

WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGY BULLETIN

NATIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGY UNIT, MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS, JAMAICA

Facts on Tuberculosis



About one quarter of the world's population is infected with tuberculosis (TB) bacteria. Only a small proportion of those infected will become sick with TB.

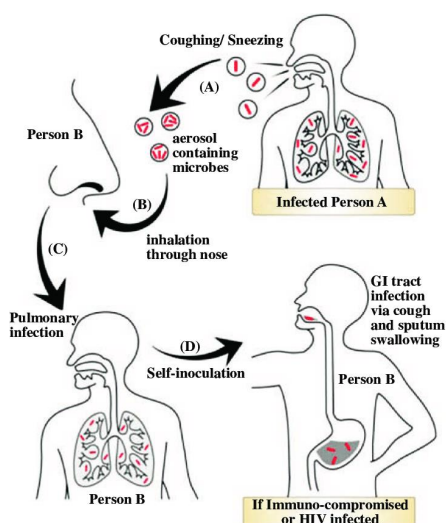
People with weakened immune systems have a much greater risk of falling ill from TB. A person living with HIV is about 20 times more likely to develop active TB.

In 2020, an estimated 10 million people fell ill with tuberculosis (TB) worldwide. 5.6 million men, 3.3 million women and 1.1 million children. TB is present in all countries and age groups. But TB is curable and preventable.

TB is the leading killer of people with HIV. In 2020, there were 375 962 people who had TB and HIV were notified, of whom 88% were on antiretroviral therapy. Most of the gaps in detection and treatment were in the WHO African Region, where the burden of HIV associated TB is highest.

Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) remains a public health crisis and a health security threat. Only about one in three people with drug resistant TB accessed treatment in 2020. In some cases an even more severe form of multi-drug resistant TB may develop with bad treatment. Pre-extensively drug-resistant TB (pre-XDR-TB) and (XDR-TB) are forms of TB that responds to even fewer available medicines

TB treatment saved about 66 million lives globally between 2000 and 2020, but important diagnostic and treatment gaps persist. The treatment success rate for people with TB was 86% in 2019.



EPI WEEK 34



SYNDROMES

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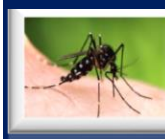
CLASS 1 DISEASES

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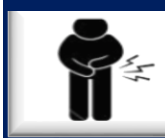
INFLUENZA

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DENGUE FEVER

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GASTROENTERITIS

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RESEARCH PAPER

PAGE 8

SENTINEL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Sentinel Surveillance in Jamaica



A syndromic surveillance system is good for early detection of and response to public health events.

Sentinel surveillance occurs when selected health facilities (sentinel sites) form a network that reports on certain health conditions on a regular basis, for example, weekly. Reporting is mandatory whether or not there are cases to report.

Jamaica's sentinel surveillance system concentrates on visits to sentinel sites for health events and syndromes of national importance which are reported weekly (see pages 2 -4). There are seventy-eight (78) reporting sentinel sites (hospitals and health centres) across Jamaica.

Table showcasing the Timeliness of Weekly Sentinel Surveillance Parish Reports for the Four Most Recent Epidemiological Weeks - 30 2021 to 34 of 2021

Parish health departments submit reports weekly by 3 p.m. on Tuesdays. Reports submitted after 3 p.m. are considered late.

Epi week	Kingston and Saint Andrew	Saint Thomas	Saint Catherine	Portland	Saint Mary	Saint Ann	Trelawny	Saint James	Hanover	Westmoreland	Saint Elizabeth	Manchester	Clarendon
2021													
30	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late (T)	On Time	On Time	Late (T)	On Time	Late (T)	On Time
31	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late (T)	Late (T)
32	Late (W)	On Time	On Time	Late (W)	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late (W)	Late (T)
33	Late (W)	On Time	On Time	Late (W)	On Time	On Time	Late (T)	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late (W)	Late (W)
34	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late (T)	On Time	On Time	On Time	On Time	Late (W)	Late (W)

REPORTS FOR SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

FEVER

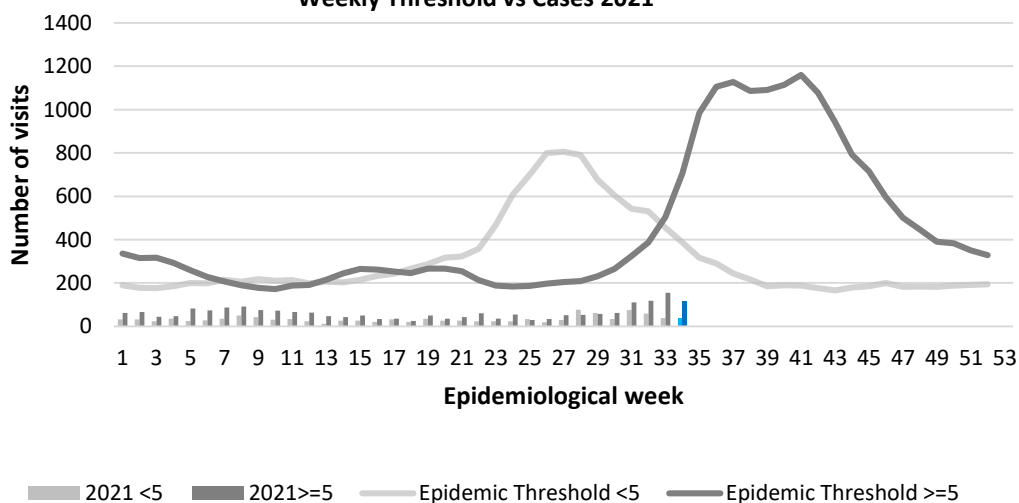
Temperature of $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ / 100.4°F (or recent history of fever) with or without an obvious diagnosis or focus of infection.



KEY

VARIATIONS OF BLUE SHOW CURRENT WEEK

Weekly Visits to Sentinel Sites for Undifferentiated Fever All ages: Jamaica, Weekly Threshold vs Cases 2021



2 NOTIFICATIONS- All clinical sites



INVESTIGATION REPORTS- Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



HOSPITAL ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE- 30 sites. Actively pursued



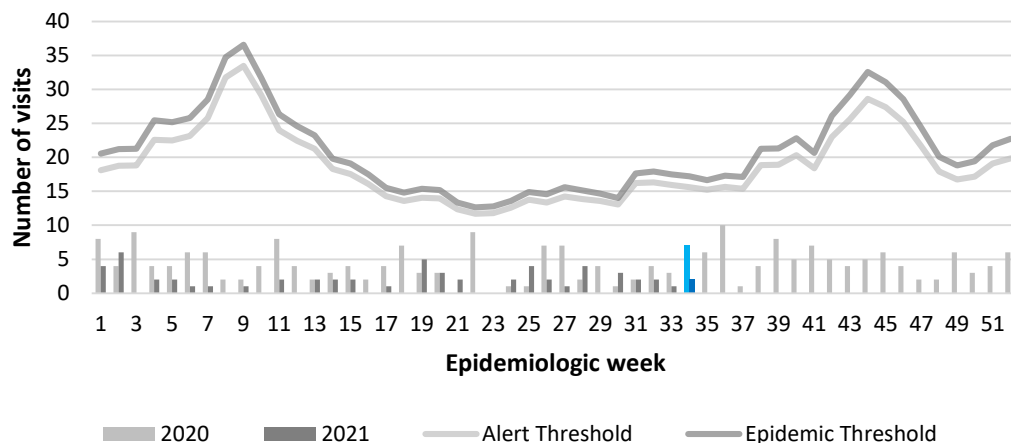
SENTINEL REPORT- 78 sites. Automatic reporting

FEVER AND NEUROLOGICAL

Temperature of $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ / 100.4°F (or recent history of fever) in a previously healthy person with or without headache and vomiting. The person must also have meningeal irritation, convulsions, altered consciousness, altered sensory manifestations or paralysis (except AFP).



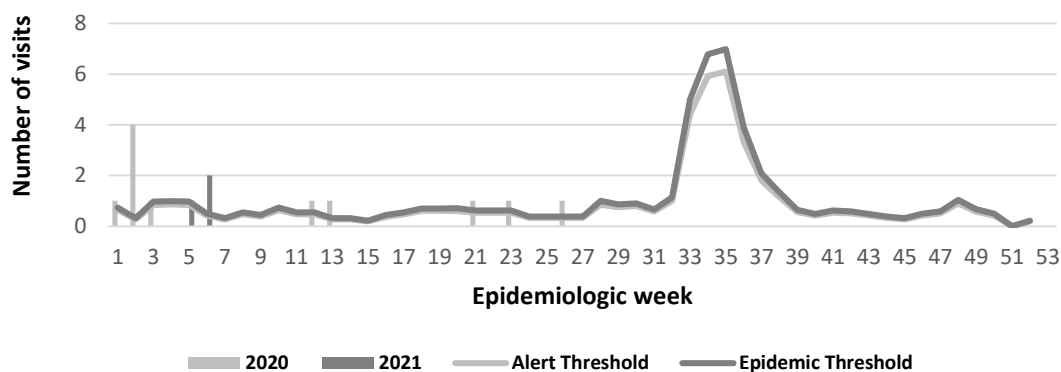
Weekly Visits to Sentinel Sites for Fever and Neurological Symptoms 2020 and 2021 vs. Weekly Threshold: Jamaica

**FEVER AND HAEMORRHAGIC**

Temperature of $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ / 100.4°F (or recent history of fever) in a previously healthy person presenting with at least one haemorrhagic (bleeding) manifestation with or without jaundice.



Weekly visits to Sentinel Sites for Fever and Haemorrhagic 2020 and 2021 vs Weekly Threshold; Jamaica

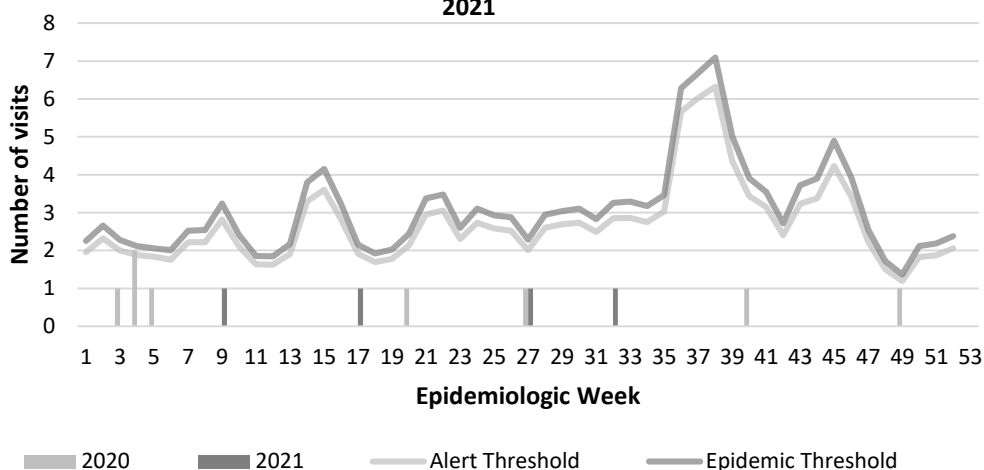
**FEVER AND JAUNDICE**

Temperature of $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ / 100.4°F (or recent history of fever) in a previously healthy person presenting with jaundice.

The epidemic threshold is used to confirm the emergence of an epidemic in order to implement control measures. It is calculated using the mean reported cases per week plus 2 standard deviations.



Fever and Jaundice cases: Jamaica, Weekly Threshold vs Cases 2020 and 2021



3 NOTIFICATIONS-
All clinical sites



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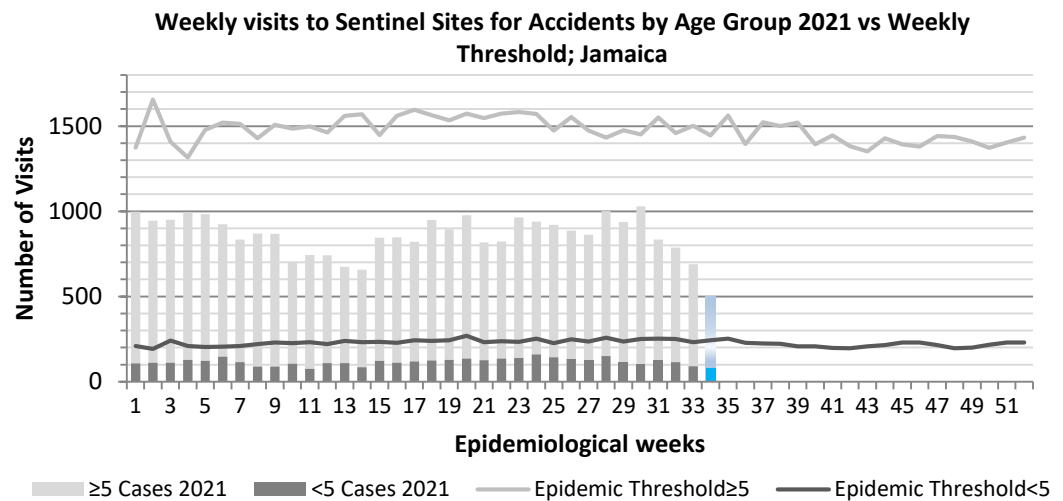
SENTINEL REPORT- 78 sites. Automatic reporting

ACCIDENTS

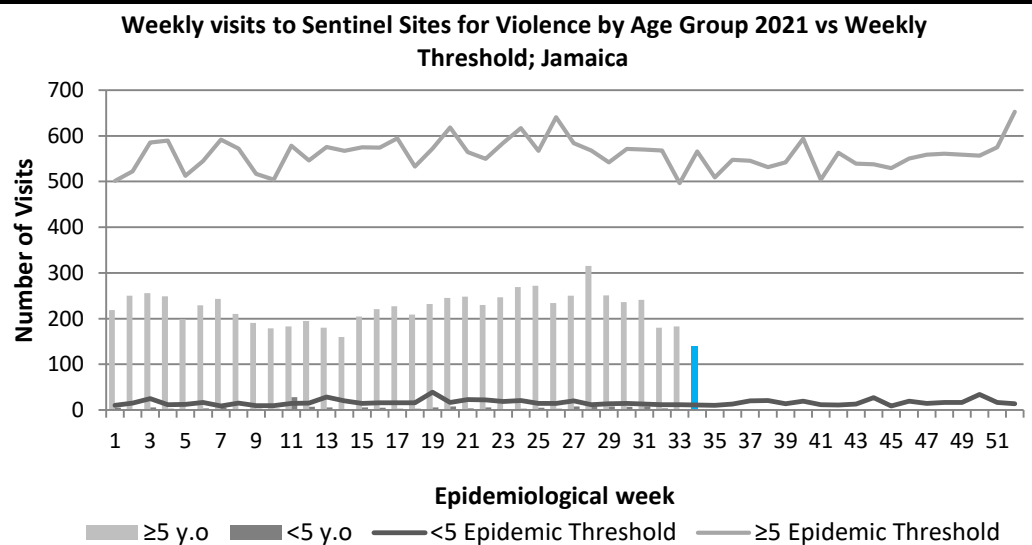
Any injury for which the cause is unintentional, e.g. motor vehicle, falls, burns, etc.

KEY

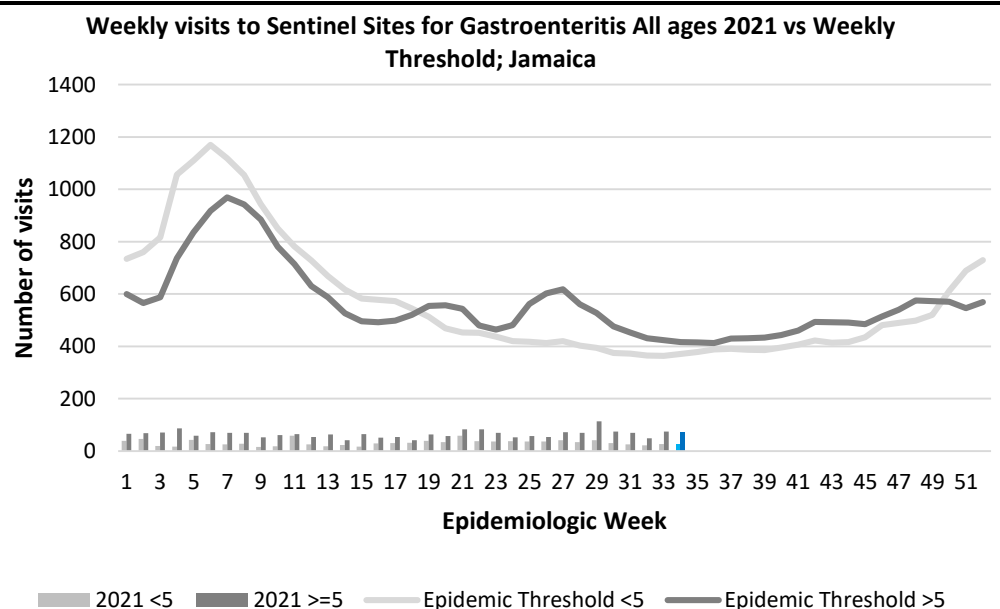
VARIATIONS OF **BLUE** SHOW CURRENT WEEK

**VIOLENCE**

Any injury for which the cause is intentional, e.g. gunshot wounds, stab wounds, etc.

**GASTROENTERITIS**

Inflammation of the stomach and intestines, typically resulting from bacterial toxins or viral infection and causing vomiting and diarrhoea.



4 NOTIFICATIONS-
All clinical sites



INVESTIGATION REPORTS- Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



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SENTINEL REPORT- 78 sites. Automatic reporting

- CLASS ONE NOTIFIABLE EVENTS				Comments
			Confirmed YTD ^α	
	CLASS 1 EVENTS		CURRENT YEAR 2021	PREVIOUS YEAR 2020
NATIONAL /INTERNATIONAL INTEREST	Accidental Poisoning		22 ^β	79
	Cholera		0	0
	Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever ^γ		See Dengue page below	See Dengue page below
	Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)		0	0
	Hepatitis B		2	3
	Hepatitis C		0	0
	HIV/AIDS		NA	NA
	Malaria (Imported)		0	0
	Meningitis (Clinically confirmed)		4	1
EXOTIC/ UNUSUAL	Plague		0	0
HIGH MORBIDITY/ MORTALITY	Meningococcal Meningitis		0	0
	Neonatal Tetanus		0	0
	Typhoid Fever		0	0
	Meningitis H/Flu		0	0
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES	AFP/Polio		0	0
	Congenital Rubella Syndrome		0	0
	Congenital Syphilis		0	0
	Fever and Rash	Measles	0	0
		Rubella	0	0
	Maternal Deaths ^δ		23	22
	Ophthalmia Neonatorum		0	38
	Pertussis-like syndrome		0	0
	Rheumatic Fever		0	0
	Tetanus		0	0
	Tuberculosis		19	29
	Yellow Fever		0	0
	Chikungunya ^ε		0	0
	Zika Virus ^θ		0	0

AFP Field Guides from WHO indicate that for an effective surveillance system, detection rates for AFP should be 1/100,000 population under 15 years old (6 to 7) cases annually.

Pertussis-like syndrome and Tetanus are clinically confirmed classifications.

^γ Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever data include Dengue related deaths;

^δ Figures include all deaths associated with pregnancy reported for the period.

^ε CHIKV IgM positive cases

^θ Zika PCR positive cases

^β Updates made to prior weeks in 2020.

^α Figures are cumulative totals for all epidemiological weeks year to date.

NA- Not Available



5 NOTIFICATIONS- All clinical sites



INVESTIGATION REPORTS- Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



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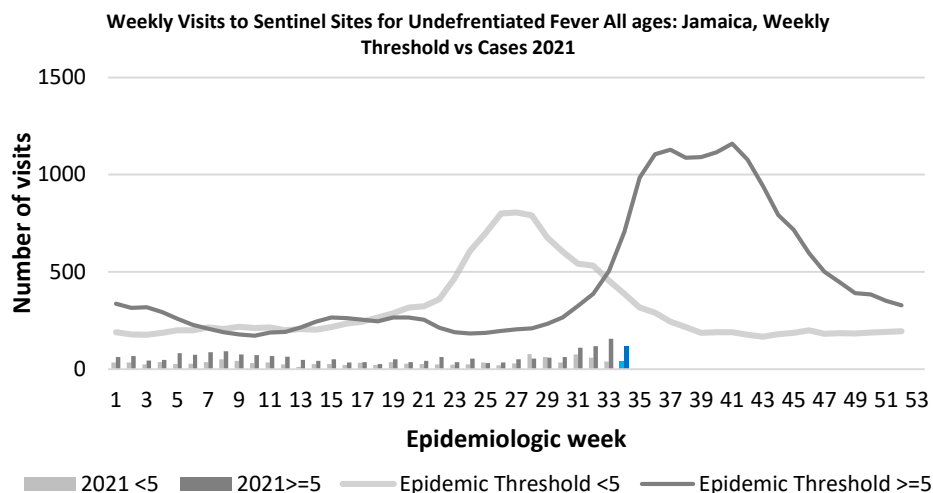
SENTINEL REPORT- 78 sites. Automatic reporting

NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE UNIT INFLUENZA REPORT

EW 34

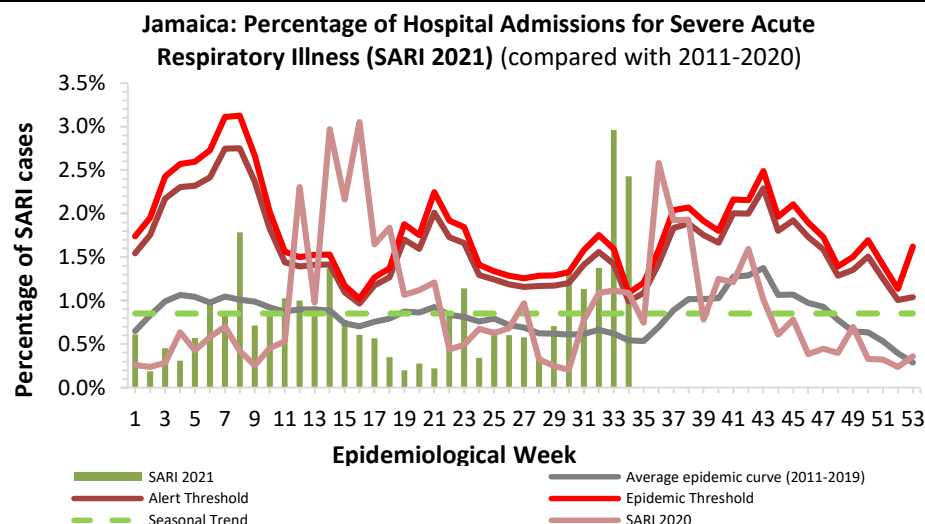
August 22 - 28, 2021 Epidemiological Week 34

	EW 34	YTD
SARI cases	29	424
Total Influenza positive Samples	0	0
Influenza A	0	0
H3N2	0	0
H1N1pdm09	0	0
Not subtyped	0	0
Influenza B	0	0
Parainfluenza	0	0



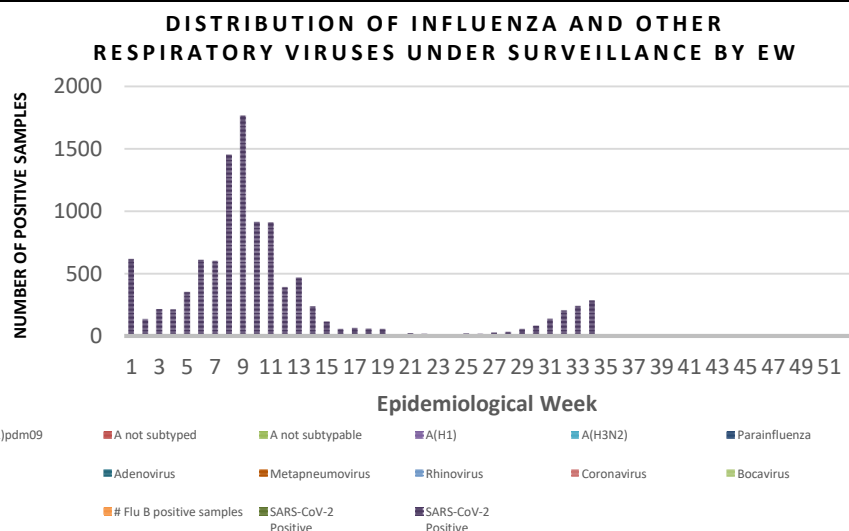
Epi Week Summary

During EW 34, 24 (twentyfour) SARI admissions were reported.



Caribbean Update EW 34

Caribbean: Influenza activity remained low. In Belize, SARS-CoV-2 and RSV detections continued to increase and in Haiti, SARS-CoV-2 activity continued elevated and increasing.



6 NOTIFICATIONS-
All clinical
sites



INVESTIGATION
REPORTS- Detailed Follow
up for all Class One Events



HOSPITAL
ACTIVE
SURVEILLANCE-
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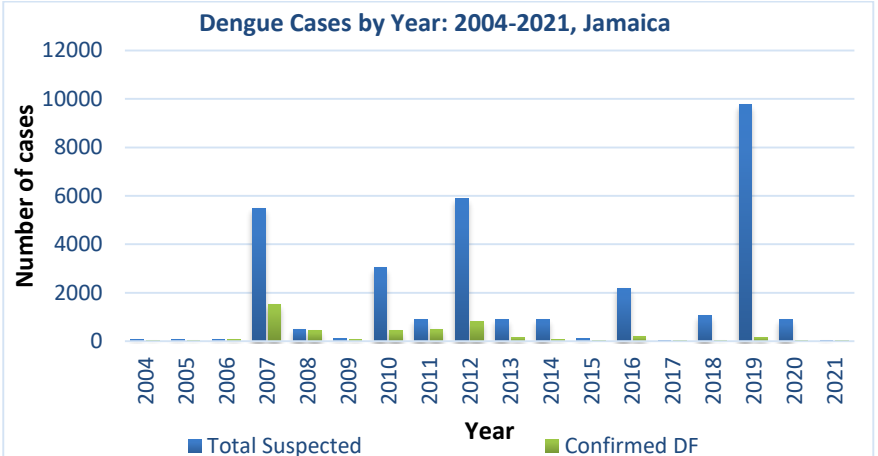


SENTINEL
REPORT- 78 sites.
Automatic reporting

Dengue Bulletin

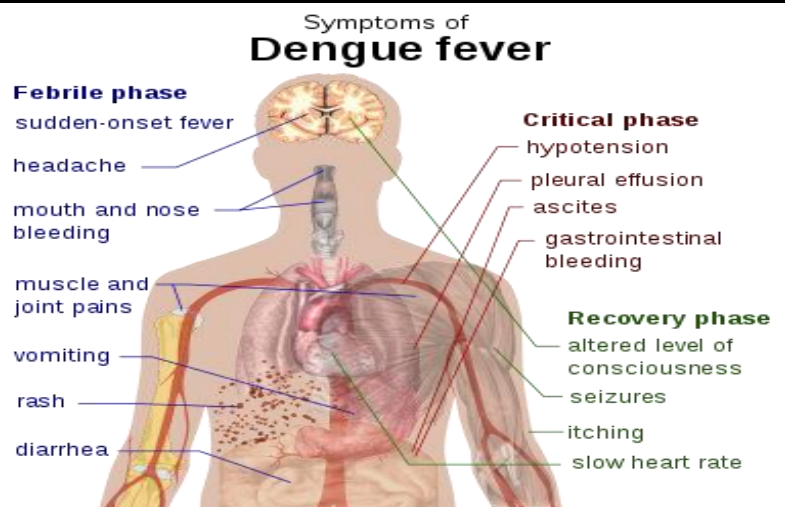
August 22 - 28, 2021 Epidemiological Week 34

Epidemiological Week 34



Reported suspected and confirmed dengue with symptom onset in week 33 of 2021

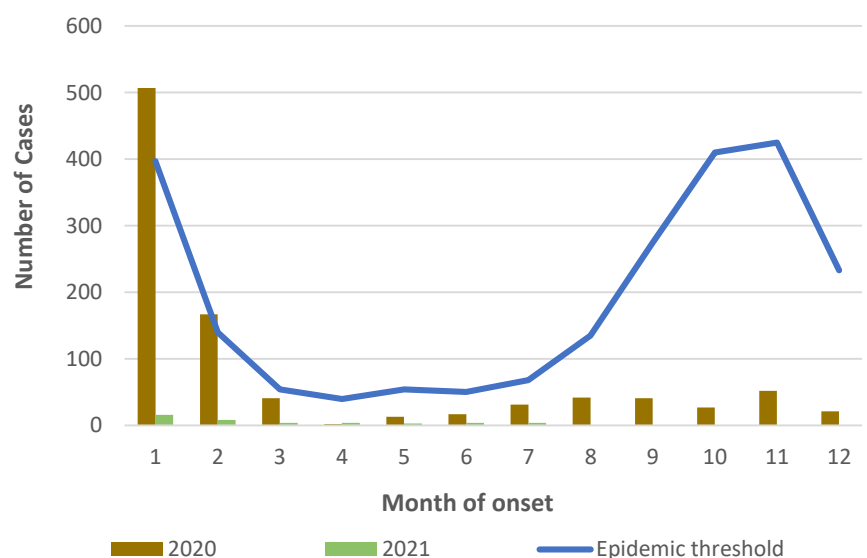
	2021*	
	EW 33	YTD
Total Suspected Dengue Cases	0	37
Lab Confirmed Dengue cases	0	5
CONFIRMED Dengue Related Deaths	0	0



Points to note:

- *Figure as at August 5, 2021
- Only PCR positive dengue cases are reported as confirmed.
- IgM positive cases are classified as presumed dengue.

Suspected dengue cases for 2020 and 2021 versus monthly mean, alert, and epidemic thresholds (2007-2020)



7 NOTIFICATIONS-
All clinical sites



INVESTIGATION REPORTS- Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



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SENTINEL REPORT- 78 sites. Automatic reporting

RESEARCH PAPER

ABSTRACT

Training Teachers to Help Students to Cope with Post-Traumatic Stress

Dr. Ganesh Shetty, Kingston & St. Andrew Health Department; Prof. Cynthia Onyefulu, University of Technology, Jamaica; Dr. Steve Weaver, University of the West Indies; Dr. Sandra Chambers SE Regional Health Authority

Introduction. Exposure to trauma in children may result in mental health problems such as post-traumatic stress disorders (PTSD), anxiety disorder, depressive symptoms, dissociation, substance abuse, and delinquent and aggressive behaviors. The children who develop PTSD may later result in perpetrating violence on others. This study aimed to train a group of teachers in a primary school in Kingston, Jamaica with knowledge and skills to help students cope better with traumatic experiences. Research questions addressed were: What percentage of teachers know of the manifestations of and coping skills to manage PTSD prior to training? To what extent will there be a difference in the teachers' knowledge of symptoms and skills to cope with PTSD after training?

Methods. The mixed methods approach was used. All 20 (5 male & 15 female) teachers voluntarily participated in the study. The teachers were pre-tested to measure their knowledge of and ways of coping with PTSD in March 2019, and attended six training sessions, and were post-tested in June 2019.

Results. The results showed that the pre-test scores ($M = 1.95$, $SD = 2.19$) of 35% of the teachers knew some skills in managing PTSD before the training. The post-test scores ($M = 4.00$, $SD = 1.69$) of the 75% of the teachers learnt the skills after the training, while 50% retained their skills three months after the training. A feedback session was also conducted.



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8 NOTIFICATIONS-
All clinical
sites



INVESTIGATION
REPORTS- Detailed Follow
up for all Class One Events



HOSPITAL
ACTIVE
SURVEILLANCE-
30 sites. Actively
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SENTINEL
REPORT- 78 sites.
Automatic reporting