

At least 39 deadly swine flu cases recorded in Russia

January 22 2016

At least 39 people have died of swine flu in Russia since last month, according to AFP calculations based on official data, with more than half the cases announced in the last week.

Health authorities in the southern region of Volgograd told state news agency RIA Novosti on Friday that 11 people had died from the [virus](#) and that nearly 50 schools had declared a quarantine.

One deadly swine flu case was also reported in Moscow, [local authorities](#) said Friday.

Six swine flu-related deaths have also been recorded in the southern region of Rostov and five deaths were reported in Saint Petersburg.

These latest cases follow the deaths of four adults and one child from the virus in the North Caucasus region of Dagestan, and the deaths of two infected patients in Yekaterinburg in the Urals and the southern region of Adygea.

Swine flu deaths have also been reported in the Kostroma, Tambov and Kaliningrad regions, among others.

The country's top doctor, Anna Popova, told Russian news agencies this week that "all necessary measures" were being taken to prevent the virus from spreading.

In post-Soviet Armenia, 18 people have died of swine flu since the start of the year, the South Caucasus country's health ministry said this week.

Authorities in neighbouring Georgia told AFP on Friday that three deadly cases of the virus had been reported.

In nearby Iran, [swine flu](#) has left 112 dead and forced the hospitalisation of more than 1,000 since mid-November, authorities said late last month.

A major H1N1 outbreak sparked a World Health Organization pandemic alert in June 2009, after the virus emerged from Mexico and the United States.

The outbreak killed around 18,500 people in 214 countries. The alert was lifted in August 2010.

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