



Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department



Disease Prevention/Health Promotion Division
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Zika Situational Report – Friday, July 22, 2016

As of July 20, a total of 1404 laboratory-confirmed Zika virus disease cases have been reported to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Of the 1404 cases reported, 1403 are travel associated, 15 were sexually transmitted, 5 had Guillain-Barré syndrome, and 1 was laboratory acquired. CDC reports that there are 400 pregnant women with any laboratory evidence of possible Zika virus infection within the U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Texas has 69 Zika virus disease cases.

There are 50 countries and territories with active Zika virus transmission.

As of today, staff have identified 216 persons (60 percent are pregnant women) in the City of Austin and Travis County for whom clinical specimens have been submitted to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for Zika virus testing. Results have been reported for 134 persons; three persons have been tested positive for Zika, two for Dengue, two for Chikungunya, and one was inconclusive. Testing results are pending for 26 persons (56 additional individual specimens were not able to be tested). There are no reported severe illnesses or deaths from Zika virus.

Staff continue to work with Austin area physicians to educate them on the process of submitting specimens to the state laboratory for Zika virus testing. Guidance related to Zika disease and pregnancy, laboratory testing, and prevention of sexual transmission of Zika virus have been prepared by the CDC. Staff are sharing this guidance to physician offices when requested.

Staff are also conducting interviews of persons whose physician has submitted serum specimen to the state laboratory to collect demographic and exposure data required by DSHS. Staff also provide guidance on ways to protect oneself from mosquito bites to individuals who have scheduled trips to areas where Zika virus is circulating.

Staff participated on a CDC national teleconference on the Zika virus response.

For questions or more information about ways to reduce mosquitoes around property residents can continue to call Rodent and Vector program at 3-1-1.

The ATCHHSD's Zika website for healthcare providers and the public has been updated with links to new information and resources: <http://www.austintexas.gov/zika>.

Other news:

- An investigation is under way to confirm if a recent Zika infection reported from Florida 's Miami-Dade County was contracted from local mosquitoes, which would make it the first such case in the continental United States.
- CDC is assisting in the investigation of a case of Zika in a Utah resident who is a family contact of the elderly Utah resident who died in late June. The deceased patient had traveled to an area with Zika and lab tests showed he had uniquely high amounts of virus in his blood.
- The New York City report of female-to-male sexual transmission of Zika virus infection is the first documented case of sexual transmission of Zika from a woman to her sex partner and adds to the growing body of knowledge about the sexual transmission of Zika. All previously reported cases of sexually transmitted Zika virus infection have been spread from men to their sex partners.
- Mexico reports 927 confirmed Zika cases.

The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). The illness is typically mild and resolves within one week.

We continue to encourage people to follow travel precautions and avoid mosquito bites. Preventative measures residents can take to avoid mosquito bites include draining any water around their property, wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants and using EPA-registered insect repellents.

At this time, no additional resources are needed to address and respond to the Zika virus.

ATCHHSD staff are available 24/7 to support healthcare providers in responding to any patient with a suspect Zika virus infections. ATCHHSD has created a website for healthcare providers and the public that provide information:

<http://www.austintexas.gov/zika>.