

Weekly situation report on monkeypox multi-country outbreak response - Region of the Americas

Issue 13, published 9 September 2022

Contents:

- Highlights
- Region of the Americas – Epidemiological Update
- PAHO/WHO response to monkeypox
- Future outlook

Highlights

Global WHO Risk Assessment¹: Moderate

WHO Risk Assessment for the Americas¹: Moderate

As of 7 September 2022:

- **Globally**, 54,709 confirmed cases of monkeypox from 102 Member States: 54% in the Region of the Americas, 44% in the European Region, 1% in the Africa Region, <1% each in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, Western Pacific Region, and South-East Asia Region (*Figure 1*).
 - 3,638 additional cases, 7% increase in the last 7 days.
 - 98% (27,875/28,401) of cases with available data are male, the median age is 36 years. <1% (171/28,991) of cases with available age data are aged 0-17 years, including 46 cases aged 0-4 years. Males between 18-44 years old account for 78% of cases with available data.
- In the **Americas**, 32,078 cases confirmed from 31 countries and territories. 4 deaths have been confirmed in the Region of the Americas.
 - Four countries in the Region account for 91% of confirmed cases (United States of America, Brazil, Peru, and Canada).
 - For the sixth consecutive week, the Americas has reported the highest number of new monkeypox cases globally. For the fourth consecutive week, the number of cases has exceeded that in the WHO European Region, which previously had the highest cumulative number of cases.
 - 97% of 5,543 confirmed cases with available information are male. Most cases with available information are aged 25 to 45 years old and self-identify as men who have sex with other men.
 - In recent weeks, an increase in the proportion of women amongst the total number of confirmed cases has been observed.
 - 8 countries in the Region have reported 70 confirmed cases among persons ≤ 18 years old (Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Canada, Chile, and Argentina).
 - 1,055 (11%) of 9,642 cases with available information were hospitalized.
 - 85% of 3,044 cases in the Americas with available information are locally transmitted cases.

MONKEYPOX SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Region of the Americas

As of 7 September 2022 (16:00 EST)

Total

(13 May – 7 September 2022)

32,078

Confirmed cases

4

deaths

31

Countries/territories with confirmed cases

Last 7 days

(1 – 7 September 2022)

4,275

New Confirmed cases

0

New Deaths

15%

% Increase in cases

0

Newly affected countries

Information is updated from

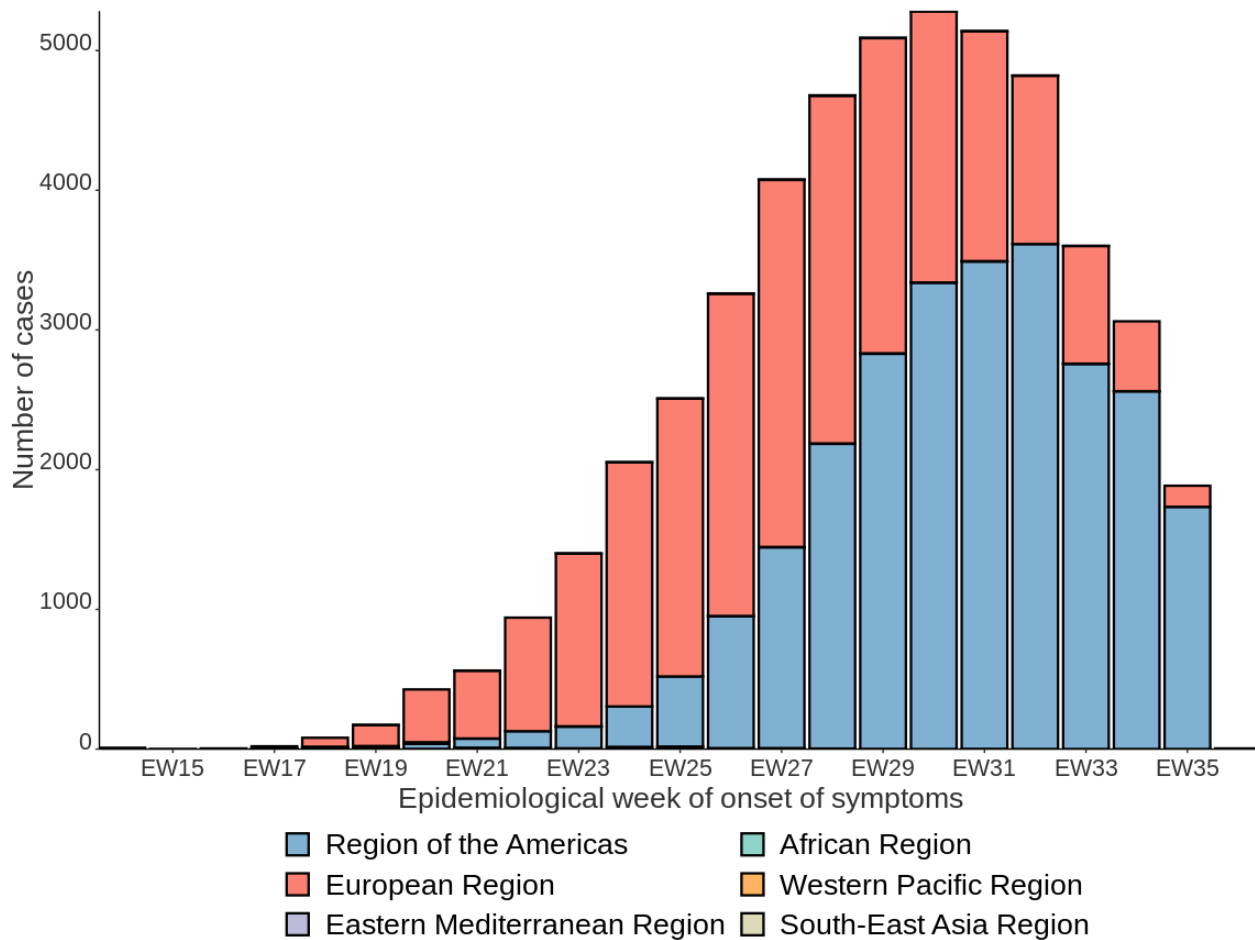
Monday to Friday

by 18:00 GMT-5, at:

Monkeypox.paho.org

¹ 24 August 2022 WHO External Situation Report #4

Figure 1. Global distribution of monkeypox cases by date of symptom onset. As of 7 September 2022.



Region of the Americas – Epidemiological Update

In the **Region of the Americas**, as of 7 September 2022 (16:00 EST), there is a total of 32,078 confirmed cases of monkeypox, including 4 deaths in Brazil (2), Cuba (1), and Ecuador (1), reported from 31 countries and territories (*Table 1, Annex 1*).

Compared to the 2 September report, no additional countries reported confirmed monkeypox cases and no additional deaths were reported. There was a 15% relative increase in confirmed cases in the Region of the Americas in the last 7 days.

PAHO/WHO has received an anonymized line list from Member States regarding 27,013 of the confirmed cases. Of these, 6,362 cases had sex information available, of which 6,204 (97%) were male; 6,981 cases had age information, which ranged from 1 to 76 years old (median 33 years, mean 34 years) and 70 confirmed cases aged 18 years or younger were reported by 8 countries (Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Canada, Chile, and Argentina); 15,975 cases reported dates of symptom onset in 2022, ranging from 27 February to 31 August 2022 (*Figure 2*). Of 3,570 cases with available information on history of reported travel, only 17% reported having recently traveled. Among 9,572 cases with hospitalization information, 1,050 (10.1%) were hospitalized. Of 3,087 cases with sexual orientation information, 2,677 were men who have sex with men (MSM).

Of 158 cases reported among women in the Region of the Americas as of 7 September, 6 correspond to pregnant women with no known pregnancy-related complications to date. Eight of the cases among women required hospitalization. In

recent weeks, an increase in the proportion of women amongst the total number of confirmed cases has been observed. In epidemiological week (EW) 22, there had been no reported cases among women, and in EW 30, 3.1% of the total confirmed cases were women. More information available [here](#).

Table 1. Confirmed and suspected cases of monkeypox by country/territory in the Region of the Americas. As of 7 September 2022 (16:00 EST)*.

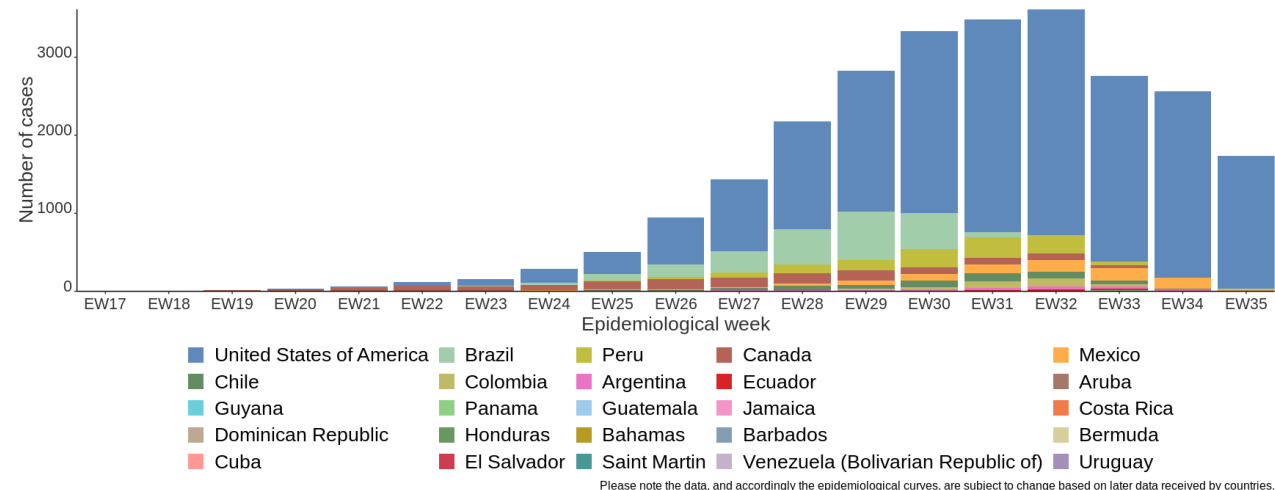
Country/Territories	Total cases	Total deaths	Total cases per 1M	Cases last 7-day	% variation last 7-day	Cases last 21-day	% variation last 21-day
United States of America	20,608	0	62.3	2,304	-5.1	7,865	-14.2
Brazil	5,692	2	26.8	816	-8.5	2,508	0.8
Peru	1,726	0	52.3	230	-20.4	859	33.6
Canada	1,317	0	34.9	89	304.5	226	-34.7
Colombia	938	0	18.4	356	15.2	809	591.5
Mexico	788	0	6.1	284	140.7	536	177.7
Chile	486	0	25.4	105	-5.4	297	106.2
Argentina	170	0	3.8	37	-39.3	98	88.5
Puerto Rico	134	0	46.8	20	-45.9	80	95.1
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	97	0	8.3	19	-42.4	70	159.3
Ecuador	53	1	3.0	2	-87.5	34	112.5
Panama	12	0	2.8	2	0	8	166.7
Guatemala	11	0	0.6	5	400	8	166.7
Jamaica	9	0	3.0	4	300	5	150
Dominican Republic	7	0	0.6	0	-	1	-66.7
Uruguay	5	0	1.4	1	0	3	50
Honduras	4	0	0.4	0	-100	1	-66.7
Costa Rica	3	0	0.6	0	-	0	-
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	3	0	0.1	0	-	2	-
Aruba	2	0	18.7	0	-100	2	-
Bahamas	2	0	5.1	0	-	1	-
Cuba	2	1	0.2	1	-	2	-
Guyana	2	0	2.5	0	-100	2	-
Bermuda	1	0	16.1	0	-	0	-
Barbados	1	0	3.5	0	-	0	-
Curaçao	1	0	6.1	0	-	1	-
Guadeloupe	1	0	2.5	0	-	0	-100
Saint Martin	1	0	25.9	0	-	0	-100
Martinique	1	0	2.7	0	-	0	-
El Salvador	1	0	0.2	0	-100	1	-

Data updated as of: 07/09/2022

*Data is preliminary and is subject to change.

Source: Information received from the International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Points (NFPs) or published on the websites of the Ministries of Health, Health Agencies or similar at national or subnational levels.

Figure 2. Confirmed monkeypox cases by country/territory and epidemiological week (EW) of symptom onset for cases with available information in the Region of the Americas. As of 7 September 2022 (16:00 EST)*.



PAHO/WHO response to **monkeypox**

From 2 September to 9 September 2022



Engaging and protecting communities

Risk communication & community engagement • Community engagement and response in at-risk populations • Mass gatherings & POE

On 2 September 2022, PAHO **participated in WHO's virtual dialogue between affected communities and WHO leadership** on the monkeypox outbreak. The Organization also responded to questions and comments made by participants from Latin America and the Caribbean. The event registered more than 250 participants.

On 1 September 2022, PAHO held a **webinar for civil society organizations (CSOs) together with the Ministry of Health and Wellness (MoHW) of Jamaica**. Topics addressed included monkeypox epidemiology, clinical presentations, infection prevention and control (IPC), prevention (including immunizations) and treatment. Approximately 50 participants attended the session. Lead community representatives expressed their concerns regarding stigma and discrimination against gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, and people living with HIV. PAHO also **delivered a presentation to disseminate the same information to Red Gay Latino**, a network of Latin American and Caribbean gay organizations, some of them with community services for HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STI). The event was held on 29 August 2022, and registered more than 120 participants from 21 different countries.

During the reporting period, PAHO **conducted an initial mapping of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)** with community-led services, and academic institutions working with gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, as potential partners for collaboration in actions aimed at these target populations.

Clinical care and infection prevention control including protection of health workers

Clinical management • Infection control & prevention • Health services

The Organization is continuously **evaluating IPC interventions** that can prevent transmission of monkeypox to health care workers in occupational settings in countries in the Region.

Collective intelligence for detection and containment

Laboratory diagnostics • Surveillance, investigation & contact tracing • Information management & risk assessment • Human to animal transmission (pets)

During the reporting period, PAHO **provided technical support to the implementation of monkeypox virus detection through PCR in Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Turks and Caicos**. Activities included **the provision of supplies, sharing available protocols** and reviewing them with laboratory teams.

On 2 September 2022, PAHO **published** updated [Laboratory Guidelines for the Detection and Diagnosis of Monkeypox Virus Infection](#), also available in [Spanish](#).

Throughout the past week, PAHO **held meetings with staff from laboratories in the Region** to review and discuss test results. Additional data review, troubleshooting sessions, and follow-up calls regarding laboratory diagnostics were held with **Antigua and Barbuda** and **Costa Rica**.

The Organization continued to update **the [monkeypox cases dashboard](#) and disseminate its use** among Member States. It was developed to facilitate data visualization, analysis, and follow-up. The tool is available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish. Information is collected on a daily basis through the IHR National Focal Point (NFP) channels and publicly available data from ministries of health.

Countermeasures and research: secure access to supplies

Immunization • Vaccines access • Strategic health supplies • Regulatory issues • Research

As of 9 September 2022, PAHO has **received official requests for the MVA-BN vaccine** (Modified Vaccinia Ankara - Bavarian Nordic) from **13 countries** in the Region. Price estimates were submitted to countries.

Future outlook

The Region of the Americas now accounts for the highest cumulative proportion of monkeypox cases globally and has accounted for the highest proportion of new cases for the fifth consecutive week. Four countries in the Region (United States, Brazil, Peru and Canada) are among the top 10 countries with the highest number of confirmed cases globally. Additionally, there is a likelihood of increased transmission in other population groups. The most at-risk populations have predominantly remained the same (men, particularly men who have sex with other men); however, there has been an increase of cases among women, including pregnant women, as well as in children, which cannot be overlooked. Cases among indigenous and persons deprived of their liberty are of concern. The response should continue to have a key focus on communication with and engagement of at-risk communities, leveraging mass gatherings for communication and preventive measures, the timely detection and treatment of patients, and protection of health workers. Transmission chains should also be contained in close cooperation with affected communities. PAHO provides detailed recommendations on response actions through regular [Epidemiological Updates](#).

Annex 1. Geographical distribution of confirmed cases of monkeypox in the Region of the Americas. As of 7 September 2022 (16:00 EST).

