Based on reports from PAHO from March 23, 2017

**Number of confirmed Zika virus cases by country**

**Legend**

- **Confirmed Cases**
  - 1 - 382
  - 382 - 1,259
  - 960 - 2,413
  - 2,413 - 36,297
  - 36,297 - 130,701

- **Suspected cases**
- **Cases with Neurological Disorder (Guillain-Barré syndrome)**
- **Cases with Congenital Syndrome (microcephaly)**

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Saving lives, changing minds.
According to the World Health Organization, starting in 2015 to 10 March 2017, 61 countries and territories around the world confirm local Zika cases through vector transmission. Based on reports from the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), to date on March 10, 2017:

- 48 countries and territories with local transmission are located in the Americas
- 5 countries and territories report sexually transmitted Zika cases
- 24 countries have seen imported cases

To date, the region has reported 554,479 suspected cases, 207,557 confirmed cases and 5,876 imported cases of infection caused by the Zika virus. PAHO also reports 20 deaths related to Zika virus infection in Brazil, Puerto Rico and Suriname.

In terms of trends, the epidemic is decreasing in most countries and territories in the Americas since the end of 2016 and today, with sporadic reports of outbreaks around the continent.

### SITUATION BY REGION

#### NORTH AMERICA
Trends continue to decrease, however constant new cases are reported in Mexico and Florida.

#### CARIBBEAN
A decreasing trend can be observed in the sub region, with an average of 340 cases per week over the last four weeks. In 2017, Aruba, French Guyana and Jamaica have reported the highest number of suspected and confirmed cases.

#### CENTRAL AMERICA
Puerto Rico and Costa Rica have reported slight increases in the number of suspected and confirmed case during EW 2 and EW 5 2017, respectively.

#### SOUTH AMERICA
Up to EW 5 of 2017, Paraguay has presented an ascending trend in the number of suspected cases. Peru saw an increase in cases during EW 3, with 94% of the cases concentrated in the Loreto Department, where a Zika outbreak continues with cases reported in 7 districts (Iquitos, Puchanca, Belen, San Juan Bautista, Nauta, Yurimaguas y Ramón Castilla). Read More

The Ministry of Health of Argentina confirmed local circulation of the Zika virus between EW 5 and EW 7. Cases were reported in two areas, including 6 cases in the Formosa Province and 2 cases and in the Salta Province. Read More

In the rest of countries and territories in South America, trends continue to decrease.
PAHO confirms that since the start of the epidemic, 24 countries and territories in the Americas reported 2,971 cases of congenital syndrome associated with the Zika virus, with 85% of the cases registered in Brazil.

According to the Ministry of Health of Argentina, during EW 2 2017, the National Reference Laboratory for Arbovirus notified a potential case of congenital syndrome associated with the Zika virus infection in the Santa Fe Province. Read More

According to PAHO, during EW 5 2017, San Martin confirmed its first case of congenital syndrome associated with the Zika virus infection.

To date in 2017, Argentina, Colombia, Guadeloupe, Dominican Republic, French Guyana Guatemala, Martinique, Puerto Rico, Suriname Trinidad and Tobago, and USA have reported cases of congenital syndrome associated with the Zika virus, which has slightly increased the number of confirmed cases in these areas.

At the same time, 20 countries and territories in the region have reported cases of Guillain Barre Syndrome (GBS) associated to Zika virus infection and confirmed by laboratories; 15 of the countries have additionally reported an increase in the number of SBG cases. Curacao and Trinidad and Tobago are the latest countries to notify SGB cases associated with the Zika virus infection.

COMPLICATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ZIKA VIRUS INFECTION

Psycocial support activities with families with babies affected by congenital syndrome in Brazil
CAPACITY BUILDING IN ZIKA RESPONSE

Within the framework of the IFRC Zika Operation, capacity building is a constantly evolving strategy that looks to strengthen National Societies’ capacity on Zika-related topics.

The Zika Operation, with support from the Reference Center for Institutional Disaster Preparedness (CREPD) and the Caribbean Disaster Risk Management Reference Centre (CADRIM), develops training tools to allow National Societies and the IFRC to improve the quality of their actions with volunteers and community. There are two delivery modes: on-site training throughout the region and online training modules that are available to a larger number of people interested in the subject.
**Results to date**
The Zika Operation began its response to the Zika outbreak in February 2016, after the WHO declared Zika as a public health emergency of international concern and an international emergency appeal was launched by the IFRC. Since then, the Operation, CREPD and CADRIM worked to adapt and develop capacity building modules specific to health-related issues in Zika, including an introductory module on Zika, psychosocial support in emergencies, sanitation and hygiene promotion and epidemic control for volunteers.

Over the past year, the Operation together with CREPD and CADRIM held 7 regional trainings of trainers, providing facilitator certification to 187 participants from 22 National Societies. At the same time, more than 700 people have completed online training, including courses on Zika and Epidemic Control for Volunteers; and over 2,000 volunteers were reached through capacity building activities.

**Next Steps**
The IFRC Zika Operation and partners look to build on the existing capacity building strategy in a collective manner, incorporating different points of view and experiences, to obtain effective and innovative tools and methodologies. The following chart represents a roadmap towards more innovative, better adapted and up-to-date teaching offering in Zika.
Onsite Courses

The Zika Operation and its partners carry out regular regional and national trainings of trainers on the following topics:

- Onsite Zika Training Module
- Epidemic Control for Volunteers
- Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion
- Psychosocial Support

The objective of these activities is to strengthen national society capacity in Zika response and replicate knowledge with Red Cross volunteers and in communities affected by the virus.

Online Courses

The Zika Operation, through CREPD, administers two free online training modules:

- Zika Training Module (Spanish only)
- Epidemic Control for Volunteers (Spanish only)

Those interested in participating can access the courses at [www.campuscruzroja.org](http://www.campuscruzroja.org).

[Download the Zika Training Module Brochure](http://www.campuscruzroja.org)
[Download the Epidemic Control for Volunteers Brochure](http://www.campuscruzroja.org)

Want to learn more about the Zika Training Module?

Watch this short video:
National and Sub-regional Training of Trainers Workshops, Courses on Zika and Related Health Issues

Trainers certified
Instructors
workshop host countries
TESTIMONIALS
FROM WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

As a facilitator, I have been able to share my knowledge from the workshop with volunteers at my National Society and see how they are able to put what they learn to practice in communities where they intervene.

Henry Staples, Panamanian Red Cross

“Here in Argentina, the community does not have a lot of information about the Zika virus. This training provides us with ways that we can approach the community and provide them with the information to prevent the spread of the Zika virus, and so make sure that this disease does not continue spreading further.”

Jessica Castro, Argentinian Red Cross

During the workshop we are able to exchange experiences with participants from different nationalities and branches, which is extremely valuable. The strong field practice component has also made me more confident when I teach.

Fernando Roca Montes
Peruvian Red Cross

“This workshop is a way to learn to share prevention messages in a more systematic way both with our fellow volunteers and the communities where we work to prevent the spread of the Zika virus.”

Nelson Gonzalez
Argentinian Red Cross

As a facilitator, I have been able to share my knowledge from the workshop with volunteers at my National Society and see how they are able to put what they learn to practice in communities where they intervene.

Henry Staples, Panamanian Red Cross

“The training of trainers, with their hands-on approach, facilitate the practical application of the knowledge that we receive and taking action in the communities that we work in, which is the ultimate goal of our humanitarian mandate. Since the workshop, we have replicated trainings with participation from 61 community members and 12 Red Cross volunteers. At the end of the day, the actions of the community speak for themselves. When they interact with health care professionals, they are now able to highlight the specific symptoms related to Zika. And at the same time, they report taking preventative measures in their homes.”

Alexander Ramírez Gil, Colombian Red Cross
LATEST NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS ON ZIKA

Information resource: Zika Operation Americas Dashboard

Zika virus causes testicular atrophy. Science Advances.

Cardiovascular complications of Zika virus infection. International Journal of Cardiology and CBC News

Preliminary results on the control of Aedes spp. in a remote Guatemalan community vulnerable to dengue, chikungunya and Zika virus: community participation and use of low-cost ecological ovillantas for mosquito control. F1000 Research.

Educational resources: IFRC Learning Platform OPS Virtual Campus for Public Health

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