

ZIKA PARTNER UPDATE

April 17, 2017

Updates

There continues to be no locally acquired vector-borne cases of Zika reported in California or Los Angeles County. However, the mosquitoes that transmit Zika, *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, are present in [Los Angeles County](#). No Zika Virus has been identified in vectors at this time, but it is important to prevent mosquitoes by getting rid of standing water where mosquitoes can breed.

In the continental United States [4,901 travel-associated cases](#) have been confirmed, [117 of those in Los Angeles County](#) (including Long Beach). Local mosquito-borne transmission has been confirmed in Florida and Texas. The CDC designated two Zika cautionary areas where pregnant women are advised to practice extra precautions and/or consider postponing travel: [Brownsville, Texas](#) and [Miami-Dade County, Florida](#)

Related News

- [CDC Issues New Warning on Zika Virus Ahead of Mosquito Season](#) (NPR, 4/6/17)
Zika may seem like last year's problem, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says it's not. The CDC published a study this week on where we are with Zika in the U.S., and the findings are striking.
- [The race is on to stop a Zika virus epidemic in the US](#) (CNBC, 4/11/17)
The weather is still cold in much of the United States, so many Americans have forgotten about the dangers that can accompany warm weather. One such danger is the Zika virus, and while it may not be on many people's minds just yet, it will be again, when temperatures climb.
- [Genetically modified mosquitoes could kill their own kind, cut West Nile, Zika Risk](#) (The Dallas Morning News, 4/10/17)
Harris County is now seeking federal approval to conduct a pilot test of the genetically engineered mosquitoes in a neighborhood in the Houston area. If approved, it would be the first urban area in the United States to use the technology, which has been shown to reduce the *Aedes aegypti* populations by more than 90 percent in parts of Brazil, Panama and the Cayman Islands.

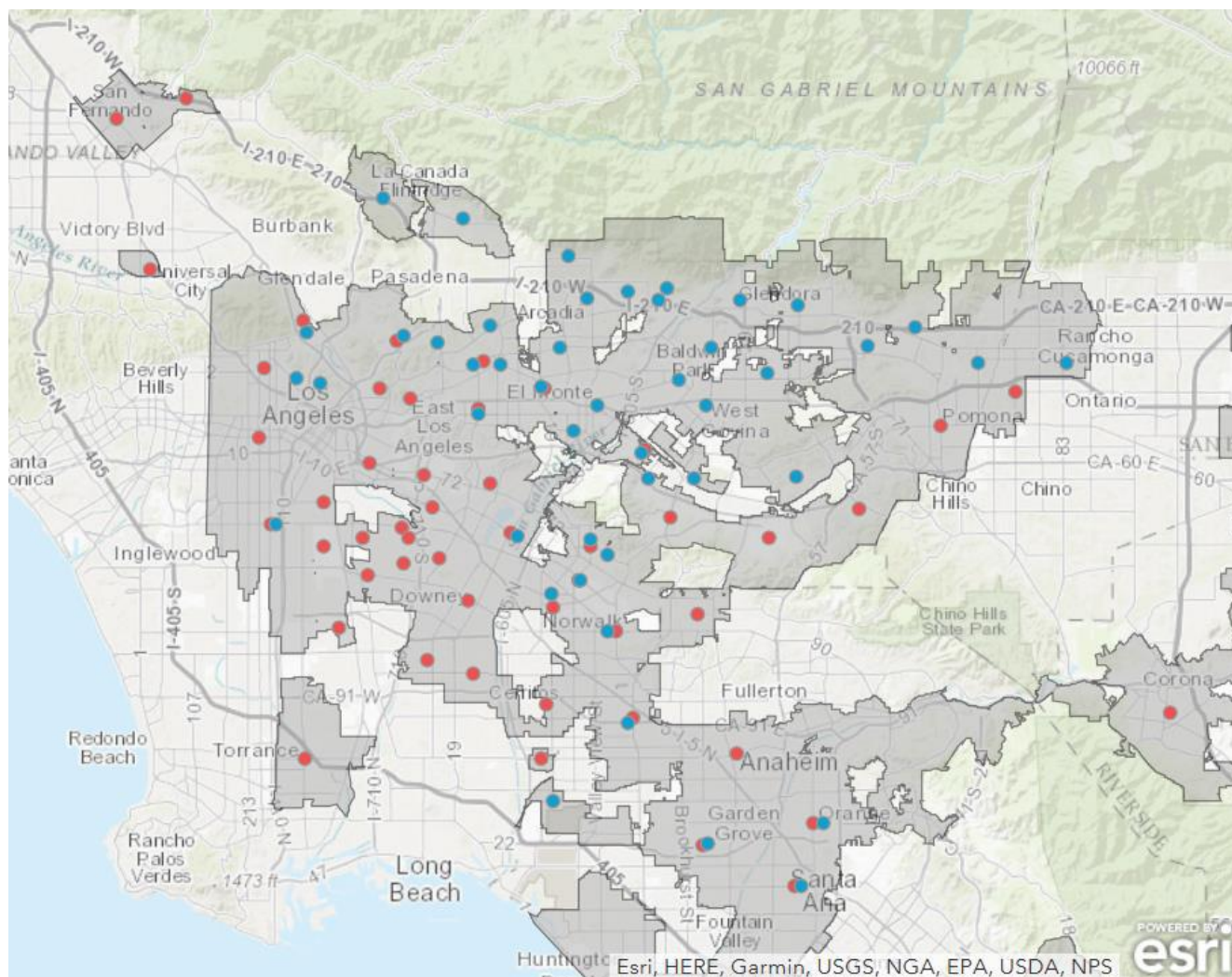
Key Info Sources

Website Name	URL Link
Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control	http://www.avmosquito.org/
California Department of Public Health	http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/Zika.aspx
Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy	http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/infectious-disease-topics/zika
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	http://www.cdc.gov/zika/
Compton Creek Mosquito Abatement	http://comptoncreekmad.org/
Greater LA County Vector Control	http://www.glacvcd.org/
LA County Department of Public Health	http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/zika/

Website Name	URL Link
Pan American Health Organization	http://www.paho.org/
San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control	http://www.sgvmosquito.org/
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/zika
LA County West Vector & Vector-Borne Disease Control District	http://www.lawestvector.org/
World Health Organization	http://www.who.int/topics/zika/en/

Invasive *Aedes* in California

The latest interactive map (3-13-17) by California Department of Public Health shows cities with *A. aegypti* (red) and *A. albopictus* (blue). Gray areas are approximate infestation areas based on city borders not trap findings. The map shows the only cities in LA County where *Aedes* mosquitoes have been trapped and identified.



Public Health Partner News Roundup

LOCAL ALERTS

MUMPS: The cluster of mumps at [Chapman University](#) in Orange County continues to grow, reaching [nine cases](#). Two doses of the Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccine are 88% effective against mumps, but the Orange County Health Care Agency is recommending a third dose to strengthen immunity even further. Chapman has been holding free clinics for students, faculty and staff to receive the MMR vaccine. Of the nine cases, all were either confirmed to have had two MMR or reported they had but couldn't provide shot records. To avoid getting mumps, the OC Health Care Agency recommends students wash their hands frequently and avoid sharing food, drinks, or cigarettes.

MEASLES: Orange County has also reported a case of [measles](#) in a student at Laguna Beach High School who was unvaccinated. Several unvaccinated students who were exposed to the case must now stay home from school until mid-April. Because of their susceptibility to measles, an outbreak could develop rapidly if they were to become infected. Measles is [extremely contagious](#). The virus can live up to two hours in the air after an infected person coughs or sneezes. As with mumps, two doses of MMR vaccine are recommended to protect from measles.

EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES & CHEMICAL WARFARE

SARIN: In Syria more than 80 people, including many children, were killed after a [nerve agent attack](#) on civilians. Preliminary results of tests carried out [in Turkey](#), where many were taken for treatment, showed that patients had been exposed to sarin. Over 500 people are reported to have experienced symptoms consistent with exposure to a nerve agent, including vomiting, weakness, foaming at the mouth, and loss of consciousness. Sarin is a man-made chemical warfare agent, used in past terrorist attacks in Japan in 1995 and in Syria in 2013. It can be released into the air or in water or food. It is the [most volatile](#) of the nerve agents, meaning from its liquid form, it can become a vapor and spread through the environment. There are antidotes available, but they must be given soon after exposure to be effective.

H7N9: Human cases of H7N9 [continue to occur](#) in China. This is considered the fifth wave of human infections of H7N9 in China, and has exceeded the number of human cases in past waves. While most human cases are exposed to H7N9 through direct contact with infected poultry or contaminated environments, there has been evidence of human to human transmission. The primary concern with H7N9 is the recent discovery of genetic changes to the virus, which could allow it to replicate in both avian and human hosts, making it much easier to transmit from human to human. The World Health Organization is advising travelers to China to avoid poultry farms and live poultry markets. Currently, there are no travel or trade restrictions in place in the U.S.



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