COVID-19 trajectory for Jamaica

Briefing created by staff of the George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre and the Public Health Group of The Faculty of Medical Sciences, Cave Hill Campus, The University of the West Indies. Group Contacts: Ian Hambleton (analytics), Maddy Murphy (public health interventions), Kim Quimby (logistics planning), Natasha Sobers (surveillance). For all our COVID-19 surveillance outputs, go to https://tinyurl.com/uwi-covid19-surveillance

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**Aim of this briefing.** We present the cumulative number of confirmed cases and deaths \(^{1}\) from COVID-19 infection in Jamaica since the start of the outbreak, which we measure as the number of days since the first confirmed case. We compare the Jamaica trajectory against key comparators (Hong Kong, Singapore, Iceland, New Zealand), all island territories that are further along their epidemic curves. Outbreak progress is likely to vary markedly between countries, and this graphic is presented as a guide only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confirmed Events</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>New (1 day)</th>
<th>New (1 week)</th>
<th>Date of 1st confirmed</th>
<th>Days since 1st confirmed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first graph shows the rise in the absolute numbers of cases and deaths in Jamaica since the start of the outbreak. It is good for assessing the extent of the COVID-19 burden, when thinking about healthcare demand for example.

**Graph.** Cumulative cases and deaths in Jamaica as of 11 May 2020 (62 outbreak days)

The second graph shows the number of cases on a different scale (called a logarithm scale). It shows us the *growth rate* over time, and is good for comparing progress against other countries.

**Graph.** Cumulative cases in Jamaica as of 11 May 2020, with international comparisons

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\(^{1}\) **Data Source.** Dong E, Du H, Gardner L. An interactive web-based dashboard to track COVID-19 in real time. Lancet Infect Dis; published online Feb 19. https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(20)30120-1