Figure 1. Suspected and confirmed Zika cases. Haiti. EW 42 of 2015 to EW 32 of 2016.

Source: Data provided by Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) and produced by PAHO/WHO.

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

In epidemiological week (EW) 1 of 2016, the detection of the first autochthonous vector-borne transmission of Zika virus was reported in Haiti.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

By EW 21 of 2016, all ten departments in Haiti had registered suspected cases of Zika virus. The cumulative number of suspected and confirmed cases per 100,000 population is shown in Figure 2. The highest rate was reported from departments of Sud-Est, Nord, Nippes, and Centre.

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1 Reported to PAHO/WHO from Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) on 10 June 2016.
Figure 2. Cumulative suspected and confirmed Zika cases per 100,000 population by department. Haiti. EW 42 of 2015 to EW 21 of 2016.

Source: Data provided by MSPP and reproduced by PAHO/WHO

TREND

The distribution of suspected and confirmed cases by EW of onset of symptoms of Zika virus disease is shown in Figure 1. Between EW 42 of 2015 and EW 7 of 2016, the case count increased with a peak in the number of reported cases in EW 7 of 2016, followed by a steep decrease. A small increase in cases is observed from EW 21 to EW 24, after which a decrease in trend is observed. In the last 4 weeks (EW 29 to EW 32), cases remained low with an average of 18 suspected cases per week.

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

In 2015, Haiti reported 52 cases of dengue (0.54 cases per 100,000 populations). Information on the serotype is not available. Dengue cases were reported up to EW 22 of 2015, after which no new cases have not been reported to PAHO/WHO.

Prior to 2015, there was an outbreak of dengue recorded in 2012 with 240 suspected cases (1.85 cases per 100,000 population).

Chikungunya emerged in Haiti in 2014. By the end of 2014, Haiti reported 64,695 suspected cases of chikungunya (627.2 cases per 100,000 population), 14 of which have been laboratory
confirmed.2 While in 2015 Haiti had reported a cumulative total of 56 suspected cases, as of EW 16 of 2016, two suspected and one confirmed case of chikungunya have been reported.3

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN
As of EW 21 of 2016, the Haiti Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP) has identified 22 pregnant women with suspected Zika virus disease. There is no update on surveillance for pregnant women in Haiti since the last Zika epidemiological report of 15 June 2016.

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS
ZIKA- VIRUS-ASSOCIATED GUILLAIN-BARRÉ SYNDROME (GBS)
On EW 10 of 2016, the United States International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) notified PAHO/WHO of a laboratory-confirmed case of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), with a history of travel to Haiti and subsequent onset of facial weakness in January. No increase of GBS has been reported by Haiti national authorities as of EW 38 of 2016.

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION
As of EW 38 of 2016, the Haiti IHR NFP reported one laboratory-confirmed congenital microcephaly associated with Zika virus infection. The case was confirmed by real-time RT-PCR. There are 13 additional suspected cases of microcephaly associated with Zika virus under investigation in Haiti.

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES
As of EW 49 of 2016, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by Haiti health authorities.

NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES
In EW 2 of 2016, a press release issued by the MSPP indicated that a surveillance system for the detection of Zika virus had been established. The press release is available at:

http://mspp.gouv.ht/site/downloads/Communique%20de%20presse%20No%202%20Zika.pdf

LABORATORY CAPACITY
Laboratory confirmation is performed by molecular detection (real-time RT-PCR) by the Laboratoire National de Sante Publique (LNSP) at the Haiti MSPP.

INFORMATION-SHARING
Haiti national authorities shares information with PAHO/WHO regularly, and the latest information is available from EW 33 of 2016. In addition, the MSPP publishes an epidemiological report on the Zika situation on its website. At the time of this report, the latest available epidemiological report on Zika virus was from EW 4 of 2016.4

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