

# Massachusetts Department of Public Health

June 13, 2016

## Weekly Zika Virus Update



# Zika Virus Weekly Update

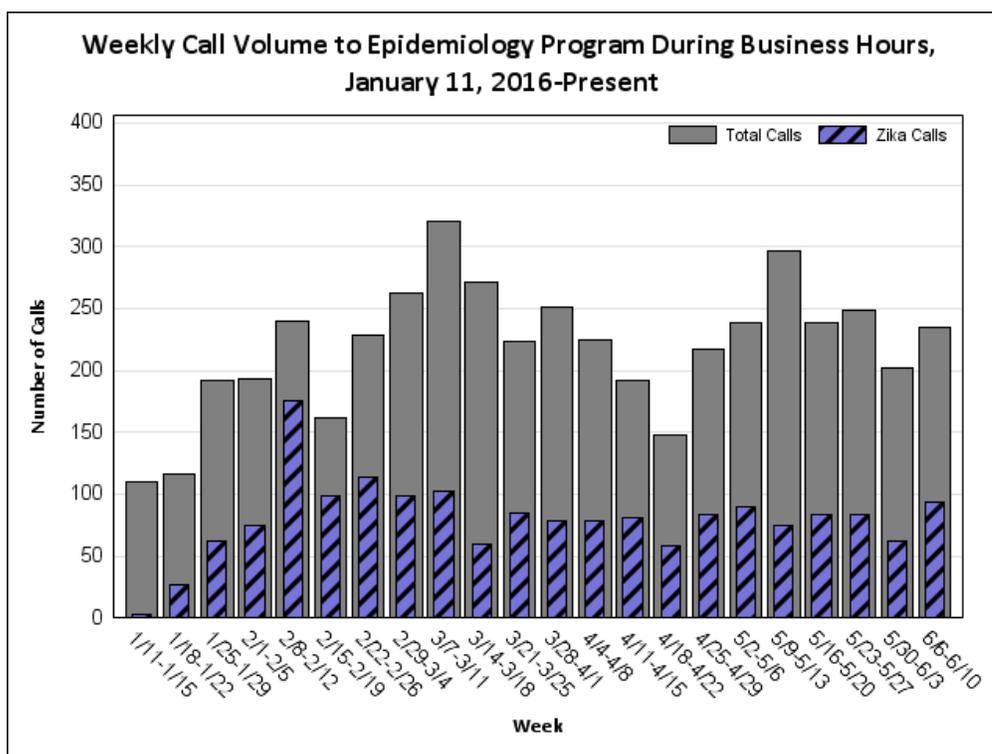
## Massachusetts Department of Public Health

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Report Number: 019

### DPH Activities Summary:

- All questions related to Zika virus testing requests should be directed to the 24/7 Epidemiology line, 617-983-6800.
- The [MDPH Zika Virus web page](#) now includes a link to a 30 minute webinar “Zika Virus and the Massachusetts Response” which can be found under the subheading, Information for Healthcare and Public Health Partners.
- The Massachusetts Medical Society has posted a blog “[Q&A with Dr. Catherine Brown of the Massachusetts DPH: What Physicians and Patients Should Know About Zika](#)” and is working to disseminate the June 1 Zika Clinical Advisory to their members.
- 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.



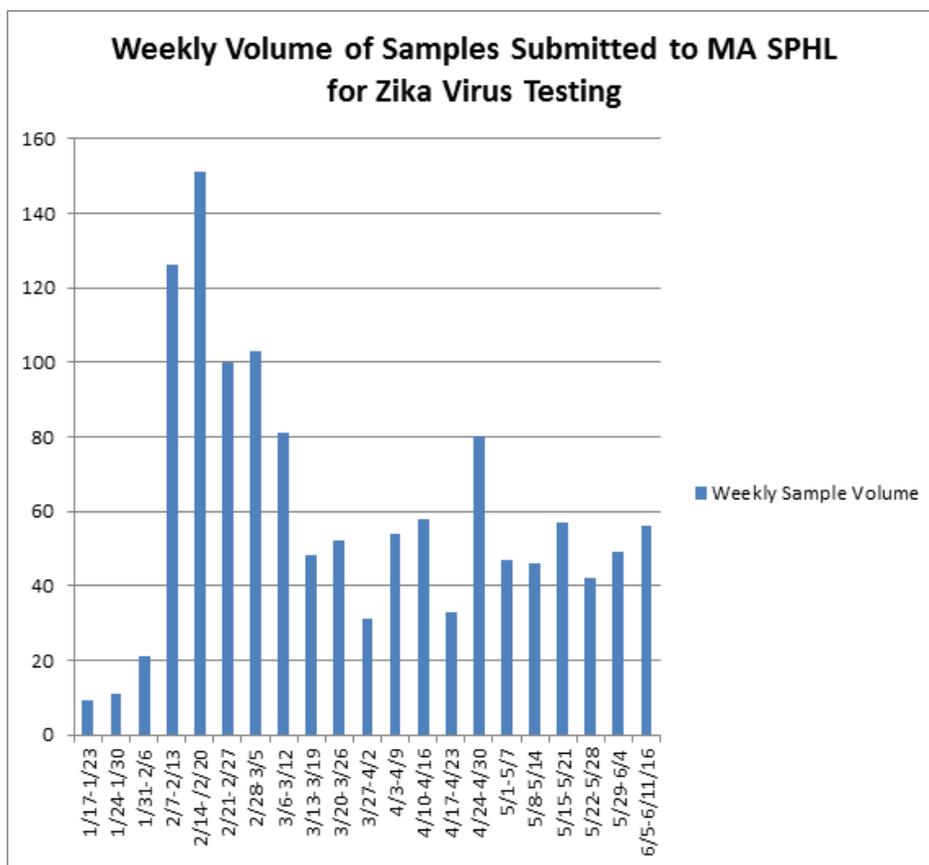
- The MA State Public Health Laboratory (MA SPHL) uses a PCR test to detect the genetic material of Zika, dengue and chikungunya viruses and the Zika IgM MAC-ELISA to test for antibody response to infection. Additional work is ongoing to reach full testing functionality

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.

### Laboratory Testing Summary:

The MA SPHL tested 6 samples (3 serum, 3 urine) from 4 patients by PCR and 56 samples from 56 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:** None

**Publications:** None

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

**Educational materials:** None

**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)*