



COVID-19 Update
Speaking Notes for the Minister of Health & Wellness
Dr. the Hon. Christopher Tufton
Tuesday, April 14, 2020
Jamaica House, Kingston

Good afternoon, media partners. Thank you for joining us for today's update on the island's National COVID-19 Response Efforts.

CURRENT NUMBERS

Jamaica now has **105** confirmed cases of COVID-19. This follows **32** new additions over the last 24 hours.

The new cases are comprised of five males and 27 females, who range in age from 19 to 70 years old. The cases are from St Catherine, and Kingston and St Andrew.

They bring to **34** the number of cases under investigation. **Of the remaining 71 confirmed cases:**

- **Thirty-one (31) are imported;**
- **Thirty-four (34) are contacts of a confirmed case; and**
- **Six (6) are local transmission (*not epi linked*).**

ALORICA INTERVENTION

- ✓ **258 individuals have been interviewed and sampled.**
- ✓ **65 tests are now completed.**



✓ **33 samples have come back positive.**

A senior team from the Ministry visited the entity at the weekend. The entity has since closed.

Arrangements are now being made for the isolation of the newly confirmed cases. The Ministry is also working diligently to identify each of their contacts for testing while investigations continue to identify other possible exposed persons.

RECOVERY, QUARANTINE, ISOLATION

Currently:

- **Twenty (21) persons have recovered;**
- **Twenty (20) persons are in quarantine; and**
- **Sixty-five (65) are in isolation.**

OVERALL TESTING

We have now tested 1,290 samples, including:

- **the 105 confirmed positives; and**
- **1,185 negatives.**

MOBILE TESTING

As has been previously announced, Jamaica is to expand its testing for COVID-19. As part of those expanded testing efforts, the Ministry will, beginning this Friday (April 17, 2020), begin mobile testing for COVID-19 and in two health regions (the Southeast Regional Health



Authority/SERHA and the Northeast Regional Health Authority/NERHA).

CALL TO ACTION

The actions to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure the best possible health outcomes for infected persons requires all our best efforts, from our health care team and others on the frontline to all members of the society.

We are counting on the people of Jamaica to continue to provide the needed support for success by adhering to the various advisories from the Ministry of Health and Wellness, including prevention tips and stipulations on curfew, community quarantine as well as self-reporting.

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