

ECDC DAILY UPDATE

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009

14 December 2009
9.00 CEST

Main developments in the past 72 hours

- Global Health Security Initiative: statement concerning pandemic and vaccination
- EpiSouth update: several countries in the region still showing high or medium level influenza activity
- Weekly influenza surveillance overview: In the majority of countries influenza activity is widespread but thirteen countries have reported decreasing rates of influenza-like illness for at least the last two weeks.
- A total of 1 333 fatal cases in Europe and EFTA countries and 9 530 in the rest of the world have been reported up to date.

This report is based on official information provided by national public health websites or through other official communication channels.

Reported number of confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care, by country, as of 14 December 2009, 9.00 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

Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview and Officially Reported Deaths in the EU

The Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview which presents data from the European Influenza Surveillance Network (EISN) was published on December 11th covering the period November 30th to December 6th. This covers all countries in the European Union and EEA countries. This reported that most countries are still experiencing medium influenza intensity with only nine reporting high to very high levels. The pandemic strain influenza H1N1 2009 still accounts for 99% of all subtyped viruses in sentinel patients. In the majority of countries activity is widespread but thirteen countries have reported decreasing rates of influenza-like illness for at least the last two weeks. Oseltamivir resistance was found in one percent of influenza pandemic viruses tested in the countries reporting to EISN. Another important respiratory virus respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is starting to appear and 11 countries reported to EISN for this. Overall RSV detections are increasing as expected at this time of the year and countries should be on the alert for this virus.

More details of the EISN and Community Network Reference Laboratory are available here:

http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/activities/surveillance/EISN/Pages/EISN_Bulletin.aspx

All 27 EU and 4 EFTA countries are reporting cases of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza. A total of 1 333 deaths have been reported since April 2009 (Table 2). Since week 41 the numbers of deaths each has shown a steady increase almost doubling every fortnight over the last six weeks. 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 fatalities associated with the pandemic. Available updates on hospital admissions, per Member State, can be found in Table 1.

EpiSouth update

As of 07 November 2009, a total of 959 deaths among biologically confirmed A/H1N1/2009 cases have been reported in the EpiSouth region (Mediterranean and the Balkans). 203 new deaths were reported since 01 December 2009:

The 1st deaths were reported in Albania and Montenegro, 5 new deaths were recorded in Algeria, 2 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 8 in Croatia, 10 in Egypt, 3 in FYROM, 3 in Israel, 3 in Kosovo, 2 in Morocco, 1 in Palestine (1st in Gaza), 2 in Tunisia and 46 in Turkey.

In week 48, influenza activity was

- high and increasing in Albania and Turkey,
- medium and stable in Romania,
- medium in Bulgaria,
- decreasing in Croatia, Israel, Serbia.
- Community transmission of A(H1N1)2009 influenza virus has been established in almost all regions of Tunisia.

Hajj 2009:

Iranian health authorities reported limited A(H1N1)2009 infection upon return from Hajj. Tunisian health authorities detected (at Tunis airport) 21 cases of A(H1N1)2009 among Tunisian pilgrims returning from Hajj and 40 cases of A(H1N1)2009 infection among foreign pilgrims in transit. Tunisians pilgrims were quarantined and received treatment. Note that Tunisia had banned attending Hajj this year.

For more details please refer to the EpiSouth bulletin: <http://www.episouth.org/cgi-bin/searchbull?TEMP=2&QUART=20094>

Other updates

Global Health Security Initiative

Ministers and Commissioner Vassiliou from the countries / unions in the Global Health Security Initiative which includes the European Union, France, Germany, Italy and the UK met recently in London and have issued a statement concerning the pandemic. This included the following paragraphs on vaccination:

1. Pandemic H1N1 vaccines remain the best protection against the health impact of the virus. We therefore emphasize the importance of timely public communications to encourage broad vaccination uptake. Noting in particular the increased risk which the virus poses for certain segments of our population, we will continue to take steps to target those most at-risk as part of our vaccination strategies;
2. Sustainability and timeliness of vaccine supplies remain critical to the effective implementation of vaccination campaigns, which is especially valid for pandemic vaccines that cannot be stockpiled in advance. Information with respect to production and delivery schedules is critical for the planning and implementation of vaccination campaigns. To this end, our governments will continue to share information with one another and to work with manufacturers;
3. International support is critical to improving access to H1N1 vaccines and other medical supplies that may be needed by all countries to mitigate the health impact of the pandemic. With this recognition, we reaffirm our commitment to work in close partnership with the WHO and other international partners to support developing countries and other countries in need of assistance in responding to the pandemic;
4. We reaffirm our commitment to collaborate on post-market surveillance and to continue monitoring vaccine safety. Effective surveillance and reporting systems are essential for ensuring public confidence in the safety and effectiveness of pandemic vaccines;

For more information see GHSI Ministerial Statement December 2009:

<http://www.ghsi.ca/english/statementLondon2009.asp>

Table 1. Reported number of confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases admitted to hospitals and intensive care, by country, as of 14 December 2009, 9.00 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 (02.12.)	-	-	-	-
Belgium (10.12.)	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria (29.11)	-	-	-	-
Cyprus(23.11)	-	-	-	6
Czech Republic (09.12.)	-	-	-	-
Denmark (09.12.)	-	-	-	-
Estonia (09.12.)	-	-	-	-
Finland (10.12.)	12	-	5	-
France (11.12.)	-	-	184	710
Germany (08.12.)	-	-	-	-
Greece (09.12.)	-	-	-	-
Hungary (06.12.)	-	-	-	-
Iceland (10.12.)	3	180	1	20
Ireland (10.12.)	161	1003	9	84
Italy (09.12.)	-	764	-	410
Latvia (07.12.)	-	-	-	-
Liechtenstein (26.11.)	-	-	-	-
Lithuania (30.11.)	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg (16.11.)	-	-	0	0
Malta (04.09.)	-	46	-	1
Netherlands (11.12.)	104	2068	9	196
Norway (09.12.)	27	1283	15	169
Poland (30.11.)	-	-	-	-
Portugal (09.12.)	127	-	20	-
Romania (08.12.)	-	-	-	-
Slovakia (02.12.)	38	81	8	31
Slovenia (10.08.)	95	-	9	-
Spain (03.12.)	-	-	-	-
Sweden (10.12.)	39	1092	-	-
Switzerland (09.12.)	19	250	-	53
United Kingdom* (10.12.)	636	-	133	-

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 (1344), Wales (429) and Northern Ireland (570).

Table 2. Reported number of new and cumulative confirmed fatal Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases in EU and EFTA countries, as of 14 December 2009, 9.00 CEST, and in the rest of the world by country, as of 13 December 2009, 16.00 CEST.

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
EU and EFTA countries		
Austria	-	3
Belgium	-	14
Bulgaria	-	5
Cyprus	-	2
Czech Republic	-	34
Denmark	-	16
Estonia	-	5
Finland	-	17
France	13	171 [†]
Germany	-	94
Greece	-	36
Hungary	-	23
Iceland	-	2
Ireland	-	20
Italy	-	137
Latvia	-	14
Lithuania	1	10
Luxembourg	-	2
Malta	-	3
Netherlands	8	50
Norway	-	27
Poland	43	67
Portugal	-	35
Romania	2	18
Slovakia	-	3
Slovenia	-	8
Spain	39	208
Sweden	-	18
Switzerland	-	8
United Kingdom	-	283
Total	106	1333
Other European countries and central Asia		
Albania	-	1
Belarus	-	20
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	7
Croatia	-	22
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	-	7
Georgia	1	1
Kosovo	-	10
Moldova	-	13
Montenegro	-	2
Russia	-	19
Serbia	1	33
Ukraine	-	41
Total	4	176
Mediterranean and Middle-East		
Algeria	-	16
Bahrain	-	7
Egypt	11	46
Iran	-	147
Iraq	-	34
Israel	-	67
Jordan	-	14
Kuwait	-	27
Lebanon	-	3

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
Libya	-	1
Morocco	2	14
Occupied Palestinian Territory	-	9
Oman	-	27
Qatar	-	8
Saudi Arabia	-	81
Syria	-	50
Tunisia	-	5
Turkey	-	353
United Arab Emirates	-	6
Yemen	-	22
Total	13	937
Africa		
Ghana	-	1
Madagascar	-	3
Mauritius	-	8
Mozambique	-	2
Namibia	-	1
Sao Tome & Principe	-	2
South Africa	-	92
Sudan	-	1
Tanzania	-	1
Total	-	111
North America		
Canada	10	373
Mexico	19	732
USA	-	1929
Total	29	3034
Central America and Caribbean		
Bahamas	-	4
Barbados	-	3
Cayman Islands	-	1
Costa Rica	-	41
Cuba	-	32
Dominican Republic	-	23
El Salvador	1	31
Guatemala	-	18
Honduras	-	16
Jamaica	-	6
Nicaragua	-	11
Panama	-	11
Saint Kitts and Nevis	-	1
Saint Lucia	-	1
Suriname	-	2
Trinidad-Tobago	-	5
Total	1	206
South America		
Argentina	3	616
Bolivia	-	58
Brazil	104	1632
Chile	-	150
Colombia	-	183
Ecuador	-	96
Paraguay	-	52
Peru	-	200
Uruguay	-	33
Venezuela	-	116
Total	107	3136
North-East and South Asia		
Afghanistan	1	17

Country	Number of new fatal cases since previous national update	Cumulative number of fatal cases
Bangladesh	-	6
China (Mainland)	-	326
Hong Kong SAR China	-	45
India	19	674
Japan	-	65
Macao SAR China	-	2
Maldives	-	1
Mongolia	-	24
Pakistan	-	1
South Korea	-	117
Sri Lanka	13	23
Taiwan	-	33
Total	33	1334
South-East Asia		
Brunei Darussalam	-	1
Cambodia	-	5
Indonesia	-	10
Laos Peoples Democratic Republic	-	1
Malaysia	-	77
Philippines	-	30
Singapore	-	19
Thailand	-	189
Vietnam	3	47
Total	3	379
Australia and Pacific		
Australia	-	191
Cook Islands	-	1
Marshall Islands	-	1
New Zealand	-	20
Samoa	-	2
Solomon Islands	-	1
Tonga	-	1
Total	-	217
TOTAL	296	10863

* 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 139 in mainland France.

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

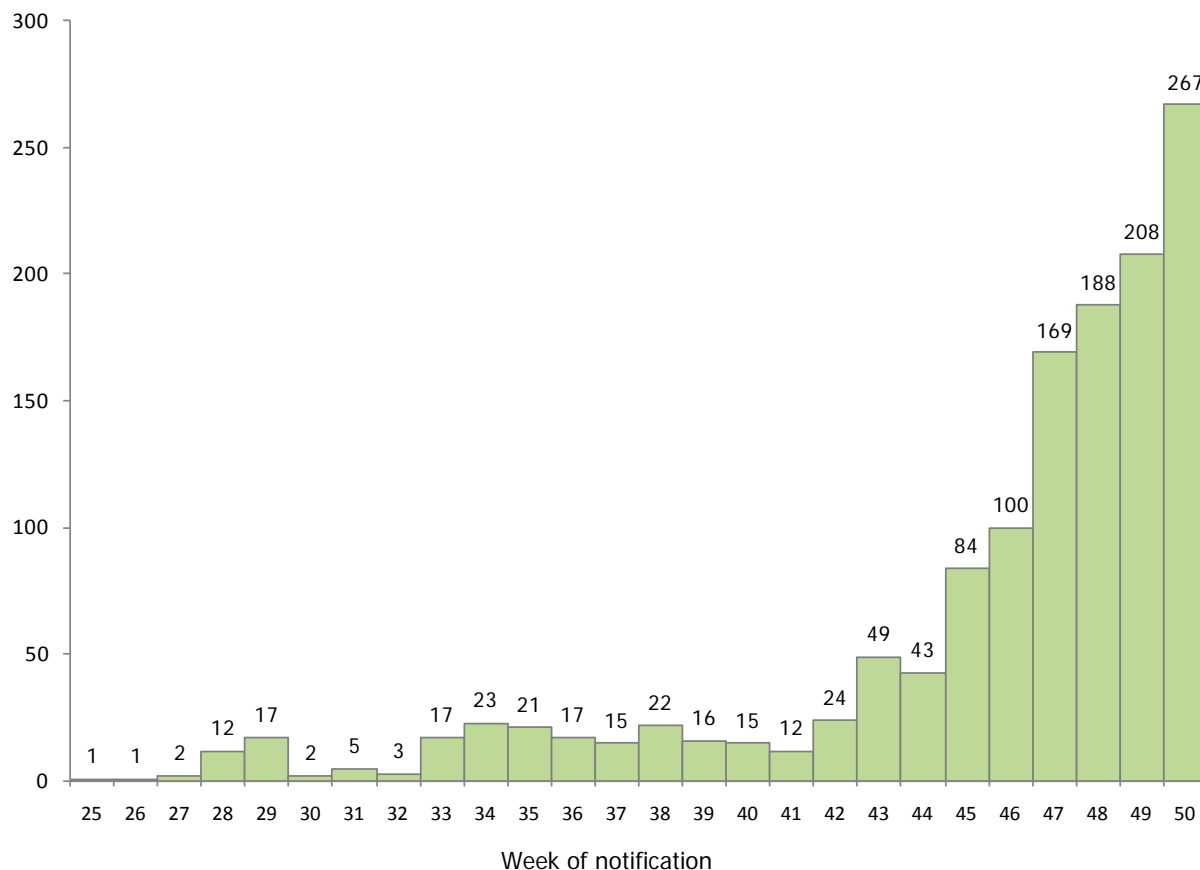
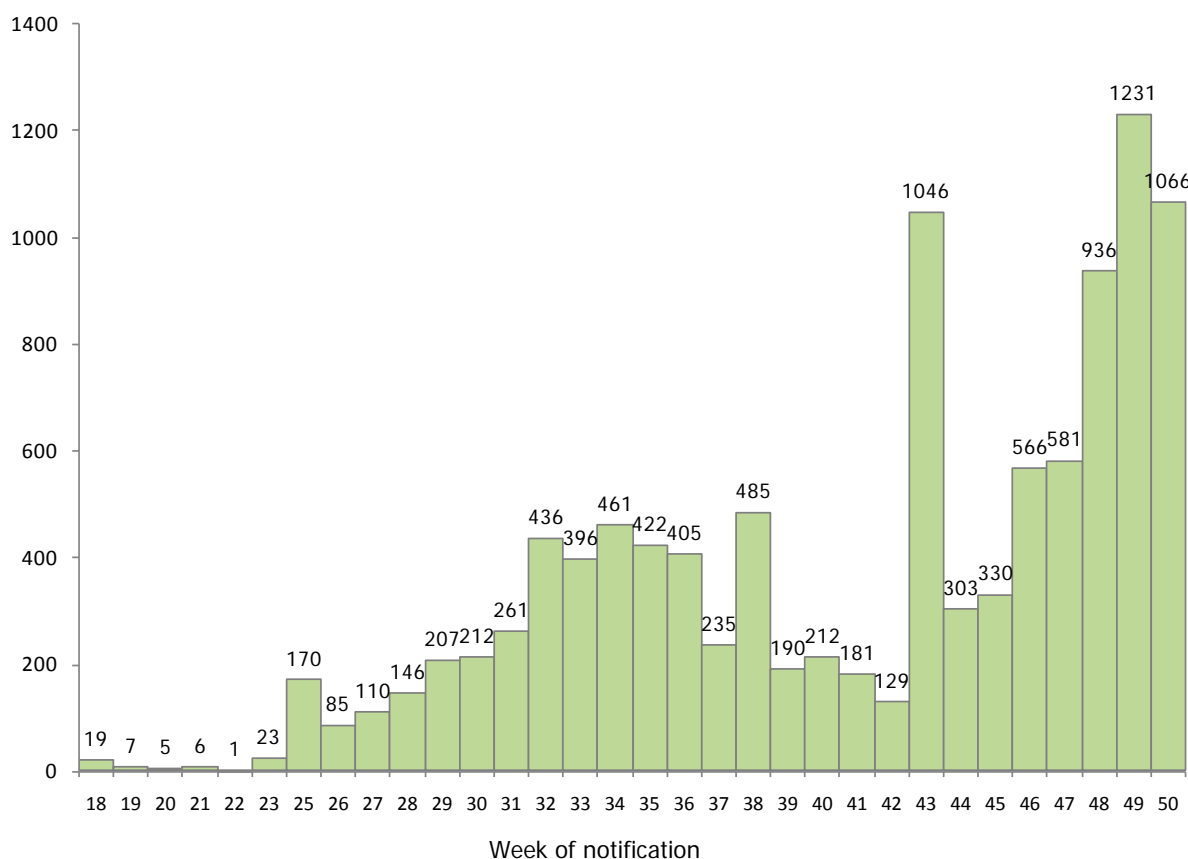


Figure 2. Number of confirmed deaths among pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza cases by week of notification in the rest of the world*.



* 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 Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza in EU and EFTA countries, as of 14 December 2009, 9.00 CEST, 9.00 CEST

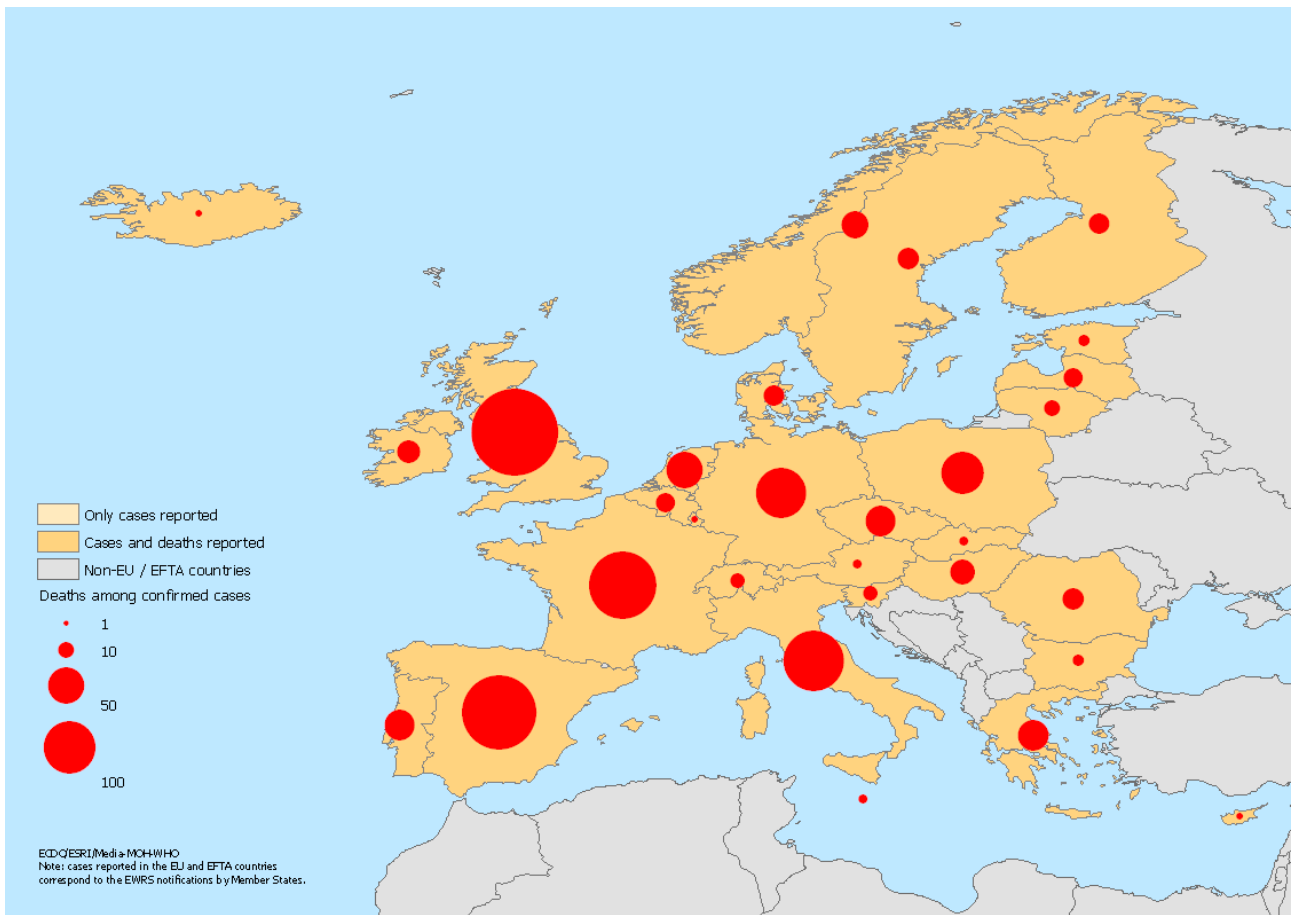


Figure 4. Reported cumulative number of confirmed fatal cases of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza and country status, by country, as of 13 December 2009, 9.00 CEST, 16.00 CEST

