



AIDE MEMOIRE

10% Critical Worker target – Report for August 2021

Date:	20 August 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security classification:		Tracking number:	2122-0556

Information for Minister(s)

Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister for COVID-19 Response

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Privacy of natural persons	Manager, Allocation and Supply, MIQ Policy Unit	Privacy of natural persons	✓
	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 Withdrawn |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



AIDE MEMOIRE

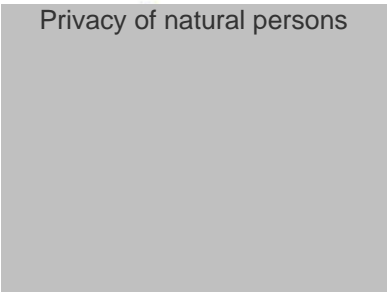
10% Critical Worker target – Report for August 2021

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Purpose

This aide memoire provides the August 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).

Privacy of natural persons



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

20 / 08 / 2021

10% Critical Worker Target

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].

August Report

Key findings

3. The August report against the 10% Critical Worker Target is attached as Annex One.
4. On average, critical workers and their accompanying family used 10.4% of occupied rooms in July 2021.
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	June 2021	July 2021
Average CW occupancy	13.3%	18.8%	14.3%	10.3%	13.7%	10.5%	10.4%

Table 1: Average MIQ occupancy of critical workers by month

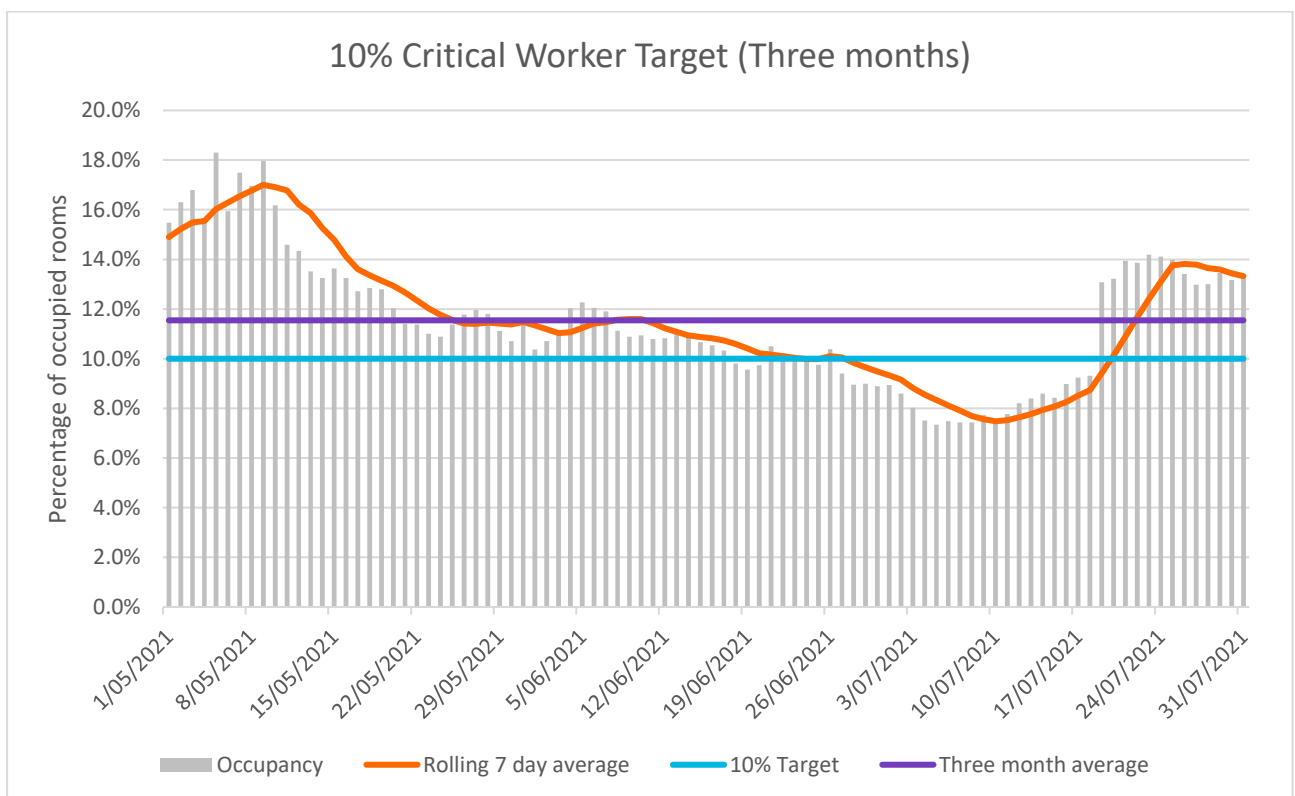
6. The average over a rolling three month period (1 May to 31 July 2021) was 11.5%.

Observations of note

7. The proportion of rooms used by critical workers in July is stable overall, but with significant variation across the month.

- a. Since a peak in early May, the proportion of MIQ rooms used by critical workers has been slowly falling, reaching as low as 7% of occupied rooms in early July.
- b. However, the arrival of a number of large groups, primarily sports teams and Antarctic researchers, in mid-July noticeably increased the proportion of rooms used by critical workers.
- c. The result of this is that the overall month-average figure has remained broadly stable from June to July.
- d. This also illustrates the outsized effect of group bookings on critical worker numbers, and the way that Minister’s decisions on these groups are directly influencing progress against the 10% operational target.

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



Public release of the report

9. MBIE will update the information published on the MBIE website¹ with the latest figures on 25 August 2021.

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 August 2021 will be provided to you in early September.

Annexes

Annex One: 10% Critical Worker Target – August Report

¹ <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 – August Report

Managed Isolation and Quarantine: Critical worker occupancy

August 2021

Month	January 2021	February 2021	March 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	July 2021
Average occupancy by critical workers	13.3%	18.8%	14.3%	10.3%	13.7%	10.5%	10.4%

Report period: 1 January 2021 to 31 July 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.

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

[New Zealand Government](#)

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