



This situation update is on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported cases and deaths, Globally, Regionally, for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories, and the United Kingdom Overseas Territories.



Countries urged to face challenge of better access to health for populations of African descent in COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic “disproportionally affects the most vulnerable – especially our populations of African descent” and PAHO Director Carissa F. Etienne on Wednesday urged health authorities to “face this pressing challenge.”

In a press briefing, Etienne said, “We’re taking this issue as a priority and mainstreaming it into our programs,” focusing on better data for targeted prevention and care, greater participation in health programs that address communities of African descent, and improved access to health services.

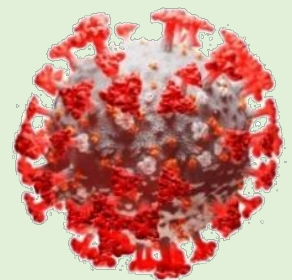
Although data for the region is limited, death rates among black and mixed-race Brazilians are 1.5 times higher than among white citizens, and in Ecuador, Afro descendant males are three times more likely to die from COVID-19 than their female counterparts and they suffer 50% higher death rates from COVID than men in the country’s mestizo population, Etienne said. “In the U.S., the CDC reports that a black person is 2.6 times more likely to contract the virus and twice as likely to die from COVID-19 than their white counterparts,” she noted.

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COVID-19 case update:

On 4 December 2020, Anguilla and St. Lucia each recorded a new case.

COUNTRY	COVID-19 CASE UPDATE
Anguilla	last case on 4 December 2020
Antigua and Barbuda	last 2 cases on 3 December 2020
Barbados	last case on 3 December 2020
British Virgin Islands (UK)	last case on 14 October 2020
Dominica	last case on 30 November 2020
Grenada	last case on 20 November 2020
Montserrat	no new cases for 134 days
Saint Kitts and Nevis	last case on 23 November 2020
Saint Lucia	last case on 4 December 2020
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	last case on 26 November 2020

Updates

Global

64,919,200 confirmed cases,

1,505,442 deaths *in*

216 countries, areas, or territories

PAHO - Region of the Americas

27,754,113 confirmed cases,

742,210 deaths *in*

54 countries, areas, or territories

Reported number of cumulative COVID-19 cases in the Caribbean sub-region and corresponding incidence rate (per 100,000 persons) by country/territory (sub-national level). As of 4 December 2020.



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Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories

Country	Confirmed Cases	Deaths	No of Tests	Transmission Type	Status of Schools	Travel Restrictions	Masks Mandatory	State of Emergency (Curfew ends)	COVID-19 Web Address and Hotline
Anguilla	7	0	3,052	Sporadic cases	Schools open	Yes	No	No	https://beatcovid19.ai/ (264) 476-7627
Antigua & Barbuda	144	4	4,819	Sporadic cases	Ant: Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes		Yes	https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=42 (268) 462-6843
Barbados	284	7	48,896	Clusters of cases	2 students infected from one school which closed from 5 Oct. to 16 Oct. 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/covid-19/ (246) 536-4500
British Virgin Islands	72	1	7,132	Clusters of cases	Phased reopening – Nov. 9, 26; 4 th Jan. 2021.	Yes	Yes	No	https://bvi.gov.vg/covid-19 (284) 852-7650
Dominica	85	0	6,173	Clusters of cases	Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes	Specific settings only	No	http://dominica.gov.dm/corona (767) 448-2151
French Guiana	11,344	71	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	
Grenada	41	0	3,396	Sporadic cases	Varied stages of reopening	Lifted	Yes	Yes	https://covid19.gov.gd/ (473) 458-4787 / (473) 538-4787
Guadeloupe	8,427	149	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.guadeloupe.ars.sante.fr/
Martinique	5,520	41	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.martinique.ars.sante.fr/
Montserrat	13	1	643	No cases	Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes	No	No	http://www.gov.ms/latest-on-the-coronavirus/
Saint Barthélemy	152	0	-	Sporadic cases	-	-	-	-	
St Kitts & Nevis	22	0	4,096	No cases	Schools reopened 9 Sep. 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.covid19.gov.kn/
Saint Lucia	262	2	16,500	Clusters of cases	Schools remain closed.	Yes	Specific settings only	Yes	https://www.covid19response.lc/
Saint Martin	744	12		Community transmission	-		-	-	https://www.stmartinweek.fr/
St Vincent & the Grenadines	87	0	10,423	Sporadic cases	Varied stages of reopening	No	Specific settings only	No	http://health.gov.vc/health/index.php/c (784) 534-4325
Total	27,204	288	105,130						

Table 1: COVID-19 status in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories. 'Sporadic cases' indicates countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected. 'Clusters of cases' indicates countries/territories/areas experiencing cases clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures.

Data in red new. Disclaimer: Data is updated by 5:00PM each day and there could be delays in reporting. Any discrepancies from national data figures will be edited on the next issue.

PAHO/WHO assisting Barbados to strengthen its COVID-19 isolation facilities



The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization's (PAHO/WHO's) commitment to assisting Barbados during the COVID-19 pandemic was again demonstrated during an official handover of a motor vehicle, medical and information technology equipment, and supplies.

These items, a humanitarian donation from the PAHO/WHO Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries to the Ministry of Health and Wellness, are intended to support Barbados in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic as the country has developed new structures to augment the health system based on the continued cluster of cases from arriving international travelers.

PAHO/WHO Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, Dr Yitades Gebre, presented Minister of Health and Wellness, Lt. Col. The Hon. Jeffery Bostic with a new 2020 Nissan Urvan 2.5DA GX Minibus to support services at the Isolation Facility at Harrison's Point and transport testing supplies and specimens from SARS-Cov-2 sample collection sites to the national laboratory. Additionally, the following were donated:

- Five (5) Oxygen Concentrators
- Two (2) Portable Oxygen Generators
- Three (3) boxes containing 20 packs each of head covers
- Two (2) boxes containing a total of 18 packs of shoe covers
- Fifteen thousand (15,000) fever strips to self-monitor body temperature and biohazard bags for disposal

In his remarks, Dr Jean Marie Rwangabwoba, PAHO Advisor, Health Surveillance, Disease Prevention and Control, reminded “at the end of this month the pandemic would have been with us for over a year, even though it has been a year in the fight we still have a long way to go.” He said that the pandemic would be remembered in history as one of the most challenging years because of the triple burden, human, social and economic.



Dr Gebre said that Barbados and other PAHO Member States and Territories in the Eastern Caribbean have taken action to control transmission and mitigate the impact of COVID-19 since the emergence of the pandemic in early 2020. Countries also remained committed to regional and global goals to control and eliminate vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs).

“As directed by PAHO’s 58th Directing Council in September 2020, the PAHO Secretariat has been working closely with the GAVI Secretariat to support participation of PAHO Member States in the COVAX Facility. I am very pleased to report that Barbados is one of the first countries to take action and deposit funds for the procurement of a covid-19 vaccines,” Dr Gebre reported.

Lt. Col. the Honourable Jeffrey Bostic, Minister of Health and Wellness, reminisced on the almost one-year anniversary of the pandemic when he assembled a team at the Ministry of Health and Wellness to discuss the then outbreak and possibility of it becoming a pandemic, its impact on Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.

Minister Bostic expressed gratitude, on behalf of the Government of Barbados, for the donations that would assist in management of the positive cases and contain the spread of the coronavirus in



Barbados. Specific to the vehicle, he noted it will tremendously assist in the management of transporting swabs throughout the island.

“Through the length and breadth of COVID-19, Barbados was not fighting the battle alone,” the Minister said, acknowledging appreciation to PAHO for their continued assistance. This invaluable assistance came in the form of technical guidance, human and material resources.

The Minister of Health spoke of the delivery of the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available, noting it will be a massive undertaking. He lauded Barbados’ proud history of executing a very efficient and effective immunization program and said he wished to continue in that manner with the delivery of the COVID-19 vaccine.



[Link to previous Situation Updates](#)

For more information on COVID-19 visit: www.paho.org/coronavirus

