

### Cholera in the Americas - Situation summary

The last confirmed case of cholera in **Cuba** was reported by the Canada International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point in January 2015. The case was an individual with history of travel to Cuba.

In the **Dominican Republic**, in 2014 there were 597 suspected cholera cases recorded, including 10 deaths, which represents a 70% reduction in the number of cases and 76% reduction in the number of deaths in comparison to 2013.

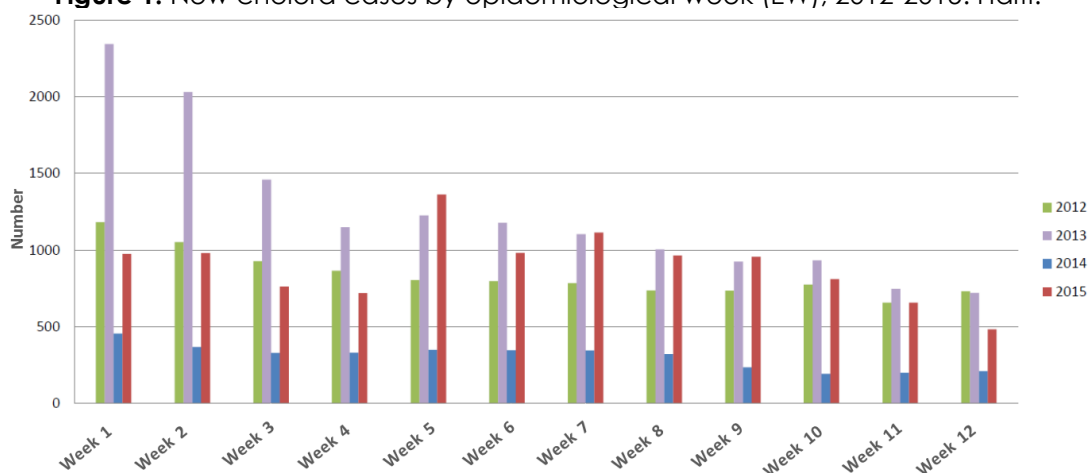
Between epidemiological week (EW) 1 and EW 10 of 2015, there were 185 suspected cholera cases registered, including 9 deaths. This represents an increase of more than double the cases recorded for the same period of 2014. This situation in the Dominican Republic is linked to the cholera dynamics registered in Haiti during the same period.

Since the beginning of the epidemic (November 2010) to EW 10 of 2015, a total of 32,257 suspected cholera cases, including 487 deaths, have been recorded in the Dominican Republic.

In **Haiti**, since the beginning of the epidemic (October 2010) through 21 March 2015, there were 734,983 cholera cases, of which 419,087 were hospitalized (57% cumulative hospitalization rate), and 8,761 deaths. The cumulative case fatality rate remains at 1.2%.

From EW 1 to EW 11 of 2015, there were 10,328 cholera cases, including 8,124 hospitalizations (79% hospitalization rate), and 106 deaths. The number of cases and deaths in 2015 are above the number recorded in the same period of 2014. The number of cases reported during the first months of 2015, are equivalent to those reported in 2012. See Figure 1. In addition, during the same period, outbreak alerts have been reported by the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP) in 8 out of 10 departments in the country, indicating an intense and widespread circulation of *Vibrio cholerae* O:1 at the community level. The transmission of cholera in Haiti now presents an endemic pattern.

**Figure 1.** New cholera cases by epidemiological week (EW), 2012-2015. Haiti.



**Source:** Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP). Direction d'Epidémiologie de Laboratoire et de Recherches (DELR). Rapport du Réseau National de Surveillance.

In **Mexico**, in 2014, there were 14 cholera cases registered in two states: Hidalgo (13) and Querétaro (1). Since the start of 2015, no new cholera cases have been registered.

## Advice to national authorities

The Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) encourages Member States to remain vigilant and continue implementing the activities PAHO/WHO has recommended since November 2012, see the [Epidemiological Alert](#).

## References

1. Haiti, Ministère de la Santé Public et de la Population (MSPP). Direction d'Epidémiologie de Laboratoire et de Recherches (DELR). Rapport du Réseau National de Surveillance. Sites Choléra. Epidemiological Week 11 of 2015.
2. Dominican Republic, Epidemiological Bulletins. Weekly Bulletins, 2015. Available at: [http://www.digepisalud.gob.do/?page\\_id=93&drawer=Boletines epidemiológicos\\*Boletín semanal](http://www.digepisalud.gob.do/?page_id=93&drawer=Boletines+epidemiológicos*Boletín+semanal)
3. Mexico, Secretaría de Salud de México. Boletín Epidemiológico de la Dirección General de Epidemiología. Available at: [http://www.epidemiologia.salud.gob.mx/dgae/boletin/intd\\_boletin.html](http://www.epidemiologia.salud.gob.mx/dgae/boletin/intd_boletin.html)

## Related links:

- WHO cholera fact sheet: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs107/en/index.html>
- PAHO cholera health topic: [www.paho.org/cholera](http://www.paho.org/cholera)
- Information on WHO's statement relating to international travel and trade to and from countries experiencing outbreaks of cholera: <http://www.who.int/cholera/technical/prevention/choleratravelandtradeadvice231110.pdf>
- Atlas of Cholera outbreak in La Hispaniola. PAHO/WHO. Available at: [http://new.paho.org/hq/images/Atlas\\_IHR/CholeraHispaniola/atlas.html](http://new.paho.org/hq/images/Atlas_IHR/CholeraHispaniola/atlas.html)