



## Regional Update Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

(August 7, 2009 - 22 h GMT; 17 h EST)

### Update on the Qualitative Indicators

For **epidemiological week 30** (EW 30, July 26 to August 1) 16 countries have reported updated information to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) regarding the qualitative indicators to monitor the pandemic (H1N1) 2009<sup>1</sup>. Data from the most recent week of notification is considered for the purposes of the analysis below (EW 27 – 30).

Currently, 22 countries in the Region report having *widespread geographical distribution* of the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus. Three more countries (Colombia, Panama and Saint Lucia) have been added to this group during EW 30. Dominica reports *no* pandemic (H1N1) 2009 *activity* during EW 30 (**Map 1**).

Regarding the **trend** of respiratory disease, seven countries report an *increasing trend*, namely Belize, Bolivia, Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay, Peru, and Saint Lucia. From these countries, Saint Lucia is the only country which reported a change in trend when comparing with the previous epidemiological week (**Map 2**).

Regarding the **intensity** of acute respiratory disease, seven countries (Argentina, Canada, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Paraguay) inform having *high* intensity when comparing to the same period in previous years. The number of countries reporting high intensity remains the same as last epidemiological week.

Argentina and El Salvador have reported a change from *very high* to high intensity; while Chile and Uruguay have changed from *high* to *low/moderate* intensity (**Map 3**).

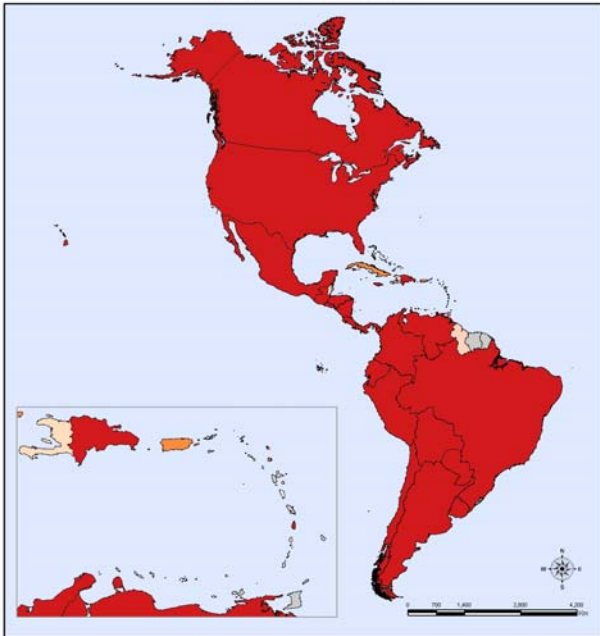
No countries report *severe impact on health-care services*, however, 7 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Paraguay) reported experiencing *moderate* impact and fifteen inform *low* impact on health care services (**Map 4**).

Of all 35 countries of the Region, Guatemala and Paraguay inform having higher levels of the qualitative indicators this week, with *widespread* geographic distribution, increasing trend, high intensity and moderate impact. Conversely, El Salvador reports experiencing a lower category for trend, intensity and impact on health care services. Similarly, Chile and Uruguay lowered their indicators for intensity and impact on health care services.

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

<sup>1</sup> See Table 4

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



**Geographical Spread**

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

Map Production:  
HSD/CD  
August 6th, 2009  
Projection:  
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal  
Source: Ministries of Health of the countries  
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO  
Created by PAHO/WHO

\*EW 30=Epidemiological Week from July 26 to August 1, 2009

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



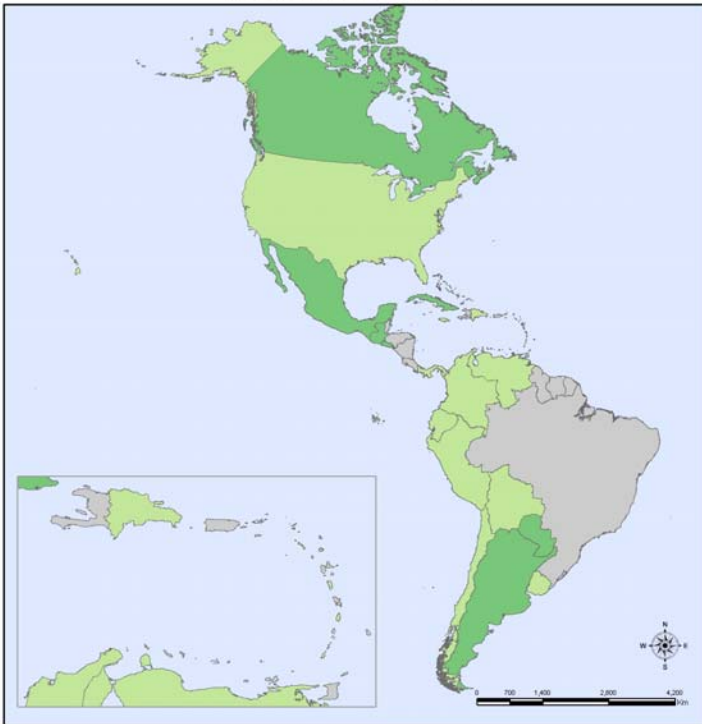
**Trend**

- No information available
- Decreasing
- Unchanged
- Increasing

Map Production:  
HSD/CD  
August 6th, 2009  
Projection:  
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal  
Source: Ministries of Health of the countries  
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO  
Created by PAHO/WHO

\*EW 30=Epidemiological Week from July 26 to August 1, 2009

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



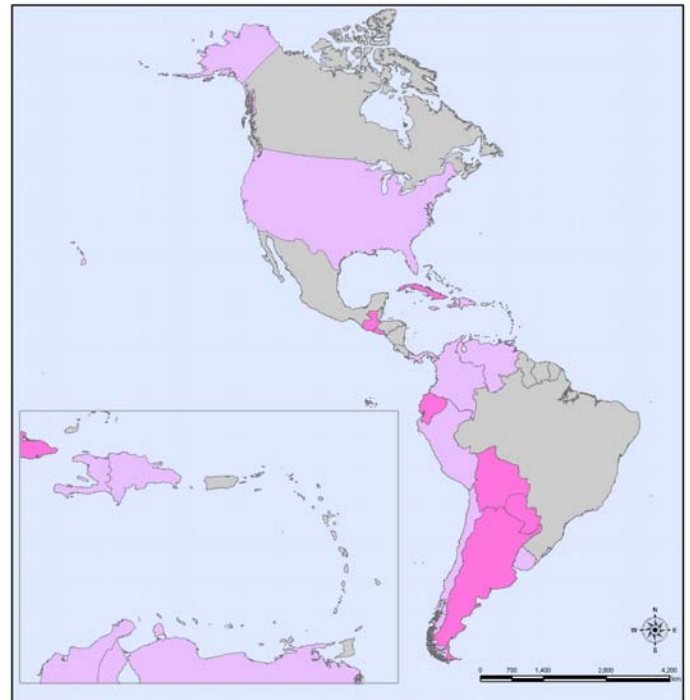
**Intensity of acute respiratory disease**

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

Map Production:  
HSD/CD  
August 6th, 2009  
Projection:  
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal  
Source: Ministries of Health of the countries  
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO  
Created by PAHO/WHO

\*EW 30=Epidemiological Week from July 26 to August 1, 2009

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



**Impact on health-care services**

- No information available
- Low
- Moderate
- Severe

Map Production:  
HSD/CD  
August 6th, 2009  
Projection:  
Lambert Equal Area Azimuthal  
Source: Ministries of Health of the countries  
Consolidated by PAHO/WHO  
Created by PAHO/WHO

\*EW 30=Epidemiological Week from July 26 to August 1, 2009

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

| Country                          | Geographic spread | Trend      | Intensity       | Impact on Health Care Services | EW            |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Antigua and Barbuda              | Regional          | Unchanged  | Low or moderate | Low                            | Not specified |
| Argentina                        | Widespread        | Decreasing | High            | Moderate                       | 30            |
| Bahamas                          | Regional          | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Barbados                         | NIA               | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            |               |
| Belize                           | Localized         | Increasing | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Bolivia                          | Widespread        | Increasing | Low or moderate | Moderate                       | 30            |
| Brazil                           | Widespread        | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Canada                           | Widespread        | Decreasing | High            | NIA                            | 29            |
| Chile                            | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Colombia                         | Widespread        | Unchanged  | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Costa Rica                       | Widespread        | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Cuba                             | Regional          | Unchanged  | High            | Moderate                       | 29            |
| Dominica                         | No activity       | Unchanged  | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Dominican Republic               | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Ecuador                          | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Moderate                       | 30            |
| El Salvador                      | Widespread        | Decreasing | High            | Moderate                       | 30            |
| Grenada                          | Localized         | Unchanged  | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Guatemala                        | Widespread        | Increasing | High            | Moderate                       | 30            |
| Guyana                           | Localized         | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Haiti                            | Localized         | Increasing | NIA             | Low                            | Not specified |
| Honduras                         | Widespread        | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Jamaica                          | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | Not specified |
| Mexico                           | Widespread        | Decreasing | High            | NIA                            | 27            |
| Nicaragua                        | Widespread        | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Panama                           | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Paraguay                         | Widespread        | Increasing | High            | Moderate                       | Not specified |
| Peru                             | Widespread        | Increasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | Not specified |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis            | Localized         | Unchanged  | Low or moderate | Low                            | 29            |
| Saint Lucia                      | Widespread        | Increasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | Localized         | Unchanged  | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Suriname                         | NIA               | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            |               |
| Trinidad and Tobago              | NIA               | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            |               |
| United States of America         | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 29            |
| Puerto Rico (U.S.)               | Regional          | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Virgin Islands (U.S.)            | NIA               | NIA        | NIA             | NIA                            | 28            |
| Uruguay                          | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |
| Venezuela                        | Widespread        | Decreasing | Low or moderate | Low                            | 30            |

NIA: No Information Available

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries in the Region

## Update on the number of cases and deaths

As of **August 7, 2009**, a total of **102,905 confirmed cases** have been notified in all **35 countries** in the Americas Region. A total of **1,274 deaths** have been detected among the confirmed cases in **20 countries** of the Region.

In addition to the figures displayed in Table 2, The following overseas territories have confirmed cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009: American Samoa, U.S. Territory (8); Guam, U.S. Territory (1); Puerto Rico, U.S. Territory (20); Virgin Islands, U.S. Territory (49); Bermuda, UK Overseas Territory (1); Cayman Islands, UK Overseas Territory (14); British Virgin Islands, UK

Overseas Territory (2); Turks and Caicos Islands (3); Martinique, French Overseas Community (15); Guadeloupe, French Overseas Community (11); Saint-Martin, French Overseas Community (1); Netherlands Antilles, Aruba (13); Netherlands Antilles, Bonaire (27); Netherlands Antilles, Curaçao (39)[1]; Netherlands Antilles, St. Eustatius (1); and Netherlands Antilles, St. Maarten (14).

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>

**Table 2.** Number of cases and deaths confirmed for the Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus Region of the Americas. Updated as of August 7, 2009 (22 h GMT; 17 h EST).

| Country                    | Number of confirmed cases | Number of deaths | New cases (since July 31) | New deaths (since July 31) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Antigua & Barbuda          | 3                         | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Argentina                  | 5710                      | 338              | 815                       | 95                         |
| Bahamas                    | 23                        | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Barbados                   | 34                        | 0                | 3                         | 0                          |
| Belize                     | 23                        | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Bolivia                    | 953                       | 9                | 36                        | 3                          |
| Brazil                     | 2959                      | 96               | 1393                      | 62                         |
| Canada                     | 10156                     | 62               | 0                         | 4                          |
| Chile**                    | 12030                     | 104              | 170                       | 8                          |
| Colombia                   | 275                       | 17               | 16                        | 4                          |
| Costa Rica                 | 755                       | 25               | 87                        | 4                          |
| Cuba                       | 264                       | 0                | 54                        | 0                          |
| Dominica                   | 1                         | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Dominican Republic         | 182                       | 5                | 51                        | 2                          |
| Ecuador                    | 881                       | 18               | 378                       | 9                          |
| El Salvador                | 568                       | 9                | 12                        | 0                          |
| Grenada                    | 2                         | 0                | 1                         | 0                          |
| Guatemala                  | 548                       | 10               | 90                        | 1                          |
| Guyana                     | 7                         | 0                | 1                         | 0                          |
| Haiti                      | 3                         | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Honduras                   | 254                       | 6                | 64                        | 5                          |
| Jamaica                    | 64                        | 3                | 11                        | 1                          |
| Mexico                     | 17416                     | 146              | 1397                      | 4                          |
| Nicaragua                  | 510                       | 0                | 66                        | 0                          |
| Panama                     | 600                       | 2                | 29                        | 0                          |
| Paraguay                   | 244                       | 27               | 49                        | 13                         |
| Peru                       | 3559                      | 23               | 0                         | 0                          |
| Saint Kitts & Nevis        | 3                         | 1                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Saint Lucia                | 6                         | 0                | 3                         | 0                          |
| Saint Vincent & Grenadines | 1                         | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Suriname                   | 11                        | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| Trinidad & Tobago          | 97                        | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| United States*             | 43771                     | 353              | 0                         | 51                         |
| Uruguay                    | 550                       | 20               | 0                         | 0                          |
| Venezuela                  | 442                       | 0                | 0                         | 0                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>102905</b>             | <b>1274</b>      | <b>4726</b>               | <b>266</b>                 |

Source: Ministries of Health of the countries in the Region

\*As of EW 29, the United States no longer reports individual cases, only deaths

\*\*A total of 342,588 cases compatible with the case definition have been reported; of them 12,030 have been confirmed for pandemic influenza (H1N1) 2009 infection.

## Update on the Virological Situation

Virological data obtained from Ministry of Health websites, from Ministry of Health reports sent to PAHO and notifications from National Influenza Centers (NICs) is included below.

For the purposes of this analysis, only countries that differentiated between sub-typed influenza A results were selected. We excluded from the calculations of the percentages results from samples of influenza that were not subtyped or were un-subtypeable.

Virological information for countries that provided that level of detail is included below in Table 3.

Among viruses that were subtyped as *influenza A* (seasonal H1, H3 or pandemic (H1N1) 2009), the predominant virus is pandemic (H1N1) 2009. Nevertheless, in Colombia there still appears to be circulation of seasonal influenza A viruses (28.3% H1 and 30.4% H3).

**Table 3.** Relative circulation of pandemic (H1N1) for Selected Countries.

| Country       | Epidemiological Week | % | Pandemic (H1N1) 2009     |
|---------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
|               |                      |   | All subtyped influenza A |
| Argentina     | 29                   |   | 100.0%                   |
| Canada        | 29                   |   | 100.0%                   |
| Chile         | 30                   |   | 99.4%                    |
| Colombia      | 27                   |   | 41.3%                    |
| Costa Rica    | 17-25                |   | 99.8%                    |
| Cuba          | 29                   |   | 77.1%                    |
| USA           | 29                   |   | 98.2%                    |
| <b>MEDIAN</b> |                      |   | <b>99.4%</b>             |

*Source: Ministries of Health and National Influenza Centers of the countries in the Region*

**Table 4.** Qualitative indicators for the monitoring of pandemic (H1N1) 2009

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Geographical spread:</b> refers to the number and distribution of sites reporting influenza activity.   |   |
| <b>No activity:</b>  | No laboratory confirmed case(s) of influenza, or evidence of increased or unusual respiratory disease activity.           |
| <b>Localized:</b>  | Limited to one administrative unit of the country (or reporting site) only.   |
| <b>Regional:</b>   | Appearing in multiple but <50% of the administrative units of the country (or reporting sites).                           |
| <b>Widespread:</b>   | Appearing in ≥50% of the administrative units of the country (or reporting sites).  |
| <b>No information available:</b>   | No information available for the previous 1 week period.  |
| <b>Trend of respiratory disease activity compared to the previous week:</b> refers to changes in the level of respiratory disease activity compared with the previous week.  |   |
| <b>Increasing:</b>   | Evidence that the level of respiratory disease activity is increasing compared with the previous week.                    |
| <b>Unchanged:</b>  | Evidence that the level of respiratory disease activity is unchanged compared with the previous week.                     |
| <b>Decreasing:</b>   | Evidence that the level of respiratory disease activity is decreasing compared with the previous week.                    |
| <b>No information available.</b>   |   |
| <b>Intensity of Acute Respiratory Disease in the Population:</b> is an estimate of the proportion of the population with acute respiratory disease, covering the spectrum of disease from influenza-like illness to pneumonia. |   |
| <b>Low or moderate:</b>  | A normal or slightly increased proportion of the population is currently affected by respiratory illness.                 |
| <b>High:</b>   | A large proportion of the population is currently affected by respiratory illness.  |
| <b>Very high:</b>  | A very large proportion of the population is currently affected by respiratory illness.                                   |
| <b>No information available.</b>   |   |
| <b>Impact on Health-Care Services:</b> refers to the degree of disruption of health-care services as a result of acute respiratory disease.  |   |
| <b>Low:</b>  | Demands on health-care services are not above usual levels.   |
| <b>Moderate:</b>   | Demands on health-care services are above the usual demand levels but still below the maximum capacity of those services. |
| <b>Severe:</b>   | Demands on health care services exceed the capacity of those services.  |
| <b>No information available.</b>   |   |

*Source:* Updated interim WHO guidance on global surveillance of human infection with pandemic (H1N1) 2009 virus. 10 July 2009.

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](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](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/notes/h1n1_surveillance_20090710/en/index.html)).

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 (2005) National Focal Points.