Zika virus – Incidence and trends

To date, 47 countries and territories in the Americas have confirmed autochthonous, vector-borne transmission of Zika virus disease since 2015.\(^1\) In addition, five countries in the Americas have reported sexually transmitted Zika cases.\(^2\) Since the last Zika Epidemiological Update of 22 September 2016, no additional countries and/or territories have confirmed vector-borne autochthonous transmission of Zika virus in the Americas (Figure 1).

**Figure 1.** Countries and territories in the Americas with confirmed autochthonous (vector-borne) Zika virus cases, 2015-2016.

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\(^1\) 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; Curacao; 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 Kitts and Nevis; 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 America**

In Mexico, the downward trend of confirmed cases observed in the last 4 weeks, from epidemiological week (EW) 34 through EW 37, continues. In the United States of America, an increasing trend of confirmed cases is reported in the state of Florida.

**Central America**

In Central America, the trends of cases observed over the last four weeks in Costa Rica and Panama is described below.

The trend in Costa Rica has not varied much and continues to reflect a decrease in cases reported in the past four weeks; with a weekly average of cases reported during this period of 78 cases.

In Panama, following a sharp increase in cases between EW 30 and EW 35, reports for EW 36 and EW 37 show a decreasing trend. However, it remains to be seen if the decreasing trend continues.

**Caribbean**

In Anguilla, following a downward trend between EW 32 and EW 36, an increase was observed in EW 37 and 38.

In the French overseas territories of Saint Barthelemy and Saint Martin, an increasing trend of suspected cases has been reported between EW 35 and EW 37.

In Sint Maarten, an independent state within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, bordered to the north by the French territory of Saint Martin, an increase in confirmed cases has been reported in the last two weeks reported (EW 36 and EW 37).

Puerto Rico continues to demonstrate a declining trend in cases since EW 35; this trend will continue to be monitored.

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

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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 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.
In South America, all countries continue to report decreasing numbers of Zika cases.

**Congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection**

To date, 16 countries and territories in the Americas have reported confirmed cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection, maintaining the same total since the last Zika Epidemiological Update of 22 September 2016.

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

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://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=12390&Itemid=42090&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=12390&Itemid=42090&lang=en)

**Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) and other neurological disorders**

In comparison to the data provided in the Zika Epidemiological Update of 22 September 2016, Guadeloupe has reported an increase in cases of GBS, adding this country to the list of countries and/or territories that have reported an increase in GBS with Zika virus lab confirmation in at least one case of GBS. In addition, Mexico has reported the confirmation of Zika virus in five cases of GBS. The rest of the countries and territories with reported cases of GBS remain categorized in the same manner as reported previously (Table 1).

Separately, Puerto Rico has reported an increase in the number of deaths related to GBS bringing the total to two.

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7 Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela.
8 Read the case definition.
9 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.
10 Read the full report.
11 Read the full report.
Table 1. Countries and territories in the Americas with GBS in the context of Zika virus circulation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Increase in GBS with Zika virus lab confirmation in at least one case of GBS</th>
<th>Zika virus laboratory confirmation in at least one case of GBS</th>
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