

CARPHA SITUATION REPORT NO. 41

MAY 4, 2020

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic

Summary

This is an update to the CARPHA Situation Report published on May 1, 2020, in relation to the outbreak of COVID-19.

To date, there are 13,460 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 Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Health Security (RCM-HS), is actively working with Heads of Government and regional partners on a common approach to the COVID-19 response.

New in this Report

- **Surveillance and Epidemiology COVID-19 in 24 Member States**

Numbers at a Glance*

Globally

3,407,759 cases (262,316 new)

Caribbean Region

33 countries, areas, or territories
(0 new)

13,460 cases (1,470 new)**

3,286 recovered (523 new)

615 deaths (85 new)

Rest of the World

181 countries, areas, or
territories and Other*** (1 new)

3,394,299 cases (260,846 new)

1,129,788 recovered (110,225
new)

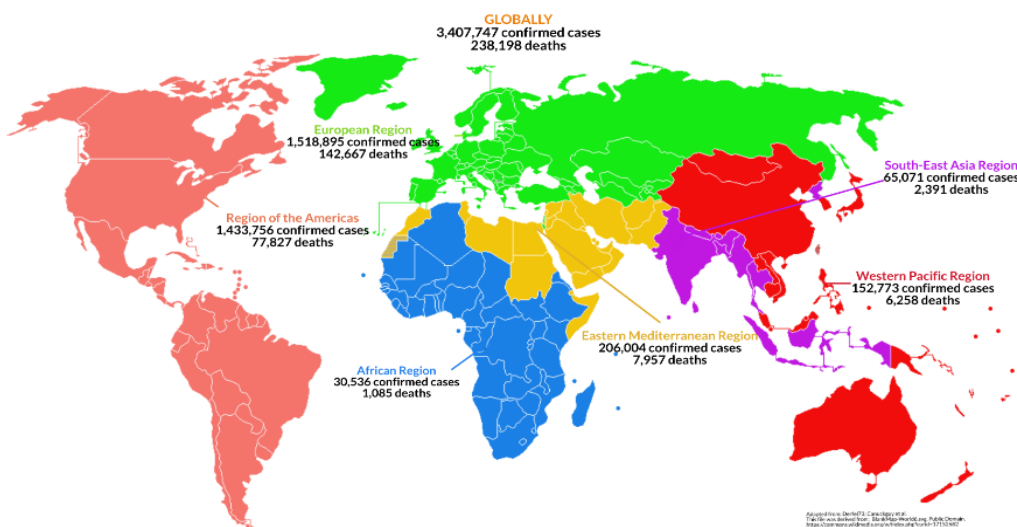
237,583 deaths (16,290 new)

**Clinically diagnosed and laboratory
confirmed cases*

*** Updated with additional data from
local country reports*

****Persons on board the Diamond
Princess Cruise Ship harboured in
Yokohama, Japan*

SITUATION IN NUMBERS



SITUATION UPDATE

Since the previous report on May 1 2020, an additional 1,404 COVIDS-19 cases were confirmed in 15 countries within the Caribbean, bringing the region's total confirmed cases to 13,460 in 33 countries/territories.

This new total represents a 12% increase in the numbers of confirmed cases. Eighty-five (85) additional deaths were also recorded, bringing the total numbers of deaths to 615.

COVID-19 SURVEILLANCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY

Region	Cases	# new cases since last report	Deaths	Recovered	% of cases still active*
Region of the Americas	1,433,756	141,839	77,827	297,073	73.9%
European Region	1,518,895	84,246	142,667	594,215	51.5%
Eastern Mediterranean Region	206,004	18,448	7,957	104,984	45.2%
Western Pacific Region	152,773	3,935	6,258	107,165	25.8%
South-East Asia Region	65,071	9,999	2,391	17,974	68.7%
African Region	30,536	3,873	1,085	11,018	60.4%
International conveyance (Diamond Princess Cruise Ship)	712	0	13	645	7.6%
Total	3,407,747	262,340	238,198	1,133,074	59.8%

* Active cases = Total cases – (Number of cases recovered + Number of deaths)

For full details on all countries' data visit Sources listed below. Numbers are updated throughout the day and may vary from what is listed at time of publishing.

Sources: ⁽¹⁾ WHO Situation Dashboard Accessed at 8:50am 4 May 2020. Available from: <https://who.sprinklr.com/>

⁽²⁾ Johns Hopkins University's Centre for Science and Engineering Accessed at 8:50am, 4 May 2020. Available from:

<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?useExisting=1&layers=c0b356e20b30490c8b8b4c7bb9554e7c&layerId=1>

As of May 4, 2020, the WHO reported 3,407,747 cases of patients with COVID-19. A total of 215 countries, areas or territories have confirmed at least one case among travellers exposed while abroad and/or person-to-person contact.

One new country in the European Region (Tajikistan) reported their first confirmed case of COVID-19 since the last Situation Report on May 1, 2020. Table 1 shows a breakdown of cases by Region.

Table 1: Countries or Territories with Reported Cases of COVID-19, 4 May, 2020

As of May 4, 2020, there have been 1,478 cases confirmed from CARPHA Member States (CMS), the highest number reported on April 15, 2020 (Figure 1).

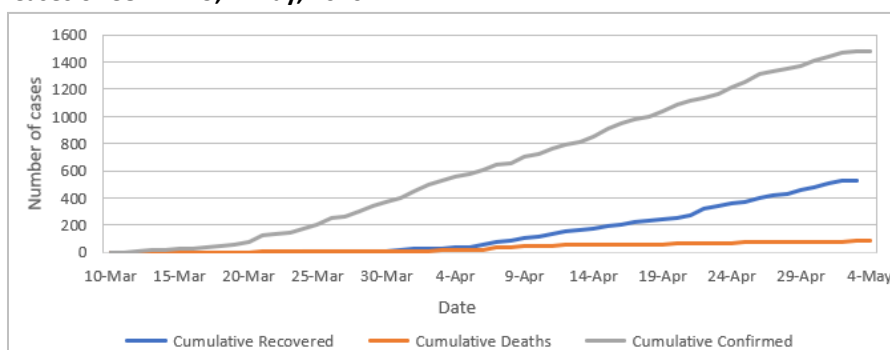
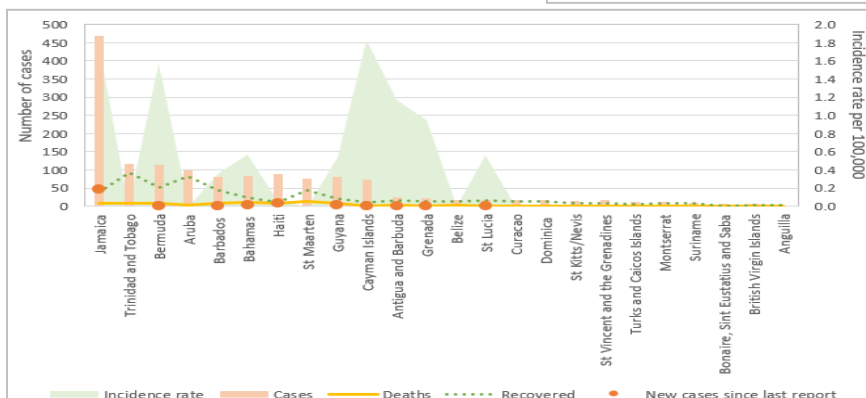


Fig 1. Cumulative Total Confirmed and Recovered cases of COVID-19 and Deaths in CMS



As of May 4, 2020, among CARPHA Member States, Jamaica reported the highest number of confirmed cases at 469, while Cayman Islands has the highest incidence at a rate of 1.82 per 100,000 population (Figure 2).

Fig 2. Confirmed Cases in Member States as of May 4

For the cases for which data was available, the majority were aged 50 years and over, with 50-59 being the modal age group. There was no age provided for most cases (Figure 3).

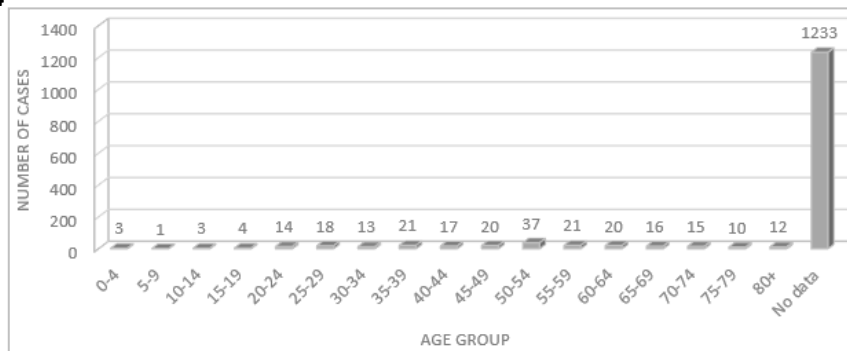
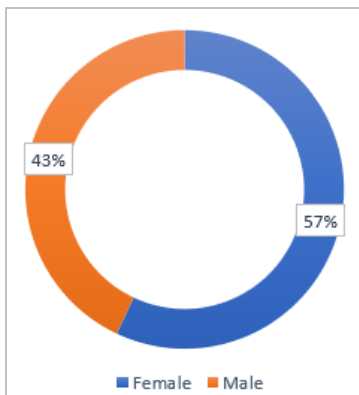


Fig 3. Reported confirmed cases of COVID-19 by age group in CMS



Among cases for whom sex was reported, 57% were female and 43% were male. (Figure 4).

Fig 4. Percentage of Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 by sex in CMS

Among cases for whom a source of infection was reported, 29% were imported; and 51% appeared to be close contacts (local transmission) of a known imported case (Figure 5).

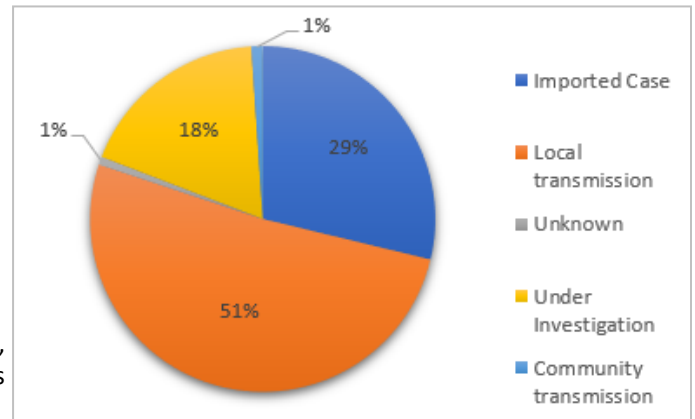


Fig 5. Percentage of Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 by source of transmission in CMS

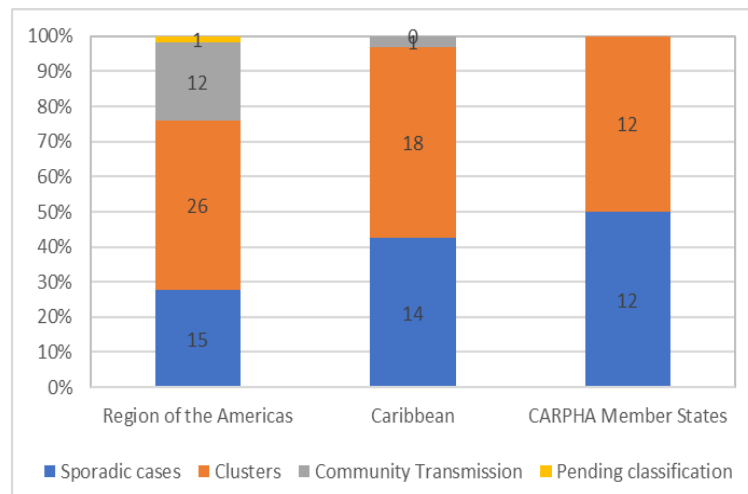


Fig 6. Category of Countries by Transmission Classification

Among the 24 Member States, 50% (12/24) have been classified as having sporadic cases, 50% (12/24) have reported clusters, based on data received by WHO from national authorities by 10:00 CEST, May 3, 2020¹ (Figure 6).

Laboratory

Since February 10 and as of May 3, 2020, CARPHA has received 3,390 samples from 14 CMS, 408 (12.0%) of which have tested positive since the start of the outbreak, 249 results (7.4%) correspond to new cases.

Figure 7 shows the progression of COVID-19 cases which have been confirmed in CMS from February – May 2020.

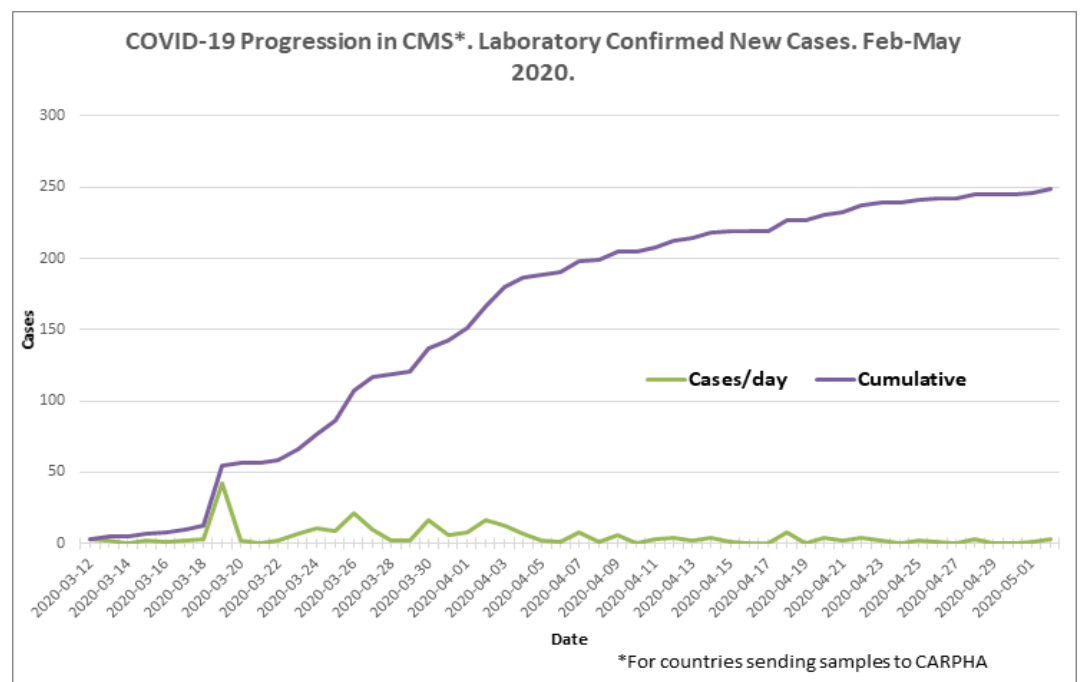


Fig 7. COVID-19 Progression in CMS*. Laboratory Confirmed New Cases. Feb—May 2020

¹ WHO. Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report – 104 Available from: https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20200503-covid-19-sitrep-104.pdf?sfvrsn=53328f46_2 Accessed 4 May 2020.

CARPHA'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

Laboratory Update

On April 30, 2020, CARPHA/CariPHLN held their 2nd virtual COVID-19: Laboratory Diagnostics Update for CARPHA Laboratory Directors. Dr. Stephanie Fletcher-Lartey, Consultant HCE and Dr. Gabriel Gonzalez-Escobar, Head CMML presented during the session moderated by Ms. Sacha Wallace-Sankarsingh, Biorisk Manager.

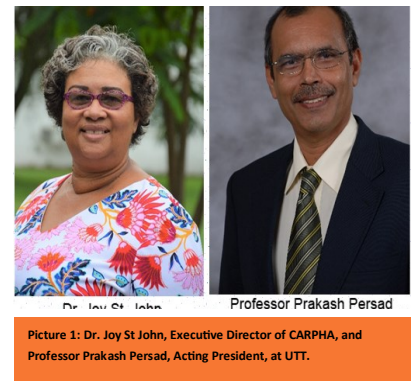
CARPHA's COVID-19 Testing Process and Adherence to Quality Standards

The CARPHA Medical Microbiology Laboratory (CMML) currently tests all suspected cases of COVID-19, as per the WHO case definition, provided by the WHO Global surveillance for COVID-19 caused by human infection with COVID-19 virus. The CMML uses the WHO recommended Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) method. This method remains the gold standard for COVID-19 laboratory diagnosis because the sensitivity and specificity of the test are nearly 100%. Read more by clicking on the [link](#). Video: [The CARPHA COVID-19 Testing Process](#)

CARPHA's Technical Cooperation

· **April 28, 2020:** *Caribbean Countries Benefit from EU Funding to Fight Against Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).* Member States of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) will benefit from a Grant from the European Union (EU) valued at about 8 million euro (US\$8.6M) to help in the fight against the coronavirus and to strengthen health security in the Region. [Read more.](#)

· **April 27, 2020:** *CARPHA Collaborates with The University of Trinidad and Tobago to Strengthen Health Education and Research in the Caribbean.* CARPHA signed an agreement for strategic collaboration with The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) aimed at promoting mutual cooperation in health education and research to better serve the Caribbean. [Read more.](#)



Picture 1: Dr. Joy St John, Executive Director of CARPHA, and Professor Prakash Persad, Acting President, at UTT.

Communication and Information

Media releases distributed by CARPHA are [available online](#)

Logistics

· **April 23, 2020:** Dr. Gonzalez-Escobar (Head, Laboratory Services and Networks) and Ms. Wallace-Sankarsingh (Biorisk Manager) represented CARPHA as observers to the Regional Security System (RSS) Table Top Exercise "COVID-19 Security Response" to raise the awareness of the Security Chiefs/Heads of Security Agencies in participating countries to some of the current and emerging challenges associated with COVID-19.

· **April 21, 2020:** Dr. Shelley Rodrigo (CR-FELTP Coordinator) and Ms. Wallace-Sankarsingh (Biorisk Manager) participated in a demonstration with IMPACS for an online training platform (CBSI-Connect) which will be used to conduct training in Personal Protective Equipment for regional and national front line security service providers.

Stakeholder Engagement

CARPHA is working closely with various stakeholders for a coordinated regional response, and as such has engaged with stakeholders in multiple ways, including the following:

· **May 4, 2020:** Dr. Indar and Dr. Fletcher-Lartey participated in the 1st Regional Technical Meeting of the Association of the Caribbean States (ACS) and Associate Members on COVID-19.

· Dr. St. John participated the following meetings with key regional partners:

- ◇ Meeting of Regional Chief Education Officers
- ◇ Planning meeting for the Heads of Government meeting

· **May 3, 2020:** Dr. St. John participated as a speaker in a COVID-19 symposium - UWI Class of 1991 on Responding to the COVID-19 Crisis in "91 Ways".

· **April 30, 2020:** Dr. Indar participated in Meeting with CARICOM's Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED).

NEWS AND INFORMATION UPDATES

- The third meeting of the Emergency Committee convened by the WHO Director-General under the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), took place on Thursday, 30 April 2020, from 12:00 to 17:45 Geneva time (CEST). Membership of the Emergency Committee was expanded to reflect the nature of the pandemic and the need to include additional areas of expertise. On the advice of the Committee, the Director-General declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 continues to constitute a PHEIC and issued the Committee's advice to States Parties as Temporary Recommendations under the IHR. The Recommendations contained in the Statement on the third meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee regarding the outbreak of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) are available [here](#).
- In celebration of the 18th Vaccination Week in the Americas, from April 25 – May 2, CARPHA urges Member States to continue to maintain their vaccine coverage while fighting the COVID-2019 pandemic. The full media release is available [here](#)

CARPHA CAMPUS NEWS

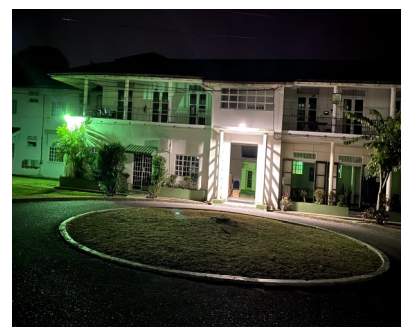
CARPHA's Team continues to adapt to demands of the pandemic response.



Picture 1: HQ staff are treated to a slice of cool, juicy watermelon on a hot day by Ms. Victoria



Picture 2: Staff have temperatures checked as workplace protocols roll out across campuses



Picture 3: Staff working late captures the beauty of the lights at CARPHA HQ, Port of

CARPHA PRODUCTS

- Alert of general practitioners <https://bit.ly/3aWlrur> - May 1, 2020
- Advice for general practitioners (infographic) <https://bit.ly/2Yl6HCl> - May 1, 2020
- Food Safety during the COVID-19 <https://bit.ly/35uroQ8> - May 1, 2020
- Travel brief: [Precautionary prevention measures implemented by Caribbean Countries \(outside travel-related measures\)](#) April 24, 2020.
- [Precautionary prevention measures implemented by Caribbean Countries \(outside travel-related measures\)](#) – April 24, 2020
- [CARPHA's Statement on the Use of Gloves in the Community Setting in the Context of COVID-19](#) – April 24, 2020
- Links to Public Education Resources <https://www.carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus>
- Media links <https://www.carpha.org/More/Media/Articles>
- Videos <https://www.youtube.com/user/CARPHACampus>

REFERENCES

- Sources: (1) WHO Situation Dashboard Accessed at 8:50am 4 May 2020. Available from: <https://who.sprinklr.com/>
- (2) Johns Hopkins University's Centre for Science and Engineering Accessed at 8:50am. 4 May 2020. Available from: <https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>
- (3) <https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?useExisting=1&layers=c0b356e20b30490c8b8b4c7bb9554e7c&layerId=1>
- (4) Jamaica Ministry of Health and wellness.COVID-19 dashboard available at <https://jamcovid19.moh.gov.jm/> Accessed 4 May 2020
- (5) Haiti COVID-19 dashboard. Available at <https://www.coronahaiti.org/> Accessed 4 May 2020
- (6) Bahamas Information Services. Press release dated 23 April 2020. Available at <http://www.bahamas.gov.bs>. Accessed 4 May 2020
- (7) Barbados Government Information Service. <https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/blog/covid-19-update-one-new-case-today-4/> Accessed 4 May 2020.
- (8) St. Lucia Ministry of Health and Wellness. <https://www.covid19response.lc/blogs/saint-lucia-records-eighteenth-case-of-covid-19> Accessed 4 May 2020.