

H1N1 Flu Virus (Human Swine Influenza)

Information Resources

(last updated May 20th, 2009, 12pm)

Overview

- Confirmed cases in Ontario as of May 15, 5pm: **187**
 - The total number of confirmed cases in Ontario is 187. All but one case reported to date are considered mild. The Ontario cases involve 95 males and 91 females with an age range of 1 to 86.
 - Provincial status: Enhanced
- Confirmed cases in Canada as of May 15, 3pm: **496** (1 death in AB)
- Confirmed cases worldwide as of May 19, 6am GMT: **9830** (incl. 79 deaths)
 - WHO pandemic level: 5

MOHLTC Media lines

General Public: Info Line 1-866-532-3161

Media: Media line 416-314-6197 or 1-888-414-4774

Contents

[Events](#)

Updates by Jurisdiction

Ontario

[Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care \(MOHLTC\)](#)
[Ontario Agency for Health Promotion and Protection \(OAHPP\)](#)

Canada

[Public Health Agency of Canada \(PHAC\)](#)

United States

[Centers for Disease Control and Protection \(CDC\)](#)
[Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy](#)

Europe

[United Kingdom's Health Protection Agency \(HPA\)](#)
[European Centre for Disease Control and Prevention \(ECDC\)](#)

International

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)
[Pan American Health Organization \(PAHO\)](#)

Live Searches, News Feeds and Disease Tracking Tools

[Google search](#)
[Mapping resources](#)
[Twitter feeds](#)

Other Resources

Scientific Resources

[Lancet](#)
[New England Journal of Medicine](#)
[American Journal of Epidemiology](#)
[Epidemiologic Reviews](#)
[Science](#)
[Nature](#)
[American Society for Microbiology](#)
[Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International](#)
[DynaMed](#)
[Historical Resources](#)
[Travel Advisories](#)

Events

Upcoming

Archived

Monday May 18, 3 – 4:30pm EST: H1N1—Where do we go from here? An exclusive question-and-answer session with pandemic influenza, legal, and HR experts. This is an opportunity to directly pose critical questions to credible experts and hear challenges your peers are facing (US focused). Live polls will be conducted during the Webinar to provide current benchmarking data. Cost: \$295.

http://online.krm.com/iebms/coe/coe_p2_details.aspx?oc=10&cc=00279763&eventid=15787

Sunday, May 17: *The Lancet* will co-host a late-breaker session on influenza A H1N1 at the European Congress on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID) in Helsinki, Finland. Over 6,500 delegates from around the globe are re-registered for the ECCMID meeting. Speakers at the session are Albert Osterhaus (Rotterdam, Netherlands) and Javier Garau (Barcelona, Spain). Note: Live video footage will not be broadcast, but video highlights will be available next week at www.TheLancet.com/H1N1-flu.

Friday May 8, 8pm EST: "The Agenda" on TVO

The science and politics of swine flu with guests:

- Vivek Goel, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion.
- Allison McGeer, Microbiologist and Infectious Disease Consultant in the Department of Microbiology at Mount Sinai Hospital.
- Andrew Nikiforuk, Journalist and Author of *Pandemonium: Bird Flu, Mad Cow Disease and Other Biological Plagues of the 21st Century*.
- Peter Singer, Professor of Medicine, Chair in Bioethics, Director of McLaughlin-Rotman Centre for Global Health, University Health Network and University of Toronto.

http://www.tv.org/cfmx/tvoorg/theagenda/index.cfm?page_id=7

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC)

32 New confirmed cases of H1N1 flu in Ontario: All cases mild [May 15]

Total number of cases in Ontario as of May 15/09 at 5pm: 187

All of the cases reported to date, with the exception of one, are considered mild. The Ontario cases involve 95 males and 91 females (further information still pending from one other case) with an age range of 1 to 86.

The breakdown by health unit is as follows:

| Health Unit | New Confirmed Cases | Total Confirmed Cases |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Toronto | 20 | 73 |
| York Region | 3 | 27 |
| Peel Region | 2 | 23 |
| Halton | 6 | 23 |
| Durham Region | 2 | 10 |
| City of Ottawa | 0 | 7 |
| Windsor Essex | 0 | 5 |
| Waterloo Region | 0 | 4 |
| Sudbury and District | 0 | 3 |
| Hamilton | 1 | 3 |
| Simcoe Muskoka District | 0 | 2 |
| Wellington Dufferin Guelph | 0 | 1 |
| Oxford County | 0 | 1 |
| Leeds, Grenville & Lanark | 0 | 1 |
| Middlesex-London | 0 | 1 |
| Hastings and Prince Edward Counties | 0 | 1 |
| Out of province (*) | 0 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 32 | 187 |

(*) – Visitors who were tested and confirmed in Ontario but do not reside in the province.

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/media/news_releases/archives/nr_09/may/nr_20090515.html

Previous MOHLTC updates and **news conference video footage** available at:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/updates/archives/hu_09/swine_flu.html

Important Health Notices



Information for Health Professionals: Update [May 19]

Highlights:

Status update on the current H1N1 situation in Ontario
Hours of operation for the Health Care Provider Hotline

What's New:

Updated guidance for Ambulatory Care Settings, Emergency Departments and Long-Term Care.

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/emu/health_notice_s/ihn_20090519.pdf

Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP)

Swine Influenza Outbreak page [no new resources since May 3]
<http://www.oahpp.ca/SRI%20Bulletin.php>

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

A total of **496 confirmed cases (incl. 1 death)** of H1N1 Flu Virus (Human Swine Flu) have been reported in 9 provinces and 1 territory in Canada [May 15]

Summary of laboratory-confirmed cases of H1N1 flu virus (Human Swine Flu) reported to the Public Health Agency of Canada, by the provinces and territories:

| Province / Territory | New Confirmed Cases | Total Confirmed Cases |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| British Columbia | 4 | 100 |
| Alberta | 0 | 67 |
| Saskatchewan | 2 | 19 |
| Manitoba | 0 | 4 |
| Ontario | 32 | 187 |
| Quebec | 9 | 47 |
| New Brunswick | 0 | 2 |
| Nova Scotia | 0 | 66 |
| Prince Edward Island | 0 | 3 |
| Newfoundland | 0 | 0 |
| Yukon | 0 | 1 |
| Northwest Territories | NR | 0 |
| Nunavut | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 47 | 496 |

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/swine-porcine/surveillance-eng.php>

Government of Canada continues vigilance in addressing H1N1 flu virus [May 18]

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/media/nr-rp/2009/2009_0518_h1n1-eng.php

Government of Canada officials continue to be on heightened alert for surveillance of the H1N1 flu virus, and are actively sharing this information with provincial, territorial, and international partners.

Previous PHAC documents and updates available from:

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/alert-alerte/swine_200904-eng.php

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Confirmed and probable cases in the US as of May 20 (11am): 5,710 (8 deaths)

Status: Public Health Emergency

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

Hospitalized Patients with Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection --- California, April--May, 2009, May 18, 2009 / 58(Early Release);1-5

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm58e0518a1.htm?s_cid=r58e0518a1_e

Previous CDC documents and updates available from:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/>

Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy

Updated H1N1 Overview [May 19]

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/swineflu/biofacts/swinefluoverview.html>

Archive of updates

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/swineflu/index.html>

Health Protection Agency (UK)



Update on confirmed swine flu cases in UK – **109** confirmed [May 20]

http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAweb&HPAwebStandard/HPAweb_C/1242804157282?p=1231252394302

Managing a flu-like illness in a boarding school during the current swine flu outbreak (WHO Phase 5; UK Containment Phase) [May 17]

http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1242549140578

Standard practical advice for investigating individuals with possible swine influenza infection [May 16]

http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1241048770758

Algorithm P5 Actions and post exposure prophylaxis for close contacts of probable or confirmed human case(s) of swine influenza A/H1N1[May 16]

http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1240986160584

Algorithm S5 for the management of suspected cases of swine influenza (returning travellers and visitors from countries affected by swine influenza A/H1N1 or contacts) [May 16]

http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1240732819361

Swine Influenza page:

<http://www.hpa.org.uk/webw/HPAweb&Page&HPAwebAutoListName/Page/1240732817665?p=1240732817665>

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)



Situation report [May 19]: **265** confirmed cases

Developments in the past 24 hours:

11 more cases reported from EU and EFTA countries;

One more death reported from the US;

Rapid increase of cases reported from Japan, mainly linked to school outbreaks.

http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/files/pdf/Health_topics/Situation_Report_090520_0800hrs.pdf

Maps, surveillance summaries and previous ECDC updates available from:

<http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/Health%5Ftopics/novel%5Finfluenza%5Fvirus/2009%5FOutbreak/>

World Health Organization (WHO)

Update 33 [May 19 06:00 GMT]

40 countries have officially reported **9830** cases of influenza A(H1N1) infection and **79** deaths.

http://www.who.int/csr/don/2009_05_19/en/index.html



Recommendations of the Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) on Influenza A (H1N1) vaccines [May 19]

http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/swineflu/SAGEH1N1vaccine_recommendation2009_05_19.pdf

Concern over flu pandemic justified - Dr Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization Address to Sixty-second World Health Assembly Geneva, Switzerland, 18 May 2009

http://www.who.int/dg/speeches/2009/62nd_assembly_address_20090518/en/index.html

Interactive timeline map of cases, from April 26, 2009 to current

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/history_map/InfluenzaAH1N1_maps.html

WHO H1N1 Guidance documents:

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/guidance/en/index.html>

For older updates, see

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)

Influenza A(H1N1) Regional Report (Epidemiological) [Posted May 18]
Up to 18 May 2009, **9.372 confirmed cases** of the new virus influenza A (H1N1) infection, including **79 deaths**, have been notified in **14 countries** of the Americas: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru and the United States. The date of the onset of symptoms of the first confirmed case was 28 March 2009 in the United States.

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1390&Itemid=1167

PAHO Influenza A(H1N1) Portal

http://new.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=805&Itemid=569&lang=en

Google News Search on Swine Flu

<http://www.google.com/cse?cx=014077570761466621685%3As7g-vji-dmo&cof=FORID%3A11&q=swine+flu&sa=search+influenza+sites>

Mapping Resources

WHO Map (9830 confirmed cases, 79 deaths worldwide as of May 19)

http://www.who.int/csr/don/h1n1_20090519_0600.jpg

Pan-American Health Organization: Atlas to Confirmed Cases of Influenza A(H1N1)

<http://ais.paho.org/flu/sm/en/atlas.html>

HealthMap: Swine flu global disease alert map

<http://www.healthmap.org/en>

Google: Swine flu map

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&t=p&msa=0&msid=106484775090296685271.0004681a37b713f6b5950&z=2>

Twitter Feeds, Weblogs, RSS Feeds, etc

World Health Organization News on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/whonews>

Veratect on Twitter: tracking the swine influenza event with up-to-the-minute information about potential spread of the disease to aid in early response efforts

<http://twitter.com/Veratect>

Health Map on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/healthmap>

Avian/Pandemic Influenza Daily Digest on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/AIDigest>

CDC swine flu updates on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/cdcemergency>

Avian/Pandemic Influenza Daily Digest Blog

<http://aidailydigest.blogspot.com/>

Avian/Pandemic Influenza Daily Digest RSS Feed

http://twitter.com/statuses/user_timeline/32957440.rss

Scientific Resources

Lancet

To upgrade the level of expert analysis and advice on the prevention, detection, diagnosis, and treatment of the influenza A H1N1 (swine flu), The Lancet today announced the launch of its H1N1 Flu Resource Centre [May 13] (site contains content from numerous Elsevier journals)

<http://www.TheLancet.com/H1N1-flu>

New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM)

NEJM H1N1 Influenza Center

<http://h1n1.nejm.org/>

Newest Items:

- Emergence of a Novel Swine-Origin Influenza A (H1N1) Virus in Humans | [PDF](#)
Triple-Reassortant Swine Influenza A (H1) in Humans in the United States, 2005–2009 | [PDF](#)
- H1N1 Influenza A Disease — Information for Health Professionals | [PDF](#)
- Implications of the Emergence of a Novel H1 Influenza Virus | [PDF](#)
- Digital Disease Detection — Harnessing the Web for Public Health Surveillance | [PDF](#)

- Influenza A (H1N1) Virus, 2009 — Online Monitoring | [PDF](#) | [Interactive Map](#)
- The Signature Features of Influenza Pandemics — Implications for Policy [PDF](#)

American Journal of Epidemiology (AJE)

AJE H1N1 Collection (17 articles freely available)

<http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/collections/>

Epidemiologic Reviews

Epidemiologic Reviews H1N1 Collection (2 articles freely available)

<http://epirev.oxfordjournals.org/collections/>

Science



A Graphic Look at Mexico's Outbreak [May 19]

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/3.html>

Mexico's Ministry of Health regularly posts informative, [detailed graphs](#) of its outbreak that have received little prime-time exposure. Even if you don't read Spanish, you can glean loads of tidbits from the charts. On 15 May, for example, a graph that shows the accumulation of confirmed cases by date of the onset of symptoms indicates that cases peaked on April 26. The curves suggest that the outbreak there has waned, as Mexican health officials there have asserted (though there may be detection bias because of factors like processing older samples first). Note, too, that the graph has 34 cases that were symptomatic before 1 April, the date of a much ballyhooed "[patient zero](#)" from La Gloria, Veracruz. Other charts show the breakdown of confirmed cases by age, gender, and states, as well as the frequency of specific symptoms.



Swine Flu Vaccine May Take Longer [May 19]

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/swine-flu-vacci.html>

Add 2 months to the timetable for producing a vaccine against the virus causing the swine flu outbreak, says an advisory group to the World Health Organization (WHO).

It may be mid-July before manufacturers have the appropriate "seed stock" to start making the vaccine against the new A (H1N1), according to a [report](#) posted online today from a WHO working group on vaccines that met via teleconference on 14 May. The report says a crude form of the seed stock likely will be ready by the end of the month, but 1 to 2 weeks of testing in animals will be required. Manufacturers typically need 1 to 2 months more to find the fastest growing strains that will produce the most surface proteins from the virus, which are the main ingredients in a vaccine. The group warned that moving too quickly "could result in starting vaccine production with strains of lower growth potential," as happened with a strain of H5N1, the bird flu

virus. "Using a poorly growing A (H1N1) virus could reduce global supplies of A (H1N1) vaccine," the group warned.



Scale for Flu Warnings Overly Simplistic, Countries Tell WHO [May 18]

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/scale-for-flu-w.html>

The phasing system for pandemic influenza needs fixing, representatives of several countries told Margaret Chan, director general of the World Health Organization (WHO), at the World Health Assembly meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, today.

On 29 April, WHO announced a phase 5 alert about the swine flu outbreak, one level short of a full-scale pandemic. But the alert has yet to move to phase 6 because WHO says no country outside of North America has experienced spread of the new H1N1 virus in a community. Critics have noted that this phasing system does not take into account the severity of the disease, and that the definitions of "community spread" are not clear. At a "high-level consultation," representatives from member countries said they wanted a more "nuanced" system, WHO spokesperson Thomas Abraham told *ScienceInsider*, that took severity of disease and other factors into account.



H1N1 Rocks Japan, But WHO Says It's Still No Pandemic [May 18]

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/h1n1-rocks-japa.html>

The number of confirmed influenza A (H1N1) cases in Japan exploded over the weekend, going from an officially reported four—all in returning vacationers—on 16 May to 129 as of 18 May. The 125 new cases are all among high-school students in Osaka and Kobe, two neighboring cities in western Japan. None of these cases has yet been linked to a returning traveler. Japanese media, citing their own surveys of local health offices, are reporting 135 confirmed cases as of late afternoon on 18 May. Despite the surge, the World Health Organization (WHO) hasn't yet raised its pandemic alert level to indicate that a global pandemic is under way. "What we're seeing now is not the trigger for phase 6," says Peter Cordingley, spokesperson for WHO's Western Pacific Regional Office in Manila.

Swine Flu's Rate of Spread, Revisited [May 16]

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/swine-flus-rate.html>

A team of European researchers has analyzed the outbreak of the novel H1N1 virus in Mexico and calculates twice as much spread per infected person as an earlier [report](#) in *ScienceExpress*. The new [study](#), published in *Eurosurveillance*, concludes that each infected person infects between 2.2 and 3.1 others, a "reproduction ratio" in keeping with those of other pandemic influenza viruses. The earlier paper in *ScienceExpress*, which factored in the likelihood that there was much underreporting in the official case numbers, calculated a reproduction ratio of only 1.4 to 1.6.

The Rapid Rise (and Fall?) of Controversial Theory That Lab Accident Caused Flu Outbreak [May 14]

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/the-rapid-rise.html>

AAAS *Science Insider*: Profile of CDC's "Flu Chief" virologist Nancy Cox

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/exclusive-cdcs.html>

AAAS *Science Insider*: Swine Flu Outbreak—Day by Day

<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/05/swine-flu-outbr.html>

Fraser C. et al. Pandemic Potential of a Strain of Influenza A (H1N1) : Early Findings. Published Online May 11, 2009 *Science* DOI: 10.1126/science.1176062 [Abstract only]

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/sci;1176062v1?maxtoshow=&>

Nature

Swine Flu Tracker

<http://www.nature.com/news/specials/swineflu/index.html>

Medline Literature search on H1N1 (current as of today). Click [here](#) to run a search.

American Society for Microbiology

Research Publications on Influenza A(H1N1) from the American Society for Microbiology are Freely Available

<http://tinyurl.com/asmh1n1>.

Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI)

Global Health database: international coverage of all aspects of human health from the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International.

<http://217.154.120.6/GLOBALHEALTH/searchform-quicksearch.nsp>



Related: Swine flu dashboard from CABI.org

<http://www.netvibes.com/cabialerts>

DynaMed

Clinical summaries on Swine Flu and H1N1: free worldwide access thanks to EBSCO

<http://www.ebscohost.com/dynamed/swineflu/> and

<http://www.ebscohost.com/dynamed/h1n1/>

Historical Resources

The Swine Flu Affair: Decision-Making on a Slippery Disease [1978]
http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12660&utm_medium=email&utm_source=National%20Academies%20Press&utm_campaign=Swine%20Flu%203&utm_content=Downloader&utm_term

Travel Advisories



Public Health Agency of Canada no longer recommends Canadians postpone elective or non-essential travel to Mexico [May 19]
<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/tmp-pmv/2009/h1n1-mexico-090518-eng.php>