Estimate of Respiratory Deaths due to Seasonal Influenza
290 000 – 650 000 annually

Annual seasonal influenza deaths likely higher than previously estimated

NEW ESTIMATE
290 000 – 650 000
(as of December 2017)
Influenza-related RESPIRATORY DEATHS only

PREVIOUS ESTIMATE
250 000 - 500 000
(including respiratory and other deaths e.g. cardiovascular)

WHO and partners are working to update the estimate of annual seasonal influenza deaths
Ongoing research studies are expected to yield substantially higher estimates of all influenza-related deaths over the next few years

The new estimate considers

RECENT DATA*
Data from more COUNTRIES
Improvements in
- INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE
- VIRUS DETECTION
- DATA QUALITY

The new estimates will allow countries and regions to

COMPARE their own data with others
INFLUENCE policy
DECIDE on prevention and control measures

WHO supports countries in generating national estimates to

ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS of their influenza prevention and control strategies
DECIDE ON INTERVENTIONS
UNDERSTAND THE NATIONAL BURDEN
BETTER UNDERSTAND the global burden of influenza disease