



Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department



Disease Prevention/Health Promotion Division
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Zika Situational Report – Friday, August 19, 2016

As of August 17, a total of 2,260 laboratory-confirmed Zika virus disease cases have been reported to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 48 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. Of the 2,260 cases reported, 2,245 are travel associated, 14 were locally acquired mosquito-borne cases, 22 were sexually transmitted, 7 had Guillain-Barré syndrome, and 1 was laboratory acquired. As of August 11, CDC reports that there are 529 pregnant women with any laboratory evidence of possible Zika virus infection within the U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Texas has 121 Zika virus disease cases.

There are 55 countries and territories with active Zika virus transmission.

As of today, staff have identified 266 persons (53 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 166 persons; six persons have been tested positive for Zika, two for Dengue, two for Chikungunya, one for West Nile, and one was inconclusive. Testing results are pending for 30 persons (70 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 have identified the contents of the Zika prevention kit which will be provided to confirmed Zika cases and cases for suspected local transmission, including residents in the surrounding area. The contents will include DEET mosquito repellent, mosquito dunks,

condoms, Zika fact sheets, and homeowner prevention literature. An environmental assessment of the home and surrounding area will also be conducted.

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:

- Texas health officials reported a Zika illness in a resident who traveled to Miami. The Texas Department of State Health Services said the patient, who is from El Paso County, is the state's first Zika case linked to travel within the continental United States.
- Mexico reports 1,619 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>.