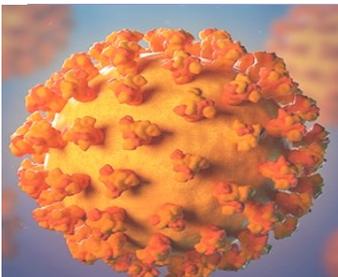


Stats News & Views



Special Topic Statistical Bulletin - COVID-19

Issue 31, 23 October 2020

The **Special Topic Statistical Bulletin on COVID-19 in CARICOM Countries Issue 31**, provides an update of the trajectory of the COVID-19 in the CARICOM Region up to **23 October 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 23 October is **43,458**. The total number of deaths is **993**, recovered cases, **30,827** and active cases, **11,521**. If deaths all causes are counted for The Bahamas and Jamaica, then the total number of deaths of COVID-19 positive patients crosses the 1000 threshold with **1,033** deaths as at 23 October.

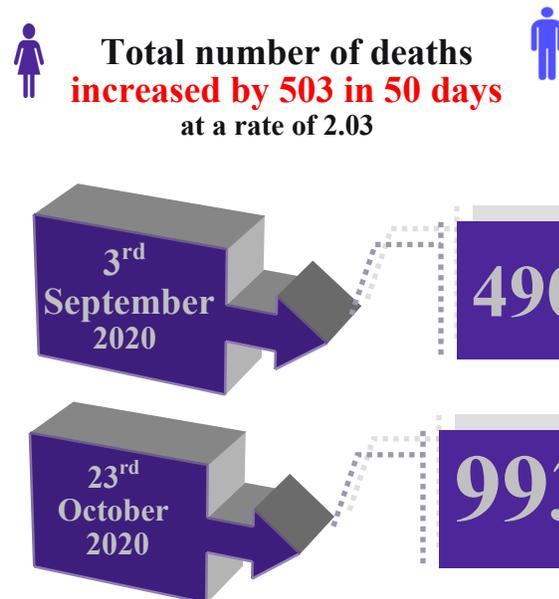
The number of new cases for 17-23 October was **2,242**, a decrease of **85** as compared to 10-16 October. The countries that contributed significantly to the total number of new cases for the period 17-23 October were: **The Bahamas, 724 (32 percent)**, **Jamaica, 475 (21 percent)**, **Belize, 322 (14 percent)**, **Guyana, 288 (13 percent)** and **Trinidad and Tobago, 246 (11 percent)**.

Haiti had the highest number of confirmed cases with **9,015**, followed by Jamaica with **8,670**, The Bahamas follows with **6,352**, Trinidad and Tobago, **5,487**, Suriname, **5,155**, Guyana, **3,960** and Belize, **3,050**. Adjusting the number of confirmed cases for population size, the top five (5) countries for rates per 100,000 population are: **Turks and Caicos Islands, 1692.49**; **The Bahamas, 1665.79**; **Suriname 884.22**, **Belize, 766.24** and **Guyana, 534.41**.

Haiti also has the highest number of deaths with **231**, followed by Jamaica and The Bahamas with **212** and **146** respectively, with figures for both countries including deaths under investigation but excluding deaths of COVID-19 patients that were due to non-COVID-19 causes. Guyana follows with **117** deaths, Suriname, **109**, Trinidad and Tobago, **104** and Belize, **46**.

Situation at a Glance

AUGUST 2020						
Sun	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
.....	27 th 20,571	28 th 21,005	29 th 21,508
OCTOBER 2020						
18 th 41,774	19 th 42,057	20 th 42,399	21 st 42,819	22 nd 43,153	Friday, 23 rd 43,458	
Doubling Rate—2.02 Total number of confirmed cases increased by 21,950 over 55 days						



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TABLE 1: SUMMARY ALL COUNTRIES -NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES, NEW CASES AND DEATHS - 12 SEPTEMBER – 23 OCTOBER 2020

Date	No. of Confirmed Cases	No. of New Cases	No. of Deaths
12-Sep	27562	519	587
13-Sep	27902	340	593
14-Sep	28235	333	600
15-Sep	28612	377	606
16-Sep	29061	449	617
17-Sep	29576	515	630
18-Sep	30186	610	639
19-Sep	30840	654	652
20-Sep	31243	403	663
21-Sep	31632	389	675
22-Sep	31994	362	684
23-Sep	32630	636	694
24-Sep	33075	445	701
25-Sep	33588	513	719
26-Sep	33902	314	722
27-Sep	34186	284	732
28-Sep	34593	407	745
29-Sep	35021	428	766
30-Sep	35388	367	777
01-Oct	35784	396	785
02-Oct	36165	381	793
03-Oct	36550	385	802
04-Oct	36942	392	807
05-Oct	37283	341	816
06-Oct	37661	378	829
07-Oct	37968	307	834
08-Oct	38434	466	844
09-Oct	38889	455	862
10-Oct	39274	385	871
11-Oct	39619	345	883
12-Oct	39913	294	889
13-Oct	40133	220	898
14-Oct	40515	382	915
15-Oct	40861	346	923
16-Oct	41216	355	934
17-Oct	41565	349	945
18-Oct	41774	209	950
19-Oct	42057	283	965
20-Oct	42399	342	964
21-Oct	42819	420	977
22-Oct	43153	334	985
23-Oct	43458	305	993

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. Please see Issue 10 for the explanation on how the cumulative values are derived. Please check previous Issues for the data for earlier dates.

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TABLE 1A: SUMMARY OF SELECTED VARIABLES BY COUNTRY AS AT 23 OCTOBER 2020

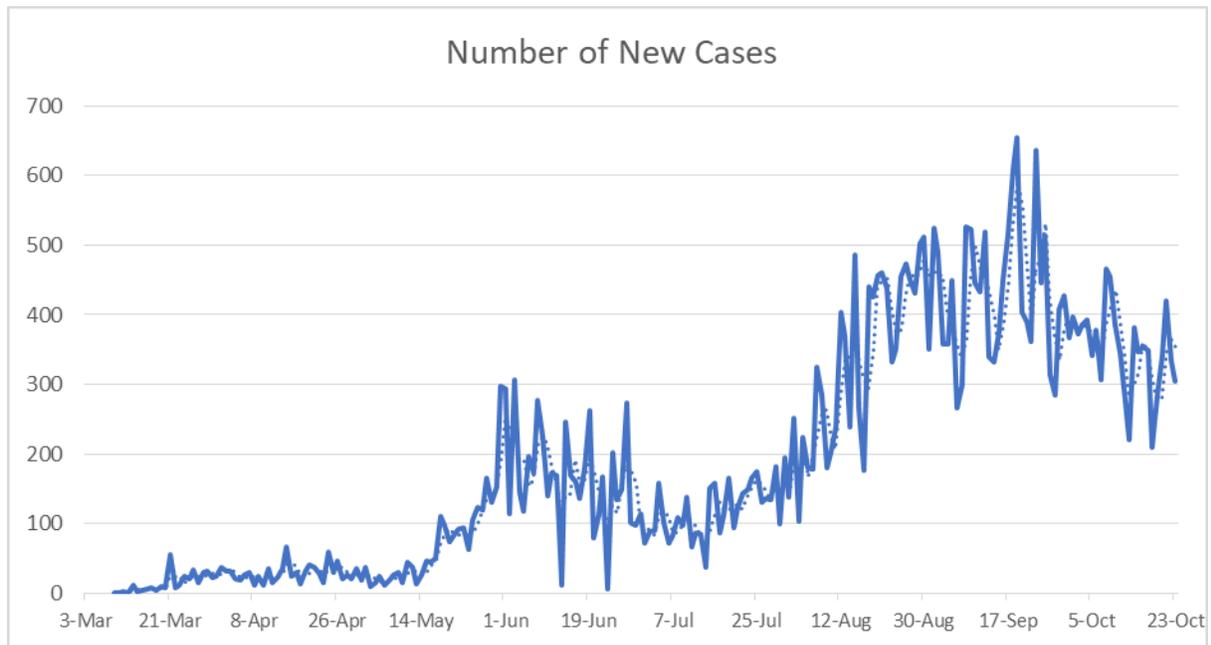
Country	Confirmed Cases	New Cases	Deaths	Recoveries	Active Cases	Tests Conducted
Total Member States	42,255	2,229	976	29,676	11,487	307,193
Antigua and Barbuda	122	9	3	107	12	3443
Bahamas	6352	724	146	3867	2313	33701
Barbados	227	8	7	208	12	32740
Belize	3050	322	46	1872	1132	20807
Dominica	37	4	0	29	8	4268
Grenada	27	0	0	24	3	1125
Guyana	3960	288	117	2923	920	17841
Haiti	9015	90	231	7361	1423	31783
Jamaica	8670	475	212	4209	4160	92045
Montserrat	13	0	1	11	0	383
Saint Lucia	48	15	0	27	21	9521
St Kitts and Nevis	19	0	0	19	0	2933
St Vincent and the Grenadines	73	6	0	64	9	6358
Suriname	5155	42	109	5010	36	18236
Trinidad and Tobago	5487	246	104	3945	1438	32009
Total Associate Members	1,203	13	17	1,151	34	135,273
Anguilla	3	0	0	3	0	662
Bermuda	190	5	9	175	6	79686
British Virgin Islands	72	0	1	70	1	5461
Cayman Islands	239	6	1	215	23	45365
Turks and Caicos Islands	699	2	6	688	4	4099
Total CARICOM	43,458	2,242	993	30,827	11,521	442,466

Notes:

1. New Cases are for the period 17-23 October 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 the Table includes 14 deaths that are under investigation and excludes 26 deaths that are classified as due to non-COVID-19 causes. The total number of deaths of COVID-19 patients is 172.
4. For Jamaica, the number of deaths in the Table includes 26 deaths that are under investigation and excludes 14 deaths that are classified as due to non-COVID-19 causes. The total number of deaths of COVID-19 patients is 226.
5. There is a lag (3 days) in the data for Haiti.

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**CHART 1: SUMMARY ALL COUNTRIES - NUMBER OF NEW CASES -
10 MARCH - 23 OCTOBER 2020**



Note: The total number of new cases for the period **17- 23 October** is **2242** as compared to **2327** during the last reporting period **10-16 October**, a decrease of **85** new cases. **There is a declining trend in the number of new cases from early October as shown in Chart 1.**

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TABLE 2: NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES PER 100,000 POPULATION IN CARICOM –SELECTED COUNTRIES– 11 September – 23 OCTOBER

COUNTRY	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	02-October	09-October	16-October	23-October
CARICOM -ALL COUNTRIES	148.87	166.17	184.90	199.09	213.93	226.89	239.24
CARICOM EXCLD HAITI	258.01	299.65	345.17	379.61	416.55	448.25	478.13
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	99.99	99.99	103.14	111.56	116.82	118.93	128.40
THE BAHAMAS	753.70	842.86	993.92	1136.05	<u>1299.43</u>	1475.93	1665.79
BARBADOS	65.54	67.36	68.82	71.37	74.65	79.74	82.66
BELIZE	360.51	399.45	454.21	522.55	609.72	685.34	766.24
BERMUDA	276.68	281.37	282.93	282.93	287.62	289.18	297.00
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	219.55	236.70	243.56	243.56	243.56	246.99	246.99
CAYMAN ISLANDS	316.05	317.57	319.09	323.64	334.28	354.03	363.15
DOMINICA		34.72	41.67	43.06	44.44	45.83	51.39
GRENADA						24.22	24.22
GUYANA	237.92	283.67	365.59	400.54	453.17	495.55	534.41
HAITI	74.11	75.36	76.44	77.28	77.59	78.21	79.00
JAMAICA	132.83	174.45	214.63	249.13	277.14	300.46	317.87
SAINT LUCIA	14.53	15.08	15.08	15.08	15.64	18.44	26.82
ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	55.86	57.66	57.66	57.66	57.66	60.36	65.77
SURINAME	776.84	804.63	826.24	840.31	860.72	877.02	884.22
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	207.84	268.62	314.67	340.57	369.41	385.60	403.70
TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS	1552.06	1615.01	1646.49	1682.81	1682.81	1687.65	1692.49

Note: Please check the Explanatory Notes repeated in this Issue for the use of rates per 100,000 population in comparing values across countries.

NEW CASES FOR SELECTED COUNTRIES

CHART 2: THE BAHAMAS

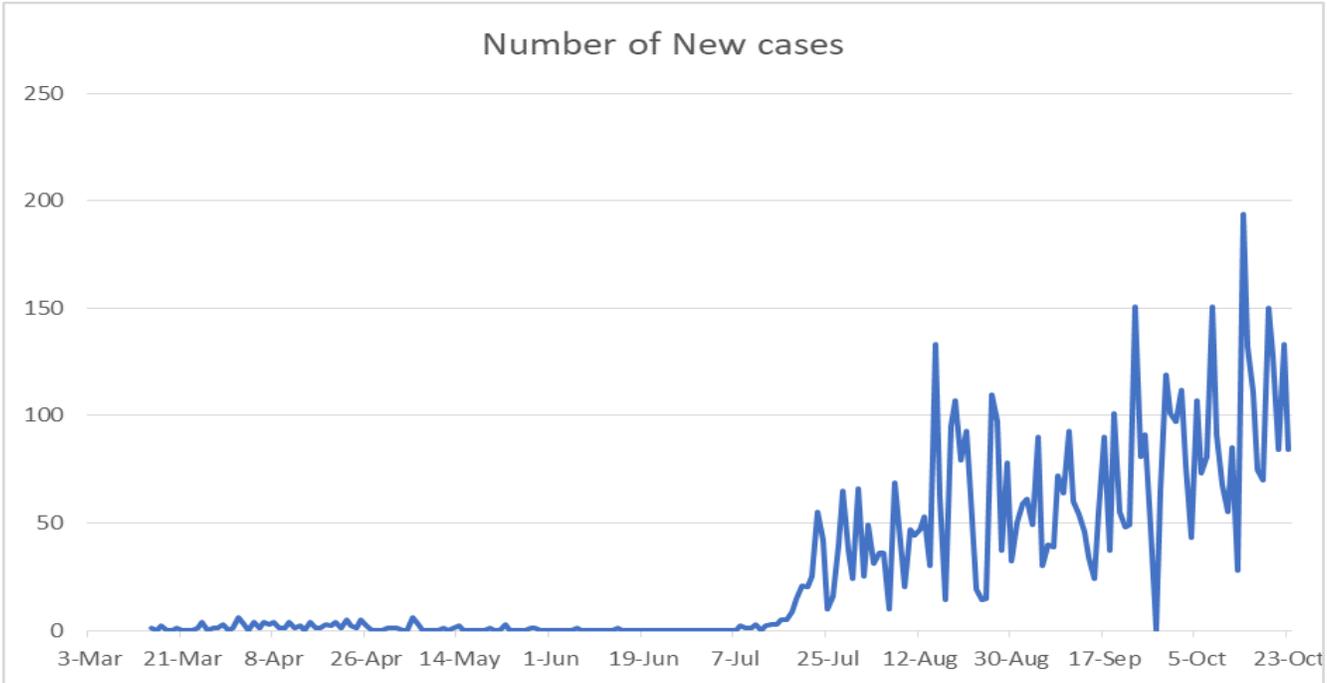
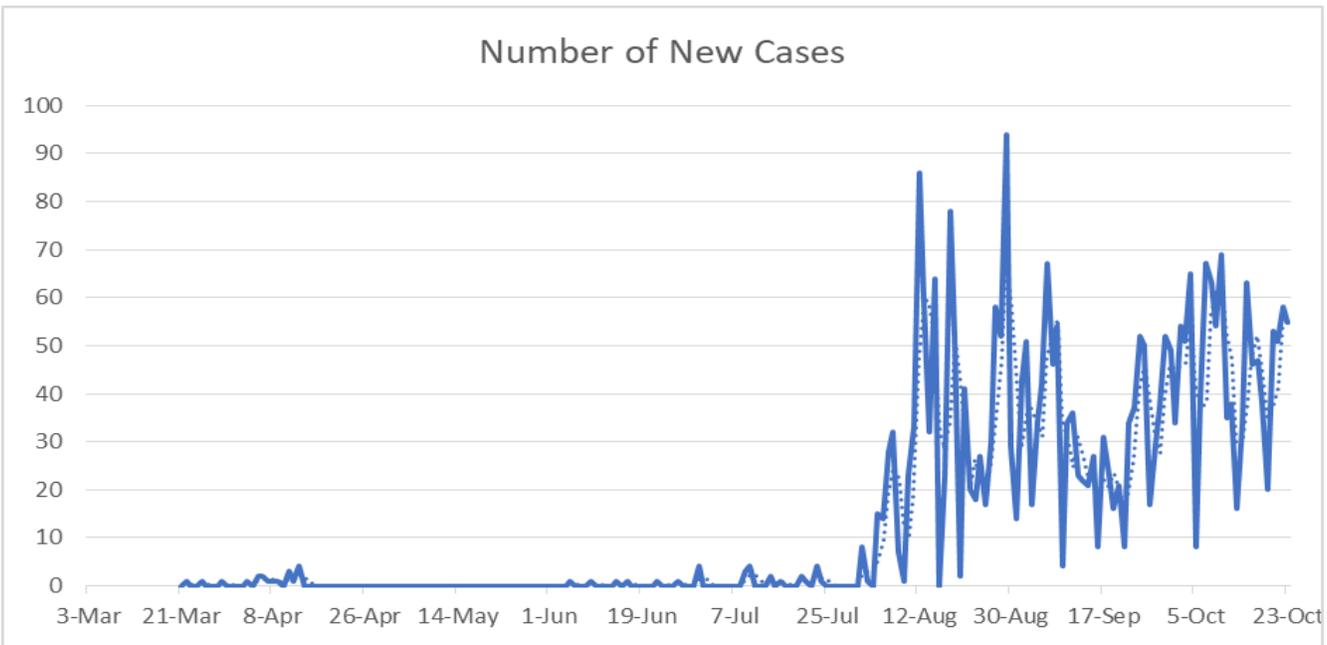


CHART 3: BELIZE



NEW CASES FOR SELECTED COUNTRIES

CHART 4: GUYANA

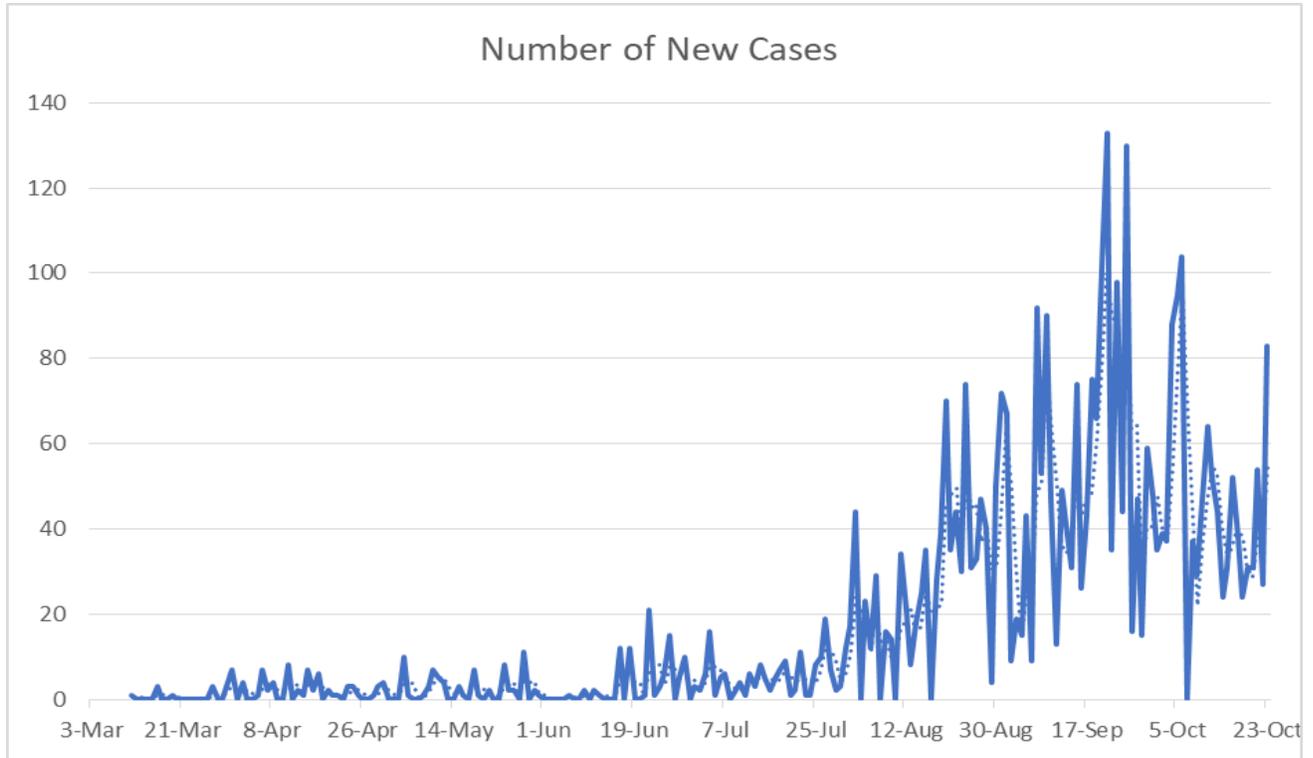
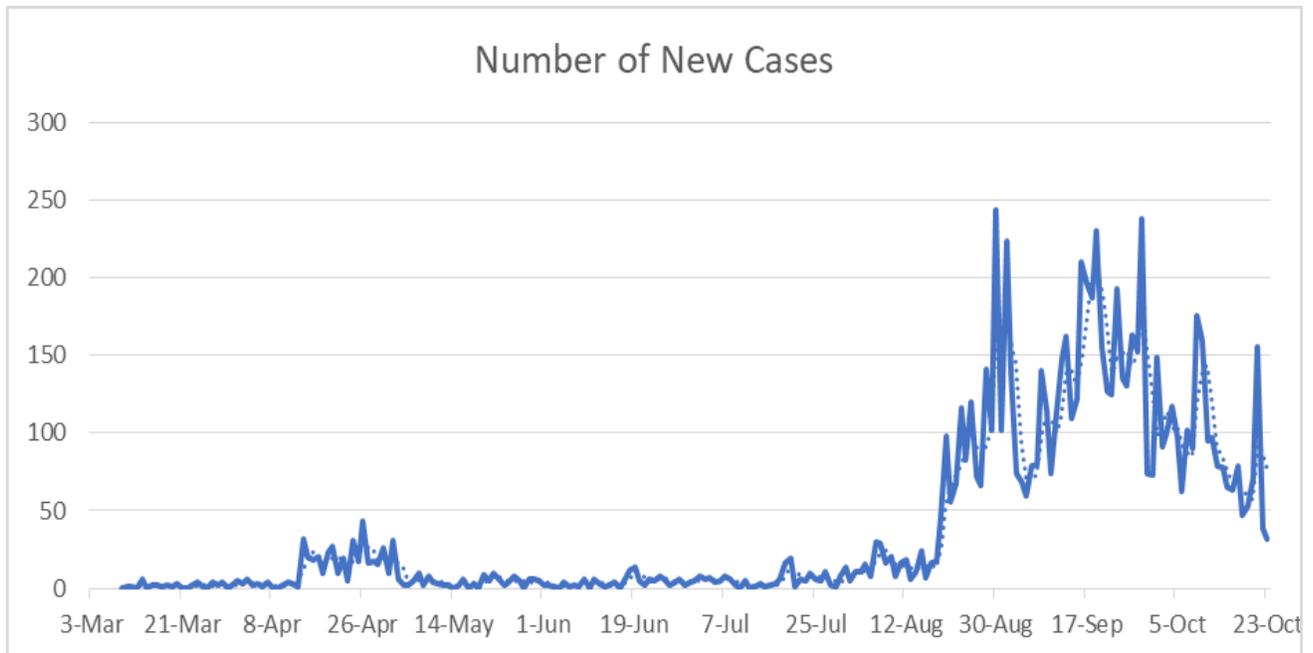


CHART 5: JAMAICA



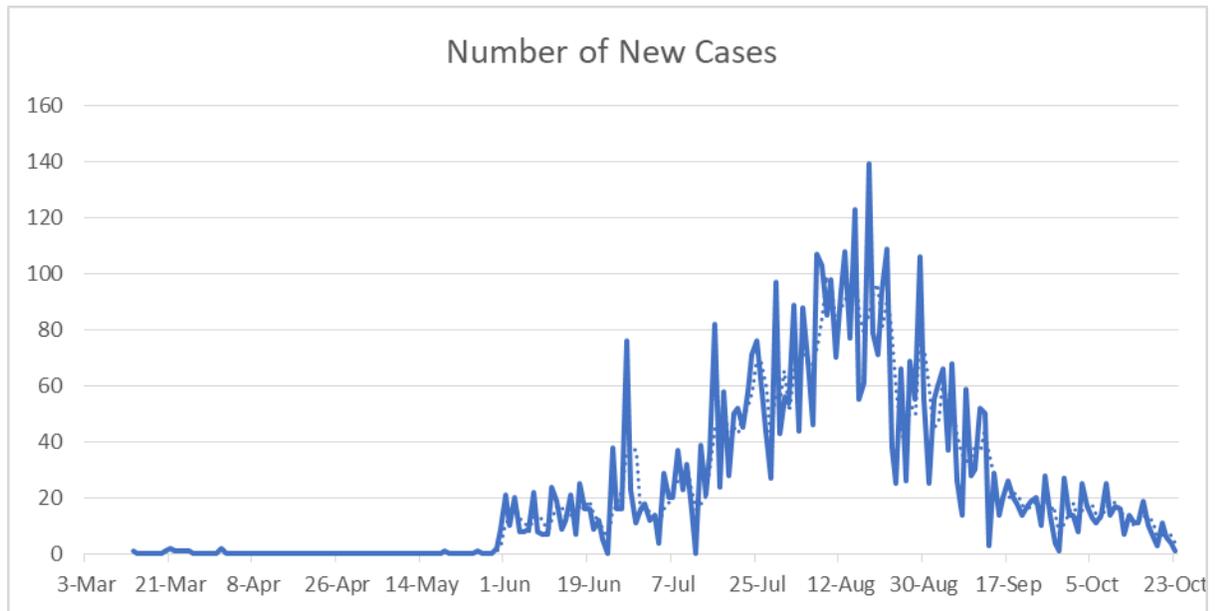
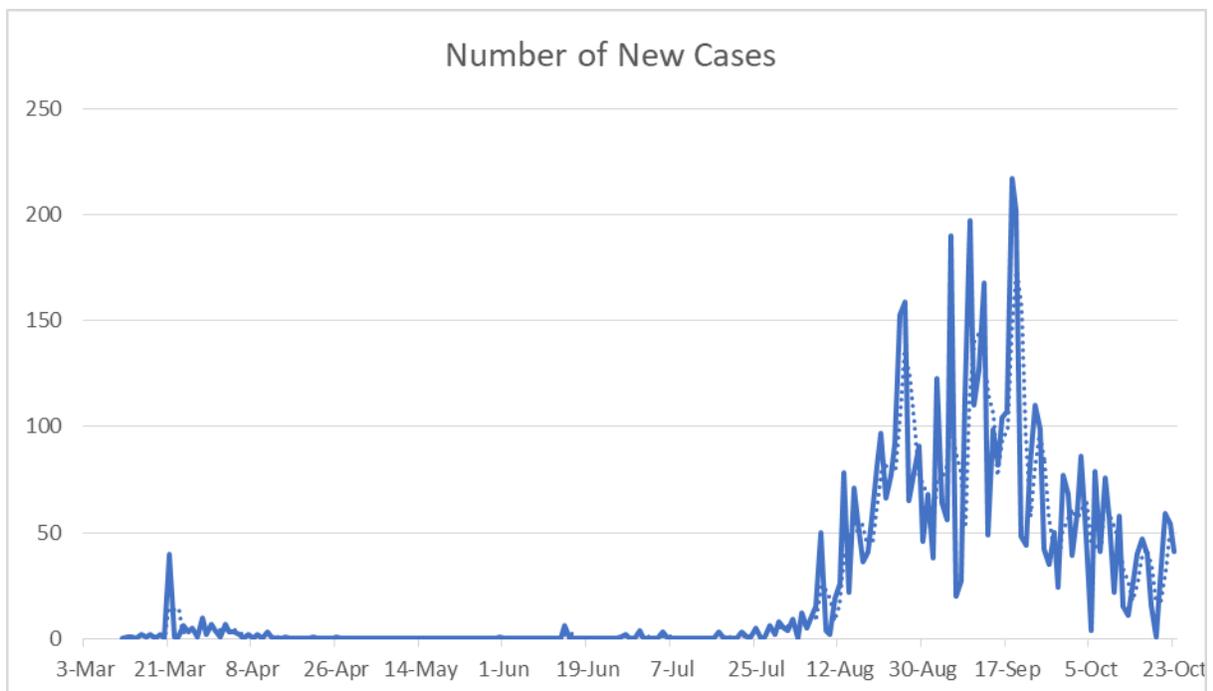
NEW CASES FOR SELECTED COUNTRIES**CHART 6: SURINAME****CHART 7: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

TABLE 3: EXPLANATIONS

Key Term/Issues	Explanation
<p>Data on Testing</p>	<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>
<p>Projections</p>	<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 29th 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

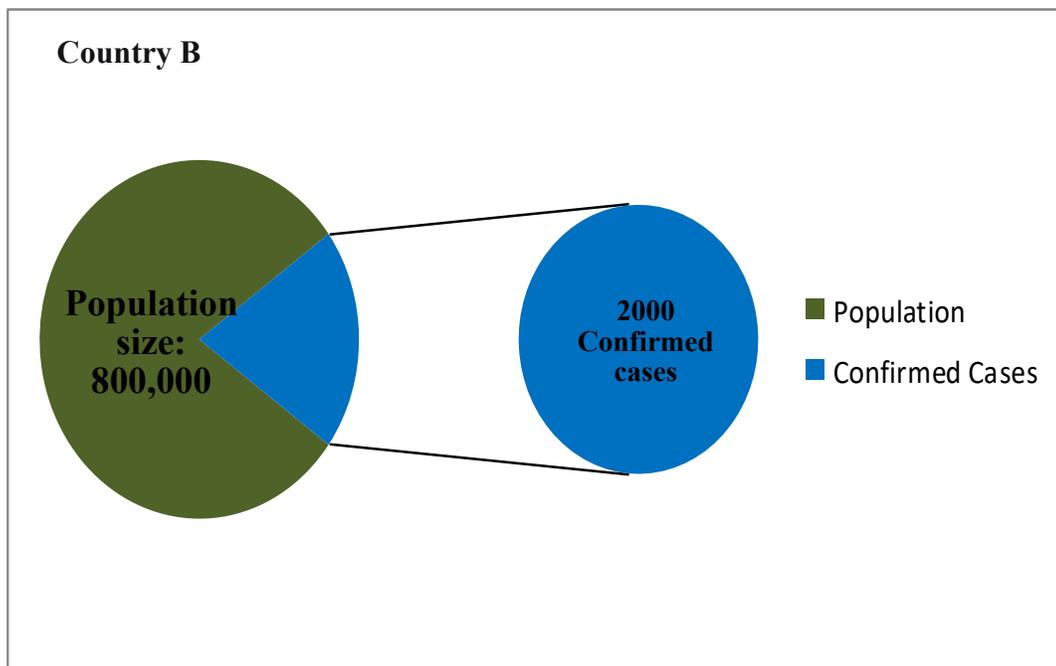
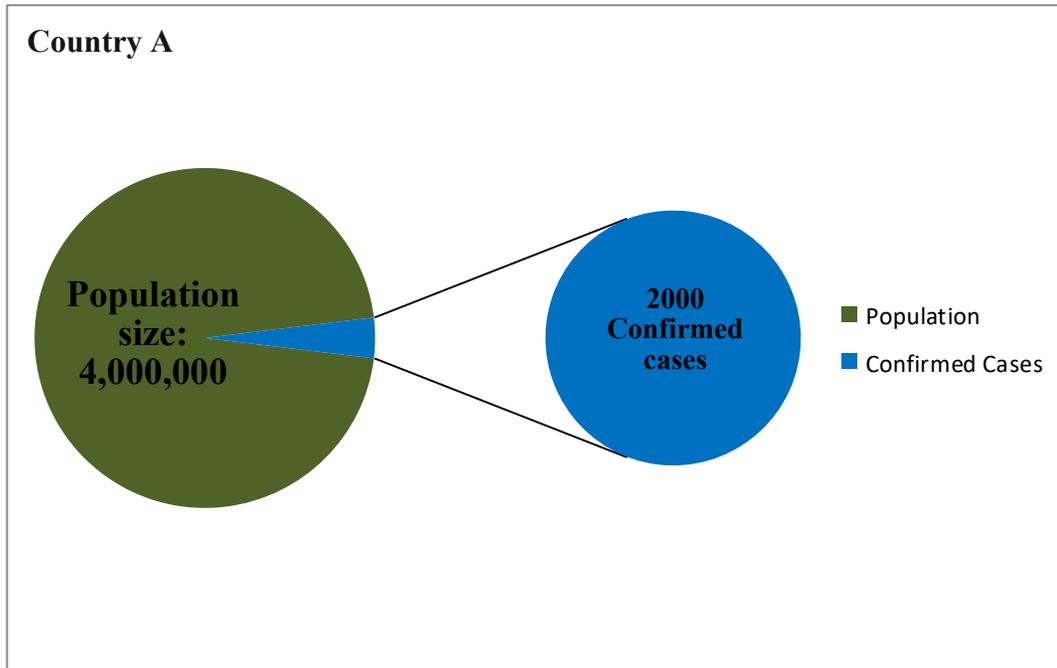
Key Term/Issue	Explanation
Number of Cases per 100,000 population	<p>The number of cases per 100,000 population is calculated by dividing the number of cases by the total population, and then multiplying the result by a standard population size in this case 100,000.</p> $Rate = \frac{No. of Confirmed Cases}{Total Population} \times 100,000$ <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

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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