



COVID-19 Situation Update - 122

01 March 2021

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.

The Americas should be a “global priority” for COVID-19 vaccines, PAHO Director says



Region of the Americas

50,709,269
cases

1,212,859
deaths in

56
countries, areas, or territories

Global

113,820,168
cases

2,527,891
deaths in

236
countries, areas, or territories

Washington D.C., February 24, 2021 (PAHO) Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Director Carissa F. Etienne today described the Americas as the “epicenter” of the COVID-19 pandemic and called on the international community to make regional access to vaccines “a global priority.”

“The life-saving power of vaccines should not be a privilege for the few, but a right for all – especially the countries at greatest risk like those in the Americas, which remain the epicenter of the pandemic. Our Region needs vaccines as soon as possible, and as many as possible, to save lives.”

(PAHO) Director Carissa F. Etienne

Asserting that the Americas has been the Region hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, she said “millions remain vulnerable to infection and death.” While 28 countries have started providing COVID-19 vaccines through bilateral deals with manufacturers or small do-

nations from other countries, “that is not enough, and it is not acceptable.”

In a hopeful development, countries receiving COVID-19 vaccines through COVAX – the global mechanism working to ensure equitable access – will receive hundreds of thousands of doses in the next few weeks, she said.

PAHO’s Revolving Fund has been leading efforts on behalf of regional countries to purchase vaccines through COVAX.

But “despite the steps being taken to deliver vaccines as quickly as possible, we are still way behind where we should be as a region,” Dr. Etienne said. “That is why we are urging the global community to make COVID vaccinations in the Americas a global priority as it is where the need and risk are greatest.”

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COVID-19 highlights:

COUNTRY	COVID-19 HIGHLIGHT
Anguilla	As of February 26, 2021, 3,929 persons received their 1 st dose for the AstraZeneca vaccine.
Antigua and Barbuda	<p>The public roll out of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program commenced on Monday, March 1, 2021, with priority to persons 65 years and older and persons who already registered to receive the vaccine.</p> <p>As of February 28, 2021, 2,198 persons in Antigua and Barbuda received their 1st dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine.</p> <p>On March 1, 2021 an essential worker in Antigua and Barbuda sadly died from illnesses related to COVID-19.</p>
Barbados	<p>As of February 28, 2021 Barbados reached the mark of 38,615 persons vaccinated.</p> <p>47 new cases were reported on February 28, 2021. Three deaths were also recorded, 3 females, bringing the total number of COVID-19 related deaths in Barbados to 36.</p>
Dominica	As of Friday, February 26, 2021, 5,924 persons in Dominica received their 1 st dose of vaccine.
Saint Lucia	<p>34 new cases were recorded during the period February 12 - 26, 2021.</p> <p>One more COVID-19 related death was reported on February 28, 2021, bring the total number of deaths to 36.</p>
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	<p>On March 1, 2021, St Vincent and the Grenadines received 40,000 doses of the Covishield AstraZeneca vaccine from India.</p> <p>As of February 28, 2021, 49 new cases were reported.</p>

Classification of transmission scenarios

WHO recommends using the following categories to describe transmission patterns at national and sub-national levels (wherever possible) to guide decisions for preparedness, readiness and response activities.

CATEGORY NAME	DEFINITION
No cases	Countries/territories/areas with no cases
Sporadic cases	Countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected
Cluster of cases	Countries/territories/areas experiencing cases, clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures
Community transmission	<p>Countries/territories/areas experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission defined through an assessment of factors including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large numbers of cases not linkable to transmission chains • Large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance • Multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country/territory/area

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

COUNTRY	CONFIRMED CASES	ACTIVE CASES	DEATHS	# OF TESTS	TRANSMISSION TYPE	STATUS OF SCHOOLS	TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS	MASKS MANDATORY	STATE OF EMERGENCY (CURFEW)	COVID-19 WEB ADDRESS AND HOTLINE
ANGUILLA	18	0	0	9,724	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	No	No	https://beatcovid19.ai/ (264) 476-7627
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	769	448	15	12,908	Clusters of cases	Open	Yes	-	Yes	https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=42 (268) 462-6843
BARBADOS	3,115	636	36	126,114	Community transmission	Online	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/covid-19/ (246) 536-4500
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	153	-	1	21,846	Clusters of cases	Both face to face & online	Yes	Yes	No	https://bvi.gov.vg/covid-19 (284) 852-7650
DOMINICA	142	15	0	11,519	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	Yes	No	http://dominica.gov.dm/corona (767) 448-2151
FRENCH GUIANA	16,627	-	85	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	
GRENADA	148	-	1	21,454	Sporadic cases	Varied stages of reopening	Lifted	Yes	Yes	https://covid19.gov.gd/ (473) 458-4787 / (473) 538-4787
GUADELOUPE	9,968	-	164	--	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.guadeloupe.ars.sante.fr/
MARTINIQUE	6,746	-	45	122,755	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.martinique.ars.sante.fr/
MONTSERRAT	20	-	1	996	No cases	Face to face sessions	Yes	No	No	https://www.gov.ms/covid-19/
SAINT BARTHELEMY	612	-	0	-	Sporadic cases	-	-	-	-	
ST KITTS & NEVIS	41	-	0	9,801	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.covid19.gov.kn/
SAINT LUCIA	3,356	233	36	22,768	Community transmission	Online	Yes	Specific settings	Yes	https://www.covid19response.lc/
SAINT MARTIN	1,554	-	12	-	Community transmission	-	-	-	-	https://www.stmartinweek.fr/
ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	1,628	682	8	36,649	Community transmission	Online	No	Specific settings	No	http://health.gov.vc/health/index.php/c (784) 534-4325
TOTAL	43,732	1,964	395	393,397						

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.

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PAHO's Response

PAHO is procuring and delivering 357, 600 doses of COVID-19 vaccines to Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Countries through May 2021 as allocated by the COVAX Facility

Bridgetown, Barbados, February 27, 2021 (PAHO): On Friday 26 February 2021, the COVAX Facility announced its final allocation of COVID-19 vaccines for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean countries, to receive a proportion of 16% to 20% of their population coverage.

The countries will receive the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine which recently was approved for Emergency Use List (EUL) by World Health Organization. The countries were allocated the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine of 100,800 doses to Barbados; 74,400 doses to St. Lucia; 40,800 doses to Antigua and Barbuda; 21,600 doses to Saint Kitts and Nevis; 45,600 doses to Grenada; 28,800 doses to Dominica; and 45,600 doses to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The PAHO Revolving Fund for Vaccines (RFV) will procure and deliver the COVAX vaccines to the countries in the Eastern Caribbean and Barbados. PAHO is working with its Member Countries to close the purchase orders and to expedite administrative, regulatory, and logistics procedures to scale up vaccinations in the region.

The countries will start receiving their first vaccines through COVAX in March if all the conditions are met. Countries received the letters from COVAX informing about the volumes they will receive until May from the first producer that met the EUL authorization from WHO and finalized the commercial agreement with COVAX.

The PAHO/WHO Representative for Barbados and Eastern Caribbean countries, Dr. Yitades Gebre, stated that, “the priority of the first phase of vaccination is to save lives. We will achieve this by vaccinating the

most exposed groups — like the health professionals, and the most vulnerable groups to developing severe COVID-19 illness.”

COVAX is financially supporting access to vaccines for the four Eastern Caribbean countries of Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, that probably would have to wait many months to get vaccines if the facility did not exist.

Dr. Gebre further stated that “the vaccines will not have an important impact on virus transmission itself in the next months. To achieve herd immunity, we will need to vaccinate at least 70% of the population.” While we are vaccinating the most vulnerable and reducing the mortality, we need to keep all public health measures that can reduce the transmission: the use of masks, physical distancing, avoiding closed and crowded spaces.

About COVAX

COVAX, the vaccines pillar of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, is co-led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the World Health Organization (WHO) – working in partnership with developed and developing country vaccine manufacturers, UNICEF, the World Bank, and others. It is the only global initiative that is working with governments and manufacturers to ensure COVID-19 vaccines are available worldwide to both higher-income and lower-income countries.

[Link](#) to previous Situation Updates



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