

Jamaica - Tropical Storm 'Laura' Causes Heavy Rainfall and Adds Further Challenges to Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic

- Tropical storm 'Laura' caused heavy rainfall in parts of the country on August 23 and 24
- Flooding and landslides were reported
- Advisory was issued for travelers as severe waterlogging caused travel disruption
- Most affected areas are Kingston, St Andrew, and St Thomas
- On August 24, Meteorological Service of Jamaica issued flood warning for all low-lying and flood-prone areas of all parishes
- This comes as country is trying to deal with an alarming spike in COVID-19 cases in the country
- On August 23, Jamaica registered 116 additional COVID-19 cases, bringing its national tally to 1,529
- Supply Wisdom is continuously monitoring the situation and will alert you to any relevant developments

Source(s)

<https://news.yahoo.com/streets-flooded-jamaica-tropical-storm-083301303.html>

<http://www.loopjamaica.com/content/flash-flood-watch-issued-all-parishes-0>

<https://www.loopjamaica.com/content/watch-flood-rains-result-blocked-roads-st-andrew-and-st-thomas>

https://www.leadertelegram.com/news/world/surging-covid-prompts-jamaica-prime-minister-to-suspend-campaign-ahead-of-sept-3-vote/article_47cb655f-1240-5a91-a7c4-086106e51667.html

Targets Affected:

Jamaica

Guidance

Actions to consider:

- It is important for SW Subscribers to determine if procedures for evacuating employees to safe locations are in place, if required
- Determine if all staff and travelers in Jamaica are monitoring local weather, government warnings, and updates
- Firms with operations in the region should review their measures to mitigate the risk posed by such natural calamities
- Determine if current Business Continuity Plans of third parties/captive units account for sudden shortage or unavailability of resources in the event of several team members being unable to commute to the workplace due to adverse weather conditions
- SW Subscribers should ensure appropriate Business Continuity Plans and Programs are activated
- Consider implementing suggested actions related to 'Increase in Positive Cases/Deaths' under the 'COVID-19: Actions to Consider' section below / next page

Impact level Definitions

Impact Level	Definitions
Immediate	Certain - Supply Wisdom recommends considering prompt action. Examples of Immediate level alert events may include bankruptcy filings, data breaches, unexpected curfews, strikes, power black-outs, major geo-political events etc.
High	Highly likely to occur in the near term (within 3 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends being in a state of readiness to take quick action. Examples of High level alert events may include withdrawal of rating by ratings agencies, hostile takeover, multiple cyber-attacks, new business policies causing significant hardship etc.
Medium	Likely to occur in the mid-term (within 3 to 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends reviewing current mitigation steps and being ready to take proactive actions if and when situation deteriorates further. Examples of Medium level alert events may include unplanned C-level exits, suppliers caught in bribery cases, economy slipping into recession.
Low	Possible in the long-term (after 6 months) - Supply Wisdom recommends taking proactive action if situation does not resolve. Examples of Low level alert events may include lawsuits filed against suppliers, client losses, air pollution alerts issued by country's local authorities, unexpected holidays announced for the location etc.
Informational	The event is pertinent information but does not have a risk element associated with it. Examples of Info level alert events may include launch of new solutions, partnerships signed, industry outlook, positive changes in government policies, announcements regarding launch of software parks/ free trade zones/special economic zones etc.