

Fighting Deadly Flu, Mexico Shuts Schools



Adriana Zehbrauskas for The New York Times

The World Health Organization planned to consider raising the world pandemic flu alert to 4 from 3. Such a high level of alert has not been reached in recent years, even with the H5N1 avian flu circulating in Asia and Egypt.

By [MARC LACEY](#) and [DONALD G. McNEIL Jr.](#)

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MEXICO CITY — Mexican officials, scrambling to control a [swine flu](#) outbreak that has killed as many as 61 people and infected possibly hundreds more in recent weeks, closed museums and shuttered schools for millions of students in and around the capital on Friday, and urged people with flu symptoms to stay home from work.

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