



# COVID 19 RESPONSE SITUATION UPDATE FOR GUYANA

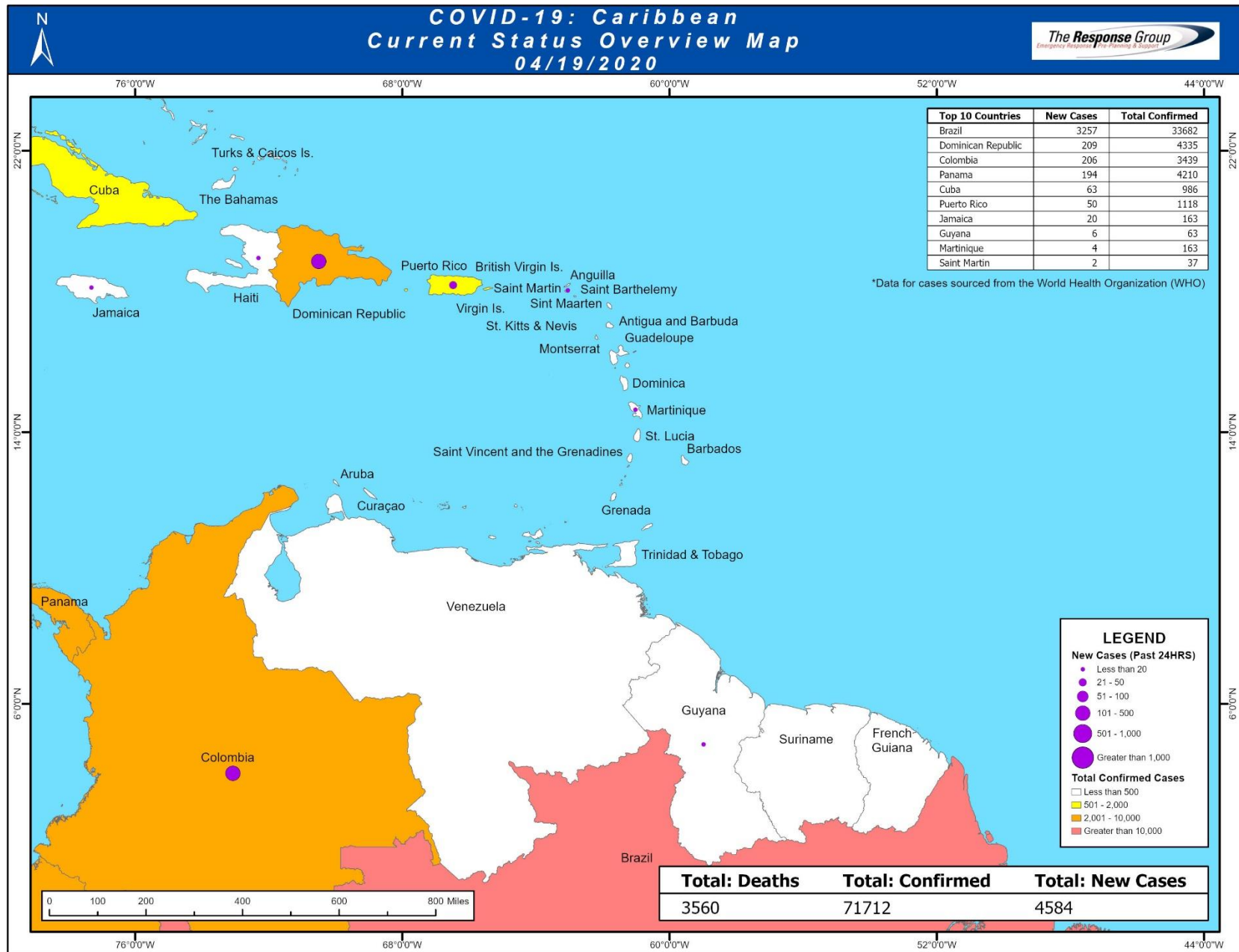
NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER  
(NEOC)

## **SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD** (APRIL 12 – 19, 2020)

This update offers a summary of the COVID 19 Pandemic in Guyana. It also outlines the response actions taken by the country to mitigate the impacts and prevent the transmission of COVID 19. This report highlights progress made and outlines key challenges confronted to date. Recommendations will also be presented as a mechanism to arrive at robust solutions to ultimately save lives and return the country to normalcy as quickly as possible.

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Civil Defence Commission

# GLOBAL AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL SITUATION



## GUYANA'S COVID 19 CASES TIMELINE AS AT APRIL 19, 2020

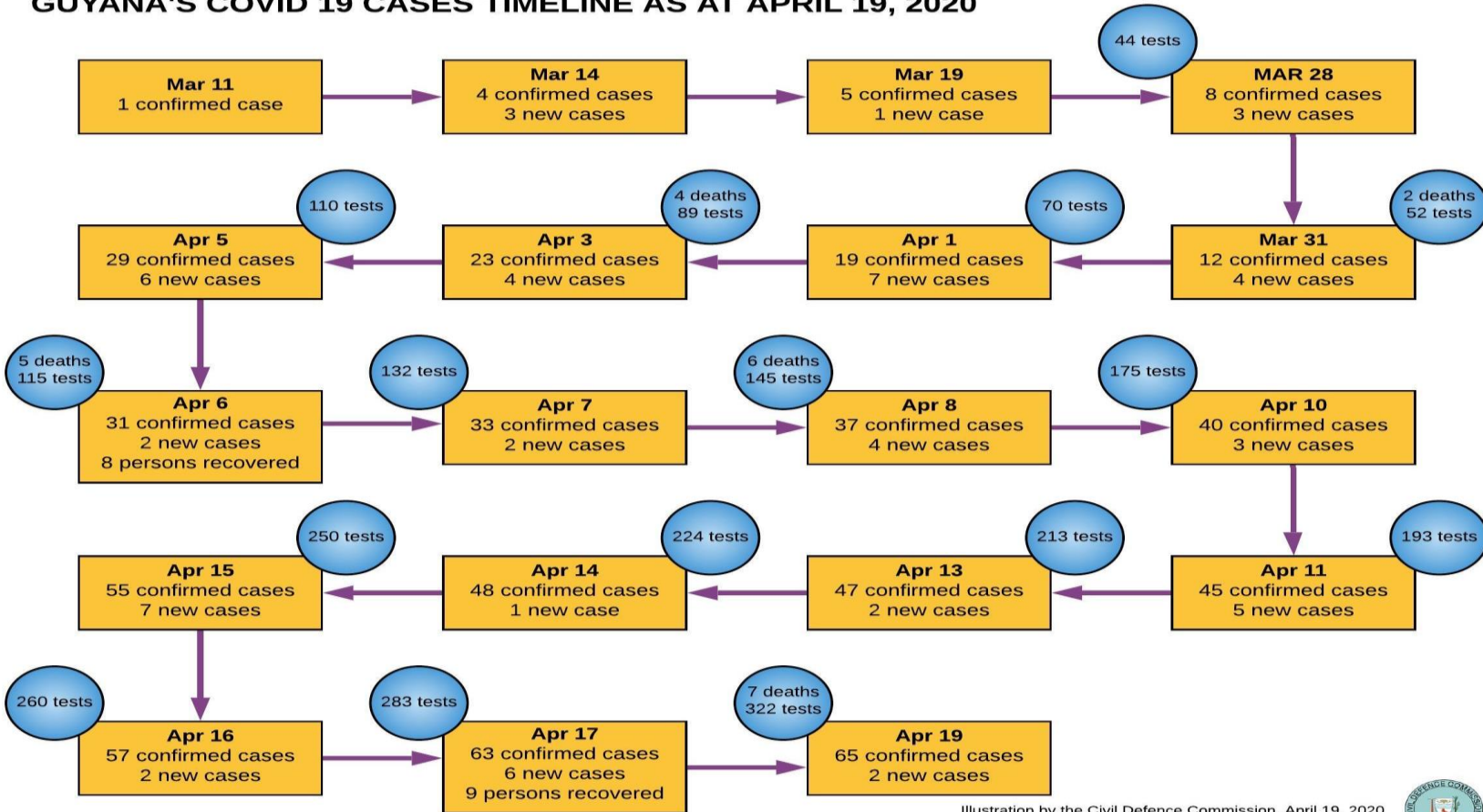


Illustration by the Civil Defence Commission, April 19, 2020



### NATIONAL SUMMARY

# of persons recovered – **9**  
 # of persons in institutional isolation – **49**  
 # of persons in institutional quarantine – **21**  
 # of tests conducted – **322**  
 # of deaths – **7**  
 # of confirmed cases - **65**

Coronavirus Cases:

**2,404,234**

[view by country](#)

Deaths:

**164,891**

Recovered:

**624,713**

Worldwide Summary, Source: [worldometers.info](http://worldometers.info)

## NATIONAL RESPONSE

EXECUTIVE	TRANSPORT	HEALTH & CLINICAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National COVID-19 Task Force appointed a sub-committee to advise on social assistance – Apr 17</li> <li>• NEOC and HEOC continue operations</li> <li>• Emergency Order issued by Minister of Public Health outlining restrictions (on social activities, curfew, restrictions for non-essential workers, and travel_ remains in place – Apr 3 for one month</li> <li>• National curfew remains in place, from 6pm to 6am with only essential services allowed to be operational during that time of the day – from Apr 3 for one month</li> <li>• Staff of public service agencies continue to work from home and in some cases remain on call</li> <li>• Citizens mandated to wear masks in businesses and on essential services' premises – Apr 9</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National COVID-19 granted approval to some specially requested flights to repatriate foreign nationals in Guyana</li> <li>• 150 Canadian citizens repatriated – Apr 18</li> <li>• Canawaima Ferry remains suspended</li> <li>• Cheddi Jagan and Eugene F. Correia International Airports remain closed</li> <li>• All border entry points (formal and informal) that are shared with Suriname, Brazil and Venezuela remain closed</li> <li>• All ground, sea and air transport services are mandated to promote and practice social distancing by only carrying a maximum of 50% of passengers at any one time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Reference Laboratory conducting COVID-19 Tests</li> <li>• Continued management of isolation and quarantine facilities</li> <li>• Home Quarantine continues</li> <li>• Contact tracing, institutional isolation, clinical care and management for all positive cases</li> <li>• Intensive care for critical patients continues</li> <li>• Institutional quarantine for all with established contact with positive persons</li> <li>• Use of facemasks, personal hygiene and social distancing promoted as key prevention methods</li> <li>• Persons in isolation/quarantine are provided psychological support through the Mental Health Unit of the MOSP</li> <li>• Screening of visitors and employees on hospital grounds continues</li> <li>• Reporting of possible cases through COVID-19 mobile app commenced</li> <li>• National COVID-19 Task Force granted approval for private institutions to test for COVID-19</li> <li>• Additional 7,000 testing kits expected from PAHO/WHO</li> <li>• Retrofitting works at Ocean View Hotel as specialised care facility for COVID-19 patients is ongoing</li> <li>• Proposed the setting up of COVID-19 screening units at “hot spots” where a significant number of reports are received</li> </ul>

ECONOMIC	EDUCATION	GENERAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Republic Bank pledges donation of \$31.5M to Guyana's COVID-19 fight</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closure of public schools extended indefinitely</li> <li>University of Guyana has extended current semester to July to facilitate virtual teaching</li> <li>University of Guyana announced various forms of virtual assessment be done in place of final exams</li> <li>Public Health Advisories continue to be circulated</li> <li>MOE providing continued academic learning online via social media platforms, television, and radio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of distribution of hampers by organisations and individuals across the country by the CDC</li> <li>Continued production and distribution of locally made face masks</li> <li>Visitation remain prohibited at the following sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hugo Chavez Rehabilitation and Reintegration Center</li> <li>New Opportunity Corps</li> <li>Palms &amp; Geriatric Facilities</li> <li>Night Shelter</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## NATIONAL QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION FACILITIES

STATUS	NAME OF FACILITY	FACILITIES AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT	CAPACITY	# OF COVID 19 PATIENTS
<b>ACTIVE</b>	Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation	Intensive Care Unit for COVID-19 patients, isolation facilities, medical equipment, and personnel	16	6
	West Demerara Regional Hospital	Isolation and quarantine facilities for COVID-19 patients, medical equipment, and personnel	36	17
	Diamond Diagnostic Center	Isolation facility, medical equipment, and personnel	70	29
	Madewini Youth Center	Quarantine facilities, medical personnel	132	8 (2 children)
<b>PLANNED</b>	Ocean View International Hotel	Proposed specialised care facility for COVID-19 patients	TBD	0
	Cliff Anderson Sports Hall	Proposed quarantine facility, Cots installed	350	0
	National Gymnasium	Proposed quarantine facility, structural works ongoing	200	0

<b>PLANNED</b>	Camp Alpha	Proposed quarantine facility	TBD	0
	Camp Wesleyana	Proposed quarantine facility	TBD	0
	Camp Kanuku	Proposed quarantine facility	TBD	0

## REGIONAL RESPONSE

ACTION	REGIONS									
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
Cancellation or Postponed Public Events	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Curfew from 6pm to 6 am	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sanitisation Exercises targeting Public Facilities				✓		✓				✓
Public Information Campaign										✓
Activation of REOC/Disaster Committee	✓				✓					✓
Designated Isolation and Quarantine Facilities	✓		✓	✓		✓				
Health Workers trained to Respond to COVID 19	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Managing Positive Cases	✓		✓	✓		✓				
Established COVID-19 Hotlines	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Private Institutions Referring and Reporting				✓						

## PARTNER ACTIONS

PRIVATE SECTOR	
Organisation	Action
PSC, GCCI, GMSA	Continues coordination of private sector responses
Roy's Quality Spices	Donated food items for hampers
Pomeroon Oil Mills	Donated food items for hampers
Kan Distributions	Donated food items for hampers
Guyana National Shipping Corporation	Donated container for storage of food items
Muneshwers Limited	Donated container for storage of food items
SAJRice Group Inc.	Donated food items for hampers
Essequibo Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Donated 50 food hampers and masks to households
JAPARTS	Donated food items for hampers
Swiss	Donated food items for hampers
SBM Offshore	Volunteered to procure and donate PPEs from China to MoPH
Beepats	Financial donations to response efforts
Toolsie Persaud Limited Hardware, Toolsie Persaud Quarries	Financial donations to the response effort

BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL	
Organisation	Action
United Nations (UN)	Commenced engagements with NEOC to support enhancement of communications, and socio-economic needs assessment; working to finalise same with NEOC
UNICEF (Guyana)	Working with CDC/NEOC to finalise terms for provision of financial support for identification of impacts and needs of vulnerable population
PAHO/WHO	Expected to donate an additional 7,000 testing kits; continued technical support and advice to MoPH
UNHCR	Finalising provision of remanufactured housing units for quarantining and training to assemble
Canadian High Commission	Coordinated repatriation of 150 Canadian nationals (humanitarian flight operated by WestJet)
IOM	Finalising possibility of provision of hampers to migrants

CIVIL SOCIETY & NGOs	
Organisation	Action
Success Mandir	Donated 120 hampers to vulnerable populations
Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Foundation	Installed 23 public wash sinks in strategic locations in Region 2
Food for the Poor	Provided food items, sanitation supplies and beddings to support response
Leo's Club of Stabroek	Donated 10 hampers for distribution
Guyana Deaf Association	Assisting NEOC in identification of vulnerable persons with disabilities

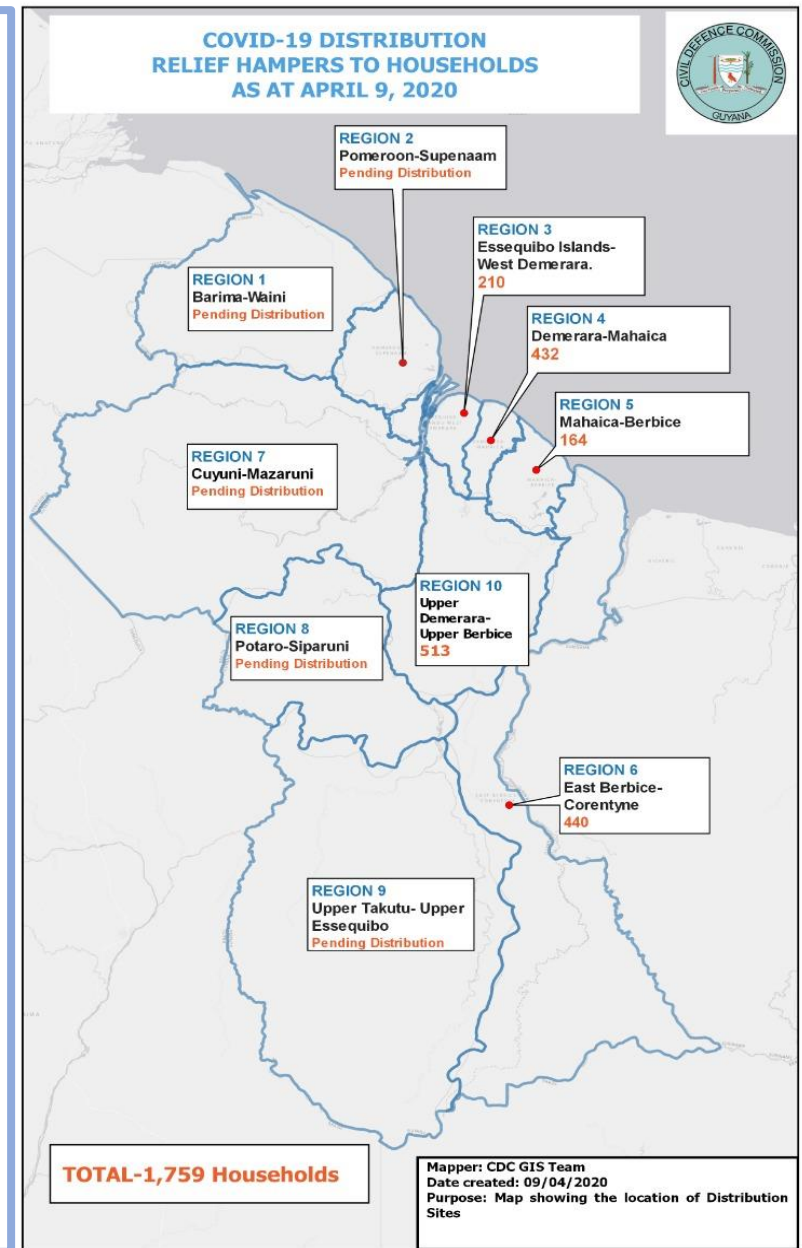
PUBLIC SECTOR	
Organisation	Action
Guyana Police Force	Providing vehicle escorts, and security for isolation and quarantine facilities
Ministry of Social Protection	Exploring avenues for alternative system for payment of pension to reduce mass gathering (in collaboration with NIS)
M&CC, MoA	Exploring opportunities for establishing alternative farmers' fresh food market

OTHERS	
Organisation	Action
PPP/C	Continues to distribute food hampers through its COVID-19 Response Multi-Stakeholder forum, distributed masks and food hampers
COVID19 Task Force Guyana (established group)	Donated food hampers to various persons
Carmen Thomas	Donated facemasks for distribution
Ashley McLeod	Donated facemasks for distribution

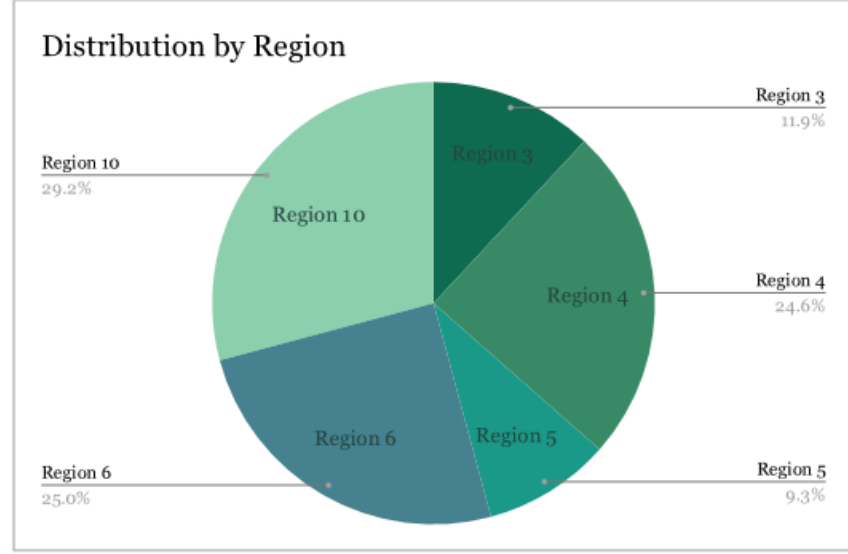
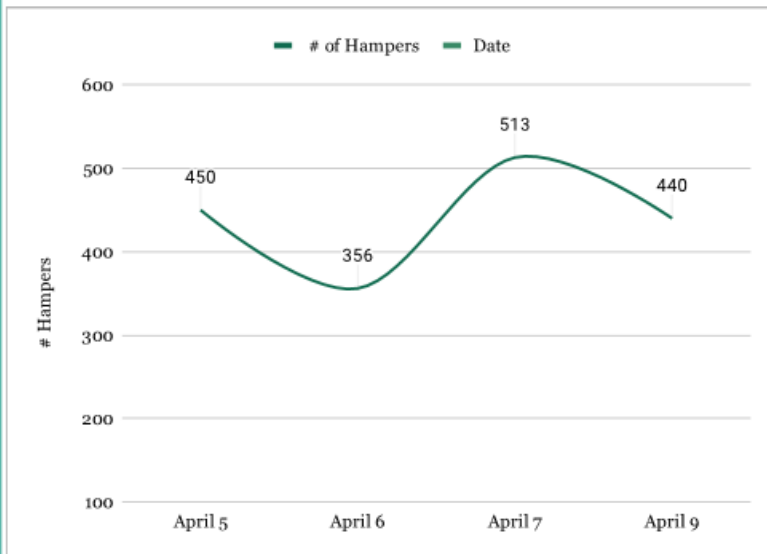


# CIVIL DEFENCE COMMISSION'S ACTIONS

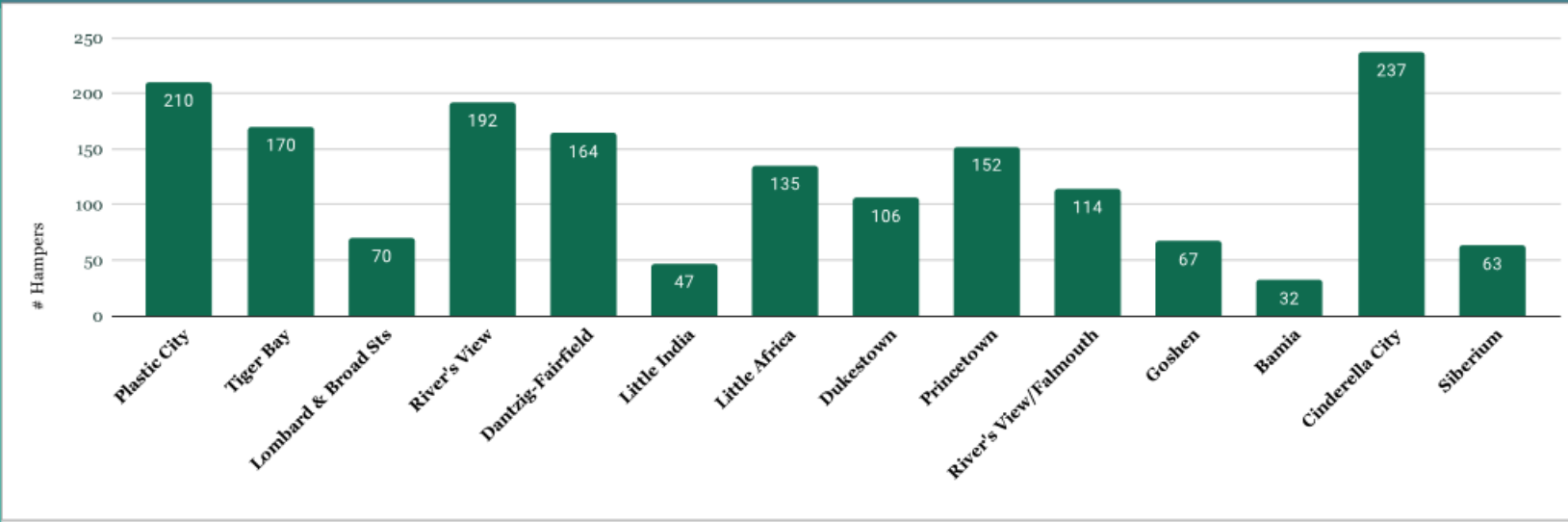
- Leading the functioning of the National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC)
- Maintaining a ready and functioning 24 hours National Emergency Monitoring System to augment the national response
- Liaising closely with the Health Emergency Center (HEOC) to enhance operational efficiency
- Providing key recommendations to members of the Task Force on strategic and tactical consideration to guide national response efforts
- Coordinating and managing volunteers engaged in various roles and functions of the response
- Liaising with groups and organisations to track vulnerable persons and impacts, and to prioritise for distribution of hampers
- Liaising with groups and organisations to track donations of relief supplies across the country
- Supporting the MoPH in coordination of quarantine and isolation facilities
- Conducted joint assessments to identify suitable locations that may be used as isolation and quarantine facilities
- Conducted focused meetings with Private Sector, governmental and non-governmental partners to streamline response efforts
- Conducted meeting with relevant partners to explore possibility of alternative farmers' fresh food markets
- Conducted meeting with MoSP and other relevant partners to explore alternative mechanisms for payment of pensions to promote social distancing
- Conducted assessment of the needs of the Orealla/Siparuta community in support of the MOFA to seek diplomatic solutions on the blockade established as a key measure to contain COVID19 by the Surinamese authorities.



# NEOC'S COVID-19 DISTRIBUTIONS



## Distribution by Community



## CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CHALLENGES	RECOMMENDATIONS
COVID-19 travel restrictions in Guyana and Suriname of travel resulting in severe disruption to living and livelihood activities for indigenous communities on both sides of the border frontier along the Corentyne River, especially Orealla and Siparuta	National COVID-19 Task Force should engage Surinamese officials on how restrictions can be amended to reduce disruptions
Reports were received that COVID-19 travel restrictions have resulted in drastic increase in airfare and freight costs to interior Regions	National COVID-19 Task Force should activate the Finance and Economic Recovery Working Group to address short, medium and long term financial matters.
Low adherence to stay home and social distancing orders	Enforcement of strict penalties for violators of orders
High level of misconceptions about the Coronavirus, recommendations and current mitigative and preventative actions	Coordination of press conferences on COVID-19 through the Joint Information Center to address the misconceptions and concerns

## Contact the CDC

### NATIONAL EMERGENCY MONITORING SYSTEM

**Address:** Civil Defence Commission, Thomas Road, Thomas Lands, Georgetown

**Telephone:** (592) 226-1114, 226-8815, 226-1027 or 225-5847

**NEMS 24 Hours Hotline:**  
(592) 600-7500

**Email:** [cadnems@gmail.com](mailto:cadnems@gmail.com)

## HEOC Hotlines

(592) 231-1166, 226-7480, 624-6674, 624-3067, 180, 181

**Region 1:** (592) 674-8047

**Region 2:** (592) 682-4210

**Region 3:** (592) 254-0313, 254-1261

**Region 5:** (592) 624-2000/3000/9000

**Region 6:** (592) 682-3055, 668-4449

**Region 7:** (592) 675-9131, 654-0405, 697-0656

**Region 8:** (592) 608-7517

**Region 9:** (592) 777-2206

**Region 10:** (592) 444-3007

## URGENT NEEDS

- Implementation of assessment to identify priority needs and impacts to guide social interventions
- Medical supplies and equipment (including Personal Protective Equipment) to support medical response
- Laboratory agents and consumables for testing

## PRIORITY ACTIONS

- Coordination of Press Conference of Joint Information Center
- Retrofitting/equipping of planned quarantine facilities
- Conduct of socio-economic needs assessments to guide medium and long-term response
- Conduct meeting with the Surinamese Government to address the impact travel restriction has communities of Orealla and Siparuta in the Corentyne River