

The New Zealand red meat sector's response to COVID-19

New Zealand meat processors are committed to the continued implementation of robust food safety standards and protections that prevent the spread of COVID-19 and operate to a set of industry protocols that adjust protection measures based on the alert level New Zealand is under.

COVID-19 in New Zealand

In March 2020, the New Zealand Government committed to an aggressive COVID-19 elimination strategy that has enabled New Zealand to virtually stop the community transmission of COVID-19. This strategy began with a strict national lockdown when New Zealand only had 102 cases and no deaths. Since then, New Zealand has maintained strict border controls and robust contact tracing measures.

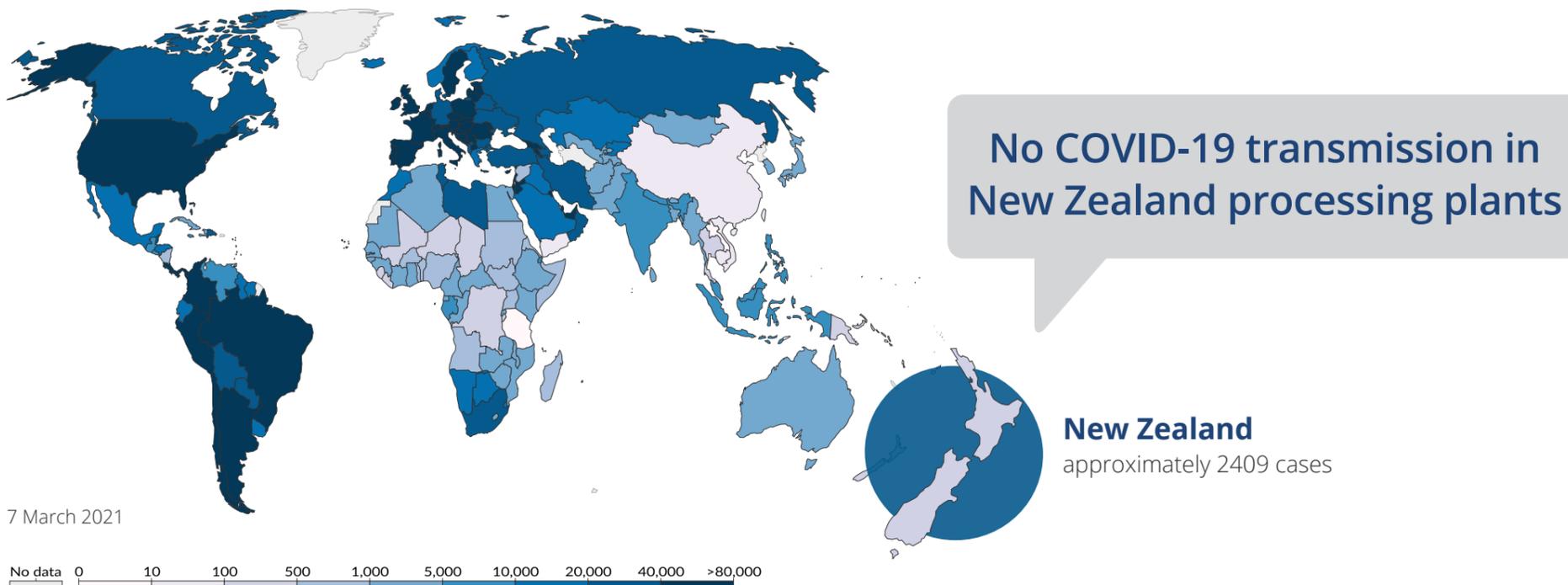
Consequently, New Zealand has had very few deaths and a relatively small number of cases in the community.

Our response

Our processing and exporting companies responded swiftly and decisively to protect workers, prevent the spread of COVID-19 and maintain the production of high-quality food to some of the highest food safety standards in the world.

New Zealand has managed to keep COVID-19 largely out of the country although the Government continues to maintain the National COVID-19 Alert System to manage and minimise the risk of COVID-19 in New Zealand.

Cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases per million people



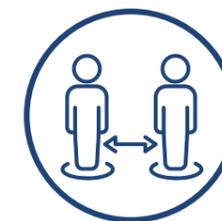
Protection measures put in place by New Zealand processing and exporting companies include:



Enhanced personnel and workplace hygiene, cleaning and disinfection



100% temperature checks and health screenings before each shift



Physical distancing and physical barriers between workstations



Multi-layered approach to intervention: face masks, face shields and use of personal protective equipment (PPE)



State of the art air sanitation and ventilation systems



Contact Tracing

New Zealand's COVID-19 Alert Levels and our protection measures

The four Level Alert System was introduced in March 2020 to manage and minimise the risk of COVID-19 in New Zealand. The system helps people understand the current level of risk and the restrictions.

The Alert Levels are determined by the Government and specify the public health and social measures to be taken in the fight against COVID-19. Further guidance is available on the New Zealand Government's COVID-19 website www.covid19.govt.nz. Meat processing and exporting companies have implemented protocols that ensure measures are consistent with the risk assessment and compliant with their employee health and safety obligations and food safety regulations in New Zealand. The protocols are independently verified for compliance by the Ministry for Primary Industries' Verification services in plants. Further information on these protocols can be found on the MIA website www.mia.co.nz.

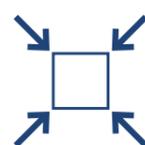
The system may be updated on the basis of:

- new scientific knowledge about COVID-19
 - information about the effectiveness of intervention measures in New Zealand and elsewhere.
- The Alert Levels may be applied at a town, city, territorial local authority, regional or national level.



Alert Level 1 PREPARE

The disease is contained in New Zealand.



Alert Level 2 REDUCE

The disease is contained in New Zealand, but the risk of community transmission remains.



Alert Level 3 RESTRICT

High risk the disease is not contained in New Zealand.



Alert Level 4 LOCKDOWN

Likely the disease is not contained in New Zealand.

RISK ASSESSMENT	RISK ASSESSMENT	RISK ASSESSMENT	RISK ASSESSMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 is uncontrolled overseas. • Sporadic imported cases into New Zealand. • Isolated local transmission could be occurring in New Zealand but no known clusters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited community transmission could be occurring. • Active clusters in more than 1 region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple cases of community transmission occurring. • Multiple active clusters in multiple regions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained and intensive community transmission is occurring. • Widespread outbreaks.
INDUSTRY PROTECTIONS	INDUSTRY PROTECTIONS	INDUSTRY PROTECTIONS	INDUSTRY PROTECTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sick workers stay home • Workers with cold and flu symptoms are tested and not allowed on site • Self-isolation or quarantine in government regulated facility when required and as instructed • Strong personal hygiene • Regular disinfection of shared surfaces • Track and trace by government QR code • Sites have a COVID-19 safety plan implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sick workers stay home • Workers with cold and flu symptoms are tested and not allowed on site • Self-isolation or quarantine in government regulated facility when required and as instructed • Strong personal hygiene • Regular disinfection of shared surfaces • Track and trace by government QR code • Sites have a COVID-19 safety plan implemented • Site secured and work access to plant is recorded • Physical distancing in place in all parts of the processing plant • Segregated walkways • Worker bubbles established with staggered shifts • Transport to work limited to alone or within bubble • PPE required including face masks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sick workers stay home • Workers with cold and flu symptoms are tested and not allowed on site • Self-isolation or quarantine in government regulated facility when required and as instructed • Strong personal hygiene • Regular disinfection of shared surfaces • Track and trace by government QR code • Sites have a COVID-19 safety plan implemented • Site secured and work access to plant is recorded and restricted • Physical distancing in place in all parts of the processing plant • Segregated walkways • Worker bubbles established with staggered shifts • Transport to work limited to alone or within bubble • PPE required including face masks & screens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sick workers stay home • Workers with cold and flu symptoms are tested and not allowed on site • Self-isolation or quarantine in government regulated facility when required and as instructed • Strong personal hygiene • Regular disinfection of shared surfaces • Track and trace by government QR code • Sites have a COVID-19 safety plan implemented • Essential workers only • Physical distancing in place in all parts of the processing plant • Segregated walkways • Worker bubbles established with staggered shifts • Transport to work limited to alone or within bubble • PPE required including face masks & screens and visors