

Influenza A/H1N1 Update

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN MEXICO:

- As of 06:00 GMT, May 12, 2009, 30 countries have officially reported 5,251 cases of influenza A(H1N1) infection. United States leads with 2,600 cases followed by Mexico with 2,059 laboratory confirmed human cases of infection.
- States with no reported cases of H1N1: Baja California Sur, Coahuila and Campeche.
- Puerto Vallarta and Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo has also reported being H1N1 free.
- Experts from WHO, the Global Alert and Response Network (GOARN), and the CDC continue working with health authorities in Mexico to investigate the spread and severity of the outbreak.
- Tour operators report clients are booking Mexico again as restaurants, clubs and businesses begin opening their doors.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) is not restricting travel in relation to the outbreak of H1N1 Influenza.



TRAVEL TIPS

- While symptoms of the H1N1 virus are similar to seasonal flu, a higher percentage of people seem to be experiencing vomiting and diarrhea.
- If you become ill, note that most people will recover without needing medical care. But if you experience fever and your symptoms worsen, seek medical care.
- Pay attention to announcements from the local government, including any movement restrictions.
- H1N1 screening has been instituted at airports and land borders for travelers departing Mexico.
- Airlines recommend that passengers arrive at the airport earlier to complete a health questionnaire.
- Hand sanitizers have been put in place at most airports; make sure you use them before getting on and after getting off your flight.

WHAT THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IS DOING:

- ✓ Elementary and Preschool children reported back to school on Monday, May 11th.
- ✓ The World Tourism Organization recognized Mexico as an example of early response, highlighting the efforts of the Government of Mexico to face a serious matter responsibly.
- ✓ President Calderon announced fiscal and financial stimulus measures for Mexico's tourism industry by creating special funding for tourism promotion with an initial contribution of approximately 165 million dollars.
- ✓ Financial Institutions have expressed their optimism towards the adverse situation in Mexico, stating the Mexican government has acted magnificently in regards to this health crisis.
- ✓ Mexico complied with federal and local sanitary protocols ensuring the health of its people and the health of the world's population.
- ✓ Mexican Health Minister Jose Angel Cordova said the outbreak peaked between April 23 and 28 and is now on a decline but reminded citizens and visitors to continue being careful and not let their guards down.

FOR MORE INFORMATION WHILE IN MEXICO:

- Contact your Embassy or Consular Office in the destination where you are located.
- Tourism information and assistance: in the U.S 1-800-44-MEXICO, in Europe 00-800-1111-2266, and in Mexico 078
- Ministry of Health call center in Mexico 01-800-123-1010
- Visit the mexico-update page through www.visitmexico.com or directly at www.mexico-update.com
- Updates and complete information about Influenza A/H1N1 from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention are available at: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu
- For health questions and concerns visit www.who.int