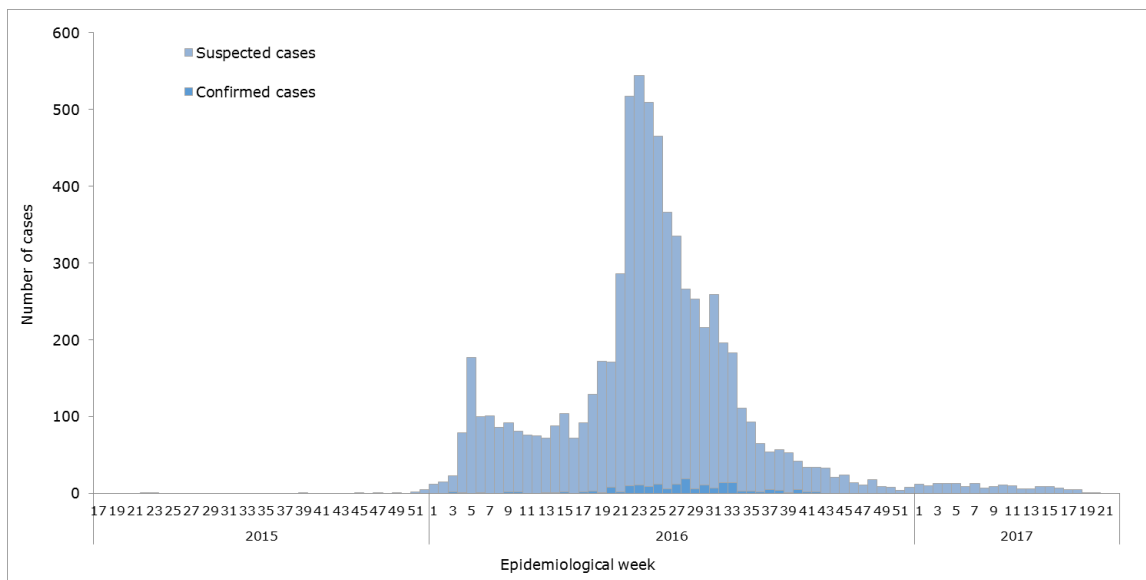


Zika-Epidemiological Report Jamaica

28 June 2017

Figure 1. Suspected and confirmed Zika cases by epidemiological week (EW). Jamaica. EW 17 of 2015 to EW 22 of 2017.



Source: Data provided by the Jamaica Ministry of Health to PAHO/WHO¹

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

In epidemiological week (EW) 4 of 2016, the detection of the first autochthonous vector-borne transmission of Zika virus was reported in Jamaica.² The first confirmed Zika cases were reported in the city of Greater Portmore, Southern Jamaica.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

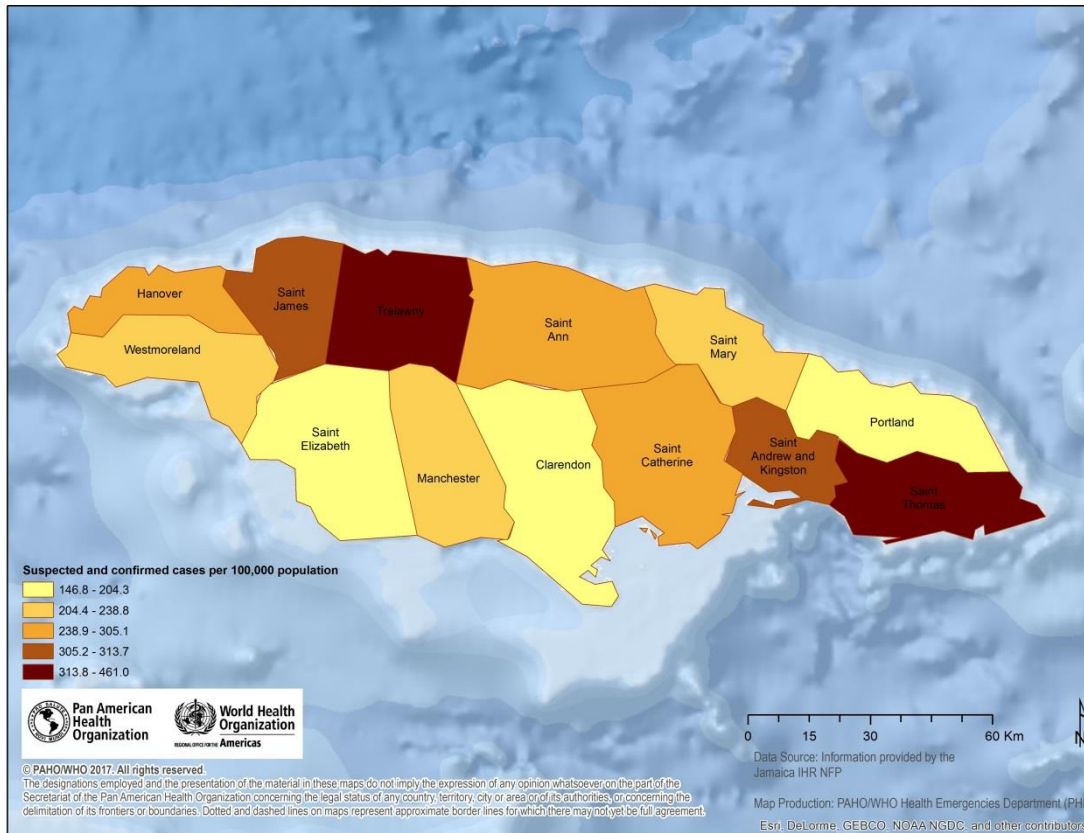
Cases of Zika have been reported throughout Jamaica. As of EW 12 of 2017, the highest rates of incidence were registered in the parishes of Saint Thomas (461 cases per 100,000 population), Trelawny (351 cases per 100,000), Saint James (313 cases per 100,000), and Kingston and Saint Andrew (306 cases per 100,000) (**Figure 2**).³

¹ Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Jamaica Ministry of Health on 29 May 2017.

² Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Jamaica Ministry of Health on 17 November 2016.

³ Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Jamaica Ministry of Health on 9 April 2017.

Figure 2. Cumulative suspected Zika cases per 100,000 population by parish. Jamaica. 2015 to 2017 (as of EW 12).



Source: Data provided by the Jamaica Ministry of Health to PAHO/WHO³

TREND

Following the emergence of Zika in late 2015, weekly numbers of cases increased steadily in Jamaica up to EW 22 of 2016, after which a decreasing trend has been observed (**Figure 1**).¹ In the last 8 weeks (EW 13 to EW 20 of 2017), an average of five cases per week has been reported.

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

In 2017, a total of 18 probable cases of dengue (1 case per 100,000 population) were reported up to EW 12.⁴ From EW 1 to EW 49 of 2016, a total of 2,269 probable cases of dengue (81 cases per 100,000), including 154 laboratory-confirmed cases, were detected in Jamaica. In 2015, 88 probable cases (3 cases per 100,000 population), including 14 laboratory-confirmed cases, were identified.

⁴ 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

In regard to chikungunya, in 2017, no cases were reported as of EW 9.⁵ In 2016, one confirmed and 204 suspected cases of chikungunya (total incidence rate of 7 cases per 100,000) were reported up to EW 24. In 2015, a total of 299 suspected cases of chikungunya (11 cases per 100,000) were reported up to EW 6.

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

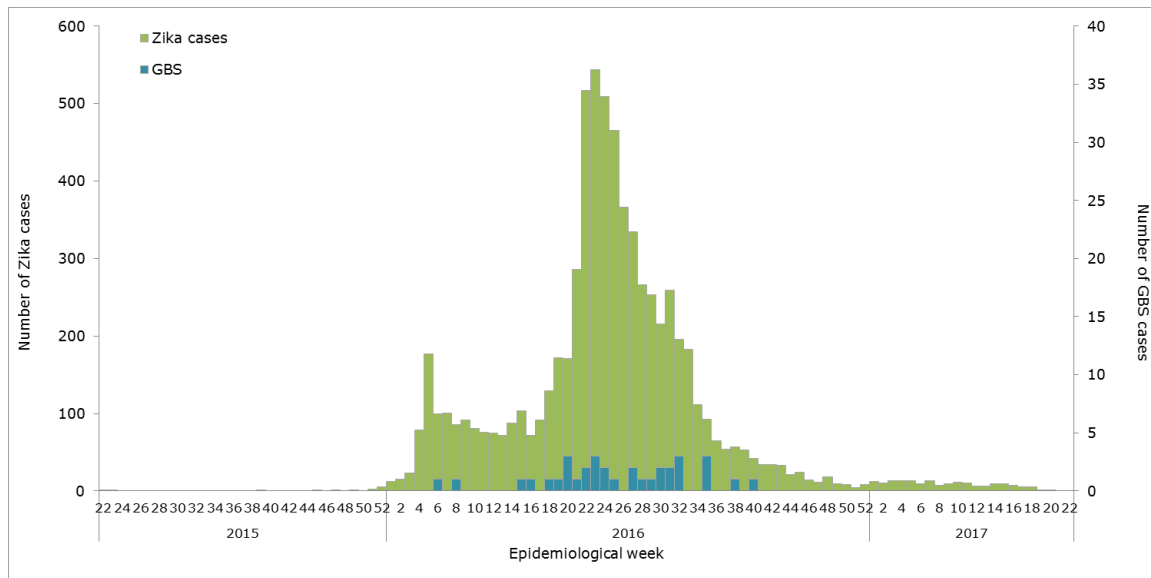
Since the beginning of the outbreak, up to EW 12 of 2017, there has been 690 suspected cases of Zika virus disease in pregnant women, 78 of which have been laboratory confirmed.³ Of the 78 confirmed cases, one experienced intra-uterine death, which was detected during a routine ultrasound at 20 weeks gestation.

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

As of EW 20 of 2017, the Jamaica Ministry of Health had reported 30 suspected GBS cases based on the Brighton Criteria (1 to 3) and 7 that were clinically diagnosed as GBS based on clinical signs, symptoms, and investigation results.¹ Of the 7 cases, four were laboratory confirmed for Zika virus - one case was PCR positive while three were IgM positive (**Figure 3**).

Figure 3. Zika and GBS cases by EW. Jamaica. EW 22 of 2015 to EW 22 of 2017.



Source: Data provided by the Jamaica Ministry of Health to PAHO/WHO¹

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 20 of 2017, three probable and 52 suspected cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection have been reported by the Jamaica Ministry of Health.¹

⁵ 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

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 22 of 2017, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by the Jamaica Ministry of Health.

NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

No information is available on the national guidelines for Zika surveillance.

LABORATORY CAPACITY

Laboratory confirmation is performed by molecular detection (real time RT-PCR) at the Virology laboratory, West Indies University. The serological diagnosis for Zika and dengue is performed at the National Public Health Laboratory by ELISA (IgM).

INFORMATION-SHARING

Information on Zika is periodically provided by the Jamaica Ministry of Health to PAHO/WHO. At the time of this report, the latest received information was from EW 20 of 2017.