

## Key facts

- Approximately 500 million people live at risk of being infected by dengue in the Americas.
- The average incidence of dengue increased from 16.4 per 100,000 population between 1980-1989 to 218.3 per 100,000 population between 2000 and 2010.
- The number of countries with average incidence higher than 100 per 100,000 population increased from 5 countries in the 80's to 19 countries and territories between 2000 and 2010.
- Year 2013 was an epidemic year in the continent, with 2.2 million cases, an incidence of 443.5 per 100,000 population, 37,475 severe cases and 1,276 deaths.
- From 1980 to 2010 the fatality from dengue showed an upward trend. However, from 2010 to 2013 the case fatality rate has decreased from 0.07% to 0.05%.
- The four dengue serotypes (DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 and DENV-4) circulate throughout the continent. In various countries and / or regions including Argentina, Brazil, French Guyana, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Martinique, Mexico, Nicaragua, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela, in 2013, those serotypes circulate simultaneously, increasing the risk of epidemics and severe forms of dengue.
- The *Ae. aegypti* is widely distributed in the Americas. Only Canada and continental Chile are free from dengue and its vector. Although Uruguay has not reported dengue cases, it does have its vector.
- The disease has a seasonal pattern in the continent. In the southern hemisphere, most cases occur in the first half of the year, while in the northern hemisphere most cases occur in the second half.

## PAHO/WHO's response

- Implementation of the Integrated Management Strategy for Dengue Prevention and Control (IMS -Dengue) in 22 countries and evaluated in 20 of them ([Resolution CD44.R9](#)).
- The formation of an international group of Dengue experts (GT-International) composed of professionals from across the continent in each of the components of the IMS –Dengue, which currently provides technical advice and support to all the countries of the Americas in order to strengthen prevention and control of the disease.
- Adaptation for the Americas of the Clinical Guidelines for the management of dengue patients based on the 2009 WHO revised clinical guidelines (a second edition in progress). After its implementation in 2010, dengue fatality rate declined from 0.07% to 0.05% in the region.
- Formation of a Dengue Laboratory Network of the Americas (RELDA) integrated for 4 PAHO/WHO collaborating centers and 22 national laboratories responsible for strengthening and updating the diagnosis of dengue.
- Strengthening Dengue National Surveillance Systems. An Integrated Surveillance System model is being developed in order to generate standardized information for all the Americas. This will make possible the use of new tools that will be available in future.
- Discussed and analyzed the lessons learned, good practice and future prospects of the surveillance, prevention and control of *Ae. aegypti*, with the participation of academia, private industry, NGO's, PAHO/WHO, Latin American Network of Vector Control and 23 countries in the Region. Currently the development of new standards for surveillance and control of *Ae. aegypti* in the continent are being developed.

For more information, please visit: [www.paho.org/dengue](http://www.paho.org/dengue) (select English option)