



Regional Update Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

(July 22, 2009 - 22 h GMT; 17 h EST)

The data and information in this report will be updated on a weekly basis and available at: http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=814&Itemid=1206

This report was prepared based on the indicators in the document *Human infection with pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus: updated interim WHO guidance on global surveillance* available at: (http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_surveillance_20090710/en/index.html). The qualitative indicators for surveillance of the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 are described in **Table 3** of this report.

The information presented herein has been obtained through the official sites of the Ministries of Health of the countries in the Region as well as official reports submitted by the International Health Regulation (IHR) National Focal Points.

Update on the Qualitative Indicators

As of **Epidemiological Week 28 (EW 28, July 12 to 18)** 34 of the 35 countries in the Region of the Americas have reported presence of the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus.

For many countries in the Region, not all of the information is available regarding the qualitative indicators for the monitoring of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 (**Table 1**). The data that have been used to evaluate the indicators for intensity and trend of respiratory disease activity, as well as virologic monitoring, correspond to epidemiological week 26 to 28, depending on each country. As countries become familiar with the new notification requirements, it is expected that more complete and up-to-date information will become available.

Of the countries with available information, 19 exhibit **widespread geographical distribution**, four more than in epidemiological week 27 (Colombia, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) (**Map 1**).

Regarding the **trend** of respiratory disease in the Region, information is available for 18 countries (**Map 2**); six of these (Argentina, Belize, Chile, Haiti, Paraguay and Venezuela) display an **increasing** trend.

As to the **intensity** of acute respiratory disease, information is available for only 15 countries (**Map 3**). Of these, two display **very high** intensity (Chile and Argentina) while five are categorized as having **high** intensity (Canada, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay). Nineteen

countries do not have information available for this indicator.

Ten countries have provided information regarding the **impact on health-care services (Map 4)**, none of which were categorized as **high**; however, three countries were categorized as moderate.

Of the countries for which information is available, the situations in Chile and Argentina are worthy of note as both exhibit widespread geographical distribution, an increasing trend and a very high intensity of acute respiratory disease. Also worth mentioning is that Canada, Mexico, El Salvador, Paraguay and Uruguay all exhibit widespread distribution and a high intensity of acute respiratory disease (which in the case of Paraguay is also accompanied by an increasing trend in respiratory disease activity).

In the Americas Region, **34 of the 35 countries** have reported confirmed cases of the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus.

In **19 countries**, the geographical distribution can be considered **widespread**; **six** countries exhibit an **increasing** trend; and **two** display **very high** intensity of respiratory disease activity.

The World Health Organization (WHO) does not recommend any restrictions to travel or the closing of borders due to pandemic (H1N1) 2009.

Update on the number of cases and deaths

During epidemiological week 28, Belize, Haiti and Saint Kitts and Nevis reported the presence of the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus for the first time; and Bolivia reported the first deaths in the country.

As of **July 22, 2009**, a total of **88,408 confirmed cases** have been notified in **34 countries** in the Americas Region. Grenada remains the only country that has not notified confirmed cases of the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus. A total of **737 deaths** have been notified, from the confirmed cases, in **20 countries** of the Region.

In addition to the figures displayed in **Table 2**, the following territories have reported cases caused by the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus: American Samoa

(8); Guam, USA (1); Puerto Rico, USA (18); Virgin Islands, USA (44); Bermuda, UK (1); Cayman Islands, UK (14); Virgin Islands, UK (2); Martinica, FR (15); Guadeloupe, FR (11); Saint-Martin, FR (1); Netherlands Antilles, Bonaire (4); Netherlands Antilles, Curaçao^a (13); Netherlands Antilles, Aruba (13); Netherlands Antilles, St. Eustatius (1) and Netherlands Antilles, St. Marteen (12).

^a Three cases were registered on a cruise ship.

The distribution of cases and deaths at the first sub-national level can be found in the interactive map available through the following link: <http://new.paho.org/hq/images/atlas/en/atlas.html>

Update on the Virologic Situation

Information on surveillance of the virologic situation of the pandemic is available for Canada, CAREC¹, Chile, Colombia and the United States, for epidemiological weeks 26 to 28. An analysis of this information will be included in the next Regional Update.

On July 21, 2009, Canada reported the first case of oseltamivir resistant pandemic (H1N1)2009 virus in the Americas Region. It was found in a 59 year old male from Quebec with underlying medical conditions who received post-exposure prophylaxis following illness in a family member (the man's son).

The isolate had a mutation at the H274Y location. Sequencing data for the son showed that his stain was sensitive to oseltamivir. It has not been reported whether the resistant isolate is sensitive to zanamivir.

¹ CAREC: Caribbean Epidemiological Centre

**Map 1. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Geographical Spread by Country.
Americas Region. EW* 28.**



Geographical Spread

- No activity
- No information available
- Localized
- Regional
- Widespread

*Epidemiological Week

Map Production:
HSD/CD
20 July 2009
Projection: Lambert Azimuthal
Equal Area
Source: PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

**Map 2. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Trend of respiratory disease activity compared to the previous week.
Americas Region. EW* 28.**



Trend

- No information available
- Decreasing
- Unchanged
- Increasing

*Epidemiological Week

Map Production:
HSD/CD
20 July 2009
Projection:
Lambert Equal Area
Azimuthal
Source: PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

**Map 3. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Intensity of Acute Respiratory Disease in the Population.
Americas Region. EW* 28.**



Intensity of acute respiratory disease

- No information available
- Low or moderate
- High
- Very high

*Epidemiological Week

Map Production:
HSD/CD
20 July 2009
Projection:
Lambert Azimuthal
Equal Area
Source: PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

**Map 4. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Impact of Acute Respiratory Disease on Health-Care Services.
Americas Region. EW* 28.**



Impact on health-care services

- No information available
- Low
- Moderate
- Severe

*Epidemiological Week

Map Production:
HSD/CD
20 July 2009
Projection: Lambert Azimuthal
Equal Area
Source: PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

Table 1. Weekly monitoring of qualitative indicators for the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009.
Epidemiological Week 28. Americas Region

Country	Activity	Geographic spread	Trend	Intensity	Impact on Health Care Services
Antigua and Barbuda	YES	Regional	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Low
Argentina	YES	Widespread	Increasing	Very high	NIA
Bahamas	YES	Regional	NIA	NIA	NIA
Barbados	YES	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA
Belize	YES	Localized	Increasing	NIA	NIA
Bolivia	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Brazil	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Canada	YES	Widespread	Decreasing	High	NIA
Chile	YES	Widespread	Increasing	Very high	NIA
Colombia	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Costa Rica	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Cuba	YES	Regional	NIA	NIA	NIA
Dominica	YES	Localized	Unchanged	NIA	NIA
Dominican Republic	YES	Regional	NIA	NIA	NIA
Ecuador	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
El Salvador	YES	Widespread	NIA	High	NIA
Grenada	NO	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Guatemala	YES	Widespread	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Moderate
Guyana	YES	Localized	NIA	N.A.	N.A.
Haiti	YES	Localized	Increasing	NIA	Low
Honduras	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Jamaica	YES	Widespread	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low
Mexico	YES	Widespread	Decreasing	High	NIA
Nicaragua	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Panama	YES	Regional	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low
Paraguay	YES	Widespread	Increasing	High	Moderate
Peru	YES	Widespread	Decreasing	Low or moderate	NIA
Saint Kitts and Nevis	YES	Localized	NIA	NIA	NIA
Saint Lucia	YES	Localized	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	YES	Localized	Unchanged	NIA	NIA
Suriname	YES	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA
Trinidad and Tobago	YES	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA
United States of America	YES	Widespread	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low
Puerto Rico (U.S.)	YES	Regional	NIA	NIA	NIA
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	YES	Widespread	NIA	NIA	NIA
Uruguay	YES	Widespread	Unchanged	High	Moderate
Venezuela	YES	Widespread	Increasing	Low or moderate	Low

NIA: No information available
N.A.: Not applicable

Table 2. Confirmed Cases and Deaths due to the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus. Region of the Americas. As of July 22, 2009

Category	Surveillance requirements	Country	Number of confirmed cases	Number of deaths	New cases (Since July 21)	New deaths (Since July 21)
A	Early detection, investigation and risk assessment	Grenada	0	0	0	0
B	Description of the epidemiology and assessment of the early cases	Antigua and Barbuda	3	0	0	0
		Bahamas	23	0	0	0
		Belize	15	0	0	0
		Cuba	186	0	0	0
		Dominica	1	0	0	0
		Guyana	2	0	0	0
		Haiti	3	0	0	0
		Panama	541	1	0	0
		Dominican Republic	108	2	0	0
		St Kitts and Nevis	1	0	0	0
		St. Lucia	1	0	0	0
		St. Vicent and Granadines	1	0	0	0
C	Continuous epidemiological and virological monitoring of influenza activity	Argentina	3056	137	0	0
		Bolivia**	739	5	19	0
		Brazil	1175	11	0	0
		Canada	10156	45	0	0
		Chile	11293	68	367	28
		Colombia	226	8	5	0
		Costa Rica	560	12	57	1
		Ecuador	376	7	0	0
		El Salvador	379	3	0	0
		Guatemala	395	2	21	0
		Honduras	169	1	16	0
		Jamaica	49	2	0	0
		Mexico	14229	128	0	0
		Nicaragua	408	0	0	0
		Paraguay	175	10	0	0
		Peru	2559	11	0	0
		United States*	40617	263	0	0
		Uruguay	550	20	0	0
		Venezuela	281	1	0	0
		NIA	No information available on geographical spread	Barbados	23	0
Suriname	11			0	0	0
Trinidad and Tobago	97			0	0	0
REGIONAL TOTAL			88408	737	485	29

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries in the Region

*Includes cases in American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands.

**Two of these deaths are currently being reassessed

Table 3. Qualitative indicators for the monitoring of pandemic (H1N1) 2009

Indicator	Criteria			
Geographical spread	No activity	Localized	Regional	Widespread
Trend	Increasing	Unchanged	Decreasing	
Intensity	Low or moderate	High	Very High	
Impact	Low	Moderate	Severe	

Geographical spread

No activity: no laboratory confirmed case(s) of influenza, or evidence of increased or unusual respiratory disease activity.

Localized: limited to one administrative unit of the country (or reporting site) only.

Regional: appearing in multiple but <50% of the administrative units of the country (or reporting sites).

Widespread: appearing in ≥50% of the administrative units of the country (or reporting sites).

No information available: no information available for the previous 1 week period.

Trend of respiratory disease activity compared to the previous week

Increasing: evidence that the level of respiratory disease activity is increasing compared with the previous week.

Unchanged: evidence that the level of respiratory disease activity is unchanged compared with the previous week.

Decreasing: evidence that the level of respiratory disease activity is decreasing compared with the previous week.

No information available.

Intensity of Acute Respiratory Disease in the Population

Low or moderate: a normal or slightly increased proportion of the population is currently affected by respiratory illness.

High: a large proportion of the population is currently affected by respiratory illness.

Very high: a very large proportion of the population is currently affected by respiratory illness.

No information available.

Impact on Health-Care Services

Low: demands on health-care services are not above usual levels.

Moderate: demands on health-care services are above the usual demand levels but still below the maximum capacity of those services.

Severe: demands on health care services exceed the capacity of those services.

No information available.