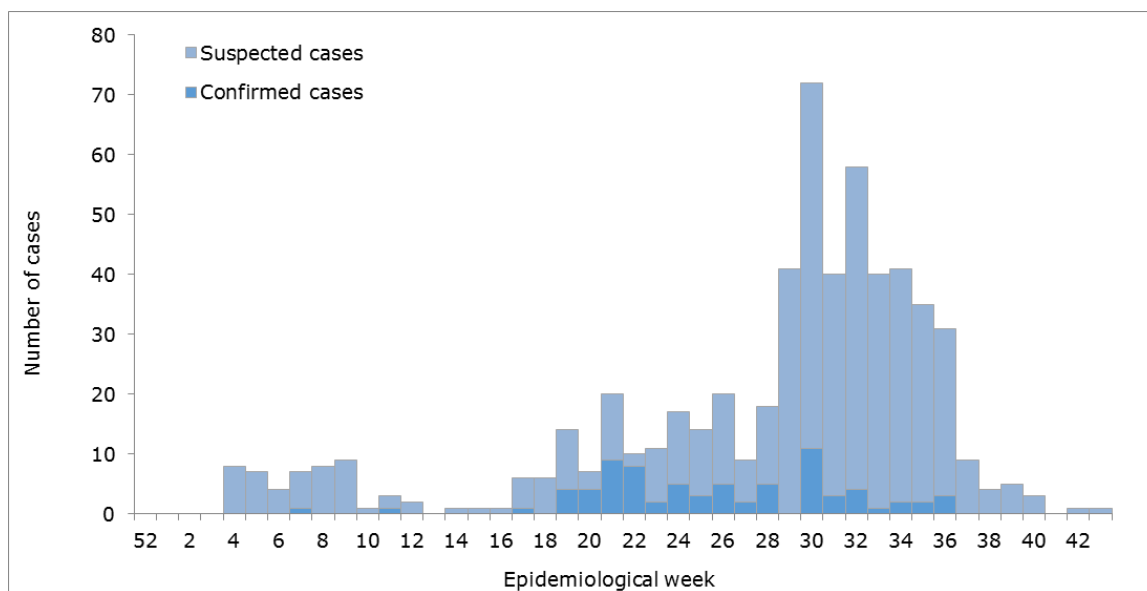


Zika-Epidemiological Report

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

20 December 2016

Figure 1. Suspected and confirmed Zika virus disease cases. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. EW 52 of 2015 to EW 43 of 2016



Source: Data provided by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines IHR NFP and reproduced by 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

As of EW 43 of 2016, 83 confirmed and 508 suspected Zika cases have been reported in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.¹ 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**). Since then, a decrease in cases has been observed. However, this trend could change due to a delay in reporting.

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

CIRCULATION OF OTHER ARBOVIRUSES

As of EW 28 of 2016, 35 probable (incidence rate of 34 cases per 100,000 population) and 3 laboratory confirmed cases of dengue have been reported. In 2015, only one case was reported while, in 2014, a total of 117 cases (114 cases per 100,000 population) were reported.²

In 2016, a total of 154 suspected cases and one laboratory-confirmed case (152 per 100,000 population) of chikungunya have been reported. In 2015, no cases were reported. In 2014, a total of 1,220 cases (incidence rate of 1,352 per 100,000 population), including 173 laboratory-confirmed, were reported.³

ZIKA VIRUS DISEASE IN PREGNANT WOMEN

As of EW 33 of 2016, two laboratory-confirmed cases and one suspected case of Zika virus in pregnant women have been reported by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines national authorities.

ZIKA COMPLICATIONS

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

As of EW 31 of 2016, four suspected Zika-virus-associated Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) cases have been reported by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines national authorities.⁴

CONGENITAL SYNDROME ASSOCIATED WITH ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

As of EW 49 of 2016, no cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection have been reported by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines national authorities.

DEATHS AMONG ZIKA CASES

As of EW 49 of 2016, no deaths among Zika virus infection have been reported by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

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 molecular confirmation (real time RT-PCR).

INFORMATION-SHARING

Official preliminary data were provided by the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines IHR NFP to PAHO/WHO on EW 8 of 2016. At the time of this report, the latest information available from the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines IHR NFP was from EW 49 of 2016.

² PAHO/WHO. Data, Maps and Statistics. Number of reported cases of Dengue and Severe Dengue (SD) in the Americas by Country. EW 42 of 2016. 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. EW 34 of 2016. Available at: http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=rdmore&cid=8379&Itemid=40931&lang=en

⁴ St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment. News release, 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