

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

June 6, 2016

Weekly Zika Virus Update



Zika Virus Weekly Update

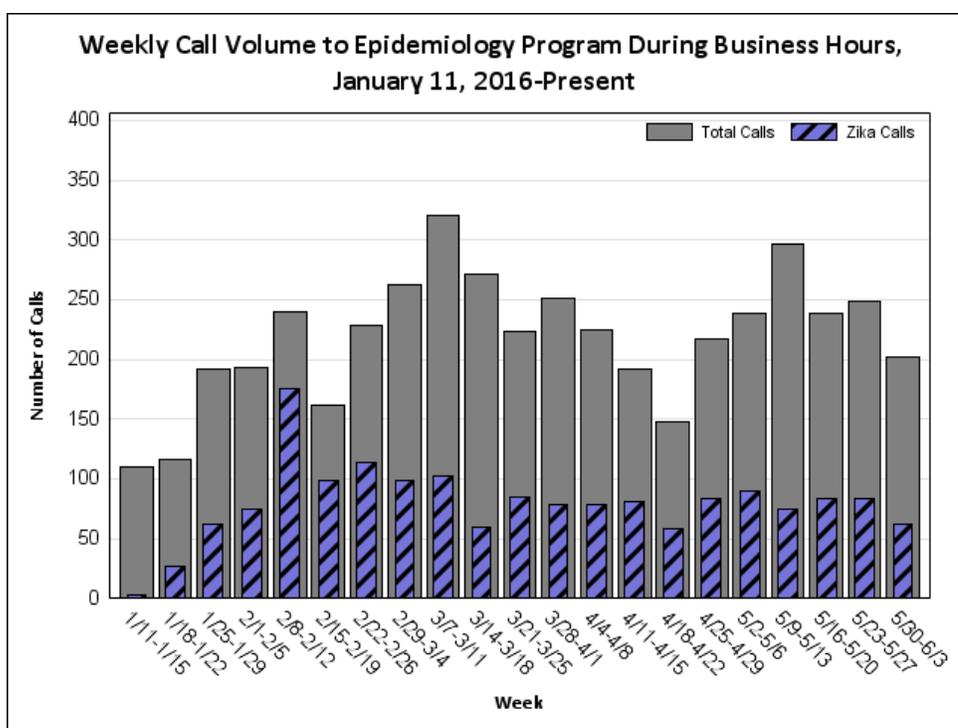
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Report Number: 018

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.

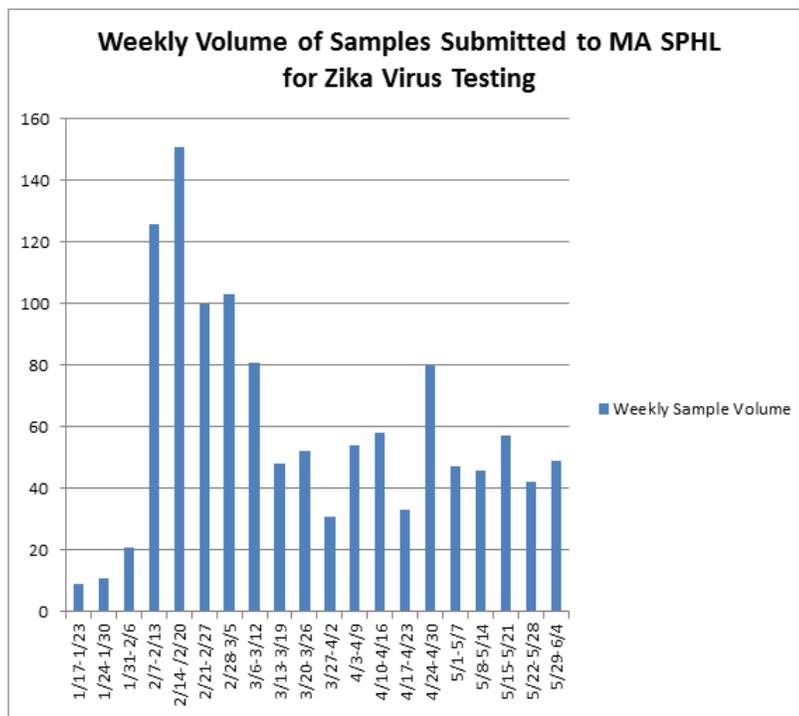


- The MA State Public Health Laboratory (MA SPHL) uses a PCR test to detect the genetic material of Zika, dengue and chikungunya viruses and the Zika IgM MAC-ELISA to test for antibody response to infection. Additional work is ongoing to reach full testing functionality which will include IgM ELISAs for chikungunya and dengue viruses 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 collecting data on women and infants meeting criteria for enrollment in the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry.

- MDPH is meeting this week with several academic researchers to discuss mosquito modeling projects that might be used to predict mosquito populations as well as potential spread of mosquito vectors.
- The [MDPH Zika Virus web page](#) has been revised with a fresh new look and additional links to specific information of particular interest to different groups.

Laboratory Testing Summary:

- The MA SPHL tested 3 samples (2 serum, 1 urine) from 2 patients by PCR and 29 samples from 29 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 Zika Virus Clinical Advisory 6-1-2016](#)
- [Specimen Collection, Storage and Shipment for Zika Virus Testing](#)

National Activities

CDC Updates:

- [Interim Guidance for Interpretation of Zika Virus Antibody Test Results](#)

Publications: [Evidence of Sexual Transmission of Zika Virus](#)

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

Educational materials:

- For Parents: A positive Zika virus test: What does it mean for my child?
- "Zika Activity Book" For kids in the U.S.

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