

HURRICANE BERYL

Jamaica

PAHO



Pan American
Health
Organization



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE
Americas

Situation Report #2 - 5-July-2024

HIGHLIGHTS

- An All-Clear notification was issued by Government on the evening of 4 July 2024. However, the country was asked to remain on alert as a Tropical Wave is expected to move across the island from the evening of Friday, 5 July 2024 into Saturday, 6 July 2024.
- Eight hundred and seventy (870) shelters were prepared for activation. This includes a shelter for the Homeless with capacity for 200 persons. 265 shelters were activated islandwide, with 100 deactivated on 4 July 2024.
 - As of 4 July 2024, 165 shelters remain activated with a population of approximately 2,000.
- The Sangster International Airport (SIA), Montego Bay, St. James re-opened on 4 July 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and the Norman Manley International Airport (NMIA), Kingston will re-open on 5 July 2024 at 5:00 a.m.
- Electricity services were disrupted to 60% of the customers of the Jamaica Public Service Company on Wednesday, 3 July 2024 by the effects of the hurricane.
- The National Water Commission has advised that 70% of its customers are without water supply due to the effects of the hurricane and the lack of electricity. The parishes of Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth (Southern Region) and Portland and St. Mary (North-East Region) are the worst affected
- Communications services have been severely affected islandwide with no cellular telephone or internet services in sections of all parishes, with 50% of cell sites without power.
- Damage assessments are being conducted by all sectors, but is limited by access in mainly the southern parishes due to blocked roads, which are impassable due to flooding, fallen trees, utility poles, land slippages and debris.
- The Health Emergency Operations Centre (HEOC) at National, Regional, Parish and Hospital levels were fully activated as of 2 July 2024 from 7:00 am.
- Thirty eight percent of all health facilities have suffered damage, including to roofs, windows and doors. There are a total of 24 Government hospitals and 327 Health Centres.
- All 24 Government hospitals and the University Hospital of the West Indies remained functional throughout the hurricane for emergency and in-patient services only. This level of service continued into 4 July 2024.
- All 9 hospitals in the Southern Region (5 hospitals, including a referral hospital) (Parishes of Clarendon, Manchester and St. Elizabeth) and Western Region (4 hospitals including a referral hospital) (Parishes-Westmoreland, Hanover, St. James and Trelawny) continue to function on generators and water from storage tanks, as the utility services have been disrupted since 2 July 2024.
- The Government of Jamaica officially released the Disaster Risk Management (Enforcement Measures) (Hurricane Beryl) Order, 2024 and the Disaster Risk Management (Declaration of Disaster Area) (Hurricane Beryl) Order, 2024 on July 2, 2024 that expires July 6, 2024. With the exception of a defined list of essential workers, all persons in Jamaica were required to stay at their home or residence (including national shelters) from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. , Wednesday, July 3, 2024.

IN NUMBERS

Approx. 2.8m

(entire population)

**Potentially
exposed**

03 Deaths¹

52 Injured²

TBD Missing

TBD Evacuated

**38% of health
facilities
damaged³**

165 Shelters

**Approx. 2,000 in
Shelters**

¹ Deaths

- A young woman - Hit by fallen tree - Hanover
- 20 year old male – Drowning in a gully in Kingston and St. Andrew
- Elderly male – Collapse of wall (land slippage) in Manchester.

² Injuries took were recorded From 5 out of 14 Parishes

³ 38% of all health facilities (Total = 24 hospitals and 327 Health Centres).



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HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

- a. Due to the on-going outbreak of dengue and increased 7-day positivity rate for COVID-19 at 1 July 2024 (24.5%), there is a very high risk of heightened transmission of these diseases and other respiratory and vector -borne diseases, based on the effects of the hurricane, such as close contact in shelters and homes and increase in breeding sites. (The average 7-day positivity rate for COVID-19 in May 2024 was 4% and June 2024 17%. COVID-19 virus is the predominant respiratory virus circulating in July 2024,)
- b. The lack of running water and pooling of water will also increase the risk of water-borne outbreaks.
- c. The lack of electricity and running water also exacerbates the risk of food-borne outbreaks.
- d. In-coming reports indicate that houses of some staff members, in particular in the Southern Region have been damaged and need urgent repairs. Staff welfare, including mental health and psychosocial support will be required to prevent the impact on the health team, such as burn-out and ultimately service delivery.



HEALTH SECTOR NEEDS

Jamaica

- Repairs to damaged hospitals - mainly for roofing, windows and doors
- Repairs/replacement of equipment and supplies - to be finalized and quantified
- Radios for all hospitals, 13 Health Departments, 4 Regional Health Authorities and the MOHW EOC and critical personnel in the MOHW.
- Specifications are to be finalized to ensure compatibility with the Government of Jamaica system.
- Immediate replacement/rental of generators to maintain service delivery
- Review of generator capacity at hospitals islandwide to ensure that standards are met.

Cayman Islands

- Very limited structural damage reported so far from winds.
- Flooding remains the main concern, with combinations of storm surge and continuing heavy rains.
- No reported fatalities or serious health issues so far.
- Expecting severe weather for another 4 hours and 'All Clear' for Grand Cayman noon to mid-afternoon..
- Sister Islands - Little Cayman and Cayman Brac - are less affected.
- 16 shelters across all 3 islands with 1,000 persons in shelters.

