

# 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>	28 July- 13 August, 2020
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### Brief summary of major changes:

Targeted measures remain in place for many countries experiencing regional outbreaks. In **China's** northwest region Xinjiang, the city of Urumqi remains under closure and containment measures, with people required to stay at home, limited public transport, and restricted travel in and out of the city. China's port city of Dalian now has one high risk zone, and has lifted neighborhood containment in all other zones.

**Vietnam's** containment measures in the city of Da Nang, the epicentre of their new outbreak, that were introduced 27 July remain in place, and all flights in and out of the region are suspended. In other areas of Vietnam, bars and karaoke parlours have also been banned.

**Australia's** second largest city, Melbourne, entered Stage 4 restrictions on 2 August, and Stage 3 restrictions apply to regional Victoria as of 5 August. In Stage 4 a night curfew is in place from 8pm to 5am. One resident per household can leave for essential journeys, once a day, up to 5km from their home. Interstate border controls remain restricting travel between some regions.

**Hong Kong's** restrictions remain in place. On Friday 7 August they announced that voluntary free virus tests will be available to all residents. News articles report that there is capacity to fulfil this.

In **New Zealand**, after 102 days with no community transmission, the capital Auckland entered Level 3 lockdown, and the rest of the country Level 2 as of midday Wednesday 12 August, after a family in Auckland were confirmed positive for COVID-19. Schools and workplaces (except essential services) in Auckland are closed, and people are told to stay at home except for essential journeys.

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<b>C1: School Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AUSTRALIA:</b> All students in Victoria to learn online as of 3 August.</li> <li>• <b>BRUNEI:</b> All levels of schooling resumed on 27 July.</li> <li>• <b>MALAYSIA:</b> Five schools in Kedah closed on 3 August.</li> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> Schools in Auckland closed as of 12 August.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Schools suspended in the city of Da Nang as of 27 July.</li> </ul>
<b>C2: Workplace Closing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> All but essential businesses to close in Auckland.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Non-essential businesses such as bars and nightclubs in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City closed 30 July and 31 July until further notice. Non-essential activities; bars, clubs, karaoke parlors, and festive activities banned from August 11 in Ninh Thuan.</li> </ul>
<b>C3: Cancel Public Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> Public events cancelled in Auckland.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> In Da Nang, festive activities, religious ceremonies, sports tournaments and crowded events in public places, stadiums and big venues are banned as of 27 July.</li> </ul>
<b>C4: Restrictions on Gatherings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> Restriction on gatherings of up to 10 people, only permitted for wedding services, funerals and tangihanga, in Auckland after Level 3 Lockdown announced 12 August.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Ho Chi Minh City banned gatherings of more than 30 people starting midnight 30 July.</li> </ul>
<b>C5: Close Public Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PHILIPPINES:</b> Public transportation suspended in Metropolitan Manila and other areas as of 3 August. Public shuttles will be allowed to transport frontline workers.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> All bus and train services to and from Da Nang suspended from 28 July. Public transport is restricted, and only one or two flights from domestic airports to the city are allowed.</li> </ul>
<b>C6: Stay at Home requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AUSTRALIA:</b> Metropolitan Melbourne is in Stage 4 lockdown; curfew from 8pm-5am, residents only allowed to leave for essential journeys, only one person can leave, once a day</li> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> Residents of Auckland told to stay home except for essential journeys after Level 3 lockdown 12 August.</li> </ul>
<b>C7: Restrictions on Internal movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AUSTRALIA:</b> Metropolitan Melbourne is in Stage 4 lockdown, residents can only travel 5km from their homes.</li> <li>• <b>MALAYSIA:</b> Four sub-districts in Kedah have been put under the "targeted enhanced movement control order (MCO)" on 3 August, restricting movement in the area.</li> <li>• <b>NEW ZEALAND:</b> Travel into and out of Auckland restricted to those returning home, or those leaving who live elsewhere.</li> <li>• <b>VIETNAM:</b> Flights to and from Da Nang suspended on 28 July for 14 days.</li> </ul>
<b>C8: International Travel Controls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>
<b>H2: Testing Policy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hong Kong:</b> Voluntary free virus tests will be available to residents to identify asymptomatic carriers. Announced 7 August.</li> </ul>
<b>H3: Contact Tracing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No major changes recorded.</li> </ul>

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### Cases vs Government Response Index:

