

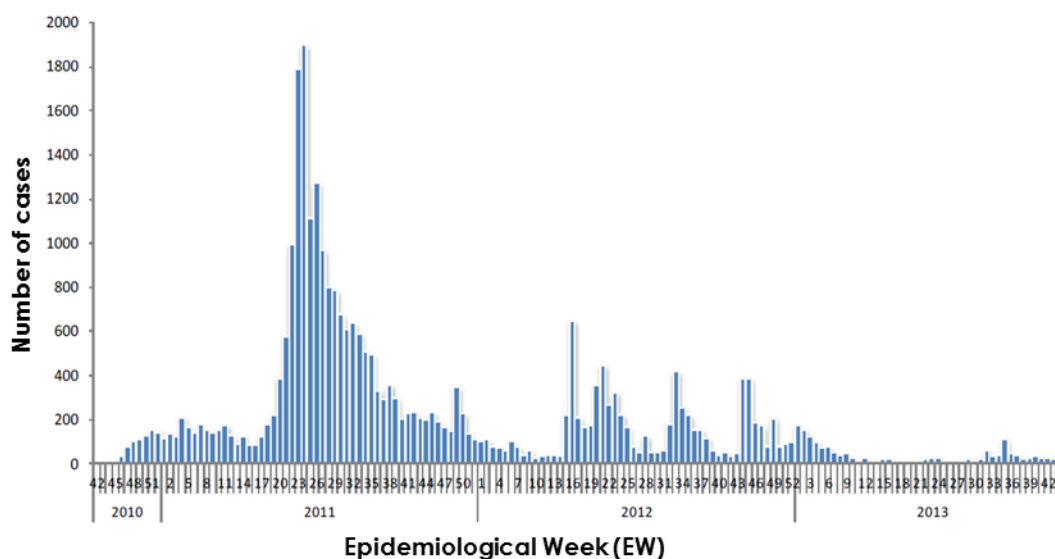
Current status of cholera in the Region

In **Cuba**, health authorities continue to investigate suspected cholera cases detected in several provinces. Since 24 August 2013, the International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point of Cuba has not reported additional confirmed cholera cases. Between epidemiological week (EW) 27 of 2012 and EW 34 of 2013, there have been 678 confirmed cholera cases, including three deaths.

In the **Dominican Republic**, since the beginning of the epidemic (November 2010) through EW 45 of 2013, there have been a total of 31,206 suspected cholera cases, of which 462 died. Between EW 41 and EW 45, 116 additional suspected cholera cases were reported and 4 deaths. During the last two weeks, 12 of 32 provinces have registered suspected cholera cases; the provinces of Azua, Distrito Nacional, Puerto Plata, San Cristobal, Santiago, Santo Domingo and La Vega account for 92 % of the suspected cases during these two weeks.

In the past two EWs an increase in the number of the suspected cases has been recorded, this increase happened after the decline seen from EW 41 of 2013 (see figure 1). The fatality rate recorded in 2013 (2.2 %) continues to be higher than the fatality rate recorded in 2011 (1.7%) and in 2012 (0.8 %). Health authorities continue to implement corresponding response measures.

Figure 1. Suspected cholera cases by epidemiological week (EW). Dominican Republic. EW 42 of 2010-EW 45 of 2013



Source: Department of Epidemiology. Epidemiological Bulletin. DIGEPI. Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance - Dominican Republic.

In **Haiti**, since the beginning of the epidemic (October 2010) and until 13 November 2013, there have been 689,448 cholera cases, of which 384,956 were hospitalized (55.8%) and 8,448 died. The cumulative case-fatality rate remains 1.2 %, with variations ranging from 4.4 %, in the department of Sud Est to 0.6 %, in Port-au-Prince. An increasing trend in cases has been noted in the last two weeks. Since the 26 October 2013 Epidemiological Update on cholera, there have been 5,363 additional cases and 87 deaths reported nationally; with all departments registering new cases.

In **Mexico**, from 9 September to 15 November 2013, the IHR National Focal Point of Mexico has reported a total of 180 confirmed cases of infection with *Vibrio cholerae* O:1 Ogawa toxigenic, including one death, identified from more than 37,000 samples analyzed.

Between 25 October and 8 November, the authorities of Mexico had reported four new cases, two in the state of Hidalgo and two in the state of Veracruz. From 9 November to date, no additional confirmed cases have been reported.

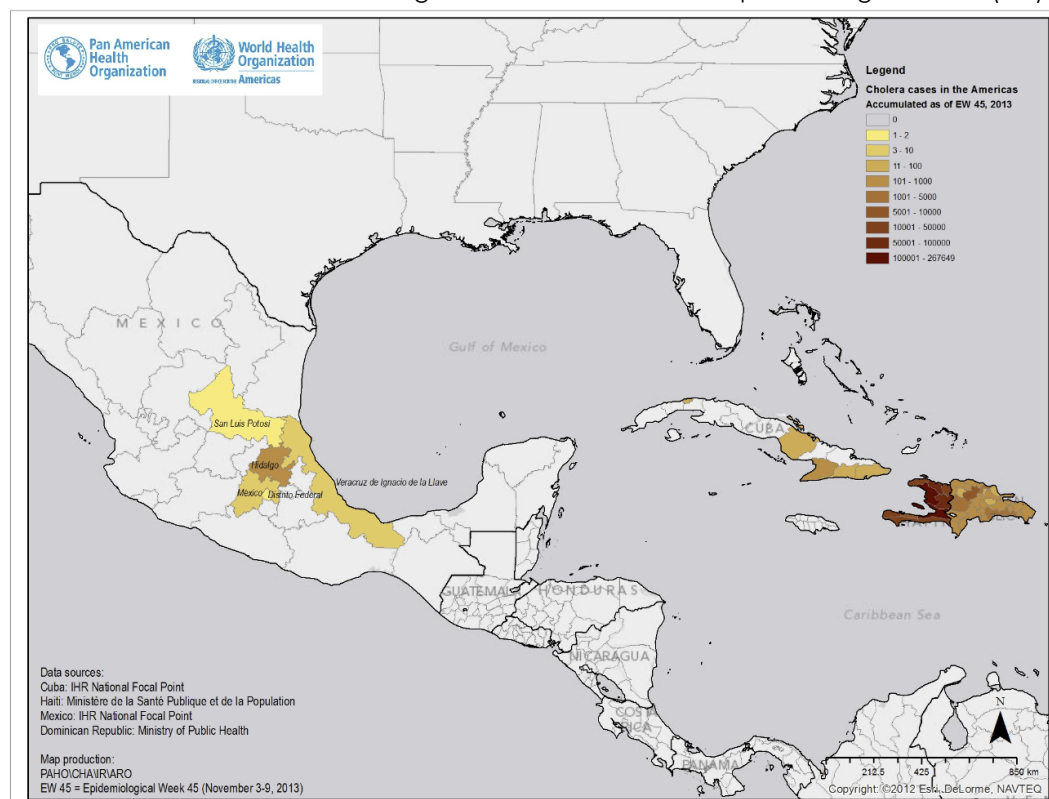
The health authorities of Mexico continue to work on surveillance, human resources training in health facilities and awareness, as mentioned in previous updates.

Recommendations

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) / World Health Organization (WHO) does not recommend that any travel or trade restrictions be applied with respect to this event.

PAHO/WHO reiterates that the recommendations of the [Epidemiological Alert](#) on cholera published on November 2, 2012 continue to be applicable.

Figure 2. Cumulative cholera cases in the Region of the Americas as of epidemiological week (EW) 45 of 2013.



Map produced by: Pan American Health Organization. Data sources provide in the figure.

References

1. Ministère de la Santé Public et de la Population. Rapports journaliers du MSPP, Haiti, 2013. Available at: <http://mspp.gouv.ht/newsite/documentation.php?page=1¶m1=valu1¶m2=alue2>
2. Boletín Epidemiológico de República Dominicana. Semana Epidemiológica 45, 2013. Available at: http://digepisalud.gob.do/boletines/otras-publicaciones/cat_view/33-otras-publicaciones/63-boletines-semanales.html

Related links:

- Information on WHO's statement relating to international travel and trade to and from countries experiencing outbreaks of cholera:
<http://www.who.int/cholera/technical/prevention/choleratravelandtradeadvice231110.pdf>
- WHO cholera fact sheet:
<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs107/en/index.html>
- PAHO cholera health topic:
<http://www.paho.org/cholera>