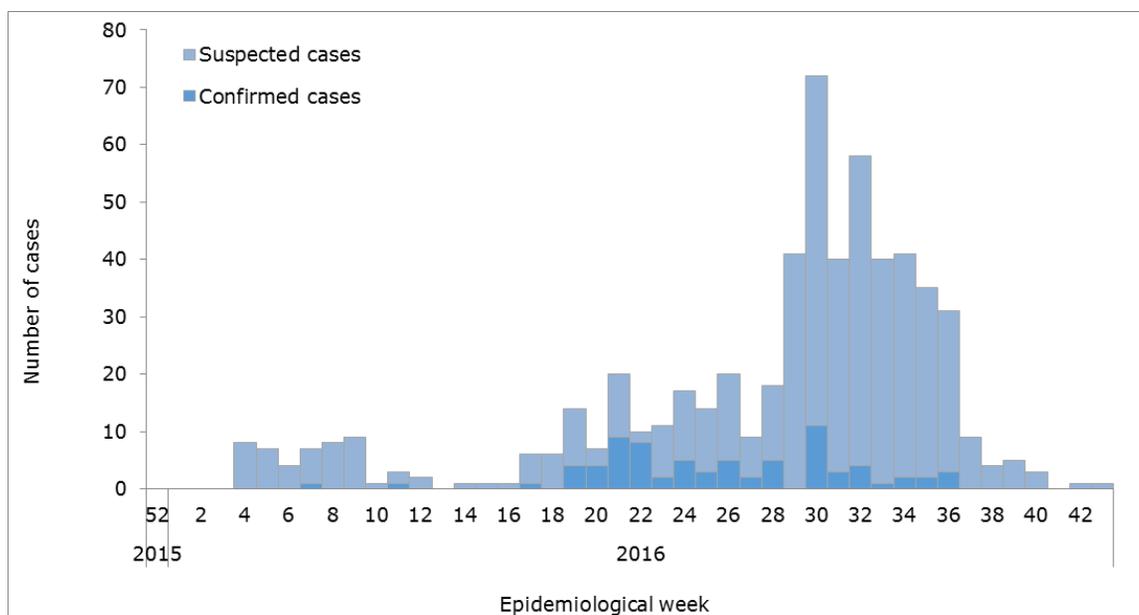


Zika-Epidemiological Report

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

25 September 2017

Figure 1. Suspected and confirmed Zika cases by epidemiological week (EW). Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. EW 52 of 2015 to EW 43 of 2016.



Source: Data provided by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment to PAHO/WHO¹

FIRST AUTOCHTHONOUS VECTOR-BORNE CASES

In epidemiological week (EW) 8 of 2016, the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines International Health Regulations (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) notified PAHO/WHO of the first confirmed case of autochthonous vector-borne transmission of Zika virus.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

No information is available on the geographic distribution of Zika cases.

TREND

Information regarding Zika in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is only available up to EW 43 of 2016. The main increase of Zika cases was registered between EW 17 and EW 37 of 2016, with a peak in cases in EW 30 (**Figure 1**).¹ Since then, a decrease in cases has been observed. In the last

¹ Reported to PAHO/WHO from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines International Health Regulation (IHR) National Focal Point (NFP) on 8 December 2016.

eight weeks for which data was available (EW 36 to EW 43 of 2016), an average of 7 cases per week was reported.

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

As of EW 16 of 2017, a total of 2 probable dengue cases (2 cases per 100,000 population), including 1 laboratory-confirmed, had been reported. In 2016, a total of 89 probable dengue cases (86 cases per 100,000) were registered up to EW 48, including 7 laboratory confirmed cases.² In 2015, 13 cases were reported while, in 2014, a total of 117 cases (114 cases per 100,000) were reported.

As of EW 24 of 2016, a total of 154 suspected chikungunya cases and one laboratory-confirmed case (152 cases per 100,000 population) were registered.³ In 2015, no cases were reported. In 2013 and 2014 (as of EW 49), a total of 1,220 cases (1,352 per 100,000 population), and 173 laboratory-confirmed, were reported.

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

As of EW 35 of 2016, one suspected and two laboratory-confirmed cases of Zika virus in pregnant women have been reported by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines national authorities to PAHO/WHO.⁴

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

As of EW 43 of 2016, four suspected Zika-virus-associated Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) cases had been reported by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines national authorities to PAHO/WHO.⁵

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 35 of 2017, no cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection have been reported by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines national authorities to PAHO/WHO.

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 35 of 2017, no deaths among Zika virus infection have been reported by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to PAHO/WHO.

NATIONAL ZIKA SURVEILLANCE GUIDELINES

No information on guidelines for Zika surveillance is available.

LABORATORY CAPACITY

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

² 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

³ 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

⁴ Reported to PAHO/WHO by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines PAHO/WHO Country Office on 9 August 2016.

⁵ St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment. Guillain-Barre Syndrome Suspected To Be Related To Zika Virus Infection. EW 31 of 2016. Available at: http://health.gov.vc/health/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=609:ministry-of-health-wellness-and-the-environment-updates-on-guillain-barre-syndrome&catid=38:latest-news&Itemid=65

INFORMATION-SHARING

At the time of this report, the latest available Zika virus information shared by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines IHR NFP with PAHO/WHO was from EW 43 of 2016.