



OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

STATEMENT TO THE NATION CONFIRMED COVID CASES AT THE BORDER

22 March 2022

Fakaalofa lahi atu - Niue Fekai,

This evening we detected another 4 cases of COVID-19 that have arrived into our country.

These cases arrived on the flight to Niue on Monday 21 March 2022 as part of a flight of 38 passengers who all tested negative prior to departure. A total of 36 tests has been carried out. Two children on the flight were not tested beforehand as both are under the age of 3 and are asymptomatic.

Of the 5 cases detected, four positive cases are active and 1 case is a historical case that has now recovered. The four positive cases who have been informed are currently in quarantine at MIQ facilities and while all are asymptomatic will be monitored closely by Niue's health officials.

In total, Niue has now detected 5 positive cases at the Border being 4 active cases and 1 historical case that has now recovered.

The four positive active cases are double vaccinated and boosted and had returned negative PCR tests 72 hours prior to departure, and RATs prior to boarding their flight from New Zealand.

All officials that are deemed to have come in close contact with the case are currently in isolation and will be closely monitored and tested according to Niue's COVID protocol.

All other 31 passengers have returned a negative COVID test but will be monitored and retested on Day 3 as per our testing protocols. All passengers are following isolation instructions.

As we announced yesterday our COVID-19 national alert codes are now updated and as of tonight we will move to Alert Level YELLOW, because we aim to eliminate this case in MIQ. Alert Level Yellow means that a case has been detected at the border and in MIQ. It is contained in MIQ.

We ask the Niue public at this time to:

- Practice and maintain good personal hygiene - regularly washing hands and coughing or sneezing into elbows
- If you start to experience any COVID symptoms, stay home and call Niue Fook Hospital
- Be prepared for changes in our alert levels and act fast if needed
- Stock up on PPE and other resources in preparation for alert level change
- Keep up with official health and government information advisories

We ask the Government of Niue and the Private Sector to:

- Use your ROCKSAFE contact tracer and for people to log in. These and must be displayed in all workplaces and businesses
- All businesses, facilities, schools, education providers and workplaces will remain open
- Community Testing will be made available
- Ensure Hand sanitisers are accessible to customers and stock up on PPE and other resources in preparation for alert levels change
- Keep up with official health and government information advisories

Fakaue lahi mahaki.