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Updated Guidance for Child Care and Early Childhood Programs

CDC has released new guidance to help decrease the spread of influenza (flu) among children in early childhood programs and early childhood providers during the 2009–2010 influenza season. The new guidance expands upon earlier guidance documents by providing a menu of tools that health officials and early childhood providers can choose from based on conditions in their area. The new guidance recommends actions to take now, during the 2009–2010 flu season; suggests additional strategies to consider if CDC determines that flu is becoming more severe; and provides a checklist for decision-making at the local level. Based on the severity of 2009 H1N1 flu-related illness thus far, this guidance recommends that children and early childhood providers with influenza-like illness remain home until 24 hours after resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.

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Key Flu Indicators

Each week CDC analyzes information about influenza disease activity in the United States and publishes findings of key flu indicators in a report called [FluView](#). During the week of August 23-29, 2009, a review of these key indicators found that influenza activity increased in the United States. Below is a summary of the most recent key indicators:

- [Visits to doctors](#) for influenza-like illness (ILI) were highest in February during the 2008-09 flu season, but rose again in April 2009 after the new 2009 H1N1 virus emerged. Current visits to doctors for influenza-like illness are down from April, but are higher than what is expected in the summer and have increased over the last two weeks.
- Total influenza [hospitalization](#) rates for adults and children are similar to or lower than seasonal influenza hospitalization rates depending on age group, but are higher than expected during this time of year.
- The proportion of [deaths](#) attributed to pneumonia and influenza (P&I) was low and within the bounds of what is expected in the summer.
- Most [state health officials](#) are reporting regional or sporadic influenza activity. Six states (Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and South Carolina) and Puerto Rico are reporting widespread influenza activity at this time. Any reports of widespread influenza activity in August are very unusual.
- Almost all of the influenza [viruses](#) identified were the new 2009 H1N1 influenza A viruses. These 2009 H1N1 viruses remain similar to the viruses chosen for the 2009 H1N1 vaccine and remain susceptible to antiviral drugs (oseltamivir and zanamivir) with rare exception.

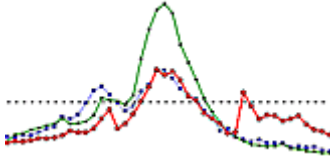
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U.S. Situation Update

[Weekly Flu Activity Estimates](#)



U.S. Patient Visits Reported for Influenza-like Illness (ILI)



U.S. Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Reported by Regions



Total U.S. Novel H1N1 Flu Hospitalizations and Deaths Posted September 4, 2009, 11:00 AM ET Data reported to CDC by September 3, 2009, 9:00 AM ET		
Reporting States and Territories*	Hospitalized Cases	Deaths
53	9,079	593

*Includes the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The number of hospitalized novel H1N1 cases and deaths presented in this table are an aggregate of reports received by CDC from U.S. states and territories and will be updated weekly each Friday at 11am. For state level information, refer to [state health departments](#).

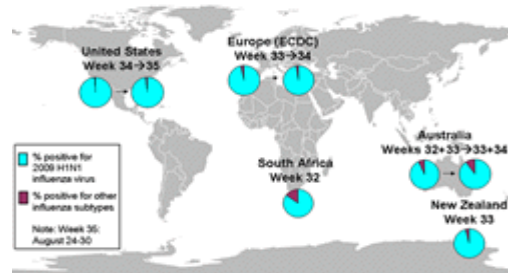
CDC discontinued reporting of individual confirmed and probable cases of novel H1N1 infection on July 24, 2009. CDC will report the total number of hospitalizations and deaths weekly, and continue to use its traditional surveillance systems to track the progress of the novel H1N1 flu outbreak. For more information about CDC's novel H1N1 influenza surveillance system, see [Questions & Answers About CDC's Novel H1N1 Influenza Surveillance](#).

International Human Cases of H1N1 Flu Infection
See: [World Health Organization](#).

For more information about the U.S. situation, see the [CDC H1N1 Flu website](#).

International Situation Update

This situation report provides an update to the international situation as of August 28, 2009. As of August 23, the World Health Organization (WHO) regions have reported over 209,438 laboratory-confirmed cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza virus with at least 2,185 deaths. The laboratory-confirmed cases represent a substantial underestimation of total cases



in the world as many countries focus surveillance and laboratory testing only in persons with severe illness. The 2009 H1N1 influenza virus continues to be the dominant influenza virus in circulation in the world. Decreases in disease due to 2009 H1N1 continue to be reported from South America and parts of Australia. The United Kingdom is also reporting national decreases in disease due to 2009 H1N1. In contrast, disease associated with 2009 H1N1 influenza is continuing to increase in southern Africa, and more African countries have reported their first cases. In addition, 2009 H1N1 continues to circulate in tropical countries.

For more information, see the [International Situation Update >>](#)

Recent Updates of Interest

- [Preparing for the Flu: A Communication Toolkit for Child Care and Early Childhood Programs](#)
The purpose of "Preparing for the Flu: A Communication Toolkit for Child Care and Early Childhood Programs" is to provide information and communication resources to help center-based and home-based child care programs, Head Start programs, and other early childhood programs implement recommendations from CDC's Guidance on Helping Child Care and Early Childhood Programs Respond to Influenza during the 2009-2010 Influenza Season.
- [Weekly FluView Map and Surveillance Report for Week Ending August 29, 2009](#)
During week 34 (August 22-29, 2009), influenza activity remained stable in the United States; however, there were still higher levels of influenza-like illness than is normal for this time of year.
- [2009 H1N1 Flu: U.S. Situation Update](#)
As of 11:00 AM ET on September 4, 2009, CDC is reporting 9,079 hospitalized cases and 59 deaths in 53 states and territories (including the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands).
- [2009 H1N1 Flu: International Situation Update](#)
This situation report provides an update to the international situation as of August 28, 2009. As of August 23, the World Health Organization (WHO) regions have reported over 209,438 laboratory-confirmed cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza virus (2009 H1N1) with at least 2,185 deaths.
- [Technical Report for State and Local Public Health Officials and Child Care and Early Childhood Providers on CDC Guidance on Helping Child Care and Early Childhood Programs Respond to Influenza during the 2009-2010 Influenza Season](#)
This Technical Report provides explanations of the strategies presented in the CDC Guidance on Helping Child Care and Early Childhood Programs Respond to Influenza during the 2009-2010 Influenza Season and suggestions on how to use these strategies. The guidance is designed to decrease exposure to seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu and limit the disruption of the essential service early childhood provides to families.
- [CDC Guidance on Helping Child Care and Early Childhood Programs Respond to Influenza during the 2009-2010 Influenza Season](#)
This document provides guidance to help decrease the spread of influenza (flu) among children in early childhood programs and among early childhood providers during the 2009-2010 flu season.
- [Podcast: 2009 H1N1 ACIP Vaccination Recommendations](#)
In this podcast, Dr. Tony Fiore discusses who should be vaccinated against 2009 H1N1 flu during the 2009-2010 season. He explains the target groups for vaccination, and how these groups differ from those recommended for seasonal flu vaccination.
- [Podcast: Novel H1N1 Flu and HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents](#)
In this podcast, Dr. John Brooks, of CDC's HIV/AIDS Prevention Program, discusses CDC's Interim Guidance for HIV-infected adults and adolescents regarding the novel H1N1 flu virus. He explains that while HIV-infected individuals may experience more severe complications of the H1N1 virus, the information available so far doesn't seem to

indicate that people living with HIV infection are at greater risk of getting the novel H1N1 flu.

- [UPDATED CDC Novel H1N1 Vaccination Planning Q&A](#)
- [2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and Pregnant Women](#)
Questions and Answers about 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine and Pregnant Women
- [CDC 2009 H1N1 Vaccination Campaign Planning Checklist](#)
This document is intended for state and local planners. Its purpose is to outline the main 2009 influenza A (H1N1) monovalent vaccine ("2009 H1N1 vaccine") planning actions. It is not meant to be exhaustive, and more detailed guidance is, or will be, available on specific topics. Within each state, the checklist should be tailored to distinguish between state and local responsibilities.
- [Vaccine Distribution Q&A](#)
The purpose of this document is to provide information on plans for distribution of 2009 H1N1 vaccine.

Additional Updates on the CDC H1N1 Flu Website

To learn about other recent updates made to the CDC H1N1 Flu Website, please check the "What's New" page on the [CDC H1N1 Flu website](#).

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