



Regional Update

Influenza

(August 9, 2010 - 17 h GMT; 12 h EST)

The information contained within this update is obtained from data provided by Ministries of Health of Member States and National Influenza Centers through reports sent to Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) or updates on their web pages.

I- Evolution of the pandemic

South America

Southern Cone

Influenza activity was reported as regional in Argentina, Brazil and Chile. The trends in acute respiratory disease were reported as unchanged in Brazil and Chile and decreasing in Argentina.

In Chile¹, in epidemiological week (EW) 30, nationally, influenza-like illness (ILI) activity continued to be low, similar to the previous week, remaining in the security zone of the endemic channel. At the regional level, the highest rates of ILI activity were in the regions of Tarapaca, Los Rios and Los Lagos. The proportion of consultations in emergency services for respiratory illness of the total number of consultations, decreased in the last two EW, from 31% in EW 28 to 25% in EW 30. This decrease was more pronounced among children.

In EW 30, Paraguay² reported an increase of 8.8% in ILI outpatient consultations as compared to the previous EW. Severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) activity in children under five years of age remained lower as compared to the same week of 2009 and 2008.

Viral circulation

In Argentina and Chile, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) continues to predominate among circulating respiratory viruses. In EW 30 in Chile, 78% of positive specimens were RSV, and 5% were pandemic influenza H1N1 2009; influenza B and seasonal influenza A/H3 were also isolated. Paraguay reported predominance of RSV with slightly increasing number of pandemic influenza since EW 22.

Andean

In EW 29, influenza activity was reported as widespread in Bolivia (6 of 9 departments reported positive influenza cases), regional in Peru, and localized in Ecuador. All these countries reported decreasing or unchanged trends in acute respiratory disease.

In EW 30, Bolivia³ reported, at the national level, a slight decrease in the number of acute respiratory illness (ARI) cases as compared to the previous week, remaining in the alarm zone of the endemic channel for the second consecutive week. Regionally, in EW 30, no departments were above the epidemic threshold, while in EW 29, 2 departments were above the epidemic threshold.

Viral circulation

In Peru, since 2010, many respiratory viruses have co-circulated including influenza B virus, but there has been slight predominance of the pandemic influenza H1N1 2009 virus.

Weekly Summary

- This week, none country reported an increasing trend in acute respiratory disease.
- About influenza activity, it remains low in the southern cone of South America and in North America.
- In Central America, the Caribbean, and Andean countries, the influenza types/subtypes circulating differ in each country.
- About respiratory viruses, RSV is the predominant virus circulating in the Southern Cone; in Central America, the Caribbean, and the Andean countries, there is a mixed pattern of circulation

Central America

Influenza activity was reported as regional in Nicaragua and Panama. Nicaragua reported an unchanged trend in acute respiratory disease, while Panama reported decreasing trends this week. Both countries reported low/moderate intensity of acute respiratory disease. Nicaragua reported moderate impact of acute respiratory disease on health care services and Panama reported low impact.

El Salvador⁴ reported a ~100% increase in acute respiratory illness (ARI) cases between EW 26-29 surpassing the national epidemic threshold in EW 29. In EW 30, however, the number of ARI cases decreased but remained above the epidemic threshold. The number of pneumonia cases remains in the security zone within the epidemic channel.

Viral circulation

Circulation of respiratory viruses is variable in Central America. El Salvador reported the predominant circulation of seasonal influenza A/H3 and RSV. Nicaragua reported the predominant circulation of influenza B virus. Panama reported that the predominant respiratory virus circulating is the seasonal influenza A/H3 virus.

Caribbean

Influenza activity was reported as regional in Barbados and with no activity in Dominica. Trends of acute respiratory disease were reported as unchanged in Barbados and decreasing in Dominica. Both countries reported low/moderate intensity of acute respiratory disease, and low impact of acute respiratory disease on health care services.

Viral circulation

The circulation of respiratory viruses is variable in the Caribbean. CAREC^{*} reported the predominance of influenza B virus since EW 18, but RSV and pandemic influenza have also been reported. Dominican Republic reported a higher percentage of influenza viruses among positive samples, compared to previous weeks, especially seasonal influenza (influenza A/H3), and ongoing circulation of adenovirus and parainfluenza virus. Jamaica has not reported any respiratory virus activity since EW 16.

North America

Influenza activity remains low in this region. The trends in acute respiratory disease were reported as unchanged in the United States.

In Canada⁵, in EWs 29 and 30, the ILI consultation rate continued to remain low; the rate for EW 29 was slightly above expected levels while during EW 30 the rate was below expected levels for this time of year. Most of the influenza surveillance regions reported no influenza activity. In EW 29 and 30, no new influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported.

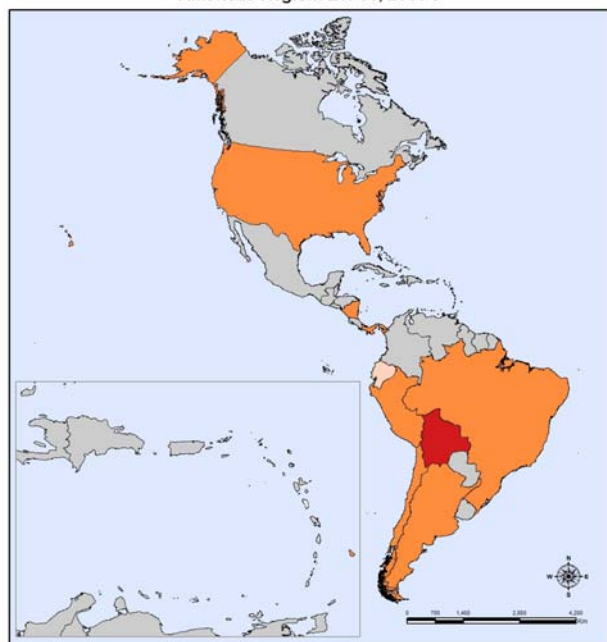
In the United States⁶ in EW 30, the proportion of outpatient consultations for ILI continued to remain below the national baseline. All the sub-national surveillance regions reported the proportion of ILI to be below their region-specific baselines. The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was slightly above the epidemic threshold. No influenza -associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. On August 4th, the United States published an alert in response to a small increase in the number of H3N2 cases in the United States during late June and July, 2010, and two small localized outbreaks of H3N2 in the United States.

Viral circulation

The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza in Canada, Mexico and the United States remained low. Seasonal influenza A/H3 was isolated in both countries. In Canada, during EW 29-30, the proportion of positive parainfluenza tests remained high, while low levels of RSV, adenovirus, and human metapneumovirus continue to be reported.

^{*} Participating CAREC member countries, which include, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, were assessed together

**Map 1. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Geographical Spread by Country.
Americas Region. EW 30, 2010*.**



Geographical Spread

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

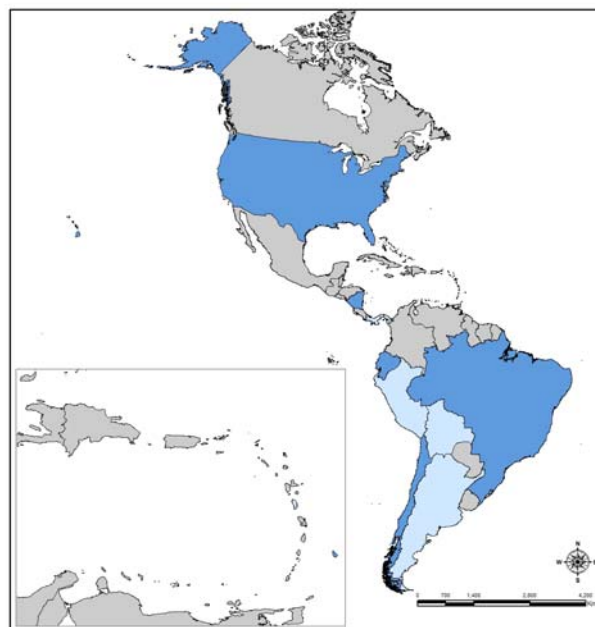
Map Production: PAHO/HSOIR
August 9, 2010

Cartographic projection:
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal
Central Meridian: -90.00000
Latitude of Origin: 10.00000

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

* EW 30 = epidemiological week from July 25 to July 31, 2010.
Includes the latest information reported by each country this week.

**Map 2. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Trend of respiratory disease activity compared to the previous week.
Americas Region. EW 30, 2010*.**



Trend

- No information available
- Decreasing
- Unchanged
- Increasing

Map Production: PAHO/HSOIR
August 9, 2010

Cartographic projection:
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal
Central Meridian: -90.00000
Latitude of Origin: 10.00000

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

* EW 30 = epidemiological week from July 25 to July 31, 2010.
Includes the latest information reported by each country this week.

**Map 3. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Intensity of Acute Respiratory Disease in the Population.
Americas Region. EW 30, 2010*.**



Intensity of acute respiratory disease

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

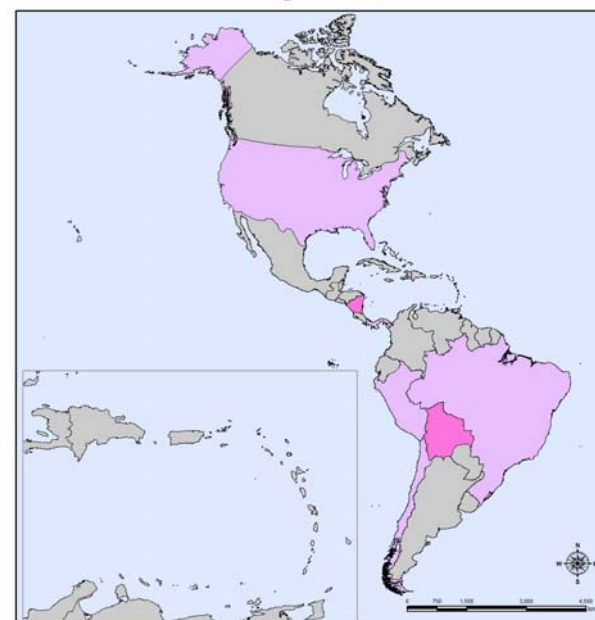
Map Production: PAHO/HSOIR
August 9, 2010

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* EW 30 = epidemiological week from July 25 to July 31, 2010.
Includes the latest information reported by each country this week.

**Map 4. Pandemic (H1N1) 2009,
Impact of Acute Respiratory Disease on Health-Care Services.
Americas Region. EW 30, 2010*.**



Impact on health-care services

- No information available
- Low
- Moderate
- Severe

Map Production: PAHO/HSOIR
August 9, 2010

Cartographic projection:
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal
Central Meridian: -90.00000
Latitude of Origin: 10.00000

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO
Created by PAHO/WHO

* EW 30 = epidemiological week from July 25 to July 31, 2010.
Includes the latest information reported by each country this week.

II- Viral circulation

The information below is based on reports from National Influenza Centers and influenza laboratories from the Region.

Table 3: Cumulative viral circulation in countries which reported to PAHO this week.

Country	Time period	# Samples Tested	% Positive Samples	% RSV [†]	% PIV [‡]	% AdV [§]	% Other Viruses	% Influenza B	% Influenza A	Among influenza A		
										% Pandemic	% Not subtyped	% Seasonal H3
Dominican Republic	EW 1-30	573	29.3	6.0	44.6	28.6	0.0	6.5	14.3	0.0	100.0	0.0
Jamaica	EW 1-30	574	3.8	0.0	4.5	18.2	4.5	4.5	68.2	53.3	33.3	13.3
Nicaragua	EW 1-30	1920	27.2	15.9	4.0	0.4	0.0	9.2	70.7	2.7	0.0	97.3
Panama	EW 1-29	863	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.3
Peru	EW 1-28	762	29.6	28.5	15.7	5.9	0.0	3.8	46.1	82.9	17.1	0.0

Table 4: Viral circulation in last week reported

Country	Time period	# Samples Tested	% Positive Samples	% RSV [†]	% PIV [‡]	% AdV [§]	% Other Viruses	% Influenza B	% Influenza A	Among influenza A		
										% Pandemic	% Not subtyped	% Seasonal H3
Dominican Republic	EW 30	27	51.9	7.1	14.3	7.1	0.0	7.1	64.3	0.0	100.0	0.0
Jamaica	EW 30	22	0.0									
Nicaragua	EW 30	43	18.6	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	87.5	0.0			
Panama	EW 29	14	21.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Peru	EW 28	12	58.3	14.3	0.0	14.3	0.0	42.9	28.6	100.0	0.0	0.0

[†] Respiratory Syncytial Virus

[‡] Parainfluenza Virus

[§] Adenovirus

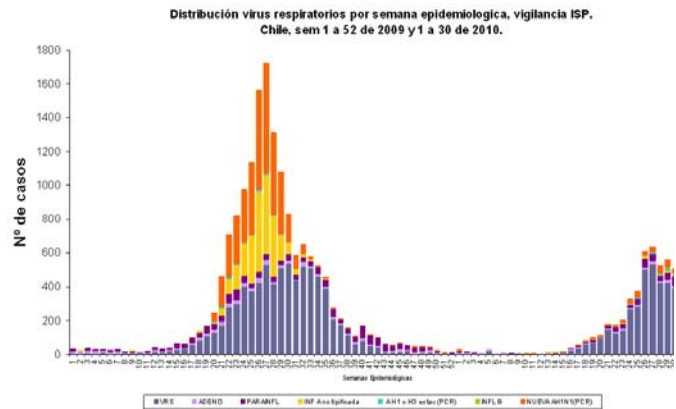
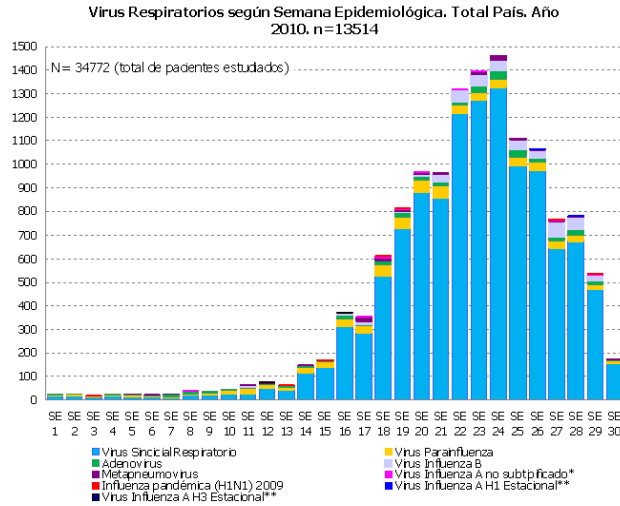
South America

Southern Cone

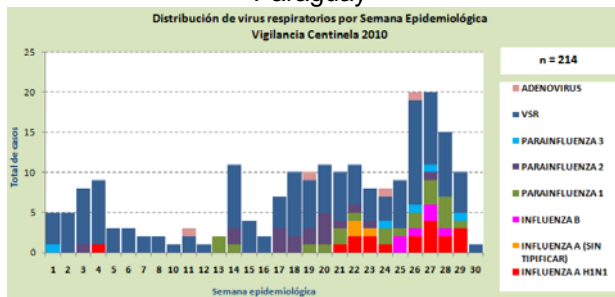
Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW

Argentina

Chile

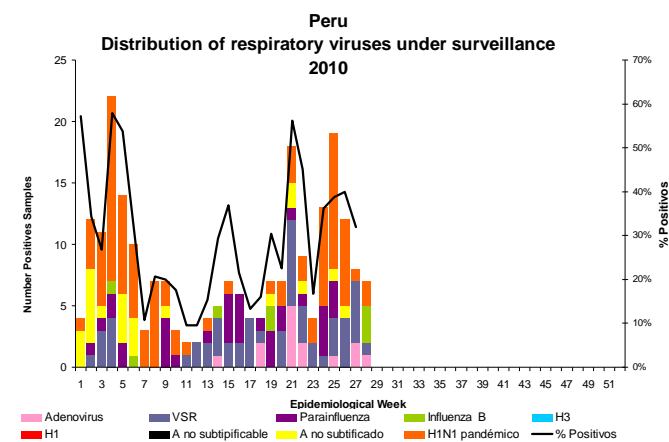


Paraguay



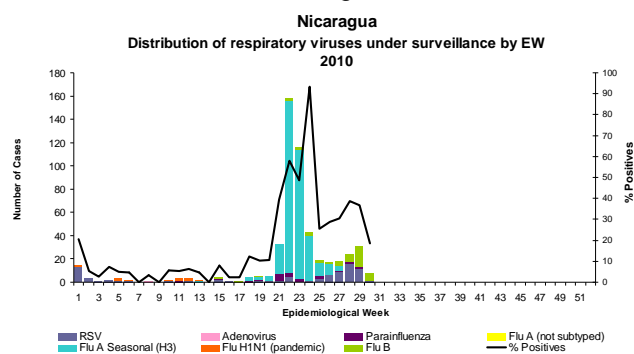
Andean

Peru

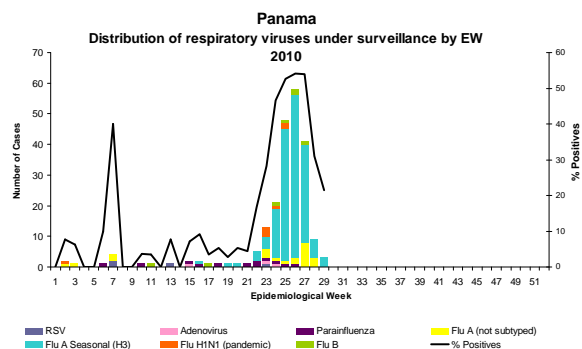


Central America

Nicaragua

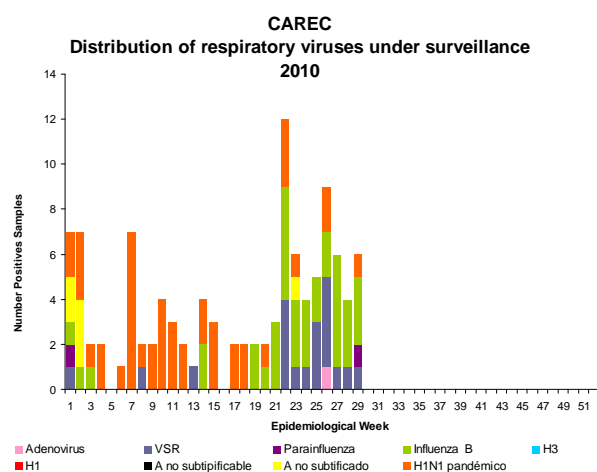


Panama

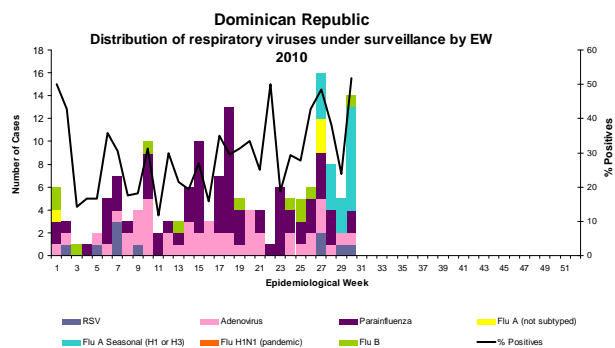


Caribbean

CAREC*

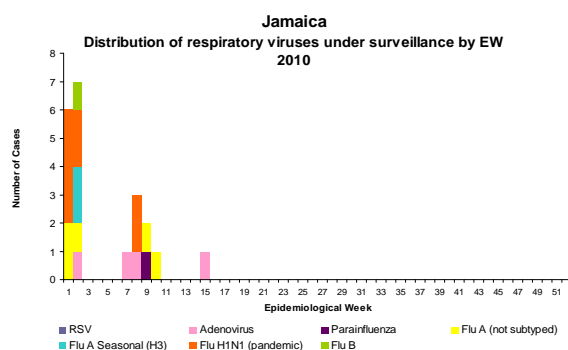


Dominican Republic



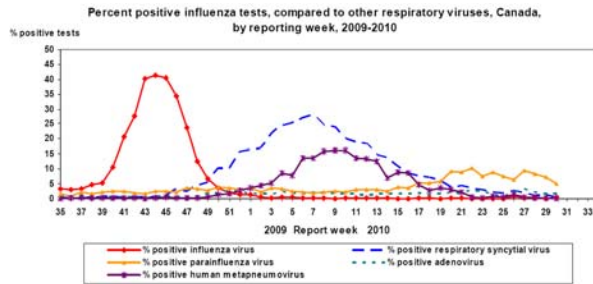
* Participating CAREC member countries, which include, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, were assessed together

Jamaica



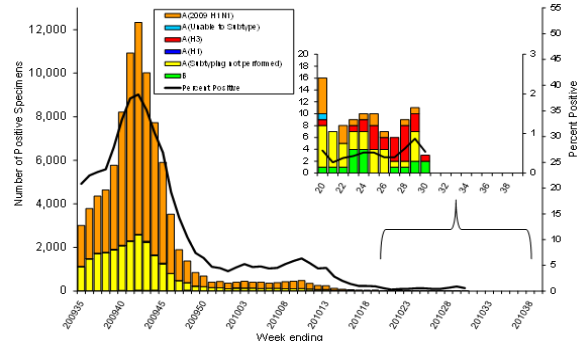
North America

Canada



United States

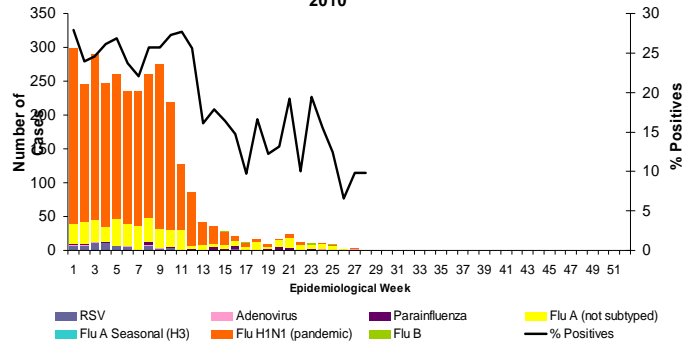
Influenza Positive Tests Reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2009-10



Mexico

Mexico

Distribution of respiratory viruses under surveillance by EW 2010



III- Vaccination

Vaccination Coverage by Country in the Americas*.

* Elaborated by PAHO/WHO - Comprehensive Family Immunization Project, Family and Community Health.

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2527&Itemid=2030&lang=en

Countries and Territories	Doses Administered	Target Population Coverage	Total Population Coverage	Prioritized Risk Groups			
				Health Personnel and Essential Services	Pregnant Women	Chronic Diseases	Others
Anguilla	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Argentina	7,679,327	118.6%	19.3%	104.7%	101.4%	132.5%	116.2%
Bahamas	5,006	18.3%	1.5%	18.0%	18.6%	15.8%	-
Barbados	4,360	21.8%	1.7%	64.2%	3.3%	11.5%	-
Belize	416	1.1%	0.1%	-	-	-	-
Bermuda	1,053	22.7%	1.6%	-	-	-	-
Bolivia	886,379	70.3%	9.1%	60.9%	20.1%	108.7%	60.3%
Brazil	88,484,776	96.5%	46.1%	119.8%	76.6%	160.1%	73.7%
Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cayman Islands	2,318	4.1%	4.8%	1.8%	5.6%	0.0%	5.0%
Chile	3,031,700	76.9%	18.0%	106.2%	54.1%	79.1%	75.8%
Colombia	1,479,531	72.2%	3.3%	53.4%	58.5%	101.3%	59.5%
Costa Rica	180,000	90.3%	4.0%	-	-	-	-
Cuba	1,123,526	100.1%	10.0%	101.8%	100.7%	98.8%	100.7%
Ecuador	973,480	103.0%	7.2%	-	-	-	-
El Salvador	1,690,101	115.3%	27.6%	186.0%	44.7%	-	114.6%
Grenada	396	2.7%	0.4%	5.1%	0.4%	1.1%	-
Guatemala	221,295	18.6%	1.6%	59.6%	30.9%	10.7%	5.7%
Guyana	121,900	76.7%	16.0%	-	-	-	-
Honduras	572,098	35.9%	7.8%	70.6%	47.8%	112.0%	9.5%
Mexico	26,903,232	96.7%	24.8%	94.9%	71.7%	101.9%	82.2%
Montserrat	1,245	77.5%	24.9%	-	-	-	-
Nicaragua	251,759	29.6%	4.4%	91.3%	88.1%	37.5%	15.7%
Panama	254,286	84.7%	7.5%	50.1%	32.1%	374.8%	85.3%
Paraguay	989,409	82.5%	15.9%	84.9%	34.3%	71.8%	92.0%
Peru	1,509,051	47.0%	5.2%	42.5%	9.1%	24.5%	249.7%
Suriname	24,674	29.0%	4.8%	23.4%	4.5%	10.4%	-
Trinidad and Tobago	23,985	34.3%	1.8%	57.0%	0.7%	-	-
Turks and Caicos Islands	2,837	37.9%	12.9%	25.9%	6.3%	12.7%	57.4%
United States	61,000,000	27.9%	19.6%	22.3%	38.1%	11.6%	13.9%
Uruguay	515,158	51.5%	15.4%	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	197,933,298						

(-) Not available

Annex 1: Weekly monitoring of pandemic epidemiological indicators for countries that provided updated information—Region of the Americas, Epidemiologic Week 30, 2010

Country	Geographic spread	Trend	Intensity	Impact on Health Care Services	EW
Southern Cone					
Argentina	Regional	Decreasing	Low or moderate	NIA	30
Brazil	Regional	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Low	30
Chile	Regional	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Low	30
Paraguay					
Uruguay					
Andean Area					
Bolivia	Widespread	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Moderate	30
Colombia					
Ecuador	Localized	Unchanged	Low or moderate	NIA	30
Peru	Regional	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low	30
Venezuela					
Central America					
Belize					
Costa Rica					
El Salvador					
Guatemala					
Honduras					
Nicaragua	Regional	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Moderate	30
Panama	Regional	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low	30
Caribbean Countries					
Antigua & Barbuda					
Bahamas					
Barbados	Regional	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Low	30
Cuba					
Dominica	No activity	Decreasing	Low or moderate	Low	30
Dominican Republic					
Grenada					
Guyana					
Haiti					
Jamaica					
Saint Kitts & Nevis					
Saint Lucia					
Saint Vincent & Grenadines					
Suriname					
Trinidad & Tobago					
North America					
Canada					
Mexico					
United States of America	Regional	Unchanged	Low or moderate	Low	30

NIA: No information available

**Annex 2: Number of deaths confirmed for the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus Region of the Americas.
As of August 6, 2010 (17 h GMT; 12 h EST).**

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries in the Region.

Country	Cumulative number of deaths	New deaths reported. (since July 30, 2010, 12 h EST)
Southern Cone		
Argentina	626	
Brazil	2,125	
Chile	160	2
Paraguay	47	
Uruguay	20	
Andean Area		
Bolivia	59	
Colombia	255	
Ecuador	130	
Peru	241	0
Venezuela	137	
Central America		
Belize	0	
Costa Rica	70	1
El Salvador	34	
Guatemala	26	
Honduras	18	
Nicaragua	11	
Panama	12	
Caribbean Countries		
Antigua & Barbuda	0	
Bahamas	1	
Barbados	3	
Cuba	83	
Dominica	0	
Dominican Republic	23	
Grenada	0	
Guyana	0	
Haiti	0	
Jamaica	7	
Saint Kitts & Nevis	2	
Saint Lucia	1	
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	0	
Suriname	2	
Trinidad & Tobago	5	
North America		
Canada*	428	
Mexico	1,292	
United States†	2,718	
TOTAL	8,536	3

* As of April 24, 2010, pandemic-associated death reporting was discontinued

† These deaths include both laboratory-confirmed pandemic (H1N1) 2009 and other influenza associated deaths through April 3, 2010.
As of April 3, 2010, influenza-associated death reporting through AHDRA was discontinued

As of **August 6, 2010**, a total of **8,536 deaths** have been reported among confirmed cases in **28 countries** of the Region. In addition to the figures displayed in **Annex 2**, the following overseas territories have confirmed deaths of pandemic (H1N1) 2009: United Kingdom Overseas Territories; Cayman Islands (1 death); French Overseas Communities: Guadeloupe (5 deaths), French Guiana (1 death) and Martinique (1 death).

¹ Chile. Informe de situación. 28 de julio de 2010. www.pandemia.cl

² Paraguay. Informe semanal. Vigilancia de virus respiratórios SE 31. 4 de agosto de 2010

³ Bolivia. Notificación semanal de la situación de la pandemia por el nuevo virus Influenza A (H1N1)

⁴ El Salvador. Boletín epidemiológico. Del 29 de Julio 2010, SE 30.

⁵ FluWatch Report. EW 29-30. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>

⁶ Surveillance Summary. Week 30. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.