

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

# MINISTRY OF HEALTH COVID-19 UPDATE Update #200

The Ministry of Health advises the general public of the current COVID-19 situation in The Bahamas.

## **CURRENT CASE NUMBERS**

**Seventy-five (75) new cases**<sup>1</sup> have tested positive for COVID-19. The breakdown of the new cases by island is as follows:

Island	# of Cases
New Providence	61
Grand Bahama	9
Andros	2
Eleuthera	2
Exuma	_1
TOTAL:	75

The total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in The Bahamas today is five thousand seven hundred three (5703).

The total confirmed cases of COVID-19 are recorded in the following islands of The Bahamas:

Island	<b>Number of Cases</b>	Island	<b>Number of Cases</b>
Abaco	161	Eleuthera	34
Acklins	7	Exuma	35
Andros	14	Inagua	19
Berry Islands	31	Grand Bahama	671
Bimini	57	New Providence	4392
Cat Island	9	Mayaguana	3
Crooked Island	5	Long Island	12
		<b>Locations Pending</b>	253

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> New cases have produced samples identified twenty-four (24) to forty-eight (48) hours after the swabbing date.

#### **DEATHS**

Regrettably in the last twenty-four (24) hours, the Ministry of Health recorded six (6) confirmed COVID-19 related deaths, one of which originated from deaths under investigation. The deceased are as follows:

- a sixty-four (64) year old female of New Providence who passed away on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2020;
- a sixty-six (66) year old male of New Providence who passed away on 1st October, 2020;
- a sixty (60) year old female of New Providence who passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2020;
- a forty-three (43) year old male of New Providence who passed away on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2020:
- a forty-eight (48) year old male of New Providence who passed away on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2020; and
- a thirty-four (34) year old male of New Providence whose death was investigated and confirmed to be COVID-19 related.

#### Consequently –

- ✓ **deaths under investigation** decreased by one (1) to thirteen (13):
- ✓ non-COVID-19 related deaths remain at twenty-three (23); and
- ✓ total deaths increased by six and tallied at one hundred twenty-two (122).

#### NUMBER OF DAYS SINCE A NEW CASE WAS REPORTED ON EACH ISLAND

The number of days since a new case was reported on each island is as follows:

Island	# of Days Since Last New Case Reported	Island	# of Days Since Last New Case Reported
Abaco	1	Eleuthera	0
Acklins	47	Exuma	0
Andros	0	Inagua	23
Berry Islands	1	Grand Bahama	0
Bimini	1	New Providence	0
Cat Island	12	Mayaguana	36
Crooked Island	35	Long Island	24

#### **ACTIVE CASES**

There are now two thousand two hundred forty-five (2,245) active cases currently under observation.

One hundred nine (109) COVID-19 patients are hospitalized.

#### **RECOVERIES**

Twenty-four (24) additional cases have recovered and have been released from care. Total recoveries are now at three thousand three hundred (3,300).

## **TESTING**

So far, twenty-seven thousand one hundred (27,100) samples have been tested. There were five hundred twenty-five (525) tests completed today.

#### **REMINDERS**

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

- Weekday curfews remain in effect for specified islands in The Bahamas.
- New Providence and Abaco weekday curfews are between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.
- Weekend lockdowns remain in effect for New Providence and Abaco until further notice;
- Employees are encouraged to work from home; and
- Community clinics remain open at -
  - ✓ Fleming Street Clinic Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.;
  - ✓ Elizabeth Estates Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and
  - ✓ Flamingo Gardens Clinics Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## **CONCLUSION**

Residents should remain vigilant in their infection prevention and control measures to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Remember everyone has to take personal responsibility to protect themselves, their loved ones, communities and country.

COVID-19 will remain with us for some time. Therefore, the public is reminded to practice the following measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- wear a face mask when you leave home;
- maintain a physical distance of six (6) feet from others;
- wash your hands often with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds, and if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least seventy percent (70%) alcohol;
- cover your cough or sneeze in your inner elbow or with a tissue; and
- clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as phones, remote controls, counters, doorknobs, and keyboards.

Do your part to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and with the efforts of our hard-working healthcare workers across the island, we can overcome COVID-19.

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