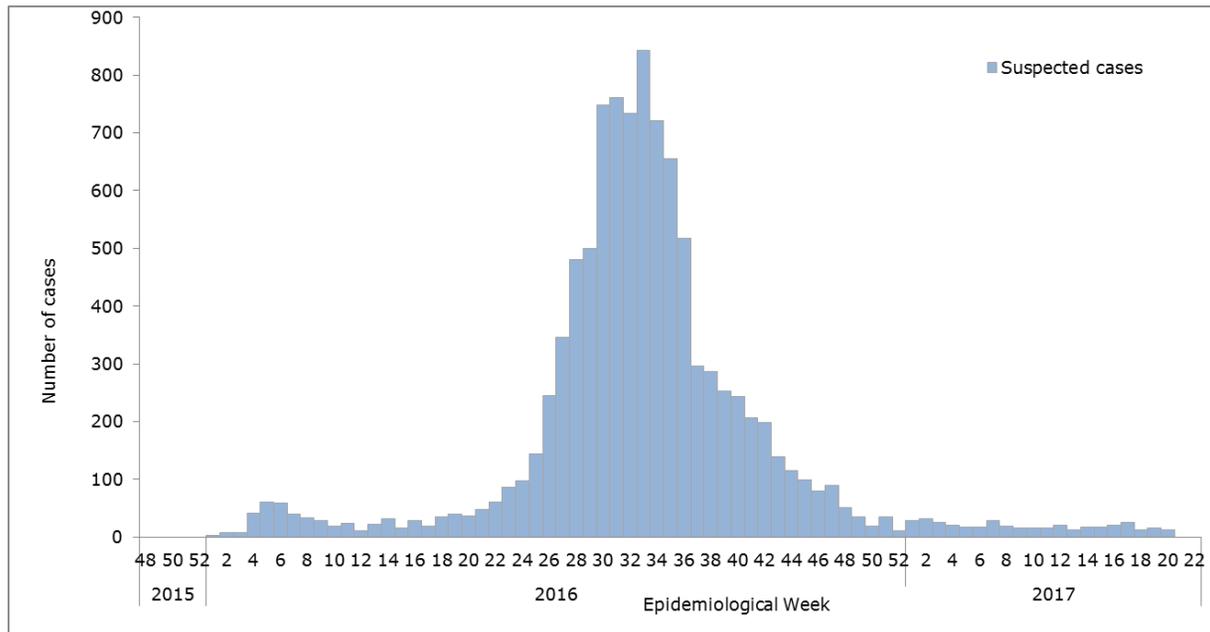


# Zika-Epidemiological Report Nicaragua

28 June 2017

**Figure 1.** Suspected Zika cases. Nicaragua. EW 48 of 2015 to EW 22 of 2017.



Source: Data published by the Nicaragua Ministry of Health and reproduced by PAHO/WHO<sup>1</sup>

## FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

In epidemiological week (EW) 4 of 2016, the Nicaragua International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) notified PAHO/WHO of the detection of the country's first cases of autochthonous vector-borne transmission of Zika virus, which were reported from Managua Department in Western Nicaragua.<sup>2</sup>

## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

No information is available on the geographic distribution of cases.

## TREND

During 2017, transmission of Zika continues in Nicaragua with less intensity compared to the large outbreak reported in 2016 when a peak was reached in EW 33 with over 800 Zika cases being reported (**Figure 1**). As of EW 20 of 2017, a total of 389 suspected and five confirmed cases of Zika have been reported in Nicaragua, compared to the 546 suspected and 192 confirmed Zika

<sup>1</sup> Nicaragua Ministry of Health. 22 May 2017. Health Situation Report 20. Available at: <http://www.minsa.gob.ni/index.php/repository/Descargas-MINSA/Direcci%C3%B3n-General-Vigilancia-de-la-Salud-P%C3%BAblica/Boletines/Boletines-2017/Bolet%C3%ADn-Epidemiol%C3%B3gico-Semana-No.-20/>

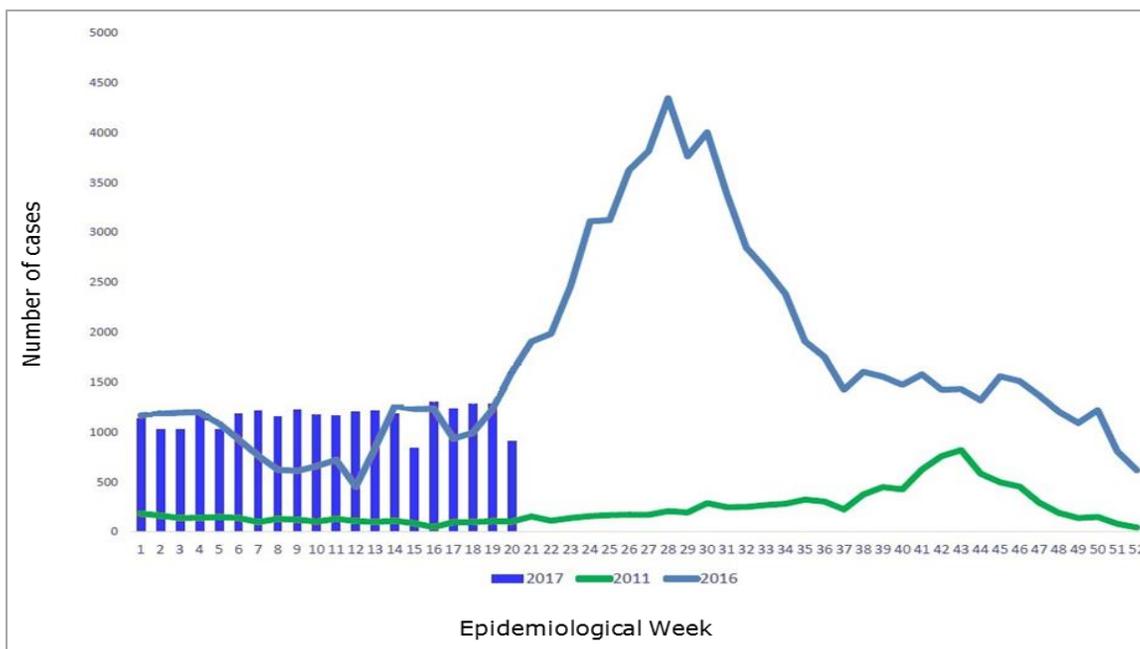
<sup>2</sup> Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Nicaragua IHR NFP on 27 January 2016.

cases reported for the same period in 2016.<sup>3</sup> This corresponds to a 30% and 97% reduction in suspected and confirmed Zika cases respectively in 2017. In the last 8 weeks (EW 13 to EW 20), an average of 17 Zika cases per week has been reported.

## CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

As of EW 20 of 2017, a total of 22,963 suspected and 1,047 confirmed dengue cases have been reported. This represents a 14% increase in suspected cases and a 52% decrease in confirmed cases compared to the same period in 2016.<sup>3</sup> (**Figure 2**).

**Figure 2:** Number of suspected dengue cases. Nicaragua. 2011, 2016 and 2017 (up to EW 20 of 2017).

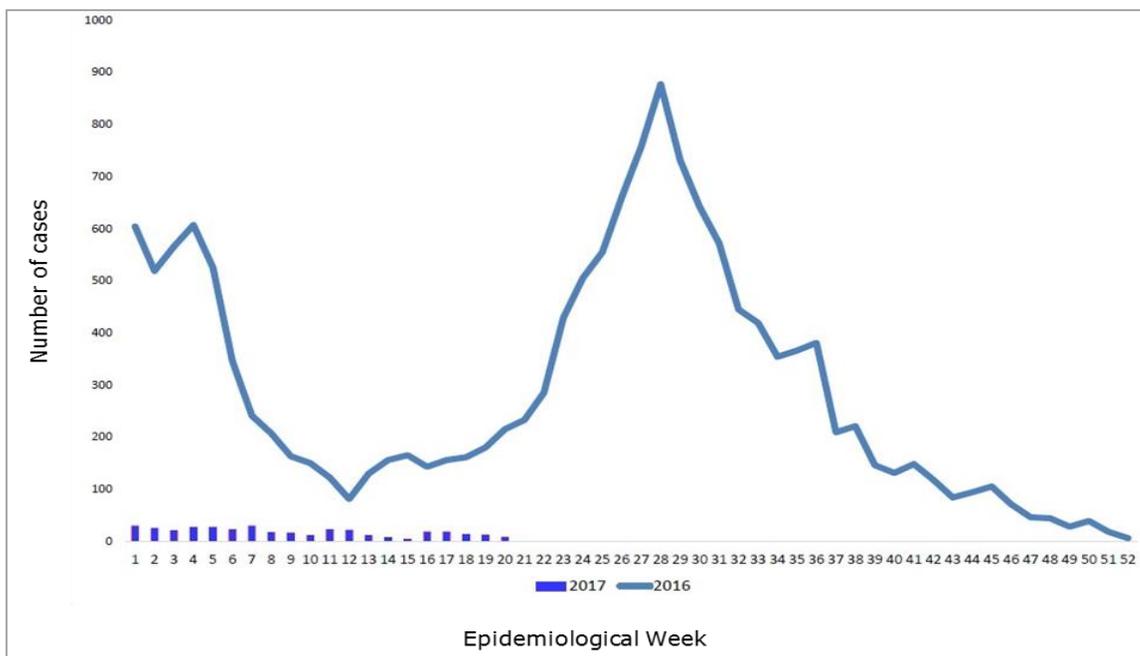


Source: Data published by the Nicaragua Ministry of Health and reproduced by PAHO/WHO<sup>3</sup>

With regards to chikungunya, a total of 337 suspected and 8 confirmed cases have been reported up to EW 20 of 2017, compared to the 5,437 suspected and 403 confirmed cases reported for the same period in 2016.<sup>3</sup> This represents a 93% and 98% reduction in suspected and confirmed chikungunya cases respectively in 2017 (**Figure 3**).

<sup>3</sup> Nicaragua Ministry of Health. 30 May 2017. Epidemiological Bulletin 20. Available at: <http://www.minsa.gob.ni/index.php/repository/Descargas-MINSA/Direcci%C3%B3n-General-Vigilancia-de-la-Salud-P%C3%ABlica/Boletines/Boletines-2017/>

**Figure 3:** Number of suspected chikungunya cases. Nicaragua. 2016-2017 (up to EW 20 of 2017).



Source: Data published by the Nicaragua Ministry of Health and reproduced by PAHO/WHO<sup>3</sup>

## ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

Information on Zika virus in pregnant women is only available up to EW 1 of 2017. A total of 1,117 pregnant women have been confirmed for Zika virus infection in Nicaragua up to EW 1 of 2017.<sup>4</sup>

## ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

### ZIKA-VIRUS-ASSOCIATED GUILLAIN-BARRE SYNDROME (GBS)

As of EW 22 of 2017, no cases of Zika-virus-associated Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) or other neurological syndrome have been reported by Nicaragua health authorities.

### CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 50 of 2016, two confirmed cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection were reported by Nicaragua health authorities.<sup>5</sup>

### DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 22 of 2017, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by Nicaragua health authorities.

<sup>4</sup> Nicaragua Ministry of Health. 2 January 2017. Available at:

<http://www.minsa.gob.ni/index.php/component/content/article/106-noticias-2017/3225-minsa-presenta-resultados-del-plan-de-lucha-anti-epidemica-durante-primeros-dias-del-2017>

<sup>5</sup> El 19, Nicaragua's digital portal for news. Rosario in Multinoticias. 21 November 2016. Available at:

<https://www.el19digital.com/articulos/ver/titulo:49165-rosario-en-multinoticias-21-de-noviembre-2016>

## NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

No information is available on the national guidelines for Zika surveillance.

## LABORATORY CAPACITY

Laboratory confirmation of suspected cases of Zika virus is performed by molecular detection (real time RT-PCR), including in house multiplex platforms, by the *Centro Nacional de Diagnóstico y Referencia* (CNDR) at the Nicaragua Ministry of Health. Currently, CNDR is also implementing the serology diagnosis based on ELISA IgM detection.

## INFORMATION-SHARING

In 2016, information on Zika used to be available through the press releases published by the Nicaragua information service website (El 19, Nicaragua's digital portal for news), on a weekly basis. In 2017, information on Zika virus is available via the Nicaragua Ministry of Health Epidemiological Bulletin<sup>3</sup> and the Health Situation Report<sup>1</sup>. At the time of this report, the latest available Zika information for both the epidemiological bulletin and the health situation report was from EW 20 of 2017.