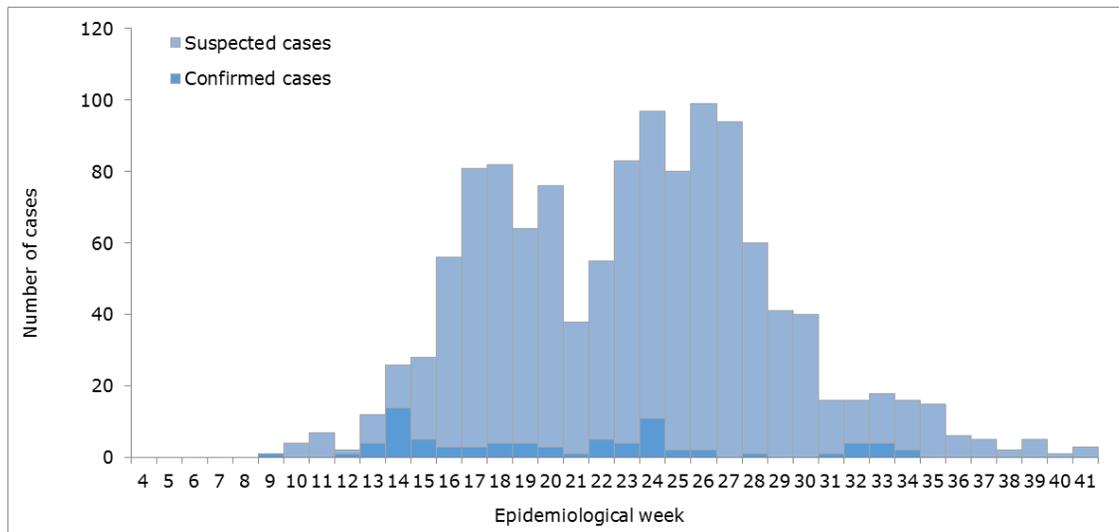


Zika-Epidemiological Report Dominica

27 February 2017

Figure 1. Suspected and confirmed Zika cases. Dominica. EW 4 to EW 41 of 2016.



Source: Surveillance data provided to PAHO/WHO from the Dominica Ministry of Health¹

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

The first cases of local transmission of Zika virus in Dominica were confirmed in epidemiological week (EW) 11 of 2016.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

As of EW 41 of 2016, confirmed Zika cases have been detected in all seven health districts.

TREND

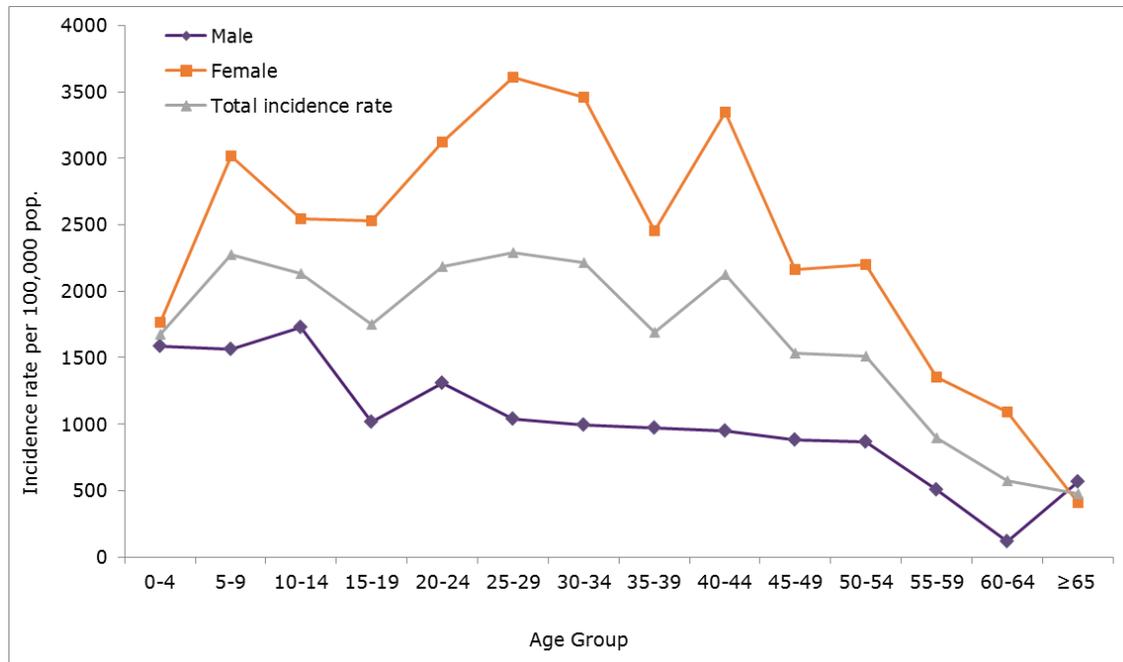
The epidemic curve of suspected and confirmed Zika cases by EW of onset of symptoms is presented in **Figure 1**¹. Since the confirmation of the first case in EW 9, an increasing trend was observed, reaching a peak in EW 18. A second peak occurred in EW 26, after which a decline in number of cases is observed from EW 28 to EW 41 of 2016. In the last 8 weeks (from EW 34 to EW 41), an average of 7 cases have been reported

Higher rate of Zika cases per 100,000 population is observed in females than males in every age-group except for the ≥ 65 age-group where the incidence rate is higher in males (**Figure 2**)¹. The

¹ Reported to PAHO/WHO from Dominica International Health Regulation (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) on 11 October 2016.

highest rate for females is observed in the 25-29 years age-group, and the highest rate for males is observed in the 10-14 years age group.

Figure 2. Incidence rate of Zika virus by sex and group of age per 100,000 population. Dominica. As of EW 41 of 2016.



Source: Data provided by the Dominica Ministry of Health and reproduced by PAHO/WHO

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

In 2016, Dominica health authorities reported a total of 351 probable cases of dengue (474 cases per 100,000 population) including six laboratory confirmed.² The number of cases is higher compared with the cumulative total cases registered in 2015, 25 cases (34 per 100,000) and similar to the cumulative total cases in 2014, 134 cases (259 per 100,000). As of EW 3 of 2017, no cases of dengue have been reported.³

Chikungunya was first detected in February 2014, when a large outbreak occurred. As of EW 24 of 2016, a cumulative 269 suspected cases of chikungunya (366 per 100,000) including two confirmed cases have been reported.⁴ In 2017, no cases of chikungunya have been reported in Dominica.⁵

² PAHO/WHO. Dengue – Number of Reported Cases of Dengue and Severe Dengue (SD) in the Americas, by Country – 31 January 2016 (EW 52). Available at:

http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=3273&Itemid=40734&lang=en

³ PAHO/WHO. Dengue – Number of Reported Cases of Dengue and Severe Dengue (SD) in the Americas, by Country – 1 February 2017 (EW 03). Available at:

http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=3273&Itemid=40734&lang=en

⁴ PAHO/WHO. Chikungunya – Number of Reported Cases of Chikungunya Fever in the Americas, by Country – 27 January 2017 (EW 52). Available at:

http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=5927&Itemid=40931&lang=en

⁵ PAHO/WHO. Chikungunya – Number of Reported Cases of Chikungunya Fever in the Americas, by Country – 3 February 2017 (EW 5). Available at:

http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=5927&Itemid=40931&lang=en

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

As of EW 38 of 2016, ten confirmed and three suspected cases of Zika virus disease in pregnant women have been reported by Dominica.

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

As of EW 38 of 2016, two suspected Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) cases associated with the Zika virus have been reported by the Dominica Ministry of Health.

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 7 of 2017, no cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection have been reported by the Dominica Ministry of Health.

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 7 of 2017, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by the Dominica Ministry of Health.

NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

The surveillance system for acute infectious diseases is based on surveillance of syndromes. In addition, when a new pathogen is detected, case investigation forms are distributed. Guidelines for Zika virus surveillance are not available on the Ministry of Health website.

LABORATORY CAPACITY

Samples from suspected Zika cases are sent to Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) for laboratory molecular conformation (real time RT-PCR).

INFORMATION-SHARING

At the time of this report, the latest information on Zika virus received from the Dominica International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) by PAHO/WHO was from EW 41 of 2016.