

Zika News Roundup April 2017

[NIH prepares for Zika season](#)

Washington Examiner | May 15, 2017

Excerpt: The U.S. already is more prepared than it was during last year's outbreak, when funding became mired in politics. This year, the NIH received an increase of \$2 billion for the agency overall, and a public health emergency fund has been created to handle outbreaks such as Zika.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, spoke with the *Washington Examiner* about how the Zika vaccine options are coming along and what lessons have been learned from other infectious disease outbreaks.

[Zika awareness campaign launched for Arizona residents](#)

AZ Central (USA Today) | April 27, 2017

Excerpt: In a DHS press release, Gov. Doug Ducey urged residents who are traveling to help "fight the bite."

"As we enjoy the scenic beauty our state has to offer and as travel season begins, there are a number of important precautions Arizonans can take to protect themselves and others from Zika," Ducey said.

The virus is actively circulating in 60 countries including the United States, but not yet in Arizona, DHS said.

[Pregnant women warned to avoid Brownsville, Tex., because of Zika](#)

The New York Times | December 14, 2016

Excerpt: Federal health officials warned pregnant women on Wednesday to avoid visiting Brownsville, Tex., because of the threat of infection with the Zika virus.

At least five cases of Zika transmitted by local mosquitoes have been reported in the last few weeks, and temperatures are still high enough for mosquitoes to thrive, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

[Florida Gov. says Florida free of Zika transmission](#)

ABC News | December 9, 2016

Excerpt: Florida Gov. Rick Scott announced today that Florida is now clear of locally-transmitted Zika for the first time since July. Since the Zika outbreak was announced in the state, four zones of ongoing Zika transmission had been identified and subsequently cleared in recent months.

Today the last "Zika zone" in the state, located in the South Beach area of Miami Beach, was declared free of the Zika virus transmission.

[Another Miami neighborhood is cleared of Zika virus](#)

NBC News | December 2, 2016

Excerpt: Florida state officials declared a second outbreak of Zika over in the Miami area, this one in a neighborhood known as Little River or Little Haiti.

But federal health officials said pregnant women need to take care in the entire Miami area and should stay out of the south Miami Beach area if at all possible.

[Texas reports first case of locally transmitted Zika](#)

USA Today | November 29, 2016

Excerpt: Texas reported its first case of locally transmitted Zika on Monday, becoming the second state in the United States to confirm local transmission of the virus.

Both Texas and Florida have the mosquitoes that spread Zika, called the *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*. And both have experienced clusters of mosquito-borne diseases in recent years, including dengue and chikungunya. Those outbreaks have been relatively small, however, thanks to the widespread use of screens and air conditioning, which limit Americans' exposure to mosquito bites.

[Zika emergency lifted as World Health Organization shifts to long-term approach](#)

The Wall Street Journal | November 18, 2016

Excerpt: The World Health Organization declared Friday that it no longer considers Zika and the neurological complications it causes to be a global public-health emergency, saying the crisis had entered a new phase and would require sustained resources.

Public-health leaders in the U.S. said they wouldn't change how they are responding to the spread of Zika, which has been reported in 69 countries since 2015, including most countries in the Western Hemisphere.

[Zika zone in Miami Beach will not be lifted Monday after recent infections](#)

Miami Herald | November 11, 2016

Excerpt: On Friday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed that additional cases showing symptoms in mid-October mean the zone will remain after Monday, likely extending the travel warning into early December, right as international art fair Art Basel begins.

“We are working with Florida to establish a sensible and understandable rationale for the date of lifting of the advisory as soon as feasible,” Frieden wrote.

[Zika may be in the U.S. to stay](#)

NPR | October 26, 2016

Excerpt: Public health authorities and infectious disease specialists now say we may not be able to rid the U.S. of the Zika virus. Despite months of intense work — including house to house inspections and aggressive mosquito control — federal, state and local officials have not been able to stop the spread of Zika in Miami.

In Miami on Tuesday, the head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Tom Frieden, delivered what he called the "plain truth" about Zika and the mosquitoes that carry it. "Zika and other diseases spread by *Aedes aegypti*," he said, "are really not controllable with current technologies."

[CDC advises pregnant women who have been to Miami-Dade be tested for Zika](#)

CNN | October 19, 2016

Excerpt: Pregnant women who have "lived in, traveled to, or had unprotected sex with someone who lived in or traveled to Miami-Dade County" since August 1 should be tested for the Zika virus, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Wednesday.

"Our guidance today strengthens our travel advice and testing recommendations for pregnant women, to further prevent the spread of the infection among those most vulnerable," Dr. Lyle Petersen, director of the CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases, said in a statement.

[Florida IDs new Miami neighborhood as Zika zone](#)

CBS News | October 14, 2016

Excerpt: Health officials have identified a new Zika zone in Miami – a setback less than a month after declaring the nearby Wynwood neighborhood cleared of the virus following aggressive mosquito spraying.

Five people have been infected with Zika in a 1-square-mile area of the city just north of the Little Haiti neighborhood and about 3 miles north of Wynwood, according to a statement released Thursday by Gov. Rick Scott's office.

[Congress approves \\$1.1B in Zika funds](#)

The Hill | September 29, 2016

Excerpt: House passage of a government funding bill late Wednesday night means that funding for the Zika virus has finally been approved.

The measure included \$1.1 billion in funding to fight the virus, capping a fierce months-long debate over the money that dismayed public health experts who called for speedily approving funding.

[CDC lifts Zika travel advisory for one Florida zone](#)

The Washington Post | September 19, 2016

Excerpt: Federal health officials on Monday lifted their Zika travel advisory that had urged pregnant women to avoid an area north of downtown Miami called Wynwood. They made the call because no new cases of locally transmitted virus have been reported there since early August.

The announcement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention comes after Florida Gov. Rick Scott announced earlier in the day that no evidence of Zika's spread has been documented in the Wynwood area for 45 days. The CDC's travel advisory remains in effect for the state's other active zone of transmission, Miami Beach. The area covered by that travel warning was tripled in size late Friday to cover nearly two-thirds of that tourist hot spot.

[Why Zika is a complicated concern for corporate travel](#)

Skift | September 01, 2016

Excerpt: While the virus does not appear to be curtailing business travel, risk management experts say employers need to take Zika seriously — and make sure workers know they can skip travel without consequences in places where it is spreading. Because infection can cause fetal brain damage, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that pregnant women avoid traveling to areas where Zika is being actively transmitted by mosquitoes, and that women and men who have visited such an area wait eight weeks before trying to conceive if they have no symptoms. Men who show symptoms are advised to wait six months.

[CDC and NIH officials: How not to fight the Zika virus](#)

The Washington Post | August 31, 2016

Excerpt: With the right resources, we can develop better ways to combat the mosquito that spreads Zika and other diseases. We can prevent families from having to go through the heartache of having a baby born with severe birth defects. We can find a vaccine that will protect those most at risk.

Congress returns next week. In the past, it has shown that it understands the importance of safeguarding Americans' health and has supported biomedical research and vital public health priorities. It has proved that it can act in moments of crisis and in our nation's hours of need. We're asking Congress to do so again.

[New Zika cases investigated in Florida](#)

The New York Times | August 23, 2016

Excerpt: When Florida announced a new case of the Zika virus on Tuesday, this time in Pinellas County, which includes St. Petersburg, it raised an urgent question: Had local mosquitoes in yet another part of the state started to spread the virus?

The short answer is probably not, scientists say. The announcement of the case in Pinellas, on the other side of the state from the current danger zone in Miami-Dade County, may sound scary, but the reality is that single cases are usually one-offs and do not necessarily mean that the virus is starting to spread in a new area.

[Miami Beach confirmed as new area of active Zika virus transmission](#)

The Wall Street Journal | August 19, 2016

Excerpt: Federal and state officials on Friday confirmed a new area of active Zika virus transmission in Miami Beach.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott said that five people were infected with Zika in an area of Miami Beach, and he announced a new transmission zone covering some of the most alluring areas of the popular tourist destination.

The new zone covers most of South Beach, an area full of posh hotels, restaurants, bars and nightclubs. A roughly 1.5 square-mile area, the new zone extends from Eighth Street in the south to 28th Street in the north, and from Biscayne Bay on the west to the Atlantic Ocean on the east. The only part of South Beach outside of the zone are the eight blocks stretching from Eighth Street down to Government Cut, a shipping channel that connects the port of Miami to the ocean.

[Texas resident tests positive for Zika after Florida travel](#)

The Wall Street Journal | August 15, 2016

Excerpt: A Texas resident who recently traveled to Miami has tested positive for Zika, state health officials said Monday, in what is thought to be the first case of someone contracting the virus while traveling within the continental U.S.

Officials with the Texas Department of State Health Services said the sick individual, who is from El Paso County, had gone to an area of Miami that has become the epicenter for Zika transmission in the U.S. The person became ill after returning to Texas and sought out testing.

State health officials said they were able to link the El Paso case to Miami after examining travel dates, symptoms and the current outbreak of Zika there.

Meanwhile, health authorities in Florida announced two more instances Monday of what appear to be locally contracted cases of Zika there, bringing the tally of such cases in the state to 30.

[Too early to predict impact of Zika on tourism, officials say](#)

The Palm Beach Post | August 2, 2016

Excerpt: “Local attention focuses on the Wynwood area. National attention seems to focus on Miami or Miami-Dade or South Florida. International attention seems to focus on Florida. Internationally more travelers seem to use travel agents and agents may be more likely to recommend alternatives in an effort to be of value to their clients,” [Scott] Brush, [a Miami-based hotel consultant and Florida International University Adjunct Professor] said.

Travel Alerts

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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[Texas](#)

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European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

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