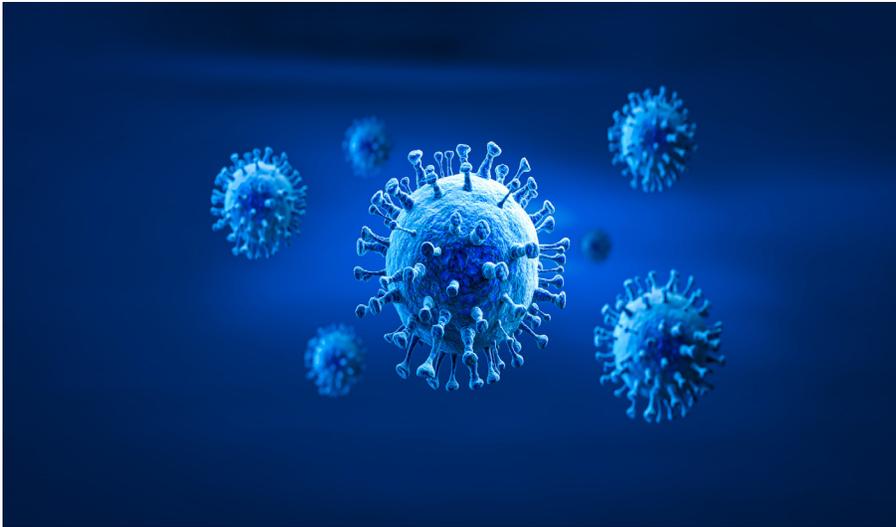




COVID-19 Situation Update - 145

26 November 2021

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



Classification of Omicron (B.1.1.529): SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern

The Technical Advisory Group on SARS-CoV-2 Virus Evolution (TAG-VE) is an independent group of experts that periodically monitors and evaluates the evolution of SARS-CoV-2 and assesses if specific mutations and combinations of mutations alter the behaviour of the virus. The TAG-VE was convened on 26 November 2021 to assess the SARS-CoV-2 variant: B.1.1.529.

The B.1.1.529 variant was first reported to WHO from South Africa on 24 November 2021. The epidemiological situation in South Africa has been characterized by three distinct peaks in reported cases, the latest of which was predominantly the Delta variant. In recent weeks, infections have increased

steeply, coinciding with the detection of B.1.1.529 variant. The first known confirmed B.1.1.529 infection was from a specimen collected on 9 November 2021.

This variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are concerning. Preliminary evidence suggests an increased risk of reinfection with this variant, as compared to other VOCs. The number of cases of this variant appears to be increasing in almost all provinces in South Africa. Current SARS-CoV-2 PCR diagnostics continue to detect this variant. Several labs have indicated that for one widely used PCR test, one of the three target genes is not detected (called S gene dropout or S gene target failure) and this test can therefore

Region of the Americas

96,590,767
cases

2,345,222
deaths in

56
countries, areas, or territories

1,316,713,083
total vaccine doses administered

Global

259,502,031
cases

5,183,003
deaths in

236
countries, areas, or territories

7,702,859,718
total vaccine doses administered

be used as marker for this variant, pending sequencing confirmation. Using this approach, this variant has been detected at faster rates than previous surges in infection, suggesting that this variant may have a growth advantage.

There are a number of studies underway and the TAG-VE will continue to evaluate this variant. WHO will communicate new findings with Member States and to the public as needed.

[Read more...](#)

COVID-19 highlights



Saint John's, Antigua, 18 November 2021 [PAHO] — Antigua & Barbuda received 19,200 doses of COVID-19 vaccine donated by Spain via the COVAX Mechanism, a global initiative that aims to ensure equitable access to vaccines against the disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Including this delivery, the country has received 60,000 doses of vaccines via COVAX, 19,200 of which were provided by Spain, with support from the government of Canada, which will help protect more people against COVID-19. [Read more...](#)



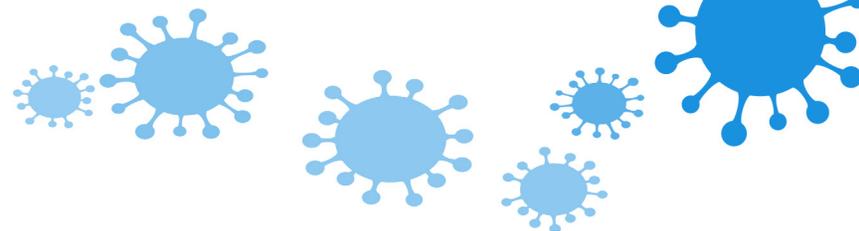
Country/Territory	Data as of:	People Vaccinated with		7 Day Daily Average of Vaccination *	
		1 Dose	2 Doses	This week	Last week
Anguilla	12/11/2021	9906	9160	41	0
Antigua and Barbuda	23/11/2021	117072	55801	384	615
Barbados	25/11/2021	153261	153165	2968	601
British Virgin Islands	23/11/2021	17607	16471	8	24
Dominica	23/11/2021	28764	26760	56	108
French Guiana	21/11/2021	87350	76291	334	257
Grenada	25/11/2021	74522	34230	207	184
Guadeloupe	16/11/2021	134600	124701	416	593
Martinique	25/12/2021	135602	125184	1335	469
Montserrat	19/11/2021	1531	1417	0	4
Saint Barthelemy	09/11/2021	6846	6454	10	6
Saint Kitts and Nevis	24/11/2021	52173	24920	95	71
Saint Lucia	25/11/2021	54045	45,823	251	330
Saint Martin	16/11/2021	13359	12048	38	50
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	23/11/2021	30718	22384	393	366

* *Red* indicates decreasing trend compared to previous 7 day period, *green* indicates increase

BE AWARE.

PREPARE.

ACT.



ECC COVID-19 Surveillance

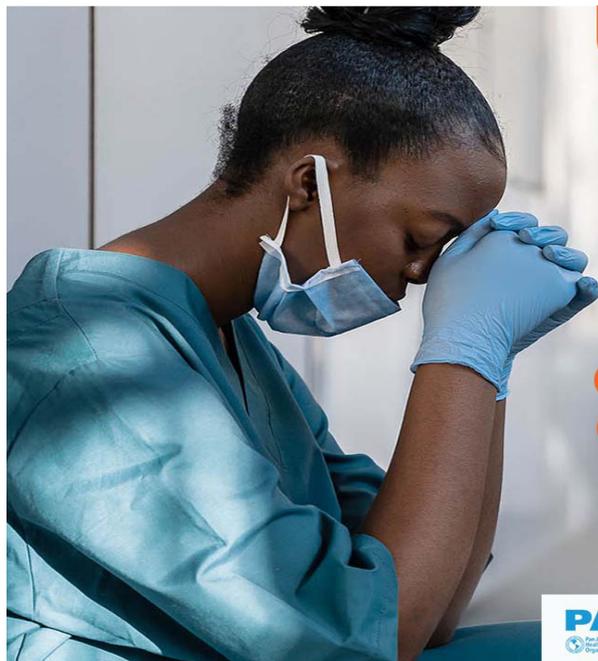
Country/Territory	Data as of:	Situation in last 7 days		Active Cases	Hospitalized	Situation since the start of the pandemic	
		New Cases	New Deaths			Cases	Deaths
Anguilla	23/11/2021	159	1	124	7	1334	5
Antigua and Barbuda	24/11/2021	10	9	24	3	4141	117
Barbados	24/11/2021	1440	11			24615	216
British Virgin Islands	23/11/2021	8	0			2773	38
Dominica	23/11/2021	292	2	354		5776	37
French Guiana	26/11/2021	248	4		32	45864	326
Grenada	25/11/2021	19	0	62	2	5884	200
Guadeloupe	18/11/2021	224	1			55080	823
Martinique	25/12/2021	596	5		81	45109	708
Montserrat	17/11/2021	3	0	3	0	44	1
Saint Barthelemy	17/11/2021	5	0			1666	4
Saint Kitts and Nevis	24/11/2021	16	0	30		2776	28
Saint Lucia	25/11/2021	72	8	125		12944	280
Saint Martin	17/11/2021	20	0			4013	38
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	23/11/2021	101	3	488	18	5469	74

*Figures in red indicate increasing trend compared to previous 7 day period, green indicates decrease

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WEBINAR

Doing What Matters in Times of Stress

Stress Management series:

Every THURSDAY in November 2021

1:00PM - 2:00PM (AST)







Stress Management series "Doing What Matters in Times of Stress" launched by PAHO and partner agencies

The PAHO/WHO Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries presented the first in a series of webinars "Doing What Matters in Times of Stress" on Thursday November 4, 2021. Over 136 health care workers, social workers, counsellors, religious leaders, educators and other representatives from various sectors representing 18 countries participated.

This lunch hour webinar series was held from 1:00-2:00pm every Thursday in the month of November. The series was hosted in collaboration with the Universal Health Coverage Partnership (UHC-P), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Caribbean Alliance of National Psychology Associations (CANPA). The webinar series sought to equip front line workers with the practical skills to cope with stress.

Dr Yitades Gebre, the PAHO/WHO Representative

for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean launched the webinar series and encouraged front line workers to look after their own mental health whilst providing support to others and encouraged others to take care of their own mental health. Developing coping skills and practicing stress management activities help to build individual resilience. He encouraged countries to make mental health services the foundation of the COVID-19 pandemic response. National COVID-19 plans should incorporate mental health and all sectors should work together to ensure that mental health services are widely available. Front line workers and other vulnerable groups should be given special attention and have access to the care and support they need and when they need it.

Select this [link](#) to view all four (4) episodes in the stress management series.

[Link](#) to previous Situation Updates



www.paho.org/coronavirus



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