

NZ Herald, 2020g

voyager.
Media Awards
2020

Website of the Year

ADVERTISEMENT

Advertise with NZME.

NEW ZEALAND

Covid 19 coronavirus: Incorrect message results in people queuing up for testing

30 Aug, 2020 11:16 AM

🕒 4 minutes to read



There are two new cases of Covid-19 in New Zealand today. The numbers come as PM Jacinda Ardern thanked Aucklanders, who come out of lockdown tonight - but also urged them to "keep going" and do their part to keep the virus contained.

NZ Herald

Incorrect messaging telling people in West and South Auckland to get tested even if they

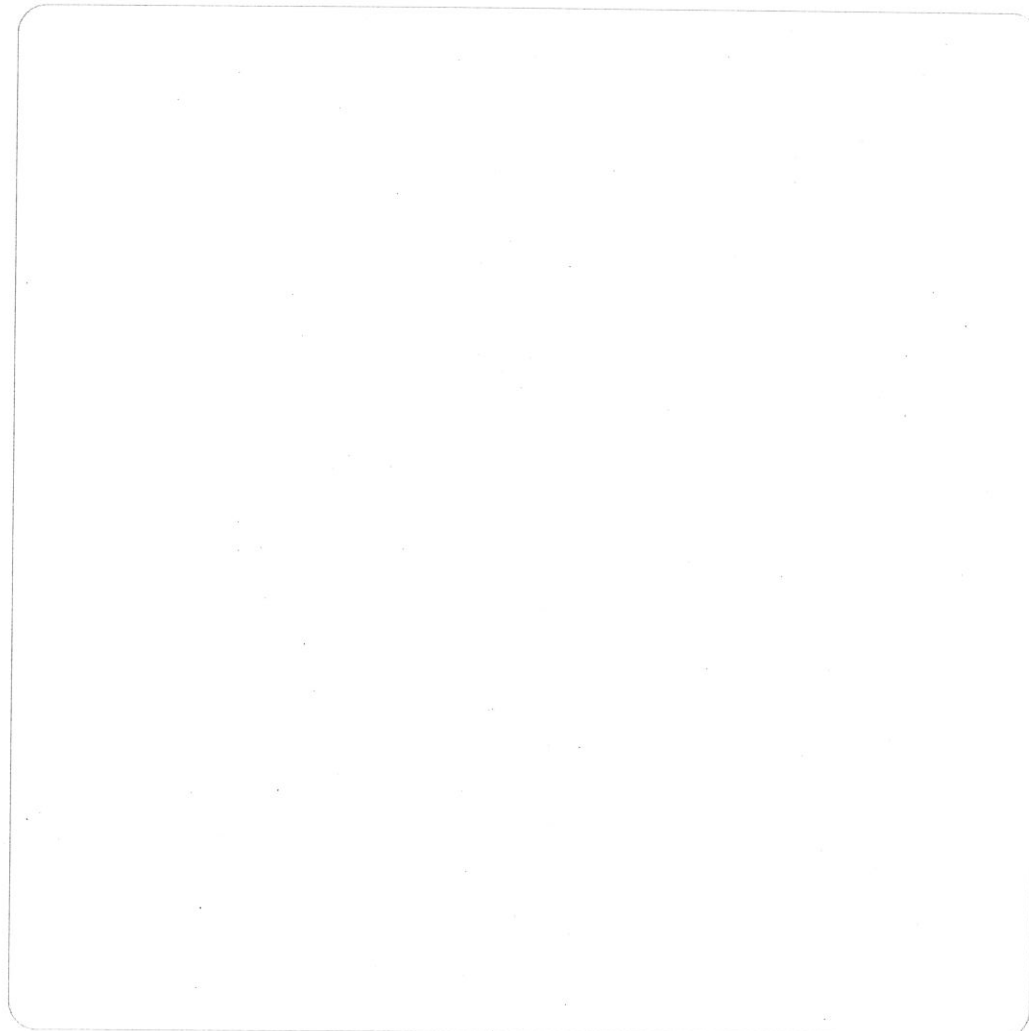
'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

"If you're in South or West Auckland, or if you have a greater risk of poor health outcomes if you were to get Covid-19, even if you don't have symptoms, please have a test," said the messaging.

Unite against COVID-19 
@covid19nz



We understand there was some concern over the request for those without symptoms in South and West Auckland to be tested for COVID-19. To avoid confusion, we've removed the post.



2:12 PM · Aug 30, 2020



See the latest COVID-19 information on Twitter

However, at today's press conference the Prime Minister was quick to say that wasn't the case and it was only people who were showing symptoms that should be tested.

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

Advertise with NZME.

"We are not asking 700,000 people to get a test," she said.

"It's a mistake."

DID YOU GET A COVID-19 TEST BECAUSE THE GOVT ASKED PEOPLE IN SOUTH AUCKLAND AND WEST AUCKLAND? IF YOU DO LET US KNOW

Ardern said not all communications are signed off by her.

She said it "has to be the case" that such mistakes don't happen again, and she will be working with the All of Government department to fix the issue.

"We just can't afford to have messages likes this go out," Ardern said.

The post on social media sites have since been removed.

Related articles

NEW ZEALAND

So you've tested positive for Covid. Here's what happens next

27 Aug, 2020 06:44 AM

🕒 Quick Read

NEW ZEALAND | Politics

Auckland set for 'level 2.5': Two new cases as PM outlines new rules, fumes over Govt Facebook message

30 Aug, 2020 02:24 PM

🕒 Quick Read

NEW ZEALAND

The new 'level 2.5' rules - all you need to know, including masks (yes), roadblocks (no)

31 Aug, 2020 05:41 AM


🕒 Quick Read

NEW ZEALAND

PM 'incredibly angry' over wrong test message for south, west Aucklanders

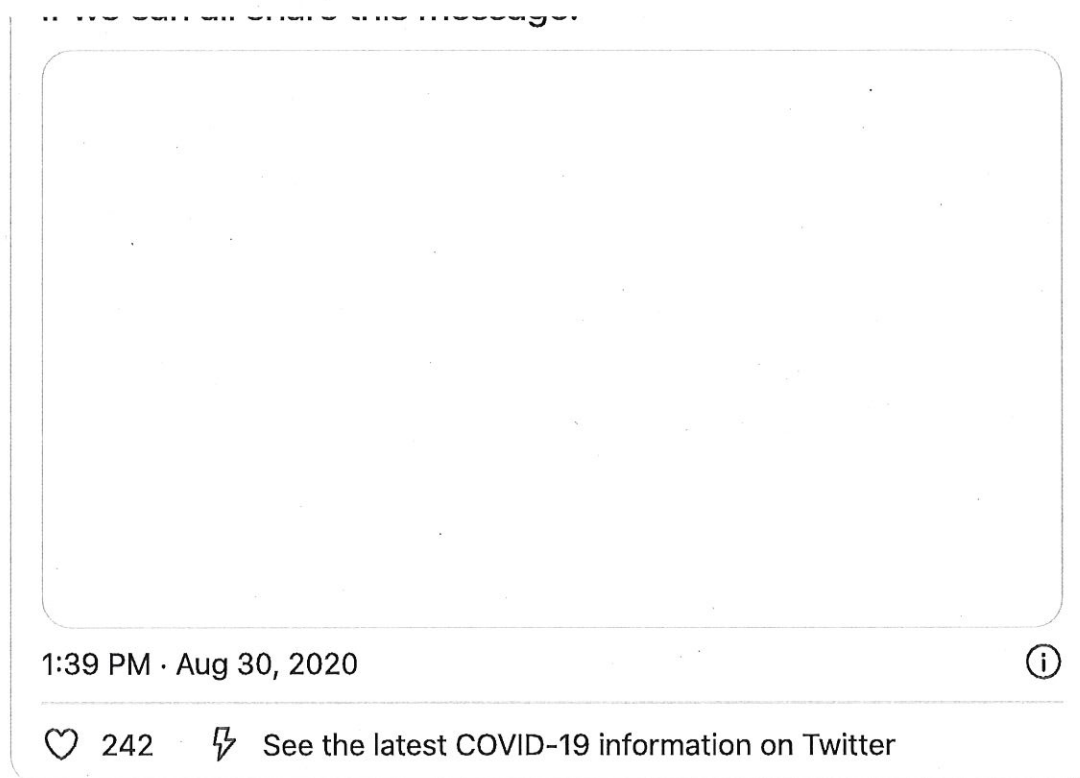
30 Aug, 2020 01:29 PM

🕒 Quick Read

Phil Goff 
@phil_goff



'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park



Ardern said her expectations were "clear" and she had asked the All of Government team to correct the information this morning.

However, requests by the Herald for clarification sent this morning since 8.24am did not receive a reply until 1.39pm.

ADVERTISEMENT

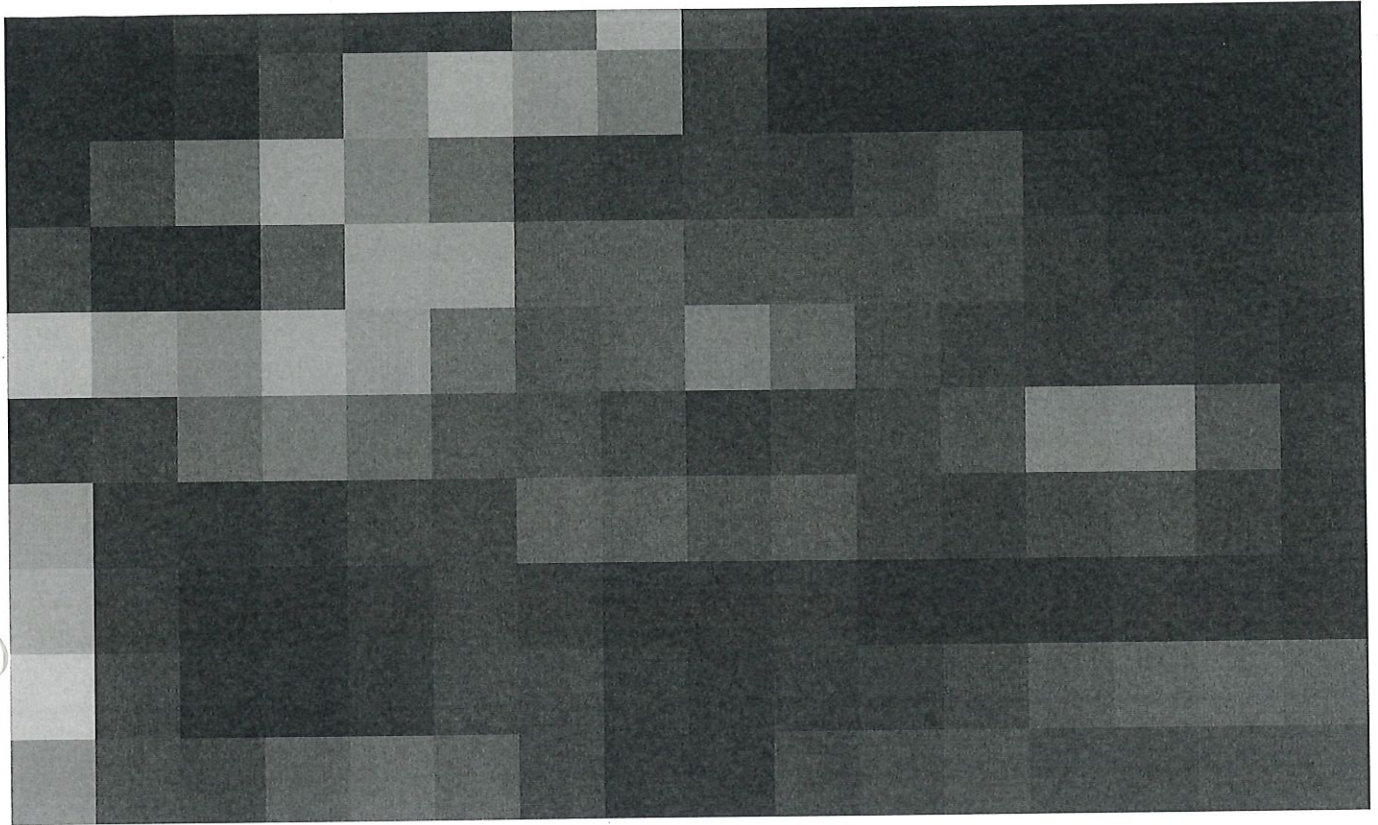
Advertise with NZME.

That mistake resulted in queues of cars snaking out from a Covid-19 testing site in Massey West Auckland.

But Ardern said it had not been reported to her that testing sites have been overloaded.

A witness at a testing station in Massey, said cars were around the corner stretching onto

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park



A busy morning at the Covid 19 testing station at the Massey community hub. Photo / Alex Burton

Another witness told the Herald the testing station was a lot busier than it was yesterday and the majority of people were wearing face masks.

Testing will continue until 4pm as Auckland prepares to go into level 2 lockdown tomorrow.

Similar queues were seen at a New Lynn testing station where motorists said there were dozens of cars, and it was taking about an hour to get to the front of the queue.

Many West Aucklanders have taken to community groups on Facebook to express their anger. Some residents said on social media they were glad they "ignored" last night's message.

Health New Lynn said they could not say whether lines were still long or not after today's 1pm announcement and clarification about testing.

Alert level 2 Q+A graphic (valid till Sunday). Please insert code into body of text:

An All-of-Government spokesman said widespread testing remained a critical part of eliminating Covid-19 in communities here.

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

confirmed or probable cases," he said.

"We've seen from this resurgence that a number of workplaces and other social and religious venues have been affected.

"That's why we are encouraging people located in South or West Auckland who have either been in contact with a confirmed or probable case, or has been at one of the workplaces or religious venues, to get tested, even if they don't have symptoms."

Those who have greater risk of poor health outcomes if they were to get the virus are also encouraged to get tested.

"If in doubt, it's best to get a test. Our ability to stop this virus comes down to ensuring we track it and contain it before it spreads further," the spokesman added.

- The full, up-to-date list of testing sites in Auckland is at www.arphs.health.nz/covid19test
- If you have any Covid-19 symptoms you can call Healthline (0800 358 5453) to discuss the steps to getting tested.

Covid-19 in NZ – 9th October

Active cases

Confirmed & Probable

41 ↑2

All active cases are imports

1866 ↑2

Total cases

1

In Hospital

0

In ICU

1800

Recovered

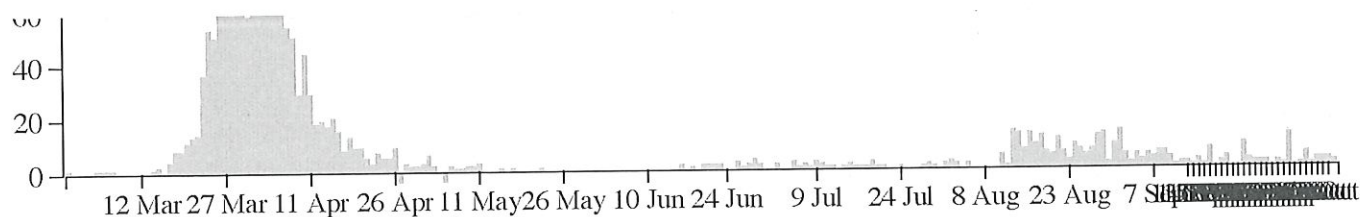
25

Deaths

197 ↑2

Border cases

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

**Case status**

Confirmed	1,510
Probable	356

Source of transmission

Imported cases	739
Contact with imported cases	461
Local, known source	567
Local, unknown source	89
Under investigation	9

Last updated: Fri 9th October at 1:03 pm [Go here to see all our Covid-19 data](#)

Recommended

Rugby: Wallabies anticipating Richie Mo'unga starting at first-five, but preparing for 'shock selections'

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

Greyhounds: Qualifying races for Waterloo Cup continue at Whanganui's Hatrick Raceway

Sports Quiz: October 9

Paid Promoted Content

ME.

About NZME

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

[nzherald.co.nz](https://www.nzherald.co.nz)

[NZ Herald E-Edition](#)

[Advertise with NZME](#)

[Book Your Ad](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[Competition Terms & Conditions](#)

[Subscriptions Terms & Conditions](#)

© Copyright 2020 NZME Publishing Limited

'Much-loved son and brother': Police name young man killed in Auckland park

