

# Regional Situation Report – Hurricane Season 2025

## Hurricane Melissa

### Sitrep No. 2

Data as of 5 November 2025, 11:00 EST (UTC-05:00).

Affected Locations	Deaths	Damaged Health Facilities	In Shelters
<b>6</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>124,694</b>
Jamaica, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, the Bahamas, Bermuda	Jamaica: 32 Haiti: 43 Dominican Republic: 2 Cuba: 0	Jamaica: 54 Haiti: 10 Cuba: 461	Jamaica: 2,868 Haiti: 1,749 Dominican Republic: 77 Cuba: 120,000

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### Highlights

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in **Jamaica** on 28 October as a *Category 5 storm*, and impacting **Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, the Bahamas, and Bermuda**, with the Pan American Health Organization supporting ongoing response efforts in Jamaica, Haiti, and Cuba.

The storm heavily disrupted health systems, resulting in damaged hospitals, power and water outages, and limited access to essential health services.

**PAHO/WHO** has activated its Regional Incident Management Support Team (IMST) and is coordinating closely with Ministries of Health, CARPHA, and CDEMA to guide the regional health response.

- **Technical Support:** Deploying specialists from PAHO's Regional Response Team to support health services, WASH, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), structural engineering for rapid facility assessments, EMT Coordination, Health Cluster and HEOC Coordination, Information Management, Logistics and environmental health.
- **Medical Supplies & Logistics:** Emergency medical kits and other essential lifesaving supplies were pre-positioned in Haiti and Cuba; also other critical response supplies were delivered to Jamaica directly from PAHO's Strategic Reserve in Panama. Additional support and supplies were brought to Jamaica in close coordination with the Royal Netherlands Navy.
- **Supporting post-disaster health-facility assessments and disease surveillance**, with emphasis on waterborne illness prevention and continuity of essential services.

## Executive Summary

- Jamaica:** Extensive damage to hospitals (11 hospitals, including 5 major hospitals severely damaged) and health centers (n= 43), with power outages, and impacts to water systems affecting emergency services, inpatient care, surgical capacity, and imaging and laboratory services; 32 deaths confirmed, with 2,868 people in shelters (1, 2).
- Haiti:** Flooding and landslides caused 43 deaths, mainly in Petit-Goâve, Ouest Department, and major damage to houses and infrastructure. Damage to roads limits the delivery of humanitarian services to shelters and communities and impacted water systems heighten the risk of waterborne disease (3-6).
- Cuba:** Widespread destruction, flooding, and disruption to essential services was reported, with 730,000 people evacuated and 120,000 remaining in shelters. Severe disruption to electricity, water, and telecommunications has been reported. Extensive healthcare facilities damaged.

Country	Deaths	Missing	Injured	Displaced	Sheltered	Data as of
Jamaica	32	0	96		2,868	5 Nov
Haiti	43	13	21		1,749	5 Nov
Cuba	0	0	17	735,000	120,000	5 Nov
Dominican Republic	2	0	16	3,785	77	27 Oct*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>738,779</b>	<b>124,694</b>	<i>(varies)</i>

Figures reflect latest available reports. Definitions of “displaced” and “sheltered” vary by country; totals are approximate. Data for the Dominican Republic last updated 27 Oct.

	Key Health-System Impacts	Surveillance Status
<b>Jamaica</b>	11 hospitals and ~43 health centres damaged; 40 % of facilities on generators; unstable water supply.	Facility and shelter surveillance ongoing; 1 watery-diarrhea case (KSA); no other alerts.
<b>Haiti</b>	10 facilities damaged (flooding / medicine loss in Sud & Grand-Anse). MSPP crisis cell active.	Field epi teams and EBS active; PAHO/MSPP joint assessments in shelters; pre-positioned cholera kits.
<b>Cuba</b>	461 health facilities damaged (↑ from 287); 3 % electrical circuits active in Santiago de Cuba; communications severely limited.	Health care continuing in shelters; sanitation and vector control brigades operational; epi data limited due to telecom outages.

## Jamaica

32	0	96	2,868
Deaths	Missing	Injured	Sheltered

### Affected areas

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica as a Category 5 storm on 28 October, bringing catastrophic winds, heavy rainfall (15-30 inches), and storm surges up to 13 feet to the Southern and Western Regions. The most impacted parishes are St. Elizabeth, Trelawny, St. James, Hanover, and Westmoreland. Flash Flood Watch for low-lying and flood-prone areas in all parishes has been discontinued. Damage assessments and response measures, including to and of health infrastructure, remain underway (7, 8) (1, 2).

Severe damage to infrastructure includes more than 130 major roads blocked, widespread power-grid failures, and communication disruption throughout the island. Power outages and turbidity issues affected 16 National Water Commission facilities across 5 parishes (St. Catherine, Clarendon, St. Mary, Portland, St. Andrew), including 78 communities in Kingston & St. Andrew (1).

### Affected population

As of 3 November 2025, the entire population of Jamaica (2.8 million people) has been exposed to Hurricane Melissa, with more than 1.5 million people impacted by housing damage, power, and water outages (5); more than 450,000 people have no access to electricity, primarily in the Western and Southern Regions (9).

There are 32 deaths reported from official estimates (including those related to injuries sustained during hurricane preparedness activities), and 96 people injured (1, 2).

As 2 November, 206 shelters remained active (of 900 total shelters), housing 2,868 persons; at peak on 29 October 513 shelters had been activated housing 7,208 people (1, 2).

Initial estimates report 98,000-359,000 people may need food assistance (1).

Mental health needs are a priority, with rising needs especially among children and healthcare workers (9).

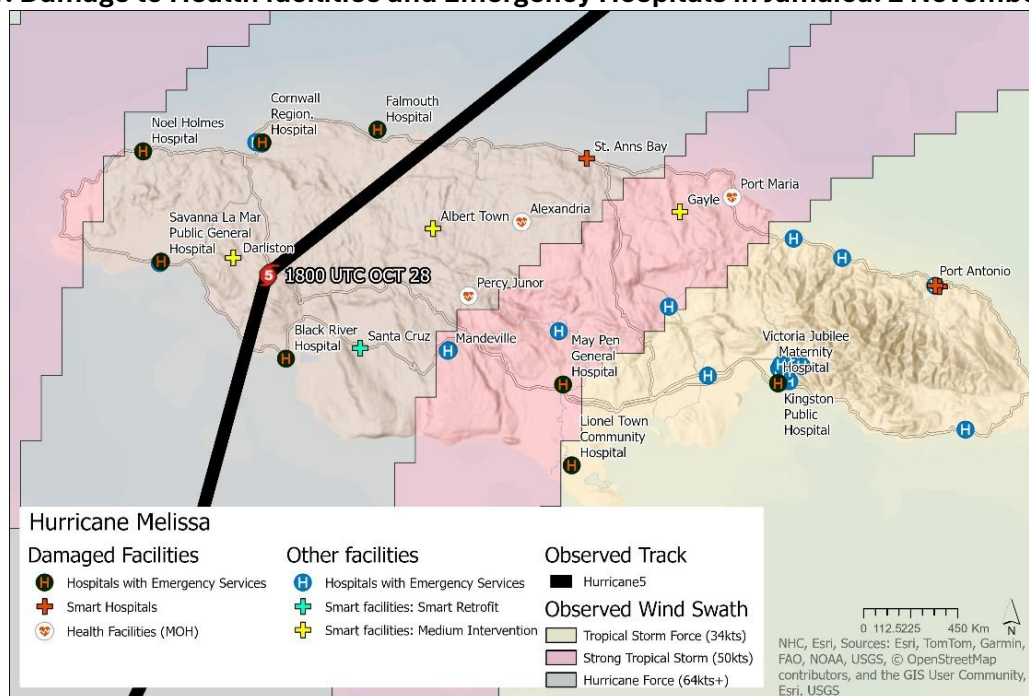
Disease surveillance is ongoing at all health facilities and shelters daily (2).

## Health systems impact

The Jamaica Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) reports Hurricane Melissa has severely impacted the country's health infrastructure and service delivery. Damage has been reported in 11 hospitals (including 5 major hospitals), and in 43 health facilities across the country (2). As of 2 November 2025, primary health services have resumed, with 23 centers reopening in Kingston & St. Andrew, 12 in St. Catherine, and 4 in St. Thomas (2) (**Map1**). In St. Elizabeth parish and other severely impacted areas, mobile and outreach services have been deployed (2). Public hospitals have been operating in emergency mode across all Regional Health Authorities, with an average 89% staffing level nationally (2). Emergency and primary care services are under strain, with several hospitals functioning over capacity (1, 2). About 40% of health facilities across the island report power instability and generator dependance, threatening the availability of imaging and lab services, and continuity of care, highest in the Western (60% of facilities including Savanna-la-Mar and Noel Holmes hospitals) and Southern (45% generator dependency, including May Pen hospital) regions, followed by the Southeast (25% of facilities using generators) and Northeast (30-35% relying on backup power) regions (1, 2). Nutrition and dietetic services report a 3-5 day food supply for some hospitals (1, 2). The National Laboratory Service is fully operational with adequate power and water supplies; however, the Western and Southern Health Authorities report disruptions to laboratory capacity (1, 2).

Assessment of the impacts of the hurricane on the health system and health service delivery is ongoing (**Table 1**).

**Map 1: Damage to Health facilities and Emergency Hospitals in Jamaica. 2 November 2025.**



**Table 1: Preliminary Health Facility Impact Assessment – Jamaica (as of 2 November 2025)**

Facility	Status	Key Impacts	Operational Notes
<b>Black River Hospital (St Elizabeth)</b>	Inoperable	Roof collapse, wall destruction, extensive flooding, operating theater unusable, laboratory destroyed	Only accident and emergency services functional. Patients and staff evacuated; no power; emergency teams relocating patients
<b>Falmouth Hospital (Trelawny)</b>	Severely Damaged	Operating theater flooded, catastrophic damage to roof (60-70% loss), laboratory, dietary service areas	Partial evacuation; services disrupted. Dietary services shifted outside
<b>Cornwall Regional Hospital (St James)</b>	Severely Damaged	Flooding; nurses' quarters hit	Operating at reduced capacity; overcrowded wards with poor infection control. Surgeries shifted to private facilities
<b>Noel Holmes Hospital (Hanover)</b>	Damaged	Flooding and wind damage to roof	Functional, but over capacity
<b>Savanna-la-Mar (Westmoreland)</b>	Damaged	Outpatient structure destroyed. Roof leaks in inpatient areas	Inpatient services continue

Note: Table reflects initial findings from available reports; comprehensive health-facility assessments are still underway.

**Source:** Pan American Health Organization. Hurricane Melissa – Jamaica, Situation Report #8, 3 November 2025. Kingston: PAHO; 2025. Available from: <https://www.paho.org/en/documents/situation-report-8-jamaica-hurricane-melissa-3-november-2025> and Jamaica Ministry of Health and Wellness. Health Emergency Operations Center Report #11; Hurricane Melissa; 2 November 2025. Kingston: Jamaica MoHW; 2025. Unpublished

## Country Response <sup>(2)</sup>

- The National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC) was activated on 25 October 2025 and remains at Level 3 status.
- All government ministries, departments, and agencies have been deployed in the field to collect data and inform preparedness and upcoming response activities.
- The Environmental Health Team is targeting 5 critical areas in response to threats from hurricane impact: food safety, general sanitation, water quality, shelter, and vector control.
- The Mental Health team leads have submitted a needs assessment, and a technical working group has been planned to take place during the week. JAMPSYCH (Jamaica Psychologists) and the JPA (Jamaica Psychiatric Association) are approached to provide care to healthcare workers and provide specialist services.
- Municipal Corporations and the National Works Agency have been mobilized to respond to impacted areas.

- National Laboratory Services are fully operational, with the necessary staff, supplies, and power backup to provide uninterrupted lab services.

## PAHO Response <sup>(1)</sup>

### Coordination:

- Activated the PAHO Jamaica Country Office EOC and Incident Management System on 26 October 2025 and remains active since.
- Providing technical guidance to the MoHW; maintaining dialogue with the HDC and technical support in critical areas including surveillance, vector control, and continuity of health services
- Co-lead of the Health Cluster with MoHW: Health sector coordination meeting was held with 48 persons in person and over 40 persons online. A Microsoft form was shared to collect information on the different partners, their capabilities and what support that is being offered. The 4W form was also shared and its currently being used to gather data.
- Deployment of PAHO's Regional Response Team Experts to the Jamaica Country Office to support areas, including health services, WASH, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), structural engineering, EMT Coordination, Health Cluster and HEOC Coordination, Information Management, Logistics and Environmental Health.
- PAHO continues to support the MoHW with the deployment of Emergency Medical Teams (EMT):
  - MoH has established the CICOM within the EOC to support the request, offers and deployment of emergency medical teams.
  - Samaritan's Purse (US) has deployed a Type 2 facility at Black River Hospital and providing surgical and inpatient care since November 5.
  - Spanish Cooperation is also deploying an EMT Type 2 at Falmouth and is expected to be fully operational next November 8.
  - As of now, 21 emergency medical teams from 14 organizations have confirmed their readiness and availability to support the response to Hurricane Melissa.
- PAHO is represented at UN meetings, including the United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) which is held every other day.
- PAHO is represented at the Caribbean Development Partner Group – Disaster management meetings.

### Health care:

- Structural engineering support, assisting with rapid damage assessments of health facilities; plan of action for damage assessments islandwide is being prepared in collaboration with MoHW and will include health facilities.
- PAHO delivered 5.5 tons of supplies, including Interagency Emergency Health Kit (IEHK), Non-communicable disease Kit (NCDK) capable of reaching 20,000 people over 3 months, a trauma kit for 100 interventions, generators, and medical backpacks.
- In coordination with the Royal Netherlands Navy, the PAHO Subregional Office in Barbados was able to send additional support and supplies including, water analysis kits, first responder backpacks, and other key emergency response supplies.



## Surveillance:

- Critical laboratory supplies have been identified for purchase to support testing for waterborne diseases (including cholera), respiratory illnesses, and arboviral infections.

## WASH and communities

- WASH assessments have been carried out at Falmouth Hospital, Cornwall Regional Hospital, Santa Cruz Heath Center and at Black River Hospitals to evaluate water availability, access, and the condition of water and sanitation infrastructure. The PAHO team is planning to conduct similar assessments in other health care facilities in the coming week, focusing on the most affected areas and the SMART Health Care Facilities.

## Gaps and challenges

- Impacts on the power supply and NWC water service affecting multiple parishes, particularly Kingston and St. Andrew, St. Catherine, Clarendon, St. Mary, Portland, and St. Andrew. Healthcare delivery is impacted by lack of uninterrupted power and water supply, with multiple hospitals running on generators with limited fuel and receiving water supply from trucks (1).
- There is an increasing demand for mental health and psychosocial support among affected communities and frontline responders, requiring additional staff and resources to ensure timely access to care (10).

## Haiti

43

Deaths

13

Missing

21

Injured

1,749

Sheltered

### Affected areas

On 28 October, while Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica as a Category 5 hurricane, the storms outer bands continued to produce heavy rainfall and strong wind along Haiti's southern peninsula and part of the **Ouest Department** (11). The General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC) on 30 October had lowered the alert level to yellow for the **Southern departments**, and green to the **Ouest Department** and the rest of the country (4). Hurricane Melissa first impacted Haiti as a tropical storm around 23 October with intense rainfall, flooding, and landslides reported across several departments. Between 28 and 29 October, continuous rains triggered river overflows and flash floods, particularly in Petit-Goâve, **Ouest Department**, where the La Digue River overflowed, resulting in multiple casualties and extensive damage to homes, roads, community infrastructure, and agricultural land. (4, 11, 12). Several internally displaced persons (IDP) sites have been flooded, including in Port-au-Prince, creating significant public health risks among the already displaced population. (4, 11, 12). In the **Sud Department**, 4 communes were affected, where flooding in 4 rivers resulted in significant damage to agricultural fields and roads, leading to access issues. (4, 11, 12). In **Grand-Anse Department**, widespread flooding affected 6 communes, damaging houses, roads, and agricultural lands, following the overflow of all 4 rivers in the department. (4, 11, 12). In **Nippes**, 10 communes were affected, when all the rivers in the department overflowed, disrupting road access and increasing risk of landslides. (4, 11, 12). In the **Sud-Est Department**, floodwater damaged the main access road to Jacmel, isolating several neighboring communities, and hindering humanitarian access (4, 11, 12).

### Affected population

As a result of Hurricane Melissa, at least 43 deaths, 21 injuries, and 13 missing persons have been reported in Haiti, primarily in the Ouest Department with 29 deaths (Petit-Goave reporting 25 deaths, including 10 children, with 10 people injured), where flooding from the La Digue River caused significant human and material losses (3, 4, 12). Deaths have also been reported in Grand Anse (n= 5), Sud (n=4), Nippes (n= 3), Sud-Est (n=1), and Artibonite (n= 1), as of 3 November 2025 (3). As of 3 November, approximately 1,749 people remained sheltered in five departments (**Table 2**) (3). Reports indicate 11,952 houses were flooded, with 176 houses destroyed, and 4,257 damaged (6).

Water systems damage at varying levels is reported, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases in shelters and impacted communities (5).

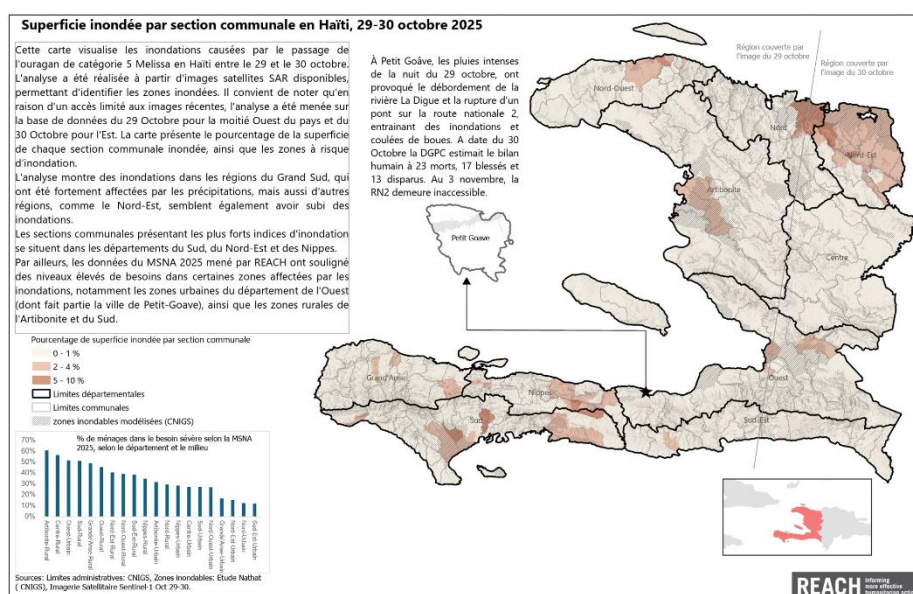


**Table 2: Population in shelters, by Department, Haiti. As of 3 November 2025**

Department	Number of shelters	Population in shelters
Ouest	2	120
Sud	3	1,334
Grand-Anse	1	20
Nippes	4	275
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,749</b>

**Source:** Haiti, Centre d'opérations d'urgence national. Ouragan Melissa, lundi 3 novembre 2025 – point de situation 11:00. Port-au-Prince: COUN; 2025. Unpublished.

**Map 3: Communes affected by flooding during Hurricane Melissa in Haiti. 29 - 30 October 2025.**



Source: Reach Initiative. Superficie inondée par section communale en Haïti, 29-30 octobre 2025. Geneva: REACH; 2025.

Available from: [https://repository.impact-initiatives.org/document/impact/c4049248/REACH\\_Haiti\\_Melissa\\_Superficie-inondee\\_2025.10.29-30\\_haute-res.pdf](https://repository.impact-initiatives.org/document/impact/c4049248/REACH_Haiti_Melissa_Superficie-inondee_2025.10.29-30_haute-res.pdf) (13)

## Health systems impact

As of 30 October, 10 health facilities were affected by heavy rains and flooding. In **Sud** Department, of 28 contacted health facilities, 4 reported water infiltrations from the roof, leading to loss of medicines and medical supplies (6). Some minor damage was reported to hospitals in Les Cayes, Sud Department (6). In **Sud-Est**, out of 28 facilities contacted by PAHO health teams, 3 report minor ceiling damage, with no major structural impact (4). Additionally, in Jeremie, **Grand-Anse** Department and in Port-de-Paix, **Nord-**

**Ouest** Department, some minor damage to hospitals has been reported as of 3 November (6). In **Artibonite** Department, assessment efforts are impacted in parts that remain under gang control (4). In **Nippes** Department, no health facilities reported any damage (4).

## Country response (4, 14-16)

- The crisis cell of the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) was activated to coordinate the national health response.
- A high-level emergency meeting was held on 29 October with members of the Government, the Transitional Presidential Council (CPT), the General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC), and the Haitian National Police (PNH) to strengthen inter-ministerial coordination and ensure a unified national response.
- The National Committee for Risk and Disaster Management remains in permanent session, coordinating actions among ministries in collaboration with local authorities, the Haitian Red Cross, and humanitarian partners.
- The Haiti Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) has requested PAHO's support to preposition medical and WaSH supplies for the response to cholera in all departments affected by Hurricane Melissa in case of a resurgence of cases due to the floods.
- The MSPP prepositioned kits of medicines and health supplies in the Ouest Department for immediate deployment to affected areas.

## PAHO Response (4, 14-16)

### Coordination:

- PAHO/WHO remains in direct and constant contact with MSPP and health facilities across affected departments to monitor service continuity and infrastructure conditions.
- The health cluster was convened with key partners to organize the health response.
- Joint MSPP-PAHO completion of preparedness checklists prior to the storm ensured continuity of essential health services.
- A rapid assessment of internally displaced persons (IDP) sites in Ouest Department was done jointly by PAHO, Health Directorate of Ouest department (DSO), Directorate of Epidemiology, Laboratories and Research (DELR), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

### Health Care:

- Field teams are visiting shelters to assess needs and conducting rapid assessments in health facilities in all departments.
- About 2 tons of medical supplies were delivered to the Health Directorate with the support of ECHO and IMANA to support health facilities in all departments.
- Prepositioned emergency kits at PROMESS (Tabarre), including two Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK), one trauma kit, and one cyclone kit, capable of reaching 11,100 people.
- PAHO deployed kit of medicines and medical supplies to Notre Dame Hospital in Petit-Goâve (Ouest Department) to support response to people wounded.
- PAHO is replenishing the medical kits and other key supplies that have been essential to restore immediate medical services due to the sudden surge in demand.

## Surveillance

- Surveillance is ongoing for waterborne diseases including cholera for populations in shelters and affected communities.
- Coordination is ongoing to address health priorities in shelters, following reports of diarrhea cases in Grand'Anse.
- Field assessment was conducted 28 October in four temporary shelters in Jeremie (Grand'Anse Department).

## WASH & Communities

- Medical and WaSH supplies for treatment of cholera are to be deployed to strengthen capacity in all departments
- PAHO has water evacuation pumps ready to clear flooded health facilities if needed
- IDPs are being sensitized for cholera awareness and prevention messages are being distributed

## Gaps and challenges *(4, 14, 15)*

- Funding shortfalls are critically affecting the health response, as the health sector was not included in the US\$4 million CERF allocation.
- Communications are intermittent across several departments, including Port-au-Prince, due to prolonged lack of sunlight affecting solar-powered systems, complicating coordination and information flow between the MSPP, PAHO/WHO, and field teams.
- Humanitarian access remains constrained by flooded roads, landslides, and debris. Ground transport to affected areas is severely limited, forcing reliance on UNHAS air operations.

## Cuba

0	0	17	735,000	120,000
Deaths	Missing	Injured	Evacuated	Sheltered

### Affected areas:

Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Cuba shortly after 03:00h EST on 29 October, hitting the Guamá municipality of the Santiago de Cuba province, in the southeast region of the island, as a Category 3 hurricane (17, 18). The hurricane passed through the Santiago de Cuba province and moved offshore through the Banes municipality of the Holguín province six hours later, around 09:00h EST (17, 19). Two days after the hurricane passed through Cuba, critical flooding in the Cauto River Basin prompted an urgent evacuation order across the provinces of Holguín, Granma, and Santiago de Cuba (20). Strong winds and heavy rains damaged infrastructure, destroyed homes, disrupted electrical, telecommunication, and water supply services, and caused river overflows and flooding across the provinces Santiago de Cuba, Holguín, and Granma, including dangerous dam spills in the municipalities of Guisa and Bartolomé Masó (17, 19, 21). Flooding from the La Yaya dam impacted the route between Santiago de Cuba and Guantánamo, isolating over 478,000 residents (22). In Santiago de Cuba, the municipalities of Guamá, Contramaestre, and Palma Soriano have sustained critical damage and residents have been isolated by road damage and the collapse of Uvero Bridge (21). In Granma, all rivers overflowed, and as of 2 November, the Granma and Santiago de Cuba provinces remained at risk of catastrophic flooding and river overflow (21, 22). Several parts of the country received over 400 mm of total rainfall (20).

In Holguín, 30 homes in the town of Cueto are completely submerged (22). Across the country, 84 reservoirs have filled to over 95% of their capacity, posing risk of overflow and flooding (21).

Food availability has been strained by damage to over 78,000 hectares of crops, including banana, corn, cassava, sweet potato, vegetables, and coffee. Forty percent of the country's vegetable production has been damaged and the Granma province has lost over 28,000 cattle, hundreds of small livestock, and 110,000 liters of uncollected milk (21, 23). Crop damage has severely impacted the agricultural sector, particularly in the provinces of Granma, Santiago de Cuba, Holguín, and Guantánamo. Damage to boats, fish storage facilities, and collection centers has impacted the fishing sector (21).

Telecommunication services have been disrupted in parts of the Guantánamo, Santiago de Cuba, Granma, and Holguín provinces (17). As of 5 November, 3% of landline phones and 18% of radio base stations are functional, and damage has been reported to 1,000 poles, 400 telephone cables, 60 fiber optic cables, and six towers. Only 3% of electrical circuits in Santiago de Cuba are connected (23).

As of 30 October, train services in eastern Cuba were suspended and authorities were assessing damage to airports in the region (22). Additionally, 25 cultural centers were significantly damaged, including the Sanctuary of El Cobre (21, 22).

## Affected population

Approximately 735,000 people were evacuated in anticipation of Hurricane Melissa's arrival, including 61,718 elderly individuals, 49,213 children, 5,693 people with disabilities, and 2,941 pregnant women (17, 24). More than 3 million people were exposed to hurricane conditions in the eastern region of the country (17). As of 5 November, approximately 120,000 people remained sheltered in evacuation centers (23). Prior to the hurricane's impact, seventeen people were trapped in a home following a landslide in Santiago de Cuba, with no deaths reported (19).

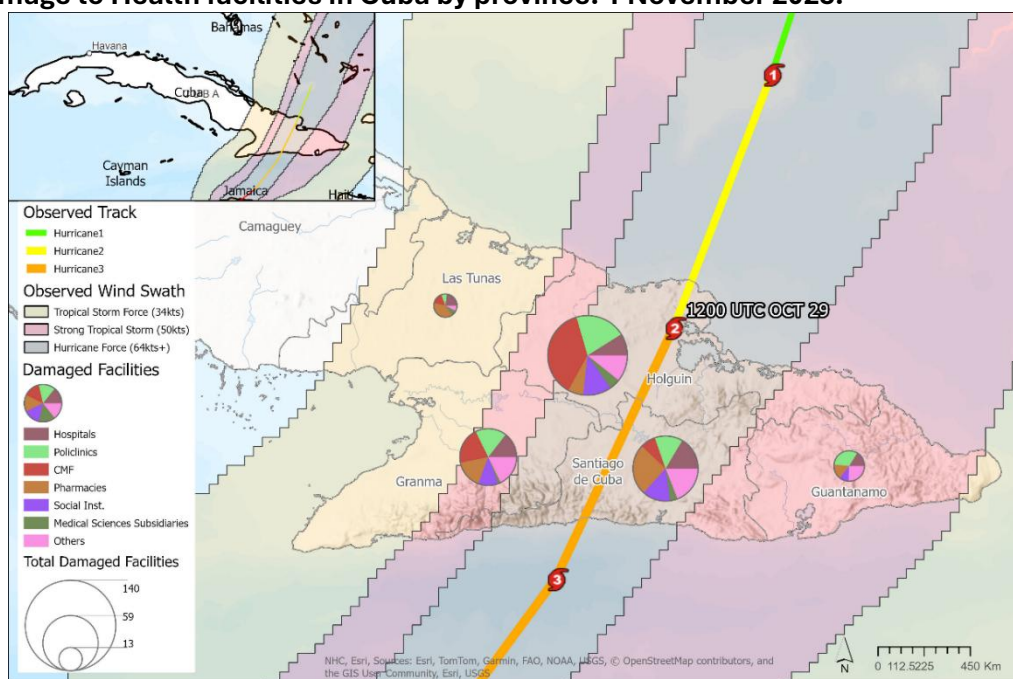
Preliminary assessments estimate that 60,000 homes have been damaged by Hurricane Melissa; national authorities cautioned this figure may be a significant underestimate (21). 670,000 students have been impacted by the suspension of school across the provinces of Santiago de Cuba, Guantánamo, Granma, Holguín, and Las Tunas (21). As of 5 November, 1,552 of the 5,177 educational institutions serving these provinces have sustained damage (23).

## Health systems impact

461 healthcare facilities sustained damage from Hurricane Melissa (23). The Juan Bruno Zayas Alfonso Hospital in Santiago de Cuba, which provides critical services including care for pregnant women and dialysis services, has sustained damage (22).

The arrival of Hurricane Melissa coincides with a period of increased arbovirus transmission across the country, particularly dengue and chikungunya; flooding and landslides may complicate this epidemiological situation (25).

**Map 4: Damage to Health facilities in Cuba by province. 1 November 2025.**





## Country Response

- The Minister of Public Health called for a detailed survey of the damage to healthcare infrastructure, services, and resources caused by Hurricane Melissa (26).
- The MINSAP activated medical brigades and deployed teams to affected areas (17).
- The MINSAP has established brigades of mental health experts to provide psychological support to affected families (22).
- Damage assessments of affected areas being conducted by Provincial and National Defense Councils (17).
- Specialized rescue teams carried out more than 400 rescue operations using helicopters, amphibious transporters, and tractor-trailers, rescuing approximately 4,000 people from isolated areas and flood zones (20, 21).
- National response efforts are focused on restoring access to water, electricity, and telecommunication services (21).
- National authorities are procuring fuel for resource distribution and distributing food and hygiene kits to affected individuals (21).
- More than 2,500 brigades of electrical and telecommunication workers were deployed to affected areas and water pumping stations and micro power generation have been established to power hospitals and evacuation centers (21, 22).
- The national transportation system is being leveraged to support recovery efforts by transporting brigades and resources (20).
- Cuba announced support for families whose homes were damaged by Hurricane Melissa, in the form of subsidies and bank loans for low income households, and financing of 50% of the cost of materials for re-construction (21).

## PAHO Response

### Health Care

- Airlifted 2.6 tons of medical supplies, including emergency health kits –with medicines, medical and surgical supplies, enough to treat 5,000 people for three months –, 42,000 chlorine tablets to purify ~ eight million liters of water, generators, emergency backpacks, and water tanks to Cuba.
- Technical support ongoing for situation analysis and identification of response priorities, including a technical mission assessment of clinical management, vector control, epidemiology, and laboratory services, as deemed necessary by MINSAP.
- Support in identifying a list of critical supplies for vector control (insecticides and fumigation equipment) and for the care of Chikungunya and dengue patients, focusing on the prevention of severe cases and deaths from these diseases (medicines for severely ill patients, sphygmomanometers, and others).
- Support for the development of a national proposal for the mobilization of resources for the response to arboviruses.

### Surveillance:

- Indicator and event-based disease surveillance are ongoing.



## The Dominican Republic

2	0	16	3,785	77
Deaths	Missing	Injured	Evacuated	Sheltered

### Affected areas

Hurricane Melissa brushed the southern coast of the Dominican Republic on 28 October 2025 as a Category 4 storm, bringing intense rainfall, flooding, and landslides across southern and central provinces. The Emergency Operations Center (COE) declared yellow and green alerts in 22 provinces and the National District, prompting preventive evacuations in high-risk zones and the temporary suspension of classes and public activities (27). The storm caused significant flooding in Santo Domingo, San Cristóbal, San Juan, and San Pedro de Macorís. Flooding and landslides were reported in Santo Domingo, San Juan, San Cristóbal, Monseñor Nouel, and San Pedro de Macorís (16). Preliminary assessments from 26 October described flooding and landslides across the southern and central provinces (16). Through 29 October, four provinces remained on red alert, nine on yellow alert, and five provinces plus the Distrito Nacional remained on green alert due to wind conditions and heavy rainfall as Hurricane Melissa moved towards the Bahamas (29).

### Affected population

As of 29 October, approximately 3,785 people had been evacuated and 77 people were in official shelters located in San Juan, San Cristóbal, and the Distrito Nacional (27, 28). The storm has caused at least two deaths (30). Approximately, 502,000 people were affected by 32 water supply systems rendered non-operational nationwide, due to high turbidity, river overflows, and preventive shutdowns to protect pumping systems (27). *Officials reported on 26 October, that 48 communities were temporarily cut off due to damage to roads and bridges and damage to housing was most severe in low-lying and riverine areas, where over 750 homes were affected—including 735 flooded, 17 partially damaged, and one destroyed (28).*

### Health systems impact

As of 29 October, 13 health facilities across eight provinces and the National District reported minor damage due to power outages, leaks, limited access, and partial flooding, including in Monte Plata, Santo Domingo, Barahona, San Pedro de Macorís, San José de Ocoa, Peravia, La Vega, and Elías Piña. Structural damage in the vaccination area due to collapse of ceiling and lateral wall was reported at the Hospital Municipal Dr. Pedro Antonio Céspedes (La Vega). Partial flooding and roof leaks were reported at Hospital Municipal El Almirante (Santo Domingo Este), Hospital Regional Dr. Antonio Musa and Hospital Dr. Jaime Oliver Pino (San Pedro de Macorís). Flooding and road obstruction caused temporary access disruptions to Hospital Provincial San José de Ocoa and the CPN La Guásima (Monte Plata) (27).

## Country Response <sup>(27)</sup>

As of 29 October, country response included:

- Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance pre-positioned health and hygiene kits, chlorine tablets, and infection-prevention supplies for potential deployment to the most affected provinces.
- The Emergency Operations Center (COE) coordinated with the Ministry of Public Health (MSP) to lead and coordinate the national emergency response, including activating provincial COE-Salud centers.
- Hospital emergency plans had been activated for health facilities located in provinces under alert.
- The Health Emergency and Damage Assessment Teams (EDAN-Salud) the Rapid Response Teams (ERR) were carrying out health evaluations and data collection in affected areas
- teams from the Servicio Nacional de Salud (SNS) had been deployed to five shelters to conduct medical evaluations, distribute hygiene kits, and chlorinate water.
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) groups were coordinating water quality surveillance and chlorination in affected communities.
- The Provincial and Area Health Directorates (DPS/DAS) were conducting vector control, zoonosis, and waste-removal activities, and installing chlorinated water storage tanks at border crossings in Elías Piña to ensure safe access to water and reduce vector-borne disease risks.
- Epidemiological surveillance is ongoing nationwide, with a focus on waterborne, respiratory, and zoonotic diseases.
- The Ministry of Defense had deployed units to support evacuation and rescue operations.
- National and municipal brigades were working to clear debris and reestablish road access to isolated communities.
- National officials from INAPA, CAASD, and PROPEEP, and the Dominican Red Cross were distributing water, food, and hygiene supplies to affected families.

## PAHO Response

### Coordination

- The PAHO/WHO Country Office in the Dominican Republic worked closely with the Ministry of Public Health (MSP) and the Emergency Operations Center (COE) to monitor the health situation and align the response with national emergency operations.
- PAHO/WHO continues to participate in the United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETE) and contributes to joint situation analysis and coordination with other UN agencies.
- PAHO/WHO Country Office continues to work closely with the Ministry of Public Health (MSP) and the Emergency Operations Center (COE) to monitor the impact of rain-producing weather front that keep affecting multiple areas of the country.
- Technical cooperation focuses on epidemiological surveillance, WASH interventions, and health facility readiness, with continuous support to the MSP in assessing water quality, disease surveillance, and risk communication and community outreach.

## The Bahamas

### Affected areas

On 29 October 2025, a hurricane warning was in effect for the Southeastern and Central Bahamas, for residents to remain sheltered (31). Hurricane Melissa passed over The Bahamas as a Category 1 system, bringing 5–10 inches of rainfall in some areas and storm surges of 4–7 feet (32).

### Affected population

Approximately 1,400 persons had been evacuated to Nassau, while 100 individuals had sought refuge across three shelters (32). On 31 October, the "All Clear" was given by Bahamian authorities (33).

### Country Response

- Rapid Assessment teams have been continuing to carry out damage and sectoral assessments, which were anticipated to be completed by 4 November (33).
- As of 31 October, Utility companies were mobilized to restore power, water and telecommunications across the islands (33).
- As of 31 October, minor roof damage and ongoing distribution of tarpaulins and emergency supplies to affected households in the Acklins Islands, Inagua, Exuma, San Salvador, Ragged Island, Crooked Island and Rum Cays were taking place (33).

## Bermuda

### Affected areas

Hurricane Melissa passed across the eastern coast of Bermuda in the early hours of 31 October 2025, as a Category 2 storm. Preparatory efforts were underway with ferry services cancelled from 30 Oct onwards, schools and government offices closed on the 31st, and preparedness information, checklists, and safety guidance distributed to the population. At noon on 31 October 2025, the Emergency Measures Organisation (EMO) declared an all clear to the situation. Government offices and ferry services resumed from 13:00h on 31 October, and schools and colleges were scheduled to reopen on 3 November (34, 35).

### Affected population

In the aftermath of the hurricane, wind damage was reported across the entirety of the island, with about 18,839 customers experiencing storm-related power outages on 31 October. Restoration work began the same day, with services being resumed in the next few days. As of 3 November 2025, about 12 customers still reported outages. Road closures and damage to building infrastructure were reported, and with the ongoing recovery efforts, all the main road networks have been declared passable. The Bermuda Airport Authority reported some disruptions to communications, which have since been resolved (36, 37).

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**For more information:** <https://www.paho.org/en/hurricane-melissa>