

# Jamaica – October 28, 2025, 00Z UTC

## SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Storm Melissa poses a significant risk to Jamaica as of October 28, 2025, 00Z UTC, with elevated humanitarian concern based on the latest forecast. The primary threat comes from population exposure and children at risk in several major administrative areas. Impact analysis shows substantial potential for escalation, though the expected scenario indicates a localized risk focused mainly in the northwest and central regions.

Most areas are seeing increases in exposed population compared to the previous forecast run, with rapid escalation in Saint James, Clarendon, and Saint Elizabeth. National-level planning should focus on these high-risk zones while monitoring for possible scenario escalation.

## SECTION 2: EXPECTED IMPACT

### Expected Impacts (at the 50kt wind threshold)

- Forecast date and run time: October 28, 2025 00Z UTC
- Expected population at risk: 260,194
- Expected children at risk: 71,968 total children (52,691 school-age children ages 5-15, 19,277 infants ages 0-4)
- Expected schools at risk: 31
- Expected health centers at risk: 30

This expected level of impact reflects a major disruption to daily life and services, with high concentrations of risk in Saint James, Saint Elizabeth, Hanover, and Westmoreland. The affected population includes tens of thousands of vulnerable children and disrupts core health and education infrastructure. Focused response in the most exposed areas is recommended.

Administrative Area	Expected Population	Expected Children	Expected Schools	Expected Health Centers
Saint James	81,686	22,404	10	15
Saint Elizabeth	31,253	8,328	5	5
Hanover	31,081	8,929	5	2
Westmoreland	28,276	8,038	4	5

Administrative Area	Expected Population	Expected Children	Expected Schools	Expected Health Centers
Saint Ann	27,010	7,387	1	1
Trelawny	19,328	5,402	2	1
Clarendon	15,360	4,456	2	0
Saint Mary	9,819	2,687	0	0
Saint Catherine	9,258	2,462	2	1
Manchester	6,248	1,645	0	0
Saint Thomas	398	110	0	0
Portland	273	71	0	0
Saint Andrew	200	49	0	0
Kingston	0	0	0	0

### Worst-Case Scenario

- Worst-case scenario: Ensemble Member #8 with 980,352 population at risk
- Worst-case children at risk: 266,620 total children (196,817 school-age children ages 5-15, 69,803 infants ages 0-4)
- Worst-case schools at risk: 113
- Worst-case health centers at risk: 84

Worst-case impacts are 3.8 times higher than expected, at the 50kt wind threshold. This scenario signals the possibility for much greater disruption, with statewide reach and severe consequences, especially considering rapid escalation in certain ensemble members reflecting severe but less likely outcomes.

## SECTION 3: SCENARIO ANALYSIS

### Wind Thresholds Comparison

Wind Threshold (kt)	Expected Population	Expected Children	Expected Schools	Expected Health Centers
34	1,963,171	523,086	390	195
40	945,285	254,984	164	101
50	260,194	71,968	31	30

Wind Threshold (kt)	Expected Population	Expected Children	Expected Schools	Expected Health Centers
64	64,944	18,006	8	9
83	5,496	1,543	1	1
96	15	4	0	0
113	0	0	0	0
137	0	0	0	0

Analyzing the distribution for the 50kt threshold, impacts across 42 ensemble members range from 1,631 to 980,352, with a median of 224,394 and mean of 315,950. About 9.5% of ensemble members project impacts within 20% of worst-case, while the rest cluster around more moderate risk levels—suggesting concentrated but not widespread extreme scenarios.

**The worst-case scenario is PLAUSIBLE but NOT MOST LIKELY.** 9.5% of scenarios (4 out of 42) project severe, near worst-case outcomes, and the worst-case population is 4.4 times higher than the median scenario. While most ensemble members indicate moderate disruptions, the severity and size of the worst-case make it a significant escalation risk that warrants contingency planning, but not primary focus. Most likely, actual impacts will align more closely with the expected scenario, but rapid escalation remains possible.

If conditions worsen, impacts could escalate from around 260,194 expected at 50kt, toward 980,352 in the most severe scenario. At higher wind thresholds (64kt and above), expected populations drop sharply—down to 64,944 at 64kt and below 5,500 at 83kt, representing a 96.7% reduction from impacts at 34kt. This shows greatest vulnerability remains concentrated at lower thresholds, with rapid attenuation at higher severities.

## SECTION 4: TREND ANALYSIS

Comparing the current forecast (October 28, 2025 00Z UTC) to the previous run (October 27, 2025 18Z UTC), exposed populations have increased substantially across most admin areas, especially in Saint James (+20,409), Clarendon (+10,755), and Saint Elizabeth (+10,207). These changes reflect rapid escalation and a spreading risk footprint, with only Kingston showing stability at zero.

The table below shows admin-level trend comparisons at the 50kt threshold:

Administrative Area	Current	Previous	Change
Saint James	81,686	61,277	+20,409
Clarendon	15,360	4,605	+10,755
Saint Elizabeth	31,253	21,046	+10,207

Administrative Area	Current	Previous	Change
Saint Catherine	9,258	217	+9,041
Saint Ann	27,010	18,441	+8,569
Saint Mary	9,819	1,700	+8,119
Hanover	31,081	24,665	+6,416
Trelawny	19,328	13,833	+5,495
Westmoreland	28,276	24,078	+4,198
Manchester	6,248	3,880	+2,368
Saint Thomas	398	0	+398
Portland	273	68	+205
Saint Andrew	200	0	+200
Kingston	0	0	0

Escalation is focused in the northwest, central, and southeastern zones, with all major areas except Kingston showing increases. Most increases are substantial, especially in Saint James and Clarendon (33% and 233% increases respectively), with only negligible changes in smaller areas. Kingston remains stable, signaling unchanged risk.

Improvement is absent; all areas except Kingston worsened (positive change values). Response planning should prioritize Saint James, Clarendon, and Saint Elizabeth, where absolute and percentage escalation are highest.

## SECTION 5: KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Storm Melissa presents a significant risk to Jamaica on October 28, 2025, 00Z UTC, with rapid escalation of exposed population, especially at the 50kt threshold.
- Highest-risk administrative areas are Saint James, Clarendon, and Saint Elizabeth, each with over 10,000 new exposed individuals compared to the previous run.
- Overall threat level is escalating, with most areas worsening and contingency planning advised for plausible worst-case scenario escalation.