

# Massachusetts Department of Public Health

April 25, 2016

## Weekly Zika Virus Update



# Zika Virus Weekly Update

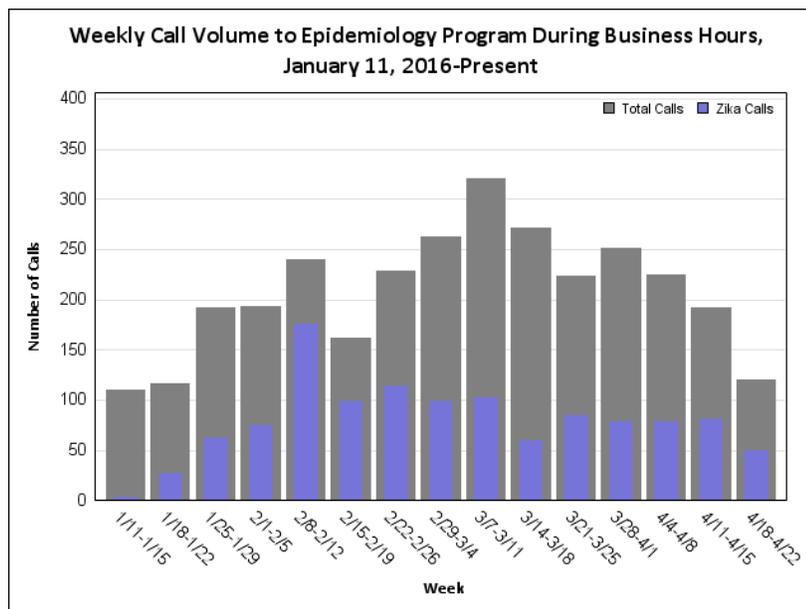
## Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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Report Number: 012

### DPH Activities Summary:

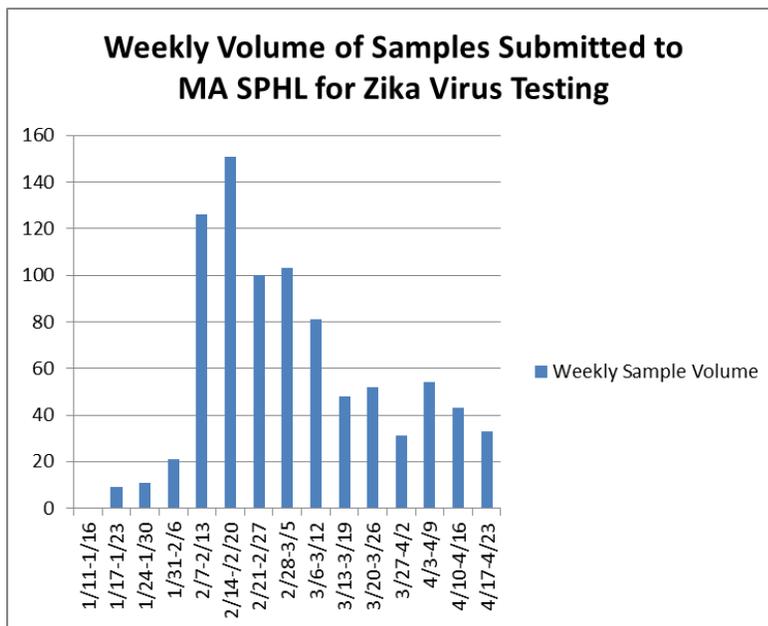
- All questions related to Zika virus testing requests should be directed to the 24/7 Epidemiology line, 617-983-6800.
- MDPH Epidemiology Staff continue to receive calls from clinicians, local health, and concerned residents regarding Zika virus and its public health implications in Massachusetts. The weekly call volume regarding Zika is shown below. Total calls received during business hours since January 11 is 1195. **Please note in the graph below, Zika calls are shown in purple/blue as a proportion of the total calls received on the 6800 line.**



- The MA State Public Health Laboratory (MA SPHL) uses a PCR test to detect the genetic material of Zika and chikungunya viruses and the Zika IgM MAC-ELISA to test for antibody response to infection. Additional work is ongoing to reach full testing functionality which will include PCR, ELISA and PRNT (confirmatory) testing for Zika, chikungunya and dengue viruses.
- Staff members of the Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences and the Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition Birth Defects Surveillance are continuing to develop collaborative plans to coordinate investigations of infants born to mothers with evidence of Zika virus infection. More information will be forthcoming as plans are finalized.
- MDPH is collaborating with the MA Department of Agricultural Resources and the Mosquito Control Districts on continuing to enhance the surveillance efforts for *Aedes albopictus* which have been ongoing since 2008.

### Laboratory Testing Summary:

- The MA SPHL tested 11 samples (7 serum, 3 urine and 1 amniotic fluid) from 6 patients by PCR and 30 samples from 30 patients using the IgM ELISA test. Positive PCR tests are confirmatory while positive IgM tests require further testing by PRNT, currently being done by CDC, to confirm the results.



### New or Revised State Guidance:

Updated guidance will be released once the MA SPHL reaches full testing functionality.

### National Activities

**CDC Updates:** [Interim Guidance for Protecting Workers from Occupational Exposure to Zika Virus](#)

**Publications:** [Patterns in Zika Virus Testing and Infection, by Report of Symptoms and Pregnancy Status — United States, January 3–March 5, 2016](#)

**Guidance:** [All Countries and Territories with Active Zika Virus Transmission](#)

**Educational materials:** [US Zika Pregnancy Registry: What Parents Need to Know](#)

### For further information regarding Zika go to:

<http://www.mass.gov/dph/zika>

*Please share with colleagues and throughout your agency, organization and/or associations. If you have comments, questions or feedback, contact us at the 24/7 Epi Line (617) 983-6800 or by email at [DPH.EmergencyPreparedness@state.ma.us](mailto:DPH.EmergencyPreparedness@state.ma.us).*