

GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS MINISTRY OF HEALTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 3rd August, 2021

COVID-19 REPORT Update #495

CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19

Island	Total Confirmed Breakdown of	
	Cases	Confirmed Cases ¹
New Providence	11,300	67
Grand Bahama	2,088	2
Abaco	429	1
Bimini & Cat Cay	222	0
Eleuthera	366	4
Berry Islands	95	0
Exuma	230	3
Inagua	25	0
Andros	180	1
Long Island	26	0
Cat Island	71	0
Acklins	7	0
Crooked Island	7	0
Mayaguana	3	0
San Salvador	14	0
Locations Pending	61	0
TOTAL	15,124	78***

¹ Results of newly confirmed cases were reported within twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours after the swabbing date.

***<u>IMPORTANT NOTES</u>

The Ministry of Health is aware of a report in a local daily suggesting a linkage of COVID-19 cases and deaths to a large religious gathering.

It is confirmed that multiple clusters of COVID-19 cases have been identified during contact tracing activities in July on New Providence and the Family Islands. As cases increase, clusters have been linked to workplaces, construction sites, as well as social and other communal gatherings.

While COVID-19 exposures can occur anywhere, the Ministry of Health reminds the general public that for all the islands of The Bahamas, private gatherings are to be restricted to 5 persons provided that the individuals are vaccinated. However, the Ministry strongly recommends that there be no large gatherings.

The Ministry advised the public that cases, hospitalizations, and deaths from COVID-19 have increased significantly over the past month. The health care system is at its capacity. To slow down or prevent the spread of the virus, as with other respiratory infections like the flu or the common cold, adherence to public health measures are critical.

Public health measures are everyday preventive actions that include:

- washing hands often with soap and water;
- staying home when sick;
- covering the mouth and nose with a flexed elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing and dispose of used tissue immediately; and
- cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects.

Other public health measures to slow down and prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 involve -

- wearing a mask or face covering
- physical distancing; and
- avoiding large gatherings.

A specific public health measure proven to slow the spread, decrease severe illness, reduce the likelihood of death associated with COVID-19, and terminate the pandemic is to get vaccinated.

Safe and effective vaccines are available in-country. More than 4.2 billion persons have been vaccinated worldwide. Side effects, when they do occur, are minimal. We encourage you to be vaccinated. Speak to your health care provider about any concerns then schedule your appointment at vax.gov.bs.

TRAVEL WATCH: CONFIRMED IMPORTED COVID-19 CASES

Island	Newly Confirmed Cases with History of Travel Within 14 Days ²
New Providence	2
TOTAL	2

GENDER OF NEWLY CONFIRMED CASES

Gender of Newly Confirmed Cases	# of Cases
Males	24
Females	54
Unknown	0
TOTAL	78

² Results of newly confirmed cases were reported within twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours after the swabbing date.

HOSPITALIZATIONS

Healthcare Institution	# of Cases Hospitalized	# of Cases Moderately Ill	# of Cases in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU)
New Providence			
Doctor's Hospital	22	13	9
South Beach Acute Care and Referral Centre	10	9	1
Princess Margaret Hospital	47	47	0
Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre	0	0	0
Grand Bahama			
Grand Bahama Health Services	30	29	1
TOTAL	109	98	11

ACTIVE CASES & RECOVERIES

Active Cases	2,020
Total # of Recovered Cases	# of Cases Recovered Today
12,702	74

DEATHS

Total COVID-19	Total Non-COVID-19	Total Deaths Under
Deaths	Deaths	Investigation
292	77	33

The Ministry of Health reports today that there are three (3) additional deaths under investigation.

TESTS COMPLETED

Total # of RT-	# of RT-PCR	# of Positive	# of	# of	# of
PCR Tests	Tests Completed	Results	Negative	Repeated	Inconclusive
Completed	Today		Results	Tests ³	Results
121,222	295	78	206	11	0

OPENING HOURS OF COMMUNITY CLINICS

Community clinics remain open for primary care services at the following Poly-clinics:

Clinic	Days	Hours of Operation	
Fleming Street	Monday – Friday	9:00a.m. – 8:00p.m.	
Elizabeth Estates	Monday – Friday	9:00a.m. – 9:00p.m.	
Flamingo Gardens	Monday – Friday	9:00a.m. – 9:00p.m.	
Flamingo Gardens (Only)	Saturday	9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.	

REMINDERS

To contain the spread of COVID-19 residents are reminded of the following:

- if you have symptoms of COVID-19, do not wait, first, contact your health provider.
- while home remedies may work for a period it is important to get tested and receive the proper care before symptoms become too difficult to manage.
- if you have been asked by the Surveillance Unit to get tested for COVID-19, please follow the advice and take the gold standard RT-PCR test.
- employees are encouraged to work from home.

³ Tests performed to confirm if patients have recovered from COVID-19.

