

CASE STUDY

DELIVERING ESSENTIAL GOODS DURING NEW ZEALAND'S LOCKDOWN

During the COVID-19 lockdown Ports of Auckland continued to operate – ensuring that we kept essential goods, including food and medical supplies, flowing into our city and around the country.

Keeping our people safe

Keeping our people safe is always our first priority – and COVID-19 created additional challenges. We brought in a rigorous health screening process during Alert Levels 3 and 4, which included temperature screening for all workers before they could enter the port. We also split our stevedoring team into 13 'work bubbles' across two shifts. This meant we could contain risks within a bubble and ensure continuity of services.

A key focus was our marine pilots, who must guide ships safely in and out of port. They do their job from the visiting ship's bridge and in close contact with the crew. We brought in new safety protocols around physical distancing and PPE to ensure this highly specialised team would stay safe while they perform this hugely skilled and high-pressure role.

Keeping essential freight moving

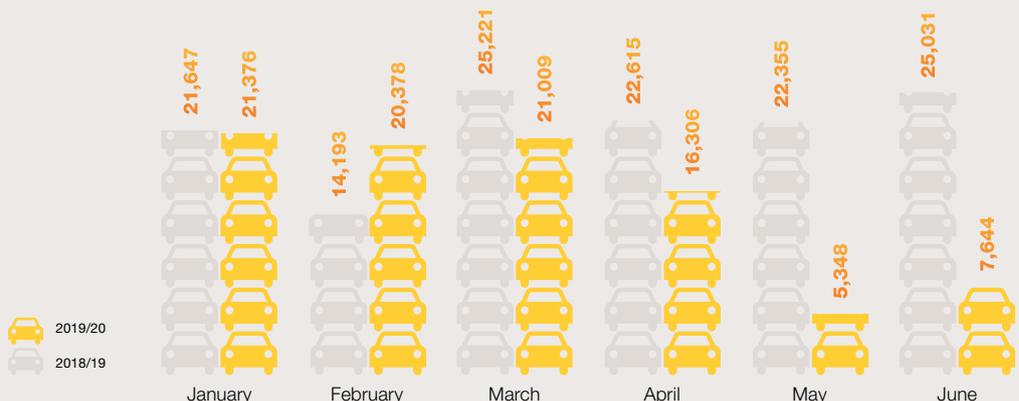
We worked closely with the Government and industry to ensure New Zealand's essential goods continued to flow. During lockdown we handled 68,088 containers

– an average of 9,726 per week. We recognised early that to keep essential goods moving we needed to move all freight. The port does not have the details of what is in every container, so all must be handled as if essential. We also had to ensure containers did not build up on the port to stop more freight coming in. This also ensured we had a supply of containers to keep New Zealand's exports goods flowing.

Rebuilding

As New Zealand's major gateway for imports, we are committed to working with Auckland and regional New Zealand importers and exporters to help rebuild our economy. We are focused on dealing with the ongoing consequences of the pandemic, one of which is the significant reduction in cargo volumes and cruise ship calls. This in turn impacts our revenue. The number of cars being imported through the port is a good example, with the fourth quarter down 53% on the third. We are working to manage the impact of this on our operations.

TOTAL CARS



68,088

CONTAINERS HANDLED

During the lockdown period
Ports of Auckland safely
and securely handled **68,088**
containers – an average
of **9,726** per week!

