

COVID-19

PAHO JAMAICA CO EOC – COVID-19 SITUATION REPORT #477
26 NOVEMBER 2021 (as at 12:00 p.m.)
JAMAICA, BERMUDA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Country	Confirmed Cases (New within 24hrs)	Active Cases (% of Total Cases)	Hospitalized (% Active Cases)	Deaths (New within 24hrs)	Case Fatality Rate (%)	Total Tests (Cum. Positivity Rate)	Transmission
Jamaica ⁱ	91,026 (65)	25,760 (28.3%)	174 (0.7%)	2,376 (9)	2.6%	668,469 (13.6%)	Community Transmission
Bermuda ⁱⁱ	5,730 (3)	21 (0.4%)	0 (0%)	106 (0)	1.8%	639,674 (0.9%)	Community Transmission
Cayman Islands ⁱⁱⁱ	6,738 (139)	4,184 (62.1%)	25 (0.4%)	4 (0)	0.06%	200,105 (3.4%)	Community Transmission

JAMAICA:

Table 1. Summary as at end of Epidemiological Week 46

Confirmed Cases	New Cases	% Change in New Cases in last 7 days	Deaths	New Deaths	% Change in New Deaths in last 7 days	Weekly Positivity Rate	% Change in Weekly Positivity Rate
90,705	496	-6.1%	2,358	31	-32.6%	9.39%	+11.8%

TRENDS IN CASES & DEATHS: As of 25 November 2021, Jamaica had **91,026 confirmed cases** of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) with **65 new cases** confirmed in the past 24 hours. There are currently 25,760 cases (28.3% of confirmed cases) in isolation across the island. New cases have decreased by 6.1%, and the number of confirmed deaths decreased by 32.6% during EW 46. There are **2,376 COVID-19 related deaths** as of 25 November 2021. A total of 668,469 samples were tested at the laboratory with a daily positivity rate of 12.4% and a cumulative positivity rate of 13.6%.

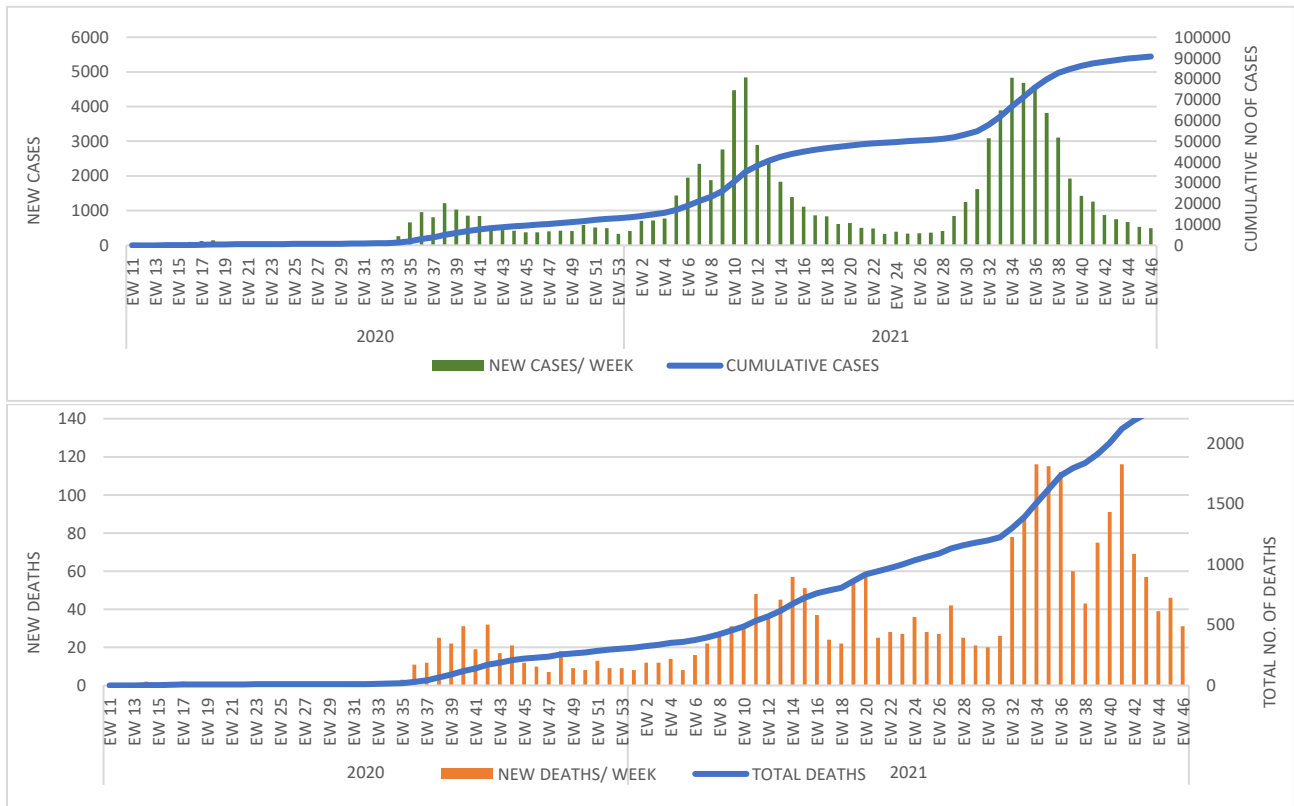
SEX & AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CASES & DEATHS: As of 23 November 2021, the highest burden of total confirmed cases remains within the 20-29 years and 30-39 years age groups, accounting for 18.7% and 17.9% of cases respectively, with the mean age at 41.3±20.7yrs. Females were primarily affected compared to males, with a male to female ratio (M:F) of 1:1.3; while the males accounted for more deaths, with a M:F ratio of 1:0.9.

Figures 1&2. Cases and Deaths by Epidemiological Week.

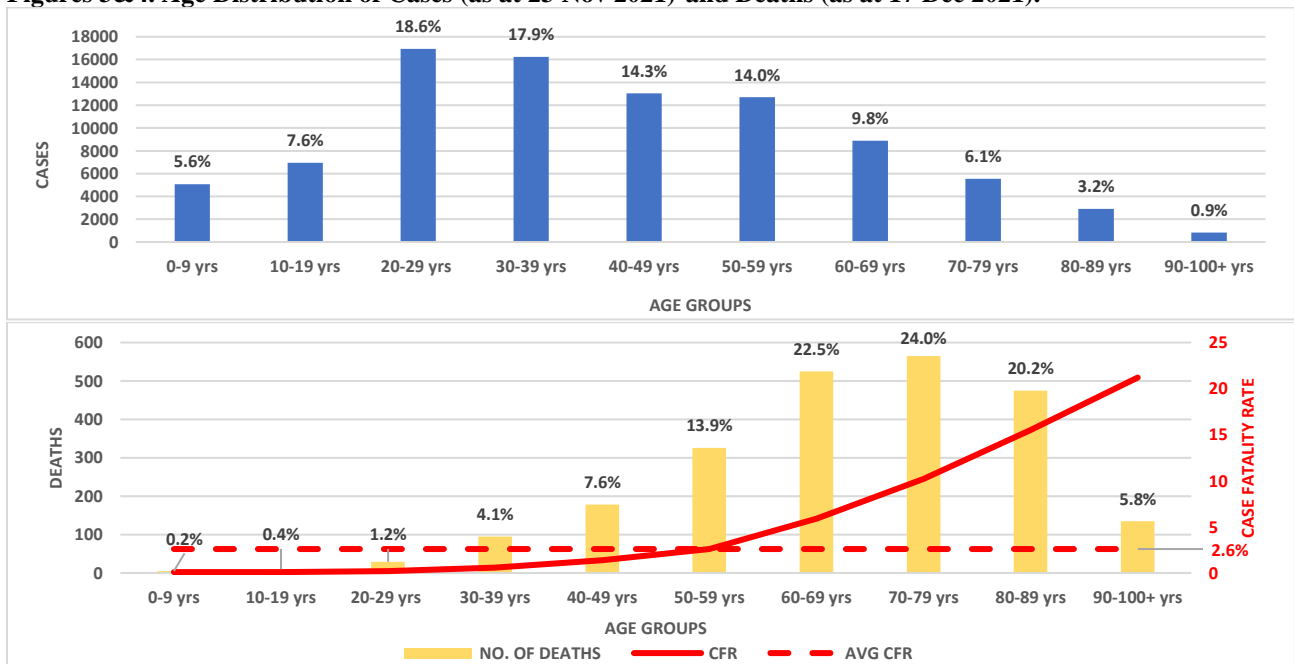
ⁱ Cases and deaths as at 25 Nov 2021, reported 26 Nov 2021

ⁱⁱ Cases and deaths as at 23 Nov 2021, reported 25 Nov 2021.

ⁱⁱⁱ Cases and deaths as at 25 Nov 2021, reported 26 Nov 2021.



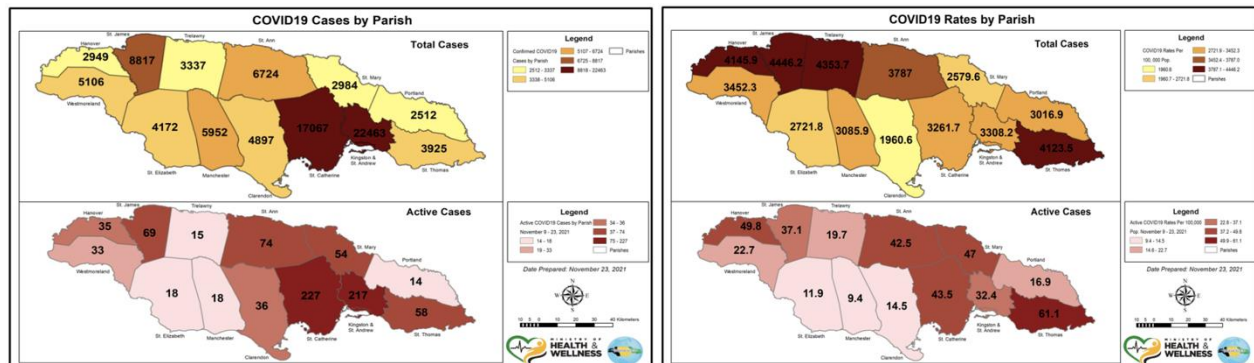
Figures 3&4. Age Distribution of Cases (as at 23 Nov 2021) and Deaths (as at 17 Dec 2021).



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION: Data for 25 November 2021 highlighted that Kingston & St. Andrew (24.7%, n=22,504) and St. Catherine (18.8%, n=17,083) had the highest cumulative

number of cases. The highest proportions of active cases for this week, however, were found in the parishes of St. James and St. Ann (16.0% and 13.3% respectively). The total rates of active infections for this reporting period were highest in the parishes of St. Thomas (61.1 cases per 100,000 population) and St. Catherine (43.5 cases per 100,000 population).

Figures 5 & 6. COVID-19 Parish Distribution and Rates (cases per 100,000 population) of total and active cases (23 Nov 2021)



HOSPITALIZATIONS: As of 25 November 2021, hospitalizations increased marginally by approximately 8.8% since the last reporting period (19 Nov 2021). There was a total of 174 hospitalizations (0.7% of active cases). Of the hospitalized cases, 13.8% (n=24) were moderately ill, 16.7% (n=29) severely ill, and 6.9% (n=12) were critically ill one of whom is fully vaccinated. The average hospital occupancy rate as of 23 November has improved to 38.8%.

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Disaster Risk Management (Enforcement Measures) (No. 11) (Amendment) Order, 2021 is in effect since 29 October 2021.

<https://moj.gov.im/sites/default/files/DRM2021No11.pdf>

New measures introduced from 18 November – 9 December 2021 include:

COVID-19 UPDATE
NEW COVID-19 MEASURES
EFFECTIVE: NOVEMBER 18 - DECEMBER 10, 2021

New Curfew Hours

**MON-SUN:
9:00 PM - 5:00 AM**
NO MOVEMENT DAYS: DISCONTINUED

Closing hours for businesses is generally
1 hour before curfew

JISINFO

COVID-19 UPDATE
NEW COVID-19 MEASURES
EFFECTIVE: NOVEMBER 18 - DECEMBER 9, 2021

Controlled Entry Protocols

- ▶ **Vaccinated:**
Fully vaccinated persons who obtain a PCR test prior to travel, will be released from quarantine.
- ▶ **Not Vaccinated:**
14-day quarantine order remains for persons not vaccinated/not fully vaccinated.

All travellers are required to present a negative COVID-19 test within 3 days of travel.

JISINFO

BERMUDA:

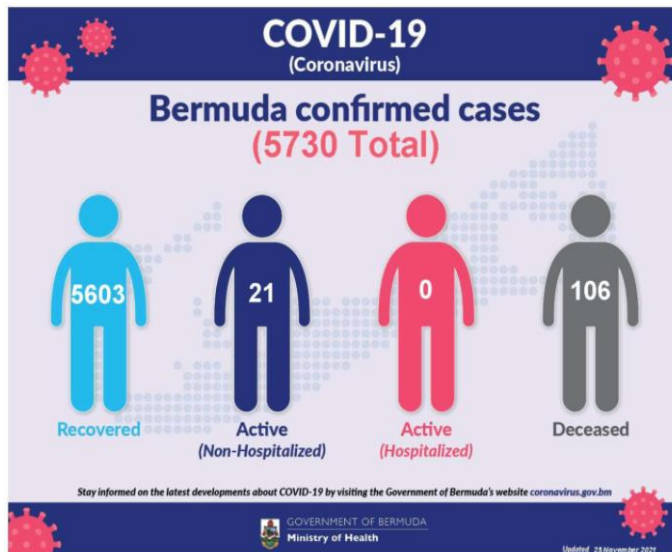
TRENDS IN CASES & DEATHS: As of 23 November 2021, Bermuda reported 5,730 confirmed cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) with no new cases within the last 24-48hr period. There

were 21 active cases (0.4% of total cases), a decrease of 30.0% since the last report (19 Nov 2021). There were no hospitalized cases. New cases have decreased by 56.0% and there were no new deaths for EW 46.

Table 2. Summary as at end of Epidemiological Week 46.

Confirmed Cases	New Cases in last 7 days	% Change in New Cases in last 7 days	Deaths	New Deaths in last 7 days	% Change in Deaths in last 7 days	Positivity Rate	% Change in Positivity Rate in last 7 days
5,683	11	-56.0%	89	0	-	0.1%	-50.0%

Figure 7. Cases and deaths as of 23 Nov 2021 (reported 25 Nov 2021).



GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

There are no curfews in place.

All travellers to Bermuda must follow the requirements set out in the Quarantine (COVID-19) (No.3) Order 2020.

[http://www.bermulaws.bm/laws/Consolidated%20Laws/Quarantine%20\(COVID-19\)%20\(No.%203\)%20Order%202020.pdf](http://www.bermulaws.bm/laws/Consolidated%20Laws/Quarantine%20(COVID-19)%20(No.%203)%20Order%202020.pdf)

The Government announced on 26 November 2021, that as of 29 November 2021 there will be relaxation of a number of COVID-19 restrictions, including the increase in the gathering limit from 30 to 50 persons, while special permission may be granted from Government for larger gatherings. Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.gov.bm/coronavirus>

CAYMAN ISLANDS:

TRENDS IN CASES & DEATHS: As of 25 Nov 2021, Cayman had **6,738 confirmed cases** of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) with **139 new cases** reported in the last 24 hrs. Active cases have increased by 13.9% since the last reporting period (of 19 November 2021) and now comprise 62.1% of confirmed cases. A **total of 4 COVID-19 related deaths have been recorded since March 2020**, with no new deaths occurring within the last 24hrs. A total of **200,105** samples were tested for COVID-19, with a new **overall positivity rate of 3.4%**.

Table 3. Summary as at end of Epidemiological Week 46.

Confirmed Cases	New Cases in last 7 days	% Change in New Cases in last 7 days	Deaths	New Deaths in last 7 days	% Change in Deaths in last 7 days	Positivity Rate	% Change in Positivity Rate in last 7 days
5,443	1682 ^{iv}	+154.1%	4	0	-100.0%	17.4%	+15.2%

Figure 8. Daily COVID-19 Summary.



GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

As of 20 November 2021, Cayman Islands moved to border re-opening Phase 4 criteria. This includes measures for pre-arrival PCR testing within 72 hours prior to travel date for all travellers age 5 years and older and quarantine exit PCR for all travellers and their quarantine companions aged 4 years and older.

Who can travel: Includes all vaccinated travellers (securely and non-securely verifiable)

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.explore.gov.ky/reopening-plan>

^{iv} Some of the tests and corresponding data for cases for EW45 were reported in EW46, which may result in higher numbers for EW46.

PAHO CO UPDATE:

PILLAR 1 – COORDINATION, PLANNING, FINANCING, AND MONITORING

- a. PAHO CO received approval from USAID, Washington for the Work Plan for the COVID-19 response funding through USAID American Rescue Plan in Jamaica – 23 November 2021.
- b. PAHO CO prepared and submitted the detailed budget and justification to PAHO HQ for the EU RESEMBID/Expertise France project proposal for the Cayman Islands. The quality review was completed– 8 November 2021.
- c. PAHO CO prepared the draft work plan and budget for Grant 452029 for Jamaica – 25 November 2021
- d. PAHO CO submitted the requested documentation for carry-over of WHO funds for projects ending in 2022 – 26 November 2021
- e. PAHO CO continued the finalization of obligations of PAHO Assessed Contributions for COVID-19 response expiring in December 2021. – 26 November 2021.
- f. PAHO CO provided Ministries of Health of JAM, BMU and CYM with updated information on the WHO classification of Omicron (B.1.1.529) variant as a SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern – 26 November 2021.
- g. PAHO CO remains embedded in the MOHW, JAM EOC and provides 24-hr technical support and guidance, including at the daily EOC briefing meeting.
- h. PAHO CO maintained the technical lead for Health for the COVID-19 response within the UNCT and the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) system.

PILLAR 3 – SURVEILLANCE, EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION, CONTACT TRACING & ADJUSTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL MEASURES

- a. PAHO CO provided reminders to the IHR NFP, JAM on follow-up of information received from PAHO IHR on contacts of travellers after departure from Jamaica and the provision of reports – during the week.

PILLAR 4 – POINTS OF ENTRY, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT, AND MASS GATHERINGS

- a. PAHO CO in collaboration with the MOHW conducted IHR Audits at the Contingent Designated Points of Entry and an assessment of the Port of Montego Bay, from 22 - 24 November 2021
- b. The multi-sectoral IHR Stakeholders Advisory Group meeting was held on 25 November 2021 with PAHO leading the review of the application of the IHR State Party Self-Assessment Annual Report Tool and completion of scoring for 2021 to date for some of the core capacities.

PILLAR 7 – CASE MANAGEMENT, CLINICAL OPERATIONS AND THERAPEUTICS

- a. Procurement of medical equipment and supplies and HEOC equipment continued based on approved lists received from the Ministry of Health and Wellness. – 26 November 2021.

PILLAR 9: MAINTAINING ESSENTIAL HEALTH SERVICES AND SYSTEMS

- a. For the Smart Health Care Facilities project, 9 Health Centres are now at the stage of practical completion, including the St. Ann’s Bay Health Centre which is the first Health Centre to complete major retrofitting. Arrangements will be made for the official Handing-Over Event.
- b. Preparations continued for World AIDS Day 2021 (1 December 2021) activities with the theme, End Inequalities. End AIDS – 26 November 2021.

PILLAR 10 - VACCINATION

- a. PAHO CO provided the WHO Interim Statement on COVID-19 vaccination for children and adolescents to Ministries of Health, JAM, BMU and CYM - 26 November 2021
- b. On-going technical guidance was provided for the MOHW, Jamaica on vaccine supply and delivery.

GAPS / CHALLENGES

1. Intra Action Reviews have not been conducted in JAM, BMU and CYM and will be arranged for the first semester in 2022 to ensure that recommendation for strengthening pandemic preparedness and response can be provided based on lessons identified for the COVID-19 response.
2. Vaccine coverage remains low in Jamaica with a lack of evidence on the cause for vaccine hesitancy in various population groups.
3. The MOHW, Jamaica health sector COVID-19 program, protocols, and budget to guide support for the response are to be updated.

NEEDS

1. JAMAICA

- a. Health EOC strengthening.
- b. Assessment of causes for low COVID-19 vaccination coverage to guide implementation of appropriate strategies
- c. Support for National Laboratory Services long-term development plan.
- d. PPEs, laboratory equipment, reagents, and supplies.
- e. Medical equipment and supplies for isolation and quarantine facilities, wards, and rooms.
- f. Strengthening of pandemic preparedness planning.

2. BERMUDA

- a. Strengthening of the Health Disaster Management Programme.

3. CAYMAN ISLANDS

- a. Strengthening of the Health Disaster Management Programme and surveillance were noted as priorities to enhance the COVID-19 and any other responses for health emergencies.