

ECDC DAILY UPDATE

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

Update 26 August 2009,
17:00 hours CEST

Main developments in past 24 hours

- 745 new cases reported in the EU and EFTA countries, reaching a total of 43 990 cases;
- European Commission policy statement on vaccination target and priority groups published;
- Public health development: WHO guidelines for the use of influenza antivirals published;
- New ECDC Health education document on vaccine use published.

This report is based on official information provided by the national public health websites, or through other official communication channels. An update on the number of confirmed cases as of 26 August 2009, 16:00 hours CEST, is presented in Table 1 and Table 2.

***Disclaimer:** Several countries have now announced recommendations on treatment on clinical signs only and focused laboratory testing only for specific population groups or in outbreaks. For these countries, the reported numbers of cases presented in this report will severely underestimate the true incidence in the country and will not be comparable to countries still recommending laboratory tests of all suspected influenza cases.*

Epidemiologic update

All 27 EU and 4 EFTA countries are reporting cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. A total of 43 990 confirmed cases, including 93 deaths, have been reported since April 2009 (Table 1). In the past 24 hours, 745 new cases from the EU and EFTA countries were confirmed.

Currently, the majority of cases have been reported from Germany and the UK. The latest available updates on hospital admissions per Member State are presented in Table 2. The majority of recent hospitalized cases have been reported from the UK and from England in particular.

Other Updates

European Commission policy statement on vaccination target and priority groups published

The European Union Health Security Committee and the Early Warning and Response authorities (HSC/EWRS) adopted a policy statement proposed by the European Commission which outlines a shared European approach towards identifying target and priority groups for A H1N1 vaccination.

The statement is available at:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/1252&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

The ECDC interim guidance on pandemic vaccines is available at:

http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/Publications/Forms/ECDC_DisForm.aspx?ID=388

Public health development: WHO guidelines for the use of influenza antivirals published

The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued evidence-based guidelines for the use of influenza antivirals and recommendations concerning the use of the current antivirals in the management of patients infected or possibly infected with all kinds of influenza (seasonal, pandemic and animal influenzas). At present the major interest will be in their use concerning the A(H1N1) 2009 pandemic virus. Rather than claiming to be applicable to every country in the world (or even within Europe) these are designed to give a common understanding of the underlying evidence and are specifically to assist national or local public health authorities produce their own guidelines tailored to their own circumstances. The WHO guidelines especially emphasize the use of the neuraminidase inhibitors, oseltamivir and zanamivir for people in the risk-groups and with severe or progressive illness so as to prevent severe illness and deaths, reduce the need for hospitalization and reduce the duration of hospital stays. A description of the guidelines listing the 18 recommendations with a comment is posted as a public health development on the ECDC web-site.

The full ECDC review and links to the original document can be found at:

http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/activities/sciadvic/Pages/Public_Health_Developments.aspx?filterItemsBy1=ECDC_Subject_wh&filterItemsByValue1=Influenza

New ECDC Health education document on vaccine use published

ECDC's HEALTH EDUCATION document "On the use of specific pandemic influenza vaccines" was published today. The document is a short summary of information on the use of specific pandemic influenza vaccines during the pandemic (H1N1) 2009. It provides background information and guidance on pandemic vaccine use, along with options for prioritisation strategies based on the current scenario of the pandemic.

The full document is available from:

http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/healthtopics/Documents/0908_Influenza_AH1N1_On_the_use_of_specific_pandemic_influenza_vaccines.pdf

Changing the format of the daily report

As the pandemic (H1N1) 2009 evolves, new types of data become increasingly important, whereas other may become less interesting. ECDC has refreshed the format of the Situation Update to better accommodate current and anticipated information needs. The name of this report changed to "Daily Update" and some changes have been made in the data reported.

Table 1 – reported cases by the EU/EFTA countries remains as before. In addition, we are publishing a new Table 2 on the number of current and cumulative hospitalisations and admission to intensive care in EU/EFTA Member States. The source of the information is official statements or surveillance reports published by national health authorities. It should be noted that indications and thresholds for hospitalisations vary by country, so the figures quoted may not be directly comparable between countries.

Assuming no changes in the national reporting system, trends of hospitalisations over time should give an accurate representation of the evolution of the pandemic. This might change if countries are faced with capacity issues within the healthcare system at a later stage of this evolving pandemic.

Table 3 lists only reported deaths for countries outside the EU/EFTA area; we have discontinued reporting the case numbers for these countries. The main reason for this is that more and more countries have stopped the reporting of new cases, and these figures no longer give a representative picture of the situation.

The two graphs now show number of reported deaths by week of report – one graph for EU/EFTA, one for the entire world. The two maps depict cumulative deaths by country, one for EU/EFTA, one for the world.

Table 1: Reported new confirmed cases and cumulative number of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza and cumulative deaths among confirmed cases by country as of 26 August 2009, 16:00 hours (CEST) in the EU and EFTA countries

Country	Confirmed cases reported in the last 24h	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	Deaths among confirmed cases ^a
Austria	-	270	-
Belgium	-	126	1
Bulgaria	-	63	-
Cyprus	-	297	-
Czech Republic	-	237	-
Denmark	9	537	-
Estonia	1	59	-
Finland	-	210	-
France ^b	-	1125	10 ^e
Germany	615	14940	-
Greece	-	1631	1
Hungary	-	151	1
Iceland	-	152	-
Ireland	-	678	2
Italy	-	1517	-
Latvia	-	23	-
Liechtenstein	-	5	-
Lithuania	1	48	-
Luxemburg	1	130	-
Malta	4	246	1
Netherlands ^c	-	1473	2
Norway	-	868	-
Poland	2	155	-
Portugal	-	2210	-
Romania	2	294	-
Slovakia	1	113	-
Slovenia	-	210	-
Spain	-	1538	16
Sweden	84	756	-
Switzerland	25	971	-
United Kingdom ^d	-	12957	59
Total	745	43990	93

Note: cases reported in the EU and EFTA countries correspond to the EWRS notifications by Member States or Ministry of Health websites. *Countries shaded with gray are not recommending laboratory tests for all suspect cases, therefore comparisons in time or between these countries should not be made at present.*

^a Deaths are included in the cumulative number of confirmed cases

^b Cases reported from France include those reported from the overseas territories (434).

^c Cases from the Netherlands include those reported from Aruba and the Dutch Antilles

^d Cases reported from the United Kingdom include the number of individual cases from the following overseas territories: Anguilla, The Falklands, Gibraltar, Sovereign Base Area Cyprus, Turks and Caicos Islands (78)

^e Deaths reported from France include 5 in New Caledonia, 3 in the French Polynesia and 2 in mainland France.

Table 2: Reported number of confirmed influenza A(H1N1)v cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care by country as of 26 August 2009, 16:00 hours (CEST) in the EU and EFTA countries

Country (date of report)	Most recent number of cases admitted in hospitals	Cumulative number of cases admitted in hospitals	Most recent number of cases admitted to intensive care	Cumulative number of cases admitted to intensive care
Austria (7.8.)	0	-	0	-
Belgium (7.8.)	0	-	0	-
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-
Czech Republic (17.8.)	0	-	0	-
Denmark (26.8.)	-	4	-	-
Estonia (14.8.)	0	0	0	0
Finland (18.8.)	-	-	-	-
France ^a (18.8.)	6	65	5	11
Germany (24.8.)	-	-	-	-
Greece (13.8.)	-	-	1	2
Hungary (19.8.)	-	27	-	-
Iceland (20.8.)	0	0	0	0
Ireland (20.8.)	14	55	-	-
Italy (17.7.)	-	-	-	-
Latvia (13.8.)	-	1	-	-
Liechtenstein (19.8.)	-	-	-	-
Lithuania (13.8.)	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg (14.8.)	-	-	0	0
Malta	-	-	-	-
Netherlands (20.8.)	18	46	-	-
Norway (19.8.)	-	-	-	-
Poland (18.8.)	-	-	-	-
Portugal (20.8.)	8	-	-	-
Romania	-	18	-	-
Slovakia (12.8.)	2	33	0	0
Slovenia (10.8.)	-	-	-	-
Spain (20.8.)	-	-	32	91
Sweden (20.8.)	-	-	-	-
Switzerland (25.8.)	-	20	-	1
United Kingdom ^b (20.8.)	263	-	30	-

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

^aCases reported from France include those reported from the overseas territories. ^bData includes all probable cases for England only. Does not include Scotland (114 cumulative hospitalisations), Wales (38) and Northern Ireland (36).

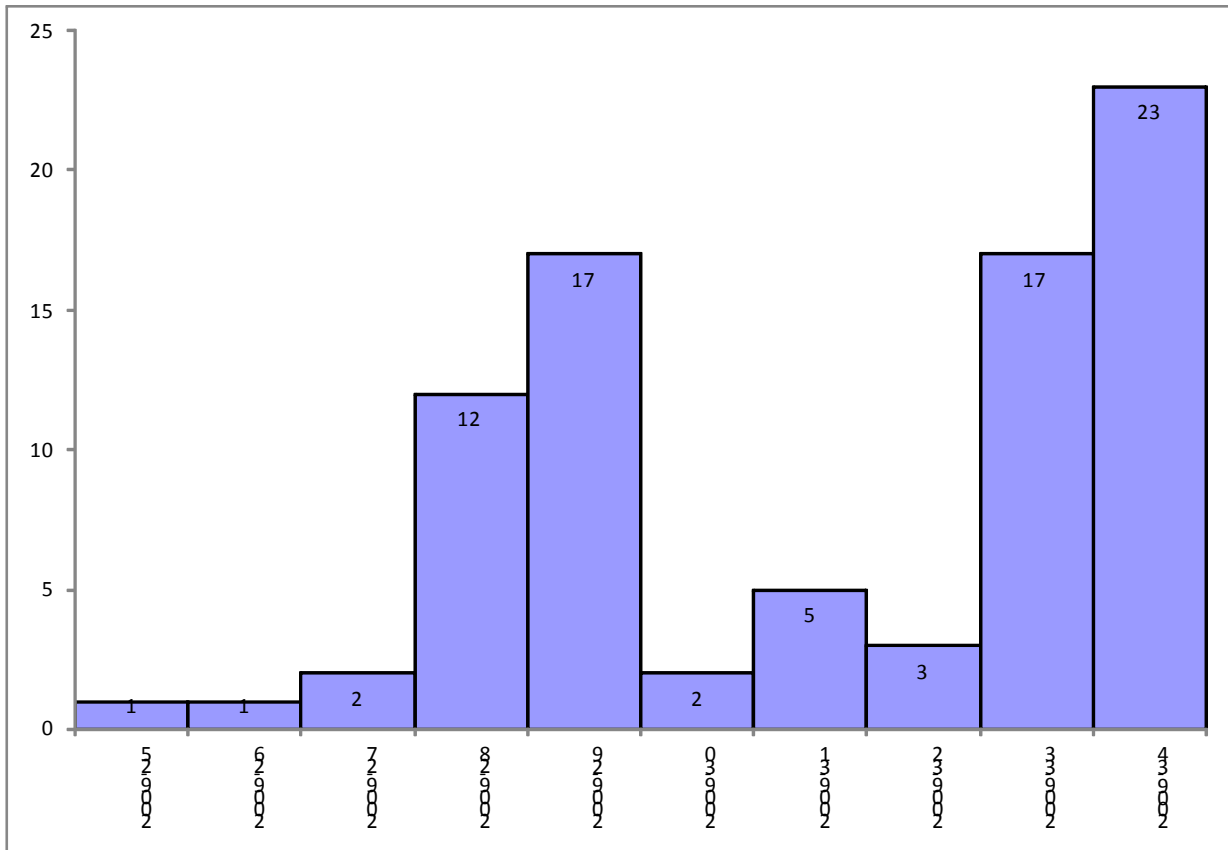
Table 3. Reported number of new and cumulative confirmed fatal Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases by country as of 26 August 2009, 16:00 hours (CEST) outside of the EU/EFTA area

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES & CENTRAL ASIA		
No deaths reported	-	-
MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE-EAST		
Egypt	-	1
Iran	1	1
Iraq	-	1
Israel	-	11
Kuwait	-	2
Lebanon	-	1
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	1
Oman	-	4
Qatar	-	1
Saudi Arabia	-	16
United Arab Emirates	-	1
Yemen	-	1
AFRICA		
Ghana	-	1
Mauritius	-	5
South Africa	7	15
NORTH AMERICA		
Canada	-	71
Mexico	9	179
USA	-	522
CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN		
Cayman Islands	-	1
Costa Rica	-	31
Dominican Republic	-	5
El Salvador	-	15
Guatemala	-	10
Honduras	-	7
Jamaica	-	4
Nicaragua	1	2
Panama	-	6
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	1
SOUTH AMERICA		
Argentina	-	439

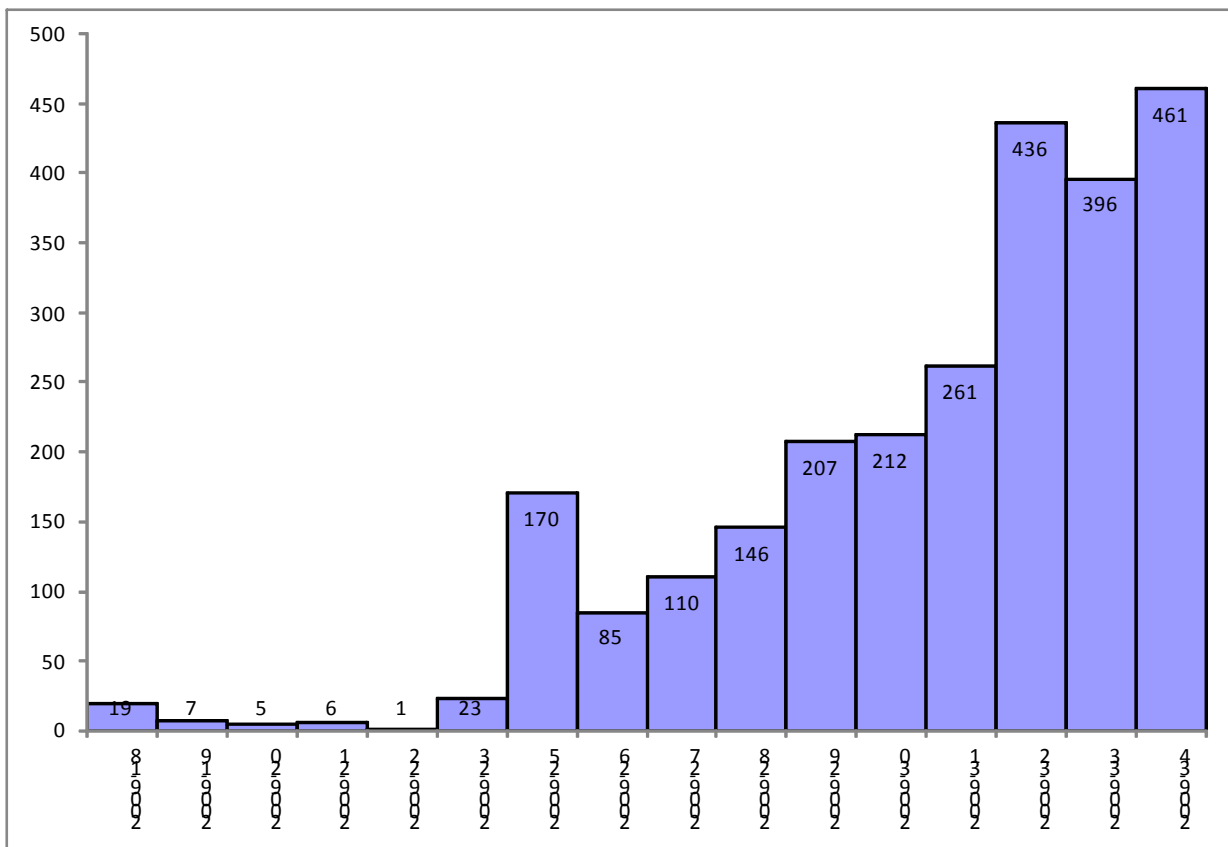
Bolivia	-	19
Brazil	-	368
Chile	-	128
Colombia	6	29
Ecuador	-	27
Paraguay	-	41
Peru	-	80
Uruguay	-	22
Venezuela	-	17
NORTH-EAST & SOUTH ASIA		
Hong Kong SAR China	-	4
India	1	64
Japan	-	3
South Korea	-	2
Taiwan	-	5
SOUTH-EAST ASIA		
Brunei Darussalam	-	1
Indonesia	-	5
Laos Peoples Democratic Republic	-	1
Malaysia	-	69
Philippines	-	8
Singapore	-	13
Thailand	8	119
Vietnam	-	2
AUSTRALIA & PACIFIC		
Australia	-	132
Cook Islands	-	1
New Zealand	-	16
Samoa	-	2
Tonga	-	1
TOTAL	33	2534

Note: cases reported in non-EU and EFTA countries correspond to cases published on Ministry of Health websites, or through WHO, or through credible media source quoting national authorities. Therefore, some of these cases may be taken out at a later stage if not validated. Yellow shading indicates a new update has been recorded for the country during the past 24 hours.

Figure 1: Number of confirmed deaths among Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 cases by week of notification. EU and EFTA countries (upper panel, week 25 to week 34, 2009) and world (lower panel, week 18 to week 34, 2009).

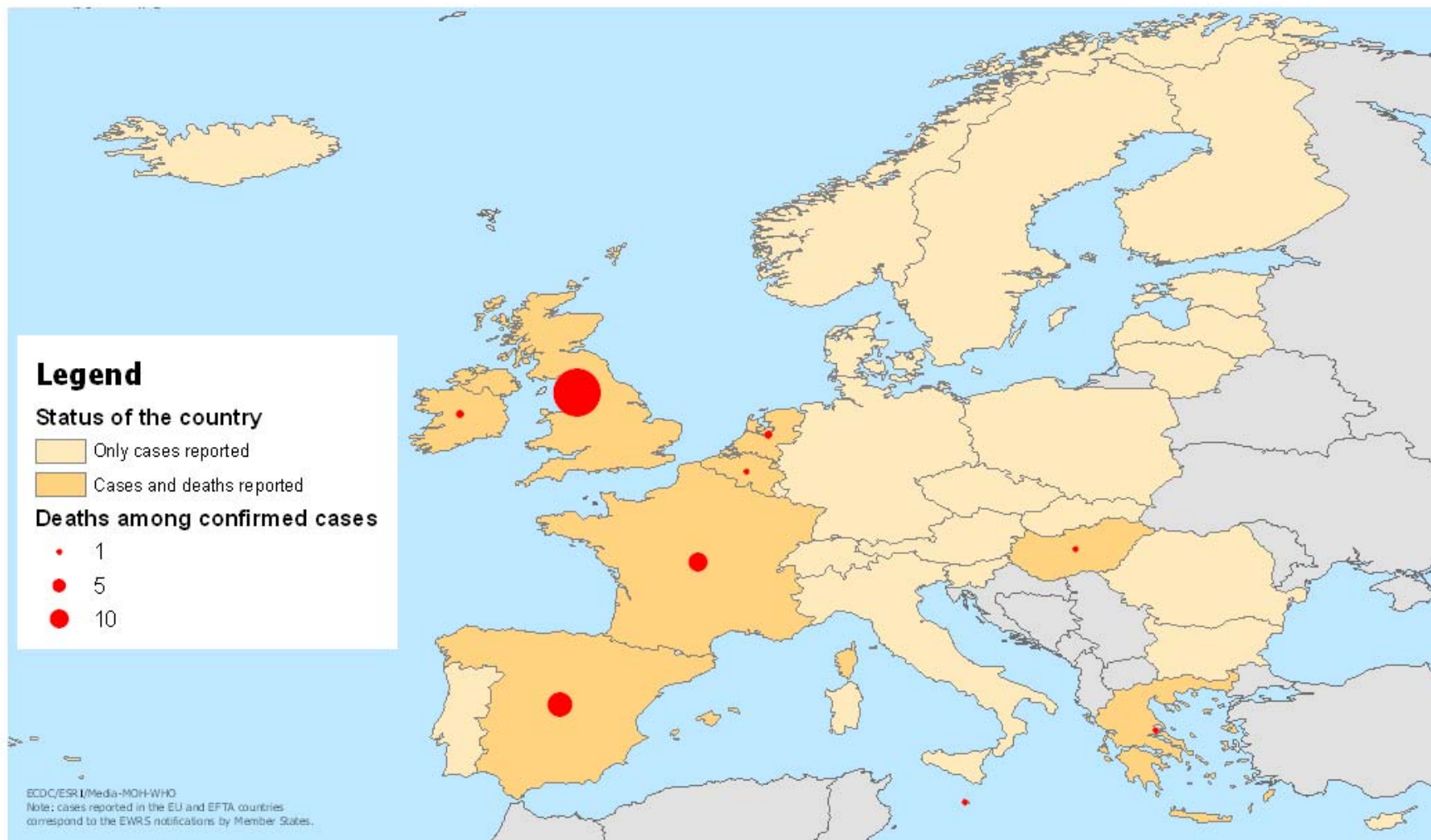


Notification week



Notification week

Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of influenza A(H1N1)v in EU and EFTA countries, as of 26 August 2009, 16:00 hours CEST



Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of influenza A(H1N1)v and country reporting status by country, as of 26 August 2009, 16:00 hours CEST

