



West Nile Virus and Other Arboviral Diseases: 2017

Los Angeles County Epidemiology Report #18

November 30, 2017



West Nile Virus (WNV): This week, 4 new WNV cases were documented (Table 1) in Los Angeles County (LAC) residents. No WNV activity has been detected in the [environment](#) in the past week, however, new human cases will occur as they become ill from mosquito bites from previous weeks. Preliminary information indicates ongoing human WNV infections (Table 2). The number of human cases with onset of illness through September is higher than the previous 5-year average (Figure 1). In 2017 to date, there have been 252 WNV cases with 16 deaths and 13 asymptomatic donors. This surpasses the 153 cases and 6 deaths documented in 2016. For information about past WNV seasons in LAC visit the [ACDC WNV webpage](#). Nationally, 1,921 human cases have been [reported to the CDC](#) excluding asymptomatic blood donors (n=229). This will be the last weekly West Nile Virus and Other Arboviral Diseases report until the 2017 final report is issued in early 2018.

Table 1. Characteristics of WNV Cases: LAC, 2017

Number of Infections ¹	Asymptomatic Donor	Clinical Presentation				Hospitalized	Deaths	Demographics	
		WNV Fever	Neuroinvasive Disease	Neuroinvasive Diagnosis	Gender M/F			Median Age (Range)	
Reported This Week	4	0	3	3 = Encephalitis 0 = Meningitis 0 = AFP ²	4	0	3/1	69.5 (54-88)	
Year Total	252	13	193	104 = Encephalitis 75 = Meningitis 14 = AFP ²	214	16	169/83	62.5 (8-96)	

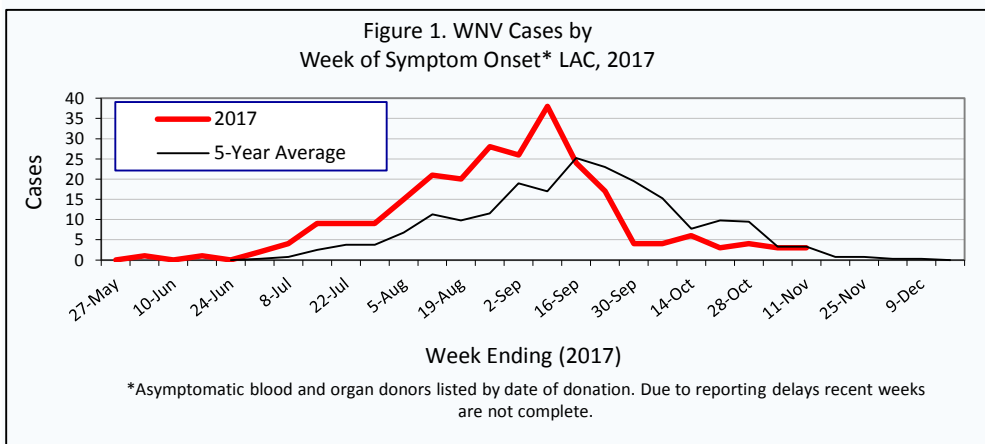
¹Count confirmed by LAC DPH as of 11/30/17. Excludes reports from Long Beach and Pasadena. Totals are provisional and subject to change.

²Acute Flaccid Paralysis

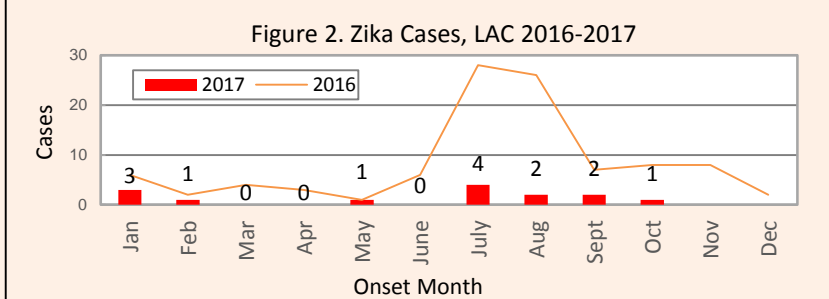
Table 2. Recent WNV Reports by Cities of Residence, LAC, 2017¹

Bell Gardens
Glendale
Lancaster
Los Angeles
Pico Rivera
San Gabriel

¹WNV positive laboratory results received in past 7 days as of 11/30/17. Excludes Long Beach and Pasadena. Reports are provisional. For a complete list of cities please visit [our webpage](#).



Zika: Since 2015, LAC DPH has identified 120 total cases of Zika virus infection. Only 14 cases have been reported in 2017 (Figure 2). All 2017 cases acquired their infection while traveling outside the US (Table 3). Since 2015, 22 pregnant women with Zika infection have been identified in LAC, all of whom acquired their infection during travel to Mexico or Latin America. For more information on Zika visit the [ACDC Zika webpage](#).



Zika is Still a Risk

Zika is still affecting Mexico, Central America, and other [areas listed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#). To determine whether a patient should be tested based on their region of travel, providers can refer to the CDPH [list of countries and territories](#) with active Zika transmission or risk. There is currently no local transmission in LAC, but the mosquito that spreads Zika virus is found in [many parts of LAC](#). These mosquitoes are not yet infected with Zika and we want to keep it that way! Travelers returning from Zika risk areas should wear insect repellent and take other mosquito bite precautions for 3 weeks after returning. ACDC strongly urges clinicians to inform their patients of the importance of keeping Zika out of LAC by using mosquito prevention measures.

Table 3. Zika Cases by Region of Exposure - LAC, 2017*

Mexico	Guatemala
El Salvador	Costa Rica
Thailand	Philippines

*This does not represent all areas with Zika risk. Routinely visit the [CDC Traveler's Health](#) webpage to view a world map.