

# COVID-19

## PAHO JAMAICA CO EOC – COVID-19 - SITUATION REPORT #203 29 SEPTEMBER 2020 (as at 6:00 p.m.)

### SUMMARY

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Countries /Territories	Cases (New cases - 24 hrs.)	Active cases	Recovered	Deaths (New deaths - 24 hrs.) [Crude case fatality rate]	Samples tested (Positivity rate)
*Jamaica	6,482 (74)	4,419 (68.2%)	1,867 (28.8%)	107 (6) [1.6%]	78,622 (8.3%)
Bermuda	181 (0)	5 (2.8%)	167 (92.3%)	9 (0) [4.9%]	64,058 (0.3%)
Cayman Islands	211 (0)	2 (1.0%)	208 (98.5%)	1 (0) [0.5%]	39,240 (0.5%)

\*73 confirmed cases (returned overseas prior to recovery)

#### 1. Jamaica

- a. Confirmed cases: 6,482 (74 new)
  - i. 480 imported and 6002 locally acquired cases - 390 local transmission – not epidemiologically linked, 802 contacts of confirmed cases, 236 related to a workplace cluster and 4,574 under investigation
  - ii. Sex: 2939 M (45.3%) / 3524 F (54.3%). 24 (0.4%) cases had no sex designation listed.
  - iii. Age: Mean: 39 years / Median 36 years / Age range: 1 day – 104 years
- b. Deaths: 107 (6 new) (1.6%) (on 18 March, 31 March, 1 April, 7 April, 14 April, 20 April, 22 April, 23 April, 3 May, 2 June, 21 July, 31 July, 5 August, 9 August, 15 August, 20 August, 23 August, 24 August x 3 persons, 25 August, 26 August, 27 August, 28 August, 29 August x 4 persons, 30 August, 31 August x 3, 1 September x 3, 2 September, 3 September x 3, 4 September x 2, 5 September x 3, 6 September x 2, 7 September, 8 September x 4, 10 September x 2, 11 September x 4, 12 September x 4, 13 September x 2, 14 September x 5, 15 September x 2, 16 September x 4, 17 September 2020 x 3, 18 September x 2, 19 September x 5 and 20 September x 5, 21 September, 22 September, 23 September x 2, 24 September 2020 x 3, 25 September, 26 September x 3 and 27 September x 4 and 28 September 2020 x 2.).
  - i. There have been 6 coincidental deaths in persons who are SARS-CoV-2 positive and 10 deaths are under investigation.
- c. Recovered: 1,867 (28.8%)
- d. Returned overseas prior to recovery: 73 (1.1%)
- e. Active cases: 4,419 (68.2%) (13 critically ill, 27 moderately ill)
  - i. Hospitals: 137
  - ii. Transition facilities: 5
  - iii. Home: 4,272
  - iv. National isolation facilities: 5
  - v. Hotel: 0
- f. Isolation: 4,589

- g. Samples tested: 78,622 tested of which 6,482 are positive, 72,079 negative and 61 pending (8.3% positivity rate)
- h. Contacts: 11,735 (total), with 4,265 of these close contacts currently being followed
- i. Quarantine:
  - i. National Quarantine Facilities (NQF): 11
  - ii. Home quarantine: 21,485
  - iii. Community quarantine: 0 communities

## 2. Bermuda:

- a. Confirmed cases: 181 (0 new)
  - i. 70 imported, 90 local transmission (known contact / source, 21 local transmission (known contact / source) and 0 under investigation
- b. Deaths: 9 (4.9%)
- c. Recovered: 167 (92.3%)
- d. Active cases: 5 (2.8%) (0 hospitalized)
- e. Samples tested: 64,058 with 181 positive and 63,877 (0.3% positivity rate)
- f. As of 1 July 2020, Bermuda is in Phase 4 of re-opening – New Normal, with masks to be worn indoors. Outdoor wearing of masks must take pace if physical distancing cannot be maintained. The international airport is open for commercial flights. As of 19 July 2020, the curfew is lifted, except for liquor stores which will close at midnight.

Phase 3B of the re-opening of Bermuda started on 18 June 2020 with masks to be worn in all public spaces, curfew from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., gatherings of no more than 20 persons with physical distancing observed and full personal services subject to public health guidelines. The phased re-opening of Bermuda started as of 2 May 2020 – Phase 2: Expansion of Services started on 21 May 2020 and Phase 3 on 11 June 2020.

## 3. Cayman Islands:

- a. Confirmed cases: 211 (1 new)
- b. Deaths: 1 (0.5%)
- c. Recovered: 208 (98.5%)
- d. Active cases: 2 (1.0%), with 0 hospitalized
- e. Samples tested: 39,240 with 211 positive (0.5% positivity rate)
- f. On 8 August, the government of the Cayman Islands announced that it will extend its border closure another 30 days to 1 October 2020 (phased re-opening) based on the upsurge in COVID-19 cases in other countries.

As of 19 July 2020, there has been an easing of Cayman COVID-19 suppression measures restrictions, while observing social distancing, which will remain in place until 31 August 2020. The use of 3 feet social distancing is now permitted for churches and offices. Other measures include up to 50 persons now allowed to gather in public, dancing and karaoke are allowed and nightclubs can open and accommodate up to 50 persons.

On 17 July 2020, the Government of the Cayman Islands announced that it will re-open its borders to international travelers on 1 September 2020.

As of 21 June 2020, The Cayman Islands is operating at Suppression Level 2 – minimal suppression. In public spaces, measures include wearing of masks,

keeping six feet distance and gatherings of up to 25 persons. Masks must also be worn in certain indoor places. There has been a lifting of the shelter-in-place order, with no hard or soft curfew or restriction of movement by surname. Staff can return to work if safety measures such as physical distancing can be maintained. Only emergency international travel and essential domestic travel are allowed, with specific measures in place for domestic travel to and from all ports.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Jamaica, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands started preparedness for any possible introduction of the novel coronavirus – COVID-19 in early January 2020, immediately following identification of the novel coronavirus on 7 January 2020 in China.

The respective national level Committees / Councils continue to guide all sectors in the required preparedness and response actions.

## ACTIONS TAKEN:

### Jamaica:

#### - Government of Jamaica

- From 8 September 2020 to 7 October 2020:

- There will be an all-island curfew from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. daily.
- Gatherings should not exceed 15 persons and social distance of a minimum of 6 feet must be maintained.
- Churches are prohibited from hosting funerals, conventions and other special events.
- Burials may continue, however, only 15 persons are allowed at the graveside, including the clergy and funeral home personnel.
- Worship services may continue to be held within the existing guidelines, requiring temperature checks, sanitization and the mandatory wearing of masks.

- From 27 August 2020 to 7 October 2020, there will be a suspension of entertainment events requiring permits.

- As of 20 August 2020, all residents of Brazil, Mexico, Panama and USA, 12 years of age or older, who are planning to travel to Jamaica are required to obtain and upload a negative COVID-19 PCR test. This is regardless of nationality / passport or travel purpose. The sample must be taken within 10 days of the intended date of arrival in Jamaica. This also includes business travelers who will still be sampled at the airport.

-The Government of Jamaica continues its border management at Points of Entry from 1 July 2020 with health screening and risk assessment to determine the need for sampling for SARS-CoV-2.

- As of 15 July 2020, it was mandatory that non-residents, except business travelers, visiting Jamaica aged 12 years and older who are residents of locations designated as high risk obtain a COVID-19 PCR test within 10 days prior to their intended date of travel to Jamaica.

-All persons applying to enter on [visitjamaica.com](http://visitjamaica.com) on or after 7 July 2020 from the designated high risk areas will be required to upload their COVID-19 PCR test certificate as part of the application process.

-Business travelers will have samples taken at the POEs and remain in quarantine at their hotels / place of residence until the result is received.

-Residents - nationals or non-nationals ordinarily resident in Jamaica - returning from high risk areas will be quarantined at home for 14 days. Testing will be done if persons

are assessed as high risk personally or are symptomatic or become symptomatic during the 14 day period.

- **PAHO:**

1. Coordination and Planning

- a. PAHO CO remains embedded in the MOHW EOC and provides 24-hour technical support and guidance, including to the twice daily EOC briefing meetings. Focus for the week of 20 September 2020 was on guidance for the MOHW, Jamaica on:
  - i. Strategies for suppressing transmission during community transmission,
  - ii. Laboratory testing strategy, including rapid antigen test,
  - iii. Bed management, and
  - iv. Infection Prevention and Control.
- b. PAHO CO briefed International Development Partners and Donors on COVID-19 situation globally, regionally and locally and on the priority strategies of PAHO/WHO and identified gaps and needs for the health sector in Jamaica. – 23 September 2020.
- c. PAHO CO hosted a special session in collaboration with PAHO and MOHW teams on PAHO Bed Management System for COVID-19 for Ministries of Health, Jamaica, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands and academia (37 participants) – 11 September 2020.
- d. PAHO CO hosted in collaboration with PAHO HQ team a special session on Infection Prevention and Control and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for health care workers for personnel of Ministries of Health islandwide, Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands and academia (154 participants) – 10 September 2020
- e. PAHO CO hosted in collaboration with PAHO, WHO and MOHW teams, a special session for the MOHW Jamaica team islandwide and academia on Human Resources for Health and the COVID-19 – HRH Estimation tools - 10 September 2020.
- f. PAHO CO hosted in collaboration with PHE HIM a special session for MOHW senior technical team at national and sub-national levels (54 participants) on PAHO modelling tools – EpiEstim and COVIDSIM – 31 August 2020.
- g. PAHO CO hosted a special session with PHE HIM for the CMO and senior MOHW technical team which determined that the transmission type for Jamaica is community transmission as of 30 August 2020. – 2 September 2020.
- h. PAHO CO facilitated the participation of MOHW technical teams and national, sub-national and hospital levels in the PAHO session on Clinical Management – 4 September 2020.
- i. PAHO CO hosted a special session on the COVAX facility for the PSs and CMOs of Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands which was briefed

by the PAHO WDC team, to ensure a full understanding of the options to secure vaccines and timeframes for submission of required documents to GAVI – 28 August 2020.

- j. PAHO CO continued to monitor project implementation and provided updates to partners on the PAHO/USAID, PAHO/Canada and PAHO/DFID funded work plans. – 26 August 2020.
- k. PAHO CO provided CMOs and HDCs, Jamaica Bermuda and Cayman Islands with WHO guidance document on Home Care for patients with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID and management of their contacts, 12 August 2020 and WHO and UNICEF document on Advice on the use of masks for children in the community in the context of COVID-19, 21 August 2020 – 22 August 2020
- l. PAHO CO continues to serve as the coordinator for MEDEVAC for COVID-19 for the UN and updated Heads of Entities on the provisions that have been made for eligible staff members and families – 17 August 2020.
- m. PAHO CO provided the CMOs and HDCs, Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands with two PAHO Epidemiological Alerts: Complications and sequelae of COVID-19-12 August 2020 and COVID-19 during COVID-19-13 August 2020-12 August 2020 – on 13 August 2020
- n. PAHO CO provided technical guidance to the EMT Coordinators and HDCs, Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands for the EMT Coordinators course, including the virtual CICOM simulation exercise – 10 – 11 August 2020
- o. PAHO CO provided the CMOs and HDCs, Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands with the WHO guidance document: Public Health Surveillance for COVID-19 and the WHO Scientific Brief: Estimating Mortality from COVID-19 – on 8 August 2020.
- p. PAHO CO provided invitations to the EMT Coordinators and Health Disaster Coordinators, Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands to attend the Caribbean EMT Coordinators Refresher course of 10 and 11 August 2020. – 3 and 8 August 2020.
- q. PAHO CO provided HDCs and EMT Coordinators, Jamaica, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands with updated information on the NOAA, USA forecast for the hurricane season 2020 – 6 August 2020, as well as information on the required preparedness measures and updates on Hurricane / Tropical Storm Isaias – at least twice daily. - up to 1 August 2020.
- r. PAHO CO provided the CMOs and HDCs, Jamaica, Bermuda and Cayman Islands with the WHO guidance document: Public Health Considerations While Resuming International Travel – on 1 August 2020.
- s. PAHO CO in collaboration with the MOHW completed and submitted the WHO COVID-19 Monitoring and Evaluation weekly report for 26 July – 1 August 2020 – 5 August 2020

- t. PAHO CO in collaboration with the HIM team, PHE, WDC is planning for a training session on PAHO Modelling tools for the MOHW Epidemiology and Research teams on 31 August 2020
  - u. PAHO CO submitted to the UN RCO the updated UNETT and Health Cluster mechanism documents, in particular on PAHO's roles and responsibilities – 30 July 2020.
  - v. PAHO CO participated in the UNCT meeting (30 July 2020) and the UN Emergency Technical Team meeting (30 July 2020) to ensure efficient coordination of the health sector response for Hurricane Isaias in the context of COVID-19.
  - w. PAHO CO in collaboration with the IHR NFP briefed the multi-sectoral IHR Stakeholders Advisory Group, including the Ministries of Finance and Planning and Agriculture, Jamaica Defence Force and the Ports Authority on COVID-19 response and provided links to PAHO / WHO material on coordination and planning and technical guidelines – 17 July 2020.
  - x. PAHO CO provided a progress report to the Follow-up Meeting on COVID-19 External Partner Coordination hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and the Planning Institute of Jamaica on resource mobilization and the status of implementation of programmes and projects for the COVID-19 response, including those funded by USAID, UN SG MPTF, Global Affairs Canada, UK DFID, EU, PAHO/WHO and the Government of Jamaica – 24 June 2020. PAHO CO heightened its collaboration with MOHW to advance timely implementation of work plans for the COVID-19 response for USAID, DFID, Global Affairs Canada, UN SG Multi-Partner Trust Fund, with on-going procurement.
2. Risk Communication and Community Engagement
- a. PAHO completed a video on Breastfeeding in the context of COVID-19 – 5 August 2020.
  - b. PAHO CO in collaboration with the MOHW and USAID finalized educational material, including pull-up banners for the Points of Entry on quarantine, social distancing and IPC - 3 July 2020
  - c. PAHO CO provided support to the MOHW external stakeholders working group on the MOHW health promotion NCD strategy and facilitated discussions on how health promotion in schools can be better targeted.
3. Resource mobilization
- a. PAHO CO maintained the lead for health for the COVID-19 response within the UNCT and GOJ system and coordinated the updating of the Health Pillar of the UNCT Consolidated Response Matrix of Ministries, Departments and Agencies, Jamaica requests and the PAHO CO SPRP 9-pillar plan and budget.
  - b. PAHO CO continued the implementation of the USAID, UN SG MPTF, Global Affairs Canada and DFID work plans for the COVID-19 response.
  - c. PAHO CO in collaboration with USAID provided an additional 30 VHF radios for EOC coordination and 200 backpacks for community workers.

- d. PAHO CO provided PPEs- March, April and July 2020
  - e. Review of COVID-19 response plan and budget for the health sector to guide proposals for funding
  - f. Meetings with UNCT and International Development Partners – since February 2020
4. Research
- a. Support MOHW to formulate the research agenda for COVID-19, including for early investigations and maintain membership on the Essential National Health Research Committee – April 2020 and on-going.