



Situation Report:

Leprosy in the Americas, 2007

Summary

The endemic countries of the Americas continued to take substantive action that helped keep leprosy on the political agenda, as well as implementing the *Global Strategy for Further Reducing the Leprosy Burden and Sustaining Control Activities*.

The endemic countries continued to strengthen the response capacity of their human resources to enable the process of integrating leprosy control measures into primary healthcare services, which had an impact on comprehensive care for people affected by leprosy.

Leprosy control measures are being carried out in coordination with all partners.

The Strategy of Comprehensive Care for Neglected Skin Diseases is being implemented.

All the countries had the drugs on hand to control the disease in a timely fashion.

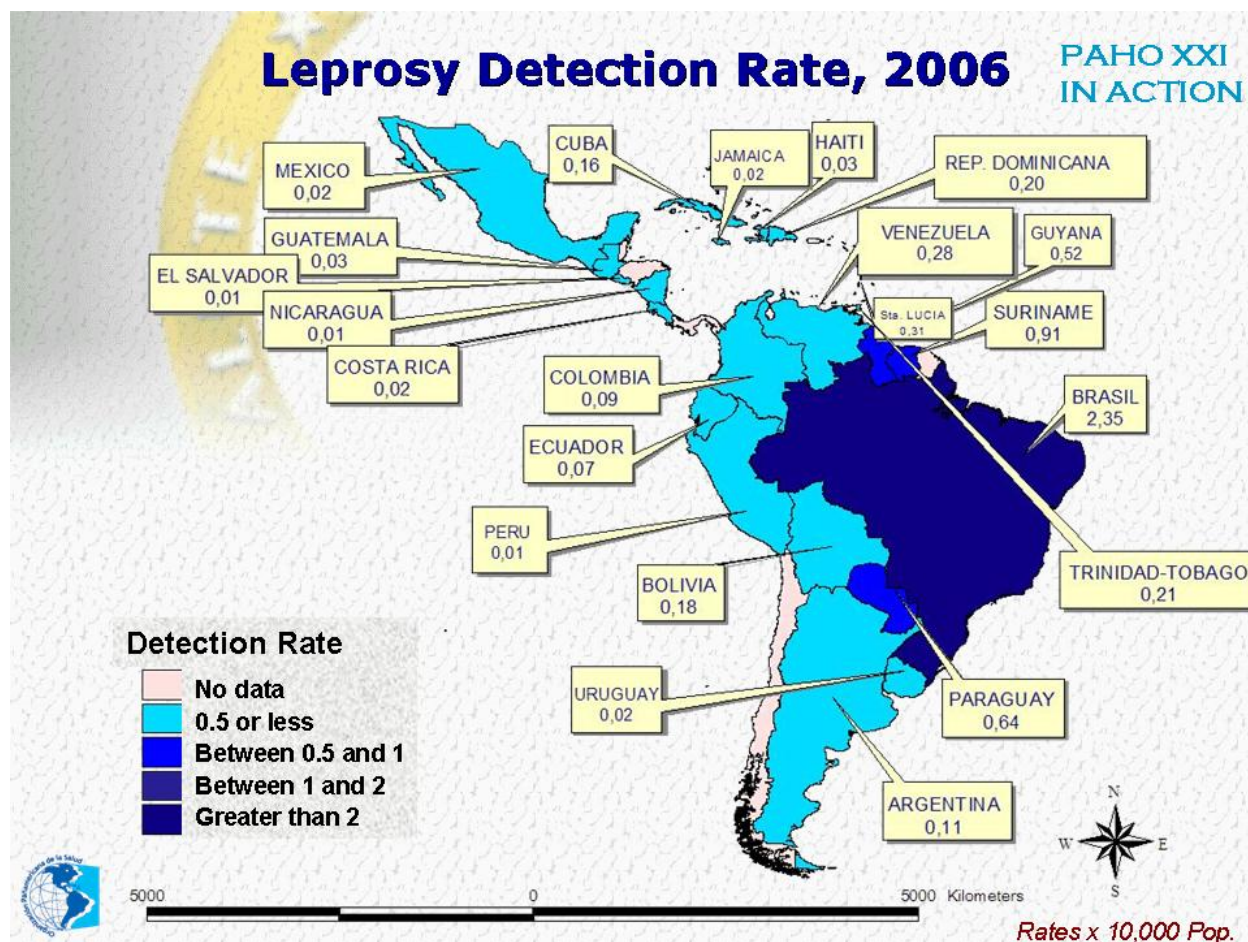
The countries prepared their Action Plans for 2008.

2006 Regional Highlights

- A total of 64,715 cases were in treatment with multidrug therapy (MDT).
- 47,612 new cases were detected.
- 8% of the new cases were found in children under 15.
- Approximately 6% of the new cases had grade 2 disability.
- 53% of the new cases were multibacillary (MB).

Profile of New Cases Disaggregated by Country, Americas, 2006

Countries	Cases	MB Cases	Female Cases	Cases in Children under 15	Grade 2 Disability
Argentina	412	302	106	4	23
Brazil	44 436	23 480	20 437	3 513	2 106
Bolivia	165	73	71	9	4
Bahamas	0	0	0	0	0
Belize	0	0	0	0	0
Chile	0	0	0	0	0
Colombia	398	286	-	14	31
Costa Rica	10	10	3	0	2
Cuba	183	154	84	1	10
Dominican Republic	177	103	80	15	12
Ecuador	95	64	32	2	2
El Salvador	5	1	1	0	1
Guatemala	4	2	1	1	0
Guyana	39	27	14	5	1
Haiti	22	12	12	7	1
Jamaica	6	3	5	0	1
Mexico	243	179	90	2	14
Nicaragua	5	0	5	-	0
Paraguay	404	316	151	11	44
Peru	22	10	12	2	0
Saint Lucia	5	3	0	0	0
Suriname	41	27	14	4	1
Trinidad and Tobago	28	14	11	4	2
United States	137	72	45	4	
Uruguay	7	4	5	1	0
Venezuela	768	496	261	56	47
Total	47 612	25 638	21 440	3 655	1 704



Argentina

2006 Highlights

- More than 1,000 cases were in treatment with MDT, though in a regimen that differed from that recommended by WHO.
- 95% of the cases in treatment were concentrated in 12 provinces.
- The provinces with the greatest leprosy burden were Chaco, Misiones, Corrientes, Santa Fe, Entre Ríos, Formosa, Córdoba, Santiago del Estero, Tucumán, Jujuy, Salta, and Buenos Aires.
- 423 new cases were detected.
- 0.9% of the new cases detected were in children under 15.
- 73.7% of the new cases detected were MB.
- 5.4% of new cases detected showed grade 2 disability.
- There was political commitment.
- There were official standards, but not up-to-date.

Profile of the New Cases Detected (Republic of Argentina, 1996–2006)

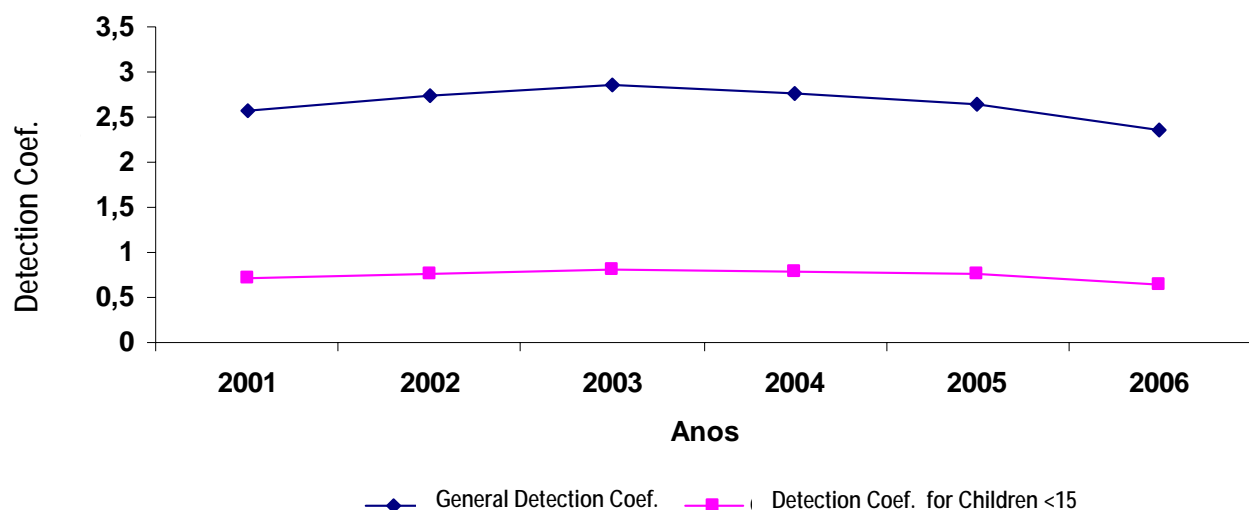
Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	536	70.1	-	1.3
1997	488	73.9	0.2	6.1
1998	473	90.0	0.2	6.7
1999	544	78.4	-	-
2000	468	66.2	2.1	7.4
2001	417	76.5	1.1	7.4
2002	412	76.2	0.9	3.8
2003	454	75.9	1.3	4.8
2004	479	74.1	0.4	3.7
2005	411	71.2	0.4	1.9
2006	423	73.7	0.4	5.4

Brazil

2006 Highlights

- Brazil ranked second in number of new cases detected.
- Leprosy was one of the priority diseases on the political agenda.
- More than 64,715 cases were in treatment with MDT.
- 47,612 new cases were detected.
- 8% of the new cases detected were in children under 15.
- 6% the new cases detected showed grade 2 disability.
- 53% of total number of new cases detected was MB.
- Control measures were being integrated into the basic health care services.
- Brazil has two PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centers dealing with leprosy.
- All partners are working in a coordinated way.

General Detection Coefficient in Children under 15, Leprosy, Brazil, 2001 to 2006



Cuba

- Political commitment.
- Decentralization of control measures.
- Database up-to-date.

Profile of Detected New Cases, Republic of Cuba, 1996–2006

Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	262	58.7	3.0	5.3
1997	266	60.9	1.1	4.5
1998	246	62.1	1.6	6.5
1999	333	64.5	2.7	2.4
2000	278	67.2	1.7	4.6
2001	267	71.5	1.8	3.3
2002	316	74.3	0.6	4.1
2003	251	71.3	1.1	3.5
2004	211	74.4	1.4	3.7
2005	208	83.6	3.8	3.3
2006	183	84.1	0.5	5.4

Dominican Republic

2006 Highlights

- More than 300 cases were in treatment with MDT, with regimens of 12 and 24 blisters for multibacillary cases.
- 70.0% of the cases in treatment were concentrated in four provinces.
- 177 new cases were detected.
- 8.4% of the new cases detected were in children under 15.
- 58.1% of the new cases detected were MB.
- 6.7% of the new cases detected showed grade 2 disability.
- There was political commitment.
- Official standards were up-to-date.
- There was a database with information on the cases diagnosed in the last 13 years.
- Human resources were trained to deal with this endemic disease.

Profile of New Cases Detected, Dominican Republic, 1996–2006

Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	283	38.8	33.9	7.4
1997	259	40.9	17.3	8.5
1998	220	40.5	21.3	7.7
1999	294	41.4	21.4	9.2
2000	241	46.8	18.2	6.6
2001	229	44.9	19.0	4.4
2002	205	46.8	21.4	5.4
2003	212	51.8	16.0	6.1
2004	189	62.9	11.0	3.2
2005	155	63.8	16.2	3.2
2006	177	58.1	8.4	6.7

Ecuador

2006 Highlights

- More than 150 cases were in treatment with MDT.
- 80% of the cases in treatment were concentrated in four provinces.
- The provinces with the greatest leprosy burden were Guayas and Los Ríos.
- 2.1% of the new cases detected were in children under 15.
- 67.1% of the new cases detected were MB.
- 2.1% of the new cases detected showed grade 2 disability.
- There was political commitment.
- Official standards exist, but they are not up-to-date.

Profile of the New Cases Detected, Republic of Ecuador, 1996–2006

Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	123	49.1	4.1	13.1
1997	119	57.1	4.2	10.1
1998	110	59.1	7.2	6.1
1999	144	72.1	0.6	6.4
2000	119	67.1	3.1	-
2001	112	69.1	2.6	-
2002	131	57.2	5.7	-
2003	113	72.1	1.7	1.7
2004	144	59.1	4.1	3.4
2005	116	62.9	0.	8.6
2006	95	67.1	2.1	2.1

Haiti

2006 Highlights

- It was not possible to obtain data on patients in regular standardized treatment with MDT.
- Of the total of the new cases detected during 2006, only 22 corresponded to the sphere of influence of the Fameo Pereo Institute.
- Of the total number of new cases detected, 4% occurred in children under 15.
- Of the total number of the new cases detected, 40% were MB.
- Grade 2 disability existed in 2% of the new cases at the time of diagnosis.
- There was political commitment.
- The clinical histories for the 22 cases recorded during 2006 are incomplete.
- Two dermatologists were in charge of patient care.
- There was a shortage of trained human resources at the primary-care level.
- Epidemiological surveillance was deficient.

Mexico

2006 Highlights

- More than 700 cases were in treatment with MDT.
- 76% of the cases in treatment were concentrated in 10 states.
- The states with the greatest leprosy burden were Sinaloa, Michoacán, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Jalisco, Tamaulipas, Guerrero, Sonora, Guanajuato, and Colima.
- 269 new cases were detected in 2005.
- 2.2% of the new cases detected were in children under 15.
- 76.2% of the new cases detected were MB.
- 8.18% of the new cases detected showed grade 2 disability.
- There was political commitment.
- Human resources were strengthened in control measures.
- Official standards existed.

Profile of New Cases Detected, Mexico, 1996–2006

Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	562	68.1	2.3	12.8
1997	625	64.9	2.4	10.7
1998	418	60.5	1.9	6.4
1999	397	65.9	0.7	11.3
2000	414	65.7	2.6	10.8
2001	365	66.3	1.9	11.2
2002	309	75.7	2.5	11.6
2003	267	71.5	2.6	10.4
2004	287	76.3	1.1	8.0
2005	269	76.2	2.2	8.1
2006	73.6	37.0	0.8	5.7

Paraguay

2006 Highlights

- Standards were up-to-date.
- Control measures were decentralized in three departments.
- Human resources were strengthened in control measures.
- The different actors were working in a coordinated manner.

Profile of New Cases Detected, Paraguay, 1996–2006

Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	385	69.3	5.7	12.4
1997	419	68.2	5.2	7.6
1998	362	69.3	8.5	8.8
1999	479	71.6	3.3	8.3
2000	435	71.2	3.9	4.3
2001	467	78.3	3.0	9.4
2002	439	74.4	4.7	6.6
2003	523	71.2	4.2	2.4
2004	496	76.4	5.4	7.8
2005	480	77.7	3.9	7.9
2006	78.2	37.3	2.7	10.6

Saint Lucia

Years	New Cases	New MB Cases	New Cases in Children under 15	New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	11	6	2	0
1997	11	5	4	1
1998	8	3	0	0
1999	6	4	2	0
2000	17	9	4	2
2001	16	10	0	4
2002	18	7	1	5
2003	7	3	1	0
2004	13	4	0	1
2005	5	4	0	0
2006	5	3	0	0

Venezuela

2006 Highlights

- There was political commitment.
- There was a center of reference of excellence.
- Each state had a dermatological health service.

Years	New Cases	Proportion of New MB Cases	Proportion of New Cases in Children under 15	Proportion of New Cases with Grade 2 Disability
1996	561	57.5	9.8	6.6
1997	561	65.4	71.1	9.0
1998	680	57.0	8.5	5.7
1999	796	62.3	8.4	7.4
2000	853	55.5	10.3	8.2
2001	729	63.1	7.0	9.0
2002	665	65.2	6.2	9.6
2003	606	64.3	7.5	7.7
2004	496	67.1	9.2	8.4
2005	780	64.4	7.3	8.9
2006	64.5	33.9	7.3	6.1