

ECDC DAILY UPDATE

2009 influenza A (H1N1) pandemic

05 January 2010
14.00 CEST

Main developments in the past 24 hours

- US and Canada epidemiological updates included;
- A total of 1 952 fatal cases in Europe and EFTA countries and 11 372 in the rest of the world have been reported up to date;
- Scientific Advance on 2009 influenza A(H1N1) pandemic in indigenous and aboriginal populations of North America and Oceania, including Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific islands published;
- No newsletters will be produced on Wednesday the 6th of January (Epiphany) which is a Public Holiday in Sweden and also observed by ECDC.

This report is based on official information provided by national public health websites or through other official communication channels. Reported number of confirmed 2009 pandemic influenza A (H1N1) cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care, by country, as of 05 January 2010, 14.00 CEST in EU and EFTA countries are in Table 1. An update on the number of confirmed fatal cases for the world and Europe is presented in Table 2.

Epidemiologic update

All 27 EU and 4 EFTA countries are reporting cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. A total of 1 952 deaths have been reported since April 2009 (Table 2). From week 41 to 51 the numbers of deaths each had shown a steady increase almost doubling every fortnight over six weeks. The fall observed in weeks 52 and 53 was to be expected as it represents official reports placed on national web-sites and a number of Member States have not been doing this in what was a holiday week. While the most deaths have to date been in Western Europe there are increasing numbers of deaths being reported from Central and Eastern Europe. The reported cumulative fatal pandemic (H1N1) cases in the world have now passed 10,000 cases (Table 2). However, because of lack of laboratory confirmation and underreporting among other factors, this is likely to be a gross underestimation of the true number of fatalities associated with the pandemic. Available updates on hospital admissions, per Member State, can be found in Table 1.

Updates from the US and Canada

From U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) weekly influenza surveillance report:

Week 51 (December 20-26, 2009)

- Influenza activity decreased slightly in the U.S.
- 154 (3.9%) specimens tested and reported to CDC/Influenza Division were positive for influenza.
- All subtyped influenza A viruses reported to CDC were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses.
- The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was above the epidemic threshold.
- Four influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. Two of these deaths were associated with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus infection and two were associated with an influenza A virus for which the subtype was undetermined. The number of influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported has declined each week for six weeks.
- The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) was 3.2% which is above the national baseline of 2.3%. This is an increase from the previous week, however, the increase is likely influenced by a reduction in routine health-care visits during the holiday season, as has occurred during previous seasons.
- Four states reported geographically widespread influenza activity, 13 states reported regional influenza activity, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and 19 states reported local influenza activity, Guam and 13 states reported sporadic influenza activity, and one state reported no influenza activity, the U.S. Virgin Islands did not report.

For more information: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "What's New on the H1N1 Flu Site":

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/whatsnew.htm>

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Overview of Influenza Surveillance in the United States: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/pdf/overview.pdf>

From the Public Health Agency of Canada:

- December 13 to December 19, 2009 (Week 50) (Most recent week reported; please note difference to the U.S. above)
- All the influenza indicators had declines for at least five consecutive weeks.
- Low levels of influenza activity were reported.
- The ILI consultation rate was below the expected range for this time of the year.
- 3.7% of the specimens tested were positive for influenza. The Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 strain accounted for nearly 100% of the positive influenza A subtyped specimens.
- The number of hospitalized cases, ICU admissions and deaths reported are about half of those reported the previous week and approximately one quarter of those reported during week 48.
- Two laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated paediatric hospitalizations were reported through the Immunization Monitoring Program Active (IMPACT) network. Both of these cases were due to Pandemic (H1N1) 2009.

For more information: Public Health Agency of Canada: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza>

Public Health Agency of Canada FluWatch: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/09-10/w50_09/index-eng.php

ECDC Scientific Advance

During the 2009 influenza A(H1N1) pandemic, the risk of suffering from severe forms of the disease has been observed to be particularly high among certain groups, notably children, pregnant women and people with underlying medical conditions. Additionally, more information has become available observing such higher risk for indigenous and aboriginal populations in North America (American Indians and Inuits) and Oceania (Aboriginals, Maori and Pacific Islanders).

The full ECDC review will be available today at:

http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/activities/sciadvice/Lists/ECDC%20Reviews/ECDC_DispForm.aspx?List=512ff74f%2D77d4%2D4ad8%2Db6d6%2Dbf0f23083f30&ID=696&Source=http%3A%2F%2Fstaging%2Eecdcdmz%2Eeuropa%2Eeu%2Fen%2Factivities%2Fsciadvice%2FLists%2FECDC%2520Reviews%2FAllIt

Table 1. Reported number of confirmed 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care, by country, as of 05 January 2010, 14.00 CEST in EU and EFTA countries.

Country (date of report)	Number of cases currently hospitalised	Cumulative number of cases admitted in hospitals	Number of cases currently in intensive care	Cumulative number of cases admitted to intensive care
Austria (17.12.)	172	-	-	-
Belgium (24.12.)	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria (13.12)	-	-	-	-
Cyprus(29.12)	-	-	3	23
Czech Republic (23.12.)	-	-	-	-
Denmark (30.12.)	-	-	2	70
Estonia (29.12.)	-	-	-	-
Finland (02.01.)	49	-	21	-
France (29.12.)	-	-	209	985
Germany (22.12.)	-	-	-	-
Greece (30.12.)	-	-	-	-
Hungary (30.12.)	-	-	-	-
Iceland (10.12.)	3	180	1	20
Ireland (31.12.)	149	1034	10	87
Italy (31.12.)	-	923	-	446
Latvia (17.12.)	-	-	-	-
Liechtenstein (30.12.)	-	-	-	-
Lithuania (21.12.)	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg (27.12.)	-	-	0	0
Malta (04.09.)	-	46	-	1
Netherlands (28.12.)	31	2156	6	209
Norway (23.12.)	5	1310	4	170
Poland (22.12.)	-	-	-	-
Portugal (30.12.)	58	-	20	-
Romania (05.01.)	-	-	-	-
Slovakia (22.12.)	51	260	18	94
Slovenia (17.12.)	76	-	-	-
Spain (30.12.)	-	-	-	-
Sweden (30.12.)	-	1286	-	-
Switzerland (30.12.)	7	430	-	77
United Kingdom* (31.12.)	496	-	112	-

Note: Data for the EU and EFTA countries correspond to the Ministry of Health or surveillance centre websites. New updates with changes in figures are highlighted in gray. (-) denotes no information readily available in official sources.

* Data includes information for England only. Other cumulative hospitalisations are: Scotland (1474), Wales (438) and Northern Ireland (574).

Table 2. Reported number of new and cumulative confirmed fatal 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) cases in EU and EFTA countries, and in the rest of the world by country as 05 January 2010, 14.00 CEST.

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
EU and EFTA countries		
Austria	-	3
Belgium	-	17
Bulgaria	-	35
Cyprus	-	3
Czech Republic	-	56
Denmark	-	26
Estonia	-	10
Finland	-	36
France	-	230*
Germany	-	132
Greece	-	70
Hungary	-	52
Iceland	-	2
Ireland	-	22
Italy	-	193
Latvia	-	28
Lithuania	-	16
Luxembourg	-	3
Malta	-	3
Netherlands	-	53
Norway	-	29
Poland	16	138
Portugal	-	70
Romania	2	65
Slovakia	-	30
Slovenia	-	13
Spain	-	271
Sweden	-	25
Switzerland	-	12
United Kingdom	-	309
Total	18	1952
Other European countries and central Asia		
Albania	-	6
Armenia	-	3
Belarus	-	20
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-	10
Croatia	-	24
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	14
Georgia	5	15
Kosovo	-	14
Moldova	5	30
Montenegro	2	7
Russia	-	19
Serbia	1	56
Ukraine	-	202
Total	13	420
Mediterranean and Middle-East		
Algeria	-	47
Bahrain	-	7
Egypt	-	149
Iran	-	147
Iraq	-	42
Israel	-	81
Jordan	-	16
Kuwait	-	27
Lebanon	-	5
Libya	-	1
Morocco	-	50

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	23
Oman	-	30
Qatar	-	8
Saudi Arabia	-	124
Syria	-	127
Tunisia	-	18
Turkey	-	415
United Arab Emirates	-	6
Yemen	-	27
Total	-	1350
Africa		
Ghana	-	1
Madagascar	-	3
Mauritius	-	8
Mozambique	-	2
Namibia	-	1
Sao Tome & Principe	-	2
South Africa	-	93
Sudan	-	5
Tanzania	-	1
Total	-	116
North America		
Canada	-	410
Mexico	-	823
USA	-	2160
Total	-	3393
Central America and Caribbean		
Bahamas	-	4
Barbados	-	3
Cayman Islands	-	1
Costa Rica	-	47
Cuba	-	41
Dominican Republic	-	23
El Salvador	-	31
Guatemala	-	18
Honduras	-	16
Jamaica	-	7
Nicaragua	-	11
Panama	-	11
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	2
Saint Lucia	-	1
Suriname	-	2
Trinidad-Tobago	-	5
Total	-	223
South America		
Argentina	-	617
Bolivia	-	58
Brazil	-	1632
Chile	-	150
Colombia	-	196
Ecuador	-	96
Paraguay	-	52
Peru	-	208
Uruguay	-	33
Venezuela	-	121
Total	-	3163
North-East and South Asia		
Afghanistan	-	17
Bangladesh	-	6
China (Mainland)	-	648
Hong Kong SAR China	-	53

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
India	15	989
Japan	-	107
Macao SAR China	-	11
Maldives	-	1
Mongolia	-	26
Nepal	-	2
Pakistan	-	1
South Korea	-	170
Sri Lanka	1	36
Taiwan	-	35
Total	16	2102
South-East Asia		
Brunei Darussalam	-	1
Cambodia	-	6
Indonesia	-	10
Laos Peoples Democratic Republic	-	1
Malaysia	-	77
Philippines	-	30
Singapore	-	19
Thailand	-	191
Vietnam	-	53
Total	-	388
Australia and Pacific		
Australia	-	191
Cook Islands	-	1
Marshall Islands	-	1
New Zealand	-	20
Samoa	-	2
Solomon Islands	-	1
Tonga	-	1
Total	-	217
TOTAL	47	13324

* Deaths reported from France include 1 in Guyana, 9 in New Caledonia, 7 in the French Polynesia, 7 in La Réunion, 1 in Martinique, 2 in Mayotte, 5 in Guadeloupe and 198 in mainland France.

Figure 1. Number of confirmed deaths among 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) cases by week of notification in EU and EFTA countries

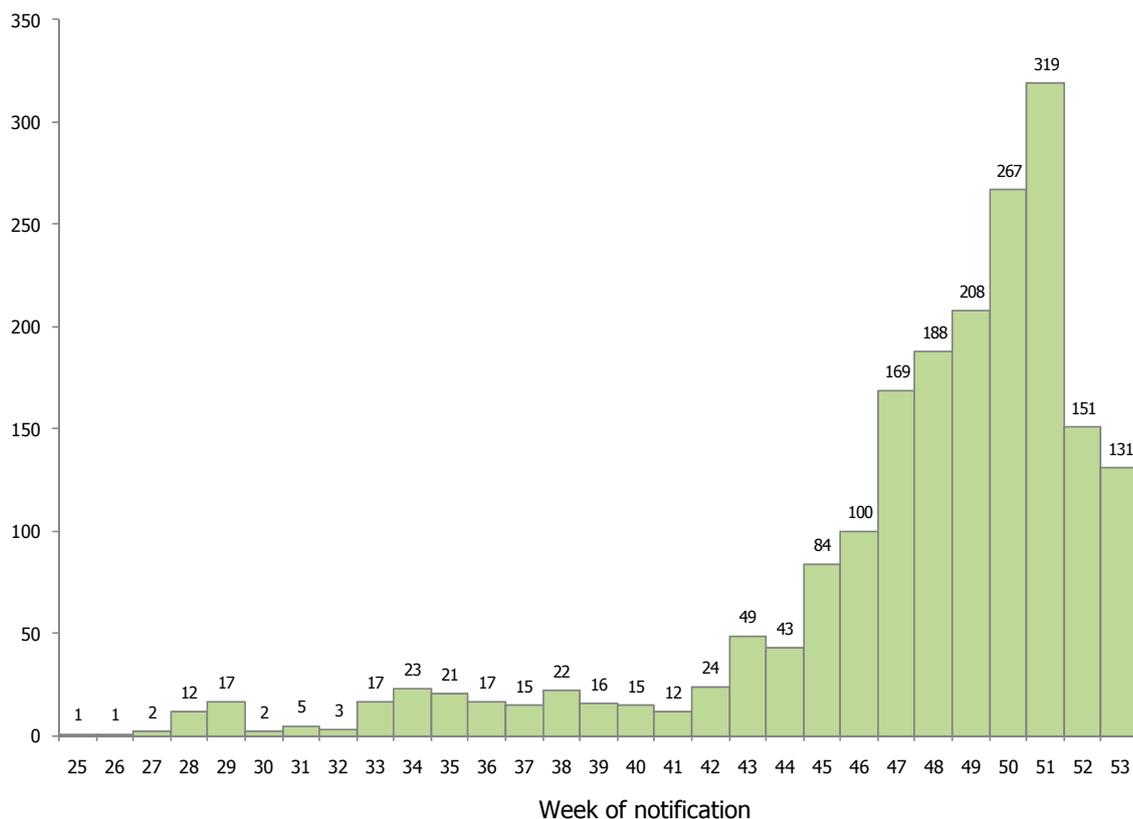
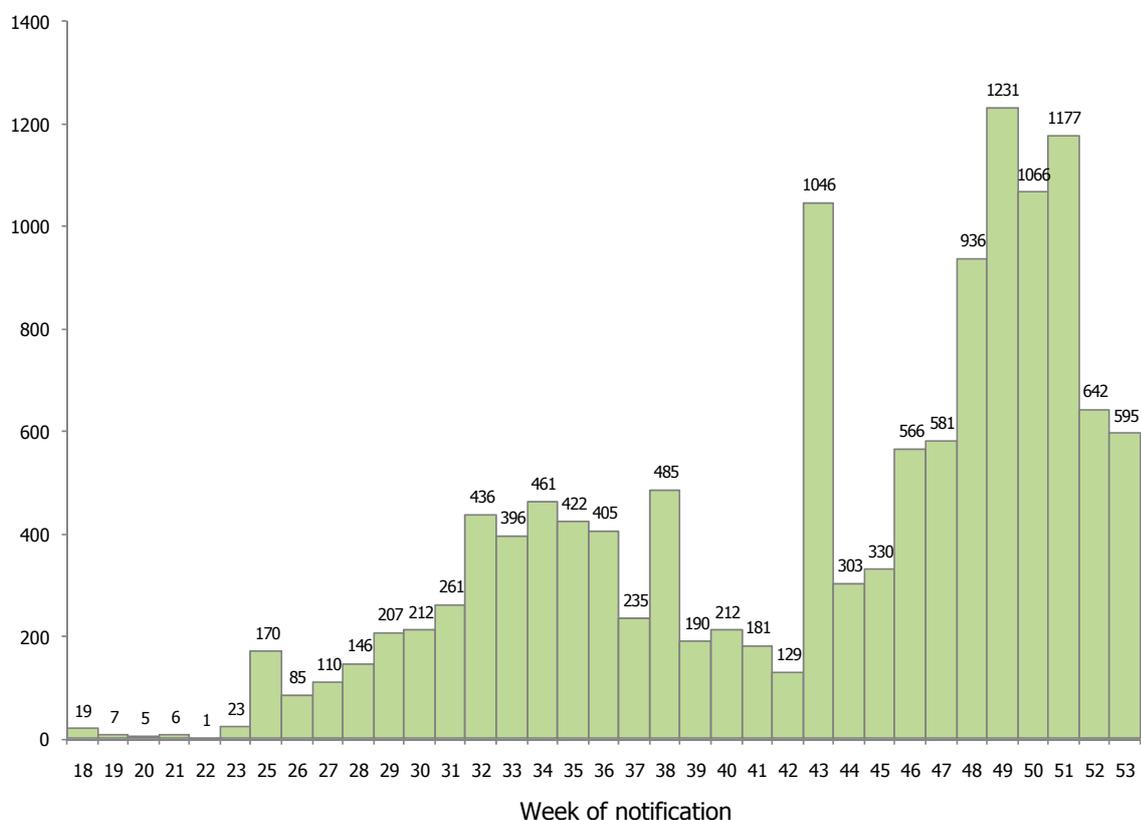


Figure 2. Number of confirmed deaths among 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) 2009 influenza cases by week of notification in the rest of the world*.



* The apparent increase in the number of deaths in week 43 is due to the aggregate reporting of fatal cases from Brazil from weeks 37 to 40 and to our batch report of US fatal cases since 1 August 2009.

Figure 3. Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) in EU and EFTA countries, as of 05 January 2010, 14.00 CEST

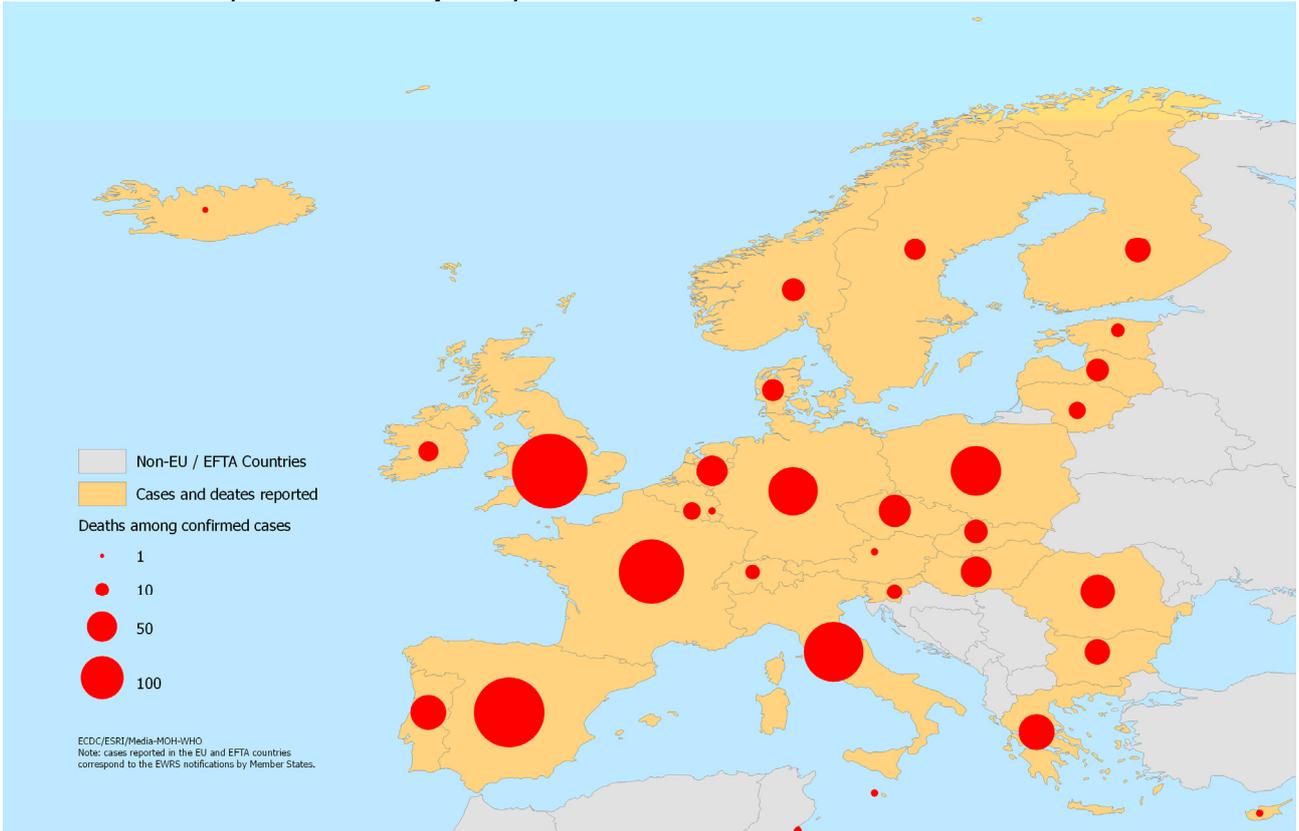


Figure 4. Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) and country status, by country, as of 05 January 2010, 14.00 CEST

