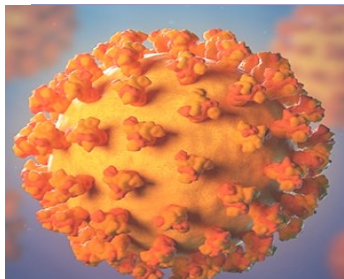


# Stats News & Views



## Special Topic Statistical Bulletin - COVID-19

Issue 39, 18 December 2020

The **Special Topic Statistical Bulletin on COVID-19 in CARICOM Countries Issue 39**, provides an update of the trajectory of the COVID-19 in the CARICOM Region up to **18 December 2020**. The Bulletin provides information on the pattern of the disease of the total number of confirmed cases, new cases and deaths for each country and the total for CARICOM. The data are preliminary and will be adjusted as more reliable data are made available.

The total number of confirmed cases for CARICOM countries as at 18 December is **60,781**. The total number of deaths is **1385**, recovered cases, **50,761** and active cases, **8,477**. If deaths all causes are counted for The Bahamas and Jamaica, then the total number of deaths is **1464**.

The number of new cases for the period **12-18 December** stood at **2393**, a decrease of **582** from **5-11 December** (2975 adjusted). The countries that contributed significantly to the total number of new cases were: **Belize, 964 (40 percent)**, **Jamaica, 527 (22 percent)**, **Guyana, 237 (10 percent)**, **Haiti, 140, (6 percent)**, **Suriname, 120 (5 percent)**, **Trinidad and Tobago, 103 (4 percent)**, **The Bahamas, 87 (4 percent)**, **Bermuda, 85 (4 percent)** and **Grenada 51 (2 percent)**.

**Jamaica** has the highest number of confirmed cases with **12,135**. **Belize** is now *second* with **9929**, followed by **Haiti** with **9705** (1-day reporting lag). **The Bahamas** follows with **7746**, **Trinidad and Tobago, 6955**, **Guyana, 6076** and **Suriname, 5459**. Adjusting the number of confirmed cases for population size, the top five countries at rates per 100,000 population are: **Belize, 2494.41** **The Bahamas, 2031.36**; **Turks and Caicos Islands, 1910.41** (789 confirmed cases); **Suriname, 936.36** and **Guyana, 819.97**. **Bermuda** is now at **806.59** (516 confirmed cases).

**Jamaica tops in the number of deaths with 313**, if deaths under investigation are included and those due to non-COVID-19 causes are excluded and is at **357 all causes**. **Haiti** is at **234 deaths**, **Belize, 215**, **The Bahamas, 188** (including deaths under investigation and excluding non-COVID-19 causes) and **223 deaths all causes**. **Guyana, 159**, **Trinidad and Tobago, 123** and **Suriname** has **117 deaths**.

### Situation at a Glance



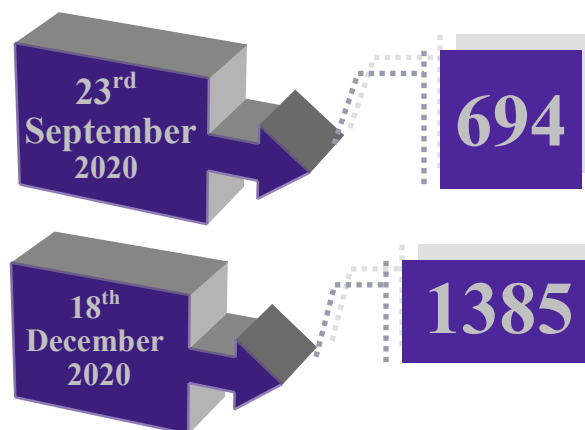
SEPTEMBER 2020						
Sun	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18 <sup>th</sup> 30,186	.....
DECEMBER 2020						
.....	.....	15 <sup>th</sup> 59,729	16 <sup>th</sup> 60,074	17 <sup>th</sup> 60,424	Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup> 60,781	

Doubling Rate—2.01

Total number of confirmed cases increased by **30,595** over **91** days



Total number of deaths increased by **691** in **86** days at a rate of 2.00



## Special Topic Bulletin - COVID 19

**TABLE 1: SUMMARY ALL COUNTRIES -NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES, NEW CASES AND DEATHS - 7 NOVEMBER – 18 DECEMBER 2020**

Date	No. of Confirmed Cases	No. of New Cases	No. of Deaths
07-Nov	47186	206	1116
08-Nov	47413	227	1121
09-Nov	47549	136	1125
10-Nov	47855	306	1131
11-Nov	48223	368	1136
12-Nov	48528	305	1142
13-Nov	48861	333	1155
14-Nov	49253	392	1161
15-Nov	49443	190	1165
16-Nov	49650	207	1172
17-Nov	49836	186	1177
18-Nov	50057	221	1187
19-Nov	50350	293	1192
20-Nov	50602	252	1198
21-Nov	50890	288	1206
22-Nov	51261	371	1211
23-Nov	51498	237	1220
24-Nov	51725	227	1231
25-Nov	51967	242	1239
26-Nov	52281	314	1245
27-Nov	52512	231	1258
28-Nov	52723	211	1263
29-Nov	52967	244	1270
30-Nov	53198	231	1274
01-Dec	53327	129	1276
02-Dec	54592	1265	1277
03-Dec	55065	473	1295
04-Dec	55413	348	1303
05-Dec	55789	376	1310
06-Dec	56082	293	1313
07-Dec	56453	371	1317
08-Dec	56701	248	1321
09-Dec	57424	723	1331
10-Dec	57966	542	1330
11-Dec	58388	422	1334
12-Dec	58803	415	1342
13-Dec	59159	356	1346
14-Dec	59400	241	1353
15-Dec	59729	329	1366
16-Dec	60074	345	1372
17-Dec	60424	350	1380
18-Dec	60781	357	1385

**Note:** The Number of Confirmed Cases and the Number of Deaths are **cumulative values** while the Number of New Cases is not cumulative and reflects the **daily** number of cases. Adjustments for deaths under investigation may impact the cumulative total deaths. Please check previous Issues for the data for earlier dates.

## Special Topic Bulletin - COVID 19

**TABLE 1A: SUMMARY OF SELECTED VARIABLES BY COUNTRY AS AT 18 DECEMBER 2020**

Country	Confirmed Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Recoveries	Active Cases	Tests Conducted
<b>Total Member States</b>	<b>59,069</b>	<b>2,265</b>	<b>1,367</b>	<b>49,380</b>	<b>8,166</b>	<b>469,999</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	152	5	5	141	6	5577
The Bahamas	7746	87	188	6122	1401	48679
Barbados	307	15	7	280	20	57835
Belize	9929	964	215	8214	1500	45498
Dominica	88	1	0	83	5	6618
Grenada	94	51	0	42	45	1162
Guyana	6076	237	159	5283	634	35697
Haiti	9705	140	234	8379	1092	39521
Jamaica	12135	527	313	8812	2882	130907
Montserrat	13	0	1	11	0	626
Saint Lucia	280	6	5	253	22	18291
St Kitts and Nevis	30	3	0	24	6	4655
St Vincent and the Grenadines	100	6	0	82	18	12783
Suriname	5459	120	117	5249	108	23020
Trinidad and Tobago	6955	103	123	6405	427	39130
<b>Total Associate Members</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1,381</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>209,182</b>
Anguilla	10	0	0	3	6	2651
Bermuda	516	85	9	267	240	127262
British Virgin Islands	86	10	1	74	11	10469
Cayman Islands	311	13	2	282	27	57847
Turks and Caicos Islands	789	20	6	755	27	10953
<b>Total CARICOM</b>	<b>60,781</b>	<b>2,393</b>	<b>1,385</b>	<b>50,761</b>	<b>8,477</b>	<b>679,181</b>

### Notes:

1. New Cases are for the period **12-18 December 2020**.
2. Data for some countries for the number of tests conducted are often not continuously updated and should be used with caution.
3. For **The Bahamas**, the number of deaths in Table 1A includes **24 deaths** that are under investigation and excludes **35 deaths** that are classified as due to non-COVID-19 causes. The total number of deaths of COVID-19 patients all causes is **223**.
4. For **Jamaica**, the number of deaths in the Table 1A includes **28 deaths** that are under investigation and excludes **44 deaths** that are classified as due to non-COVID-19 causes. The total number of deaths of COVID-19 patients is **357**.
5. If all deaths of COVID-19 positive persons are counted for The Bahamas and Jamaica then the total number of deaths of COVID-19 positive persons in CARICOM is **1464**.
6. There is a lag of 1 day in the data for Haiti and Barbados.

TABLE 2: CONFIRMED CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION

COUNTRY	CONFIRMED CASES	RATES PER 100,000
<b>Total Member States</b>	<b>59,069</b>	<b>319.25</b>
Antigua and Barbuda	152	159.98
The Bahamas	7746	2031.36
Barbados	307	111.79
Belize	9929	2494.41
Dominica	88	122.22
Grenada	94	84.33
Guyana	6076	819.97
Haiti	9705	85.05
Jamaica	12135	444.91
Montserrat	13	260.00
Saint Lucia	280	156.42
St Kitts and Nevis	30	56.60
St Vincent and the Grenadines	100	90.09
Suriname	5459	936.36
Trinidad and Tobago	6955	511.70
<b>Total Associate Members</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>795.40</b>
Anguilla	10	66.67
Bermuda	516	806.59
British Virgin Islands	86	295.02
Cayman Islands	311	472.55
Turks and Caicos Islands	789	1910.41
<b>Total CARICOM</b>	<b>60,781</b>	<b>324.72</b>

TABLE 3: EXPLANATIONS

Key Term/Issues	Explanation
<b>Data on Testing</b>	<p>Testing for the occurrence of COVID-19 provides an understanding of the pandemic. It tells us how the virus is spreading. Testing should be able to tell us about the total number of cases or persons infected. However given the availability or lack thereof of equipment for testing and the establishment of protocols in many countries that invariably implies that persons should fulfil stated criteria to qualify to be tested, it is likely that the total number of cases are unknown.</p> <p>This data set on testing has increasingly become available for most CARICOM countries with some countries consistently reporting this information. A possible difference in the data is that the tests are performed in different testing laboratories across countries. In some cases testing is done for countries or validated by the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) while in other cases they are conducted at national laboratories. Another difference is that tests may include repeated testing for confirmed cases to determine whether these persons have recovered. It is also possible that different types of tests are being reported.</p> <p>Why is data on testing needed?</p> <p>The simple answer is that without data on tests conducted on the COVID-19 we cannot possibly understand how the pandemic is progressing, and which contacts to trace and to quarantine.</p>
<b>Projections</b>	<p>The projections in this and previous Issues largely rely on using observed doubling rates, the rates of change of the latest period of data (prior to the estimation) or using fitted trend lines. No sophisticated modelling has been utilised.</p> <p>For example in the case of Chart 2, a linear projection is undertaken and the equation of that straight line is given as follows:</p> $y = -103.42 + 25.045 x$ <p>Where y represents the number of confirmed cases and x the number of time periods from the commencement of the first case.</p> <p>Simply put, it is possible to use this equation to obtain predicted values. Assuming that it is necessary to calculate the number of predicted cases on the 29<sup>th</sup> April as per the linear trend, the number of time periods (x- value) from the 10 March is roughly 50 so the predicted value works out as follows:</p> $y_p = -103.42 + 25.045 \times 50 = 1252.25 - 103.42 = 1148.83.$ <p>The actual value for this same period is 1178 confirmed cases.</p>

TABLE 3: EXPLANATIONS

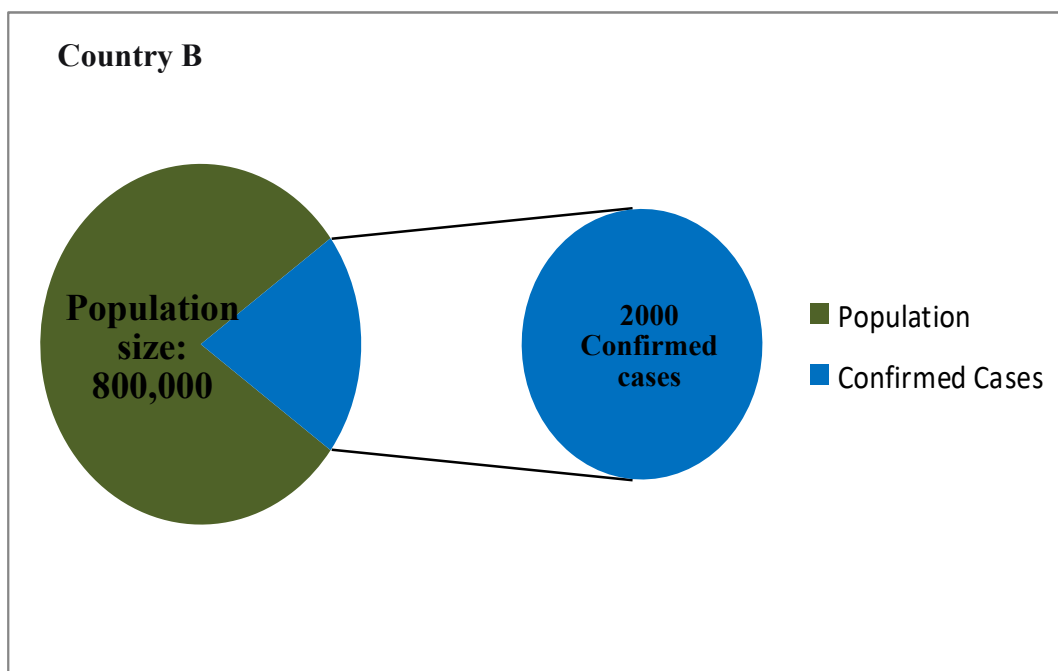
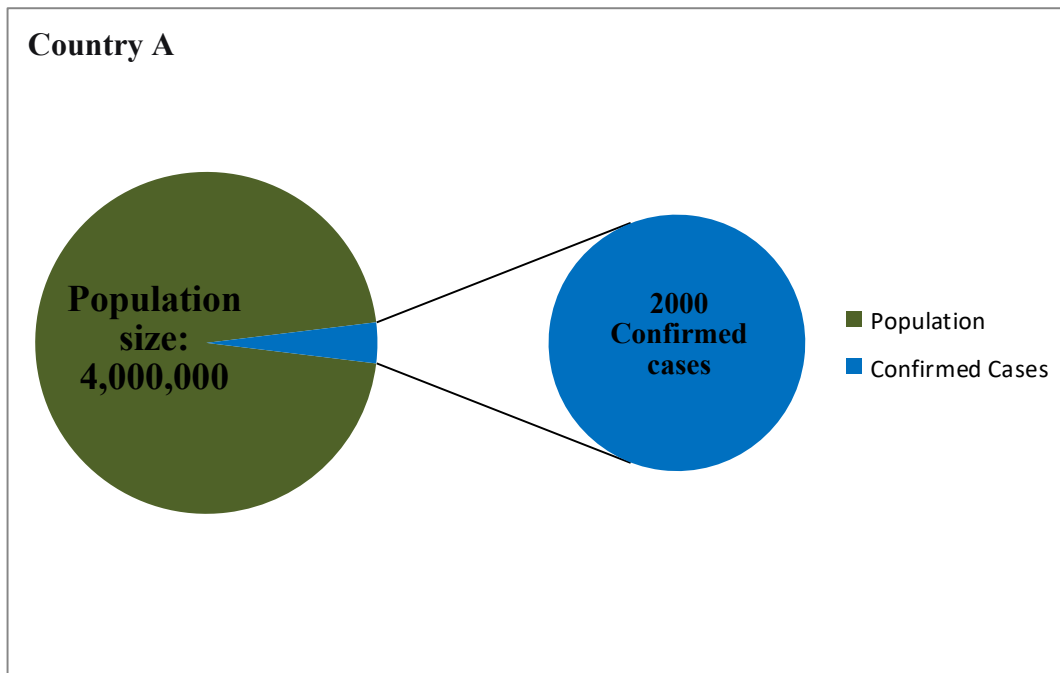
Key Term/Issue	Explanation
<b>Number of Cases per 100,000 population</b>	<p>The number of cases per 100,000 population is calculated by dividing the number of cases by the total population, and then multiplying the result by a standard population size in this case 100,000.</p> $Rate = \frac{No. of Confirmed Cases}{Total Population} \times 100,000$ <p>It is useful for comparing countries/regions of varying population sizes</p> <p>For very small values/small populations these rates may be unstable.</p>

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### ILLUSTRATION OF CONFIRMED CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION

While both countries A and B, in the illustration have 2000 Confirmed Cases – the impact in Country A with a population of 4,000,000 is much smaller than the impact in Country B with a population size of 800,000.

For Country A the impact (per 100,000 persons) is  $2000/4,000,000 \times 100,000$ , which is **50 persons**.  
For Country B the impact is  $2000/800,000 \times 100,000$  which is **250 persons, about 5 times larger**.



**KEY REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LINKS ON COVID-19**

CARICOM Today:- <https://today.caricom.org/covid19/regional/>

Regional Statistics Programme (RSP): [http://statistics.caricom.org/covid19\\_bulletin.html](http://statistics.caricom.org/covid19_bulletin.html)

UN DATA HUB:- <https://covid-19-response.unstatshub.org/useful-links/international-organisations-resources/>

CARPHA (Caribbean Public Health Agency) - <https://carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus>

Article: Tracking the Covid-19 Pandemic in CARICOM– Statistics of a Pandemic

<https://today.caricom.org/2020/05/04/tracking-covid-19-pandemic-in-caricom/>

**Please note that this Newsletter will be on the Regional Statistics Programme's (RSP) website as well as on the UN Data Hub.**

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