

H1N1 (Swine Flu) Update

May 4, 2009

This daily report is designed to provide you with current information about the swine flu, the NPS role, and how it affects our jobs and lives. For your convenience, this document summarizes both **official** (NPS and other government sources) and **non-official** (media coverage) information. It includes four sections: (1) Overview of Current Situation, (2) NPS Monitoring and Response, (3) Information from Other Official Sources, and (4) Summaries of News (National and Global).

1. Current Situation

Today's media accounts of worldwide cases of infection with the influenza A (H1N1) report the total nearing 1,000 cases, while the official confirmed case count from World Health is 985. In the US, both the media and CDC confirmed case count is at 226. The media is also reporting numerous school closures across the nation.

2. National Park Service – Monitoring and Response

- Coordinating and communicating with federal health agencies and DOI
- Formed a Servicewide H1N1 Coordination and Response Team, led by the Emergency Services Branch and the Office of Public Health
- Providing daily updates and briefings for NPS senior staff
- Participating in daily CDC briefings with state and county health officials
- Established two websites—[intranet](#) and [public use](#)—for improving dissemination of information and guidance materials
- Assisting NPS units and regional offices in:
 - developing and/or implementing pandemic flu preparedness or response measures
 - interpreting CDC guidance documents as applicable to NPS employees, visitors, and work settings

3. Information from Other Official Sources

- (World Health Organization, 5/4/09) The situation continues to evolve. As of 06:00 GMT, 4 May 2009, 20 countries have officially reported 985 cases of influenza A (H1N1) infection.
- Mexico has reported 590 laboratory confirmed human cases of infection, including 25 deaths. The higher number of cases from Mexico reflects ongoing testing of previously collected specimens.
- The following countries have reported laboratory confirmed cases with no deaths - Austria (1), Canada (85), China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (1), Costa Rica (1), Colombia (1), Denmark (1), El Salvador (2), France (2), Germany (8), Ireland (1), Israel (3), Italy (1), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (4), Republic of Korea (1), Spain (40), Switzerland (1) and the United Kingdom (15).

- (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 5/3/09)

May 2, 2009 CDC TOTAL COUNTS 160 cases 1 death

U.S. Human Cases of H1N1 Flu Infection (As of May 3, 2009 11:00 AM ET)		
States	# of laboratory confirmed cases	Deaths
Alabama	1	
Arizona	18	
California	26	
Colorado	4	
Connecticut	2	
Delaware	10	
Florida	3	
Illinois	3	
Indiana	3	
Iowa	1	
Kansas	2	
Kentucky*	1	
Massachusetts	7	
Michigan	2	
Minnesota	1	
Missouri	1	
Nebraska	1	
Nevada	1	
New	1	
New Jersey	7	
New Mexico	1	
New York	63	
Ohio	3	
Rhode Island	1	
South Carolina	15	
Tennessee	1	
Texas	40	1
Utah	1	
Virginia	3	
Wisconsin	3	
TOTAL (30)	226 cases	1 death
*Case is resident of KY but currently hospitalized in GA.		

4. Media Coverage

Worldwide Update:

- Chinese authorities are confining over 50 Mexicans to hotels and other sites, fearing the spread of the H1N1 flu, an official at the Mexican embassy in Beijing said on Sunday, adding only one had symptoms of the flu. (Reuters, 5/3/09)
- The Egyptian government ordered pigs slaughtered in the heart of Cairo where Coptic Christians call "Garbage City" home to combat H1 N1 influenza A. The fact that a minority population's way of life is being affected is problematic. But, given the fact that Egypt's economy is reliant on tourism removing the offending creature is the misguided attempt chosen to eliminate a perceived public health danger. (Jacksonville.com, 5/3/09)
- WHO started distributing 2.4 million doses of a common anti-viral drug to 72 nations. (CNN, 5/4/09)
- But the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned against complacency. WHO chief Margaret Chan said the real test would come when the winter influenza season hits countries. "We hope the virus fizzles out, because if it doesn't we are heading for a big outbreak," she told the UK's Financial Times. (BBC, 5/4/09)

US Update:

- The U.S. government expects to have flu vaccines ready for both the new strain of the H1N1 virus and the seasonal flu by autumn, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said on Sunday. (Reuters, 5/3/09)
- As the number of swine flu cases rises around the world, so is a gradual backlash -- with some saying the threat the virus poses is overblown. "We have people without symptoms going into the emergency rooms asking to be screened for swine flu at the expense of people with real illness," said Cathy Gichema, a nurse in Pikesville, Maryland. "Schools are being shut for probable causes -- sending these kids congregating to the malls. How is that helping?" Gichema said. (CNN, 5/4/09)