

# Weekly Situation Report on Monkeypox Multi-Country Outbreak Response - Region of the Americas

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## Highlights

Global WHO Risk Assessment<sup>1</sup>: **Moderate**

WHO Risk Assessment for the Americas<sup>1</sup>: **Moderate**

As of 24 August 2022,

- **Globally**, 45,198 confirmed cases of monkeypox from 98 Member States: 51% in the European Region, 48% in the Region of the Americas, 1% in the Africa Region, <1% each in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, Western Pacific Region, and South-East Asia Region (*Figure 1*).
  - 6,310 additional cases, 16% increase in the last 7 days
  - 98% (21,649/22,086) of cases with available data are male, the median age is 36 years. <1% (245/25,402) of cases with available age data are aged 0-17 years, including 59 cases aged 0-4 years. Males between 18-44 years old account for 79% of cases with available data.
- In the **Americas**, 23,479 confirmed cases from 29 countries and territories. Four countries in the Region account for 95% of confirmed cases (United States of America, Brazil, Peru, and Canada).
  - 26% increase in confirmed cases in the last 7 days, and Aruba, Curacao, Guyana and Paraguay reported their first confirmed case.
  - Three deaths have been reported in the Region related to monkeypox (Brazil, Cuba, and Ecuador).
  - Most of the confirmed cases with available information (4,647/4,773) are male, aged 25 to 45 years old, and most (85%) self-identify as men who have sex with other men.
  - 7 countries in the Region have reported 49 confirmed cases among persons <18 years old (Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Canada, and Chile).
  - 708 (10%) of 6,776 cases with available information were hospitalized.
  - 84% of 2,103 cases in the Americas with available information are locally transmitted cases.

A group of global experts convened by WHO has agreed on new names for monkeypox virus variants, as part of ongoing efforts to align the names of the monkeypox disease, virus and variants – or clades – with current best practices. The experts agreed to name the clades using Roman numerals. <https://bit.ly/3T4r80r>

### MONKEYPOX SITUATION IN NUMBERS

#### Region of the Americas

As of 24 August 2022  
(16:00 EST)

#### Total

(13 May – 24 August 2022)

**23,479**

Confirmed cases

**3**

deaths

**29**

Countries/territories with confirmed cases

#### Last 7 days

(18– 24 August 2022)

**4,820**

New Confirmed cases

**1**

New Death

**26%**

% Increase in cases

**4**

Newly affected countries/territories

Information is updated from

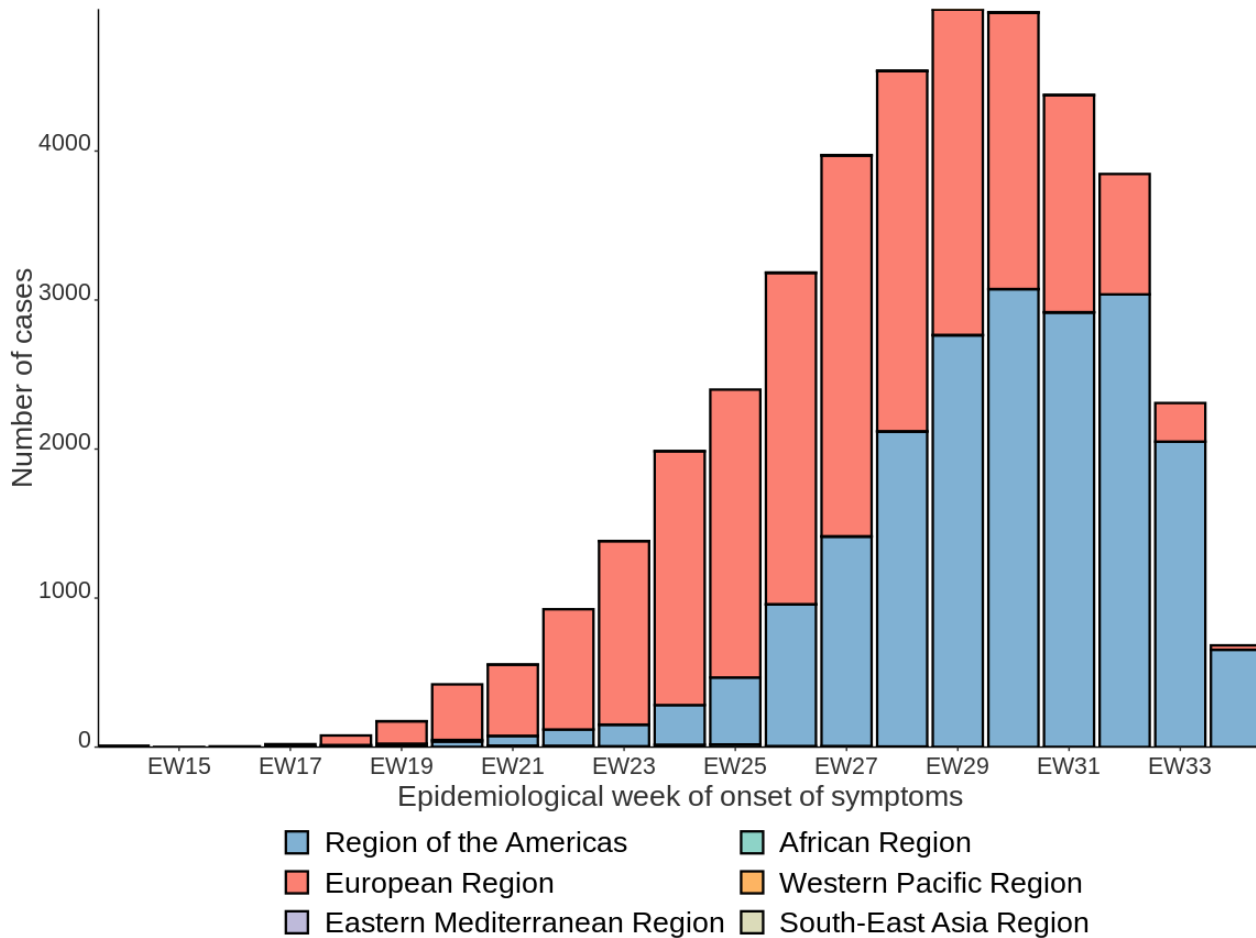
Monday to Friday

by 18:00 GMT-5, at:

[paho.org](https://paho.org)

<sup>1</sup>24 August 2022. WHO External Situation Report #4.

**Figure 1.** Global distribution of monkeypox cases by date of symptom onset. As of 24 August 2022.



## Region of the Americas – Epidemiological Update

In the **Region of the Americas**, as of 24 August 2022 (16:00 EST), a total of 23,479 confirmed cases of monkeypox, including 3 deaths (Brazil, Cuba and Ecuador) have been reported from 29 countries and territories (*Table 1, Annex 1*).

Compared to the 19 August report, four additional countries/territories reported confirmed monkeypox cases: Aruba, Curacao, Guyana and Paraguay. There was a 26% relative increase in confirmed cases in the Region of the Americas in the last 7 days.

PAHO/WHO has received an anonymized linelist from Member States regarding 21,885 of the confirmed cases. Of these, 4,773 cases had sex information available, of which 4,647 (97%) were male; 4,489 cases had age information, which ranged from 1 to 76 years old (median 33 years, mean 34 years) and 49 confirmed cases aged 18 years or younger were reported by 7 countries (Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Canada, and Chile); 7,489 cases reported dates of symptom onset in 2022, ranging from 17 January to 22 August 2022 (*Figure 2*). Of 2,103 cases with available information on history of reported travel, only 16% reported having recently traveled.

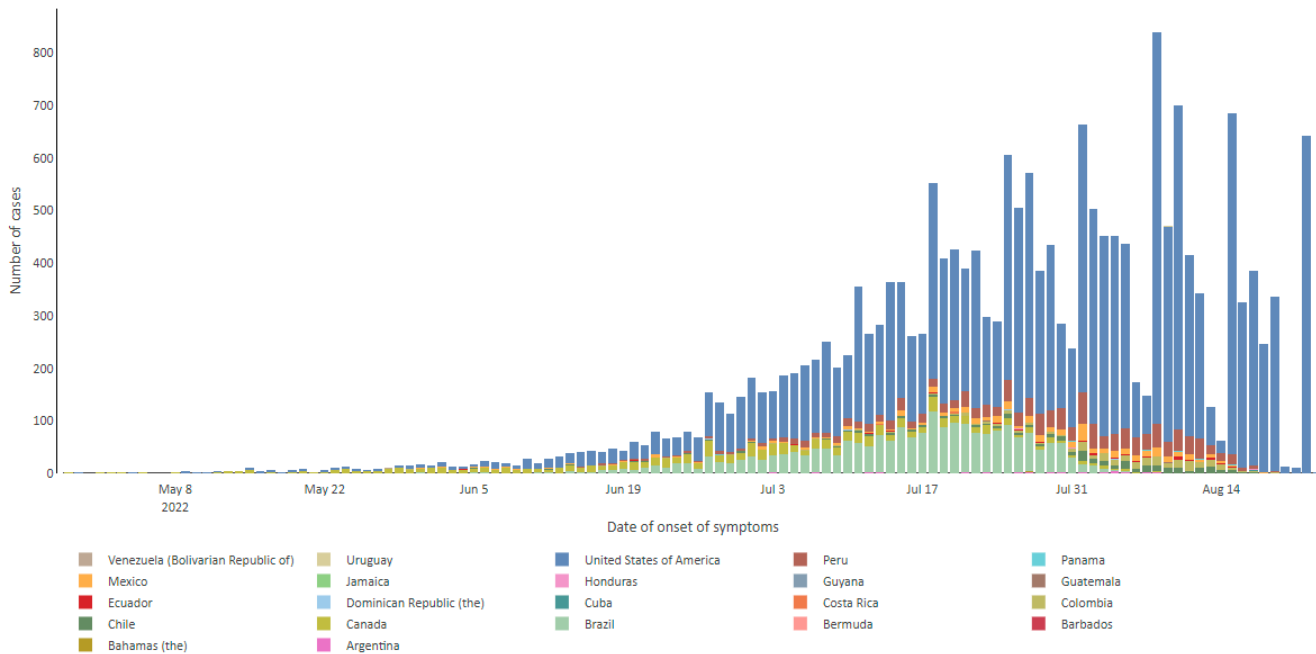
**Table 1.** Confirmed and suspected cases of monkeypox by country/territory in the Region of the Americas. As of 24 August 2022 (16:00 EST)\*.

Country/Territories	Total cases	Total deaths	Total cases per 1M	Cases last 7-day	% variation last 7-day
United States of America	15,877	0	48.0	3,134	-4.5
Brazil	3,984	1	18.7	800	4
Peru	1,207	0	36.6	340	19.7
Canada	1,206	0	32.0	115	38.6
Mexico	386	0	3.0	134	27.6
Colombia	273	0	5.4	144	94.6
Chile	270	0	14.1	81	28.6
Puerto Rico	77	0	26.9	23	15
Argentina	72	0	1.6	0	-100
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	45	0	3.9	18	-14.3
Ecuador	35	1	2.0	16	128.6
Panama	8	0	1.9	4	100
Dominican Republic	7	0	0.6	1	-50
Guatemala	5	0	0.3	2	-
Jamaica	4	0	1.4	0	-100
Costa Rica	3	0	0.6	0	-
Honduras	3	0	0.3	0	-100
Uruguay	3	0	0.9	1	-
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	3	0	0.1	2	-
Bahamas	2	0	5.1	1	-
Aruba	1	0	9.4	1	-
Bermuda	1	0	16.1	0	-
Barbados	1	0	3.5	0	-
Cuba	1	1	0.1	1	-
Curaçao	1	0	6.1	1	-
Guadeloupe	1	0	2.5	0	-
Guyana	1	0	1.3	1	-
Saint Martin	1	0	25.9	0	-
Martinique	1	0	2.7	0	-

\*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 date of onset of symptoms for countries with available information in the Region of the Americas. As of 24 August 2022 (16:00 EST)\*.



## PAHO/WHO Response per Pillar

**In the past week (18 August – 24 August 2022):**

### Communication and engagement of at-risk communities

- In coordination with the Regional Coordination Mechanism of Central America (RCM), a webinar was organized for organized civil society and Ministries of Health, on 25 August 2022. This Webinar included an update on the epidemiological situation in the Region of Americas, in addition to addressing the clinical characteristics, transmission, diagnosis, and treatment of Monkeypox. Two country experiences were presented: Spain and Peru. With the support of HIV Platform 2025, the topic of communication with communities was addressed. A total of 276 people attended this webinar during the 3 hours. More than 30 questions from the audience were answered.
- A guidance document for communication with communities is being finalized. Social media cards on homecare guidance, prevention, and awareness about monkeypox are being adapted to country needs and in additional languages, such as Creole.
- Information and resources can be found on the PAHO monkeypox page, including:
  - Monkeypox Q&A (available in English, Spanish, France, and Portuguese)
  - Monkeypox: Advice for the public (available in English and Spanish)
  - Monkeypox: guidelines and technical resources (available in English and Spanish)
  - Communicating about monkeypox (available in English and Spanish).

## Laboratory confirmation, surveillance, and containment of transmission chains

- Supported Member States in quality control of the Case Report Form records shared by the IHR National Focal Points.
- Daily updates on monkeypox case counts in countries and territories in the Region of the Americas with information from the IHR NFPs and Official Open Sources. Presentation (in ppt) with updated information can also be obtained at: <https://shiny.pahobra.org/monkeypox/>
- Recommendations for the prevention of transmission of Monkeypox within the healthcare setting continue to focus on the application of Standard Precautions as well as Contact and Droplet Precautions (gloves, gowns, masks and eye protection; including the use of respirators particularly when aerosol-generating procedures take place).
- To date (WHO Situation Report published 24 August 2022), only three (3) cases of healthcare-associated infections (HAI) due to Monkeypox in the current outbreak have been confirmed worldwide, emphasizing the low level of risk for transmission in healthcare settings when proper precautions are applied.
- Recommendations to prevent transmission of Monkeypox outside the healthcare setting continue to focus on adherence to isolation by persons confirmed or suspected to have monkeypox, and frequent attention to proper hand hygiene by all household members, as well as taking the proper precautions when handling and cleaning linens, household surfaces, during waste disposal and using damp mopping (avoiding dry sweeping) to prevent dispersion of infectious particles.

## Future Outlook

The Region of the Americas is increasingly accounting for a higher proportion of the monkeypox cases globally. Four countries in the Region 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, however, an increase of cases among women, including pregnant women cannot be overlooked. 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 24 August 2022 (16:00 EST).

