

H1N1 (Swine Flu) Update

May 6, 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

The media attention to H1N1 appears to be waning. The international count is just over 1500 cases, while the CDC is reporting 403 cases in the United States. Guatemala has been added to the list today as a new country reporting a confirmed case (1 case).

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

- As of 06:00 GMT, 6 May 2009, 22 countries have officially reported 1516 cases of influenza A (H1N1) infection. Mexico has reported 822 laboratory confirmed human cases of infection, including 29 deaths. The United States has reported 403 laboratory confirmed human cases, including one death.
- The following countries have reported laboratory confirmed cases with no deaths - Austria (1), Canada (165), China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (1), Colombia (1), Costa Rica (1), Denmark (1), El Salvador (2), France (4), Germany (9), **Guatemala (1)**, Ireland (1), Israel (4), Italy (5), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (6), Portugal (1), Republic of Korea (2), Spain (57), Switzerland (1) and the United Kingdom (27).
- The following table from (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 5/5/09) summarizes the state-by-state breakdown of confirmed cases.

U.S. Human Cases of H1N1 Flu Infection

(As of May 5, 2009, 11:00 AM ET)

States	# of laboratory confirmed cases	Deaths
Alabama	4	
Arizona	17	
California	49	
Colorado	6	
Connecticut	2	
Delaware	20	
Florida	5	
Georgia	1	
Idaho	1	
Illinois	82	
Indiana	3	
Iowa	1	
Kansas	2	
Kentucky*	1	
Louisiana	7	
Maine	1	
Maryland	4	
Massachusetts	6	
Michigan	2	
Minnesota	1	
Missouri	1	
Nebraska	1	
Nevada	1	
New Hampshire	1	
New Jersey	6	
New Mexico	1	
New York	90	
North Carolina	1	
Ohio	3	
Oregon	15	
Pennsylvania	1	

Rhode Island	1	
South Carolina	16	
Tennessee	2	
Texas	41	1
Utah	1	
Virginia	3	
Wisconsin	3	
TOTAL (38)	403 cases	1 death
*Case is resident of KY but currently hospitalized in GA.		
May 4, 2009	Total 279 Cases	1 death

4. Media Coverage

Worldwide Update:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) Tuesday praised Mexico's professionalism, responsibility and transparency in handling the A/H1N1 flu outbreak. The experience of Mexico would be essential for the international community, said Philippe Lamy, WHO representative in Mexico, when meeting with Mexican President Felipe Calderon. (Xinhua, 5/6/2009)
- WHO has no immediate plans to raise the worldwide alert level to the highest level, Phase 6. That designation would mean "that we are seeing continued spread of the virus to countries outside of one region," Assistant Director-General Keiji Fukuda said. (CNN, 5/4/09)
- 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 on Tuesday said it was no longer necessary to close schools due to outbreaks of the H1N1 flu virus, although students who fall ill should remain at home for at least a week. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius said the new guidance, which affects more than 700 schools around the country shut due to suspected flu cases, was issued as health experts lower their assessment of the severity of the outbreak. (Reuters, 5/5/2009)
- An ordinary flu season kills 36,000 in the U.S. each year, hospitalizing hundreds of thousands and sickening millions. Those figures are based upon an illness that many people are immune to, either through annual vaccination or through immunity acquired by getting the flu in a previous winter. But humans have never encountered this virus, and there is no immunity to it. Even if the swine flu stays mild, "everyone's susceptible," said Andrew Pekosz, who studies the flu at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. (Baltimore Sun, 5/6/2009)
- A Texas woman may have died with the flu aggravating underlying health problems. (CNN, 5/6/2009)