The pandemic from a New Zealand perspective.

Associate Professor Siouxsie Wiles
University of Auckland, New Zealand

@SiouxsieW
Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases

Shown is the rolling 7-day average. The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of actual cases; the main reason for that is limited testing.
COVID-19: Stringency Index
This is a composite measure based on nine response indicators including school closures, workplace closures, and travel bans, rescaled to a value from 0 to 100 (100 = strictest). If policies vary at the subnational level, the index is shown as the response level of the strictest sub-region.

Add country

OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY
A human response to a health crisis

The world’s best COVID-19 response

Bloomberg

The most intelligently and sensitively designed public information programme in this pandemic

Wallpaper*

Clear communication was the hallmark of New Zealand’s response

World Health Organization

A modern masterpiece of mass communication

SPINOFF

We weren’t prepared
2019: NZ ranks 38th for pandemic preparedness. A large-scale outbreak would cripple our health system. Public compliance of government messaging was below 50%.

We needed a collective response
Unite Against COVID-19 garnered Kiwis around a central idea — one we could all rally behind, take pride in and own. An integrated platform of beauty, hope, humour and heart, every touchpoint reinforced our individual role in achieving our collective purpose. With clarity, humanity, and sensitivity.

We overcame
No pandemic response has been so loved and cherished by its people: providing pride, trust and action. Unite Against has become ingrained within Kiwi culture, won global hearts and praise, and become the text-book response to a health crisis. Kiwis’s continued freedom and countless lives saved are testament to how we all rallied behind Unite Against.

97% Campaign Awareness
86% Understanding of Alert Levels
88% Trust in Govt. Information
OECD

New Zealand Government
Set in a dystopian world where autocratic and populist leaders are in charge of the USA, China, UK, Brazil and many other nations. 1pm Daily Update takes place in the imaginary island nation of New Zealand, a utopian society where science, facts, strong leadership and a genuine care for its people and environment take precedence over money and big business.

Stars  The Team of 5 Million · Ashley Bloomfield · Jacinda Ardern
Scientist-communicator

Image credit: AM Show
Covid-19 and kids: How to talk to children about the coronavirus

People have started asking me how they should talk to kids about the disease. So, here are some handy tips.

Read on.

Covid-19: How do you contract the coronavirus, and who is most at risk?

A new report on the Covid-19 outbreak has some important insights into the way it has progressed, and underscores why we should take it seriously.

Read on.

A practical guide to dealing with the arrival of the coronavirus in New Zealand

Do not panic. But do prepare. Here's what you need to do.

Read on.
Calm
Transparent
Accessible
Explain the evidence
Show my values
Not stigmatise
Important to remember that #Covid-19 epidemic control measures may only delay cases, not prevent. However, this helps limit surge and gives hospitals time to prepare and manage. It's the difference between finding an ICU bed & ventilator or being treated in the parking lot tent.

![Chart showing healthcare system capacity with and without protective measures.](adapted-from-CDC-The-Economist)
Toby Morris
(@XTOTL)

Fairer Future: Fixing Poverty in Aotearoa
9th March

FLATTEN THE CURVE

NUMBER OF CASES

TIME SINCE FIRST CASE

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY

@SIouxSiew @XTotL @TheSpinoffTV

‘ADAPTED FROM @Drewharris, Thomas Splettstößer (@Splette) and the CDC’

CC-BY-SA
FLATTEN THE CURVE

NUMBER OF CASES

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY

TIME SINCE FIRST CASE

DON'T PANIC BUT BE CAREFUL.

- WASHING HANDS
- NOT TOUCHING FACE
- STAY HOME WHEN SICK

'ADAPTED FROM @DREWAHARRIS, THOMAS SPLETTSTÖßER (@SOPLETT) AND THE CDC'

CC-BY-SA
Here’s Why Everybody’s Talking About ‘Flattening The Curve’

The coronavirus is now officially a pandemic. It’s going to require everybody’s help to control its impact.

Now that coronavirus cases in the U.S. have ticked up to four figures, the big question is how many people may ultimately become infected and how quickly it will happen.

With everyone wondering the same thing, there’s a phrase you might have seen in a hashtag: Flatten the curve.

The curve, in this context, is simply the number of people who contract COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus, over time. It’s easiest to understand if you see it drawn out:
14th March

STOP THE SPREAD

ALTERNATIVES TO FLATTENING THE CURVE

NUMBER OF DAILY CASES

TIME SINCE FIRST CASE

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY

NO COLLECTIVE RESPONSE

@SIouxSIEW @XTOTL thespinoff.co.nz

ADAPTED FROM ANDERSON, HEESTERBEEK, KLINKENBERG & HOLLINGSWORTH (THE LANCET, 2020), @DREWAHARRIS & @Splette CC-BY-SA
STOP THE SPREAD
ALTERNATIVES TO FLATTENING THE CURVE

NUMBER OF DAILY CASES

HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CAPACITY

TIME SINCE FIRST CASE

STRONG COLLECTIVE RESPONSE (SHORT TERM ONLY)

@SIOUXSIEW @XTOTL thespinoff.co.nz

ADAPTED FROM ANDERSON, HEESTERBEEK, KLINKENBERG & HOLLINGSWORTH (THE LANCET, 2020), @DREWAHARRIS & @SPLLETTE CC-BY-SA
THIS PERSON WORKED FROM HOME

THIS PERSON DIDN'T GO TO THAT BBQ

DIDN'T FLY DOMESTICALLY

STAYED HOME
Your actions will save lives. This is why it's important to stay home.

Dieses Video verdeutlicht, die Wirksamkeit von #WirBleibenZuhause 🌟. Durch die Einhaltung der Verhaltensregeln kann jeder und jede einen Beitrag dazu leisten, die Ausbreitung des #Coronavirus zu verlangsamen.

Die Wirksamkeit von #WirBleibenZuhause

Hält sich an die Hygienevorschriften

INFIZIERT | NICHT INFIZIERT
COVID-19
TRANSMISSION 101

@SIOUXSIEW @XTOTL thespinoff.co.nz
*INFORMATION MAY CHANGE AS NEW VARIANTS EVOLVE

CC-BY-SA 4.0
4 FEB 2021
THE PFIZER/BIONTECH COVID-19 VACCINE EXPLAINED

It's basically the recipe that tells the body how to make the spike protein of the virus.
IT USUALLY MEANS...

a small replica, or a person who demonstrates clothes

BUT SCIENTISTS MEAN...

a simulation or representation of the real world

\[ \lambda_i = R_i \left( 1 - \frac{N(t)}{N_{tot}} \right) C(t) F(t-T_{i1}, T_{i2}) \int_{t=0}^{t} W(t-T_{i}) \, dt \]
MISINFORMATION

I HEARD...

MIRACLE CURE

SUNLIGHT

DISINFORMATION

GOVERNMENT

CONTROL

I RECKON...

FAKE
Independent of government
Provide information in bitesize, understandable pieces
Make it engaging and sharable
COVID-19 explainer on masks: who should wear them, when and how

Alternatives to handshakes, hugs and high fives during COVID-19

WHO and UNICEF warn of a decline in vaccinations during COVID-19, due to disruptions in the delivery and uptake of immunization services caused by the pandemic.

As the situation evolves, it is important to catch up on missed vaccinations as soon as safely possible.
Daily new confirmed COVID-19 cases

Shown is the rolling 7-day average. The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of actual cases; the main reason for that is limited testing.

Source: Johns Hopkins University CSSE COVID-19 Data
A balanced response to COVID-19

Covid Plan B represents the point of view that Covid19 does not warrant the extreme ‘elimination’ and lockdown strategy of the NZ Government.

Covid Plan B started as a multi-disciplinary group of expert and passionate people set up in April 2020 to examine, argue and posit evidence and perspectives on how and why New Zealand should modify its

We said New Zealand’s attempt in 2020-21 to eliminate Sars-Cov2 was unnecessary, and would cause more health, social and economic harm than the virus itself.

This is a record of our stand against the Government and medical advisors who tried to eliminate the virus using lockdowns and other social control measures, and then vaccines.

Ivermectin now a proven Covid treatment

January 3, 2021
In this piece I’m interview about New Zealand’s non-sustainable abstinence only approach to #COVID19 which I think is and was the wrong way to approach what was alway to be an endemic respiratory infection

US virus expert criticises NZ’s Covid-19 approach as unsust...
Johns Hopkins University’s infectious diseases expert Amesh Adalja said countries need to learn to live with the virus.
 tvnz.co.nz

Covid 19: If Auckland isn't in level 2 in two weeks, elimination will have all but failed

Luke Malpass  · 06:10, Sep 21 2021
Share of the population fully vaccinated against COVID-19

Total number of people who received all doses prescribed by the vaccination protocol, divided by the total population of the country.

Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data – Last updated 20 September 2021, 18:00 (London time)
Note: Alternative definitions of a full vaccination, e.g. having been infected with SARS-CoV-2 and having 1 dose of a 2-dose protocol, are ignored to maximize comparability between countries.
OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY
Share of people who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Total number of people who received at least one vaccine dose, divided by the total population of the country.

Add country

Source: Official data collated by Our World in Data – Last updated 20 September 2021, 18:00 (London time)
OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY
Roll up your sleeves, Auckland
IT TAKES A TEAM

thespinoff.co.nz