

# *The priority is to prevent people from getting COVID, says Public Health Minister*

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**Cuban Minister of Public Health, José Ángel Portal Miranda. File Photo**

Havana, May 11 (RHC) -Cuba's Minister of Public Health, Doctor José Ángel Portal Miranda, explained the behavior of COVID-19 in the first four months of the year.

Speaking at the monthly meeting of the country's top leadership with governors held this Monday, Portal reported an increase in positive cases with a daily average of 1044 and an increase in the number of critical and serious cases.

He explained that the most difficult scenario is located in Havana, Mayabeque, and Matanzas.

"We must continue to think that the main task is to prevent people from getting sick. We can continue to be behind in the consequences, which are the serious cases and the deaths. Still, if we do not insist on prevention and achieve all the measures so that people do not get sick, the actions that we have to continue executing it will not be sustainable all," he stressed.

The minister noted that it is no secret to anyone, because of its length, what the pandemic means in terms of the island's economy.

Portal made clear that the vaccines are not a solution that will have an impact in the short term and insisted on the call to the population's to remain alert on the dangers resulting from the pandemic and the responsibility of the agencies' cadres to work for the strict compliance with the sanitary measures.

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