



## AIDE MEMOIRE

### 10% Critical Worker target – Report for June 2021

<b>Date:</b>	9 June 2021	<b>Priority:</b>	Medium
<b>Security classification:</b>		<b>Tracking number:</b>	2021-4001

#### Information for Minister(s)

Hon Chris Hipkins  
Minister for COVID-19 Response

#### Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Kara Isaac	General Manager, MIQ Policy	Privacy of natural persons	
Privacy of natural persons	Manager, Allocation and Supply, MIQ Policy Unit		✓
	Senior Policy Advisor		

#### The following departments/agencies have been consulted

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#### Minister's office to complete:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved             | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted                | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seen                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn           |

#### Comments



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### Purpose

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To provide the June report on progress against the Government's commitment to ensure that Critical Workers are occupying at least 10% of spaces in Managed Isolation and Quarantine (the 10% Critical Worker target).

During May 2021 Critical Workers (and accompanying family) occupied an average of 13.7% of MIQ rooms.

The updated information, attached at Annex One, will be released on the MBIE website in mid-June.

Privacy of natural persons

**Manager, Allocation and Supply, MIQ Policy**  
Managed Isolation & Quarantine, MBIE

09 / 06 / 2021

## 10% Critical Worker Target

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### Context

1. In December 2020 Cabinet agreed to set a 10% operational target for Critical Workers' use of allocable managed isolation rooms over a rolling three month period, starting 1 January 2021 [CBC-20-MIN-0137 refers].
2. In April 2021, officials reported on progress in developing information to track progress against this target. Following that briefing you indicated you wished to receive monthly reports, which would then be publicly released [briefing 2021-2756 refers].

### June Report

#### Key findings

3. The June report against the 10% Critical Worker Target is attached as Annex One.
4. This report includes the average MIQ occupancy used by critical workers and their accompanying family during May 2021, which was 13.7%.

5. Table one, below, sets out the average daily occupancy of MIQ rooms by critical workers for each month reported thus far.

Month	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021
<b>Average CW occupancy</b>	13.3%	18.8%	14.3%	10.3%	13.7%

Table 1: Average MIQ occupancy of critical workers by month

6. The average over a rolling three month period (1 March to 31 May 2021) was 12.8%.

*Observations of note*

7. Critical worker occupancy of MIQ rooms appears to be stabilising.
  - a. In May’s report we noted that the proportion of MIQ rooms used by critical workers was rising throughout the latter half of April. It was suggested that this may have been due to lower overall MIQ occupancy meaning that a similar number of workers made up a larger proportion of the daily occupancy.
  - b. We indicated that if this trend continued it could result in critical workers occupying a growing proportion of MIQ rooms.
  - c. Updated information shows that this trend did not continue, instead peaking in early May before stabilising between 10% and 12% for the latter part of May despite continued low occupancy.

8. Figure 2, below, illustrates this data of the last three months.

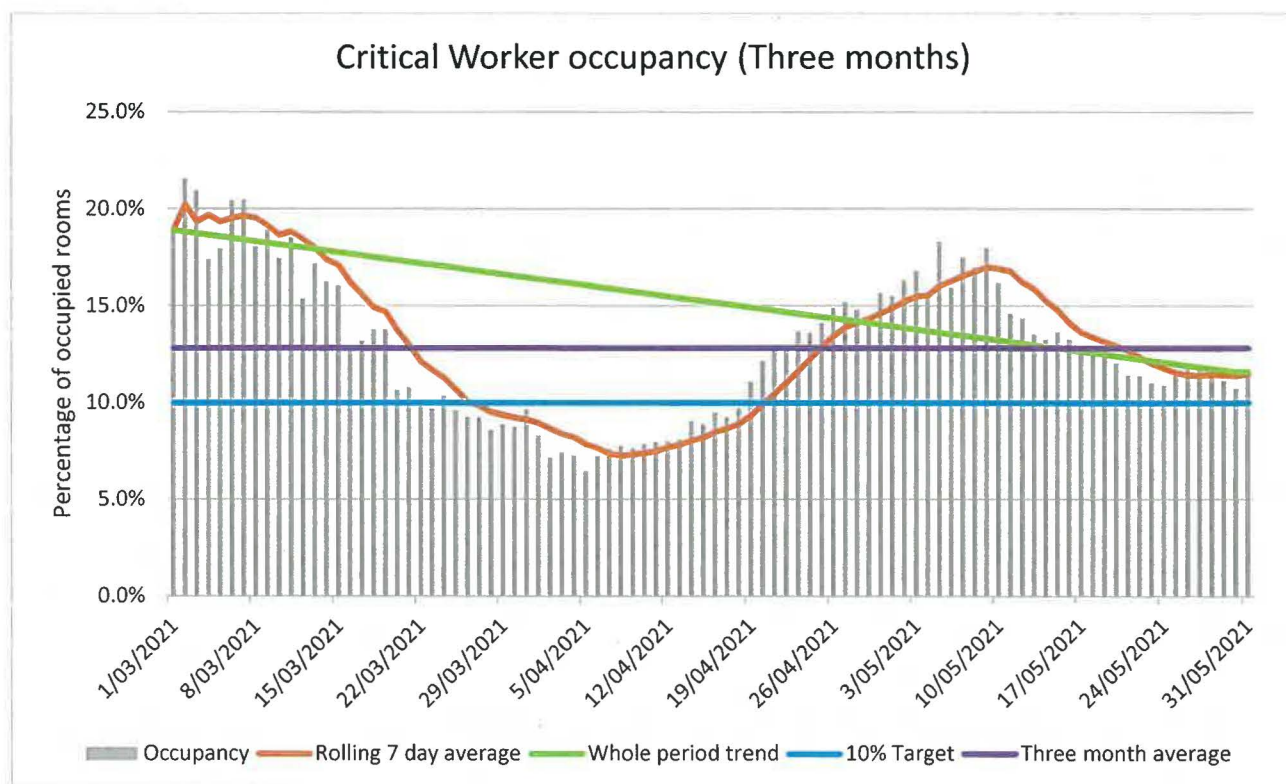


Figure 2: Daily and average MIQ occupancy by critical workers

## **Public release of the report**

9. MBIE intends to update the information published on the MBIE website<sup>1</sup> with the latest figures in mid- June.

10. We do not propose any proactive communications to mark the release of this report. We have not received any questions following the last monthly release of data.

11. You may wish to forward a copy of this aide memoire to the Minister of Immigration for his information ahead of the updated data being placed on the MBIE website.

### *Next report*

12. The report updated to include data for June 2021 will be provided to you in early July.

## **Annexes**

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Annex One: 10% Critical Worker Target – June Report

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/business-and-employment/economic-development/covid-19-data-resources/managed-isolation-and-quarantine-data/managed-isolation-and-quarantine-critical-worker-occupancy/>

## **Annex One: 10% Critical Worker Target – June Report**

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# Managed Isolation and Quarantine: Critical worker occupancy

June 2021

Month	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021
Average occupancy by critical workers	13.3%	18.8%	14.3%	10.3%	13.7%

Report period: 1 January 2021 to 31 May 2021

- The above table sets out the proportion of occupied MIQ rooms that are occupied by a critical worker.
- This is calculated by averaging the percentage of rooms occupied by critical workers on each day in the calendar month.

## Context notes

- Data for January 2021 to March 2021 includes the arrivals of Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) horticultural and viticulture workers. This large group of additional critical workers resulted in a higher-than-usual percentage of MIQ rooms being used for critical workers during these months.
- The start of Quarantine Free Travel with Australia reduced the total number of people entering MIQ. This saw rooms used by critical workers make up a higher proportion of the MIQ rooms that are occupied over April and May 2021.

### Caveats and Definitions

“Critical workers” include temporary visa holders entering New Zealand under the “other critical worker”, “critical health worker”, and “normally resident work visa holder” border exceptions, including any family members entering the country with that worker.

Data for reporting on critical worker occupancy in MIQ has been collated from 1 January 2021.

This report reflects a snapshot at a point time from various operational data sources.

Find out more at  
**Covid19.govt.nz**

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COVID-19**