



Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor
Kaitohutohu Mātanga Pūtaiao Matua ki te Pirimia

COVID-19: June, July & August Advice

Collated 1 September 2020; updated 9 November 2020

Charts and data provided to support verbal advice.

For retrospective information and context, [watch this short documentary by independent filmmaker Shirley Horrocks](#).

4 May 2020

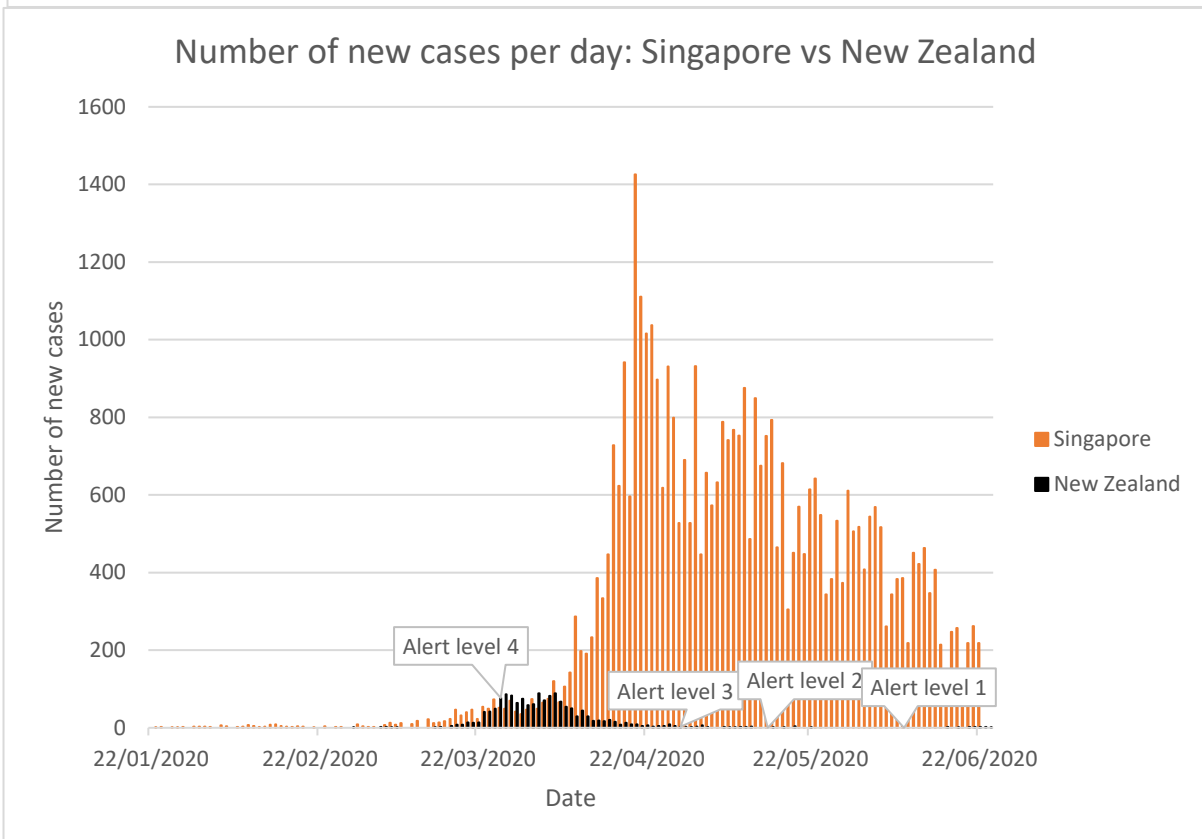
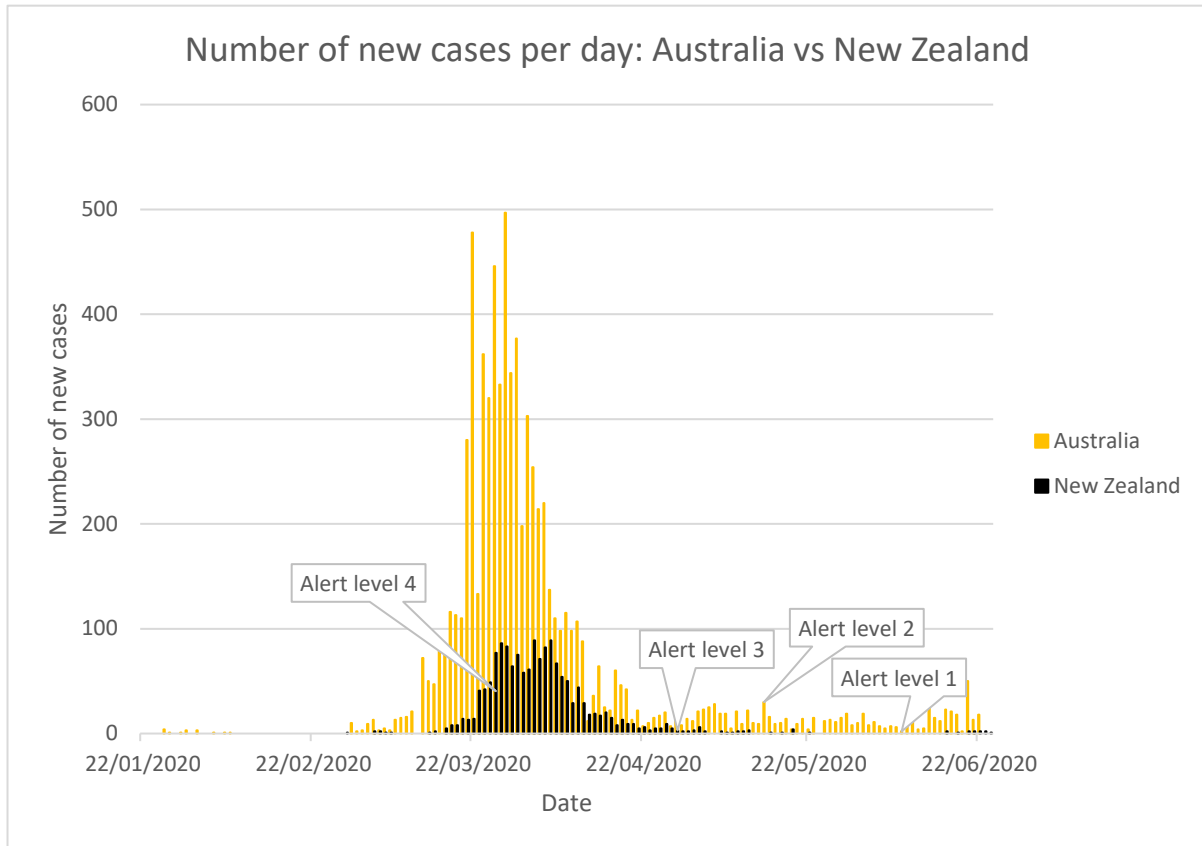
[Report: Commentary on intergenerational well-being to support Budget discussions, as requested by the Minister of Finance](#) (PDF, 517KB)

Released by Treasury on 28 August 2020

24 June 2020

Data up to 22 June 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

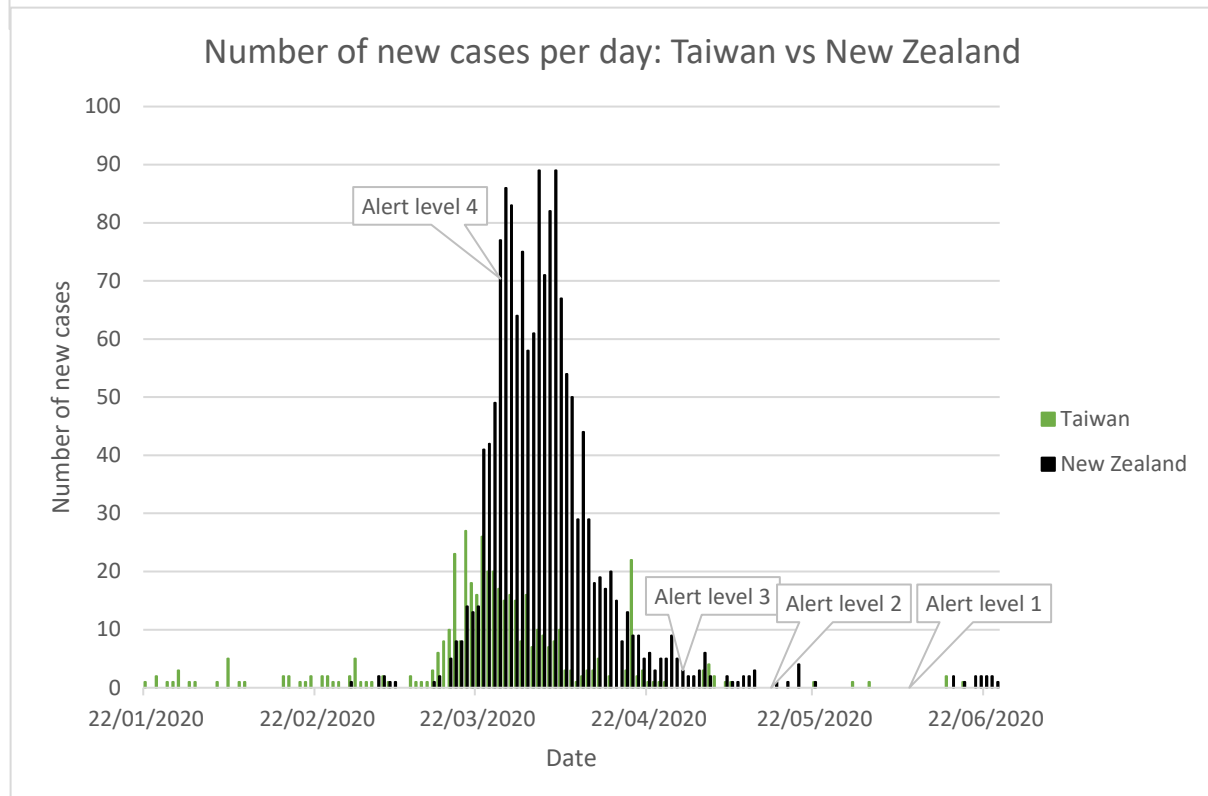
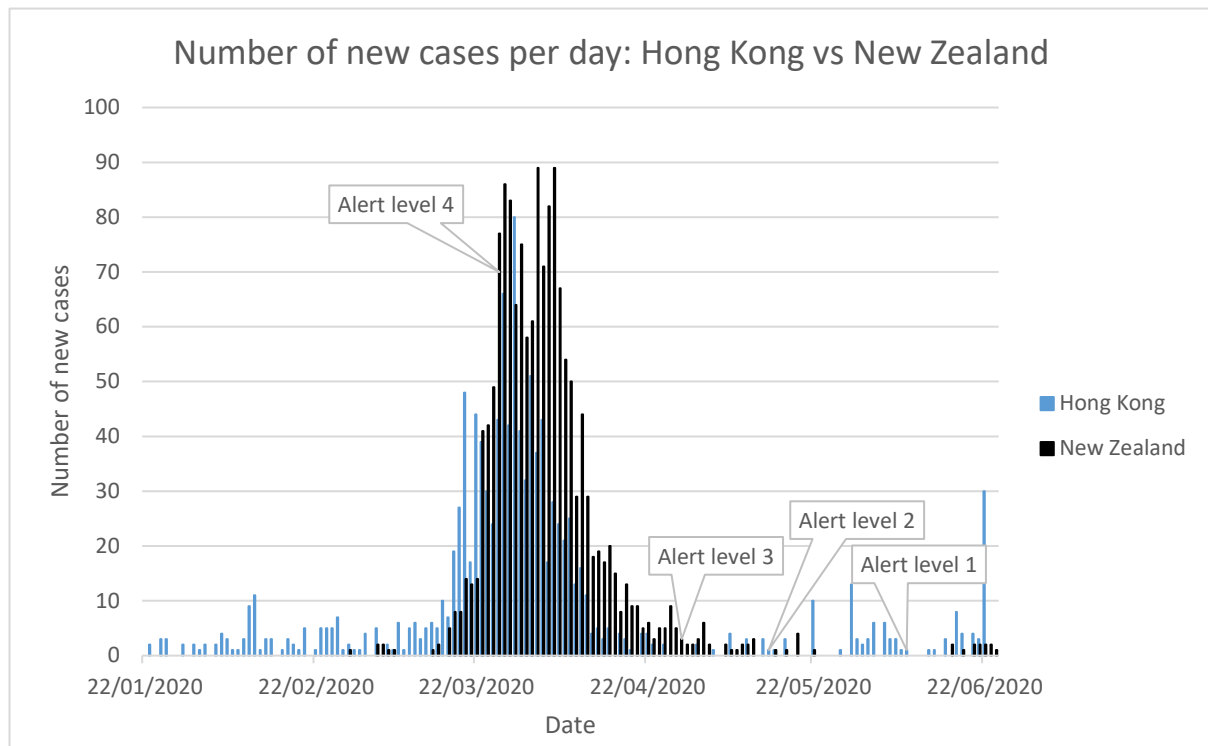
NZ data to 24 June 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both **confirmed and probable** cases included



24 June 2020

Data up to 22 June 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

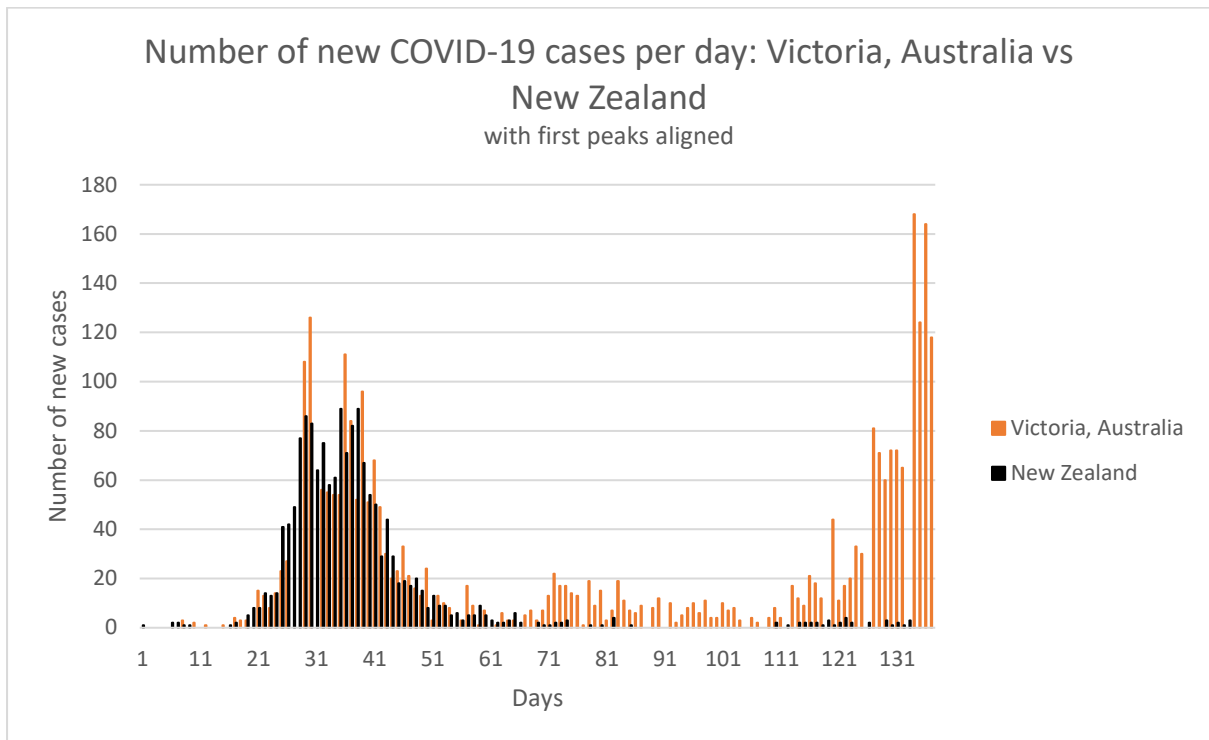
NZ data to 24 June 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both **confirmed and probable** cases included



7 July 2020

Australian data up to 7 July 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

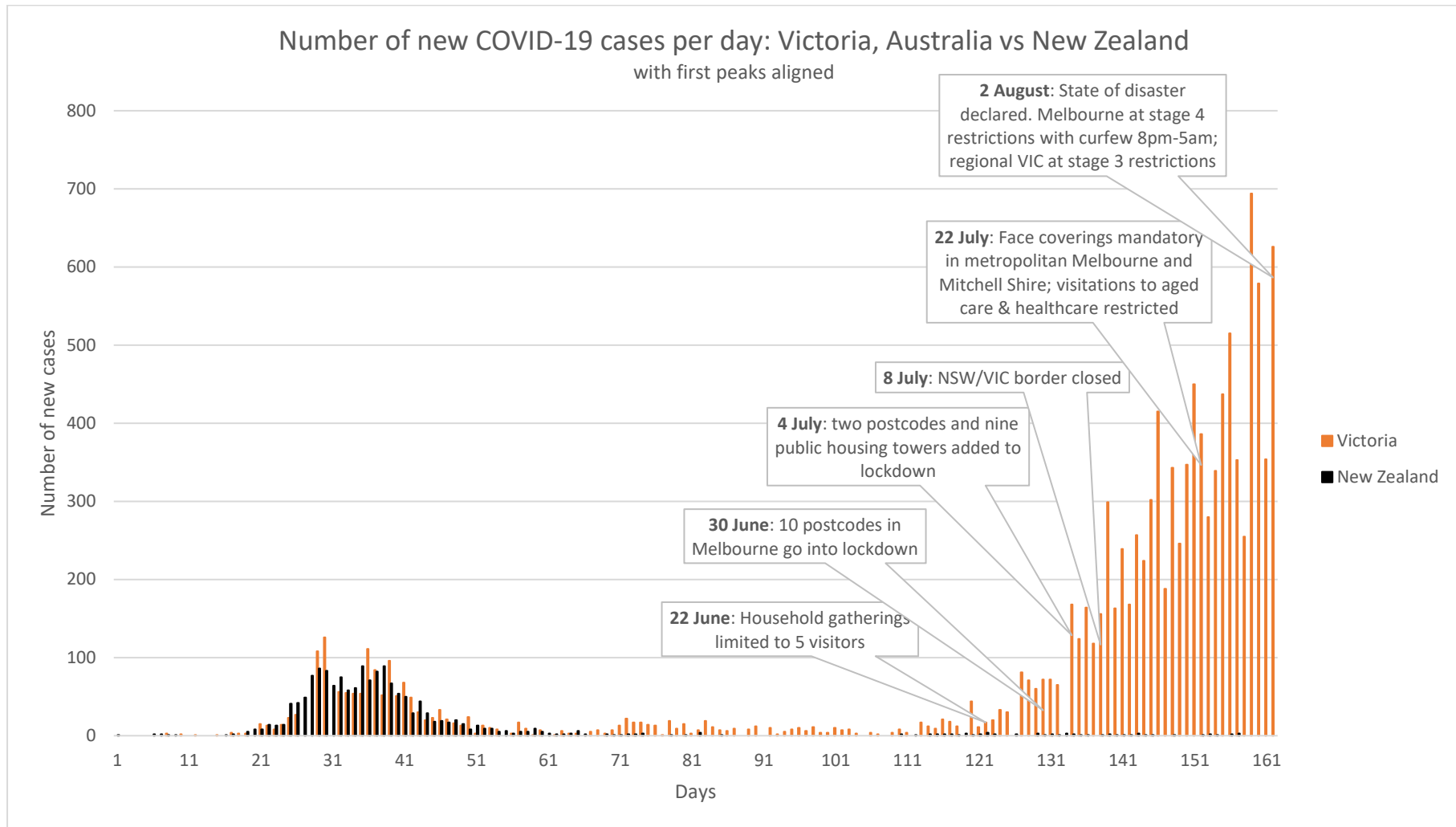
NZ data to 9 July 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both **confirmed and probable** cases included



3 August 2020

Australian data up to 1 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 2 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both **confirmed and probable** cases included



6 August 2020

COVID-19 in Sweden

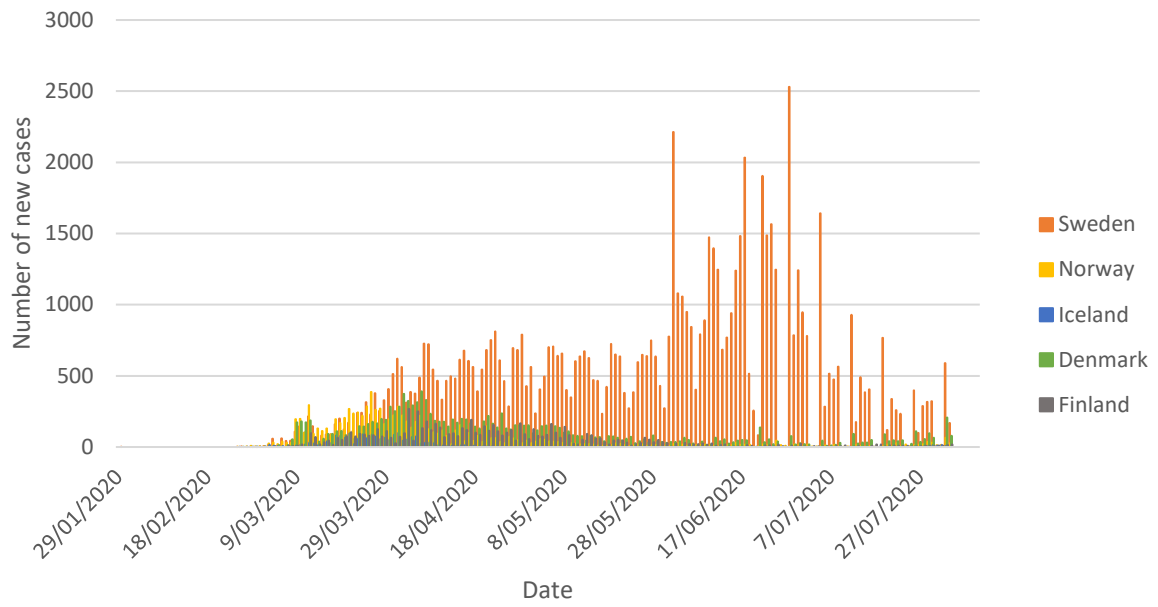
Data up to 4 August 2020 from the [Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University](#) and [Worldometer](#).

Note: Sweden only begun mass testing in mid-June. Prior to this, tests were only performed for people in hospital care.

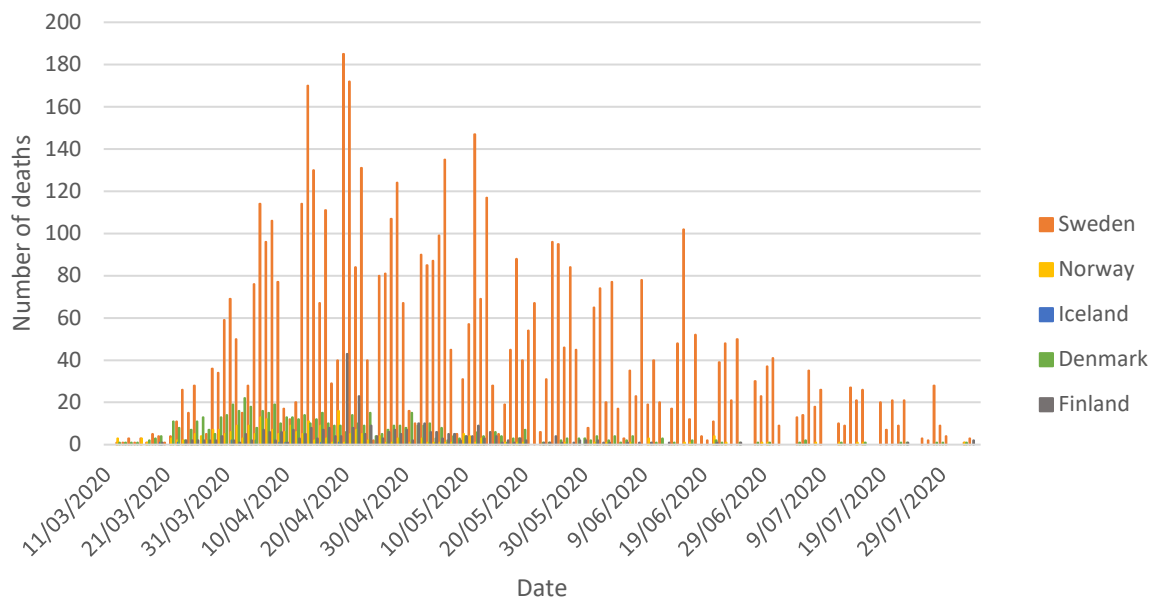
Sweden versus other Nordic countries

Country	Population	Total reported cases	Total deaths	Deaths/1 million pop.
Sweden	10,105,424	81,540	5,760	570
Norway	5,425,355	9,409	256	47
Iceland	341,459	1,926	10	29
Denmark	5,794,223	14,185	616	106
Finland	5,541,581	7,512	331	60

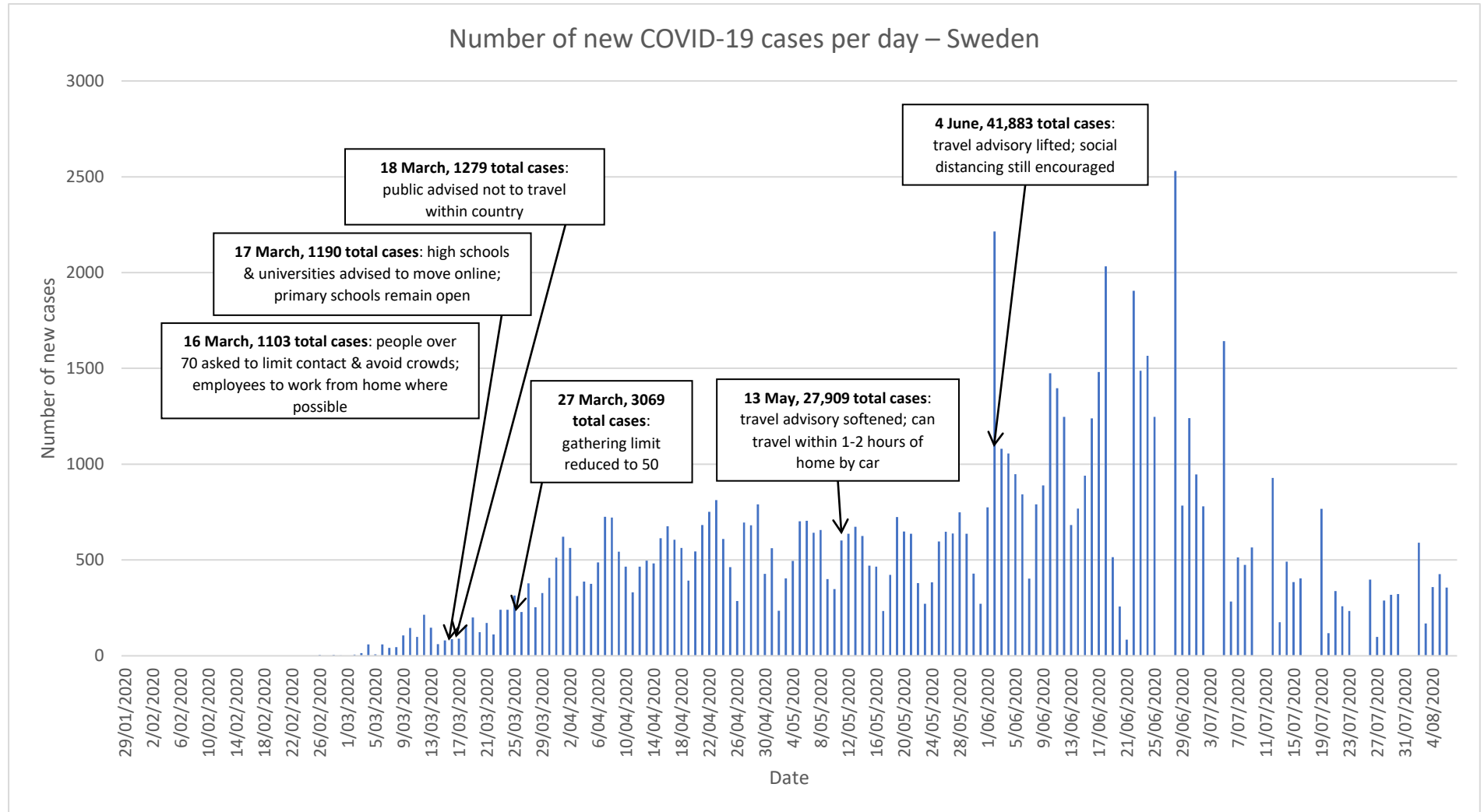
New COVID-19 cases reported per day: Nordic countries



COVID-19 deaths per day: Nordic countries



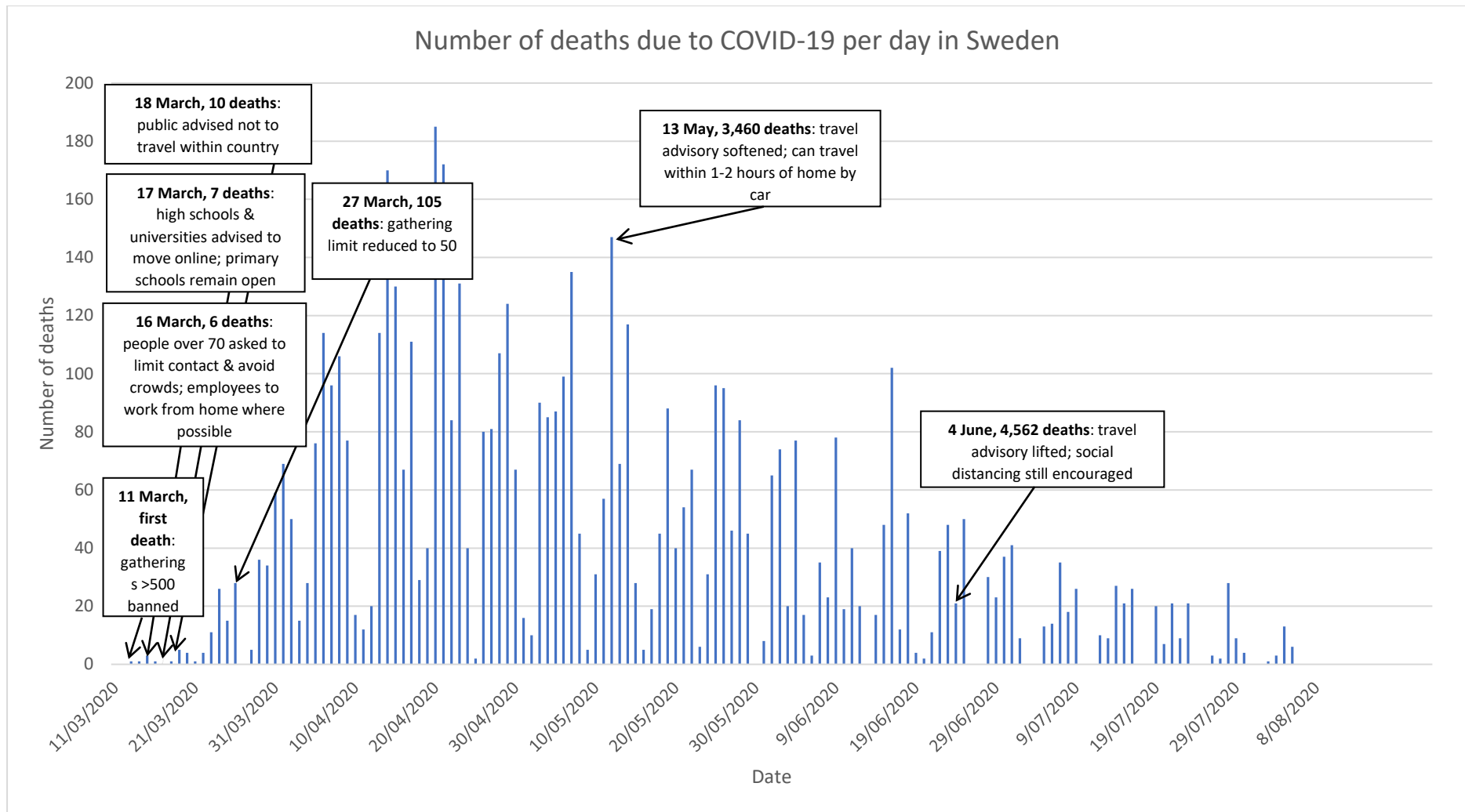
10 August 2020



Total cases: 82,323 / Total deaths: 5,763

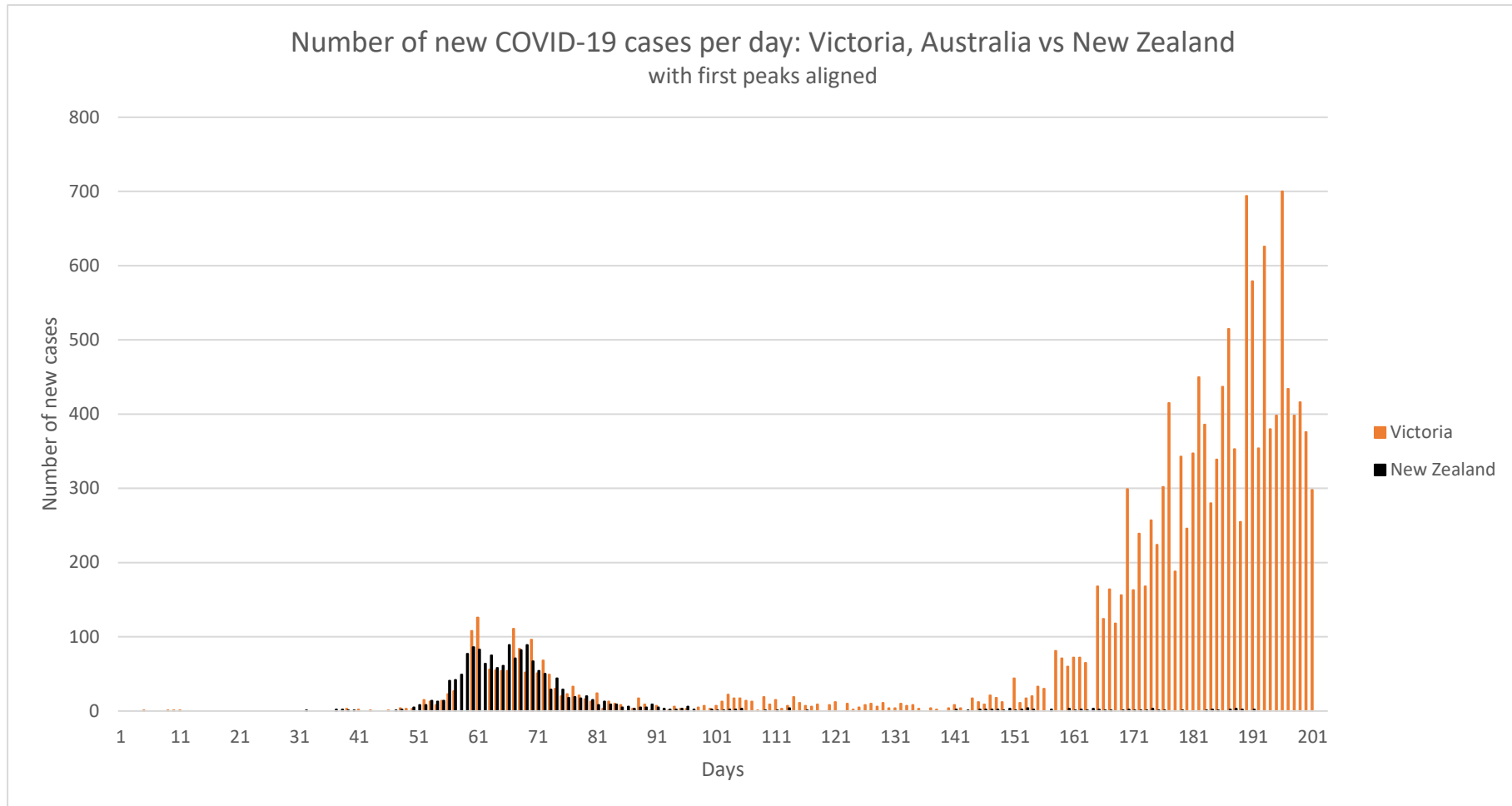
Data up to 8 August 2020 via Johns Hopkins University <https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>

Sweden only began mass testing in mid-June; before this, only hospitalised patients were tested.



Note: Rather than a full-on 'herd immunity' strategy (where the virus runs completely rampant) Sweden has been attempting to flatten the curve. Sweden cannot legally implement mandatory lockdown because the Swedish constitution requires that citizens have freedom of movement. Instead, recommendations were made to the public, and their effectiveness relied on high levels of trust in the Public Health Agency. Evidence (e.g. from mobile data and surveys) suggests that there has been high compliance with these recommendations. Nonetheless, Sweden failed to protect its older population and a large proportion of deaths and cases have been in nursing homes.

11 August 2020

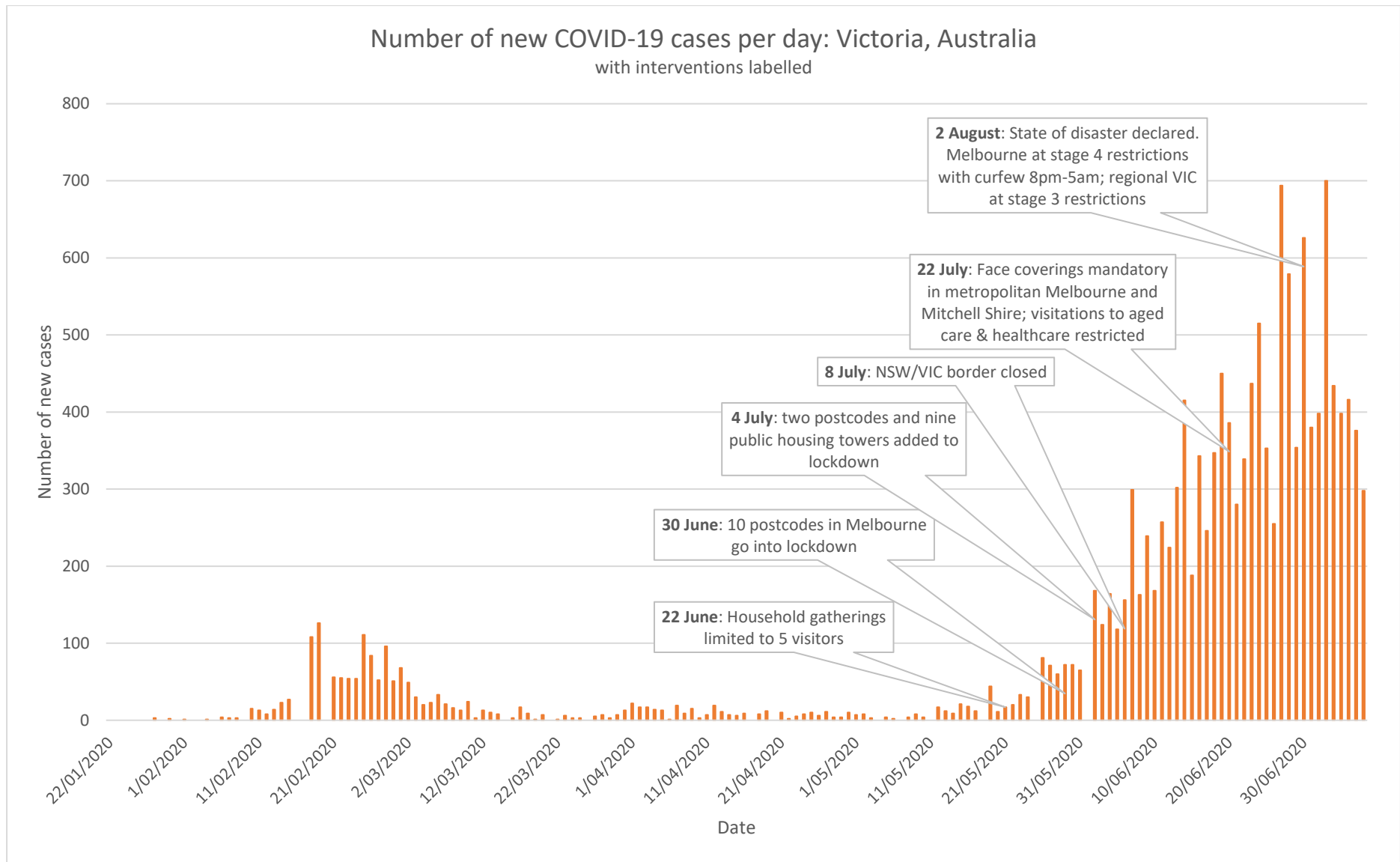


Australian data up to 9 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

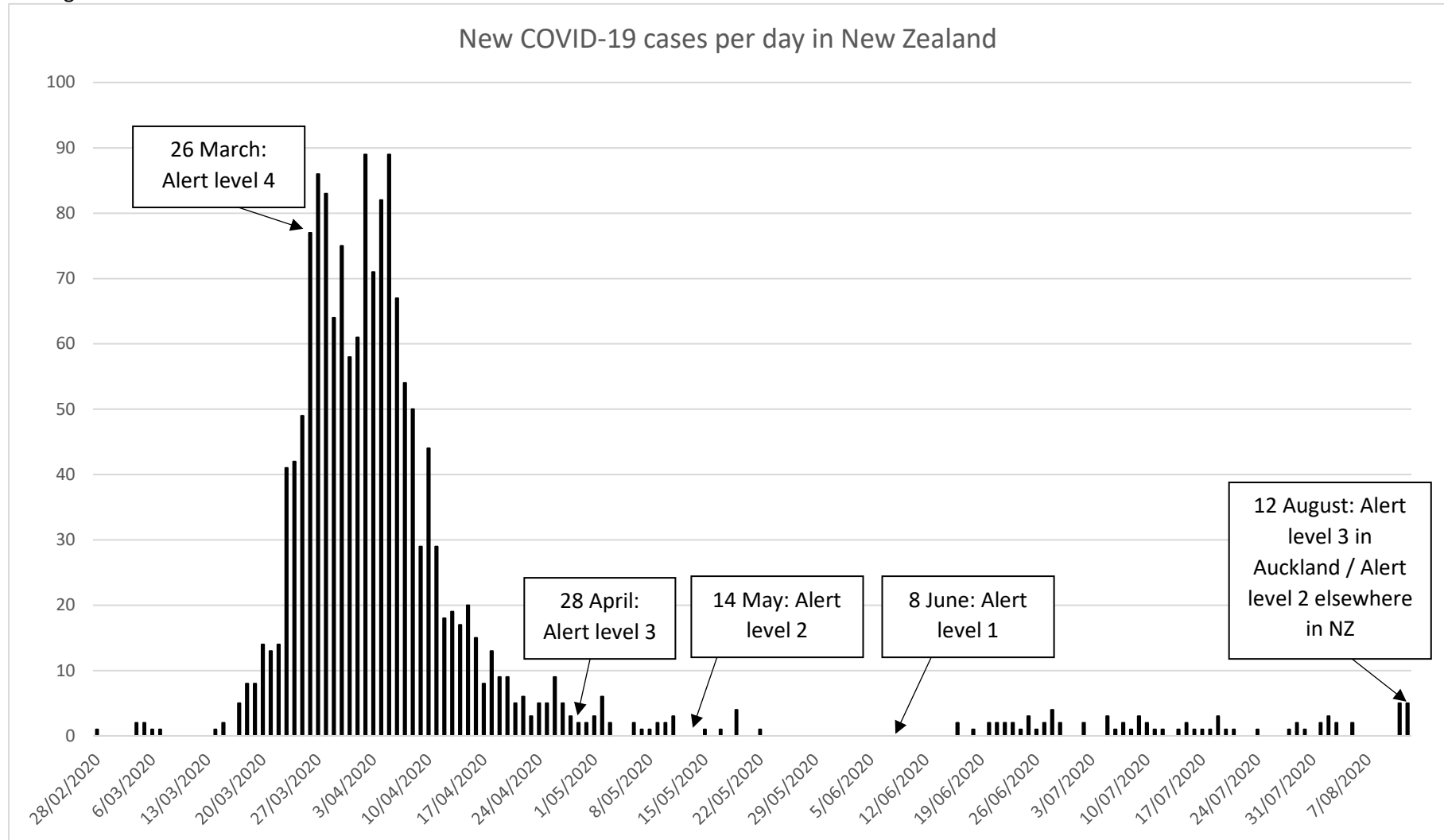
NZ data to 10 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included

Victoria: 15,288 total cases and 247 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1569 total cases and 22 deaths

Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia
with interventions labelled

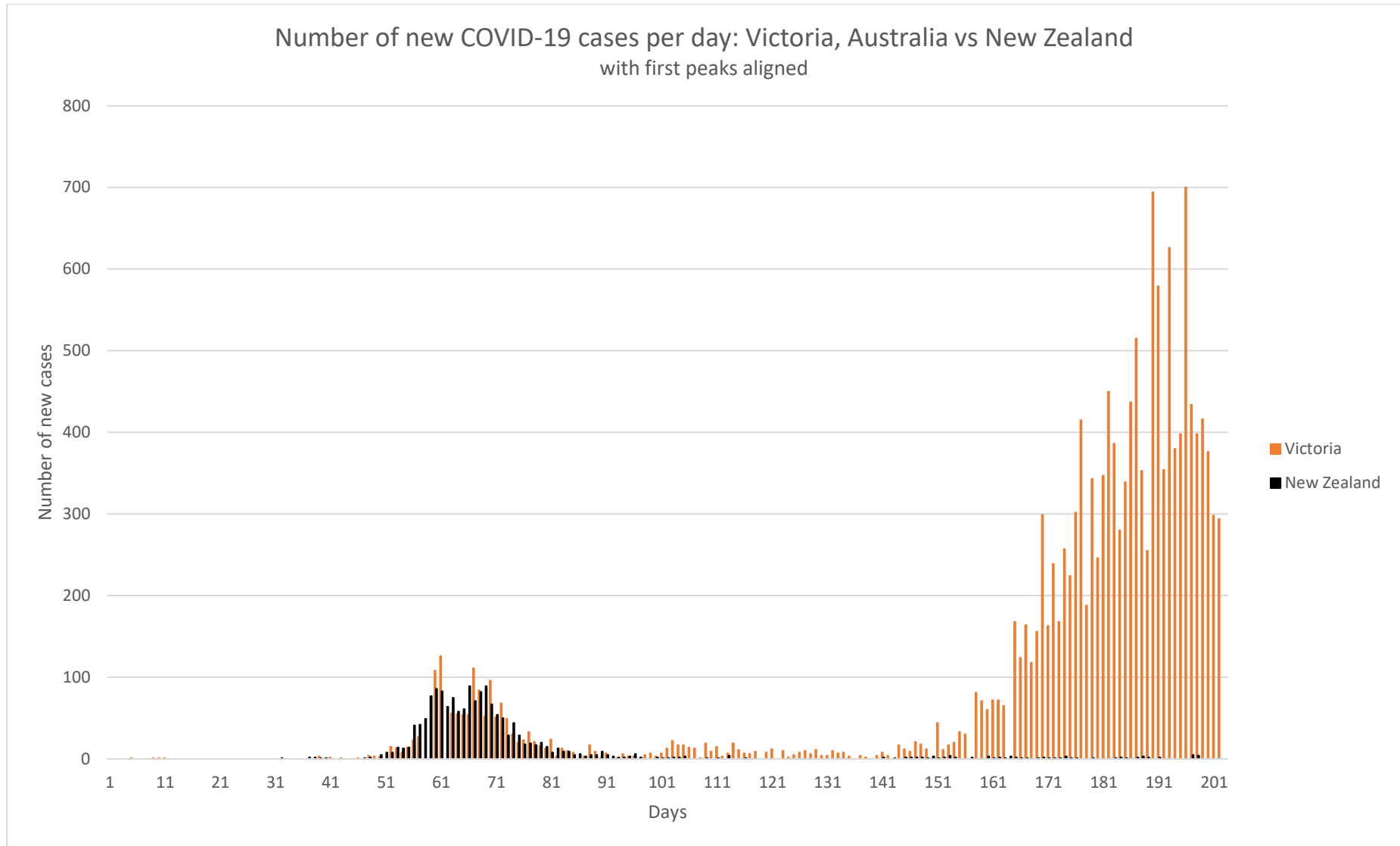


12 August



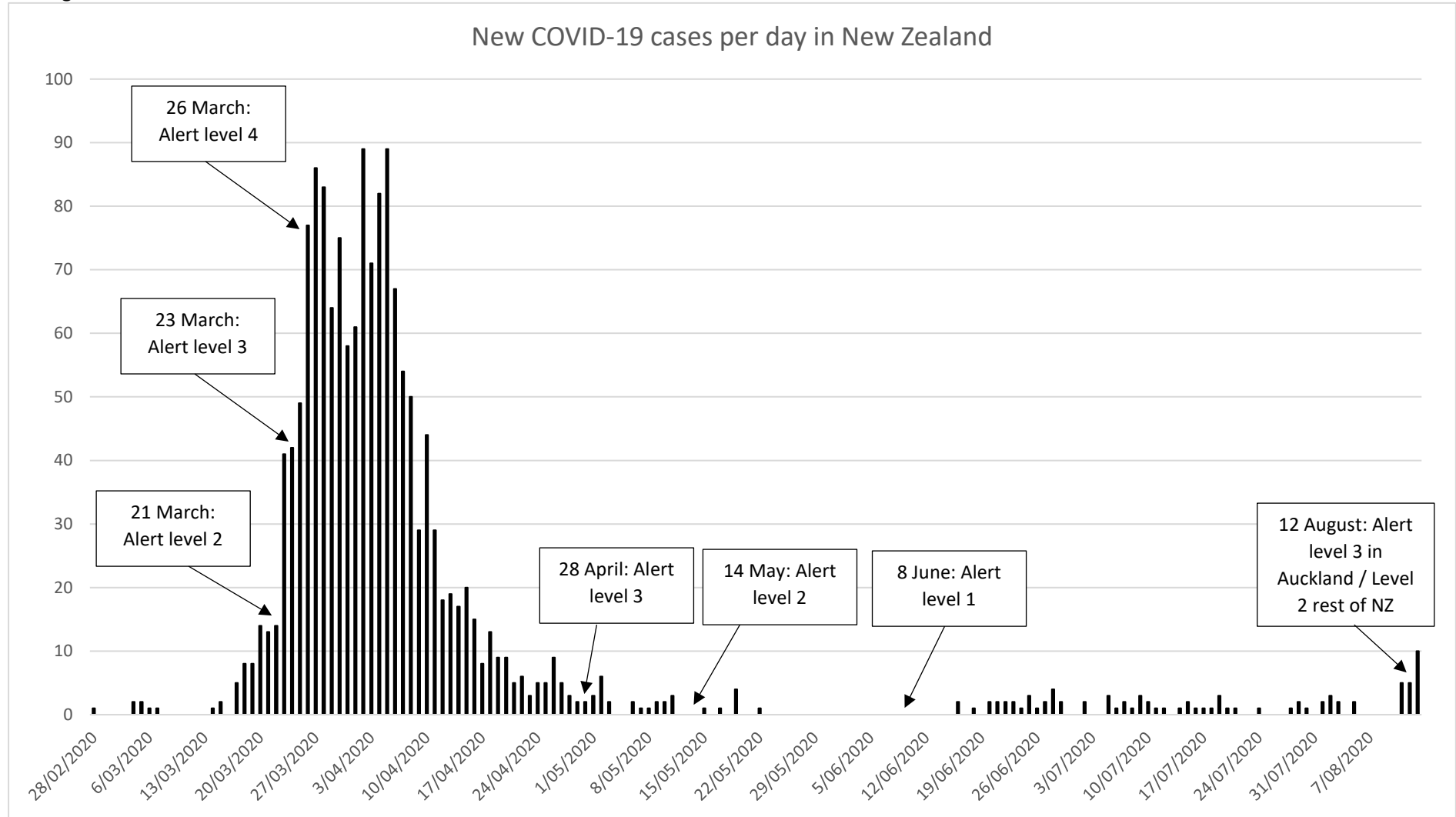
Australian data up to 10 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 12 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



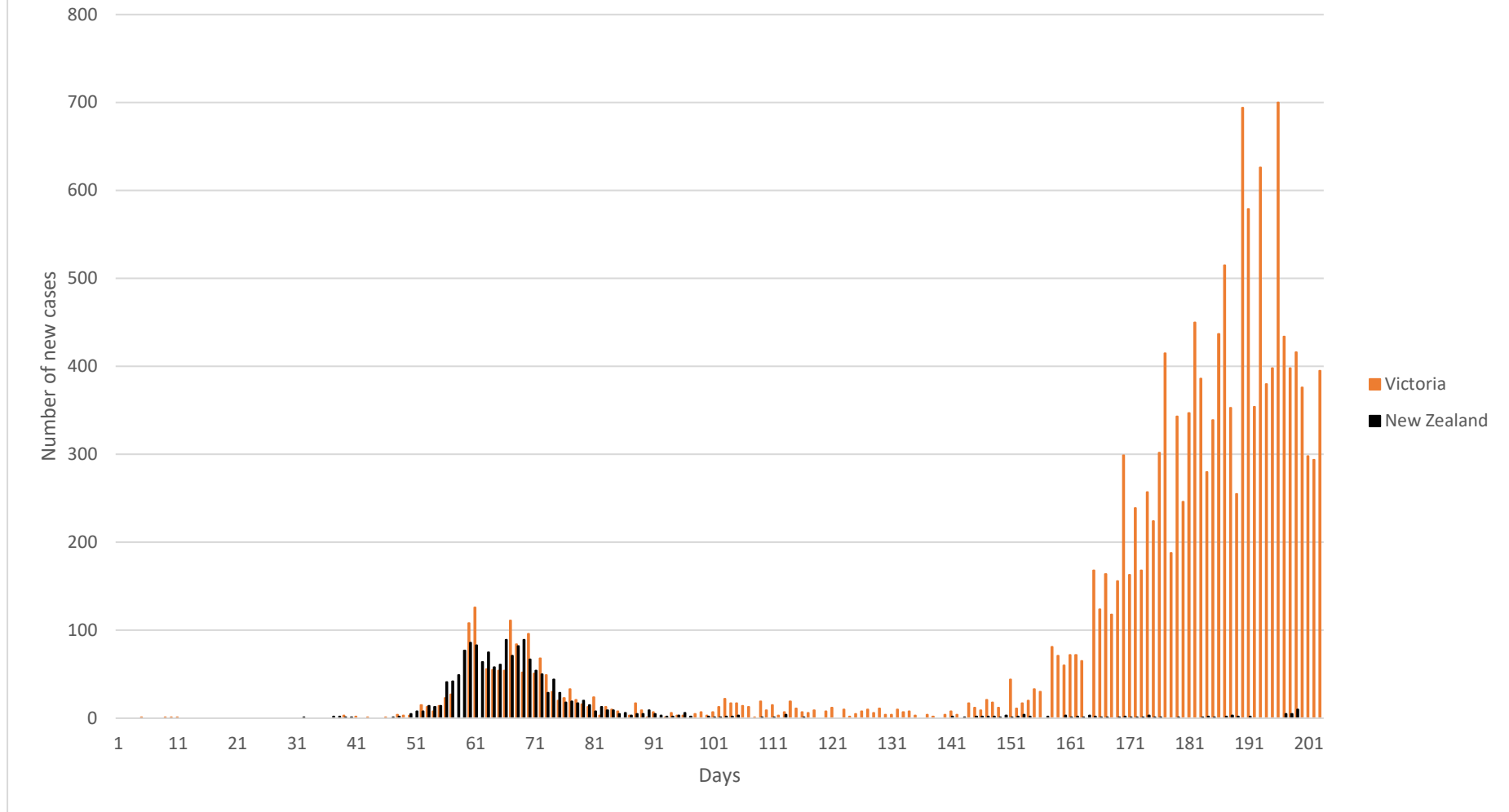
Victoria: 15,251 total cases and 246 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1574 total cases and 22 deaths

13 August 2020



Australian data up to 11 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)
NZ data to 13 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included

Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with first peaks aligned

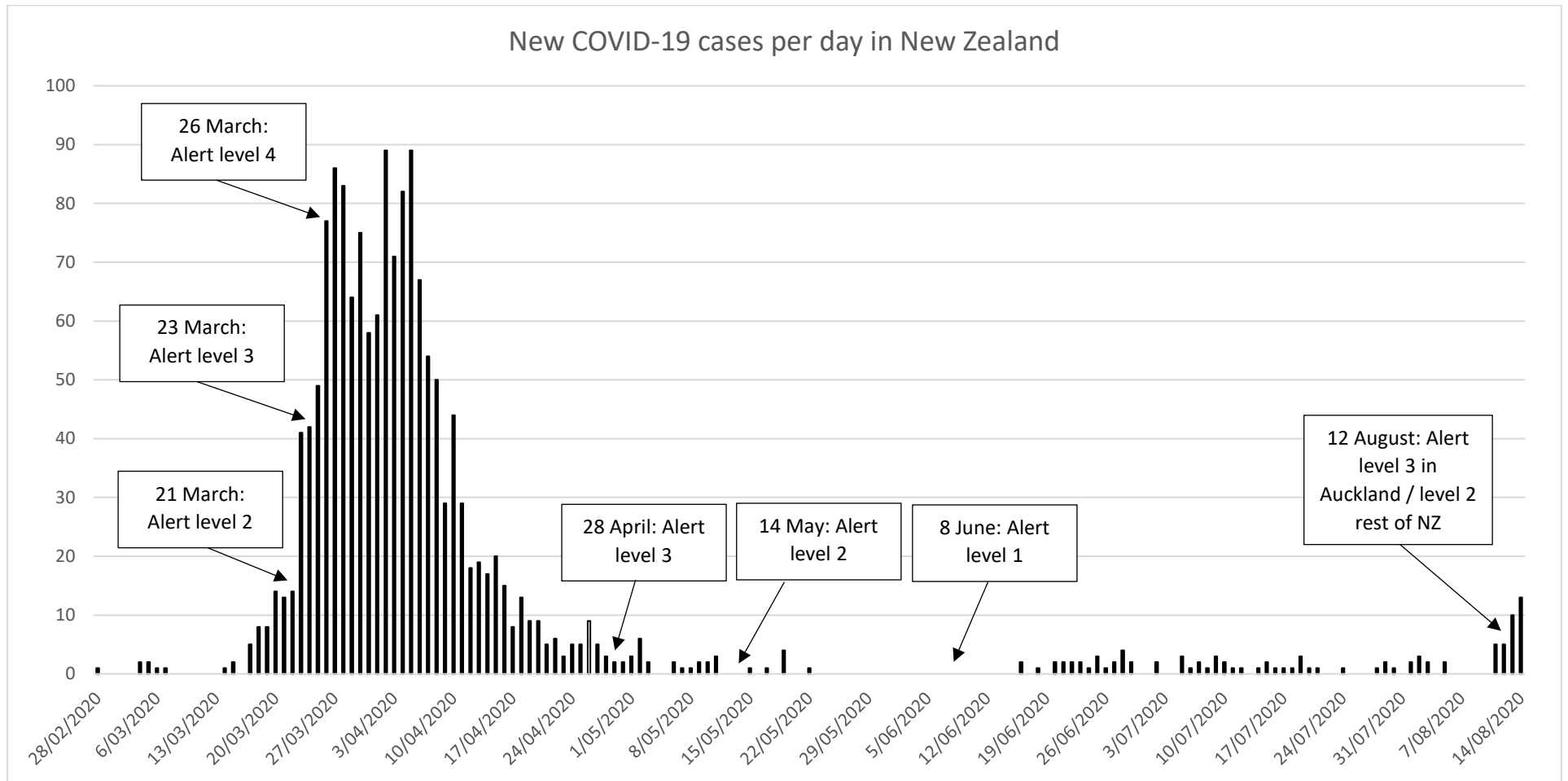


Victoria: 15,646 total cases and 267 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1589 total cases and 22 deaths

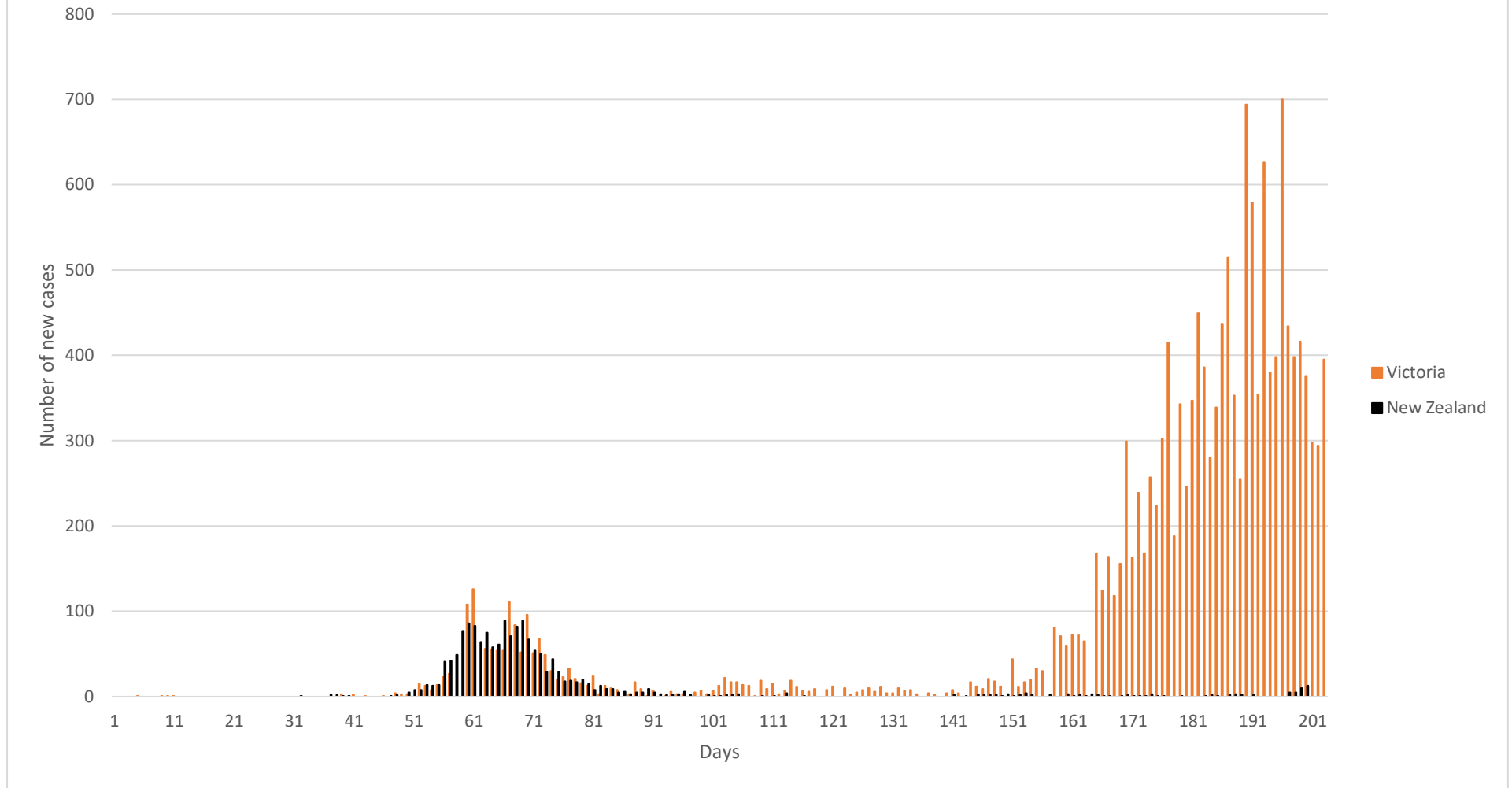
14 August 2020

Australian data up to 12 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 14 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with first peaks aligned

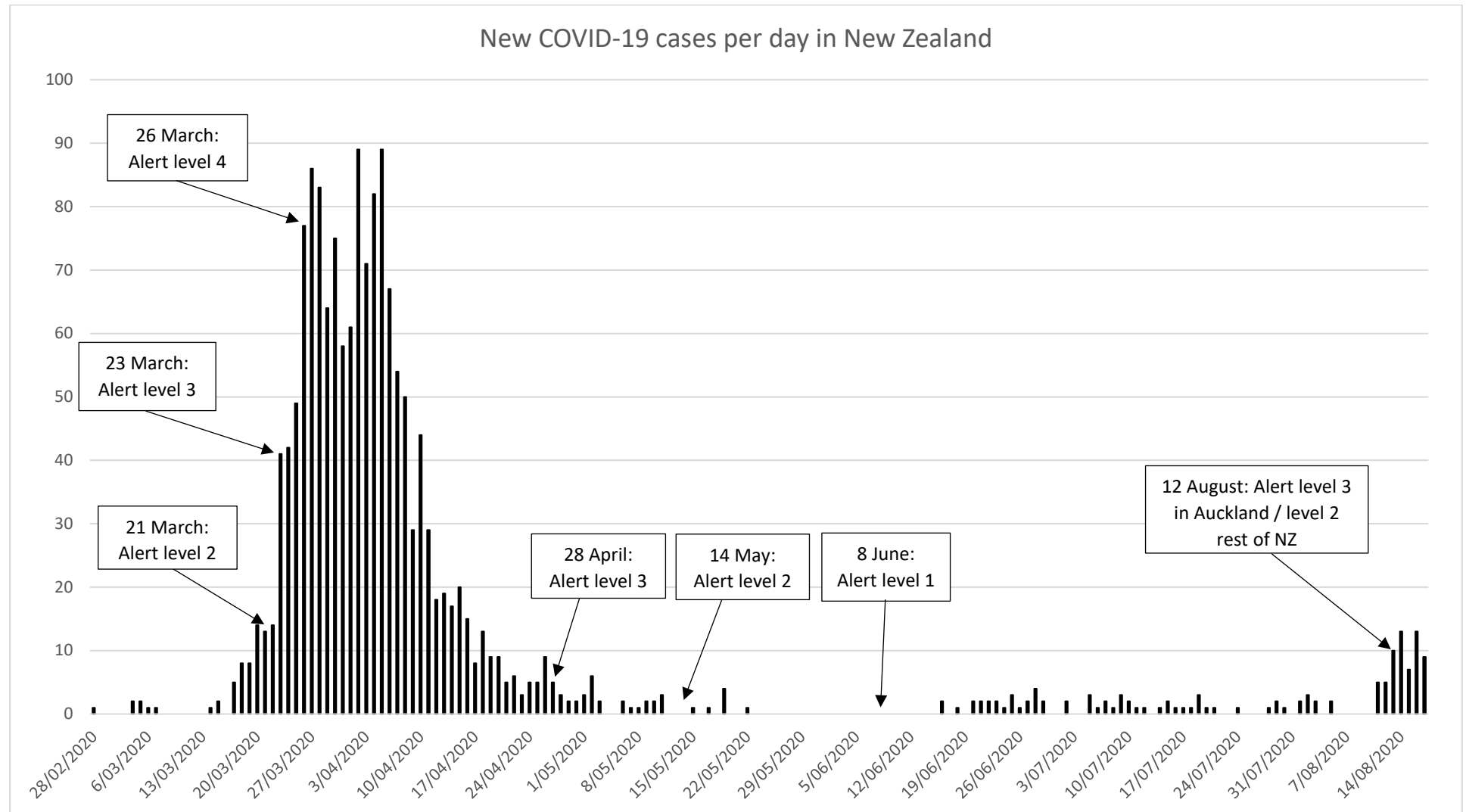


Victoria: 15,863 total cases and 275 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1602 total cases and 22 deaths

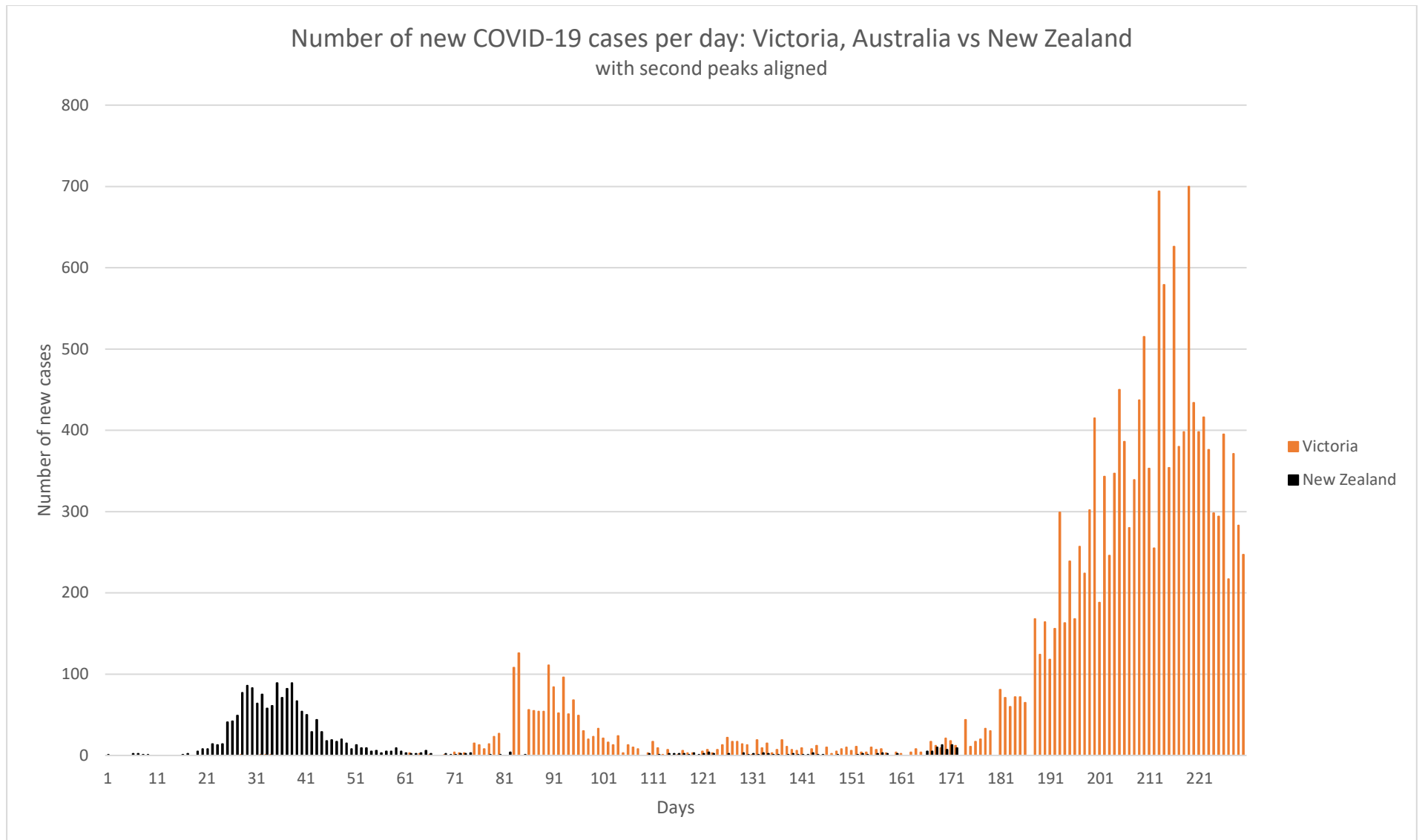
17 August 2020

Australian data up to 15 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 17 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second peaks aligned

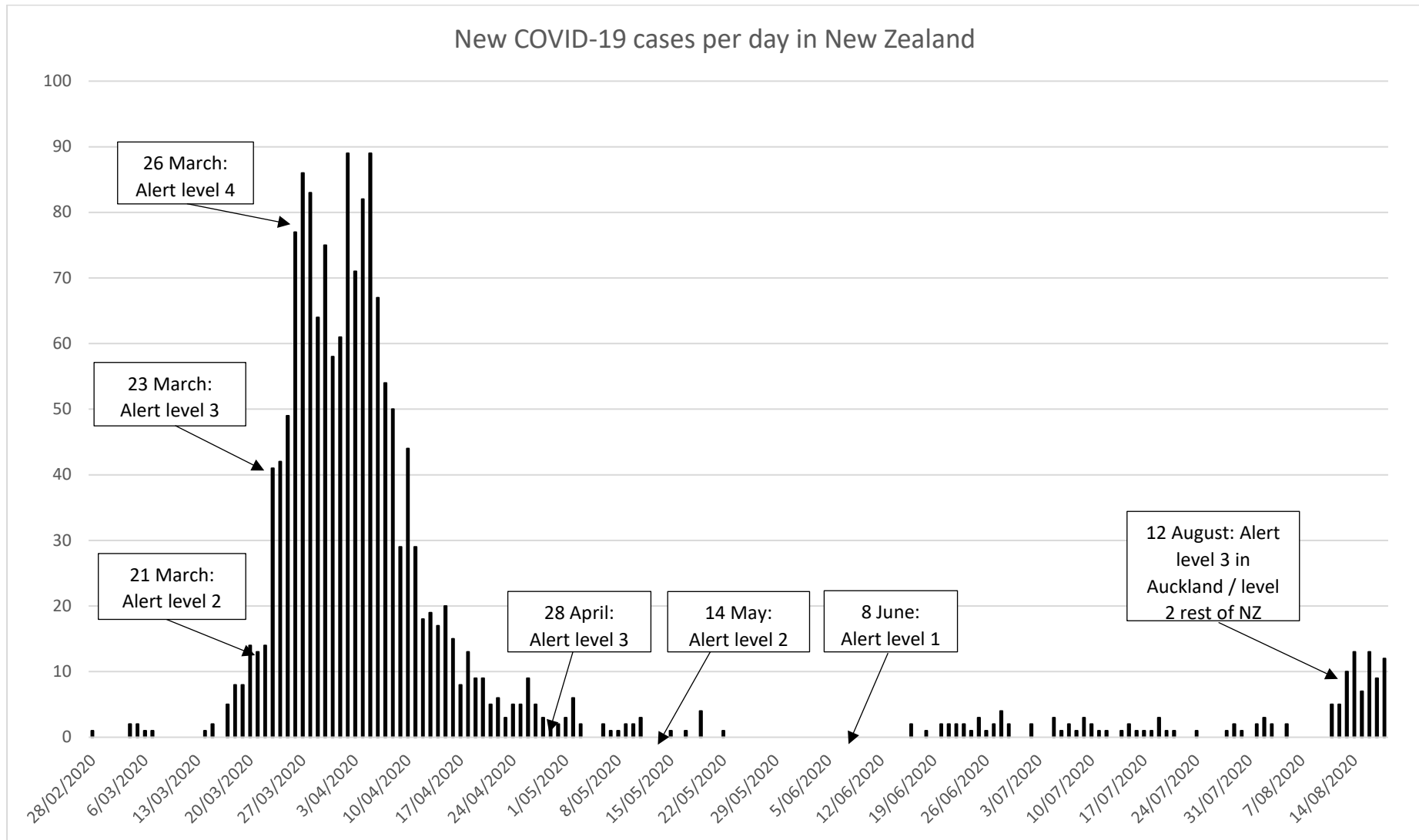


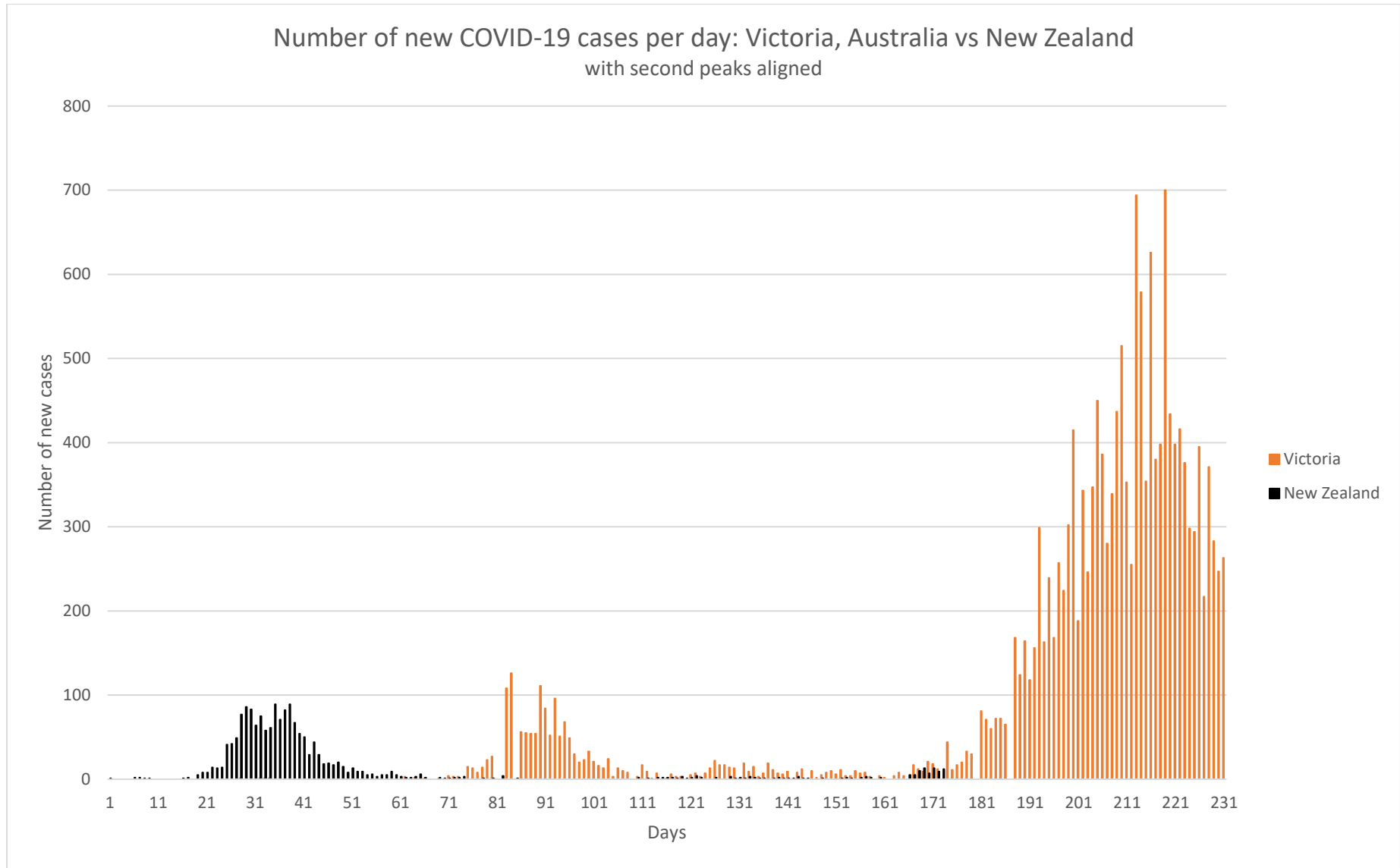
Victoria: 16,764 total cases and 309 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1631 total cases and 22 deaths

18 August 2020

Australian data up to 16 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 18 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



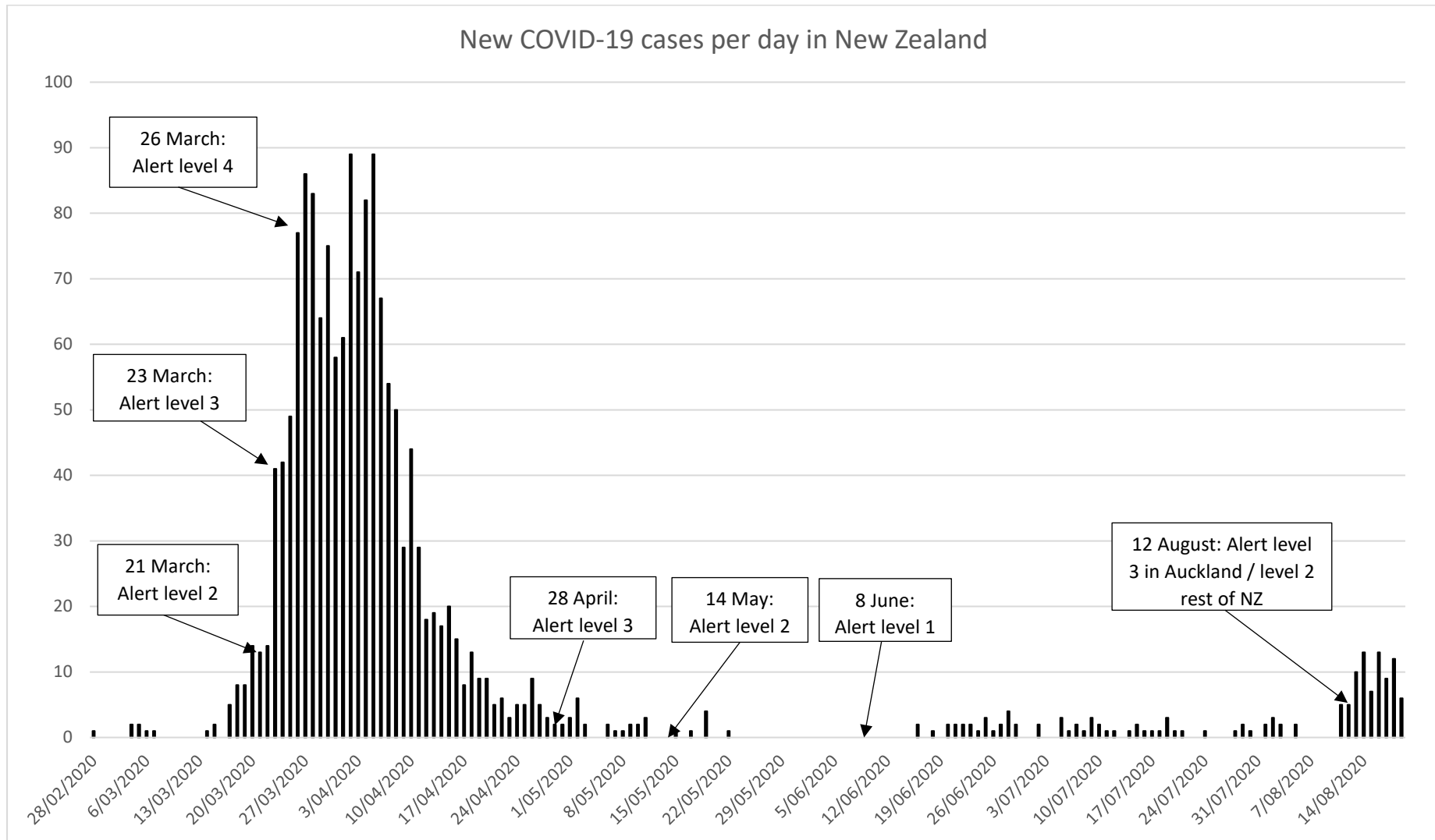


Victoria: 17,027 total cases and 334 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1643 total cases and 22 death

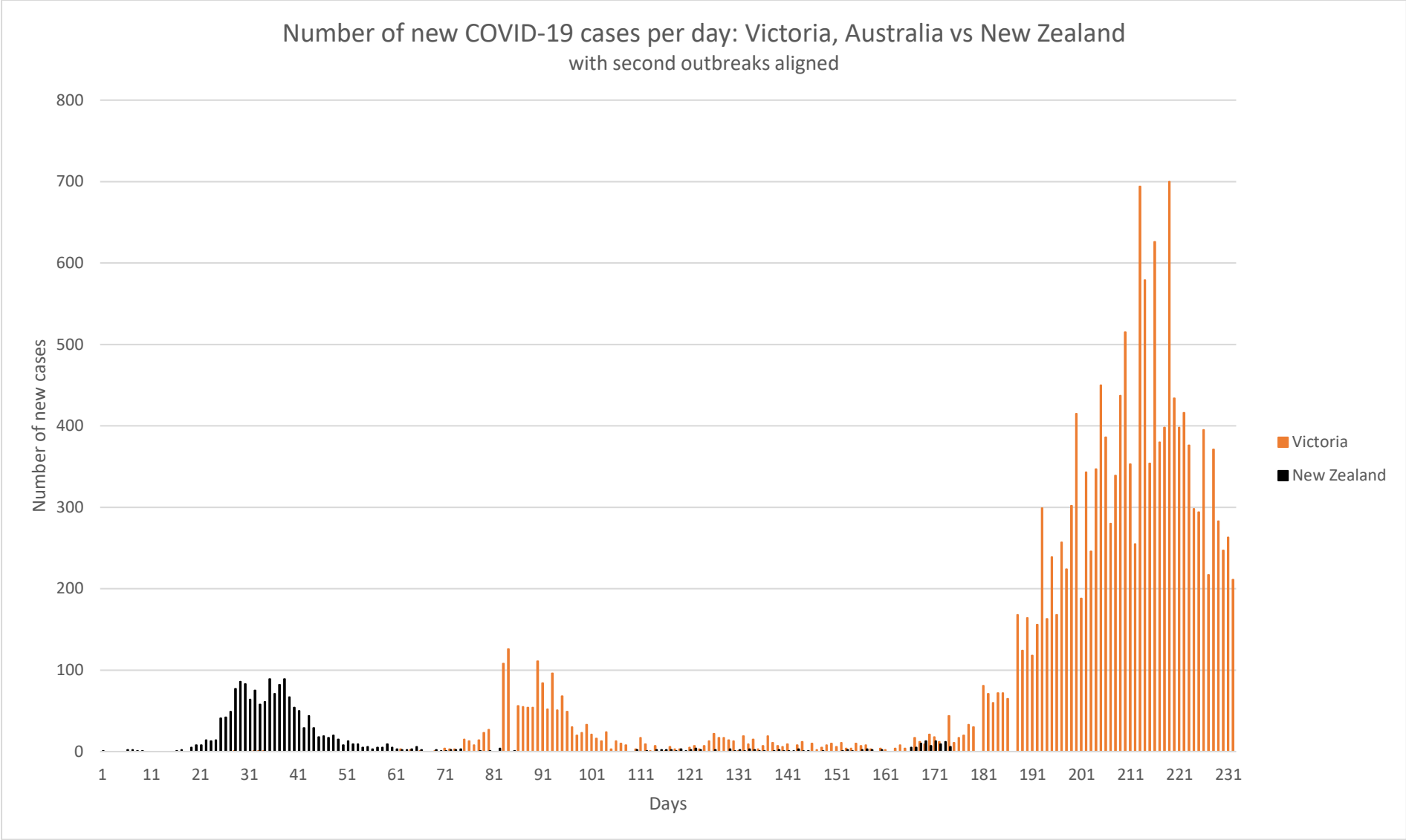
19 August 2020

Australian data up to 17 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 19 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned

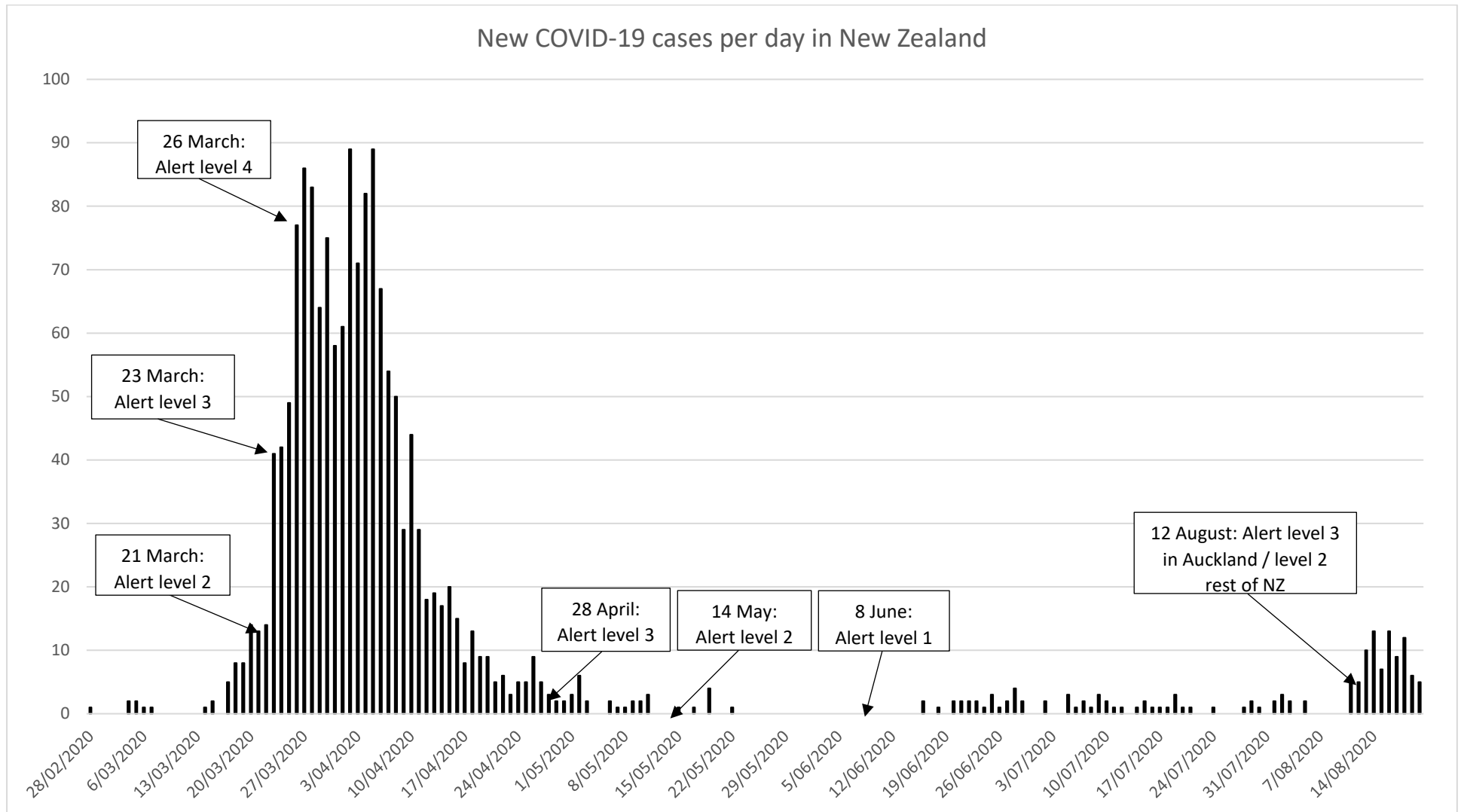


Victoria: 17,238 total cases and 351 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1649 total cases and 22 deaths

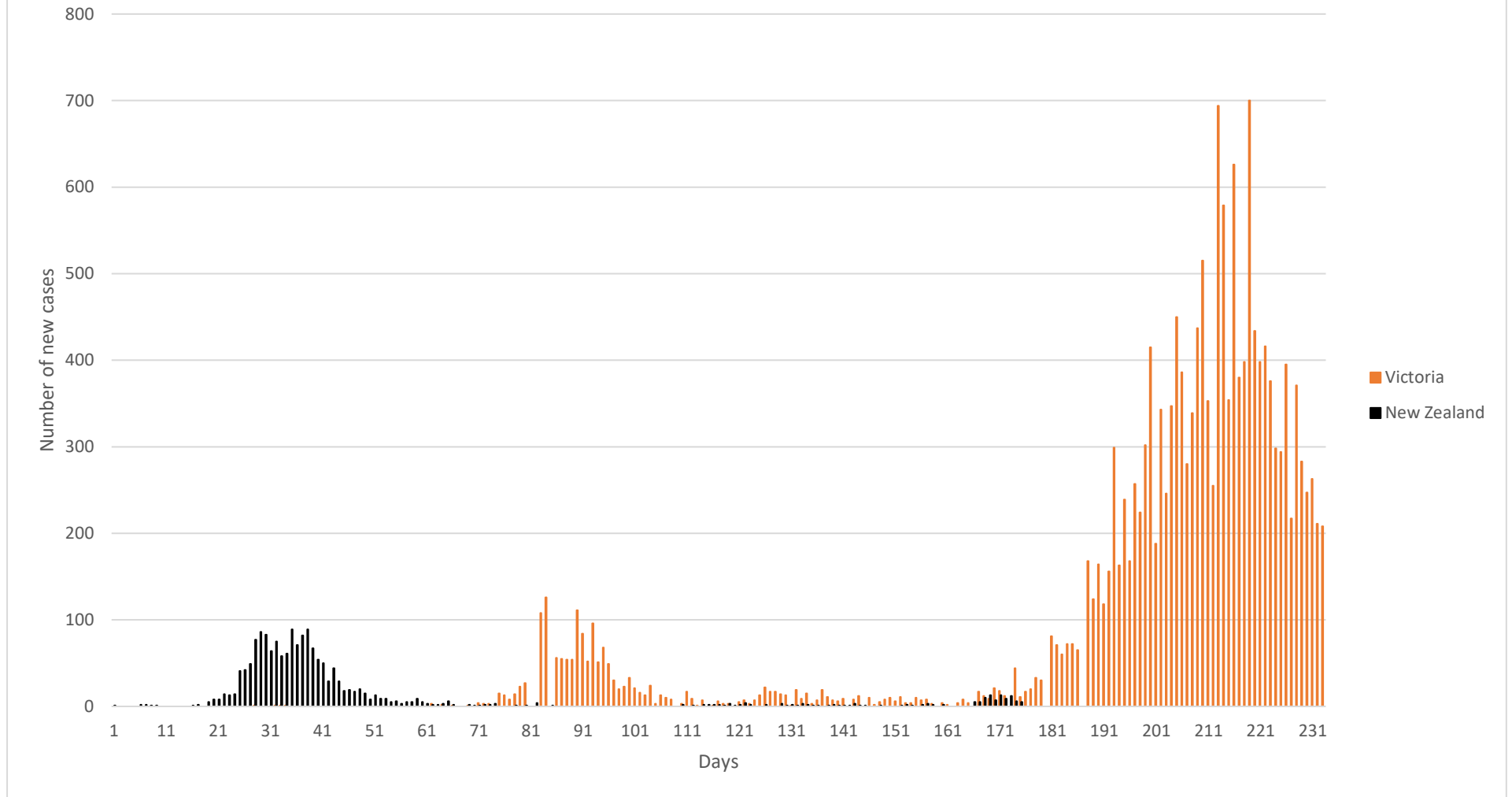
20 August 2020

Australian data up to 18 August 2020 from Johns Hopkins University (<https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19>)

NZ data to 20 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned

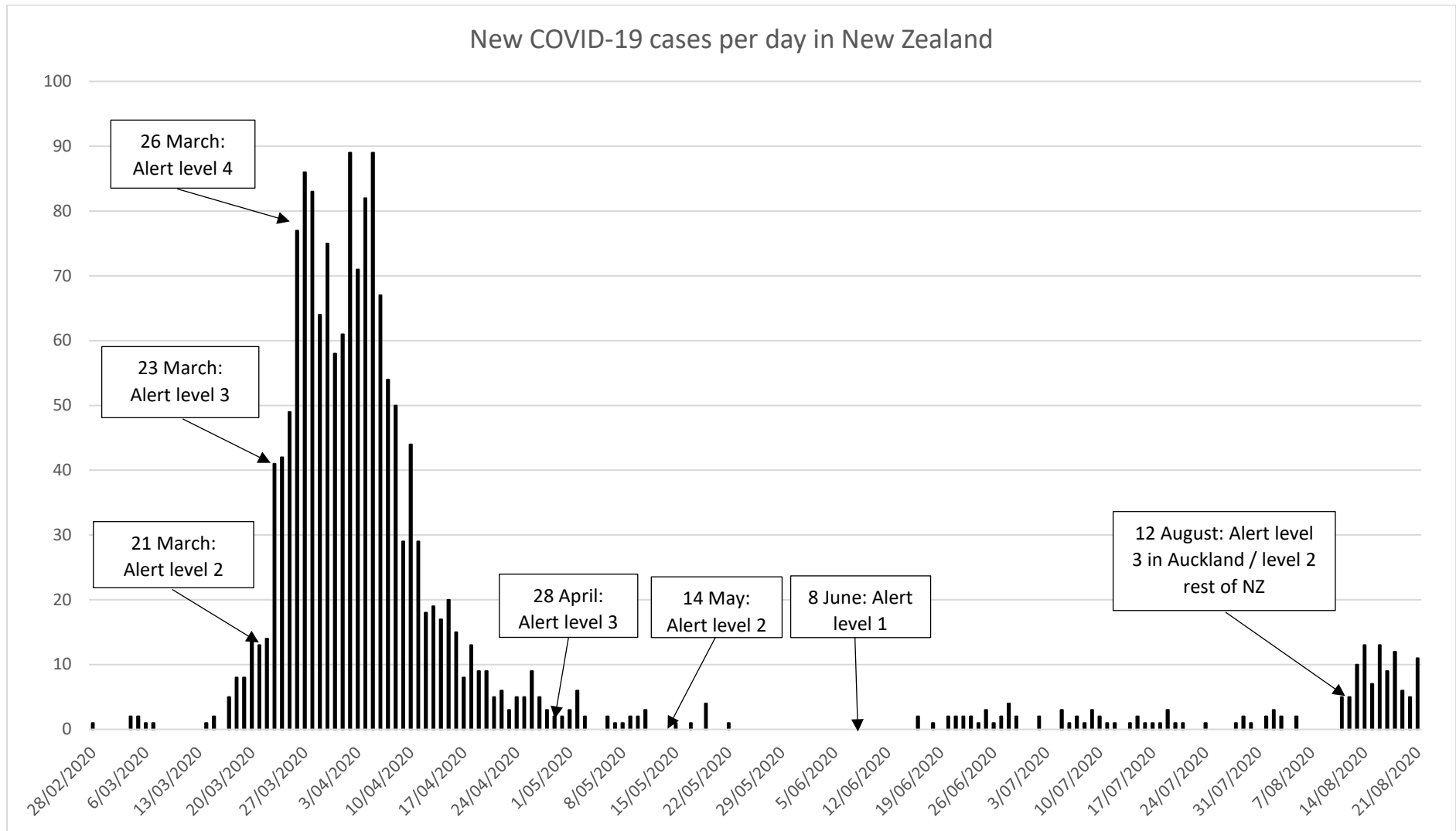


Victoria: 17,446 total cases and 363 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1654 total cases and 22 deaths

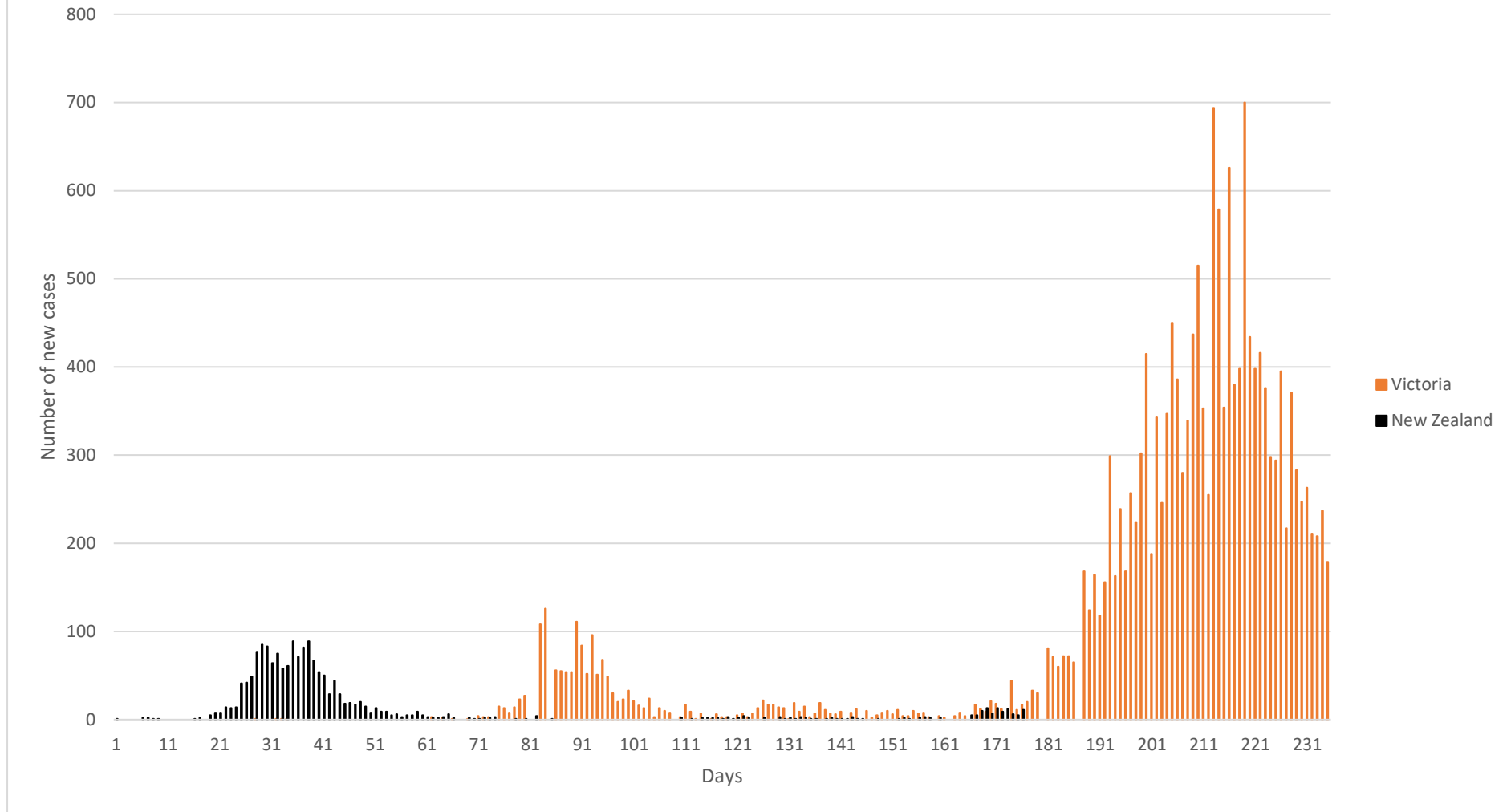
21 August 2020

Australian data up to 21 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

NZ data to 21 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned

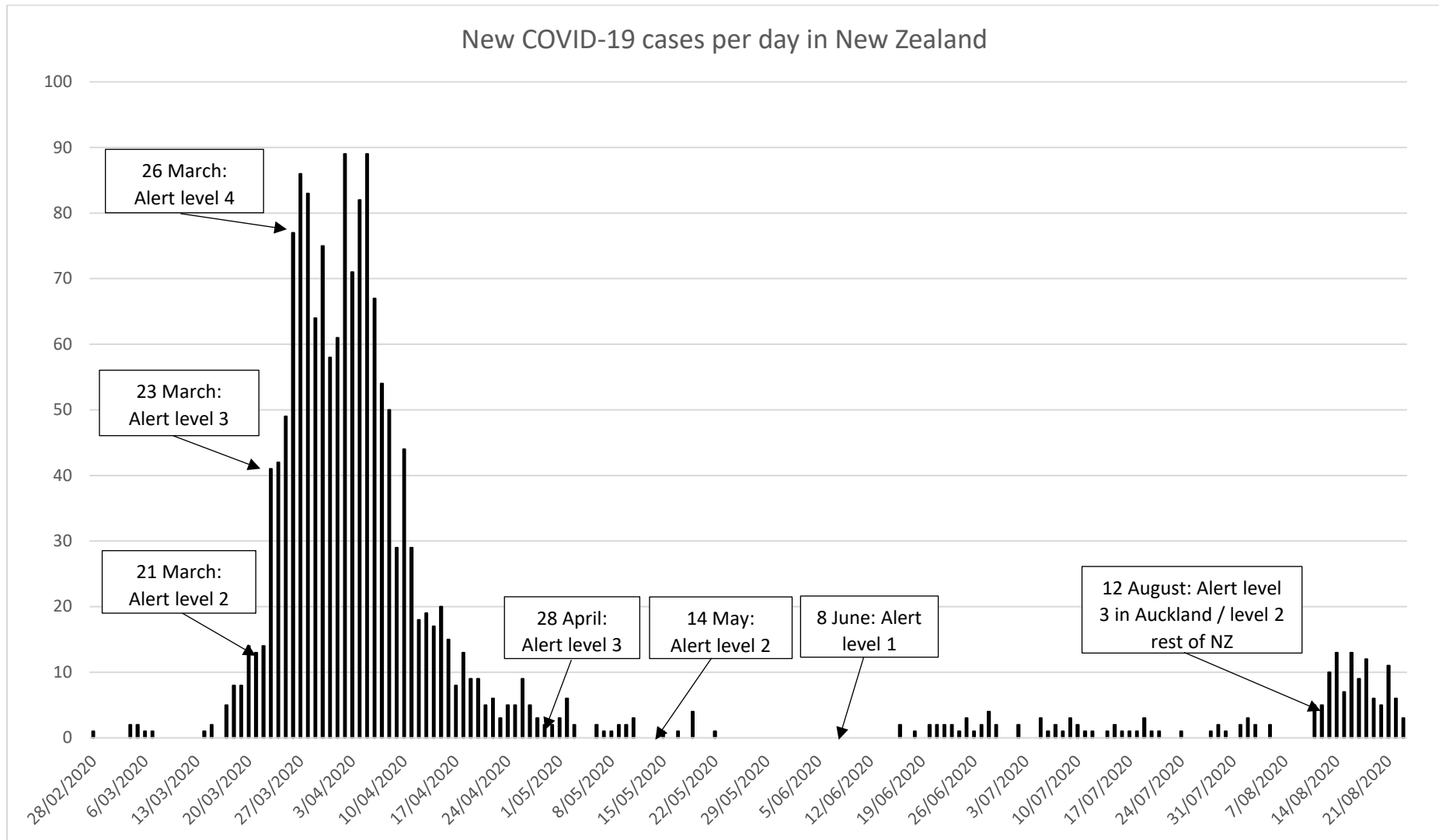


Victoria: 17,862 total cases and 385 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1665 total cases and 22 deaths

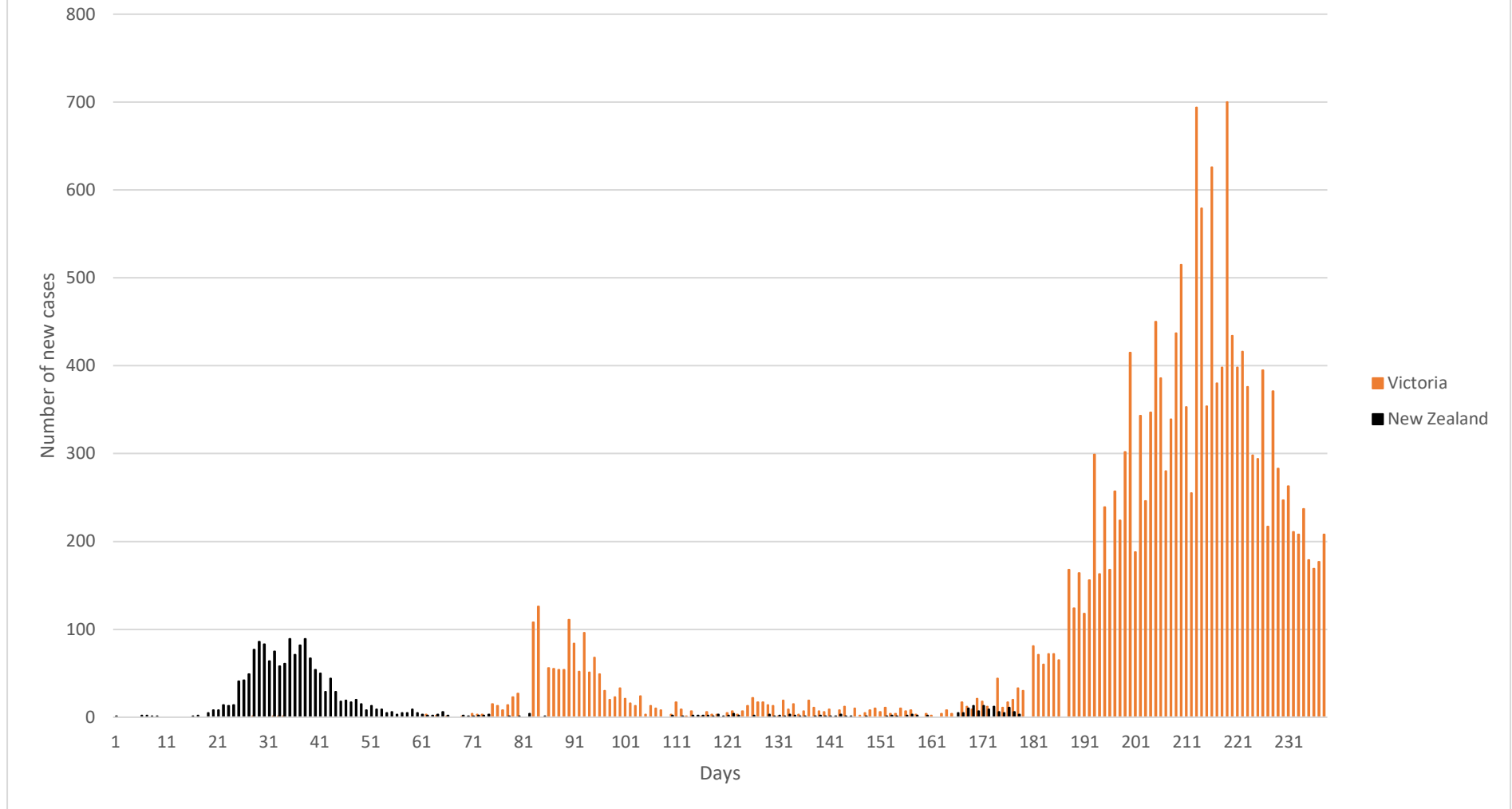
23 August 2020

Australian data up to 23 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

NZ data to 23 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned

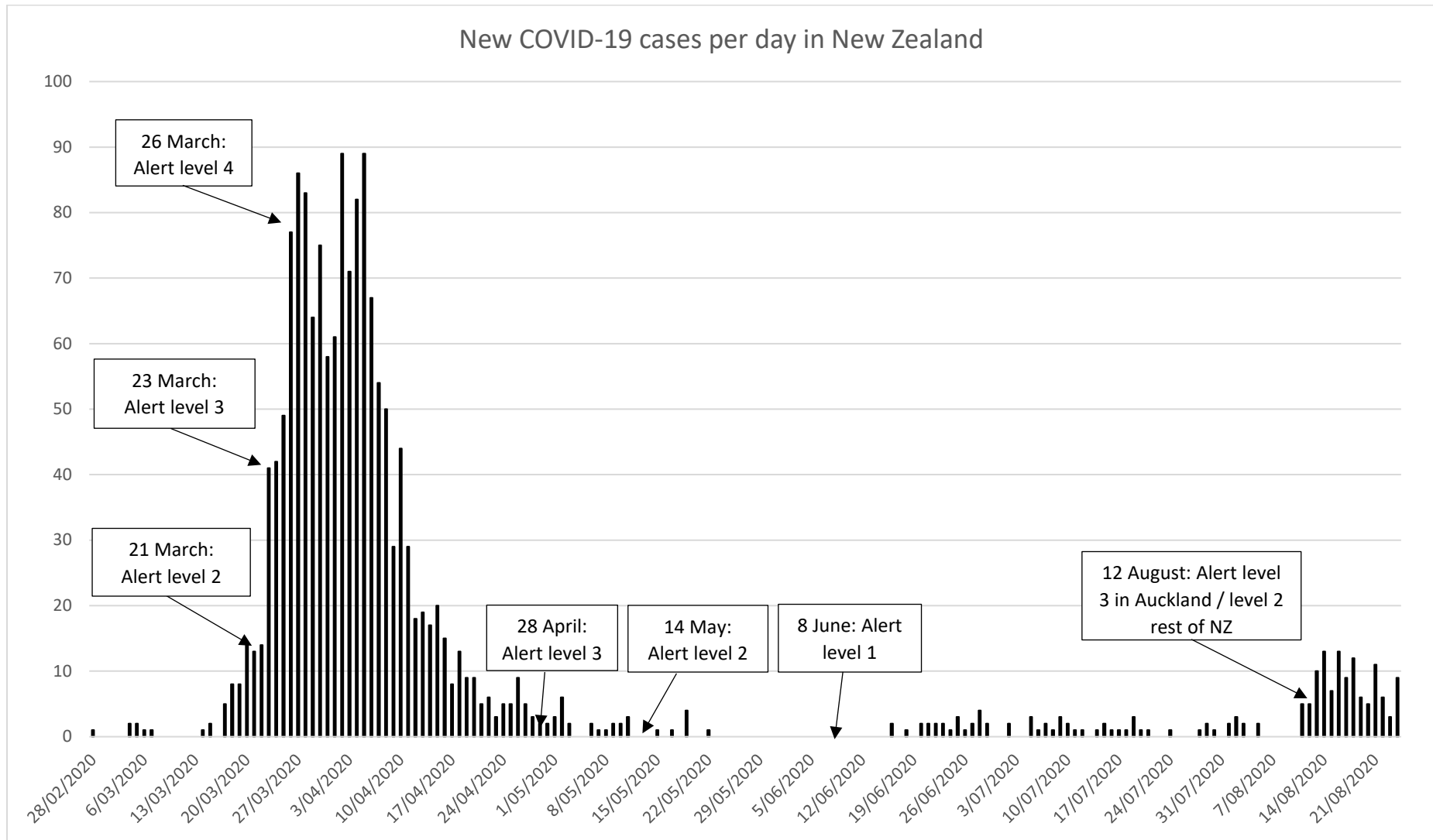


Victoria: 18,237 total cases and 415 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1668 total cases and 22 deaths

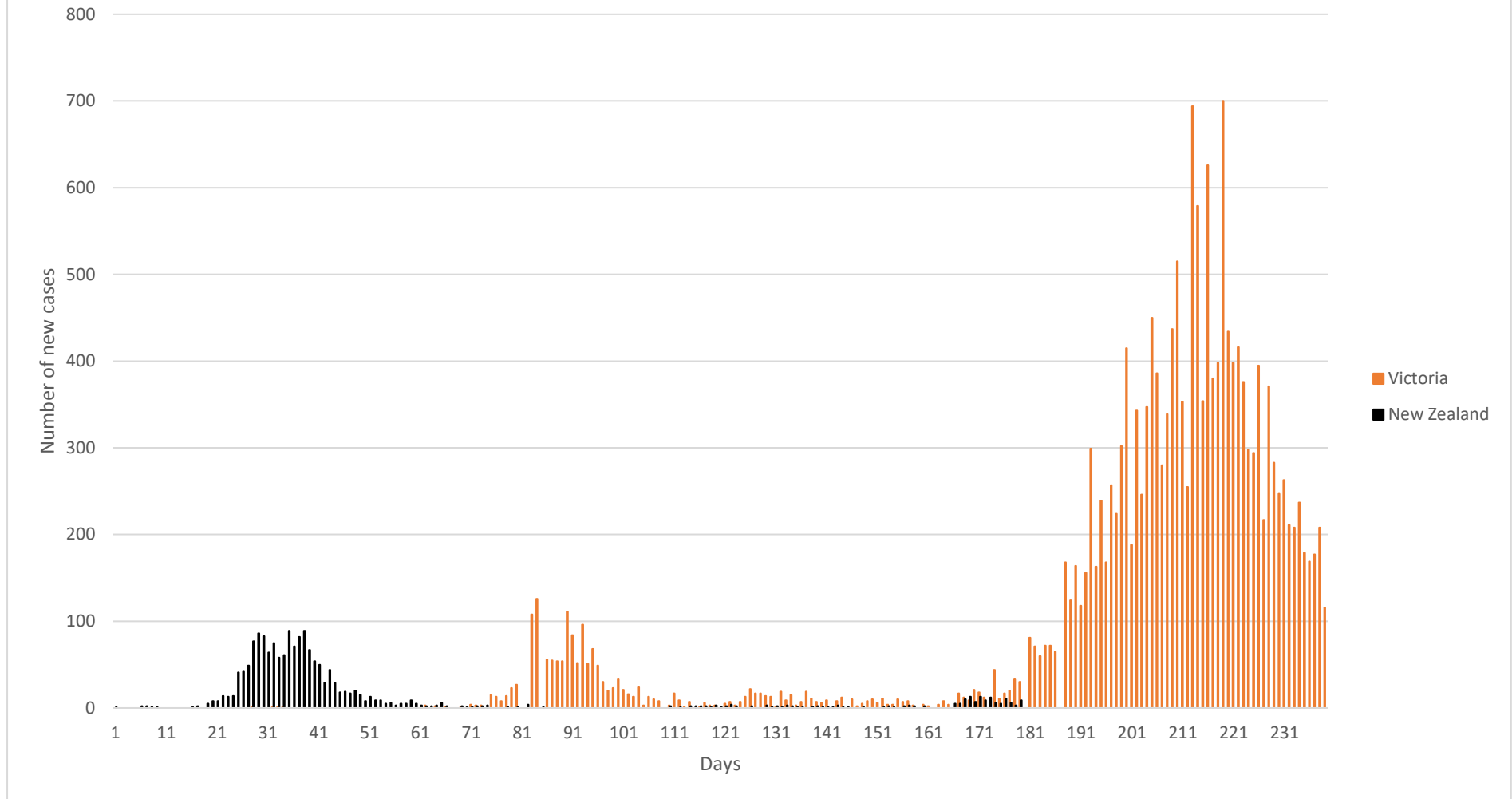
24 August 2020

Australian data up to 24 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

NZ data to 24 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned

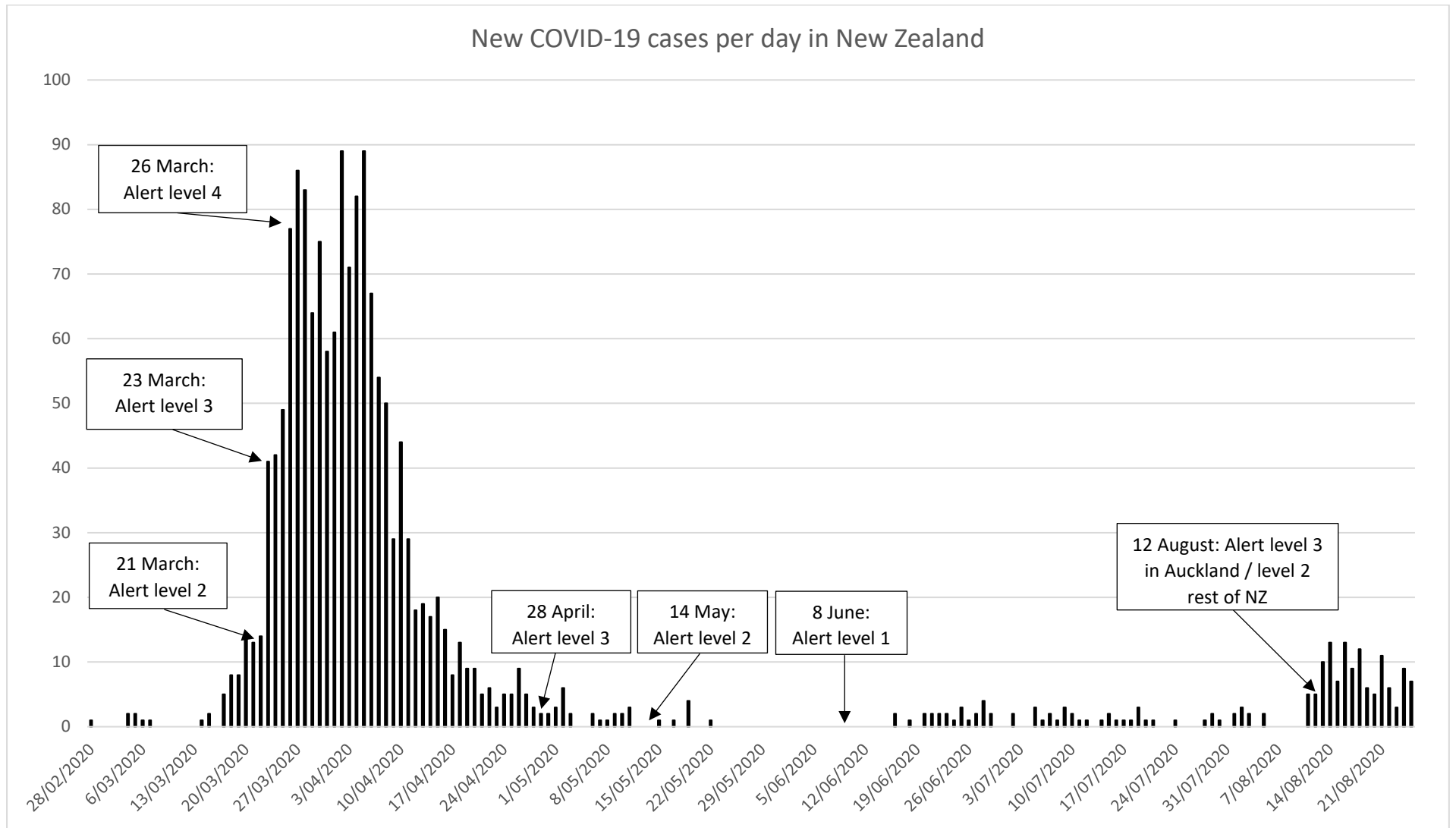


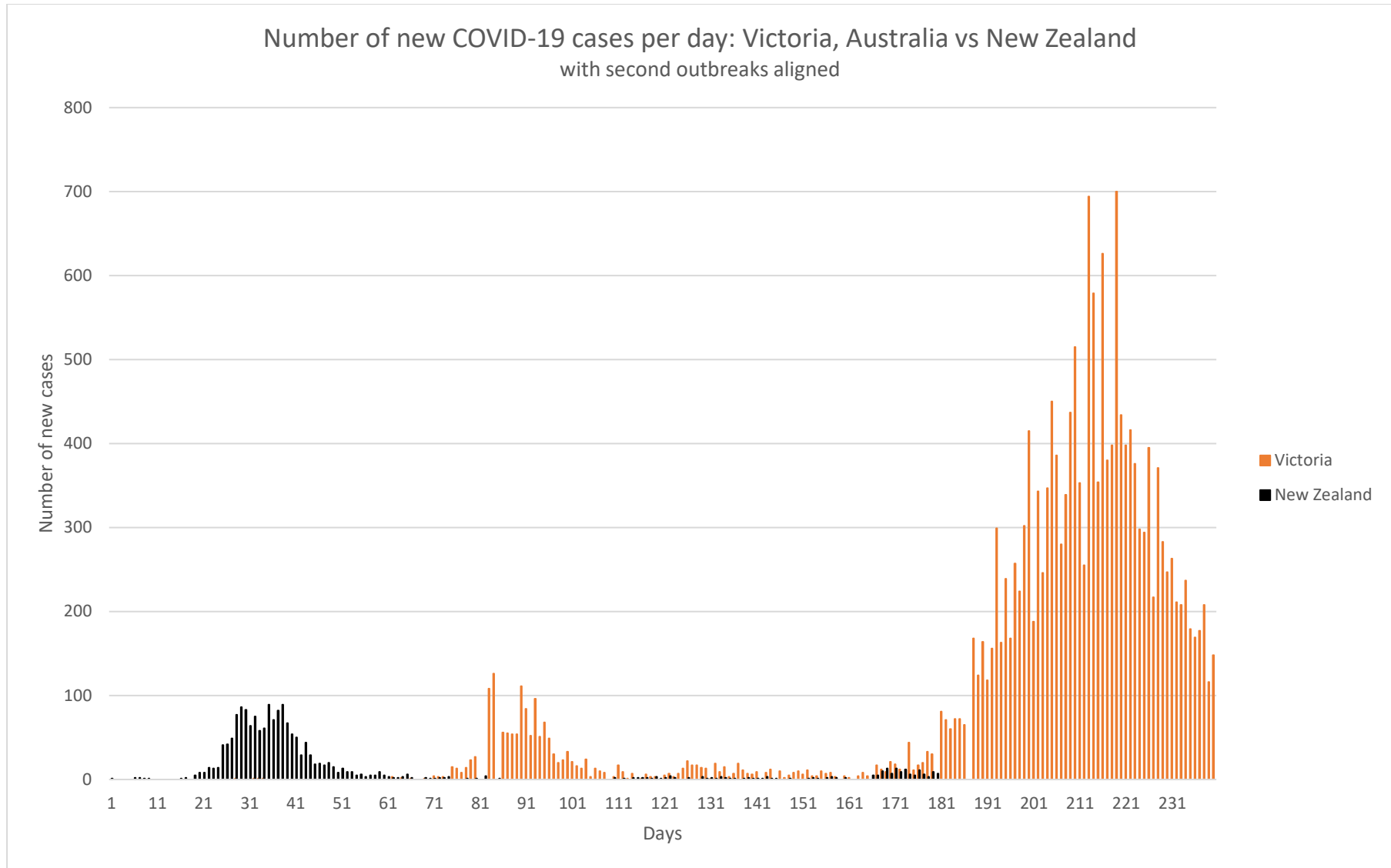
Victoria: 18,347 total cases and 430 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1683 total cases and 22 deaths

25 August 2020

Australian data up to 25 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

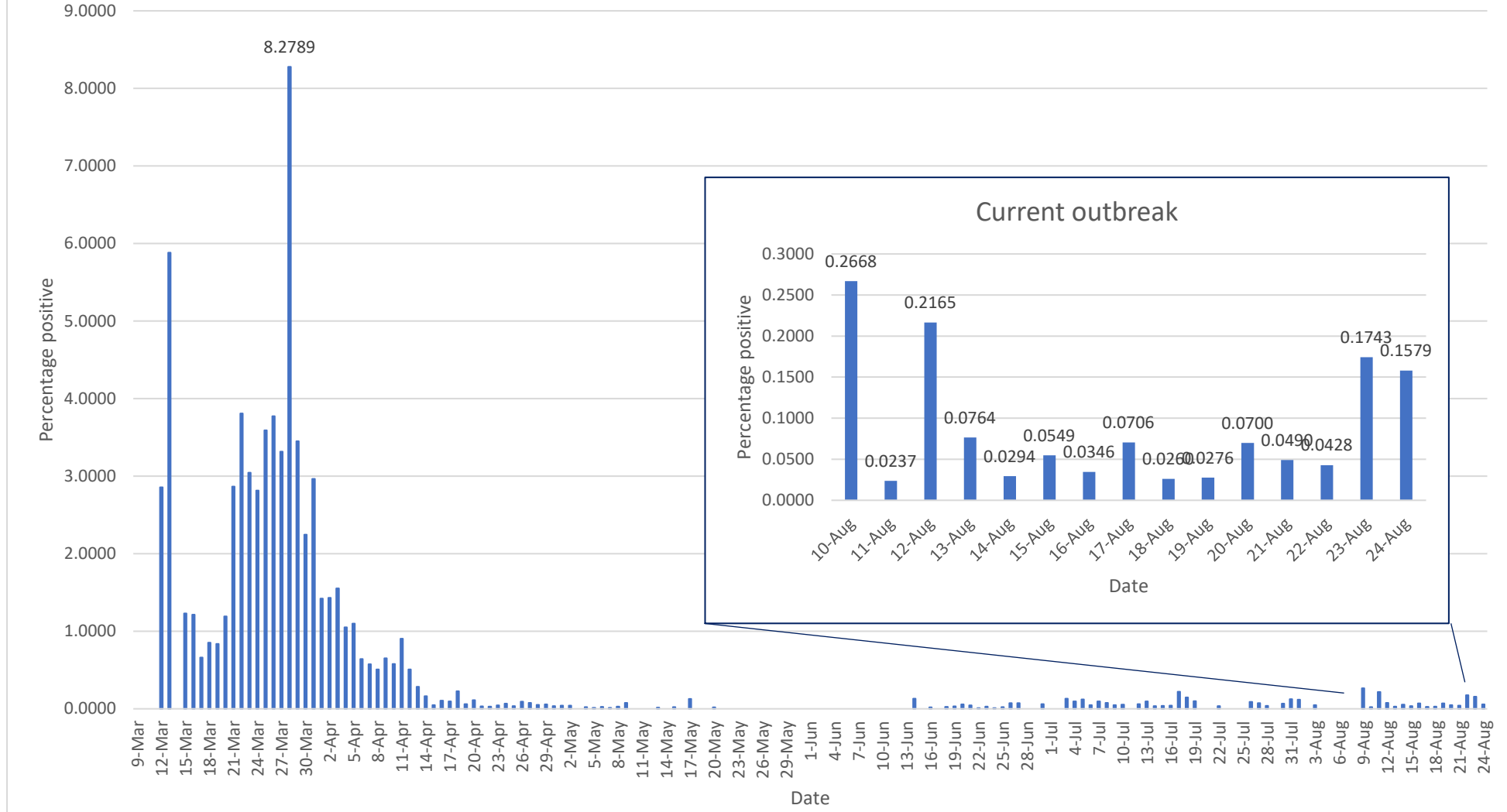
NZ data to 25 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included





Victoria: 18,478 total cases and 438 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1690 total cases and 22 deaths

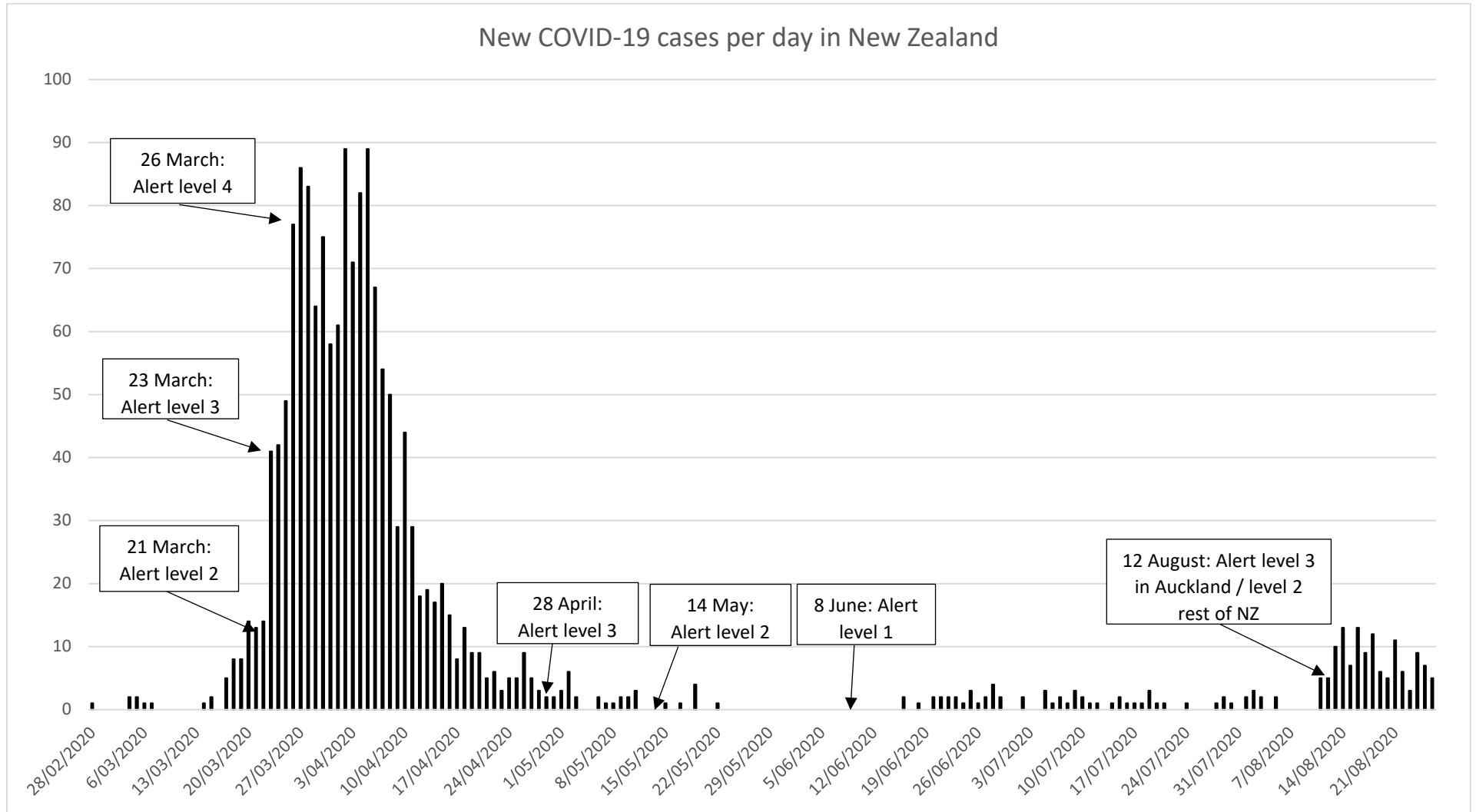
Test positivity rate in New Zealand

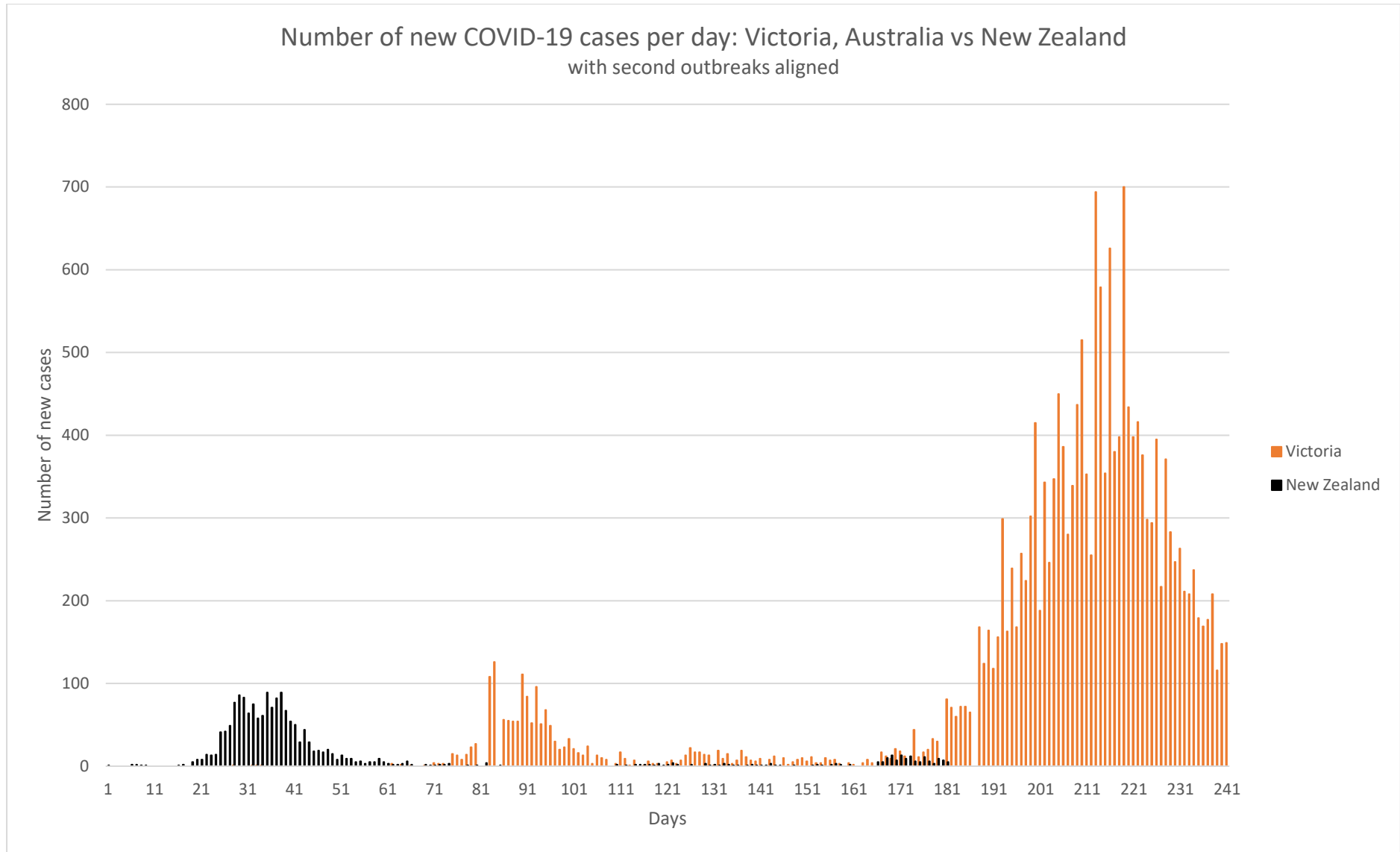


26 August 2020

Australian data up to 26 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

NZ data to 26 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both **confirmed** and **probable** cases included





Victoria: 18,608 total cases and 462 deaths / **New Zealand:** 1695 total cases and 22 deaths

27 August 2020

COVID-19 in New South Wales, Australia

Australian data as at 27 August 2020 from covidlive.com.au

New Zealand data as at 27 August 2020 from Ministry of Health (includes both confirmed and probable cases)

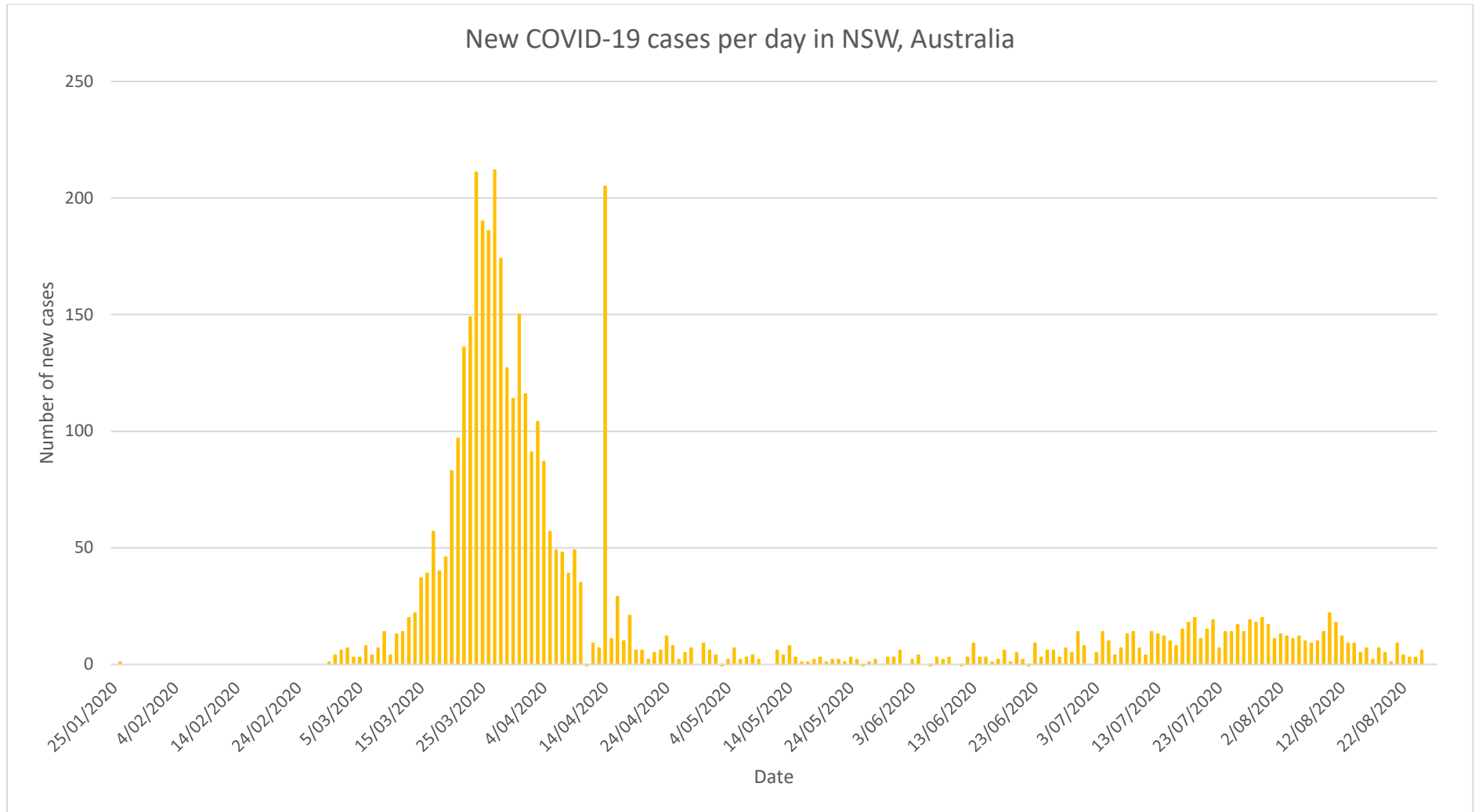
	NSW, Australia	New Zealand
Total cases	3997	1695
Total tests	2,052,542	710,063
Total deaths	52	22
Population	8 million	5 million

Restrictions currently in NSW, Australia

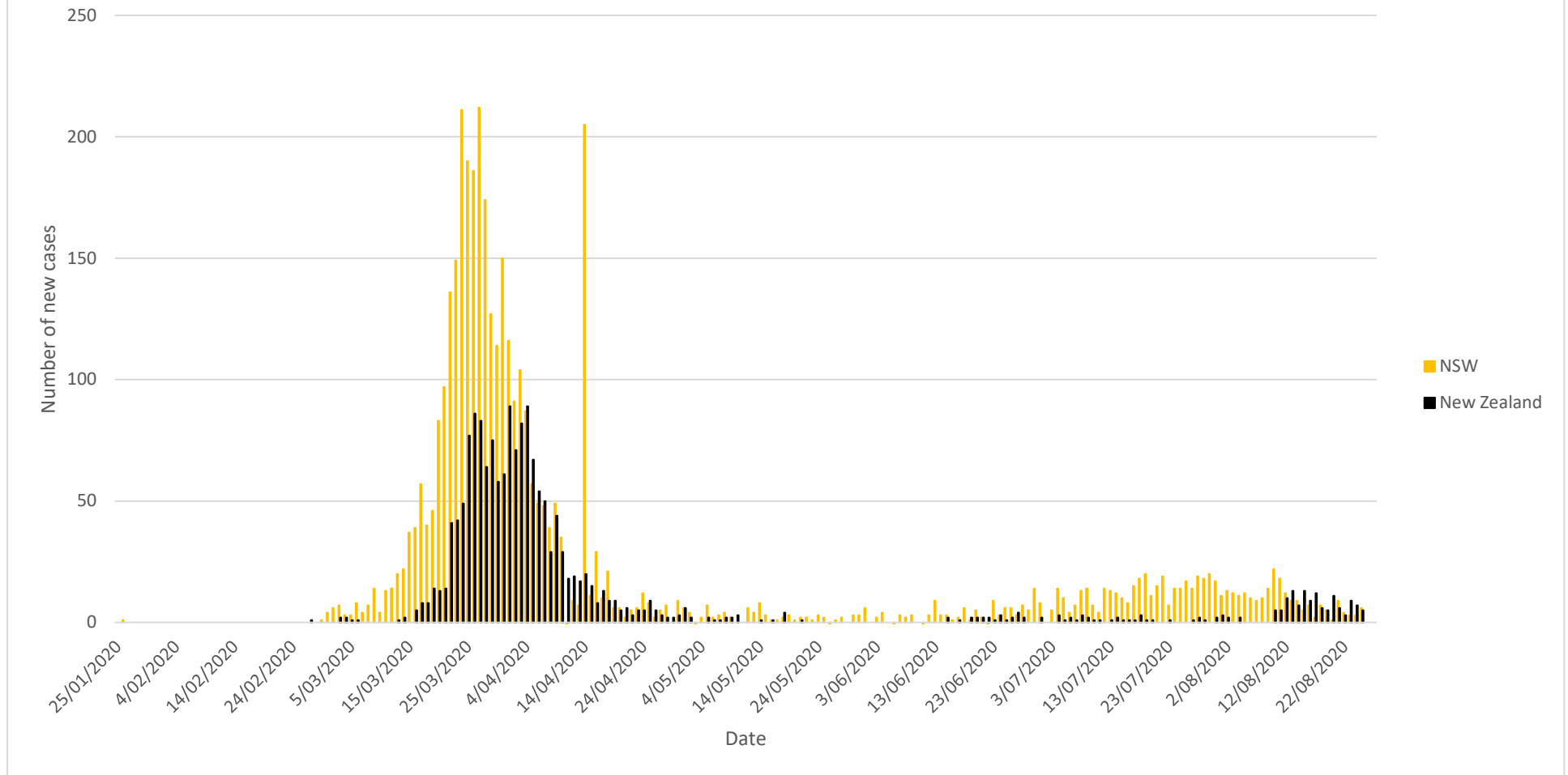
[See the NSW Health website](#)

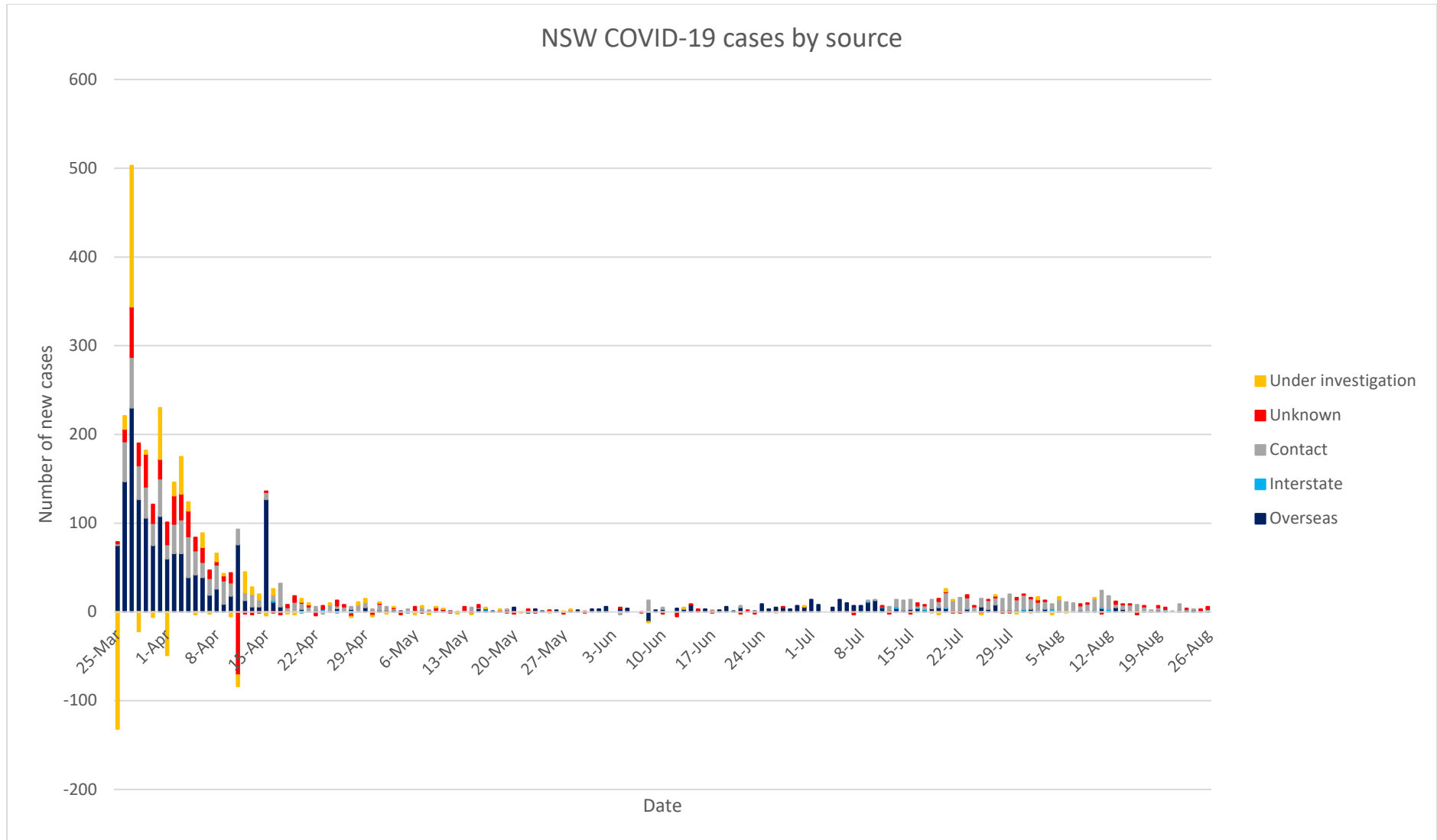
- Border closed to Victoria; you must have an entry permit to enter NSW from Victoria
- Mandatory quarantine for overseas arrivals and some arrivals from areas of concern in Victoria
- Returning NSW residents must self-isolate
- Premises must have a COVID-19 safety plan; some premises (e.g. pubs) must register this with NSW Health
- Number of people allowed on premises determined by 'one person per 4sqm' rule
- Outdoor public gatherings limited to 20
- 20-person limit on visitors to a home
- Employees to work from home where reasonably practical
- Groups within a pub must not exceed 10 people; contact details for each person in a pub must be collected; even with 4sqm rule, number of people at a pub cannot exceed 300
- Gyms, hospitality venues, funeral homes, weddings and places of worship also subject to restrictions

Further information on the australia.gov.au website

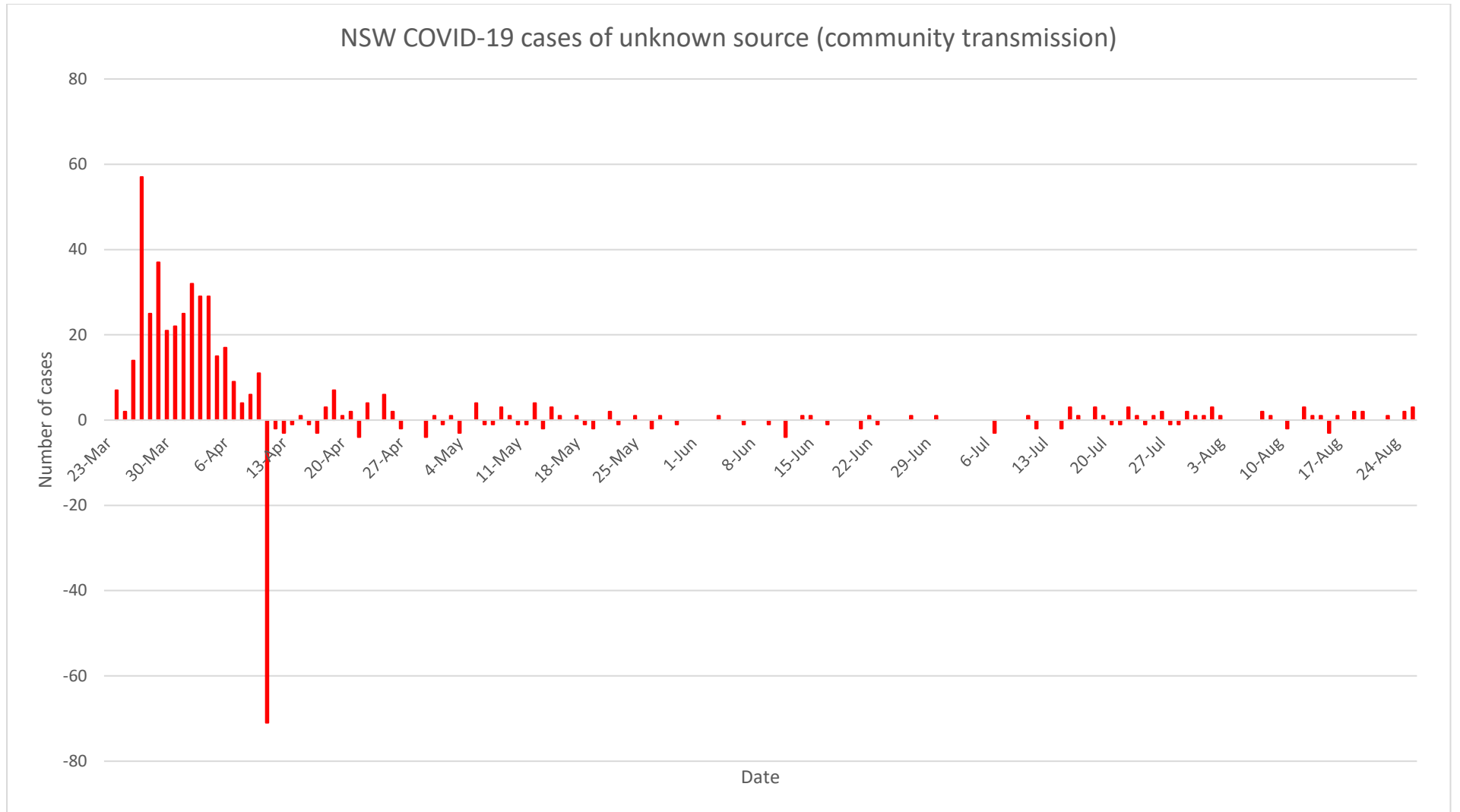


New COVID-19 cases per day: New Zealand vs NSW, Australia



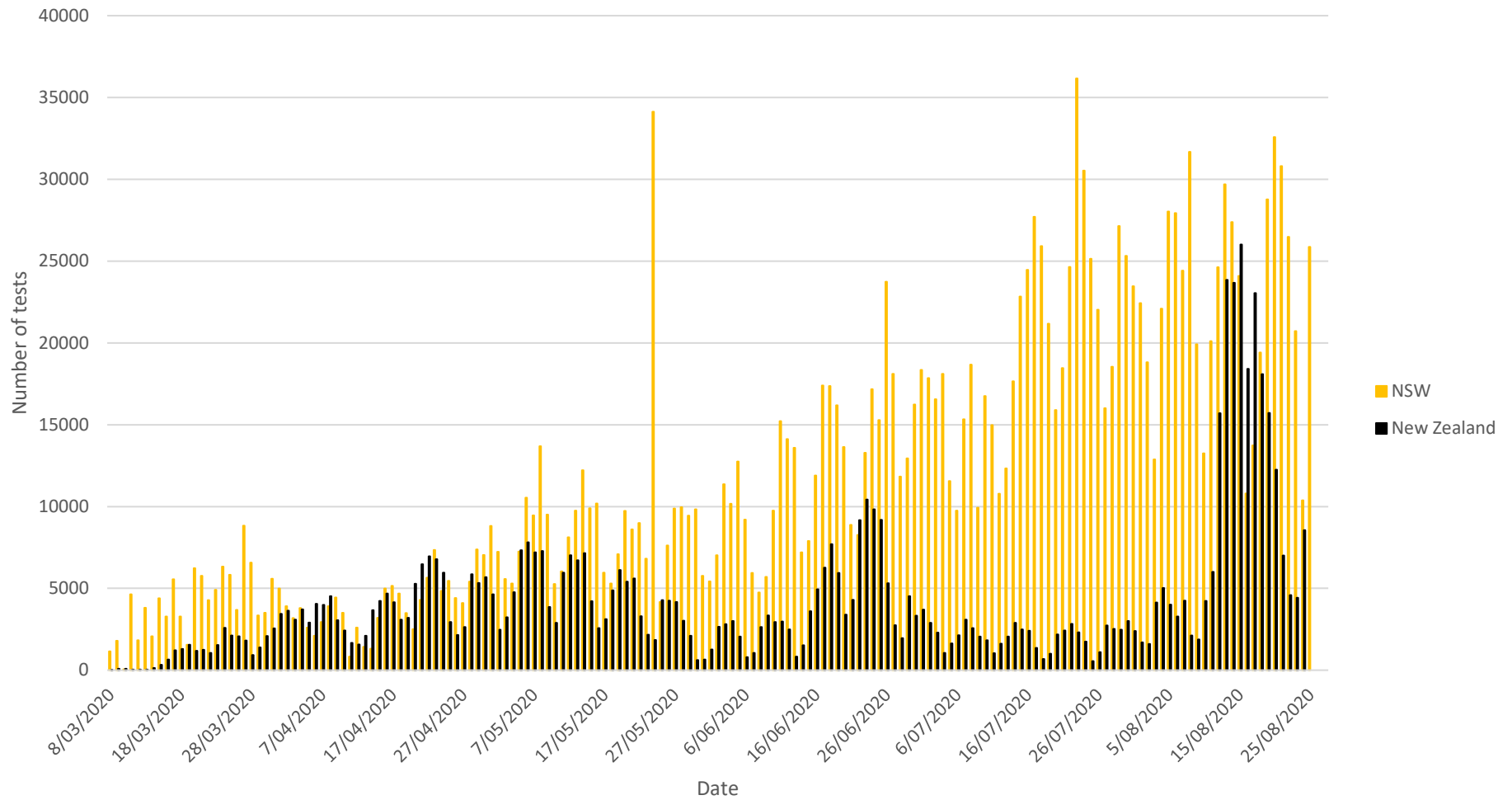


Note: negative values occur when sources are reclassified.



Note: negative values occur when cases are reclassified

Number of COVID-19 tests per day: NSW, Australia vs New Zealand

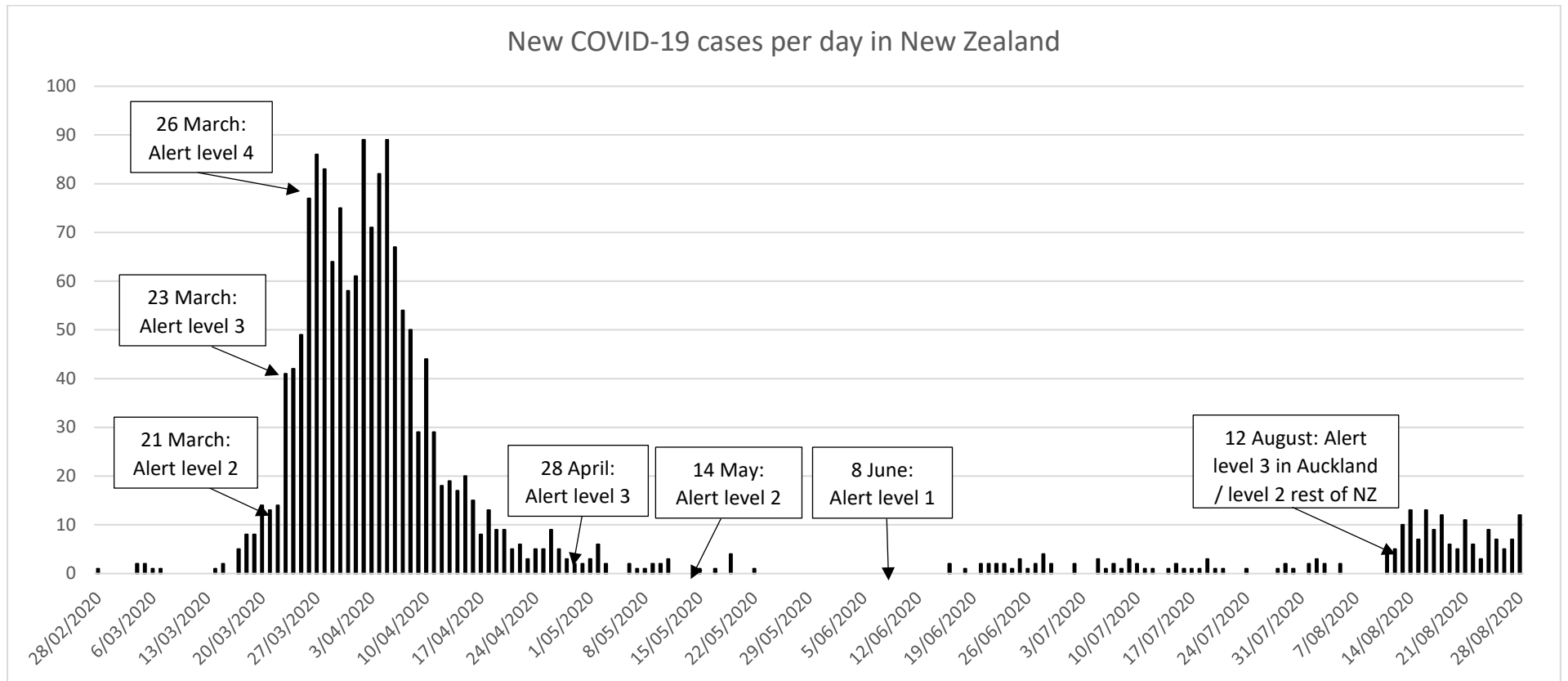


28 August 2020

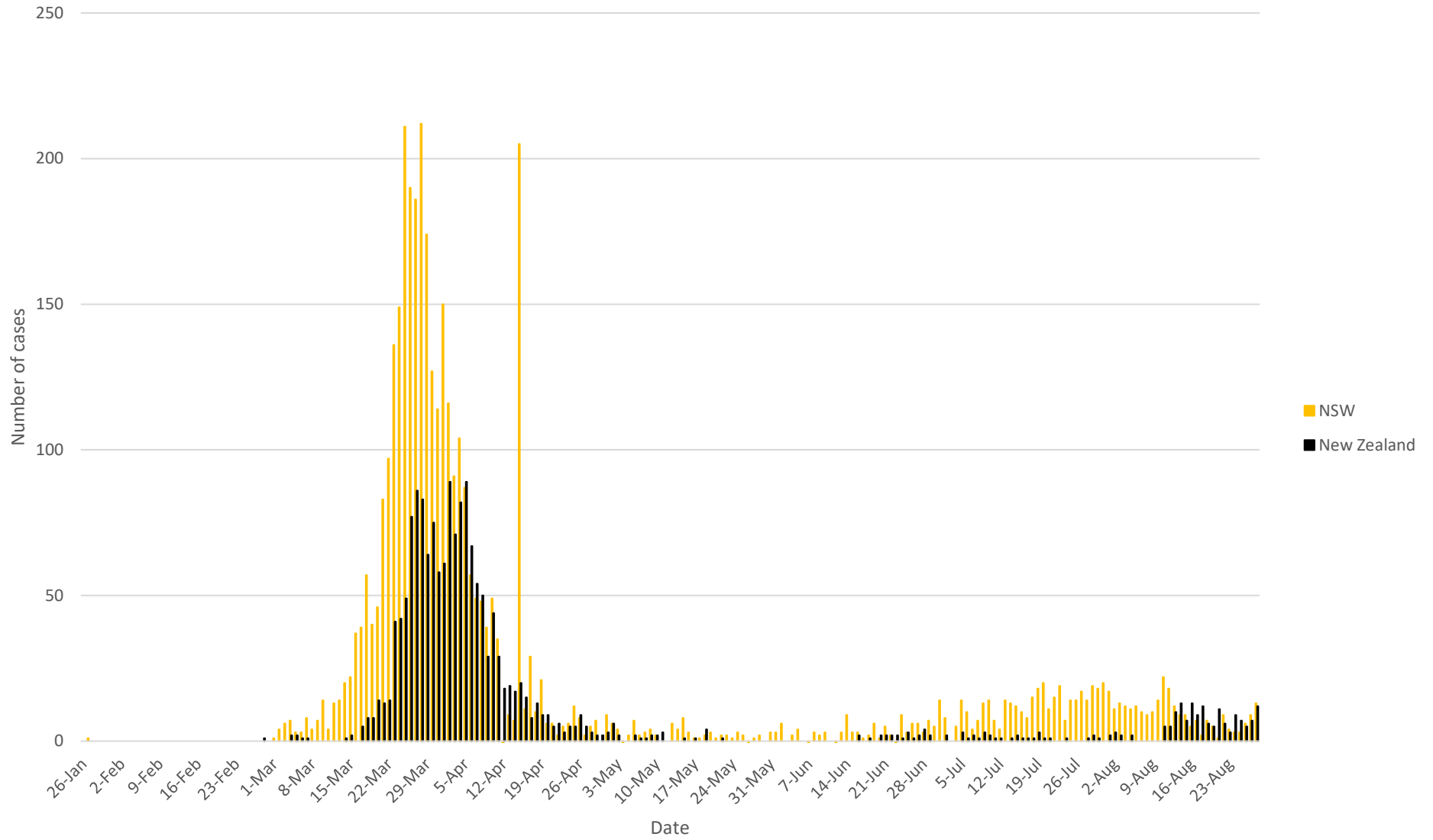
Australian data up to 28 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

NZ data to 28 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included

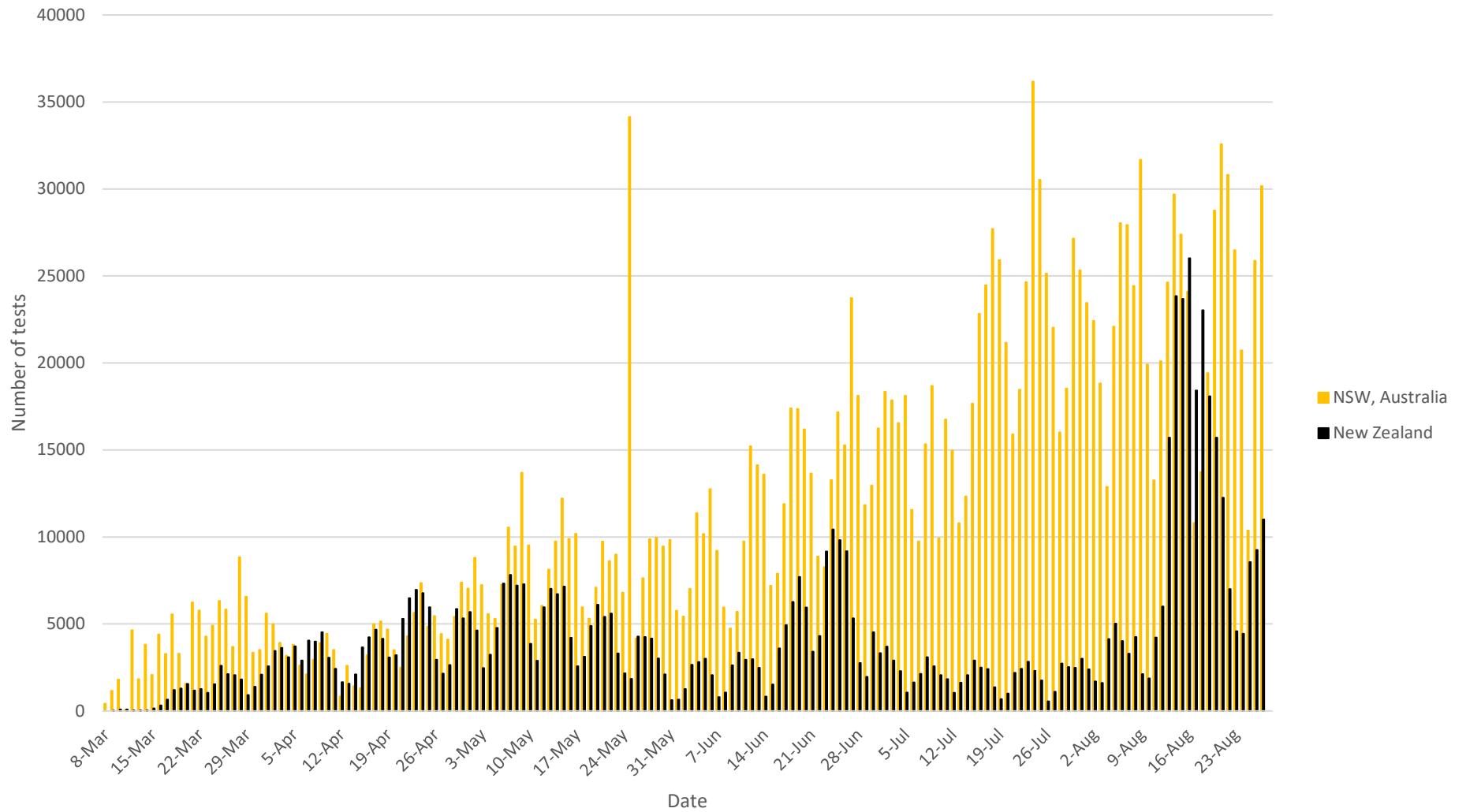
	New Zealand	Victoria, Australia	NSW, Australia
Cases	1351	18,827	4006
Tests	719,320	2,158,149	2,082,715
Deaths	22	497	52
Population	5 million	6.6 million	8 million



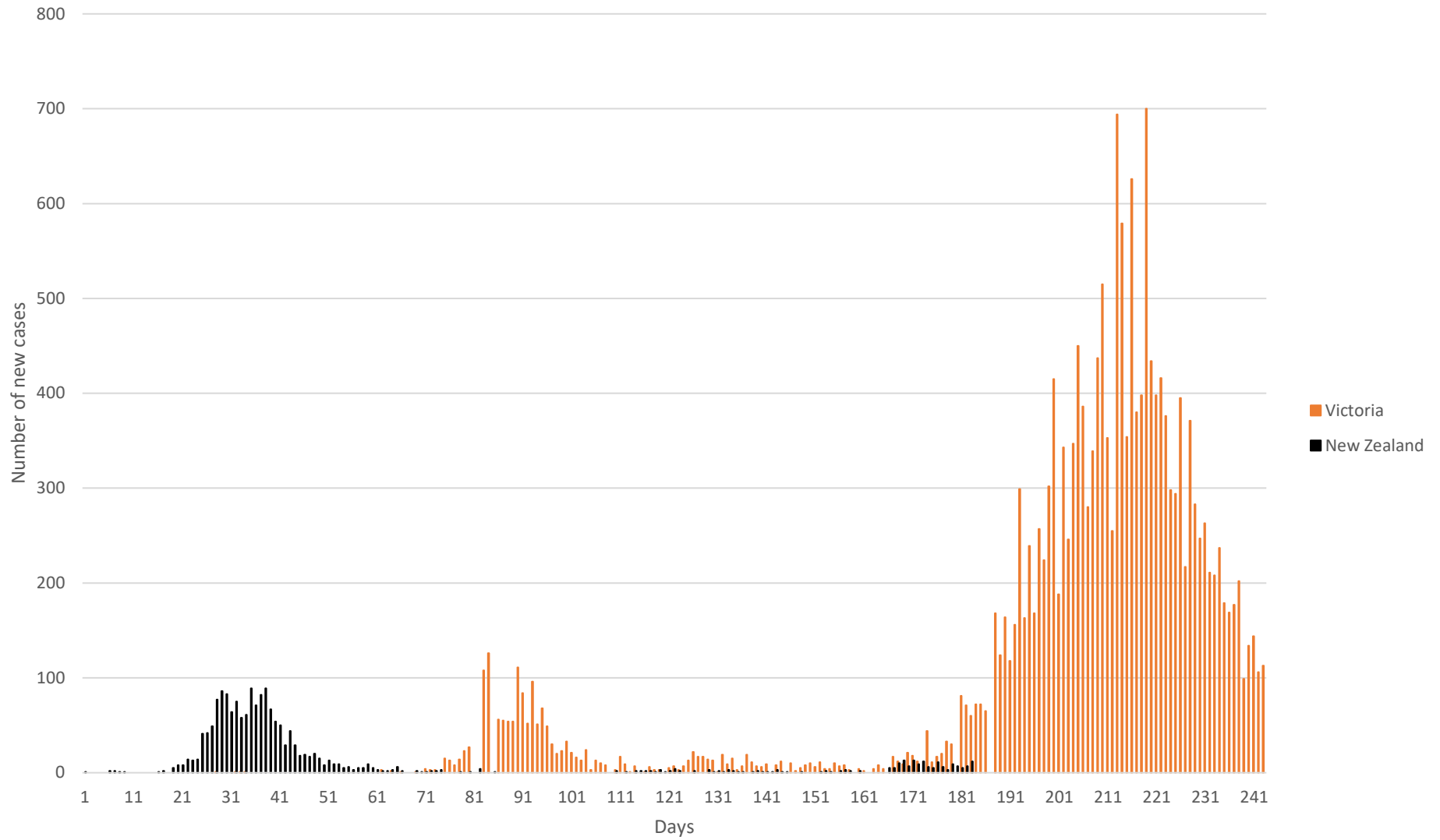
New COVID-19 cases per day: New Zealand vs NSW, Australia



Number of COVID-19 tests per day: New Zealand vs NSW, Australia



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned

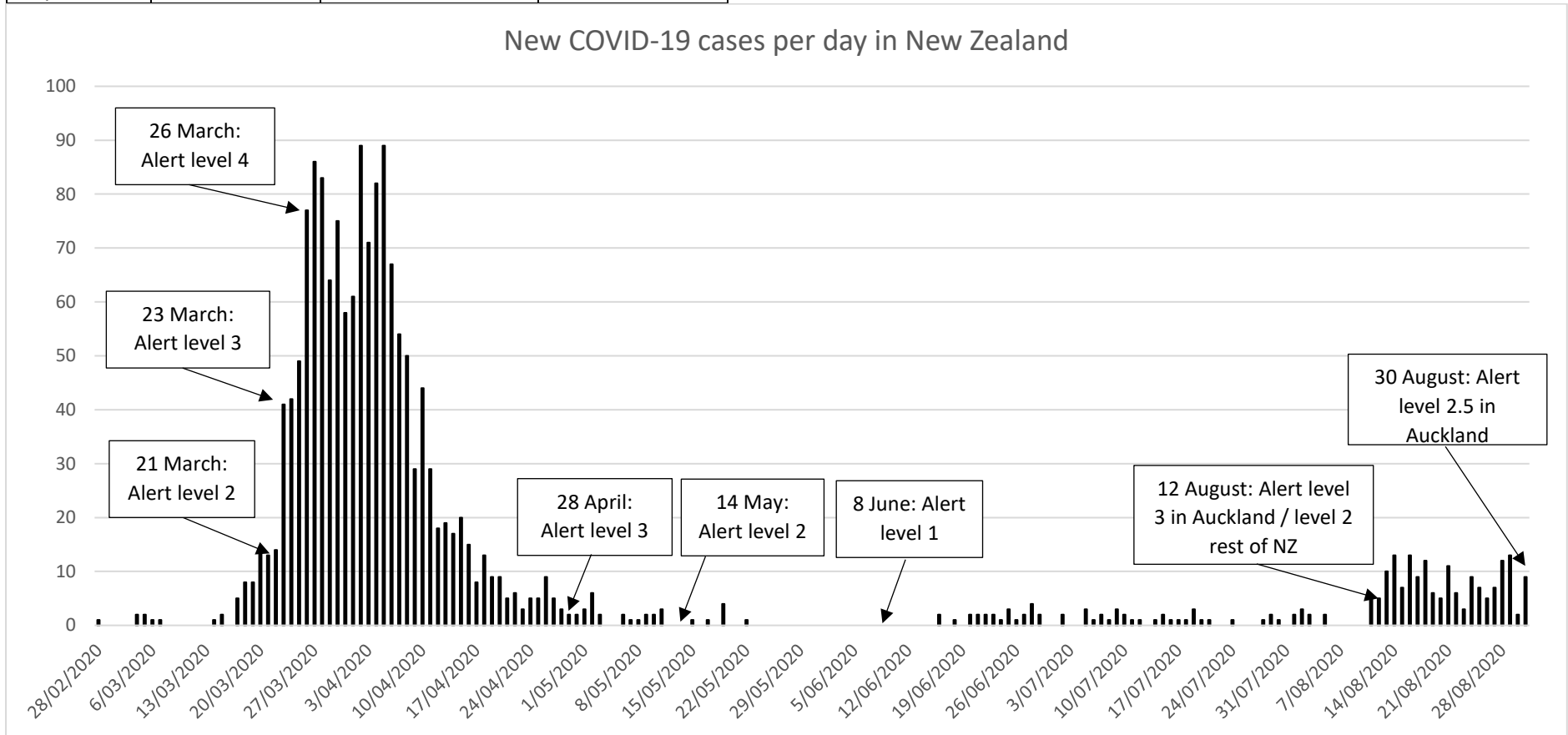


31 August

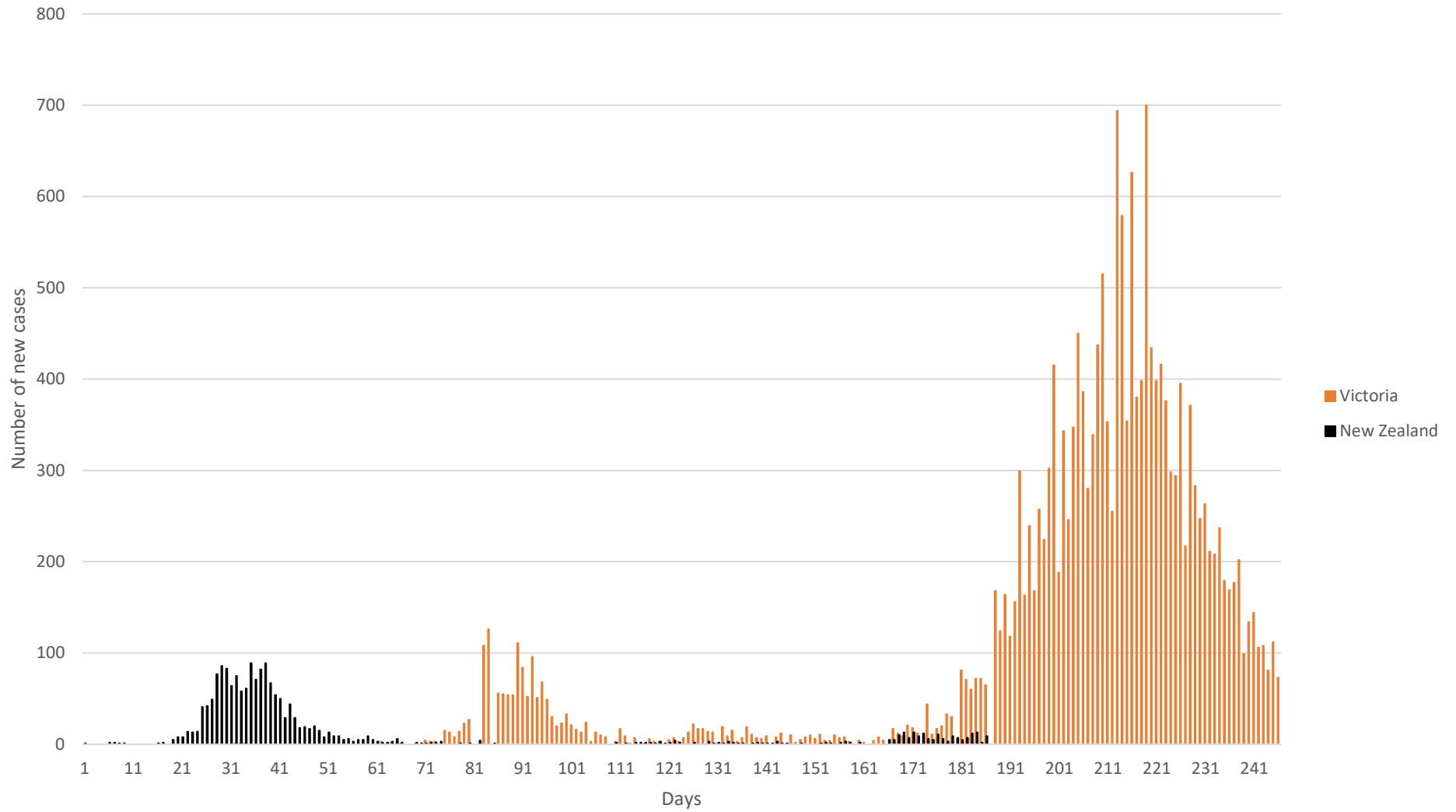
Australian data up to 31 August 2020 from <https://covidlive.com.au/>

NZ data to 31 August 2020 from the Ministry of Health; both confirmed and probable cases included

	New Zealand	Victoria, Australia	NSW, Australia
Cases	1738	19,088	4050
Tests	758,027	2,210,447	2,171,687
Deaths	22	565	52
Population	5 million	6.6 million	8 million



Number of new COVID-19 cases per day: Victoria, Australia vs New Zealand
with second outbreaks aligned



New COVID-19 cases per day: New Zealand vs NSW, Australia

