

# Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker

## Regional report - East Asia and Pacific



This report summarises the major changes in the region for the Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker's Containment and Health Index, providing a high level overview of shifts in government policies.

OxCGRT is created by the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford. For more information visit [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker).

<b>REGION</b>	East Asia and Pacific
<b>Date range</b>	12- 28 August, 2020
<b>Reported by</b>	Helen Tatlow

### Brief summary of major changes:

Regional lockdowns are the dominant trend in East Asia and the Pacific region, with a number of regions and cities under strict measures.

In **Australia**, the Stage 4 restrictions imposed on metropolitan Melbourne on 2 August remain in place, where people can only leave their house for essential journeys. There is a curfew between 8pm and 5am, and people can only travel 5km from home. Exercise is restricted to one hour, once per day. In **New Zealand**, after 102 days with no community transmission, as of midday Wednesday 12 August the capital Auckland entered Level 3 lockdown, and the rest of the country Level 2, after a family in Auckland were confirmed positive for COVID-19. Schools and workplaces, except essential services, in Auckland are closed, and people are required to stay at home except for essential journeys.

In **South Korea** on 16 August Level 2 targeted measures were introduced in Seoul City and Gyeonggi Province, requiring non essential outings, gatherings, events, and travel to be postponed. In **Vietnam** targeted lockdown measures continue in the city of Da Nang (extended 12 August), and were imposed in Quang Nam province, Ho Chi Minh City, the cities of Hai Duong and Hanoi. Restrictions vary across regions, and include bans on gatherings of more than 2 people, the closing of non-essential workplaces, the banning of large public events, and the suspension of public transport. Students in Da Nang required a negative COVID-19 test result before sitting their national high school exams this week.

In **Papua New Guinea** a two week lockdown in the capital Port Moresby was lifted on 12 August, meaning that non-essential workplaces, public transport, and schools could reopen that week.

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<b>C1: School Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> As of Wednesday 12 August schools in Auckland closed as they were placed in Level 3 lockdown again.</li> <li>• <b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA:</b> A two-week lockdown in the capital of Port Moresby was lifted on 12 August, and schools reopened on 17 August.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Students in Da Nang were tested for COVID-19 before being allowed to sit their national high school exams this week.</li> </ul>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BRUNEI:</b> From 17 August Stage 3 of reopening begins, and cinemas, buffet restaurants, food courts, museums, exhibition galleries and public libraries will all move to the final stage of reopening.</li> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> All but essential services to close in Auckland as of 12 August.</li> <li>• <b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA:</b> A two-week lockdown in the capital of Port Moresby was lifted on 12 August, and restaurants reopened.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> The city of Da Nang extended its lockdown from midnight on 12 August until further notice. All non-essential services remain closed. Quang Nam Province, Hai Duong, Hanoi have all closed essential services too.</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SOUTH KOREA:</b> On 16 August the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention implemented a number of targeted measures for the Seoul City and Gyeonggi Province, including to postpone or cancel non-essential outings, social gatherings and events.</li> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> As of 12 August gatherings of up to 10 people can continue, but only for wedding services, funerals and tangihanga. All public events in Auckland therefore suspended.</li> <li>• <b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA:</b> A two-week lockdown in the capital of Port Moresby was lifted on 12 August, ending a restriction on public gatherings of more than 15 people.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> The cities of Da Nang extended lockdown on 12 August banning gatherings of more than 2 people. Restrictions on public events are also in place in Quang Nam, Hai Duong, and Hanoi.</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BRUNEI:</b> On 13 August the Government raised the limit of people at public and social gatherings from 100 to 200 people.</li> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> As of 12 August gatherings of up to 10 people can continue, but only for wedding services, funerals and tangihanga. All public events in Auckland therefore suspended.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> The cities of Da Nang extended lockdown on 12 August banning gatherings of more than 2 people. Restrictions are also in place in Quang Nam, Hai Duong, and Hanoi.</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA:</b> A two-week lockdown in the capital of Port Moresby was lifted on 12 August, meaning public transport is running again.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Public transport is suspended or restricted in Da Nang, Quang Nam, Hai Duong, and Hanoi.</li> </ul>
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SOUTH KOREA:</b> On 16 August the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention implemented a number of targeted measures for Seoul City and Gyeonggi Province. With respect to stay at home requirements, the measures included: "Postpone or cancel non-essential outings, social gatherings, events, or travel".</li> </ul>

Summaries are created with data from the OxCGRT, uploaded by contributors. For specific references, please see the database [www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker](http://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/covidtracker)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> As of 12 August people in Auckland told to stay at home except for essential journeys.</li> <li>• <b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA:</b> A two-week lockdown in the capital of Port Moresby was lifted on 12 August so people are no longer required to stay at home or abide by a night curfew from 10pm-5am.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> The cities of Da Nang extended lockdown on 12 August. Restrictions are also in place in Quang Nam, Hai Duong, and Hanoi.</li> </ul>
<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> As of 12 August Travel into and out of Auckland will be restricted to those returning home to the city, or those leaving who live elsewhere.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> The cities of Da Nang extended lockdown on 12 August, where residents are not allowed to leave the city or region, except in cases of absolute necessity, which would then require permission from a competent authority. Restrictions are also in place in Quang Nam, Hai Duong, and Hanoi.</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TAIWAN:</b> All passengers from the Philippines entering Taiwan from 12 August required to quarantine for 14 days.</li> </ul>
<b>H2: Testing Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>H3: Contact Tracing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc on 14 August called on every citizen using a smartphone to install Bluezone, a contact-tracing mobile app.</li> </ul>

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### Cases vs Government Response Index:

