Zika-Epidemiological Report

Honduras

2 March 2017

Figure 1. Suspected and confirmed Zika virus cases by epidemiological week (EW). Honduras. EW 48 of 2015 to EW 5 of 2017.

Source: Data provided by Honduras Ministry of Health to PAHO/WHO

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

In epidemiological week (EW) 50 of 2015, the detection of the first autochthonous vector-borne transmission of Zika virus was reported by Honduras health authorities.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

As of EW 37 of 2016, all 18 departments in Honduras have reported suspected Zika cases. The municipalities, with the highest incidence being reported are Cortes, Francisco Morazan, and Yoro (Figure 2).

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1 Reported to PAHO/WHO from Honduras International Health Regulation (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) on 10 February 2017
2 Reported to PAHO/WHO from Honduras IHR NFP on 26 September 2016


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Figure 2. Suspected and confirmed Zika virus cases per 100,000 population. Honduras. EW 1 to EW 37 of 2016

Source: Data provided by the Honduras Ministry of Health and map produced by PAHO/WHO

TREND

Between EW 1 and EW 6 of 2016, there was an increase of Zika virus cases in Honduras (Figure 1). After the peak in EW 6, weekly reported cases declined until EW 12. This was followed by a new increase in the number of cases until EW 24. Since then, a downward trend has been observed. A similar pattern has been observed among GBS cases (Figure 4). On average, 14 Zika cases and 1 GBS case per week have been reported in the last eight weeks (EW 50 of 2016 to EW 5 of 2017).

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

In 2016 as of EW 37, the Honduras health authorities had reported a cumulative total of 20,034 probable cases (230 cases per 100,000 population), including 76 confirmed cases of dengue. As of EW 32 of 2016, 14,325 suspected cases (175 cases per 100,000) of chikungunya had been reported in Honduras. Between EW 1 and EW 11 of 2016, weekly numbers of chikungunya and dengue cases were lower than those of Zika virus (Figure 3). Subsequently, up to EW 36, chikungunya, dengue and Zika virus had similar patterns of transmission. No additional information on dengue and chikungunya trends is available.
Figure 3. Chikungunya, dengue, and Zika virus cases by EW. Honduras. EW 1 to EW 36 of 2016.

Source: Data provided by the Honduras Ministry of Health and reproduced by PAHO/WHO²

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

The Honduras Ministry of Health is conducting surveillance for pregnant women with suspected Zika disease. As of EW 5 of 2017, there have been a cumulative total of 666 pregnant women with suspected Zika disease identified in the country, 125 of which have been laboratory-confirmed by real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR).¹

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

Between EW 1 of 2016 and EW 5 of 2017, 169 cases of Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS), including six fatal cases, have been reported by Honduras health authorities.¹ As of EW 5 of 2017, two cases of GBS with laboratory confirmation for Zika virus have been reported by the Honduras IHR NFP.¹ The pattern of transmission of Zika virus disease and distribution of GBS cases by epidemiological week is presented in Figure 4.
CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 5 of 2017, the Honduras IHR NFP has reported two confirmed cases of congenital malformation associated with Zika virus infection. ¹

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 5 of 2017, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by Honduras health authorities.

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 Laboratorio Nacional de Vigilancia de la Salud, Honduras Ministry of Health and at the Virology Laboratory of the Genetic Research Center, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras (UNAH). The Laboratorio Nacional de Vigilancia de la Salud also performs serological diagnosis for chikungunya, dengue and Zika virus by ELISA IgM detection.

INFORMATION-SHARING

Information on chikungunya, dengue and Zika virus is received by PAHO/WHO on a weekly basis. At the time of this report, the latest information available received from the Honduras IHR NFP was from EW 5 of 2017.