

HIGHLIGHTS

- On 6 July 2024, all hospitals were functioning with 14 offering full services and 10 emergency and in-patient services.
- The MOHW plans to have all Health Centres operational on Monday, 8 July 2024, except the few that were closed prior to Hurricane Beryl for renovations.
- 18 hospitals (75%) are receiving water from the National Water Commission; 14 (58%) have electricity from the national grid.
- The MOHW submitted a preliminary Needs List for hospital emergency care equipment, field hospital and equipment, vaccine refrigerators and generators.
- The CERF proposal was submitted by the UN on 5 July 2024 and prioritizes lifesaving interventions related to shelter, food security/cash transfers and water and sanitation to be delivered via IOM, WFP and UNICEF, respectively.
- The activation level of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) was upgraded to Level 2 on 6 July 2024, for damage and impact assessment and early recovery efforts.

IN NUMBERS

2.8m

**Potentially
exposed¹**

03 Deaths²

61 Injured³

00 Missing⁴

00 Evacuated⁵

**82 Health
facilities with
major damage**

1: Statistical Institute of
Jamaica data

2,3,4,5: Assessments are still
ongoing and what is reported is
based on preliminary information.

6: Ministry of Health and Wellness
report (5 July 2024)



HEALTH

SERVICE DELIVERY – 6 July 2024

- All hospitals were offering normal services except for the 9 hospitals in the Southern Region, which continued to offer emergency and in-patient services only, utilizing generators and water from storage tanks. 7 of 24 hospitals are receiving electricity from the national grid.
- Bed Occupancy levels islandwide remain reduced, averaging approximately 64% with a bed count of 3,186. Two facilities - Savanna La Mar General (Westmoreland) and May Pen Hospital (Clarendon) continued to have occupancy levels exceeding 100%, on 6 July 2024.
- The plan is to resume full services at all hospitals and health centres on Monday, 8 July 2024. The final decision will be made following assessments on the morning of 8 July 2024.

SURVEILLANCE

- Surveillance data provided by the MOHW HEOC and from multiple sources indicate recent increases in respiratory illnesses up to 01 July 2024, including an increase in SARS-CoV-2 positivity to levels indicating very high transmission and displacing Influenza A as the predominant circulating respiratory virus. Dengue cases were noted to be declining. (See Appendix 1 for details.)
- Sentinel respiratory surveillance data (78 sites) - Based on data submitted to PAHO via FluID reporting, SARI cases up to 28 June 2024 had exceeded the epidemic threshold. The proportion of total hospital admissions that were SARI cases up to 22 June 2024 exceeded the seasonal threshold but remained below epidemic levels.
- Shelter surveillance is on-going and has revealed no outbreaks.

Vaccination Services

- All functional vaccination sites offered services.

Imaging Services

- There has been no change in these services, with sixteen (16) of the eighteen imaging facilities providing services.

Laboratory Services

- Normal services resumed at all laboratory facilities islandwide on 6 July 2024.
- The National Blood Transfusion Service has ensured supplies with 240 units of Fresh Frozen Plasma islandwide (central level and hospitals) and 18 bags of platelets.
- Environmental Health and Sanitation Testing - Sufficient supplies of reagents and consumables are available.



HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

- 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.
- The lack of running water and pooling of water will increase the risk of water-borne outbreaks.
- The lack of electricity and running water also exacerbates the risk of food-borne outbreaks.
- Burn-out of staff remains a potential challenge to personnel and service delivery.
- Limited telephone services and internet connectivity hinders the timeliness of alerts and reports.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- 82 health facilities have suffered major damage.
- At least 10 hospitals are included in the 34 facilities with major roof damage.
- Damage assessment continues islandwide to determine the total number of health facilities with damage (major, medium and minor) and determine needs.
- The preliminary estimate for repairs of all health facility damage is JMD 1.9B (USD 1.2M).





WASH

- The MOHW team is monitoring water quality and other aspects of environmental health.



SHELTERS

- As at 06 July 2024, there are 57 shelters open across the island (36 SRHA, 18 WRHA, 2 SERHA and 1 NERHA), with 357 occupants. No report of illness has been made.
- Daily monitoring by the public health team continues.



HEALTH NEEDS

Immediate needs

- A preliminary Needs List has been submitted by the MOHW.
- Urgent repairs to damaged hospitals - mainly for roofing, windows and doors
- Radios for all hospitals, 13 Health Departments, 4 Regional Health Authorities and the MOHW EOC and critical personnel in the MOHW. Specifications are being 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.



RESPONSE

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- The National Emergency Operation Center is functioning at Level 2.
- The MOHW HEOC at all levels remains activated. Twice daily briefing meetings are held to facilitate decision-making for the health response, with the Permanent Secretary, Chief Medical Officer and Health Disaster Coordinator (HDC) in attendance.
- All Ministries, Departments and Agencies are on the field gathering data and information to inform damage assessments and needs analysis.

PAHO RESPONSE:

- PAHO JAM EOC and Incident Management Team remains activated since 1 July 2024.
- PAHO continues to provide technical guidance to the MOHW HEOC and maintains dialogue with the HDC.
- PAHO is represented at the Caribbean Development Partner Group – Disaster Management meetings.
- PAHO is facilitating the implementation of activities within projects that can support the MOHW response, such as the Health Promotion and Communication Plan for Dengue.

COORDINATION

- PAHO continues to be represented at UN meetings, including UNETT, with the last meeting on 4 July 2024.
- Contact remains with partners, as required.