

Wastewater drug testing in New Zealand: Quarter 2 findings

National overview



Background: Testing occurs during one week per month, however the frequency of testing varies between regions due to available resources. Nationwide testing started in November 2018.

Notes: (1) Baseline usage across drug types and sample regions is unclear at present, but will become evident in due course as testing continues. Therefore, cautious interpretation is advised.

(2) Heroin remains undetected at any sample location.

(3) Testing began in Rangiora from February 2019.

	Test frequency	Proportion of national population	Regions
Tier 1	Monthly	64%	Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington, Waikato, Dunedin, Palmerston North, New Plymouth, Tauranga, Nelson, Whangarei, Queenstown
Tier 2 (Group A)	Bimonthly	6%	Ashburton, Greymouth, Invercargill, Kerikeri, Paraparaumu, Rotorua, Taupo, Wanganui
Tier 2 (Group B)	Bimonthly	6%	Hastings, Napier, Blenheim, Timaru, Rangiora, Levin, Whakatane, Masterton, Westport

