

# Zika-Epidemiological Report

## Bahamas

21 December 2016

### FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASE

In epidemiological week (EW) 32 of 2016, the Bahamas International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) notified PAHO/WHO of the detection of the first confirmed case of autochthonous transmission of Zika virus disease.<sup>1</sup>

### TREND

As of EW 49 of 2016, 22 laboratory-confirmed autochthonous Zika cases have been reported.<sup>2</sup>

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

21 of the laboratory-confirmed cases have been reported from New Providence District and one was reported from Bimini District.<sup>2</sup>

### CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

In 2016, 78 probable cases of dengue (incidence rate of 20 cases per 100,000 population) were identified up to EW 28.<sup>3</sup> In 2015, 10 probable cases (3 cases per 100,000), including three laboratory-confirmed cases, were detected up to EW 52. In 2014, 146 probable cases (38 cases per 100,000), including 14 laboratory-confirmed cases, were reported up to EW 53.

In regard to chikungunya, in 2016, a total of 75 suspected and one confirmed case of chikungunya (cumulative incidence rate of 19 cases per 100,000) were reported up to EW 20.<sup>4</sup> In 2015, 10 laboratory-confirmed cases of chikungunya (3 cases per 100,000) were reported up to EW 17. In 2014, 92 laboratory-confirmed cases (24 cases per 100,000) were registered up to EW 51.

### ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

As of EW 49 of 2016, no cases of Zika virus infection in pregnant women have been reported by the Bahamas health authorities.

### ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

As of EW 49 of 2016, no cases of Zika-virus-associated Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) or other neurological syndromes have been reported by the Bahamas health authorities.

<sup>1</sup> Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Bahamas IHR NFP on 10 August 2016.

<sup>2</sup> Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Bahamas IHR NFP on 5 December 2016.

<sup>3</sup> PAHO/WHO. Data, Maps and Statistics. Number of reported cases of Dengue and Severe Dengue (SD) in the Americas. Available at: [http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_topics&view=rdmore&cid=6290&Itemid=40734](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=rdmore&cid=6290&Itemid=40734)

<sup>4</sup> PAHO/WHO. Chikungunya: Statistic Data. Number of reported cases of Chikungunya Fever in the Americas. Available at: [http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com\\_topics&view=readall&cid=5927&Itemid=40931&lang=en](http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=5927&Itemid=40931&lang=en)

## **CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION**

As of EW 49 of 2016, no cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection have been reported by the Bahamas health authorities.

## **DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES**

As of EW 49 of 2016, no deaths among Zika virus cases have been reported by the Bahamas health authorities.

## **NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES**

No information is available on national guidelines for Zika surveillance.

## **LABORATORY CAPACITY**

Samples of suspected Zika cases are sent to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) in Trinidad and Tobago for molecular confirmation (real-time RT-PCR). Laboratory capacity building includes a PCR machine under purchasing process.

## **INFORMATION-SHARING**

Information on the first confirmed case was provided by the Bahamas IHR NFP to PAHO/WHO in EW 32 of 2016. At the time of this report, the latest available information shared by the Bahamas IHR NFP was from EW 49 of 2016.