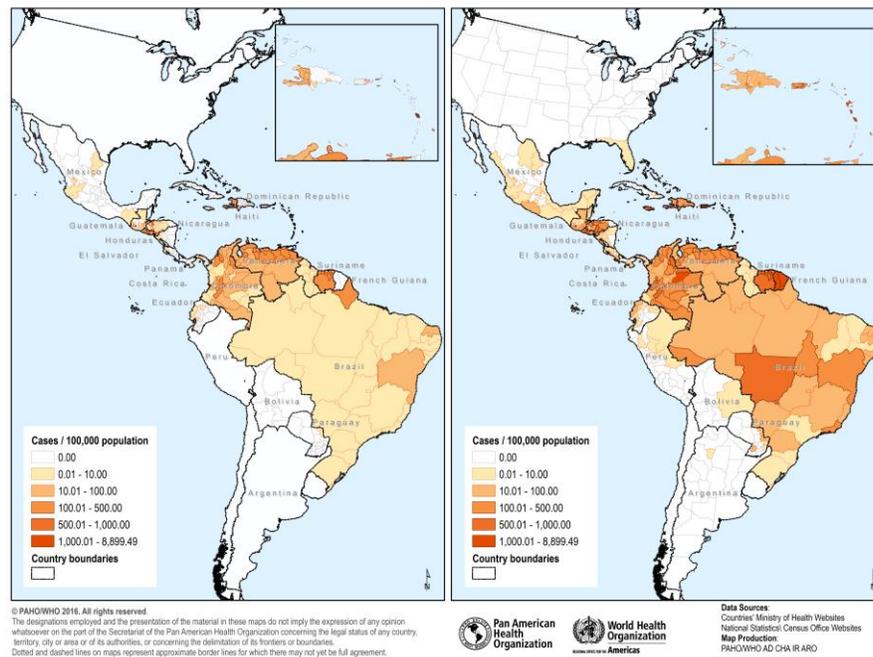


Zika virus – Incidence and trends

To date, 46 countries and territories have confirmed autochthonous, vector-borne transmission of Zika virus disease in the Region of the Americas since 2015.¹ In addition, five countries in the Americas have reported sexually transmitted Zika cases.² Since the last [Zika Epidemiological Update of 25 August 2016](#), the British Virgin Islands have confirmed vector-borne autochthonous transmission of Zika virus (**Figure 1**).

Figure 1. Cumulative incidence rates of suspected and confirmed Zika cases in countries and territories in the Americas, January 2016 and September 2016.



¹ Anguilla; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Aruba; the Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; Bolivia (Plurinational State of); Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, and Saba; Brazil; the British Virgin Islands; Cayman Islands; Colombia; Costa Rica; Cuba; Curaçao; Dominica; the Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; French Guiana; Grenada; Guadeloupe; Guatemala; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Jamaica; Martinique; Mexico; Nicaragua; Panama; Paraguay; Peru; Puerto Rico; Saint Barthélemy; Saint Lucia; Saint Martin; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Sint Maarten; Suriname; Trinidad and Tobago; Turks and Caicos Islands; the United States of America; the United States Virgin Islands; and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

² Argentina, Canada, Chile, Peru, and the United States of America.

Highlighted below is a summary of the Zika epidemiological situation by sub-regions of the Americas.

North America³

Mexico has been showing a downward trend in the number of confirmed cases for four consecutive weeks (EW 30 to EW 33). In the United States of America, the Zika virus transmission continues to expand and, to date, three counties in the state of Florida have confirmed autochthonous cases of Zika virus infection: Miami Dade, Palm Beach and Pinellas.⁴

Central America⁵

Over the last four weeks, a decreasing trend of cases has been observed in all countries in Central America with the exception of Costa Rica, where there has been an increasing trend of cases since the beginning of the outbreak up to EW 31. In Guatemala, following a downward trend that began on EW 23, the reported cases increased again in EW 32; therefore, it will be important to monitor whether the upward trend continues in the coming weeks. In Nicaragua, where the number of reported cases has mostly been on the rise since the beginning of the outbreak, cases have declined for the third consecutive week (EW 32 to 34).

The greatest increase in Zika cases in Central America occurred between late 2015 and early 2016.⁶

Caribbean⁷

In the Caribbean, Grenada, Puerto Rico and Saint Barthelemy show a declining trend of Zika cases between EW 32 and EW 33, following the increase in number of cases observed since the beginning of the outbreak. However, in the following weeks, it will be necessary to monitor whether the declining trend continues in these countries/territories.

Other countries/territories in the Caribbean also show a declining trend of Zika cases.

South America⁸

In South America, all countries are reporting decreasing numbers of Zika cases.

³ Canada, Mexico, and the United States of America.

⁴ Read the [full report](#).

⁵ Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.

⁶ Read the [individual country reports](#).

⁷ Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, the Bahamas, Barbados, Bonaire, Saint Eustatius and Saba, Curacao, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, Saint Barthélemy, Saint Lucia, Saint Martin, Sint Maarten, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

⁸ Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.

Congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection⁹

To date, 15 countries and territories in the Americas have reported confirmed cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection. Additionally, three countries have reported suspected¹⁰ and probable¹¹ cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus: Barbados, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.

As of EW 35, Canada reported two maternal-fetal transmissions of Zika Virus; one with severe neurological anomalies.¹²

As of 1 September, the table with the number of confirmed cases of congenital syndrome is published on a weekly basis on the PAHO/WHO website and is available at:

<http://bit.ly/2cdqIQ2>

Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) and other neurological disorders

To date, 12 countries and territories in the Region have reported an increase in the number of cases of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) and seven countries and territories have reported laboratory-confirmed GBS cases associated with Zika virus infection (**Table 1**).

⁹ Read the [case definition](#).

¹⁰ Read the [Guidelines for the surveillance of Zika virus disease and its complications](#); 2016.

Suspected case of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection:

Live newborn who presents with:

- microcephaly: head circumference below -2 standard deviations measured at 24 hours after birth according to the standardized guidelines for gestational age and sex; **OR**
- other congenital malformation of the central nervous system;

AND whose mother during pregnancy:

- resided in or traveled to an area with the presence of ZIKV vectors; **OR**
- had unprotected sex with a partner who resided in, or traveled to, an area with the presence of ZIKV vectors.

¹¹ Probable case of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection:

Live newborn who meets the criteria for a suspected case of congenital syndrome associated with ZIKV **AND**

- who has intracranial morphological alterations diagnosed by any imaging method, and excluding other known possible causes; **OR**
- whose mother had rash during pregnancy.

¹² Information on the location where the mother contracted the infection is not publicly available; however, Canadian authorities informed the national authorities of the country where the infection was acquired.

Table 1. Countries and territories in the Americas with GBS in the context of Zika virus circulation.

Increase in GBS with Zika virus lab confirmation in at least one case of GBS	Zika virus laboratory confirmation in at least one case of GBS	Increase in GBS with no Zika virus lab confirmation in any of the cases
Brazil	Costa Rica	Paraguay
Colombia	Grenada	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Dominican Republic	Guadalupe	
El Salvador	Guatemala	
French Guiana	Haiti	
Honduras	Panama	
Jamaica	Puerto Rico	
Martinique		
Suriname		
Venezuela		