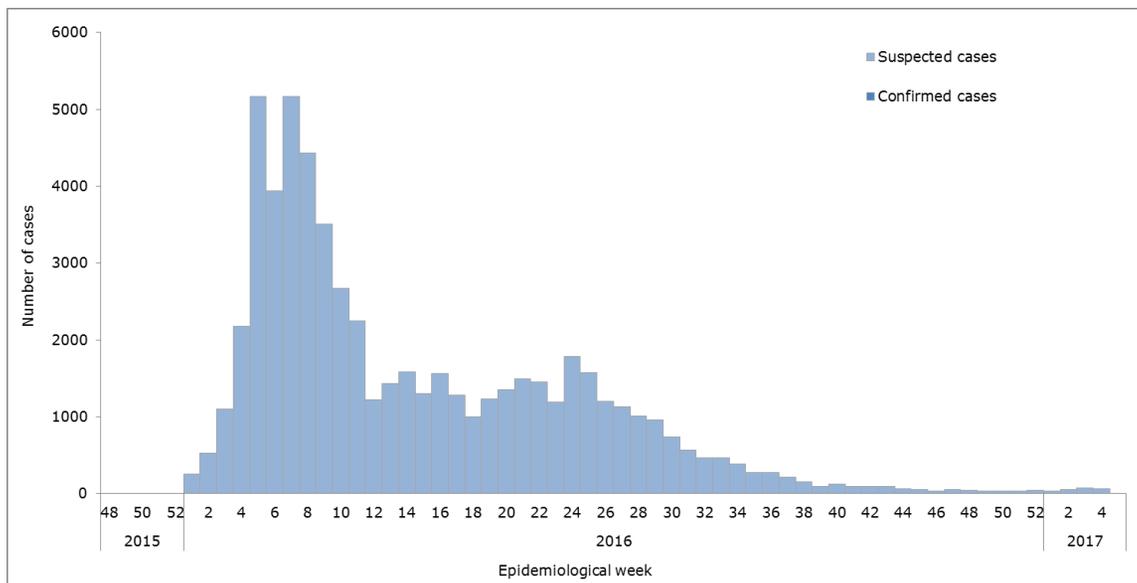


Zika-Epidemiological Report

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

2 March 2017

Figure 1. Suspected Zika cases by epidemiological week (EW). Venezuela. EW 48 of 2015 to EW 5 of 2017.



Source: Data provided by the Venezuela IHR NFP¹

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

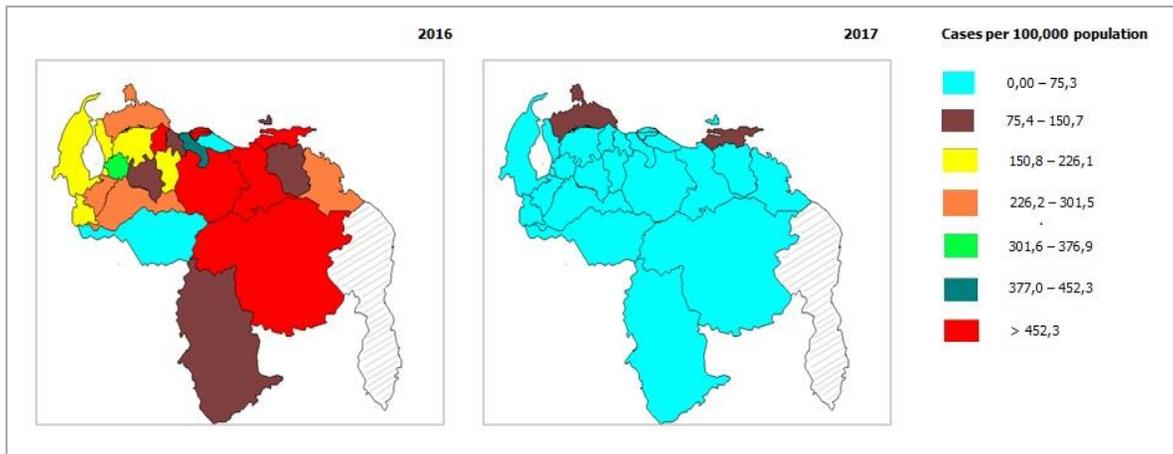
In epidemiological week (EW) 48 of 2015, the detection of the first autochthonous vector-borne Zika case was reported by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP).

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Since the emergence of Zika virus, suspected cases have been detected in all of Venezuela’s 24 states. In 2016, the highest incidence was registered in Sucre (1,328 cases per 100,000 population), Falcon (275 cases per 100,000), and Cojedes (157 cases per 100,000). In 2017, as of EW 5, the same federal entities have reported the highest incidence rates: Falcon (94 cases per 100,000), Sucre (81 cases per 100,000), and Cojedes (17 cases per 100,000) (**Figure 2**).¹

¹ Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Venezuela IHR NFP on 12 February 2017.

Figure 2. Incidence of suspected Zika cases by state per 100,000 population. Venezuela. 2016-2017 (as of EW 5).



Source: Data provided by the Venezuela IHR NFP and reproduced by PAHO/WHO

TREND

The decline in the incidence of Zika observed since EW 25 of 2016 persists, with a weekly average of 47 cases being reported in the last eight weeks (EW 50 of 2016 to EW 5 of 2017) (**Figure 1**).¹

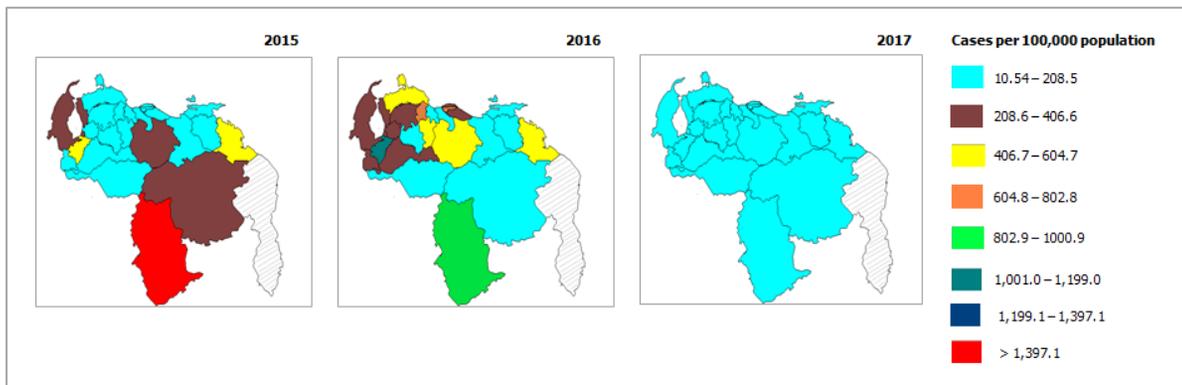
CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

Between EW 1 and 5 of 2017, 760 cases of dengue have been reported.¹ During the same period, in 2016, 9,407 cases were detected.

From EW 1 to 5 of 2017, 29 cases of chikungunya have been reported.¹ During the same period, in 2016, 760 cases were identified.

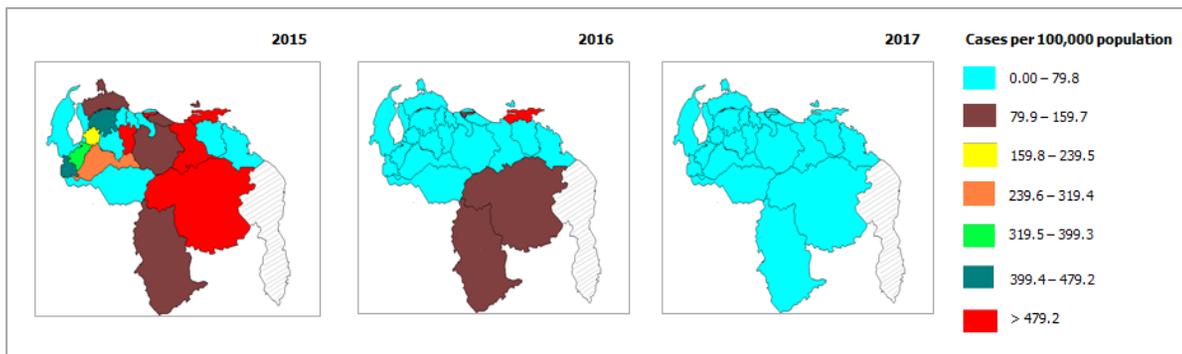
Figure 3 and **Figure 4** illustrate the incidence of dengue and chikungunya at the sub-national level by year.

Figure 3. Dengue incidence. Venezuela. 2015 to 2017 (up to EW 4).



Source: Data provided by the Venezuela IHR NFP and reproduced by PAHO/WHO

Figure 4. Chikungunya incidence. Venezuela. 2015 to 2017 (up to EW 5).



Source: Data provided by the Venezuela IHR NFP and reproduced by PAHO/WHO

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

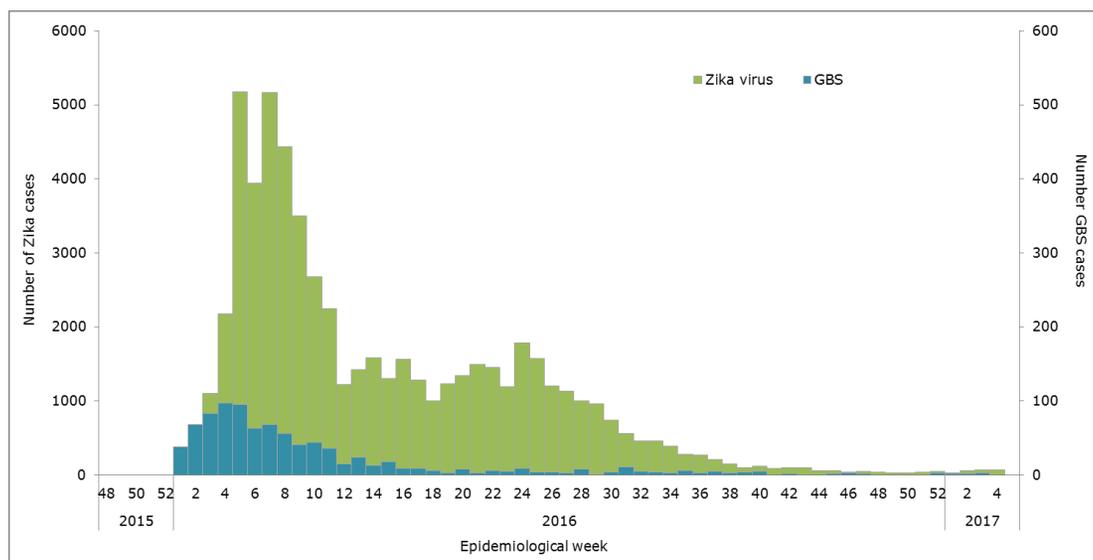
Between EW 5 of 2016 and EW 5 of 2017, there have been 3,446 suspected Zika cases reported in pregnant women.^{1, 2}

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

ZIKA-VIRUS-ASSOCIATED GUILLAIN-BARRÉ SYNDROME (GBS)

In 2016, Venezuela health authorities have reported an increase of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) cases compared with the number of cases detected in previous years.¹ As of EW 5 of 2017, a cumulative total of 910 GBS cases have been identified (**Figure 5**).^{1, 2} No information on GBS-related deaths is available.

Figure 5. Suspected and confirmed cases of Zika and GBS. Venezuela. EW 48 of 2015 to EW 5 of 2017.



Source: Data provided by the Venezuela IHR NFP

² Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Venezuela IHR NFP on 5 December 2016.

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 5 of 2017, no cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection have been reported by Venezuela health authorities.¹

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 5 of 2017, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by Venezuela health authorities.¹

NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

The Venezuela Ministry of People's Power for Health website has protocols for Zika, GBS, and pregnancy complications associated with Zika virus.

The Venezuela Zika virus surveillance protocol is available at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0By6RZhEqt4ajY1RmU041b250WjQ/view?usp=sharing>

The Venezuela GBS protocol is available at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0By6RZhEqt4ajS01iczdVQnQ4SE0/view>

The Venezuela Protocol for early surveillance, conduct, and monitoring of Zika virus in pregnant women and complications in the mother and child is available at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0By6RZhEqt4ajNWNam0hmNDlpZ28/view>

LABORATORY CAPACITY

Laboratory confirmation of Zika suspected cases is performed by molecular detection (real time RT-PCR) by the *Instituto Nacional de Higiene "Rafael Rangel"* at the Venezuela Ministry of People's Power for Health.

INFORMATION-SHARING

The Venezuela IHR NFP provides PAHO/WHO with periodic epidemiological report on Zika virus. At the time of this report, the latest information provided was from EW 5 of 2017.