

Hurricane Melissa

INFORMATION NOTE No. 4

AS AT 8:00 PM (AST) ON 25th October 2025

Regional Preparedness For Hurricane Melissa

**HURRICANE WARNING IN EFFECT
FOR: JAMAICA**

**HURRICANE WATCH IN EFFECT
FOR: SOUTHWESTERN PENINSULA OF
HAITI**

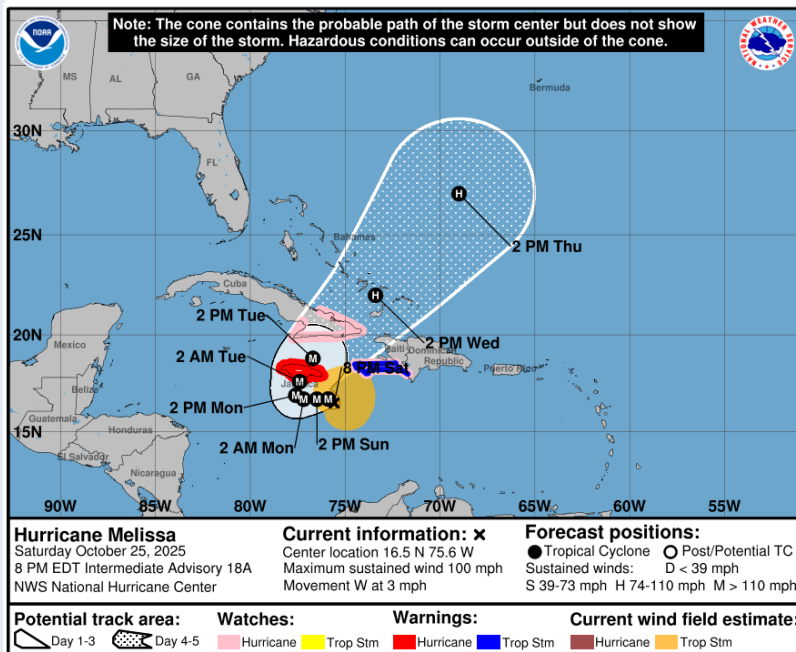
**TROPICAL STORM WARNING IN EFFECT
FOR: SOUTHWESTERN PENINSULA OF
HAITI**

**LOCATION: 16.5N 75.6W ABOUT 130 MI
(210 KM) SE OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA**

**MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS: 100 MPH
(155 KM/H)**

**MIN CENTRAL PRESSURE: 971 MB (28.68
IN)**

**PRESENT MOVEMENT: W at 3 MPH (6
KM/H)**



NHC's Warning Cone Static Image

Source: <https://www.noaa.gov/at> 8:00 PM 20251025

National Hurricane Centre Update (NHC)

The center of Hurricane Melissa was located near latitude 16.5 North, longitude 75.6 West at 8:00 p.m. AST. Maximum sustained winds are near 100 mph (155 km/h) with higher wind gusts. Rapid strengthening is expected over the next 24 hours, and the system may become a major hurricane on Sunday, October 26. Hurricane Melissa is a slow-moving system, tracking westward at near 3 mph (6 km/h) and is likely to turn to the north and northeast on Monday (October 27)/Tuesday (October 28). The centre of Melissa is expected to move near or over Jamaica during the weekend and early next week. Hurricane force winds extend 15 mi (30 km) from the centre and tropical storm force winds extend 160 mi (260 km).

Tropical storm conditions are likely to begin affecting Jamaica on Saturday 25 October (tonight), while hurricane conditions may begin by Sunday (26 October) or Monday (27 October). Tropical storm conditions (and possibly hurricane conditions) will begin affecting the watch and warning areas of Haiti tonight. Hurricane Melissa is expected to deliver heavy rainfall to eastern Jamaica and southern Haiti (15-30 inches) into Wednesday 29 October, with as much as 40 inches possible in some areas. There is a significant threat of catastrophic flash-flooding, landslides and urban flooding. All interests in the North-Western Sub-Region of CDEMA should monitor this system closely.

Caribbean Institute For Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) Analysis.

Disclaimer: The CIMH provides special weather interpretation of the current and forecasted tropical weather affecting the Caribbean region. CIMH is not an official forecasting agency.

- Hurricane Melissa is forecast to intensify rapidly over the next couple of days, becoming a major hurricane by Sunday (Figure 1). Data from both Air Force Reserve Hurricane Hunters indicate the storm has become better organised, with a 20 miles eyewall that has been coming and going.
- Nearly all of the reliable track guidance shows Melissa making landfall on Jamaica within the next 60-72 hour time frame. A turn to the north and northeast is forecast on Monday and Tuesday. On the forecast track, the center of Melissa is expected to move near or over Jamaica during the weekend and early next week.

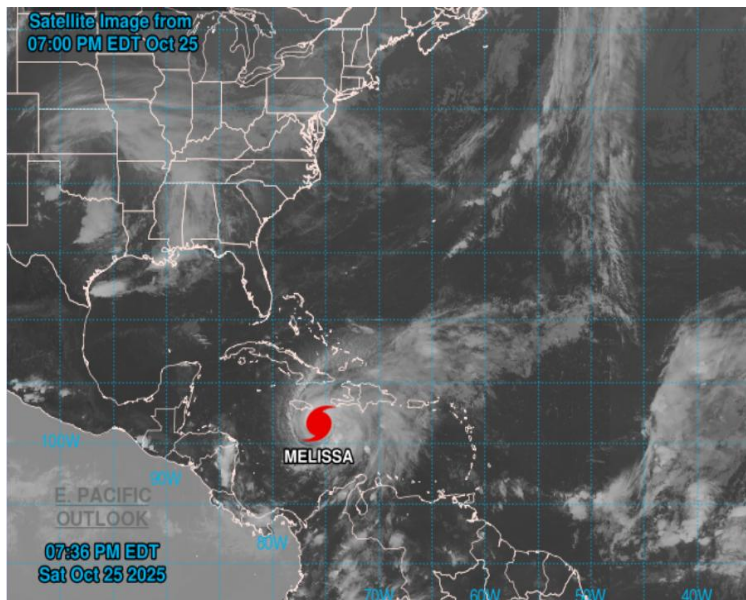


Figure 1: Satellite Imagery of Hurricane Melissa

Rainfall Impact Forecast

- Melissa is expected to bring total rainfall of 15 to 30 inches to portions of southern Hispaniola and Jamaica into Wednesday, with local maxima of 40 inches possible across eastern Jamaica and the Tiburon Peninsula of Haiti. Additional heavy rainfall is likely beyond Wednesday, but exact storm totals are still uncertain. Catastrophic flash flooding and landslides are expected across southwestern Haiti and portions of Jamaica, with the possibility of catastrophic flood impacts also extending across the remainder of southern Haiti.

Wind Impact Forecast

- Tropical storm conditions are expected to begin in Jamaica by tonight, with hurricane conditions expected by Sunday or Monday. Tropical storm conditions are expected, and hurricane conditions are possible within the watch and warning area in Haiti today.

Marine Impact Forecast

- Life-threatening storm surge is becoming more likely along the south coast of Jamaica later in the weekend or early next week. Peak storm surge heights could reach 7 to 11 feet above ground level, near and to the east of where the center of Melissa makes landfall. This storm surge will be accompanied by large and destructive waves. Swells generated by Melissa are expected to affect portions of Hispaniola and Jamaica, during the next several days.

Updates from the Threatened Participating States



HAITI

Report from the Director - General Directorate of Civil Protection (DGPC) in Haiti

➤ Forecast:

- Intense and continuous rainfall is expected in the far South, particularly in the departments of South and Grand-Anse, beginning midday today, Saturday, October 25, 2025.
- Rainfall is expected to last at least 24 hours, with accumulations of 6-12 inches, and potentially up to 15 inches in areas at high risk to flash floods and landslides.
- Depending on the hurricane's path and wind extent, rainfall may be accompanied by wind gusts of 50-75 mph (80-120 km/h), or stronger if the storm centre moves closer.
- Storm surge from the east to east-southeast are expected along the southern coast, with average wave heights of 2.5-3 metres (8-10 feet), possibly increasing to 4-6 metres (13-20 feet) as the hurricane evolves.

➤ The Haiti Hydrometeorological Unit (UHM) has prohibited all maritime navigation along Haiti's southern coastal zone until further notice.

➤ As of Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. local time, UHM together with the DGPC and the SPGRD is maintaining the following alert levels:

- « RED » Cyclone alert for the South and Grand-Anse departments
- « ORANGE » Cyclone alert for Nippes and South-East departments
- « ORANGE » Heavy rain alert for the West.

➤ Impacts

- Two (2) people have died in Fontamara, Port-au-Prince (West Department), and one (1) in Marigot due to landslide, bringing the total number of casualties to three (3). Five (5) injuries were also recorded (Figure 2).

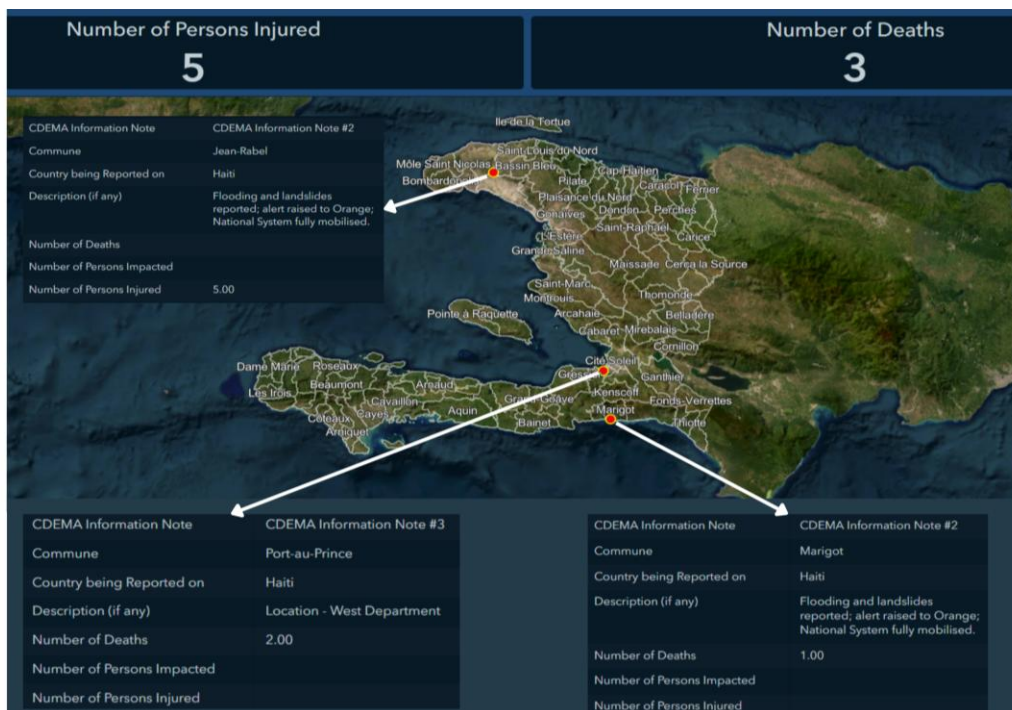


Figure 2: Geographic distribution of fatalities and injuries resulting from TS/Hurricane Melissa for Haiti

Report from the Deputy Director - Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica

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- The map displays the island of Jamaica with its parishes labeled: Saint James, Hanover, Westmoreland, Trelawny, Saint Elizabeth, Manchester, Clarendon, Saint Ann, Saint Mary, Saint Andrew, Portland, Saint Thomas, Saint Catherine, Saint George, and Saint Peter. A red outline indicates the forecast track, which passes near the northern coast. Concentric green and yellow rings represent the forecast error cone and danger area. A legend on the right provides details on population density, forecast track, error cones, watches/warnings, and hurricane force levels. The map also shows the forecast track for Hurricane Ian, with specific time and speed markers for various stages.
- Jamaica Parish**
- 2020 Population**
- VL
 - L
 - M
 - H
 - VH
- Forecast Track:**
- Forecast Error Cone and Danger Area**
- 3 Day Error Cone
 - 5 Day Error Cone
 - 34 Knot Wind Danger Area
- Watches and Warnings**
- Hurricane Warning
 - Tropical Storm Warning
 - Hurricane Watch
 - Tropical Storm Watch
- Hurricane Force (64kts+)**
- 5 to 10% Chance
 - 10 to 20% Chance
 - 20 to 30% Chance
 - 30 to 40% Chance
 - 40 to 50% Chance
 - 50 to 60% Chance
 - 60 to 70% Chance
 - 70 to 80% Chance
 - 80 to 90% Chance
 - 90 to 100% Chance
- SOURCE: NHC, HOTOSM**
- 2025-10-25 8:00 AM Sat EDT**
- Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, NOAA, USGS, OpenStreetMap contributors, community, GIS User CSU, USGS

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency, Resilience Way, Lower Estate, St. Michael, Barbados
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Updates from the Threatened Participating States

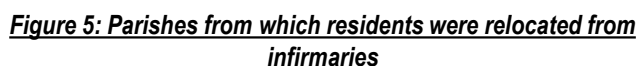


JAMAICA

Report from the Deputy Director - Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) in Jamaica (continued)

- All final response preparations should be completed today, Saturday, October 25, 2025.
- The National Disaster Plan and Response Coordination Plan has been activated, and the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) is at Level 3 (Full Activation) under ODPEM as of today, Saturday, October 25, 2025.
- The Prime Minister has declared Jamaica a "threatened area" under Part 5 of the Disaster Risk Management Act (2015).
- ODPEM activated the International Charter 'Space and Major Disaster' on Friday, October 24, 2025.
- All national response personnel are on standby, including Fire, Police, JDF, Parish Disaster Coordinators, Community Disaster Groups, CERTs, IDA teams, and volunteers.
- 881 shelters across the island are prepared for operation with two (2) already activated as at 4:00 p.m. ECT today.
- Emergency telecommunications equipment have been pre-positioned with CDEMA support.
- Relief items are being pre-positioned at the parish and shelter levels.
- National Logistics and Relief Plan has been activated, and a Logistics Coordination Group meeting was scheduled for today, October 25 at 4:00 p.m. EST to finalise operations.
- Relief coordination will be channeled through the Humanitarian Assistance Committee/Emergency Support Group.
- An Emergency Response Coordination Platform was established for coordination of all donor pledges both financial and physical. Link to the platform: <https://escpjamaica.dfamonitoring.org/en>.
- Nearly 100 vulnerable communities have been identified and targeted SMS alerts are being sent via telecommunications providers Digicel and FLOW.
- ODPEM has three (3) major warehouses and several satellite facilities available for storage capacity needs.
- The Norman Manley International Airport is scheduled to close at 8:00 p.m. ECT, or after the last arriving flight.
- Daily press briefings have occurred for the period October 21-25, 2025, and will continue even if future updates may shift to online formats.
- The government and all key ministries remain on full alert and mobilised for both the hurricane's arrival and its aftermath.

- A Government Press Briefing was held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. EST and it was announced that the Minister of Local Government and Community Development will make a formal request to the Prime Minister for compulsory evacuation orders in high-risk communities such as Rocky Point (Clarendon), Taylor Land (Bull Bay), New Haven, Riverton City (Kingston/St. Andrew), Port Royal and other flood-prone coastal areas (Figure 4).
- Residents of three (3) infirmaries near coastal areas in St. Ann, Hanover, and Trelawny already relocated to safe ground (Figure 5).



Updates from the Threatened Participating States



THE BAHAMAS

Report from the Managing Director - Disaster Risk Management Authority

- Disaster alerts and hurricane warnings are expected to be issued on Sunday, October 26, 2025.
- Evacuation plans for southeastern islands are underway and an estimated 1,500 residents are targeted for evacuation from high-risk islands
- Administrative preparations have begun with local and national authorities and foreign partner support for evacuation.
- Further internal meetings to be held and full activation expected by Monday, October 27.



THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Report from the Director - Hazard Management Cayman Islands (HCLI)

- HCLI and Cayman Islands National Weather Service (CINWS) have hosted three (3) update meetings in relation to the progress of Hurricane Melissa.
- Daily briefings will be held with UKFCDO, NHME/NHM Council, and the Sister Islands.
- Under the CSD Operational Plan, Starlink connectivity will be available should the event escalate to a Watch phase.
- A Marine Severe Weather Advisory is in effect.
- Sandbag stations are open in various areas, and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Cayman Islands Red Cross (CIRC) and Cayman Islands Fire Service (CIFS) are assisting with filling sandbags. These areas are: West Bay Fire Station, Outpost Street off Linford Pierson Highway, Agriculture Grounds, Frank Sound Fire Station, Cotton Tree and Watering Place Gardens (Cayman Brac), and District Officer's Office (Little Cayman) (Figure 6).



Figure 6: Sandbag Stations Locations

- NEOC activation planning is underway, and the evacuation plan has been reviewed.
- Shelter activation plan is ready, and shelter managers are on standby.
- Telecommunications and power systems have been tested, and no further maintenance is planned.
- Discussions have begun with Education Services to determine whether school closures are required.
- There are currently 6,019 visitors total on Cayman Islands with 109 visitors in Sisters Islands – 31 in Little Cayman, 78 Cayman Brac (Figure 7).

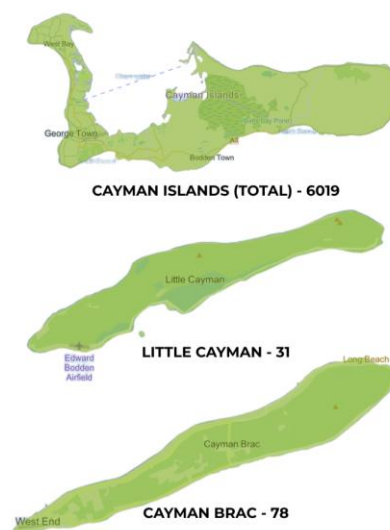


Figure 7: Number of Visitors on Cayman Islands

Updates from the CDPG Thematic Working Groups (TWG)

Coordination Thematic Working Group

- The TWG is strengthening coordination posture in anticipation of a formal activation of the RCC.
- A total of two (2) Regional Response Mechanism Teams remain deployed in Jamaica; one (1) CETT, and one (1) COST.
- OCHA is aiming to deploy two (2) representatives to Jamaica.
- The Copernicus Emergency Mapping service will be activated.
- OCHA's Assessment and Analysis Cell will be activated with support from MAP Action, PDC, and ACAPS for information management.
- OCHA's Haiti office continues coordination and preparedness in southern Haiti, supporting early response activities through CERF anticipatory action funding (cash assistance, early warning messaging).
- CDEMA has developed a scenario-based operational plan in collaboration with the CDPG to guide planning.
- Convened the Caribbean Development Partners Group (CDPG) Meeting #4 for Hurricane Melissa at 1:00 PM AST, Friday, October 25, 2025, to coordinate preparedness actions and exchange information.
- All other updates remain the same.
- The CDEMA Information Note #4 published.

Civil-Military Coordination Thematic Working Group

- Products have been developed and shared to support decision-making in relation to storm surge risk at the Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston.
- All other updates remain the same.

Early Recovery Thematic Working Group

- A meeting of the TWG will be convened tomorrow, Sunday, October 26, 2025.
- All other updates remain the same.

Private Sector Thematic Working Group

- TWG met today, Saturday, October 25, and are mapping available business resources, and developing tools to assess private sector capacity.
- The TWG is also encouraging their networks towards a Caribbean-wide coordination approach to response.
- An invitation was issued for new private sector partners to join the working group.

Protection Thematic Working Group

- UN Women has reached out to its regional office to explore how to scale up engagement and support despite limited capacity.
- Agencies within the Protection TWG remain ready to deploy and engage as required.
- Further updates will be provided at the next meeting.

Relief and Logistics Thematic Working Group

- WFP has increased presence on the ground in Jamaica.
- WFP is preparing 2,000 food kits for initial response in Jamaica and exploring cash-based assistance.
- WFP is also working with third/fourth-party logistics providers on sea and air transport options and planning for possible sea bridge/air bridge operations to move relief rapidly next week.
- A request is being made to all partners to share supply chain demands and inventory data for coordinated logistics planning.
- An operational planning meeting of the Emergency Response Coordination Group and Logistics Coordination Group will be held today, Saturday, October 25. A CONOPS is being refined and shared.
- All actions are being coordinated with the NEOC and ODPEM through the TWG.
- RLTWG website: <https://logcluster.org/en/relief-and-logistics-thematic-working-group-rltwg>

Water Sanitation & Hygiene Thematic Working Group

- Regional water utilities' mutual aid mechanism is being activated and utilities across the Caribbean stand ready to assist the NWC in Jamaica if required.
- UNICEF is coordinating with the RLTWG to move supplies from Panama and Barbados to Jamaica.
- Local partners and NGOs have some WASH items in Jamaica for immediate distribution.
- UNICEF is linking national coordination efforts in Jamaica with the regional WASH TWG to ensure ODPEM has a clear understanding of immediately available resources.

Summary

- Thanks are extended to all RRM partners for their continued support to regional preparedness, response and recovery.
- CDEMA, in collaboration with CIMH and the RRM partners, will continue to monitor the progress of Tropical Storm Melissa, maintain communication with threatened Participating States, and issue updates to all partners as needed.