



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Friday, September 4, 2026



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security and Peace, Hon. Dr. Horace Chang.

**Jamaica Records Lowest Monthly Murder Total in Recent History**

Jamaica recorded 37 murders in August 2026, making it one of the lowest monthly murder totals recorded in the country's recent history and providing further evidence of the continued downward trend in serious crime.

The August figure represents a significant development in ongoing efforts to reduce murders and create safer communities, with August 2026 recording 35% fewer murders than last year, when the figure was 57.

The latest figure also contributes to the broader reduction in murders being recorded in Jamaica in 2026. Between January 1 and September 2, 2026, 368 murders have been recorded – 101 less or a 21.5% reduction, than the 469 murders recorded for the corresponding period of 2025.



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Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Security and Peace, Hon. Dr. Horace Chang, said the continued decline in murders is an important indicator of the progress being made through the combined efforts of the security forces, Government agencies, communities and other stakeholders.

**“The recording of 37 murders in August 2026, one of the lowest monthly murder counts in Jamaica’s recent history, represents a remarkable achievement. It reflects the sustained commitment, professionalism, hard work and sacrifice of the members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force, who continue to serve and protect our people, oftentimes under challenging circumstances,”** the security minister said.

Dr. Chang noted that the reduction in murders provides tangible evidence of progress in the collective effort to build a safer and more secure Jamaica.

The August achievement comes against the backdrop of a notable reduction in murders over the past year. In 2025, the country saw 674 murders, the lowest on record in three decades.

The Minister said the Government remains committed to strengthening the capacity of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) by providing the resources and support necessary to enable its members to carry out their responsibilities effectively.

Dr. Chang also expressed appreciation to the leadership and members of the JCF for their continued service to the country, noting that their work is contributing to greater safety and confidence among citizens.

**“On behalf of the Government of Jamaica, the Ministry of National Security and Peace and the People of Jamaica, I express my sincere appreciation to the leadership and members of the JCF for their dedication and service. Your efforts are making a meaningful difference in communities across the country and contributing to greater safety and confidence among our citizens,”** he said.



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The Ministry of National Security and Peace will continue to work with the JCF and other partners to sustain the reduction in serious crime while advancing measures aimed at preventing violence, strengthening public safety and improving security outcomes across Jamaica.

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