



This situation update is on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported cases and deaths, Globally, Regionally, for Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories, and the United Kingdom Overseas Territories.

Despite large numbers of cases, countless people not yet exposed remain vulnerable to COVID-19 infection in the Americas



PAHO Director recommend a series of measures for minimizing transmission and adapting spaces to make them as safe as they can be as countries reopen. She also asked for continued monitoring and containment of the virus and ensuring that enough hospital beds are available

Reopening societies before health systems are ready “would risk a handful of cases in one area becoming a full-blown outbreak,” PAHO Director Carissa F. Etienne said Wednesday.

“As leaders across the world face pressure to resume social and public life, it’s important that they avoid making decisions in a vacuum. Data about the virus’s spread and the state of health systems and services must guide each country’s plans to reopen, including the mix of preventive measures that should remain in place to keep people safe,” she told a media briefing today.

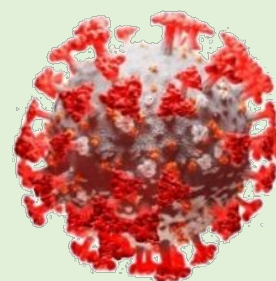
She said the basic principles of adjusting individual behavior, adapting spaces and exercising political leadership are key to making transportation, workplaces, schools and public spaces as safe as they can be for all.

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PREPARE.

ACT.



COVID-19 case update:

On 21 September 2020, there was one new case in Antigua and Barbuda, and two new cases in St. Kitts and Nevis.

COUNTRY	COVID-19 CASE UPDATE
Anguilla	no new cases for 170 days
Antigua and Barbuda	last case on 21 September 2020
Barbados	last case on 20 September 2020
British Virgin Islands (UK)	last case on 19 September 2020
Dominica	last case on 14 September 2020
Grenada	last case on 31 July 2020
Montserrat	no new cases for 60 days
Saint Kitts and Nevis	last 2 cases on 21 September 2020
Saint Lucia	last case on 08 September 2020
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	last 2 cases on 12 September 2020

Updates

Global

31,034,912 confirmed cases,

960,430 deaths *in*

216 countries, areas, or territories

PAHO - Region of the Americas

15,665,730 confirmed cases,

531,687 deaths *in*

54 countries, areas, or territories

Reported number of cumulative COVID-19 cases in the Caribbean sub-region and corresponding incidence rate (per 100,000 persons) by country/territory (sub-national level). As of 21 September 2020.



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Barbados and Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories

Country	Confirmed Cases	Deaths	No of Tests	Transmission Type	Status of Schools	Travel Restrictions	Masks Mandatory	State of Emergency (Curfew ends)	COVID-19 Web Address and Hotline
Anguilla	3	0	1,062	No cases	Schools open	Yes	No	No	https://beatcovid19.ai/ (264) 476-7627
Antigua & Barbuda	96	3	2,332	Sporadic cases	Ant: Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes		Yes	https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=42 (268) 462-6843
Barbados	189	7	21,069	Clusters of cases	Varied stages of reopening	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/covid-19/ (246) 536-4500
British Virgin Islands	71	1	4,000	Clusters of cases	Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes	Yes	No	https://bvi.gov.vg/covid-19 (284) 852-7650
Dominica	25	0	2,868	Clusters of cases	Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes	Specific settings only	No	http://dominica.gov.dm/corona (767) 448-2151
French Guiana	9,712	65	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	
Grenada	24	0	3,396	No cases	Varied stages of reopening	Lifted	Yes	Yes	https://covid19.gov.gd/ (473) 458-4787 / (473) 538-4787
Guadeloupe	3,426	26	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.guadeloupe.ars.sante.fr/
Martinique	1,122	18	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.martinique.ars.sante.fr/
Montserrat	13	1	373	No cases	Schools reopened 7 Sep. 2020	Yes	No	No	http://www.gov.ms/latest-on-the-coronavirus/
Saint Barthélemy	23	0	-	Sporadic cases	-	-	-	-	
St Kitts & Nevis	21	0	2,138	No cases	Schools reopened 9 Sep. 2020	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.covid19.gov.kn/
Saint Lucia	27	0	7,547	Sporadic cases	-	Yes	Specific settings only	Yes	https://www.covid19response.lc/
Saint Martin	330	6		Community transmission	-		-	-	https://www.stmartinweek.fr/
St Vincent & the Grenadines	64	0	4,603	Sporadic cases	Varied stages of reopening	No	Specific settings only	No	http://health.gov.vc/health/index.php/c (784) 534-4325
Total	15,146	127	49,388						

Table 1: COVID-19 status in Barbados and Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories. 'Sporadic cases' indicates countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected. 'Clusters of cases' indicates countries/territories/areas experiencing cases clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures.

Data in red new. **Disclaimer:** Data is updated by 5:00PM each day and there could be delays in reporting. Any discrepancies from national data figures will be edited on the next issue.



Barbados and ECC reopening schools

Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries have joined countries around the world in reopening schools, armed with COVID-19 protocols.

Our region is being guided by PAHO/WHO guidelines for the reopening of schools. In a UNICEF/WHO publication, '*Considerations for school-related health measures in the context of COVID-19*', several prevention and control measures are outlined. Among them are physical distancing, of at least three feet, inside and outside of the classroom; use of face masks; hygiene and daily cleaning practices; screening and management of sick students, teachers or school staff.

Territories are embracing the protocols and adapting modes of education best suited to their circumstances. Also, safety protocols are being shared not only with students, parents and teachers, but with bus drivers and conductors as well.

Private schools and tertiary institutions in each territory have reopened on various dates, utilizing the safety protocols endorsed by the Ministries of Education.

Here is an update on how Government schools in each territory are operating.

Antigua and Barbuda

Primary and secondary schools opened in Antigua and Barbuda on 7 September 2020.

The approach is phased and there will be blended learning (face to face and virtual).

Some schools will be on a shift system, while other, larger schools, are implementing days on, days off. There are still some schools which did not open on 7th September, as buildings are being retrofitted to respond to COVID-19.

Barbados

Government operated schools in Barbados opened on Monday 21st September 2020, with the exception of eight schools which are being renovated.

Primary and secondary schools will utilize a combination of online and face to face school during the same week. For instance, at some schools, some year levels will attend school two days in the first week; and three days online; while the other year levels will attend three days, then online school for two days.

Dominica

In Dominica, schools reopened 7th September. Children were assessed to determine whether remedial teaching is required during the first week of school. Face to face education is the mode of instruction being utilized.

Grenada

From 7 September, students in Grenada began a blended approach to education, with face-to-face instruction and remote learning.

St. Kitts & Nevis

School resumed on 7th September.

Primary school students are attending school on a shift system: the morning shift is from 8:25 a.m. to 12 :15 p.m.; while the afternoon shift is from 12:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Secondary schools will operate on a full day system, alternating days by year level. This system is in place for all secondary schools, with the exception of two schools which will operate on a shift system.

St. Lucia

Most government schools opened on 7 September 2020, though some schools did not open because construction is in progress to retrofit the schools for the COVID-19 response.

There are two teaching options in place. In the first option, students are following a blended approach, attending school four days a week - Monday to Thursday. The Friday will be used as an in-school teacher planning and general sanitization day. In the second option, at larger schools, students will attend classes for the entire day on alternate days: three face to face instructional days; and distributed learning on the other days, which will include virtual, activity worksheets and projects.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Schools in St. Vincent and the Grenadines also commenced on 7th September, 2020, offering face to face instruction.

Two schools which were undergoing renovations will open later. One secondary school opened a week later on the 14 September.

UKOTS (Anguilla, BVI, Montserrat)

Schools in the United Kingdom Overseas Territories opened on 7th September.

In Anguilla and Montserrat, students will engage in face to face classes, with year levels scheduled to allow for the required physical distancing. While in the BVI, school will be conducted online.



For more information on COVID-19 visit: www.paho.org/coronavirus



