

## NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (NEMO) MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES WEST INDIES

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 17, 2021

Contact: Chief Medical Officer, Chair Health Services Subcommittee National Emergency Committee

Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

## SIXTEEN (16) NEW COVID-19 CASES

St. Vincent and the Grenadines today confirmed sixteen (16) new COVID-19 cases. All of the cases are nationals with no history of recent travel. Five (5) of the cases were detected during contact tracing, testing of persons with flu-like symptoms and general screening. Eleven (11) cases were detected during exit screening.

There are now three hundred and fifty-eight (358) local cases under investigation. Cases range in age from four (4) to eighty-seven (87) years. Most cases are located on mainland St. Vincent, with the highest numbers in the Pembroke Health District.

One hundred and eighteen (118) persons have recovered, three hundred and seventyfive (375) cases remain active and one (1) person with COVID-19 has died. Four hundred and ninety-four (494) cases of COVID-19 have been reported in St. Vincent and the Grenadines so far. All positive cases will continue to be isolated until cleared after fourteen (14) symptom free days and a negative PCR test result. This change in the criteria for clearance is supported by guidance from the WHO.

Persons who have been instructed to quarantine while awaiting their results, must not leave their quarantine sites until their tests results have been received. Persons who fall in this category will be served with a Medical Officer's order and granted sick leave. Employers are advised not to encourage their employees to break their quarantine orders.

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