

### KEY FIGURES

# \$187.3M

**FLASH APPEAL LAUNCHED  
TO REACH 500,000 PEOPLE  
AFFECTED BY EARTHQUAKE**

**Sources:**

- Government of Haiti
- OCHA Haiti

### HAITI: EARTHQUAKE

Nearly two weeks after a 7.2-magnitude earthquake rocked south-western Haiti, an area later affected by Tropical Depression Grace's heavy rains, humanitarian assistance has begun in some of the hardest-to-reach areas to meet urgent needs. Humanitarian convoys en route to hard-hit areas continue to be blocked by affected people growing increasingly frustrated by a lack of assistance and armed gangs looting relief supplies.

The Haitian Civil Protection General Directorate (DGPC) reports 2,207 deaths, 12,268 injured and 320 missing, with at least 52,900 homes destroyed and 77,006 damaged. Some people whose homes are still standing are choosing to sleep in the streets in fear that their

homes may collapse at any moment. While response to shelter needs is a key priority, the Government is seeking to avoid large-scale camps for internally displaced people (IDPs), similar to those implemented after the 2010 earthquake and again after Hurricane Matthew in 2016, in order to mitigate COVID-19 health risks associated with placing tens of thousands of people in close quarters.

On 25 August, UN agencies and partners launched a US\$187.3 million Flash Appeal to reach 500,000 people. The various impacts of the earthquake will have long-lasting effects on development in the hardest-hit communities, making early recovery and rehabilitation programmes pivotal to restoring livelihoods.

### REGIONAL: HURRICANE SEASON

Ida affected western Cuba as a Category 1 hurricane, passing over the provinces of Pinar del Río, Matanzas, Artemisa and Mayabeque, as well as the special municipality of Isla de la Juventud. Per the UN System in Cuba, Ida primarily affected agriculture and roofing, as well as toppling trees and knocking out power and communications. Several areas took on more than 100mm of rainfall. Authorities, who have already begun working under declaration of recovery operations, are in the midst of restoring power in affected areas.

Ida's arrival in Pinar del Río is stoking concerns, as authorities consider the province, with a rate of more than 2,800 COVID-19 cases per every 100,000 inhabitants and more than 16,000 cases in a recent 15-day span, one of the epicentres of the country's current COVID-19 surge.

Ida also affected the Cayman Islands. Authorities are completing damage assessments after Ida's strong winds and rains caused power outages. The Government has given the all-clear, with the four hurricane shelters opened on Grand Cayman set to close. Officials indicate that Ida prompted some 20 people to seek shelter.

In the Pacific, Tropical Storm Nora lashed communities in the Mexican coastal states of Colima, Jalisco and Michoacan with heavy rain, storm surge and mudslides. Nora, which has now dissipated, is the second hurricane to strike Mexico in a week after Hurricane Grace left eight dead during its inland path from the Caribbean over Tabasco, Tamaulipas and Veracruz.

**Sources:**

- UN Cuba
- Government of Cuba
- Government of the Cayman Islands
- Government of Mexico

### KEY FIGURES

#### Cases, deaths & vaccines administered (29 Aug)

Cases	<b>43,468,160</b>	<b>+1.1%</b> from 22 Aug
Deaths	<b>1,439,812</b>	<b>+1.0%</b> from 22 Aug
Vaccines	<b>490,871,528</b>	<b>+7.2%</b> from 22 Aug



Please scan QR code to access OCHA/HDX COVID-19 Data Explorer

#### Sources:

- COVID-19 Data Explorer - <https://bit.ly/3vsHRP9>
- Government of Guatemala
- Government of Cuba

### KEY FIGURES

# 600K

## HECTARES OF LAND IN EASTERN BOLIVIA BURNED BY WILDFIRES

#### Sources:

- Government of Bolivia

### LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN: COVID-19

#### GUATEMALA

With daily new cases now routinely passing 4,000-4,500 since the start of August, Guatemala is in the midst of their worst period of the COVID-19 pandemic. The country has accumulated about a third of their 450,150 total cases since the beginning of July 2021, a trend that has led health officials to project an additional 330,000 cases and more than 6,700 daily new cases through mid-October 2021 if left unchecked.

Projections for COVID-19 deaths, already at 11,600, are similarly grim, with authorities projecting an additional 6,930 deaths through the same date. The overall occupancy rate of the country's major health centres is at 97 per cent, the highest rate since the pandemic began. Vaccination efforts have so far reached 17 per cent of the population after a notable acceleration since mid-July. Just over 5 per cent of the population is fully immunized.

#### CUBA

The spread of the Delta variant and a persistent shortage in medical supplies continues to worsen Cuba's COVID-19 pandemic. Since the beginning of August, Cuba is consistently reporting more than 9,000 cases and 90 deaths each day. Of the country's total 619,600 cases, 607,500 have come in 2021 alone, nearly 50 times as many as the 12,000 reported through all of 2020. Despite having the world's highest doctor-to-patient ratio, hospitals are seeing daily caseloads of about 9,000 patients a day.

The country's health system is buckling under the strain of the surge and shortages in antibiotics, painkillers and basic medicines. While two of their locally-made vaccines have more than 90 per cent efficacy, large-scale production has been stalled for weeks due to lack of resources to source a critical component, hampering an immunization drive that has already reached more than 40 per cent of the population despite starting as recently as May 2021.

### BOLIVIA: WILDFIRES

The eastern Bolivian department of Santa Cruz is fast approaching 600,000 hectares lost to wildfires, nearly tripling the previous week's count of 200,000 burned hectares. The fires, which have led 21 active emergencies, have placed the department at 73 per cent extreme risk under the Government's SATIF early warning system.

The fires, currently affecting eight municipalities and affecting eight protected areas, are mostly concentrated in the Chiquitania savannah in Santa Cruz, as well as the Chaco plains in the south and the Pantanal – the world's

largest wetland – in the south-east. The fires so far in 2021 have prompted the deployment of nearly 2,000 people in response. Authorities indicate needs in food, water, medical teams, firefighting tools and equipment.