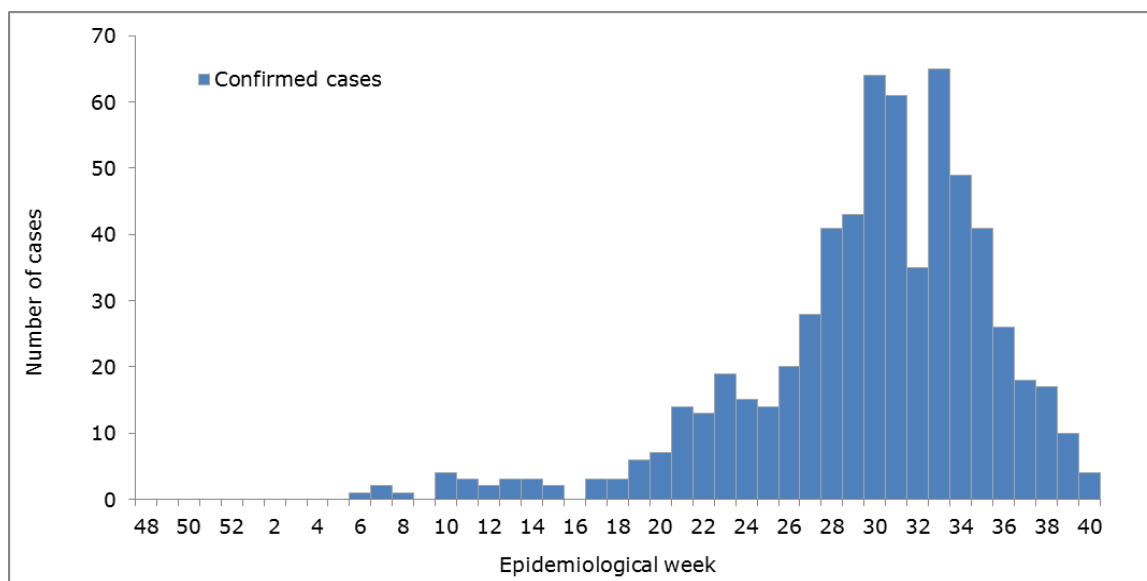


Zika-Epidemiological Report Trinidad and Tobago

20 December 2016

Figure 1. Confirmed Zika cases by epidemiological week (EW). Trinidad and Tobago. EW 6 to EW 40 of 2016



Source: Data shared by the Trinidad Tobago Ministry of Health and reproduced by PAHO/WHO¹

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

In epidemiological week (EW) 7 of 2016, the Trinidad and Tobago International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) notified PAHO/WHO of the detection of the first case of autochthonous vector-borne transmission of Zika virus.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

No information is available on the geographic distribution of cases.

TREND

Since the peak of EW 33 of 2016, a steady decline in the number of confirmed cases is observed until EW 40. The highest numbers of confirmed cases were reported between EW 30 and EW 33 in Trinidad and Tobago (**Figure 1**).¹ The epidemic curve for Trinidad and Tobago is based only on confirmed Zika cases, which may not accurately illustrate the dynamics of the epidemic.

¹ Reported to PAHO/WHO from Trinidad and Tobago International Health Regulation (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) on 20 October 2016.

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

As of EW 32 of 2016, Trinidad and Tobago reported 591 probable dengue cases (incidence rate of 44 cases per 100,000 population), including six confirmed cases.² In 2015, 1,687 probable dengue cases (125 cases per 100,000 population), including 23 confirmed cases, were detected at the national level up to EW 52. In 2014, 5,157 probable dengue cases (384 cases per 100,000 population), including 258 confirmed cases, were identified up to EW 53.

In 2016, a total of 575 suspected and 15 confirmed chikungunya cases (cumulative incidence of 43 cases per 100,000 population) have been detected in Trinidad and Tobago.³ In 2015, 51 confirmed chikungunya cases (4 cases per 100,000) were reported in the country. In 2014, 177 confirmed cases (1,205 cases per 100,000) were detected up to EW 42.

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

As of EW 38 of 2016, the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Health has reported confirmed Zika infection in 294 pregnant women.⁴

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

As of EW 49 of 2016, no cases of Zika-virus-associated Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) or other neurological syndromes have been reported by the Trinidad and Tobago health authorities.⁵

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 49 of 2016, one laboratory-confirmed case of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection has been reported in Trinidad and Tobago.⁴

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 49 of 2016, no deaths among Zika cases have been reported by the Trinidad and Tobago health authorities.⁴

NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

Information is not available on national guidelines for Zika surveillance.

LABORATORY CAPACITY

Samples of suspected Zika cases are sent to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) for molecular confirmation (real time RT-PCR).

² PAHO/WHO Data, Maps and Statistics. Number of reported cases of Dengue and Severe Dengue (SD) in the Americas by Country. Available at:

http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=readall&cid=3273&Itemid=40734&lang=en

³ PAHO/WHO Data, Maps and Statistics. 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

⁴ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Ministry of Health. Zika Virus Update. EW 38 of 2016. Available at:

<http://www.health.gov.tt/news/newsitem.aspx?id=694>

⁵ Reported by Trinidad and Tobago PAHO Country Office on 1 November 2016.

INFORMATION-SHARING

At the time of this report, the latest Zika update provided by the Trinidad and Tobago IHR NFP to PAHO/WHO was from EW 40 of 2016.