



Emerging and Reemerging Infectious Diseases, Region of the Americas

Vol. 1, No. 8—28 August 2003

Jungle Yellow Fever (JYF) in the Americas

Up to August 26, a total of 181 confirmed Jungle Yellow Fever cases have been reported to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), with 75 deaths. This represents an additional 21 cases since August 6. The distribution of cases and deaths by country is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Jungle Yellow Fever, Reported Cases and Deaths
(by country, Region of the Americas, to 26 August 2003)**

Country	Cases	Deaths
Bolivia	6	4
Brazil	62	23
Colombia	82	33
Peru	15	9
Venezuela	16	10
Total	181	79
<i>Source:</i> Reports to PAHO by the Ministries of Health of the respective countries.		

Since mid-June, outbreaks have been identified in the Colombian-Venezuelan border and in Peru, which represents almost half of all cases reported in 2003.

- In *Peru*, the outbreaks occurred in the Departments of Cuzco (Distritos de Echerate y Villacamba) and San Martin (Distritos de Bajo Biavo, Campanilla y Pajarillo).
- In *Colombia*, the cases were identified in the Department of Norte de Santander, affecting the counties of Convención, Cucutilla, El Carmen, El Tarra, Encino, Teorama y Tibú.

- In *Venezuela*, the outbreak extended to the States of Tachira (counties of Fernando Feo, Libertador y Uribante) and Zulia (counties of Jesus Maria Semprun, Machiques, and Rosario de Perija). Most of cases reported were in non-immune migrants.

Outbreak-control measures are underway in the affected areas. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is following the epidemiological investigations closely and providing the necessary technical cooperation to countries to control the situation. The last cases reported in these outbreaks for Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela were in the Epidemiological Weeks 30, 31 and 32, respectively. However, suspected cases are still under investigation.

The occurrence of extensive outbreaks of yellow fever in enzootic areas emphasizes the need for countries to follow closely the recommendation to immunize all residents and travelers to those areas.

Source: Ministries of Health of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela.