

October 2025

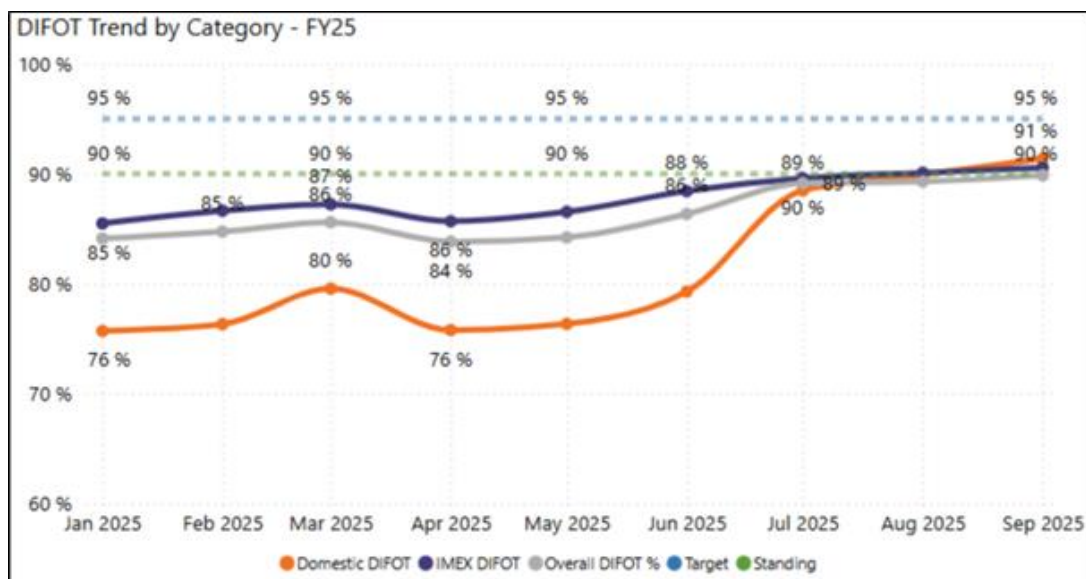
Kia ora,

In this update you'll find:

- An overview of our performance measures for September 2025
- The September block of line review
- The Labour Weekend block of line Friday 24 October - Monday 27 October
- The Christmas block of line 27 December 2025 - 26 January 2026
- An update on the inter-island road-bridging operation

DIFOT performance: September

We're pleased to share our overall DIFOT performance for September, where we delivered 91% against a target of 95%. The result reflects the significant focus and effort we've put into strengthening our delivery capability, ensuring we're ready to support you through the upcoming peak season. Both IMEX (Import and Export) and Domestic sectors delivered 91%, with Domestic continuing to show steady improvement even with the change in our inter-island operating model in Picton and Wellington. We remain committed to delivering a reliable and resilient service that meets your expectations.



September BOL review

The partial network closure in the North Island between 20 September and 4 October enabled us to progress works on the Papakura to Wiri section of the North Island Main Trunk (NIMT) and at the



large civil site Henderson Station for City Rail Link (CRL) readiness. This was a significant programme delivery of formation, drainage, signalling, and below rail infrastructure, all of which will enable faster, more frequent services as part of the CRL project, greater reliability and increased resilience across the network for both freight and passengers.

To provide you some context around the scale of the work achieved during this outage, our infrastructure team completed 32,000 labour hours over the 16-day 24/7 operation, installed more than 10,000 tonnes of engineered material, and laid 12,000 tonnes of ballast. Our Freight team also assisted with the movement of 6,800 TEU of freight through our Frankton CT site.

As usual, we will complete a full review of the two-week outage, to ensure we continue to improve and limit the impact of future outages as much as possible.

Blocks of line information – Labour weekend and Christmas

Labour Weekend 24-27 October

During Labour Weekend, we will take the opportunity to complete multiple blocks of lines across the country from Friday 24 October to Monday 27 October (4 days.)

An overview by region:

Upper North Island:

Closed: 5.00am Friday 24 October

Until: 6.00pm Monday 27 October

For various works, mainly City Rail Link (CRL) preparations

Freight:

- Auckland to Hamilton closed
- Service 217 on Friday 24 October will run ex Hamilton (not Auckland)
- No customer siding access in Auckland
- No shunt services, Auckland Port to Wiri closed
- Auckland to Northland closed
- Access still available to and from Palmerston North - Hamilton – Tauranga. Access to and from Napier and New Plymouth available also.

Wellington/ Lower North Island:

Closed: 5.00am Saturday 25 October

Until: 6.00pm Monday 27 October



Closed Palmerston North to Wellington, to allow for a bridge replacement, re-sleepering and ballast cleaning.

Wairarapa line closed 25 October to early morning on 28 October.

South Island:

Midland Line - closed west of Springfield to Greymouth/Hokitika and Westport, for a major BOL consisting of slip remediation works and ceiling repairs in the Otira Tunnel.

Closed: Saturday 25 October

Until: Monday 27 October

The Christchurch to Darfield shunts are not affected by this closure, and the Main South Line between Christchurch and Invercargill and Main North Line between Picton and Christchurch remain open.

First and last Domestic services for Labour Weekend – Southbound:

Last regular service	Auckland - Christchurch	Auckland - Blenheim
	Service 217	Service 211
	Thursday 23 October	Thursday 23 October
	8:00pm freight cut-off	5:30pm freight cut-off
	Arriving 6.00am	Arriving 1.30pm
	Saturday 25 October	Saturday 25 October
First regular service	Service 217	Service 211
	Monday 27 October	Tuesday 28 October
	8:00pm freight cut-off	5:30pm freight cut-off
	Arriving 5.30am	Arriving 1.30pm
	Wednesday 29 October	Thursday 30 October

Northbound:

Last regular service	Christchurch Auckland	-	Blenheim - Auckland
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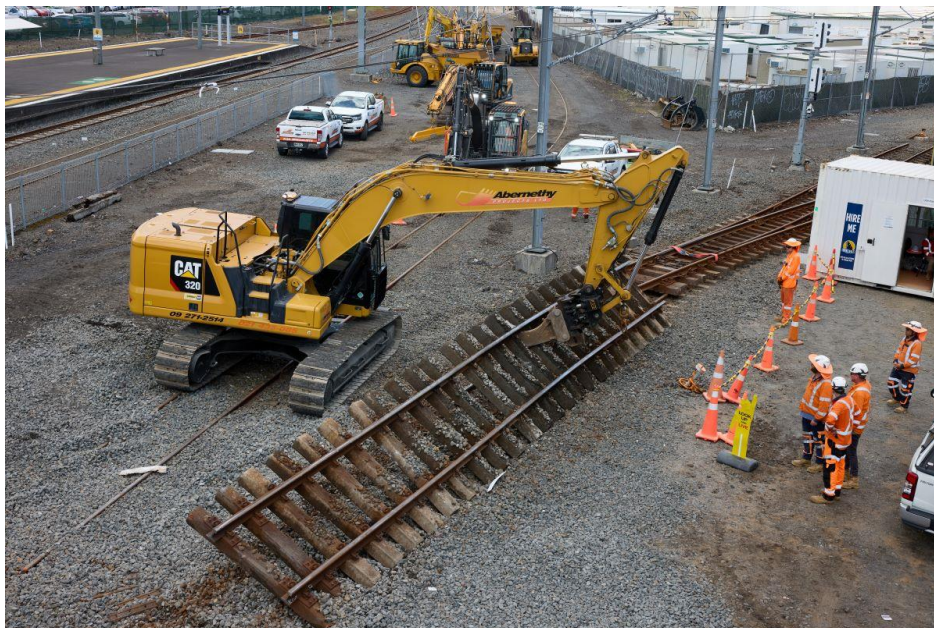


	Service 712	Service V1F
	Tuesday 21 October	Wednesday 22 October
	7:50pm freight cut-off	2:30pm freight cut-off
	Arriving 9.00am	Arriving 1.00am
	Thursday 23 October	Friday 24 October
First regular service	Service 712	Service V1F
	Tuesday 28 October	Tuesday 28 October
	7:50pm freight cut-off	2:30pm freight cut-off
	Arriving 9.00am	Arriving 1.00am
	Thursday 30 October	Thursday 30 October

CT Site Hours

CT site acceptance hours for Labour Weekend are available on our website [KiwiRail CT Hours of Operation](#)

For more detailed information around this closure, please contact our Customer Delivery team on 0800 351 351 who will be happy to answer any questions.



Christmas Block of line

Saturday 27 December 2025 to Monday 26 January 2026

City Rail Link will be operational next year. This project has required a complete upgrade of the Auckland rail network in addition to fitting out new stations and integrating, testing and commissioning new systems. This upcoming block of line signals the end of the planned major blocks in preparation for CRL, and we thank you for your continued support and patience while we deliver this significant project for New Zealand.

Upper North Island:

Northland closed 27 Dec 2025 to 26 Jan 2026

Kauri/Whangārei road-bridging in place

Auckland-Hamilton closed 27 Dec 2025 to 18 Jan 2026

Road-bridging in place

Auckland - Auckland Port closed 27 Dec 2025 - 18 January 2026

Mission Bush closed Friday 2 Jan - Monday 5 Jan

Wellington:

Wellington to Waikanae full closure 26 Dec 2025 to 5 Jan 2026

Wellington to Waikanae partial closure 6 Jan to 12 Jan

NIGHT running only between Palmerston North and Wellington from Monday 5 January - Monday 12 January

Impact on freight:

- No freight for South Island until 5 Jan.
- During full closure, only freight to Palmerston North can be accepted.
- From 6 - 12 Jan there will be reduced capacity.

South Island:

The next round of major South Island blocks of line are not scheduled until 2026.



Interisland road-bridging operation Wellington to Picton

Over the past couple of months, we've made some important changes to how we operate in Wellington and Picton - all with the goal of improving your experience.

We've brought together our teams across Rail Freight, Commercial Vehicles and Passenger Services to work more closely than ever before. This means:

- **Faster, clearer communication** - we now hold daily morning calls across the teams to stay aligned and respond quickly to any issues and ensure we're maximising inter-island capacity.
- **Proactive disruption updates** - you'll hear about rail network disruptions earlier, giving you more time to plan or prioritise.
- **Less disruption due to incorrect placards** - we're working directly with customers to ensure Dangerous Goods have the correct placards on departure.
- **Improved overall experience** - our teams are improving our deck utilisation and reviewing our disruption processes to ensure a smoother more efficient service.

