

HURRICANE MELISSA

Jamaica

PAHO



Situation Report #16 - 13-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 64,280,000⁸**
- **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.
- 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 to the National Health Fund (NHF) warehouses for distribution.
- The 6th meeting of the **Health Cluster Coordination Group** was held on 13 November 2025, where PAHO serves as Co-Chair alongside the MOHW. The MOHW Permanent Secretary attended in person and made an appeal for partners to cooperate with the coordination mechanism established by PAHO, to streamline communication and track activities.
- The activation level of the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) remains at Level 3.

IN NUMBERS

Approx. 2.8m (entire population)
Potentially exposed¹

45 Deaths²

244 Injuries treated in A&E hospital departments across all 4 health regions³

12 Missing⁴

71 Evacuated⁵

36% Without electricity

5 Major hospitals⁶ severely impacted, widespread damage across Western and Southern Regions

88 active shelters^{7,8}

1: Statistical Institute of Jamaica data

2: JISTV 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.

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

SAMU-PROJECT HOPE (ESP/JSA) T1F
MOBILE UNIT
NORFOLK HOSPITAL (HANOVER PARISH)

HEART TO HEART (USA) T1M
MOBILE UNIT
CURRIER (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)

CICOM

PAHO **EMT**

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

- **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**.

As of 12 November, national hospital bed occupancy is **78%**, with **3,649 in-patients** and overall staffing coverage of **91%**. Three hospitals are operating **above capacity**: **Mandeville Regional Hospital** (145%), **May Pen Hospital** (124%) and **Kingston Public Hospital** (112%).

- National Average: 82% (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 (SRHA): 124 patients over capacity
- May Pen Hospital (SHRA): 50 patients above capacity
- Kingston Public Hospital (SEHRA): 62 patients above capacity

Staffing:

- National: 97% - Excludes Black River Hospital (SRHA) and Savanna-la-Mar and Falmouth (WRHA)

By Region:

- SERHA: 97% (excluding Bustamante Hospital for Children)
- SRHA: 97% (excluding Black River Hospital)
- NERHA: 96%
- WRHA: 92% (Noel Holmes hospital: 92%, Falmouth Hospital: 100%, Cornwall Regional Hospital: 91%, Savanna-la-Mar: 89%)

Primary Health Care

Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA)

- **Clarendon:** All 31 health centres open except Mitchell Town HC.
- **Manchester:** 89% functional (16/18)
- **St. Elizabeth:** 9/25 open (emergency services only).
- **Santa Cruz Smart Health Centre:** Fully functional.

Western Regional Health Authority (WRHA)

- **Trelawny:** 11 HCs are functional (6 fully, 3 partially, 2 significantly). 8 HCs are not in operation.
- **St. James:** Services are provided by 9 HCs, 13 remain inoperative.
- **Hanover:** 13 HCs are open, 6 remain closed (Copse, Maryland, Nyerere, Mt. Pelier, Chester Castle and Ramble).
- **Westmoreland:**
 - 7 HCs open: Savanna-la-Mar, Negril, Little London, Grange Hill, Georges Plain, Baulk HC and Delveland are open.
 - Mobile clinics have been set up to assist at Whitehouse & Darliston.

South East Regional Health Authority (SERHA)

- **St. Catherine:** 21/27 (78%) are open. Closed HCs are Connors, Bartons, Lluidas Vale, Redwood, Troja, Treadways.
- **Kingston & St. Andrew:** 34/40 are open. Mavis Bank remains inaccessible, Padmore and Rock Hall were closed prior to the hurricane.
- **St. Thomas:** 13/16 are 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 are operational. Non-operational are Madras, Queenhythe and 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:** All 15 facilities are operational
- **Portland:** All 15 facilities are operational.

Tertiary 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):** Cornwall Regional Hospital is the facility having suffered the largest reduction in capacity (46%). Only one computer has PAS and there is no printing service available for face sheets etc. This has significantly affected service delivery. This 250-bed facility is **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 with laboratory and pharmacy operational.
- **Savanna-La-Mar Public General Hospital (Westmoreland):** Internal Medicine team in need of staff. Critical shortage of suture and dressing sets. 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. The facility remains **non-functional**. The laboratory was destroyed, and the operating theatre is unusable.
- **Mandeville Regional Hospital (Manchester):** Over capacity (162%) with emergency services only. Mandeville Regional Hospital provides Accidental and Emergency, OPD and Emergency surgery. Chapel Town Hospital is offering full service.
- **May Pen Hospital (Clarendon):** Over capacity (146%); partially operational, A&E/emergency surgery only. Lionel Town Hospital is fully functioning with 86% occupancy. Percy Junor Hospital is partially functioning with 77% of 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:** St. Ann's Bay Regional Hospital is operational with outpatient services restored. Receiving support from an Israeli Medical Team since 7 November. 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:** Normal services resumed. 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. Port Antonio Hospital is fully operational.
- **Alexandria:** The road remains inaccessible and the connection unavailable.

Surveillance

- As of 13 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.³
- As of 13 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 Ministry of Health and Wellness in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization visited four parishes – Hanover, Westmoreland, Trelawny and St James, on Thursday 13 November, to deliver an **MHPSS intervention with health care workers**. The team of approximately 20 health personnel from the Southeast Regional Health Authority, met with health care professionals and provided words of encouragement and empathy, as well as individual and group counselling.

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 were disruptions in laboratory services at the major hospitals damaged. Power has been restored to the laboratory at the Savanna-la-Mar hospital and there are limited services being offered. 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

- **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.
- Dissemination of MHPSS messaging is ongoing.

³ JISTV https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=seHnLvp_C7g

- The Ministry of Health and Wellness continues to disseminate messages to the public on safeguarding health post Hurricane Melissa.
- Some health regions have begun disseminating public health messages on water treatment and prevention of gastroenteritis, leptospirosis and mosquitoes transmitted diseases. Town crier/wayside announcements are being used in some areas.
- As of 13 November 2025, a review of the mental health communication strategy is underway.

Imaging Services

- Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH): emergency radiology services are offered to inpatients and those in the A&E Department.
- Noel Holmes Hospital: Services were being offered up to 12 November 2025, but software was damaged. Pending is to explore the use of the CR system from FPGH.
- Falmouth Public General Hospital (FPHG): X-ray is now being offered.

Non-Communicable Disease

The Pan American Health Organization supported the Ministry of Health and Wellness Training Webinar Series 2024 National Diabetes and Depression Screening Guidelines (2nd Edition). The current webinar focused on the post disaster settings following Hurricane Melissa. PAHO collaborated with Dr. Saria Hassan from Emory University to deliver an **online** presentation for the health care workers on the management of NCDs in post disaster setting for health care workers. The webinar was held on Thursday, 13 November and was attended by approximately 100 participants.



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 HCs 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 water 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%
Grand Total	\$10,322,458,373.48	100%

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: Plans are in place to utilize the Top Nurses home once piping for gas is complete. 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. 5 HCs use both tanks and 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. 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: 14/28 (50%) 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: 13 centres have no electricity.
- 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. As of 13 November, FPGH restored to JPS.
- St. James: The generator at Cambridge HC is no longer present.
- Trelawny: 10 HCs without JPS connection

SERHA

- St. Catherine: 9/28 HCs are without JPS. As of 13 November 2025, 7/28 HCs are without JPS (25%).
- KSA: Dallas and Lawrence Tavern have no light.
- KPH, VJH, UHWI – JPS restored; SJH – LINAC backup generator failure; PMH – JPS restored.
- St. Thomas: two HCs without electricity.

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

Health Cluster Coordination Meetings, held twice weekly in a hybrid manner, provide UN Agencies and NGO partners a space for information dissemination, sharing of updates and the matching of capacity with needs. Photos below L to R: On 11 November 2025 at the 5th meeting, PAHO Co-Chair shared highlights from the latest PAHO situation report; on 13 November 2025 at the 6th meeting, the Permanent Secretary of the MOHW appealed to partners present and online to cooperate with the coordination mechanisms established by PAHO.

