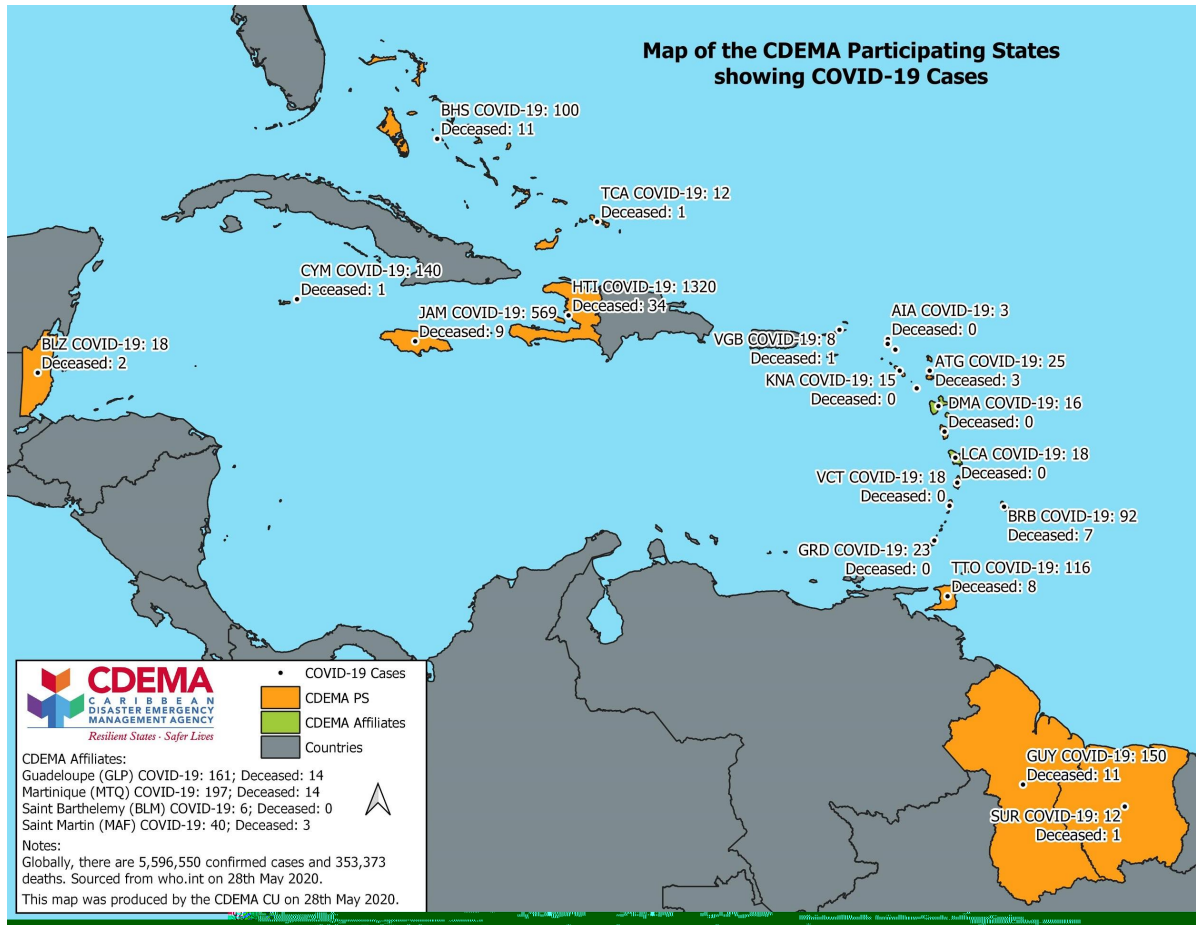


COVID-19 OUTBREAK IN CDEMA PARTICIPATING STATES

SITUATION REPORT No. 12

AS OF 8:00 PM ON 28 MAY, 2020

Restrictions are gradually being lifted among CDEMA Participating States amidst ongoing management of the COVID-19 pandemic



According to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Situation Report No. 50 (dated 26 May, 2020), there are 23,792 cases in 33 countries/territories (including 24 CARPHA Member States), in the Caribbean Region. The risk of further importation of cases to the rest of the Caribbean remains Very High. The overarching goal is for all countries to control the pandemic by slowing down the transmission and reducing mortality associated with COVID-19. Since the previous report on May 22, 2020, an additional 2,294 cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in 16 countries within the Caribbean, bringing the region's total confirmed cases to 23,792 in 33 countries/territories. This new total represents an 11% increase in the number of confirmed cases. There were 819 deaths recorded in the Caribbean region as at May 26, 2020.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

ANGUILLA – Department of Disaster Management (DDM)

- There were no confirmed cases for the last 40 days.
- The Executive Council is currently trying to put together a repatriation team for students who are overseas to return home and for those persons who need certain caretakers.
- Priority is being placed on bringing persons back from low risk areas.
- The Premier and the Governor's office have been spearheading most of the COVID-19 tasks along with the Ministry of Health, however the DDM has been asked to use their NOC facility for the repatriation team temporarily.
- Arrangements have been put in place to accommodate planning for a phased wider repatriation exercise.
- In the first instance, data provided through repatriation forms (accessible on beatcovid19.ai), will be used to estimate the number of persons wishing to repatriate so they may be accommodated in a manner that does not exceed the system's capacity for monitoring, detection and response to potential imported cases of COVID-19 as well as the subsequent management of any such cases.
- The form is accompanied by guidance for persons on what to expect from the process.
- The Operation Iron Dome - the border control programme which is spearheaded by the royal police force and partnered with the immigration office task force and the customs task force as well as the respective K-9 units is doing internal and external border controls with the use of chartered vessels such as boats and planes which have been conducting surveillance around the clock.
- Further information on the COVID-19 response in Anguilla is available at <https://beatcovid19.ai/news/>
- The **Ministry of Health & Social Development** has set up a hotline at **1-264-476-7627** or **476-SOAP** for persons seeking general information about or feel they have been exposed to **COVID-19**. Another partner in the fight against **COVID-19** and other infectious diseases is the **Health Authority of Anguilla**, who can be reached at **1-264-497-2551**

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA – National Office of Disaster Services (NODS)

- There have been no new positive COVID-19 cases in Antigua and Barbuda.
- Confirmed cases remains at 25 and there are currently 2 active cases.
- 191 samples have been tested and 28 persons are in quarantine.
- There have been 3 COVID-19 related deaths and 20 persons have recovered.
- All churches will reopen the first Sunday of June.
- Bars have been open from 9am – 3pm.
- Schools have opened at the fifth form level further to the completion of a sanitization programme executed by the Ministry of Works, the Board of Education and the Safe Schools team. All schools have been outfitted with hand sanitizing stations and hand washing facilities have been installed at the entrance of each classroom.
- The VC Bird International Airport will reopen June 1 and an American Airlines flight will arrive on June 4. Special arrangements are being put in place to ensure the safety of locals and visitors alike. Visitors will be accommodated at all-inclusive hotels.
- The Government continues to look at steps to reopen other businesses. On June 1, the Government will move towards opening all businesses providing that they adhere to the protocols including for social distancing.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

THE BAHAMAS – National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

BARBADOS – Department of Emergency Management (DEM)

- On May 28, the Government of Barbados announced adjustments to the regulations put in place for the management of COVID-19 starting Monday Tuesday June 2nd.
- Curfew hours have been extended and will now run from Monday to Thursday 10pm-5am and Friday to Sunday 8pm to 5am.
- Effective Tuesday June 2nd, all remaining retailers will be allowed to reopen.
- Churches and faith based organisations will be allowed to reopen however they must be able to adhere to spacing requirement of 40 sq ft per person.
- Attendance records must be kept so as to allow for contact tracing where necessary.
- Restaurants may now have dine-in service however, physical distancing requirements must be adhered to, particularly for persons not from the same household.
- All restrictions will be lifted on beaches.
- All restrictions will be lifted on public parks.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

Belize – National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)

- As at 28 May, Belize remains with zero active cases however, random testing continues.
- COVID-19 controlled repatriation is underway for displaced Belizeans abroad.
- Further details on policies in effect in Belize may be accessed at:
<https://www.facebook.com/Belizehealth>

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

CAYMAN ISLANDS – Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HMCI)

- There are currently 72 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cayman islands.
- Over a one week span, a total of 30 persons were confirmed positive.
- Although there has been an increase in the number of cases, far more testing is being done. Over 300 tests were conducted as of May 27, and 5 returned positive.
- A recovery plan for the re-opening of the country is on track and is currently looking to move to level 2. This plan is expected to be executed by Friday.
- Wide scale testing has been done and it revealed that many persons are asymptomatic.
- The government is clearly monitoring the situation and ensuring that social distancing regulations and rules are in place for the various business sectors.
- The "hard" curfew remains in effect in **Grand Cayman** and **Cayman Brac** every day from 8pm in the evening until 5am in the morning each day.
- In **Little Cayman** there is no hard curfew in effect at this time.
- For Grand Cayman, No more than two persons are allowed to gather in public for any reason.
- Airports are currently closed to international passengers except for emergency flights, all cruise ships and private yachts are banned, and travel to the Sister Islands is restricted to residents and essential personnel..
- More details on policies in place including support for businesses and commerce are available at:
<https://www.explore.gov.ky/coronavirus>

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

GRENADA – National Disaster Management Agency (NaDMA)

- There have been 23 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Grenada.
- 18 persons have recovered.
- There have been no deaths.
- On Wednesday, May 20th, Grenada welcomed its first yacht arrivals, since the closing of seaports to recreational vessels in late March.
- The entering yachts were all pre-registered into the GRENADA LIMA database before being given pre-clearance. They were immediately placed on the requisite 14-day quarantine at two approved locations.
- Effective Tuesday, May 26th, 2020, all Retail Stores, all licensed establishments in the Beautification Industry were permitted to open during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on business days.
- Select CXC examinations will be undertaken within the period June 24th to July 17th.
- Extensive guidelines have been provided for parents, students and teachers as Government prepares to reopen schools (further details provided by the Grenada Government Information Service Facebook page).

Source: Ministry of Health Grenada

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

GUYANA – Civil Defence Commission (CDC)

- The number of confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has increased to 150 following after 11 more persons tested positive for the virus.
- Of the 150, cases there have been 11 deaths and 67 recoveries.
- National curfew remains in place, from 6pm to 6am with only essential services allowed to be operational during that time of the day.
- Closure of the Cheddi Jagan and Eugene F. Correia International Airports extended to June 3.
- Persons in isolation/quarantine continue to receive psychological support through the Mental Health Unit of the MOSP.
- Public schools remain closed.

- The Environmental Health, Sanitation & Vector Control Unit of the HEOC conducted a general sanitization at the Eugene F. Correia International Airport and the Cheddi Jagan International Airport.
- This is in view of the special international flights being conducted as well as continuous internal flights.
- Ports of entries are now being sanitized on a weekly basis.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

HAITI – The Civil Protection Directorate

- As at 26th May 2020, Haiti has a total of 1,320 confirmed cases, of which 1,264 are active cases, 22 recovered cases, and 34 deaths.
- There are 1,198 in quarantine at home and in institutions.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

JAMAICA – Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)

- There are 569 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Jamaica.
- There were 9 deaths and 279 persons have recovered.
- Special guidelines for shelters and emergency operations are being developed by the Government as it prepares for the upcoming hurricane season while concurrently managing the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.
- These guidelines would include ensuring that shelters have isolation areas to facilitate the accommodation of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 who cannot be taken to a health facility at a given time.
- Jamaica has received US\$1 million from the United Nations (UN) to boost the country's response to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic in the areas of health and social services.
- The support was provided under the UN's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF).
- US\$600,000 of the support to Jamaica will go towards enhancing social protection mechanisms for women and children as well as the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH).
- The remaining US\$400,000 will go to the health sector to support efforts to suppress the transmission of COVID-19, while continuing the provision of basic health services, such as maternal and newborn health, among others.
- For further information, please see jis.gov.jm.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

MONTSERRAT – Disaster Management Coordination Agency (DMCA)

- There are no active cases of COVID-19 in Montserrat.
- The general public is advised that supermarkets, shops, agents, Government Departments and businesses who would like to import goods to top up their essential business supplies can register their cargo orders from Antigua on the Ferry booking page for Friday May 29th (further information may be seen on the Government Information Unit Montserrat's Facebook page).
- The Office of the Deputy Governor has established a COVID-19 helpline to assist residents who need access to public services.
- For further guidance on accessing the services, the public is asked to contact the central call line at the DMCA at 664 491 4800 from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday.
- The regulations put in place from Friday May 22, at 12:00a.m. remains and are as follows:
 - There will be a nighttime curfew from 8:00 p.m. -5 :00 a.m.
 - There will be no weekend lockdown.
 - There will be no restrictions on the times persons are allowed to exercise.
 - All retail stores will be allowed to open.
 - Restaurants and cook shops will be open, but for TAKE AWAY ONLY.
 - No restrictions on construction work—All level of construction will be allowed.
 - Visits to Margetson Memorial Home and the Golden Years Home are open to immediate family members only.
- These are in addition to the businesses and services which are already in operation, since the first phase," stated Premier, Hon. Joseph E. Farrell.
- The country's borders are still closed and the movement of people into Montserrat is restricted.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

ST. KITTS & NEVIS – National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

- As at May 27, St. Kitts and Nevis remains with zero active cases of COVID-19 with all 15 confirmed cases has recovered.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

SAINT LUCIA – National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO)

- On May 27, 2020 the Ministry of Health received the results of 41 COVID-19 tests that were conducted, all of which were negative. This is the 24th consecutive day, out of a total of 382 tests conducted, that there were no positive cases. The last case was recorded on May 3, 2020.
- In the coming week there will be a return to school for Grade 6 and Form 5 students in preparation for examinations.
- Also during that week, the government will be reopening national borders to travelers.
- These changes will result in a greater volume of movement of people and with that the government has noted the potential for increased transmission of the virus.
- As such, the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the relevant sectors, has been preparing for these changes and the risks that potentially accompany them. This includes instituting of protocols, site assessments to determine capacity for infection prevention and control, as well as surging of stocks of personal protective equipment.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES – National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO)

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

SURINAME - National Coordination Center For Disaster Relief (NCCR)

- There has been a 12th person tested positive for COVID-19. This person travelled by boat from French Guiana on 25th May 2020. Contact tracing is in progress for this new case.
- Suriname recently conducted their election polling day on 25th May 2020. The COVID-19 measures were still respected at the polling stations. However, outside of the polling stations, with the exception of a few civilians wearing masks and gloves, there was a party atmosphere where, for example, the distance of 2 metres was not adhered to.
- Additionally, more than 18 illegal immigrants were arrested and quarantined on election day, but the number of illegal persons who have entered the country is higher, according to information received from NCCR and DNV. The next two weeks will therefore be crucial

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO – Office of Disaster Preparedness & Management (ODPM)

- To date, there have been 3,074 samples sent for testing, of which there were 116 positive cases.
- There have been 8 deaths and 108 persons have been discharged from quarantine.
- There are currently no active cases.
- The Ministry of Health has developed and issued guidelines for the reopening of all businesses, facilities and institutions in both the private and public sectors, within Trinidad and Tobago, that are accessed by the public.
- These guidelines speak to basic measures such as physical distancing, personal hygiene, the wearing of face masks, and for persons to stay at home if they are experiencing symptoms of acute respiratory infections. The full guidelines can be found here: <http://www.health.gov.tt/covid19/GuidelinesRegulations/ReopeningGuidelines.pdf>
- The COVID-19 Public Health Ordinance Regulations were adjusted and can be found here: <http://news.gov.tt/content/adjustments-be-made-covid-19-public-health-ordinance-regulations#.XryHRURKqgM>

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS – Department of Disaster Management & Emergencies (DDME)

- There continues to be no new positive cases recorded; with the total number of confirmed positive cases remaining at twelve (12).
- There are currently ten (10) recoveries; no active cases; and one (1) death.
- There are two (2) suspected cases, which are all TCI residents experiencing relevant symptoms with no history of contact with confirmed cases. One suspected case has died. Samples have been collected and sent for testing.
- A tabletop exercise will take place, which will give a clear indication on the strengths and weaknesses on the needs list. This list will be provided when the exercise has been concluded.
- All bars remain closed; restaurants are open but only for take-away; and churches are only allowed 10 persons.
- The airport remains closed. However, talks are ongoing regarding accepting citizens who wish to return to their homeland from the USA or Canada. Those returning nationals will be placed in quarantine and tested regularly.
- The wearing of masks in public is mandatory.

Updates from CDEMA Participating States

VIRGIN ISLANDS (UK) – Department of Disaster Management (DDM)

- There are 8 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Virgin Islands and zero active cases.
- 7 persons have recovered and there has been one death.
- The government is focused heavily on border reopening which is expected to commence June 2 with a focus on Nationals.
- Discussions regarding opening other elements of the economy such as - fitness gyms and etc is also underway.
- The Government of the Virgin Islands and the Department of Disaster Management have been focusing on the preparation of the Hurricane Season with relation to the shelters.
- Through the CDRRM- the Smart Communities Project, DDM was able to access \$25,000 from that fund that would allow them to retrofit the shelters in the three project Communities for COVID-19.
- A series of engagements will continue with the shelter managers and also the first responders and emergency teams.
- Hotels, sporting facilities, night clubs and other entertainment facilities are still closed.
- Any business that reopens has to be periodically checked and a *holder of certification* needs to be displayed publicly.
- A task force has been established to periodically check and to ensure that the necessary physical distancing and sanitization stations are in place.
- The Government is undertaking a Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) study through the national epidemiologist towards gaining an understanding of the public's attitudes and practices due to the changes associated with COVID-19.

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) Actions

REGIONAL LEVEL ENGAGEMENTS & COORDINATION

- CDEMA continues to lead the multi sectoral coordination in support of the CARICOM technical lead for health, CARPHA.
- The Regional Coordination Centre is activated.
- The CDEMA CU continues to liaise with the CARICOM regional institutions towards supporting the strengthening and continuity planning as well as regional level coordination.
- The CDEMA CU also continues to work closely with the CARICOM Secretariat, CARPHA and PAHO towards strengthening of the Health sector level coordination and readiness
- The Regional Protocol designed to support CARICOM States in their response to COVID-19 has been finalized with the support of Regional Institutions of CARICOM and submitted to the CARICOM Secretariat.
- To support country response, COVID-19 Assessment and Analysis, modeling and surveillance products developed by University of the West Indies, through the George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre are available via the CDEMA website .
- The Logistics and Procurement Cell is working towards strengthening the regional logistics arrangements and the supply chain in the region. The Integrated Regional Logistics Hub is being established in Barbados to facilitate the reception and onward movement of emergency supplies. This cell includes partners such as the World Food Programme (WFP).
- The National Disaster Offices are either on high alert and have activated their National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOCS) where there are confirmed cases. In this regard, the Regional Response Mechanism (RRM) continues to be on alert should the need arise for support from any Participating State.
- The latest updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in the region can be accessed from the CARPHA's website www.carpha.org
- CDEMA and the Regional Response Mechanism partners will continue to monitor the situation and will provide updates as appropriate.

COVID-19 Regional Institutions Resources



Please visit the CDEMA COVID-19 Webpage for more information from Participating States:

<https://www.cdema.org/covid19>



Please visit the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) website for their latest SITREP:

<https://www.carpha.org/Portals/0/Documents/COVID%20Situation%20Reports/Situation%20Report%2045%20-%20May13.%202020.pdf>

For updated technical guidelines and laboratory updates visit:

<https://carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus>



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Please see below links to access data from the UWI George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre - COVID-19 Assessment and Analysis, modeling and surveillance products:

<https://ln2.sync.com/dl/6d7e87cd0/7csmvhz3-hp5bxcpn-hjs5th4w-n4eqqd2>

<https://tinyurl.com/uwi-covid19-surveillance>



Please access the CARICOM COVID-19 Dashboard: <https://caricom.org/>.