

## Current Situation

- Harris County Texas health officials confirmed a case of Zika virus imported into the United States on Monday, 11JAN16.
- The patient recently returned to Houston, Texas after touring El Salvador.
- Zika virus has increased its presence in 14 Countries and Territories in Central and South America and the Caribbean. CDC issued a Level-2 (Practice Enhanced Precautions) travel alert on 18JAN16 for personnel traveling to: Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname, Venezuela, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- No cases have been reported in the DoD

## Signs and Symptoms

- 1 in 5 people infected with Zika virus become ill from the virus.
- Illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting several days to a week.
- Severe disease requiring hospitalization is uncommon and deaths are rare.
- Symptoms include:
  - Rash
  - Joint Pain
  - Conjunctivitis (red eyes)
  - Headaches
  - Fever

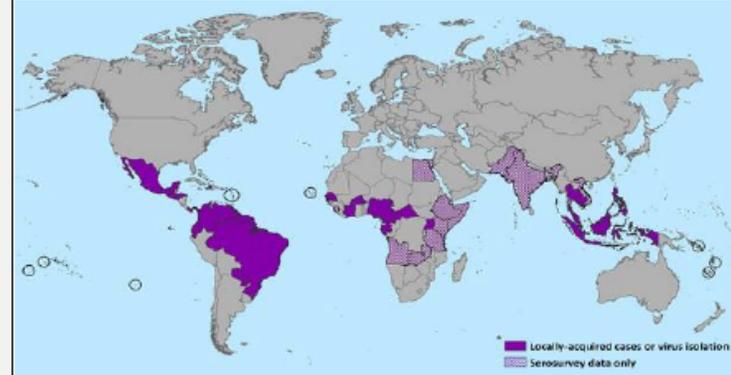


Sources: DoD Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch and the Centers for Disease Control

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## US Army North Surgeon Force Health Protection Zika Virus Storyboard as of: 191430JAN16



## Transmission

- Zika virus is transmitted to people through the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito.
- Mosquitoes become infective when they feed on a person already infected with the virus. Infective mosquitoes can then spread the virus to other people through bites.
- Therefore, as more people get infected (high local density), the likelihood to cause an outbreak could increase.
- Possible spread through blood transfusion or sexual contact.

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## Prevention and Treatment

- The occasional tourist importing Zika back to the U.S. is unlikely to cause an outbreak.
- Mosquito protection: Head & bed netting and use only DEET or EPA-registered insect repellent.
- NO vaccine or medications are available to prevent or treat Zika infections.
- Treat symptoms with plenty of rest and fluid intake to prevent dehydration.
- To avoid the risk of hemorrhage, aspirin and other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) should be avoided until Dengue infection is ruled out by a healthcare provider.
- See doctor early if symptoms develop after travelling to endemic area.
- Pregnant women need to take special care due to the potential of poor pregnancy outcomes in babies if infected with Zika virus.

## Key Facts

- Zika virus spread can mirror that of Dengue fever and Chikungunya virus.
- Twenty-two imported Zika cases have been identified in the mainland since 2007.
- Two imported cases (one in Harris County, TX and one in British Columbia) on 11JAN16.

## Medical/Military Concerns:

- Force health protection guidance for travel to affected areas is the same for all arthropod transmitted diseases: Use proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); mosquito nets DEET or EPA-registered insect repellent.
- Out of an abundance of caution, CDC recommends pregnant women are advised to consider postponing travel to areas where Zika virus transmission is ongoing
- **NORTHCOM AOR MISSION IMPACT: Military and Civilian personnel traveling to Mexico or Puerto Rico need to take the necessary Personal Protective Measures (PPM) to avoid becoming infected with the Zika Virus.**