

# HURRICANE MELISSA

Jamaica

PAHO



Pan American  
Health  
Organization



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Regional Office for the Americas

## Situation Report #15 - 12-November-2025

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Landfall:** Category 5 hurricane at 12:00 on **28 Oct 2025**, worst-hit parishes: **St. Elizabeth, Trelawney, St. James, Hanover, Westmoreland**.
- Two weeks after Hurricane Melissa, recovery efforts continue across Jamaica, with **45 confirmed deaths and nearly 1.6 million people affected**.
- **Black River Hospital destroyed; 92 patients evacuated** (28–31 Oct.). Major damage also reported across multiple primary and secondary facilities.
- **Initial reconnaissance (29–31 Oct)** completed; **rapid infrastructure assessments** show widespread damage to roofs, electrical systems, water and sewage, drainage, and critical care areas. Several SRHA/WRHA facilities require **full reconstruction**. Estimated cost: **JMD 10.32B - USD 64,280,000<sup>8</sup>**
- **Intermittent communications**; alternative channels being established.
- **Health service restoration underway**, including field hospitals (installation team arrived **2 Nov.**), special staffing arrangements, and deployment of national/international relief teams.
- **Field missions launched** to support public health response and **MHPSS** in St. Elizabeth and Westmoreland.
- CICOM remains operational from the HEOC, coordinating offers and deployments of national and international EMTs.
- PAHO virtual Map with layers: <https://who.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=9226e33620e5458290a820b60f1b3e27> The map also includes layers showing hurricane wind strength and path, as well as population density.
- A curfew is currently in effect in parts of the Westmoreland Police Division from 6:00 p.m. Monday, 10 November to 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, 12 November 2025. The security implication is that movement restrictions are in force, persons must remain indoors within curfew limits and increased police, and military presence is expected.
- On 14 November, customs clearance was completed for emergency supplies arriving from Barbados aboard the **Dutch Navy vessel Pelikaan**. The shipment includes **40 deployment backpacks** for first responders and **4 emergency medical backpacks** donated by Direct Relief. All items will be transported tomorrow to the National Health Fund (NHF) warehouses for distribution.
- The activation level of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) remains at Level 3.

### IN NUMBERS

**Approx. 2.8m (entire population)**

**Potentially exposed<sup>1</sup>**

**45 Deaths<sup>2</sup>**

**244 Injuries treated in A&E hospital departments across all 4 health regions<sup>3</sup>**

**12 Missing<sup>4</sup>**

**71 Evacuated<sup>5</sup>**

**36% Without electricity**

**5 Major hospitals<sup>6</sup> severely impacted, widespread damage across Western and Southern Regions**

**1K people in 88 active shelters<sup>7,8</sup>**

1: Statistical Institute of Jamaica data

2: JISTV [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=seHnLvp\\_C7g](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=seHnLvp_C7g)

3, 4, 5, 6: Ministry of Health and Wellness HEOC report #20 (11 November 2025, 8:00 p.m.)

7: OCHA Jamaica: Hurricane Melissa - Situation Report No. 4 (as of 11 November)

8: Ministry of Health & Wellness, Jamaica (HEOC), Report No. 21; November 12, 2025, 8:00 p.m.



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**HURRICANE MELISSA - JAMAICA**  
Emergency Medical Team Response (As of 12 November 2025)

**EMTs Deployed:**

- SAMU-PROJECT HOPE (ESP/JSA) T1F**  
MOBILE UNIT  
NORFOLK HOSPITAL (HANOVER PARISH)
- HEART TO HEART (USA) T1M**  
MOBILE UNIT  
CUMBERIDGE (ST. JAMES)
- AMERICARES (USA) T1M**  
MOBILE UNIT  
CHESTER CASTLE (HANOVER PARISH)
- UKMED (UK) T1M**  
MOBILE UNIT  
WAKEFIELD (TRELOWNY)
- AECID (ESP) T2**  
DEPLOYED AND OPERATIONAL  
FALMOUTH HOSPITAL (TRELOWNY PARISH)
- MOHW (JAM) T1M**  
DEPLOYED AND OPERATIONAL  
STRUCTURE DONATED BY SAMARITAN'S PURSE  
SAY CLINIC (WESTMORELAND PARISH)
- BARBADOS DEFENCE FORCE (BBF) T2**  
MOBILE UNIT  
SAY HOSPITAL (WESTMORELAND PARISH)
- MOHW (JAM) T1M**  
DEPLOYED AND OPERATIONAL  
STRUCTURE DONATED BY SAMARITAN'S PURSE  
SAY CLINIC (WESTMORELAND PARISH)
- MOHW (JAM) T1M**  
DEPLOYED AND OPERATIONAL  
STRUCTURE DONATED BY SAMARITAN'S PURSE  
WHITEHOUSE CLINIC (WESTMORELAND PARISH)
- SAMARITAN'S PURSE (USA) T2**  
DEPLOYED AND OPERATIONAL  
BLACK RIVER HOSPITAL (ST. ELIZABETH PARISH)
- MOHW (JAM) T1M**  
DEPLOYED AND OPERATIONAL  
STRUCTURE DONATED BY SAMARITAN'S PURSE  
BLACK RIVER CLINIC (ST. ELIZABETH PARISH)

**Other Locations:** Montego Bay, Falmouth, Saint Ann's Bay, Port Maria, Saint Mary, Saint Catherine, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Spanish Town, May Pen, Manchester, Mandeville, Black River, Lucie, Hanover, Westmoreland, Seacoma La Mar.

**Legend:**

- EMT Type 2
- EMT Type 1 fixed
- EMT Type 1 mobile
- Melissa footprints
- MOHW Ministry of Health and Wellness

**PAHO** **EMT**

- **Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) Coordination**  
CICOM continues to operate from the HEOC, coordinating the offers and deployments of both national and international Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs). It is also finalizing procedures to facilitate medical teams' **license validation** and **customs clearance** for their supplies and equipment.
- The **AECID Type 2 EMT** remains based at *Falmouth Hospital*, while the **Samaritan's Purse Type 2 EMT** continues to support *Black River Hospital*. Both teams are **providing patient care** as recovery work progresses in the affected facilities.
- The **Barbados Defence Force Type 2 EMT** is en route to Jamaica and expected to be operational shortly. Meanwhile, the **SAMU Type 1 Fixed EMT** is already in the field, preparing to establish its mobile hospital. Additionally, three **Type 1 Mobile EMTs**—*Americares*, *Heart to Heart*, and *UK-MED*—are mobilizing to their assigned locations.
- Two more teams, *Team Rubicon* and *CMAT*, have completed their mission authorizations and are ready for immediate deployment.
- **PAHO** has provided **trauma backpacks, emergency medical kits, generators, and water-testing kits** to strengthen the MOHW's **emergency response and surveillance capacity**. Technical teams are also conducting **assessments of SMART health facilities** to identify priority repairs and ensure the **continuity of care**.

- National Average: 78% (excluding Black River Hospital and 3 WRHA hospitals)
- By Region:

- SERHA: 73%
- SRHA: 122%
- NERHA: 85%
- WRHA: 72% (Cornwall Regional Hospital 74% and Noel Holmes 52%)

#### Hospitals above capacity:

- **Mandeville Regional Hospital:** 327 patients / capacity 226 (145 above capacity; 145%)
- **May Pen Hospital:** 211 / 170 (41 above; 124%)
- **KPH:** 531 / 475 (56 above; 112%)

#### Staffing:

- National: 93% - Excludes Black River Hospital (SRHA) and Savanna-la-Mar and Falmouth (WRHA)
- By Region:
  - SERHA: 94%
  - SRHA: 91% (excluding Black River Hospital)
  - NERHA: 97%
  - WRHA: 91% (Noel Holmes, Cornwall Regional)

### Primary Health Care

#### Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA)

- **Clarendon:** All 31 health centres open except Mitchell Town HC.
- **Manchester:** All 13/18 HCs are open.
- **St. Elizabeth:** 9/25 open (emergency services only).
- **Santa Cruz Smart Health Centre:** Fully functional.

#### Western Regional Health Authority (WRHA)

- **Trelawny:** 11/19 functional (Of the 11, 5 full, 6 partial).
- **St. James:** Services are provided by 8HCs: Montego Bay Type V, Barrett Town, Flanker, Mt. Salem, Glendevon, Green Pond, Adelphi, Granville.
- **Hanover:** 6 HCs are open: Lucea, Sandy Bay, Green Island, Cave Valley, Hopewell, Dias HC.
- **Westmoreland:**
  - 6 HCs open: Savanna-la-Mar, Negril, Little London, Grange Hill, Georges Plain, Baulk HC.
  - Mobile clinics have been set up to assist at Whitehouse & Darliston.

#### South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA)

- **St. Catherine:** 21/27 (78%) open. Closed HCs are Connors, Bartons, Lluidas Vale, Redwood, Troja, Treadways.
- **Kingston & St. Andrew:** 34/40 open. Mavis Bank remains inaccessible, Padmore and Rock Hall were closed prior to the hurricane.
- **St. Thomas:** 13/16 open. Closed are Yallahs, White Horses (pre-hurricane), Hagley Gap (access issues).
- **Mandeville:** Smart Health Centre is in use.

#### North East Regional Health Authority (NERHA)

- **St. Ann:** 26/29 operational. Non-operational are Madras, Queenhythe, Muirhouse HCs. A schedule for support mobile clinics has been sent to MOHW for these three HCs. Lime Hall HC is operational, but personnel are working in a reduced area due to damage.
- **St. Mary:** no updates.
- **Portland:** All 15 facilities are operational.

### Secondary Care: Several tertiary facilities in SERHA are under **significant operational strain**.

**KPH** reports ICU at full capacity (6/6 beds, 5 intubated) with general ward occupancy at 107% and A&E congestion. Roof leaks in multiple wards and a broken operating lamp are constraining surgical throughput. **Spanish Town Hospital** has 16 critically ill patients, prolonged waiting times in A&E and non-functional HVAC, while medical waste storage at **KPH, VJH and STH** is over capacity, requiring urgent contracting of private waste-disposal services.

## WRHA:

- **Cornwall Regional Hospital (St. James):** 250-bed facility **operational** with **196 inpatients** despite structural damage and overcrowding. Emergency surgeries, dialysis, and radiotherapy have resumed, though major laboratory equipment remains damaged. The hospital sustained **roof damage by 50%**; PAHO supplied materials for roof replacement while Doctors Without Borders and the private sector are supporting ongoing repairs since 8 November. **Water and electricity** have been partially restored to CRH; water pressure remains low.
- **Falmouth Public General Hospital (Trelawny):** **Partially functional**, 130-bed facility with **60-70% roof damage** and flooding from storm surge. Only **one operating theatre** on standby, no AC. **PAHO**, in coordination with **Americares**, the **UK military**, and **WRHA**, supported **clean-up and emergency repairs** to the laundry, dental, kitchen, and COVID buildings, and the laboratory is partially functional. EMT Type 2 (AECID) was installed to support services.
- **Noel Holmes Hospital (Hanover):** Functional; laboratory and pharmacy operational.
- **Savanna-La-Mar Public General Hospital (Westmoreland):** The hospital remains **partially operational** following **significant loss of medical equipment, water leaks, and severe damage to staff housing**. Repairs are planned for staff housing and the isolation and outpatient wards. **Team Rubicon** is supporting outpatient and emergency services as well as clean-up.

## SRHA

- **Black River Hospital (St. Elizabeth):** Black River Hospital continues to rely on the Samaritan's Purse Emergency Medical Team Type 2, now operational (A&E only in main building). The facility remains **non-functional**. The laboratory was destroyed, and the operating theatre is unusable.
- **Mandeville Regional Hospital (Manchester):** Over capacity (162%); emergency services only. Mandeville Regional Hospital provides Accidental and Emergency, OPD and Emergency surgery. Chapel Town Hospital: offering full service.
- **May Pen Hospital (Clarendon):** Over capacity (146%); partial, A&E/emergency surgery only. Lionel Town Hospital: fully functioning, 86% occupancy. Percy Junor Hospital: partially functioning, 77% occupancy.

## SERHA

- **Kingston Public Hospital:** Full operation; roof leaks; ICU 100% occupancy; general wards 107%.
- **Spanish Town Hospital:** Full operation; HVAC issues in A&E; circuit board repairs ongoing.
- **Bustamante Hospital for Children:** Full operation; ICU full.
- **UHWI:** Full operation; water shortages persist.

## NERHA

- **St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital:** 85% occupancy; roof damage. At **St Ann's Bay Regional Hospital**, the missing dietary-block roof is being replaced, and the Top Nurses' Home will temporarily house dietary services once gas piping is completed, phased OPD reopening.
- **Port Maria Hospital:** Operating on generator; NWC restored; 5-day fuel reserve.
- **Annotto Bay Hospital:** Leak detected in water system; continues to receive **trucked water** due to NWC disruption; generator for radiology; elective surgeries on hold until JPS returns, (X-ray limited; electives surgeries remain paused, clinics have resumed).
- **Port Antonio Hospital** and the Health Department have reconnected to **JPS power**, providing emergency services only.
- **Alexandria:** The road remains inaccessible and the connection unavailable.

## Surveillance

- As of 11 November, at 10:00 a.m. the number of confirmed deaths associated with Hurricane Melissa has increased to 45, as reported by the Minister of Education, Skills, Youth and Information during the Special Press Briefing. The deaths were investigated and confirmed by the Jamaica Constabulary Force in collaboration with the Jamaica Defense Force.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> JISTV [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=seHnLvp\\_C7g](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=seHnLvp_C7g)



- As of 11 November 2025, there were 243 cumulative injuries reported for people treated in the Accident & Emergency Department of hospitals in all four regions.
- As of 10 November 2025, there were no adverse health conditions reported for 1755 persons in shelters.
- Challenges with communication and access to affected communities persist, limiting reporting of the accurate number of deaths and injuries.

### Nutrition

- As of 11 November 2025, relief agencies are distributing food packages and are also providing some hot meals.

### Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

- The third MHPSS Technical Working Group meeting was held on 11 November where 24 participants were in attendance. 4Ws form continue to be completed. To date there are 7 complete responses from partners in relation to the Health Cluster Subgroup. In collaboration with the MOHW and the University Hospital of the West Indies, PAHO will be providing support for an abbreviated Psychological First Aid capacity building for staff members in the South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA) on Wednesday, 12 November. The capacity building will focus on providing a MHPSS surge response to the regions affected by Hurricane Melissa.

### Laboratory Services

The National Laboratory Services (NLS) remain fully operational for the National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) and the National Blood Transfusion Services (NBTS). NLS continue to rely on the HEOC for transportation services.

- In WRHA, there has been no reported change to disruptions in laboratory services at the major hospitals damaged. Support is being provided by non-affected laboratories to ensure continuity of services.
- SRHA reports that laboratory services across the region have adequate staffing and sufficient reagents available. All equipment remains functional. A field hospital that has been set up in Black River is equipped with a laboratory.
- NLS are continuously monitoring the supply of blood and blood products.

### Immunization

To mitigate the risk of tetanus infection and to support ongoing emergency response efforts, the Ministry of Health and Wellness is seeking donations of tetanus vaccines and related supplies (e.g. syringes, cold-chain storage materials). All donations will be coordinated through the National Emergency Operations Centre in collaboration with the Ministry's Public Health and Disaster Response Divisions.

### Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- As of 11 November 2025, the MOHW has developed a mental health communication strategy.
- **Press Releases and PSAs:** Developed were over 15 press releases and public service announcements, covering topics such as facility readiness, mental health, vector control, food safety, blood donation, and post-hurricane recovery.
- **Radio Broadcasts:** PSAs on health center reopening, injury prevention, food safety, mental health, and vector control disseminated through major national radio stations (*IRIE FM, RJR 94 FM, Mello FM, Power 106 FM, Love 101 FM*) via the Jamaica Information Service (JIS).
- **Media Engagement:** Multiple TV and radio interviews were conducted with the Minister of Health and Wellness.
- Review of mental health communication strategy is underway.
- Dissemination of MHPSS messaging is ongoing.

### Imaging Services

#### WRHA

- Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH): full radiology services for inpatient only.
- Falmouth Public General Hospital (FPHG): X-ray area cleaned.
- Savanna-la-Mar PGH: X-ray machine operational, but image transfer to PACS system is down, limiting workflow.

SERHA: Imaging largely restored and operational.

NERHA: Annotto Bay radiology on generator, limited X-ray (limbs, CXR-PA only); outages cause manual registration.

SHRA: no updates.



## HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT

- Post-hurricane **vector-control capacity** has been significantly disrupted, with over **70% of workers** in the five most affected parishes experiencing major damage to their homes. To compensate, the MOHW is recruiting **approximately 700 temporary vector-control workers**, with around **400 already mobilized**, and redeploying staff from less affected regions.
- In St Mary, where prolonged flooding has displaced rodent populations, the health department has launched a **14-week rodent-control program** across six communities, combining intensive baiting (500 premises per locality), school-based health education and systematic carcass collection and disposal.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

**Infrastructure - Structural Damages** in the most affected parishes, namely St. James, Trelawny, Westmoreland, Hanover and St. Elizabeth

### i. Falmouth General Hospital (Trelawny)

- Suffered catastrophic damage, losing approximately 60–70% of its roof.
- The only structurally standing block is the operating theatre area (previously used during the Cornwall Regional relocation), though it sustained damage, including shifted AC units and leaks.
- One theatre remains on standby for emergency cases, operating without air-conditioning.
- The maternity ward roof remained in place but leaked. The surgical block and pediatric ward lost their roofs.
- Dietary and storage areas were destroyed, forcing staff to cook outdoors while maintaining sanitation for staff and patients.
- The A&E block completely lost its roof. Pharmacy services remain partially active.

### Falmouth Health Centre

- Lost its roof; staff managed to save most records.
- 31 clients served (23 curative, 5 family planning, 1 postnatal, 1 antenatal, 1 BCG vaccination).
- OPD has light but needs consistent water supply and a cooling system.
- Requires hand sanitizers and a tent for the waiting area.
- Vaccine storage remains secure.

### Other Trelawny Health Facilities:

- **Wakefield Health Centre:** Extensive roof damage; structure tilted; no service.
- **Bounty Hall Health Centre:** Roof and cottage destroyed; no service.
- **Deeside Health Centre:** Roof destroyed; roads impassable; no service.
- **Bunker's Hill Health Centre:** Road impassable but no structural damage.
- **Sherwood Health Centre:** Roof of concrete tank gone; no other damages; no clinic today; no electricity or internet; using tank water.
- **Rio Bueno Health Centre:** Fence damaged; building intact; no utilities; using tank water.
- **Stewart Town Health Centre:** Roof severely damaged.
- **Jackson Town Health Centre:** Roof destroyed; needs tarpaulin; no utilities.

- **Duanvale Health Centre:** Roof severely damaged; no service.
- **Ulster Spring Health Centre:** Roof damaged in several areas.
- **Warsop Health Centre:** Roof destroyed; no service.
- **Wait-a-Bit Health Centre:** Roof destroyed; no service.

## ii. Cornwall Regional Hospital (St. James)

- Remains operational but under severe strain.
- A&E is full, with nowhere to transfer admitted patients.
- Requires a field hospital for additional ward space and surgical support.

### Associated St. James Facilities:

- **Mount Carey and Cambridge Health Centres:** Facilities destroyed.
- **Type V, Salt Spring, Roehampton, Adelphi, Catherine Hall Health Centres:** Flood, roof, and structural damage affecting equipment and furnishings.
- **Somerton, Goodwill, Maroon Town, Lottery, Tower Hill, Johns Hall, Garlands, Springfield Health Centres:** Major roof and infrastructure damage.

## iii. Noel Holmes Hospital (Hanover)

- Remains functional; A&E operational.
- Patients are being housed in corridors and a former isolation unit.
- Roof damage on male ward and outpatient block managed with tarpaulin due to solid wall construction.

### Associated Hanover Facilities:

- **Lucea, Ramble, Chester Castle Health Centres:** Facilities destroyed or severely compromised.
- **Hopewell, Sandy Bay, Maryland, Montpelier, Grange Kendall, Nyerere Health Centres:** Roof, infrastructure, and furnishings damaged.
- **Cave Valley Health Centre:** Roof and infrastructure damage with water intrusion.
- **Hanover Health Department:** Roof and infrastructure affected.

## iv. Savanna-la-Mar Public General Hospital (Westmoreland)

- Outpatient structure destroyed, but inpatient services continue.
- Leaking areas are being managed, with staff maintaining clean conditions.
- The former COVID-19 isolation area requires restoration and could accommodate over 20 patients once repaired.

### Associated Westmoreland Facilities:

- **Savanna-la-Mar Health Centre:** Roof, partitions, and equipment destroyed.
- **Westmoreland Health Department:** Roof and water damage.
- **Whitehouse, Petersfield, Darliston Health Centres:** Severe roofing, structural, and equipment losses.
- **Bluefields, Negril Health Centres:** Roof and structural damage due to water intrusion.
- **Baulk, New Works, Beeston Spring, St. Leonards, Lambs River, Birkshire, Williamsfield, Bethel Town, Cornwall Mountain Health Centres:** Roof, infrastructure, and furnishing damage.
- **Georges Plain Health Centre:** Minor roof and fence damage.

## v. Black River Hospital (St. Elizabeth)

- Currently operating only its A&E services on the ground floor.
- Both inpatient blocks lost their roofs, including the recently refurbished surgical block.
- Laboratory destroyed.

- Former operating theatre and administrative buildings lost roofs and are unusable.
- Requires a field hospital with an operating theatre, wards, and laboratory capacity.

#### Water:

- SEHRA:
  - St. Catherine: 13 HC remain without access to NWC water.
  - Kingston and St. Andrew: 5 HCs are still without water: Seaview Gardens, Sunrise, Gordon Town, Dallas, Lawrence Tavern
  - St. Thomas: 7 HCs are still without water: Cedar Valley, Font Hill, Hagley Gap, Llandewey, Rowlandsfield, Seaforth, White Hall
- SRHA:
  - Clarendon:
    - 30/32 HC facilities (93%) recuperated access to water, most HC operating on tanks.
    - Croftshill and Rock River HCs do not have water nor tanks.
  - Manchester: All facilities depend on water tank.
  - St. Elizabeth:
    - 23/25 centres are on tank.
    - 2 HCs have damaged tanks.
- WRHA: Adequate reserves at most hospitals; private trucking contracts in place. No updates.
- NERHA: 8 HCs in Portland without water; Annotto Bay leak detected.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

**Structural Damage** Preliminary findings indicate **widespread damage** to roofs, electrical networks, sewage systems, water storage facilities, backup power, drainage, and critical patient care areas. Several facilities remain partially functional, while others, particularly in SRHA and WRHA, require full reconstruction to resume services safely. The national cost is \$10,322,458,373.48 as outlined in the following table:

Region	Total (JMD)	% of National Cost
SRHA	\$6,135,000,000	59.4%
WRHA	\$3,173,132,000	30.7%
SERHA	\$483,326,373.48	4.7%
NERHA	\$250,000,000	2.4%
Bellevue Hospital (BVH)	\$281,000,000	2.7%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$10,322,458,373.48</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### SRHA

- Black River Hospital: major structural damage persists (estimated at JMD \$3.55B).
- Percy Junor Hospital: roof & structural damage.
- Lionel Town Hospital: medium to major structural damage: loss of roof, medium to severe leakage from windows, ceilings and doors, flooding, damage to the dietetics side door caused by strong wind
- Multiple St. Elizabeth HCs: roofs, fences, water intrusion (14/24 damaged).

#### WRHA

- Falmouth PGH – 60–70% roof loss; multiple blocks destroyed.
- Savanna-la-Mar, PGH: OPD destroyed; major roof damage.
- Cornwall Regional Hospital: Doctors without Borders have restored zinc roofs to the female medical and surgical wards and is working to complete A&E, maternity, renal unit and oncology.
- Noel Holmes Hospital: major roof & structural damage.
- Numerous HCs in Trelawny & Westmoreland – roofs do not exist (Wakefield, Falmouth, Warsop, Bounty Hall, Wait-a-bit, Deeside HC, etc.).
- St. James: Catherine Hall HC flooded.



**SERHA:**

- KPH roof leaks in multiple wards 2 North, 2 West and Edwina. Broken lamp in operating theatre has impacted surgeries.
- SJH generator failure for LINAC.
- PMH sections of the roof at Doctors and Matron quarters and the entire walkway blown away.
- VJH has medical waste over capacity.
- BHC has medical waste over capacity, HVAC A & E is not yet cooling.
- St. Catherine: Point Hill HC suffered major damage due to flooding.
- KSA: Mavis Bank remains inaccessible.
- St. Thomas: STH: medical waste over capacity, HVAC in A&E not working with no updates. Hagley Gap HC continues to have access issues.

**NERHA**

- SABRH: roof damage (Overflow Ward, OPD, Staff Quarters, Physiotherapy); dietary roof failure.
- ABH: SCN roof leaks; PtMH: minor roof issues; PAH: windows blown out.

**Water****SRHA**

- St. Elizabeth: 23/24 (95%) HCs without NWC, only Newell HC has. Tanks are in use, but 2 are damaged.
- Clarendon: All HCs have water, 22 with tanks and 9 with NWC.
- Manchester: PJH relying on tanks, 18/18 HCs serviced via tanks.

**WRHA**

- CRH & SPGH: NWC low pressure; trucking ongoing.
- FPGH: Water supply is now available on the lower floors/wards. Still reliant on tanks. There is a schedule to full tanks daily.
- MV Dawn desalination vessel supplying Hanover & Westmoreland.

**SERHA**

- LPH: intermittent NWC; trucked water twice daily
- St. Catherine: 14/27 HCs remain without access to NWC. 26 health facilities and the Health Department are serviced by tanks, except Riversdale H.C.
- KSA: Dallas HC has no water; Lawrence Tavern HC has no connection to NWC.

**NERHA**

- PtMH & ABH – NWC restored but leaks detected, PAH stable.

**Electricity****SRHA**

- BRH – generator only; MRH & PJH – JPS restored; LTH full utilities.
- Clarendon: 18/31HCs (15 JPS, 3 generator).
- Manchester: 8/18 HCs (4 JPS, 4 generator).
- St. Elizabeth: All HCs are without JPS; 5 on generator.

**WRHA**

- CRH – JPS restored.
- SPGH & NHH – generator reliance.
- FPGH – generator only, with support from EMT T2 for 3 days a week.
- St. James: The generator at Cambridge HC is no longer present.

**SERHA**

- St. Catherine: 9/28 HCs are without JPS.

- KSA: Dallas and Lawrence Tavern have no light.
- KPH, VJH, UHWI – JPS restored; SJH – LINAC backup generator failure; PMH – JPS restored.

#### NERHA

- SABRH, PtMH, ABH, PAH – JPS restored; ABH had generator issues earlier.
- Portland: All HCs have been reconnected to JPS.
- St. Ann: 27/29 HCs are still functioning without generator or JPS.

**Communications** At the national level, DECOM VHF radios have been installed but there are low response rates on daily checks.

**SRHA:** BRH – intermittent; MRH – telephone operational; PJH – inconsistent. Manchester: HCs have no telephone service.

**WRHA:** CRH, SPGH, NHH – poor phone service; Starlink in A&E only; server damage at FPGH.

**SERHA:** NCH switchboard down; SJH partial; KPH/VJH internet functional; PMH intermittent. BCH: Internet and mobile communications ‘choppy’, switchboard partially operational.

**NERHA:** SABRH: communication is intermittent; ABH/PtMH – partial; PAH stable.

- As of 11 November, **36% of the population remains without electricity**, while **57% of Digicel mobile sites** have been restored.
- Coordination notes for Emergency Medical Teams will rely on PAHO’s licensed virtual platform (Virtual CICOM).
- **216 VHF radios** installed under the **JICA–ODPEM DECOM Project** across MOHW facilities, including **42 base stations, 102 mobile**, and **72 handheld units**.
- **80% of base stations are operational**.
- **Daily radio checks** conducted from the **HEOC** to all parishes to ensure connectivity and system readiness.
- PAHO virtual Map with layers:  
<https://who.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/sidebar/index.html?appid=9226e33620e5458290a820b60f1b3e27>



#### WASH

Approximately **500 water-quality assessments** conducted by MOHW show that **50% of samples** from NWC and municipal supplies lack adequate residual chlorine, indicating a substantial risk of water-borne disease in communities now receiving piped water. **SERHA** shows better performance (92% adequate), while **SRHA and parts of WRHA** remain more vulnerable. To mitigate this, the MOHW has approved the deployment of the **MV Dawn** desalination vessel to feed the NWC network in Lucea and surrounding areas, including Noel Holmes Hospital, and with UNICEF and partners installing water-treatment systems at priority hospitals and health centres and distributing chlorine tablets at community level.

- 500 chlorine residual assessments performed at NWC and municipal supplies; **50% lacked adequate residual chlorine**→ implies up to half of the population currently supplied may be exposed to contamination risk.
- SERHA: 83 samples; 92% adequately chlorinated.
- WRHA (Hanover): 2 supplies tested; 50% positive.
- SRHA: 52 samples; 52% adequately chlorinated.

PAHO’s shipment of medical and WASH supplies from Barbados was cleared from customs and collected from the port to the PAHO Office in Kingston on 6 November. Final delivery to the MOHW is currently being arranged.



#### SHELTERS

As of 10 November, **107 shelters** are reported as active nationally, hosting **1,602 people** (peak of 1,755), out of 881

designated shelters and 33 alternative sites. A separate NEOC update on 11 November confirms **88 emergency shelters** remain activated. Approximately **30,000 households are displaced**, with over **120,000 buildings damaged** and **182 communities impacted**, including 2 with restricted access.



## HEALTH NEEDS

- By **18 November**, there should exist a consolidated list of needs across the following areas: environmental health, medical supplies, and infrastructure damage.
- **Support for the rapid restoration of essential services**, including debris removal, electricity, water, and communications.
- **Maintenance of life-saving health services** through field hospitals, emergency repairs, deployment of EMTs, provision of medical supplies, generators, WASH support, and essential medicines.
- **Provision of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)** for patients, health workers, and affected communities.
- **Rehabilitation and repair of five major hospitals and multiple health facilities** across the western and southern regions to restore full functionality and service delivery.



## RESPONSE

### GOVERNMENT RESPONSE:

- The **NEW LIFE 24/7 helpline (888-NEW-LIFE)** has begun to receive hurricane-related calls, and professional associations such as **JAMPSYCH** and the **Jamaica Psychiatric Association** are mobilizing approximately **35 psychologists** to provide targeted support to health-care workers and communities in Black River and Whitehouse.
- The Preliminary National Needs List published by ODPEM, including detailed health needs, is available ODPEM at <https://supportjamaica.gov.jm/needs>. The list is based on support for response and recovery for an estimated 400,000 people affected by the hurricane.
- All government ministries, departments and agencies have been in the field gathering data.
- MOHW released a Post Hurricane Melissa preliminary rapid infrastructure damage assessment, indicating a total estimation of damages at JMD \$10,322,458,373.48.

### PAHO Coordination & Response Planning - Health Cluster & EMT Coordination

- The 6th meeting of the Health Cluster coordination meeting was held on 13 November with 99 participants in attendance - 27 in-person and 72 virtually.
- MOHW and PAHO emphasized the shift from assessment to action in the post-Hurricane Melissa response, underscoring the urgent need to restore essential health services in the most affected areas. The Permanent Secretary, MOHW, highlighted the scale of system strain, the severity of the disaster, and the importance of strengthened coordination through PAHO, as partners transition toward medium-term rehabilitation support.
- Epidemiological updates confirmed no outbreaks to date, supported by enhanced surveillance in shelters and impacted communities. Partners were encouraged to complete capacity mapping, with 27 submissions received so far. PAHO is committed to activating the Health Cluster EMT sub-groups and continuing support to the MHPSS and WASH sub-groups.
- The partner dashboard, incorporating partner capacity and commitments, will be completed and shared at the next Health Cluster coordination meeting. MOHW will issue a revised needs list, including priority imaging and laboratory equipment, on Tuesday, 18 November, to guide ongoing support.
- The MHPSS response is being strengthened by the deployment of a **PAHO-supported MHPSS expert** (from 3 November) to work with the MOHW on national coordination and surge.
- PAHO JAM EOC continue to collaborate with PAHO WDC on donor appeal documents and CERF application. Funding for response has been pledged from the UK FCDO (750K GBP) as a contribution to the first donor appeal released on 4 November 2025.

## PAHO Deployments:

- WASH, damage assessment – 30/10/2025 to 14/11/2025
- Coordination, Health Cluster support, JAM CO EOC support – 04/11/2025 to 17/11/2025
- EMT Coordination – 11/02/2025 to 16/11/2025
- Environmental Health – 09/11/2025
- Information Management – 05/11/2025 to 20/11/2025
- Logistics – 04/11/2025 to 18/11/2025
- Damage Assessment (Structural)
- MHPSS – 03/11/2025 to 21/11/2025
- Procurement (virtual)
- RCCE – 05/11/2025 to 20/11/2025
- Administrative Assistance – 11/11/2025 to 25/11/2025

## Photos

### Savanna-la-Mar Hospital Assessment and Partner Collaboration

