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SURGEON GENERAL DR. JOHN ARMSTRONG'S DAILY ZIKA UPDATE



Contact:

Communications Office
NewsMedia@flhealth.gov
850-245-4111

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—In an effort to keep Florida residents and visitors safe and aware about the status of the Zika virus, State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong will issue a Zika virus update each week day at 2 p.m. Updates will include a CDC-confirmed Zika case count by county and information to better keep Floridians prepared. **There are no new cases today.**

Today, Governor Rick Scott announced that the CDC sent 950 Zika antibody tests to Florida. Florida has 1,425 antibody tests to determine whether a person has ever been infected with the Zika virus. Governor Scott also asked the CDC last week to conduct a conference call within the next two weeks to help train Florida hospital workers - especially OBGYN doctors and those who work with pregnant women - on how Zika is spread, its symptoms, treatments and proper precautions. **Florida is still waiting for this call to be scheduled.**

County	Number of Cases (all travel related)
Broward	2
Hillsborough	3
Lee	2
Miami-Dade	6
Osceola	1
Santa Rosa	1
St. Johns	1
Total	16

All cases are travel-associated. There have been no locally-acquired cases of Zika in Florida. None of the confirmed cases involve pregnant women. For more information on the Zika virus, click [here](#).

State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong urges Floridians to drain standing water weekly, no matter how seemingly small. A couple drops of water in a bottle cap can be a breeding location for mosquitoes. Residents and visitors also need to use repellents when enjoying the Florida outdoors.

More Information on DOH action on Zika:

- Last week, Governor Scott directed State Surgeon General and Secretary of Health Dr. John Armstrong to issue a Declaration of Public Health Emergency for the counties of residents with travel-associated cases of Zika.
 - The Declaration currently includes the seven effected counties – Broward, Hillsborough, Lee, Miami-Dade, Osceola, Santa Rosa and St. Johns – and will be updated as needed.
- According to the CDC, Zika illness is generally mild with a rash, fever and joint pain. CDC researchers are examining a possible link between the virus and harm to unborn babies exposed during pregnancy.
- DOH has a robust mosquito-borne illness surveillance system and is working with the CDC, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and local county mosquito control boards to ensure that the proper precautions are being taken to protect Florida residents and visitors.
- DOH encourages Florida residents and visitors to protect themselves from all mosquito-borne illnesses by draining standing water; covering their skin with repellent and clothing; and covering windows with screens.
- Last week, Governor Scott authorized DOH to purchase 4,000 more testing kits to test for active Zika cases (different than antibody testing kits).
- For more information on Zika virus, click [here](#).

About the Florida Department of Health

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