MIQ fees to date.	Decision on request sent
8 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	NZ Herald	RE all corr relating to DOIA 2021-1194.	Under review
9 Jun 21	s9(2)	Not applicable	Explanation on MIQ fees waiver.	Minister's office
11 Jun 21	Chris Bishop	Opposition	Papers produced for MBIE workshop held on 20/01/21 with MoH/Private Sector.	Under review
11 Jun 21	s9(2)	Newshub	All comms between MBIE and Pullman hotel management Jan 2021-Mar 2021.	Under review
14 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	TVNZ	Breakdown of declined emergency MIQ spots.	Under review
14 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Comms etc re Release request of MIQ facilities proposal.	Gathering information
16 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	NZ Herald	Release of document re; Assessment of Proposals for a sport MIQ Facility.	Gathering information
16 Jun 21	s9(2)	Not applicable	Private Security Providers - breakdown of citizens and non-citizens.	Minister's office
17 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	NZ Herald	MIQ rooms which housed people deported from Australia to NZ since MIQ began.	Minister's office
17 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	RE corr regarding connections between MBIE (MIQ) & Stamford hotel group.	Drafting
21 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	Details on MIQ breaches from 14th of June 20 until the 21st of April 21.	Drafting
23 Jun 21	s9(2)	Not applicable	RE no. of people in quarantine being involuntarily detained by DHBs.	Scoping
24 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Percentage of bus drivers operating for MIQ.	Scoping
25 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Newshub / Discovery NZ	Queries on SIM cards in MIQ.	Drafting
25 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Newshub	Unaccompanied minors in managed isolation facilities.	Under review
29 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Information related to MIQ operations since start of pandemic.	Scoping
29 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	RE copy of off time maritime workers briefing paper.	Scoping
1 Jul 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	RE statistics on how many security guards work at MIQ fac. & costs.	Under review
2 Jul 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	complaints made by MIQ facilities about first security.	Scoping
2 Jul 21	s9(2)(a)	RNZ	corr from MIQ facilities enquiring no longer being a MIQ facility.	Scoping
2 Jul 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	data on no. of children & demographics that have stayed in MIQ facility.	Scoping
5 Jul 21	s9(2)(a)	Stuff	All correspondence received and sent by C-RIQ staff between 20/9-20/11/20.	Scoping
5 Jul 21	s9(2)(a)	Not applicable	Records about gas meter reading company Arthur D Riley reading meter at MIQ.	Gathering information

13.3 COVID-19 Group

Date due	Requestor	OIA Request	Status
29 May 20	s9(2)	All documentation pertaining to the COVID-19 response and recovery efforts that your organization has been involved in 2020.	Drafting
24 June 21	Doocey	Copy of paper taken to cabinet on 29 March 2021: 'Funding for the COVID-19 Post-Pandemic Public Health Advisory Group' received on 9 April 2021.'	Scoping
25 June 21	s9(Request for marketing material planned for use in the Covid-19 Group 4 rollout.	Scoping
15 June 21	s9(2)	Info and data relating to Managed Quarantine.	Drafting
15 June 21	s9(For the COVID-19 Independent Continuous Review, Improvement and Advice Group meeting minutes, advice provided to the Minister for the Covid-19 Response.	Scoping
17 June 21	s9(2)	All briefings and reports that have been sent to Minister Hipkins or his office from the Independent Advisory Groups, including for the period March 15 until May 19, 2021.	Scoping
25 June 21	s9(Copies of all advice provided to the Minister for the COVID-19 Response.	Scoping
29 June 21	s9(Marketing and PR data for COVID-19 messaging.	Scoping
29 June 21	s9(2)(a)	Details regarding COVID recovery programs.	Scoping
30 June 21	s9(2)	Request for an audio recording and transcript of the Ministry of Health's COVID vaccine advertisement that aired on Spotify during April/May 2021.	Scoping

13.4 Border Executive Board

Note: Any OIA highlighted in **bold** is a new addition from the previous report.

Date due	Requestor	OIA Request	Status
24 Jun 21	s9(2)(a)	A copy of the Border Sector Strategy and the BEB work programme Copies of the minutes of all BEB meetings and copies of all BEB reports submitted to the COVID-19 Response Minister	In Progress

14. Appendix – Ministry of Health Weekly Updates on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) at the Border

	Audit summary	Audit high-risk findings, and actions taken to remedy	Incidents/reviews	IPC Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Operations Frameworks and guidance documents
Managed Isolation and Quarantine facilities (MIQFs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IPC audit (no.4) of MIQFs continues. Audit schedule has required date amendments due to several MIFs undergoing maintenance. The end date for completion remains 7 July 2021.• No high-risk findings identified from completed IPC audits.	-	-	-
Airports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly airport IPC assurance walk-through scheduled for July 2021. Dates for these audits are dependent on International flight schedules• Proposed dates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Auckland 12 July (Red and QFTZ)○ Wellington 13 July (QFTZ)○ Rongotai 13 July (Red)○ Christchurch 14 July (Red and QFTZ)○ Queenstown 19 July August (QFTZ)	-	-	A draft memo on the enforcement of face coverings at QFT airports has been sent to PHUs for comment.
Maritime/ports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning underway to commence IPC assurance walk-throughs at maritime ports.• The assurance walk-through will review IPC practices against the current: Maritime New Zealand COVID-19 guidance for NZ PCBUs and their workers aboard affected ships.• Draft assurance walk-through audit tool awaiting Ministry IPC feedback.	-	-	The PPE / IPC guidance is currently posted on Maritime New Zealand's website and no further changes have been made to this document.