

Puerto Rico declares flu epidemic; 1 dead, 140 hospitalized

February 5 2015

(AP)—Puerto Rico's health secretary has declared a flu epidemic in the U.S. territory that has temporarily shut down at least one school.

Ana Rius said Thursday that more than 3,000 cases have been reported so far this year. She said one person has died and more than 140 were hospitalized last month.

The Palmas Academy, a private school in southeast Puerto Rico, temporarily closed for the week to disinfect classrooms after several students were diagnosed with the flu.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared a [flu epidemic](#) in the U.S. in December.

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