

ECDC DAILY UPDATE

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

Update 26 October 2009,
09:00 hours CEST

Main developments in past 72 hours

- Weekly overview of non-EU countries included;
- EMEA maintains recommendation of two doses for pandemic vaccine;
- Isolated oseltamivir-resistant influenza A(H1N1)v strain identified in Hong Kong
- Total of 274 fatal cases in Europe and EFTA countries and 5 576 in the rest of the world

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 fatal cases, as of 25 October 2009 16:00 hours CEST, for the world, and 26 October 09:00 hours CEST, for Europe is presented in Table 2.

Weekly overview of selected non-EU countries

Introduction

A special section on the evolution of the pandemic influenza H1N1 2009 in selected countries outside Europe is being published in the Daily Update on Mondays. On Tuesdays, a review of the situation in USA and Canada is published.

The objective of this section is to provide the interested public and professional audience with an easy to access and concise source of information to get an impression on global trends of the H1N1 pandemic. The contents are mainly based on national surveillance reports or pandemic updates, but may also contain information from media or other public sources.

The countries have been selected on the following criteria: They have experienced the 2009 winter influenza season, they represent different geographical regions, they have adequately large population sizes and they have accessible and reliable public-health data.

Global Update

According to the latest pandemic update from the World Health Organization, there have been more than 414 000 laboratory confirmed cases and nearly 5000 deaths reported to the organization globally. Many countries have now stopped counting individual cases, therefore this figure is a gross underestimate.

In general, influenza activity in the northern hemisphere is unchanged from last week, though respiratory disease activity continues to spread and increase in intensity. In tropical areas of the world, rates of illness are generally declining and the temperate region of the southern hemisphere has no significant pandemic activity.

The WHO Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 situation update is available at: http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_10_23/en/index.html

Chile (pop 16.6 million)

The number of pandemic influenza cases reported weekly to the national level decreased since week 28 and have been at low levels since week 30. Only three confirmed cases of pandemic influenza were reported during week 41. Until 21st October, the number of confirmed cases was 12 257, out of which 1 590 presented with Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI). The majority of SARI cases were infants (75.7/100 000 pop.) or children between 1-4 years of age (16.6/100 000 pop.). Approximately half (53%) of SARI cases had a chronic underlying illness. Out of the confirmed cases 135 have had a fatal outcome associated with pandemic influenza. The majority (69.1%) of the fatal cases had an underlying illness.

The majority of influenza strains identified until week 34 were A(H1N1)v and less than 0.5% were identified as seasonal H1 or H3 strains. Very few influenza viruses were identified through surveillance activities during week 41.

The Chilean surveillance report is available at:

<http://www.minsal.cl/>

http://www.redsalud.gov.cl/portal/url/page/minsalcl/q_varios/influenza.html

Brazil (pop. 192 million) – no update identified for this week

Since the beginning of the pandemic until week 36, 46 810 Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) cases were notified in Brazil, of which 9 249 were subsequently laboratory-confirmed as influenza A (H1N1)v infections. Underlying risk-factors were reported for 37.4% of the confirmed SARI cases. The number of confirmed cases as well as ILI cases appears to have been decreasing for the last four weeks. Of the confirmed SARI cases, 899 (9.7%) have had a fatal outcome. Mortality due to SARI cases with confirmed influenza A (H1N1)v is currently 0,47/100.000 inhabitants.

Out of the 9 249 SARI cases linked to influenza A (H1N1)v, 37.7% presented with at least one of risk factor (including pregnancy), which does not significantly differ from what is observed for seasonal influenza in the country. Among SARI cases in fertile age 24.3% were pregnant, which does not differ from what is observed with seasonal influenza (16.8%).

Out of 18 257 PCR tests conducted up to week 36, 70.1% tested positive for influenza A (H1N1)v. This proportion has not changed much in the last four weeks, although the number of samples being collected is decreasing rapidly.

For entire epidemiological update for week 36 (Portuguese) see:

http://portal.saude.gov.br/portal/arquivos/pdf/informe_influenza_se_36.pdf

H1N1 website of the ministry of health:

http://dtr2001.saude.gov.br/ascom/svs_informa/conteudo/especial_influenza_1/pag_esp_influenza_site.htm

A recent report on notified SARI cases can be found at:

<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19362>

Australia (pop. 20.7 million)

As of 26 October, Australia has confirmed 37 039 cases. The number of deaths remains at 186. Of these deaths four were pregnant women and 12.9% were of indigenous ethnic origin. Around 2.5% of the Australian population consider themselves indigenous. In the week preceding the report, 11 cases have been newly hospitalised, and one of those were admitted to Intensive Care Units. The cumulative number of hospitalizations since the beginning of the pandemic is 4 904.

Australian Government-Department of Health and Ageing

<http://www.healthemergency.gov.au/internet/healthemergency/publishing.nsf/Content/updates>

Australia Influenza Surveillance reports can be found at:

<http://www.healthemergency.gov.au/internet/healthemergency/publishing.nsf/Content/ozflucurrent.htm>

A recent report on critically ill patients in Australia and New Zealand can be found at:

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMoa0908481>

New Zealand (pop. 4.2 million)

The latest surveillance report of week 42 (5-11 Oct) indicates a slight increase in ILI consultation rates from the sentinel surveillance system, however overall the rates remain below the baseline level of 50 consultations per 100 000 persons. It remains highest among children and teenagers aged 0 – 19 years. Up to 18th October, a total of 4875 influenza viruses have been reported during this season. Very few influenza viruses were reported during week 42. The pandemic influenza (H1N1) 09 has become the predominant strain among all influenza viruses from sentinel surveillance.

NZ Sentinel surveillance report is at:

http://www.surv.esr.cri.nz/virology/influenza_weekly_update.php

A recent report on critically ill patients in Australia and New Zealand can be found at:

<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMoa0908481>

South Africa (pop. 48.6 million)

As of 20th October, South Africa has confirmed 12 378 cases of pandemic (H1N1) 09. The number of deaths related to the pandemic remains at 91, and has not increased since the last report. The epidemic curve shows a marked decline of reported cases since end of August, and no further deaths have been reported since end September.

South African surveillance report available at: <http://www.nicd.ac.za/>

A recent report on fatal cases from South Africa can be found at:

<http://www.eurosurveillance.org/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19369>

Other updates

EMEA maintains recommendation of two doses for pandemic vaccine

On Friday, the European Medicines Agency's Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) reviewed early data from clinical studies for the three authorised pandemic vaccines, Celvapan, Focetria and Pandemrix. The Committee concluded to maintain the recommendation it adopted in September, namely that the three vaccines be preferably given as two doses, at least three weeks apart. The data currently available for Pandemrix and for Focetria indicate that one dose may be sufficient in adults, but are too limited to allow the Committee to recommend the general use of a single-dose vaccination schedule.

More information is available in the EMEA Questions& Answers document:

<http://www.emea.europa.eu/pdfs/human/pandemicinfluenza/66680909en.pdf>

Tamiflu-resistant strain identified ion Hong Kong

An isolated oseltamivir influenza A(H1N1)v strain was identified in a specimen from a 16-year old girl in Hong Kong. No related cases have been identified. This was the 4th case identified in Hong Kong.

Epidemiologic update

All 27 EU and 4 EFTA countries are reporting cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. Since April 2009, a total 274 deaths have been reported; the information is available in Table 2.

The latest available updates as of October 25, 2009, at 16:00, on new and on confirmed fatal pandemic (H1N1) cases outside the EU/EFTA area by country, are also presented in Table 2.

The latest available updates on hospital admissions per Member State are presented in Table 1.

Daily Update contents

ECDC has now stopped publishing numbers of confirmed cases reported from EU/EFTA member states – as well as from other countries around the world – in its Daily Update. This is due to the fact that most European countries are now recommending laboratory confirmation only in certain population groups, such as the risk groups. The World Health Organization has also recommended that countries verify only the first few hundred cases; after that exhaustive sampling is not recommended any more.

We will continue to monitor the evolution of the pandemic within Europe mirrored by the number of fatal cases by country and through the Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview which is published on Fridays. For the countries outside of Europe, we will monitor the number of fatal cases by country and monitor the surveillance reports of selected non-European countries. It must be emphasized that the numbers of fatal cases per country associated with pandemic influenza are likely to be gross underestimates. Access to healthcare, the quality of the laboratory network in the country, the quality of the surveillance system and the case definition used for identifying fatal cases all affect these figures and will vary from country to country.

Daily Updates will be produced by 09:00hrs every morning Monday to Friday. No updates will be produced during weekends and the Daily Update published on Monday includes the weekend's information. The production cycle will be reviewed as needed.

Table 1: Reported number of confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care by country as of 26 October 2009, 09:00 hours (CEST) in the 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 (16.10.)	-	-	-	-
Belgium (16.10.)	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	-	-	-	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-
Czech Republic (15.10.)	-	-	-	-
Denmark (21.10.)	-	-	-	-
Estonia (23.10.)	-	11	-	-
Finland (20.10.)	-	-	-	-
France (20.10.)	37	317	13	43
Germany (14.10.)	-	-	-	-
Greece (21.10.)	-	-	-	-
Hungary (22.10.)	-	-	-	-
Iceland (21.10.)	31	80	6	-
Ireland (18.10.)	-	325	-	26
Italy (18.10)	-	1494	-	-
Latvia (13.08.)	-	1	-	-
Liechtenstein (21.10.)	-	-	-	-
Lithuania (13.08.)	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg (21.10.)	-	-	0	0
Malta (04.09.)	-	46	-	1
Netherlands (23.10.)	54	205	7	31
Norway (22.10.)	15	142	4	27
Poland (23.10.)	-	-	-	-
Portugal (21.10.)	15	-	2	-
Romania (19.10)	-	-	-	-
Slovakia (12.08.)	2	33	0	0
Slovenia (10.08.)	-	-	-	-
Spain (22.10.)	-	303	-	137
Sweden (22.10.)	13	145	-	-
Switzerland (21.10.)	-	24	-	3
United Kingdom ^a (22.10.)	506	-	99	-

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.

^aData includes all probable cases for England only. Does not include Scotland (380 cumulative hospitalisations), Wales (126) and Northern Ireland (346).

Table 2. Reported number of new and cumulative confirmed fatal Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases in EU and EFTA countries, as 26 October 2009, 09:00 hours CEST, and in the rest of the world by country, as of 25 October 2009, 16:00 hours CEST.

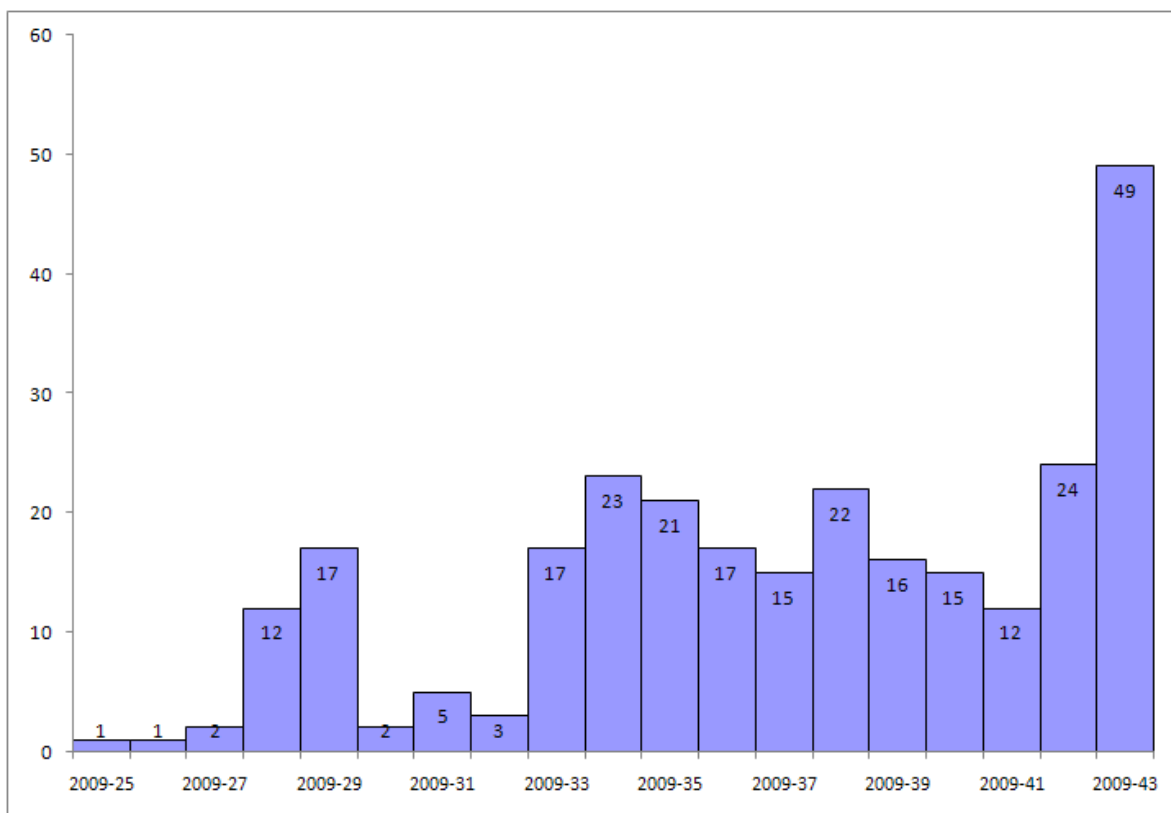
Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
EU AND EFTA COUNTRIES		
Belgium	-	5
Bulgaria	-	1
France	-	36 ^a
Germany	1	3
Greece	-	3
Hungary	-	4
Iceland	-	1
Ireland	-	8
Italy	-	4
Luxembourg	-	1
Malta	-	5
Netherlands	2	6
Norway	2	10
Portugal	-	3
Spain	-	54
Sweden	-	2
United Kingdom	-	128
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES & CENTRAL ASIA		
Serbia	-	1
Moldova	1	1
MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE-EAST		
Bahrain	-	6
Egypt	-	3
Iran	6	16
Iraq	1	3
Israel	-	32
Jordan	1	3
Kuwait	-	10
Lebanon	-	2
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	1
Oman	-	23
Qatar	-	3
Saudi Arabia	3	39
Syria	-	2
Turkey	1	1
United Arab Emirates	-	6

Yemen	-	13
AFRICA		
Ghana	-	1
Madagascar	-	1
Mauritius	-	8
Mozambique	-	2
Namibia	-	1
Sao Tome & Principe	2	2
South Africa	-	91
Sudan	-	1
Tanzania	-	1
NORTH AMERICA		
Canada	3	86
Mexico	7	278
USA ^b	411	1004
CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN		
Bahamas	-	4
Barbados	-	3
Cayman Islands	-	1
Costa Rica	-	38
Cuba	-	7
Dominican Republic	-	22
El Salvador	-	22
Guatemala	-	13
Honduras	-	16
Jamaica	-	5
Nicaragua	-	11
Panama	-	11
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	1
Suriname	-	2
Trinidad-Tobago	1	5
SOUTH AMERICA		
Argentina	5	585
Bolivia	-	56
Brazil	-	1368
Chile	2	136
Colombia	7	118
Ecuador	-	70
Paraguay	-	52
Peru	-	162
Uruguay	-	33
Venezuela	-	93

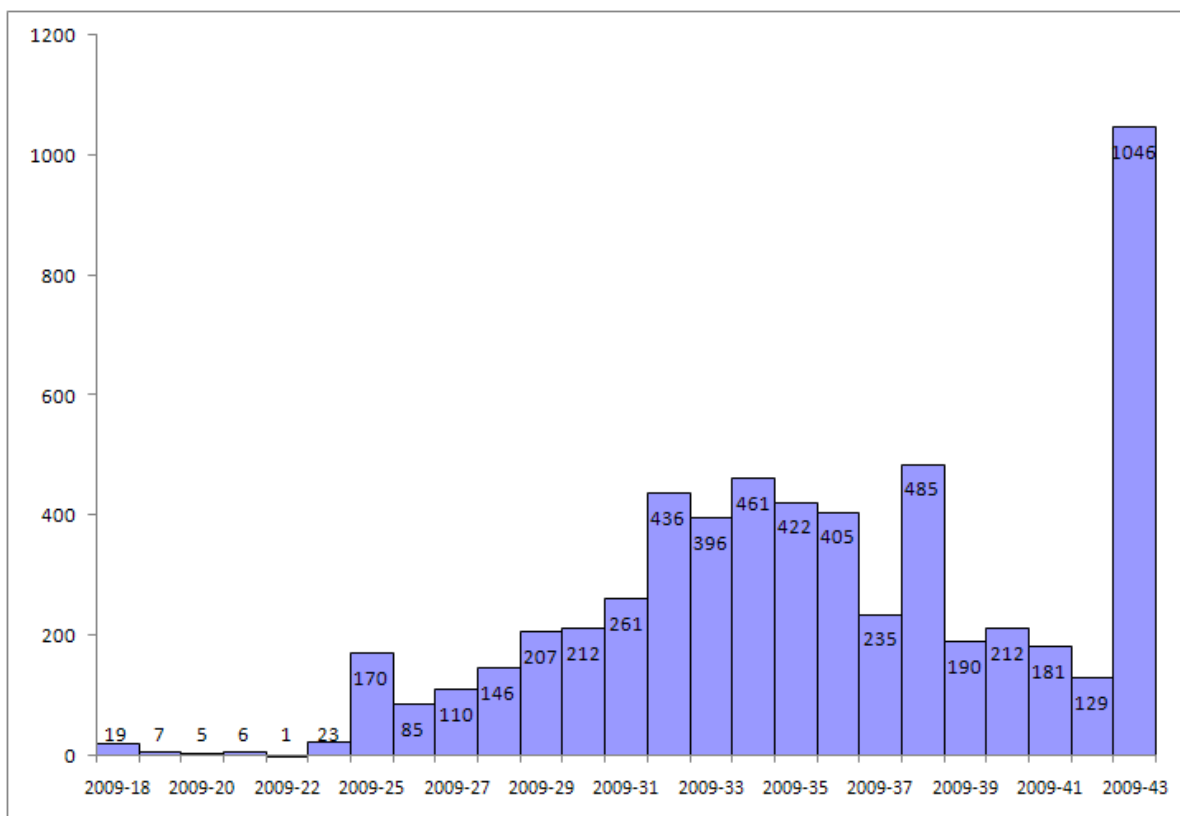
NORTH-EAST & SOUTH ASIA		
Bangladesh	1	6
China (Mainland)	-	2
Hong Kong SAR China	-	33
India	3	430
Japan	-	27
Macao SAR China	-	1
Mongolia	1	1
South Korea	-	20
Taiwan	-	25
SOUTH-EAST ASIA		
Brunei Darussalam	-	1
Cambodia	-	3
Indonesia	-	10
Laos Peoples Democratic Republic	-	1
Malaysia	-	77
Philippines	-	28
Singapore	-	18
Thailand	-	176
Vietnam	7	31
AUSTRALIA & PACIFIC		
Australia	-	186
Cook Islands	-	1
Marshall Islands	-	1
New Zealand	-	19
Samoa	-	2
Solomon Islands	-	1
Tonga	-	1
TOTAL	468	5850

^a Deaths reported from France include 1 in Guyana, 9 in New Caledonia, 7 in the French Polynesia, 6 in the Reunion, 1 in Martinique, 2 in Mayotte, 1 in Guadeloupe and 9 in mainland France. ^b Update today includes reported laboratory-confirmed influenza-associated U.S. fatal cases since August 1.

Figure 1: Number of confirmed deaths among pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases by week of notification. EU and EFTA countries (upper panel, week 25 to week 43, 2009) and world (lower panel^{a,b}, week 18 to week 43, 2009).



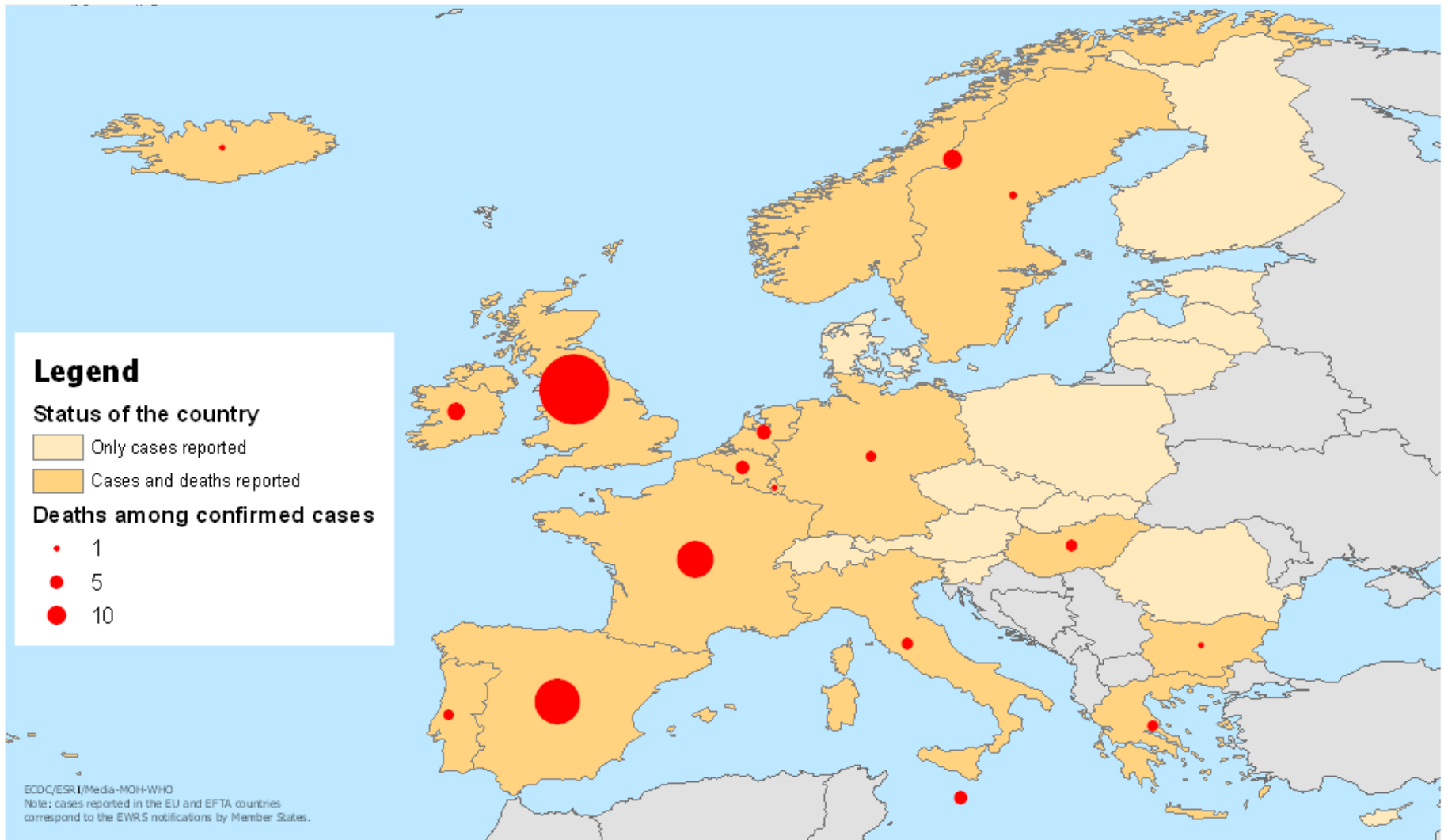
Notification week



Notification week

^a The apparent increase in the number of deaths on 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 August 1st.

Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of influenza A(H1N1)v in EU and EFTA countries, as of 26 October 2009, 09:00 hours CEST



Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of influenza A(H1N1)v and country reporting status by country, as of 25 October 2009, 16:00 hours CEST

