

EPIGRAM

PRODUCED BY DISEASE CONTROL SERVICES
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ARBOVIRUS SURVEILLANCE

The Florida Department of Health in Nassau County (DOH-Nassau) began its annual arthropod-borne virus (arbovirus) surveillance program in May. DOH-Nassau maintains six sentinel chicken flocks throughout the county, which are tested weekly for arbovirus activity. Blood samples from each chicken are tested at the Bureau of Public Health Laboratories in Tampa for West Nile Virus (WNV), Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEEV), and St. Louis Encephalitis Virus (SLEV). Chickens are ideal for surveillance because they mount an immune response to arbovirus infection without becoming ill. They are also considered a “dead end” host because infected chickens do not have sufficient levels of virus in their blood to infect mosquitoes, ending the transmission cycle. Arbovirus surveillance data are published weekly from May through October and allow DOH-Nassau to monitor risk of mosquito-borne disease throughout the county. The weekly arbovirus surveillance report also includes data on human cases of arboviral disease, mosquito testing, and veterinary arbovirus infections. During the period of August 14-20, 2016 the following arboviral activity was recorded in Florida.

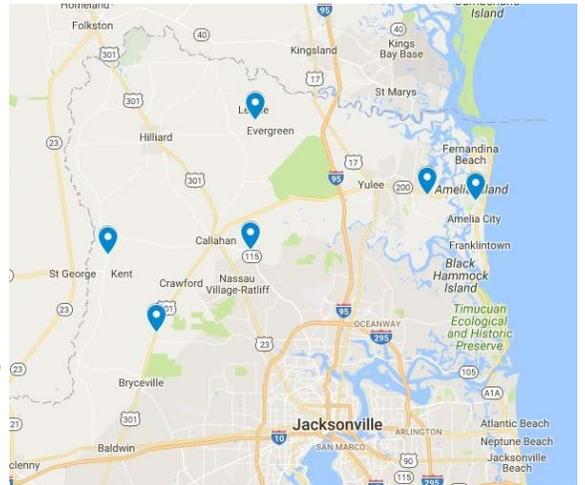


Figure 1. Location of sentinel chicken flocks for 2016.

WNV activity: Two human cases of WNV infection were reported this week in Okaloosa and Santa Rosa Counties. No horses with WNV infection were reported this week. Fourteen sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to WNV this week in Bay, Brevard, Leon, Pasco, and Walton Counties. In 2016, positive samples from 71 sentinel chickens, two humans, one horse, and two mosquito pools have been received from 16 counties.

SLEV activity: No human cases of SLEV infection were reported this week. No sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to SLEV this week. In 2016, one positive sample from a sentinel chicken has been received from one county.

EEEV activity: No human cases of EEEV infection were reported this week. One horse with EEEV infection were reported this week in Lake County. Two sentinel chickens tested positive for antibodies to EEEV this week in Leon and Walton Counties. In 2016, positive samples from 62 sentinel chickens and 19 horses have been received from 19 counties.

DISEASE REPORTING

Phone: (904) 530-6800

Confidential Fax Line:
(904) 277-7286

Afterhours Line:
(904) 813-6801

Bureau of Epidemiology
24 Hour Reporting Line:
(850) 245-4401

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(904) 530-6750

Yulee Clinic
86014 Pages Dairy Road
Yulee, FL 32097
(904) 530-6840

Callahan Clinic
45377 Mickler Street
Callahan, FL 32011
(904) 530-6870

Hilliard Clinic
37203 Pecan Street
Hilliard, FL 32046
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International Travel-Associated Dengue Fever Cases: No new cases of dengue fever were reported this week in persons that had international travel. In 2016, 36 travel-associated cases have been reported.

Dengue Fever Cases Acquired in Florida: No cases of locally acquired dengue fever were reported this week. In 2016, one case of locally acquired dengue fever has been reported.

International Travel-Associated Chikungunya Fever Cases: No cases of chikungunya fever were reported this week. In 2016, six travel-associated cases have been reported.

Chikungunya Fever Cases Acquired in Florida: No cases of locally acquired chikungunya fever were reported this week. In 2016, no cases of locally acquired chikungunya fever have been reported.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/index.html>

ZIKA UPDATE

As of August 25, 2016 there have been 538 travel-related infections of Zika in Florida, 70 infections involving pregnant women, and 43 non-travel related infections of Zika. There have been no Zika infections reported in Nassau County.

Ten active investigations of non-travel related Zika infections are underway. The first is in a one-square mile area just north of downtown in Miami-Dade County (Figure 2) where two original cases were identified. 519 people have been tested as a part of that investigation, with 492 negative samples and 27 positive samples. Testing has been completed in three sections within the identified area in Miami with no positive results (Shaded areas in Figure 2). DOH and CDC continue to monitor the area per their guidelines.

An investigation into other non-travel related cases of Zika in Miami-Dade County identified a second area of local transmission in Miami Beach (Figure 3). There were five index cases in this area, of which three were out of state residents. A total of 97 samples were collected as a part of this investigation, and all 97 results are still pending. Five other investigations are ongoing in Miami-Dade County outside the Wynwood and Miami Beach areas, as well as two investigations in Palm Beach County and one in Pinellas County. **DOH believes active transmission is only occurring in these two small areas in Miami-Dade County.** The individual cases in other investigations do not mean active transmission is taking place. DOH conducts a thorough investigation to determine if other people have been infected, and has not yet determined where the other non-travel related cases contracted Zika.

Governor Scott has directed DOH to make Zika virus risk assessment and testing available to pregnant women at county health departments statewide at no cost. A letter was issued to prenatal and obstetrical health care providers with updated guidance for Zika virus testing for pregnant women who live or work in the area of concern for ongoing Zika transmission in Miami. A provider questionnaire was also issued to assist with Zika virus risk assessment of pregnant women.

Providers should continue to use their clinical judgement, informed by DOH and CDC guidance, to obtain Zika testing for pregnant patients through commercial laboratories. Pregnant women who meet the criteria for testing but who are uninsured, underinsured, or otherwise cannot obtain testing through a commercial laboratory should be directed to DOH-Nassau for testing. Pregnant women who do not meet the DOH and CDC criteria for testing but desire testing nonetheless should be counseled on the risks and benefits of testing and be directed to DOH-Nassau for testing. **Zika virus risk assessment and testing for pregnant women is available at DOH-Nassau at the Yulee Clinic (86014 Pages Dairy Road) on Mondays from 1-4pm and Fridays from 8-11am, and at the Callahan Clinic (45377 Mickler Street) on Wednesdays from 1-4pm.** Appointments are not required and testing and assessments will be provided at no cost to the client.

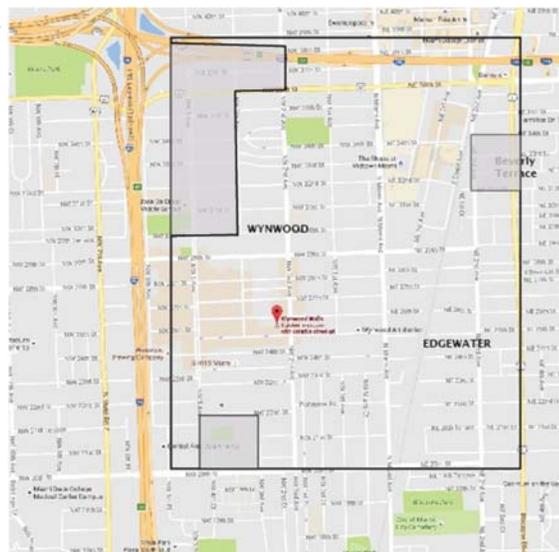


Figure 2. Wynwood area in Miami with active Zika transmission.



Figure 3. Miami Beach area with active Zika transmission.

NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) and serves as an opportunity to promote vaccinations to a variety of populations. NIAM is held every August to highlight the importance of vaccination for all ages. NIAM was established to encourage people of all ages to make sure they are up to date on their recommended vaccines. NIAM is sponsored by the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC). NPHIC and CDC have collaborated to develop toolkits for communicating about vaccines to a variety of audiences, including adults, pregnant women, babies and young children, and preteens and teens.



NIAM is an excellent opportunity for health care providers to discuss vaccinations with their patients. Topics to focus on during NIAM and throughout the year include:

- ✦ Remind parents about the important role vaccines play in protecting their child's health and answer questions about vaccine safety and efficacy. Child care facilities, preschool programs, and schools are prone to outbreaks of infectious diseases. Children in these settings can easily spread illnesses to one another due to poor hand washing, not covering their coughs, and other factors such as interacting in crowded environments.
- ✦ Encourage college students to discuss vaccines they may need for school entry. Teens, preteens, and young adults should be vaccinated with the quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine to protect against meningitis and septicemia, and with the human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine to protect against cancers caused by HPV. It is important to get the HPV vaccine before being exposed to HPV.
- ✦ Educate adults, especially older adults and adults with chronic conditions, about vaccines they may need. Vaccination not only protects adults from disease, but helps prevent the spread of disease to those that are most vulnerable to complications such as infants, the elderly, and those with weakened immune systems. Adults 60 years and older are recommended to receive the shingles vaccine, and adults 65 and older are recommended to receive one or more pneumococcal vaccines.
- ✦ Educate pregnant women about getting vaccinated to protect newborns from diseases like pertussis and influenza, and encourage women who are planning to become pregnant to ensure they are up to date on vaccines before the start of pregnancy.
- ✦ Remind everyone that flu season is only a few months away. For the 2016-2017 flu season, CDC recommends use of the inactivated influenza vaccine (IIV) and the recombinant influenza vaccine (RIV). The nasal spray flu vaccine (live attenuated influenza vaccine or LAIV) should not be used during 2016-2017.

Sources: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niam.html> and <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/events/niam.html>.

HEALTH BULLETINS, ADVISORIES, AND ALERTS

For additional information regarding bulletins, advisories and alerts visit the DOH-Nassau website or Department of Health Online Newsroom at: <http://nassau.floridahealth.gov/> and <http://www.floridahealth.gov/newsroom/>

7/22/16- Blast fax/email to Nassau physicians, *Zika testing recommendation reminders and investigation of possible non-travel related cases in Florida*

7/26/16- Blast fax/email to Nassau OB/GYNs, *Zika guidance for pregnant women*

8/1/16- Blast fax/email to Nassau physicians, *CDC guidance for travel and testing of pregnant women and women of reproductive age for Zika virus infection related to the investigation for local mosquito-borne virus transmission in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, Florida*

8/10/16- Blast fax/email to Nassau OB/GYNs, *Zika risk assessment and testing available to pregnant women at county health department*

8/23/16– Blast fax/email to Nassau physicians, *Interim guidance for the evaluation and management of infants with possible congenital Zika virus infection, CDC expands guidance for travel and testing of pregnant women, women of reproductive age, and their partners for Zika virus infection related to mosquito-borne Zika virus transmission in Miami-Dade, Florida.*

8/25/16– CDC Health Update: *Influx of fentanyl-laced counterfeit pills and toxic fentanyl-related compounds further increases risk of fentanyl-related overdose and fatalities.* For more information, please visit: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00395.asp>

JULY 2016: REPORTED CASES IN NASSAU COUNTY

Confirmed, Probable, Suspect, Unkown Cases of Multiple Diseases with Report Date 07/01/2016 to 07/31/2016 with Three-Year Period Comparison for Nassau County

Disease Name	Selection Date		Comparison Date 1		Comparison Date 2		Comparison Date 3	
	07/01/16 - 07/31/16		07/01/15 - 07/31/15		07/01/14 - 07/31/14		07/01/13 - 07/31/13	
	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent	Cases	Percent
County: NASSAU								
Campylobacteriosis	1	4.55%	1	3.70%	1	4.55%	5	27.78%
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	3	13.64%	1	5.56%
Cyclosporiasis	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
Eschericia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (STEC) Infection	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
Giardiasis, Acute	1	4.55%	2	7.41%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
Haemophilus influenzae Invasive Disease	1	4.55%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Hepatitis B, Chronic	1	4.55%	0	0.00%	2	9.09%	0	0.00%
Hepatitis B, Surface Antigen in Pregnant Women	0	0.00%	1	3.70%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Hepatitis C, Chronic	11	50.00%	14	51.85%	12	54.55%	2	11.11%
Lead Poisoning	0	0.00%	1	3.70%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Legionellosis	0	0.00%	1	3.70%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Lyme Disease	0	0.00%	1	3.70%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
Pertussis	4	18.18%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Rabies, Animal	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
Rabies, Possible Exposure	0	0.00%	1	3.70%	0	0.00%	2	11.11%
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	4.55%	0	0.00%
Salmonellosis	3	13.64%	5	18.52%	2	9.09%	2	11.11%
Shigellosis	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	4.55%	0	0.00%
Varicella (Chickenpox)	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1	5.56%
TOTAL:	22	100.00%	27	100.00%	22	100.00%	18	100.00%
STATEWIDE TOTAL								
Campylobacteriosis	337	5.91%	356	7.20%	343	7.05%	326	7.97%
Cryptosporidiosis	48	0.84%	73	1.48%	157	3.23%	31	0.76%
Cyclosporiasis	23	0.40%	12	0.24%	18	0.37%	30	0.73%
Eschericia coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (STEC) Infection	58	1.02%	53	1.07%	55	1.13%	51	1.25%
Giardiasis, Acute	85	1.49%	89	1.80%	108	2.22%	105	2.57%
Haemophilus influenzae Invasive Disease	15	0.26%	13	0.26%	16	0.33%	21	0.51%
Hepatitis B, Chronic	422	7.40%	415	8.39%	432	8.89%	369	9.02%
Hepatitis B, Surface Antigen in Pregnant Women	44	0.77%	55	1.11%	53	1.09%	47	1.15%
Hepatitis C, Chronic	3159	55.37%	2202	44.54%	1910	39.28%	1607	39.27%
Lead Poisoning	80	1.40%	81	1.64%	42	0.86%	32	0.78%
Legionellosis	31	0.54%	21	0.42%	30	0.62%	40	0.98%
Lyme Disease	61	1.07%	28	0.57%	18	0.37%	24	0.59%
Pertussis	28	0.49%	38	0.77%	111	2.28%	76	1.86%
Rabies, Animal	2	0.04%	5	0.10%	5	0.10%	17	0.42%
Rabies, Possible Exposure	268	4.70%	284	5.74%	272	5.59%	273	6.67%
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis	1	0.02%	5	0.10%	6	0.12%	1	0.02%
Salmonellosis	579	10.15%	731	14.79%	708	14.56%	699	17.08%
Shigellosis	75	1.31%	220	4.45%	240	4.94%	79	1.93%
Varicella (Chickenpox)	42	0.74%	43	0.87%	28	0.58%	27	0.66%
<i>Other remaining conditions in FL (not shared w/ Nassau County)</i>	347	6.08%	220	4.45%	310	6.38%	237	5.79%
TOTAL:	5705	100.00%	4944	100.00%	4862	100.00%	4092	100.00%

GLOBAL HEALTH NEWS

- ✦ Two children were diagnosed with polio in the Nigerian State of Borno, after two years without any polio cases in the country. While these cases are a setback in the global polio eradication efforts, the WHO expressed confidence that Nigeria's government would respond quickly. There have been 21 wild poliovirus cases this year, down from 34 cases during the same time last year.
- ✦ Public Health England (PHE) reported 36 cases of measles linked to music and arts festivals across the country this summer. There have been 234 cases of measles confirmed in England between January and June 2016, with 54 cases in the same period in 2015. PHE encouraged people to be vaccinated against measles if they plan to attend festivals and to not go if they are feeling unwell.