

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

May 31, 2016

Weekly Zika Virus Update



Zika Virus Weekly Update

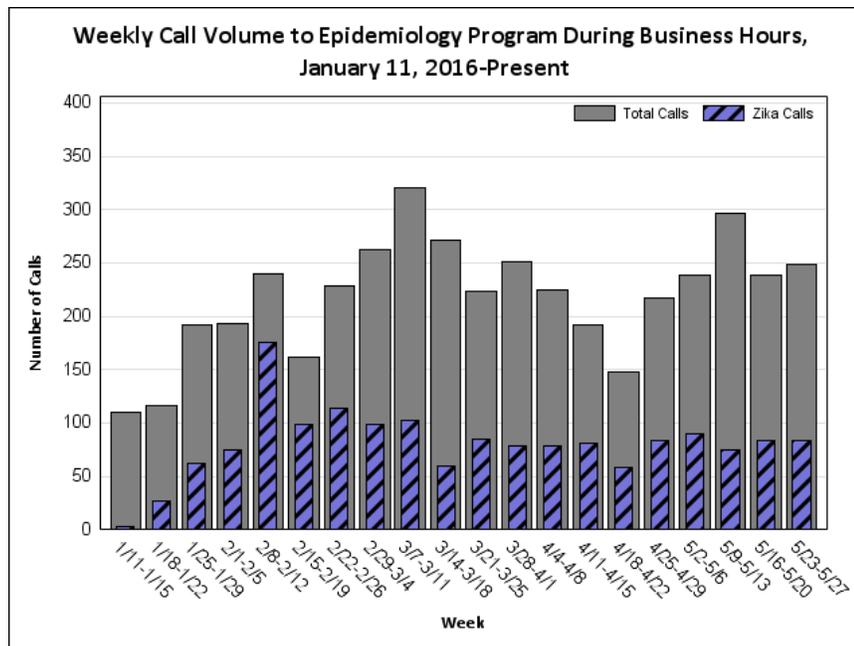
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

May 31, 2016

Report Number: 017

DPH Activities Summary:

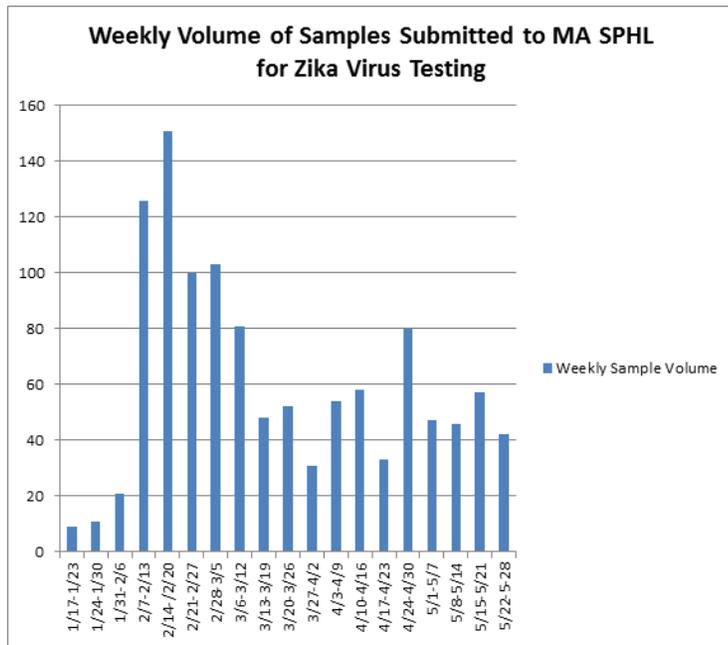
- All questions related to Zika virus testing requests should be directed to the 24/7 Epidemiology line, 617-983-6800.
- MDPH Epidemiology Staff continue to receive calls from clinicians, local health, and concerned residents regarding Zika virus and its public health implications in Massachusetts. The weekly call volume regarding Zika is shown below.



- 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, and the Boston Public Health Commission, are moving forward with data collection on women and infants meeting criteria for enrollment in the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry.
- MDPH is continuing to collaborate 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. An MDPH representative attended the most recent State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board meeting.

Laboratory Testing Summary:

- The MA SPHL tested 12 samples (9 serum, 2 urine, 1 amniotic fluid) from 9 patients by PCR and 42 samples from 34 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: None

National Activities

CDC Updates:

- [Technical Statement on the Role of Disinsection in the Context of Zika Outbreaks, 2016](#)
- [Diagnostic Testing of Urine Specimens for Suspected Zika Virus Infection](#)

Publications: [Perspective Zika and the Risk of Microcephaly](#)

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

Educational materials:

- [For Men: A Positive Zika Virus Test: What does it mean for me?](#)
- [How to Protect Yourself Against Mosquito Bites \(For Puerto Rico\)](#)

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