

HIGHLIGHTS

- While the detailed report of infrastructural damages to the 341 health facilities is still being compiled for all Health Regions, the total estimated cost to repair the damages is in excess of J\$1.89 billion (US\$12.17 million).
- To date, detailed assessments reveal that 82 health care facilities have major damage; 64 of these facilities have roof damage, with 40 having major roof damage.
- On 11 July 2024, service delivery has returned to normal in most facilities but remains compromised at approximately 16% of health facilities. There is evidence of damage to biomedical equipment which is being assessed.
- However, all hospitals remained functional with 19 offering full services and 5 emergency services only. Two (8%) of 24 hospitals are still utilizing generators due to lack of electricity supply from the national grid-one each in the Southern Region and North-East Region.
- Vaccination services are being offered at all operational sites islandwide.
- Inter-sectoral meetings have been held in collaboration with the MOHW and UN agencies to bolster services to the worst affected communities, in particular in the Southern Region, in areas such as Mental Health and Psychosocial Support.



Health Facility – Post Hurricane Beryl

IN NUMBERS

2.8m

**Potentially
exposed¹**

04 Deaths²

72 Injured³

00 Missing⁴

00 Evacuated⁵

**82 Health
facilities with
major damage⁶**

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 (12 July 2024)



HEALTH

SERVICE DELIVERY – 11 July 2024

- In-patient bed occupancy increased marginally from an average of 81% to 81.5% in a 24-hour period, with 3,829 in-patients; 4 of 24 hospitals have an occupancy of over 100%; 2 in the Southern Region and 1 each in the Western and North-East Regions.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MPHSS)

- Two meetings were held on 11 July 2024 to identify available resources, actions taken and interventions planned for MPHSS in affected communities and shelters; PAHO provided technical guidance in the activation of the MPHSS Technical Working Group and leads the UN Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Group.
- Plans are underway for capacity building by PAHO for the MOHW and partners team for MPHSS to conduct a rapid needs assessment for MPHSS.
- The MOHW Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Help Line continues to receive calls daily which have been appropriately managed by the team of professionals.

Vaccination Services

- The MOHW has identified a need for 66 vaccine refrigerators and 66 generators at vaccination sites; PAHO has been requested to provide support in site assessments to inform the specifications of the refrigerators.
- Temperature excursion was noted at one vaccination site, with investigations underway to determine use of the vaccines.

Laboratory Services

- All public laboratories have returned to normal pre-Hurricane Beryl services as of 10 July 2024.

SURVEILLANCE

- Surveillance data provided by the MOHW HEOC and other sources indicate that the COVID-19 and dengue outbreaks in progress prior to the hurricane, continue. Additionally, while syndromic surveillance data indicate that national levels of all syndromes remain below thresholds, for some parishes, thresholds were exceeded for gastroenteritis, fever and rash, fever and neurological symptoms, and violence-related injuries. Sub-national monitoring continues. No additional outbreaks were reported up to July 11, 2024. (See Appendix 1.)
- Based on data submitted to PAHO via FluID reporting, SARI cases up to 28 June 2024 had exceeded the epidemic threshold. Details are available in the MOHW Weekly Surveillance Bulletin.



HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

- Due to the on-going outbreak of dengue and 7-day positivity rate for COVID-19 at 8 July 2024 (22.5%), 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 also increase the risk of water-borne outbreaks.
- The lack of electricity and running water also exacerbates the risk of food-borne outbreaks.
- Limited telephone services and internet connectivity continue to hinder the timeliness of alerts and reports.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- 82 health facilities have been assessed with major damage; 64 have damage to roofs, 28 to windows, 17 to walls and 15 to gutters, as well as to storm drains.
- The MOHW continues detailed assessments islandwide to determine the total number of health facilities with damage and cost estimates.





ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- Water Quality: Inspections are on-going across the island. Most of the samples from private and public (NWC) water supplies tested positive for residual chlorine. No residual chlorine was found in samples from municipal supplies in one Region and residents were advised to boil or treat water according to MOHW guidelines. Water distribution remains a challenge due to lack of electricity.
- Food Safety: Inspection of food facilities continues. The majority have been found to be satisfactory. Those that have been found unsatisfactory are primarily due to lack of potable water and were ordered closed.
- Vector control: Interventions are on-going and there are adequate stock levels of vector control equipment, chemicals and supplies; a higher than average number of communities inspected have mosquito breeding sites.

RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Health promotion and communication activities are on-going with focus on Dengue, water safety, food safety and leptospirosis; public service announcements were made on 6 radio stations, with videos and cards circulated on social media, on the priority topics to prevent disease outbreaks.



SHELTERS

- As at 11 July 2024, there are seven (7) shelters still open across the island, with 53 occupants.



HEALTH NEEDS

Immediate needs

- Urgent repairs to damaged health facilities - mainly for roofing, windows and doors.
- Provision of generators for service delivery and maintaining the cold chain.
- Repairs and replacement of damaged equipment
- Items for improving operational capacity of 17 sub-national HEOCs (4 Regional Health Authorities and 13 Parish Health Departments) -20 laptops, printers, scanners, etc.
- Emergency care equipment and other items for patient care and transportation – field hospital and equipment, jump kits for field response teams
- Enhancement of cold chain – vaccine refrigerators (66)
(See MOHW Needs List-8 July 2024)



RESPONSE

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- The National Emergency Operations Center remains activated at Level 2 since 6 July 2024.
- The MOHW HEOC remains activated at national and sub-national levels to coordinate the health response and early recovery.
- Dialogue on humanitarian assistance is on-going with UN agencies and partners to determine areas of support and improve coordination.
- Needs lists are being finalized for all sectors.

PAHO RESPONSE:

- PAHO JAM EOC and Incident Management Team remain activated since 1 July 2024
- Provision of technical guidance to the MOHW Executive and HEOC on all matters for health.
- Implementation of activities within projects that will support the MOHW response.
- Lead the health aspect of UNETT to ensure priorities for health are identified and provision of

humanitarian assistance is streamlined for the health sector.

- Membership in all UN sector Groups to guide health aspects, such as WASH, Food Security, Shelters and Social Protection.
- Lead the UN Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Sub-Group and arrange for interventions, such as capacity building for trainers and team to conduct rapid needs assessment; Shared 20 Psychological First Aid (PFA) manuals, provided links for participation in the PFA course with the MOHW and supported the reactivation of the MHPSS TWG.
- Finalize arrangements for provision of 50 Primary Care backpacks based on MOHW Needs List.
- Re-assignment of one epidemiologist from IHM, PHE to support the PAHO JAM CO.
- Participation in the UN meeting with International Development Partners on areas of support.
- Engagement with partners for resource mobilization, including sharing of MOHW Needs List..
- Representation at the Caribbean Development Partners Group – Disaster Management meetings.

COORDINATION

- Support of MOHW with coordination of international partners offering humanitarian assistance and EMTs.