

SEPTEMBER 03, 2021

VAX FACTS NEWS BULLETIN



COVID jab 'a must for new US green card' – US Embassy

The United States is to impose a vaccine mandate on anyone who wants to be an immigrant, the holder of the so-called green card. From next month, the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will require all age-appropriate applicants for US immigrant visa worldwide to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 for immigrant visa consideration. There are limited exemptions. The website of the US Embassy pointed out that all US immigrant visa applicants are required to complete a medical examination as part of the normal application process. “Effective October 1, a completed COVID- 19 vaccine series is a new CDC requirement for US immigrant visa medical examinations,” the embassy said. “The US Department of State is currently working with the CDC to implement this requirement. This requirement does not apply to non-immigrant visa (NIV) classes such as tourist or student visas.” Proof of full COVID-19 vaccination will be required along with the other vaccination requirements already in place relating to green card applications.

Source: <https://barbadostoday.bb/2021/09/03/covid-jab-a-must-for-new-us-green-card-embassy/>








Caribbean
Vulnerable
Communities

COVID-19: Cuba plans to vaccinate all 2 years and older by December

Cuba started vaccinating teens against COVID-19 this week and young children from mid-September as it aims to vaccinate 90% of the population by December, state-run media said on Wednesday (September 1). All children aged 2 to 18 will receive at least two doses of the Cuban-developed Soberana-2 vaccine starting from September 3 onwards. According to the state-owned Finlay Institute studies of vaccine in minors have found that it is safe and triggers a stronger immune response in children than in adults. The decision was declared at a weekly meeting of leaders and scientists to confront the pandemic on the island, which is currently struggling with a delta-variant-driven current wave that has strained its health system.

Source: <https://wicnews.com/caribbean/cuba/covid-19-cuba-plans-to-vaccinate-all-2-years-and-older-by-december-391337295/>

Covid-19 Vaccine Tracker : Top 5 Caribbean Countries as at September 2, 2021

COUNTRY		FULLY VACCINATED	TOTAL DOSES GIVEN
	Trinidad & Tobago	404,221	917,669
	Guyana	161,022	474,491
	Jamaica	145,171	550,010
	Suriname	138,909	342,767
	Barbados	94,361	204,266

Source: <https://news.google.com/covid19/map>



Jamaican Government Looking To Bolster COVID-19 Vaccine Take-Up In Communities

Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness, has announced plans by the government to recruit 40 persons in each of the 63 constituencies to assist in driving greater coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine take-up in communities. Mr. Holness said the individuals, who would be vaccinated, will be employed on a temporary basis to work with members of Parliament (MPs) and community leaders, among others, "to go into the rural townships and get people to come out and take the vaccines".

Source: <https://bit.ly/3jHvcEf>

1 in 4 people in the region fully vaccinated against COVID-19, says PAHO

Pan American Health Organization Director Carissa F. Etienne says PAHO is accelerating its drive to expand vaccine access throughout the region. This after more than a third of the countries in the region are yet to have much of their population fully vaccinated. The PAHO Director noted that 75% of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean are yet to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Dr. Etienne said that in total, 540 million COVID-19 vaccine doses must be delivered to ensure that all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean can cover at least 60% of their populations.

Source: <https://bit.ly/3zljcYP>

CARPHA report shows 74% acceptance for COVID-19 vaccine in 6 Caribbean countries

The CARPHA report was produced from a surveys done between 17th February and 18th June 2021 in Curacao, Barbados, Guyana, Saint Lucia, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The study revealed that 74% of the citizens in these countries are willing to get vaccinated. The report also noted that 52.9% of participants had no concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine, while 47.1% indicated that they had concerns. The top three concerns were: the speed at which the vaccines were created, the side effects of the vaccine, and not having enough knowledge.

Source: <https://bit.ly/3mZLfzn>

