

# THE 2015 - 2016 ZIKA OUTBREAK

## Key Facts About the Zika Virus



The Zika virus was first discovered in 1947 in rhesus monkeys; the first human case was identified in 1952



**1 out of 5 people** infected experience symptoms, and in those who do, symptoms are mild

Outbreaks have occurred in tropical Africa, Southeast Asia, the Pacific, and more recently, the Americas



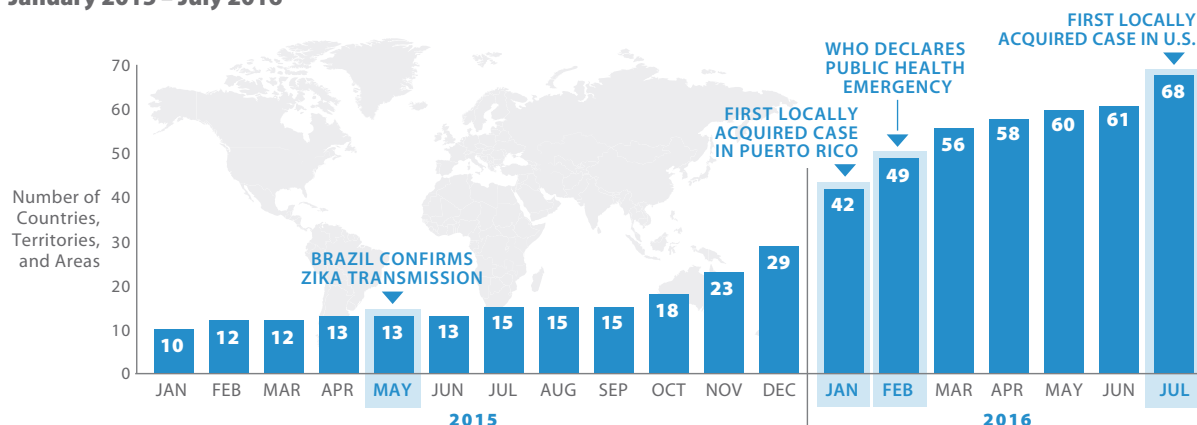
Zika is transmitted primarily through the bite of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito; the virus can also be transmitted via sexual contact and blood transfusion

Public health officials have determined that Zika virus is a cause of microcephaly and other fetal neurological conditions



No vaccine or cure exists, and despite ongoing research, a vaccine likely remains years away

## Cumulative Number of Countries, Territories and Areas Worldwide Reporting Local Zika Virus Transmission, January 2015 - July 2016



## The US Government Response: Key Agencies and Roles\*

**CDC** ▶ Provides technical and financial assistance to U.S. states and territories, and technical support to other countries to expand surveillance and response activities such as testing, vector control, and prevention education; has activated its emergency operations center

**NIH** ▶ Conducts basic research and natural history research on Zika virus, and development and testing of Zika vaccine and drug candidates

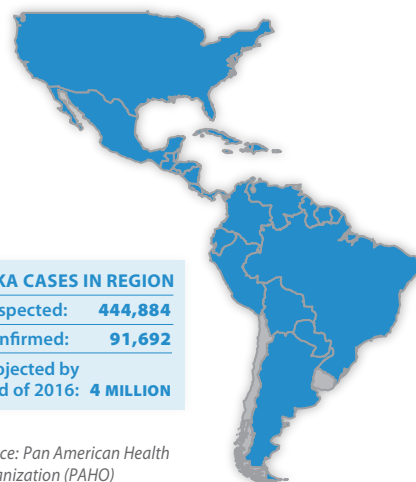
**FDA** ▶ Develops and oversees methods for detecting and reducing risk of Zika virus in blood products; reviews Zika vaccine research and development for regulatory approval and will support post-market surveillance of any vaccines, therapies or other medical products related to Zika

**USAID** ▶ Supports efforts to track and prevent Zika in Latin America and the Caribbean

**State Department** ▶ Coordinates diplomatic response and public education campaigns, supports multilateral partners such as the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization

\*In February, the Administration requested \$1.9B in additional funding for Zika response. Congress has yet to appropriate any additional funds.

## Countries in the Americas Affected by Zika (as of 8/5/16)



Source: Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)