

# WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGY BULLETIN

## NATIONAL EPIDEMIOLOGY UNIT, MINISTRY OF HEALTH, JAMAICA

### Weekly Spotlight

#### World Breastfeeding Week August 1-7, 2017

#### Theme: "Sustaining Breastfeeding Together."

No country in the world fully meets recommended standards for breastfeeding, according to a new report by UNICEF and WHO in collaboration with the Global Breastfeeding Collective, a new initiative to increase global breastfeeding rates.

Evidence shows that breastfeeding has cognitive and health benefits for both infants

and their mothers. It is especially critical during the first six months of life, helping prevent diarrhoea and pneumonia, two major causes of



death in infants. Mothers who breastfeed have a reduced risk of ovarian and breast cancer, two leading causes of death among women. Breastmilk works like a baby's first vaccine, protecting infants from potentially deadly diseases and giving them all the nourishment they need to survive and thrive. Breastfeeding is one of the most effective—and cost effective—investments nations can make in the health of their youngest members and the future health of their economies and societies.

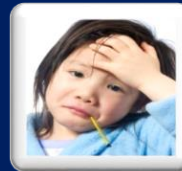
The Global Breastfeeding Collective is calling on countries to:

- Increase funding to raise breastfeeding rates from birth through two years.
- Enact paid family leave and workplace breastfeeding policies, building on the International Labour Organization's maternity protection guidelines as a minimum requirement, including provisions for the informal sector.
- Implement the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding in maternity facilities, including providing breastmilk for sick and vulnerable newborns.
- Strengthen monitoring systems that track the progress of policies, programmes, and funding towards achieving both national and global breastfeeding targets.

Breastfeeding is critical for the achievement of many of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Downloaded from: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2017/lack-investment-breastfeeding/en/>

## EPI WEEK 29



SYNDROMES

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RESEARCH PAPER

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NOTIFICATIONS-  
All clinical sites



INVESTIGATION  
REPORTS- Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



HOSPITAL ACTIVE  
SURVEILLANCE-30 sites\*. Actively pursued



SENTINEL  
REPORT- 79 sites\*. Automatic reporting

\*Incidence/Prevalence cannot be calculated

# REPORTS FOR SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

## FEVER

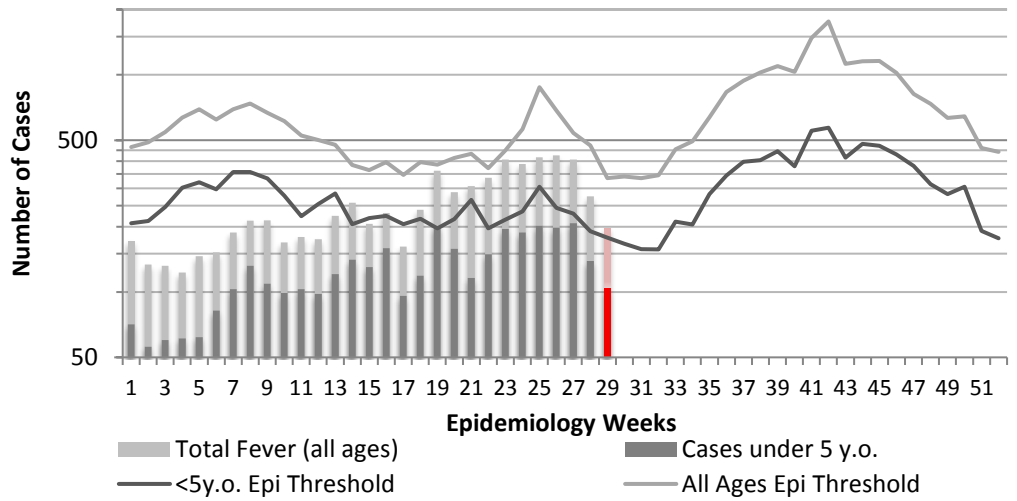
Temperature of  $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$  /  $100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  (or recent history of fever) with or without an obvious diagnosis or focus of infection.



**KEY**

**RED** CURRENT WEEK

Fever in under 5y.o. and Total Population 2017 vs Epidemic Thresholds, Epidemiology Week 29

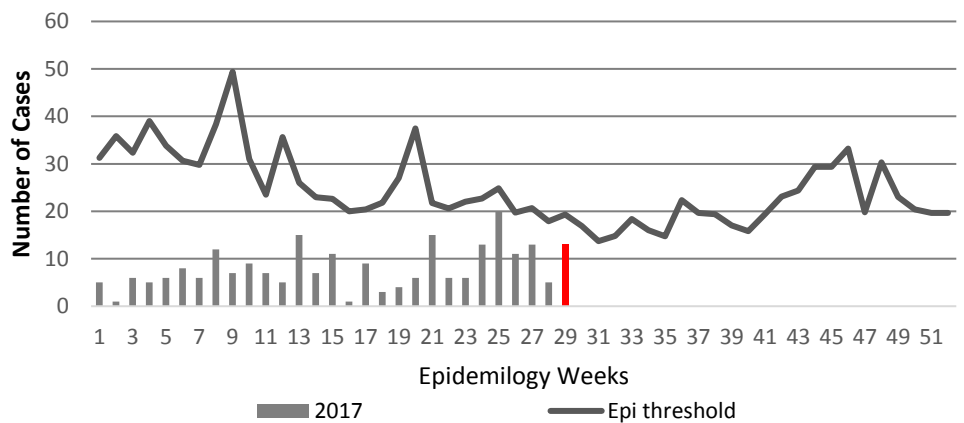


## FEVER AND NEUROLOGICAL

Temperature of  $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$  /  $100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  (or recent history of fever) in a previously healthy person with or without headache and vomiting. The person must also have meningeal irritation, convulsions, altered consciousness, altered sensory manifestations or paralysis (except AFP).



Fever and Neurological Symptoms Weekly Threshold vs Cases 2017, Epidemiology Week 29

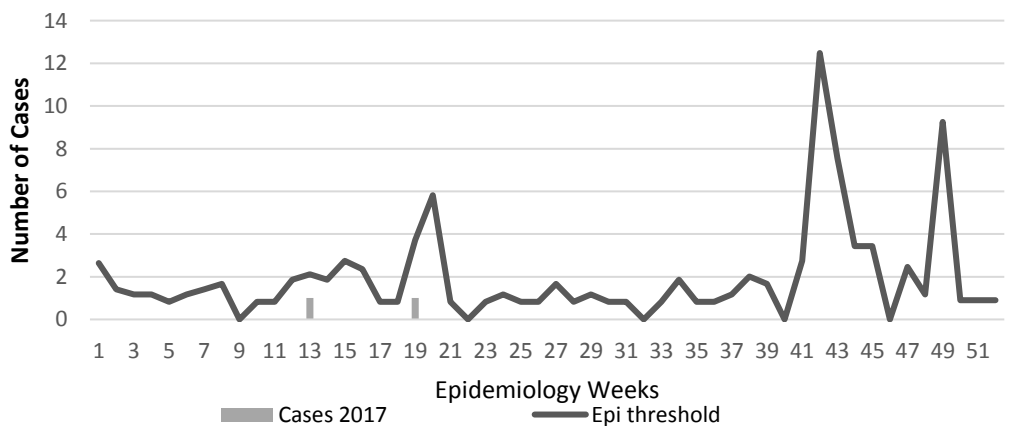


## FEVER AND HAEMORRHAGIC

Temperature of  $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$  /  $100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  (or recent history of fever) in a previously healthy person presenting with at least one haemorrhagic (bleeding) manifestation with or without jaundice.



Fever and Haem Weekly Threshold vs Cases 2017, Epidemiology Week 29



**NOTIFICATIONS-** All clinical sites



**INVESTIGATION REPORTS-** Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



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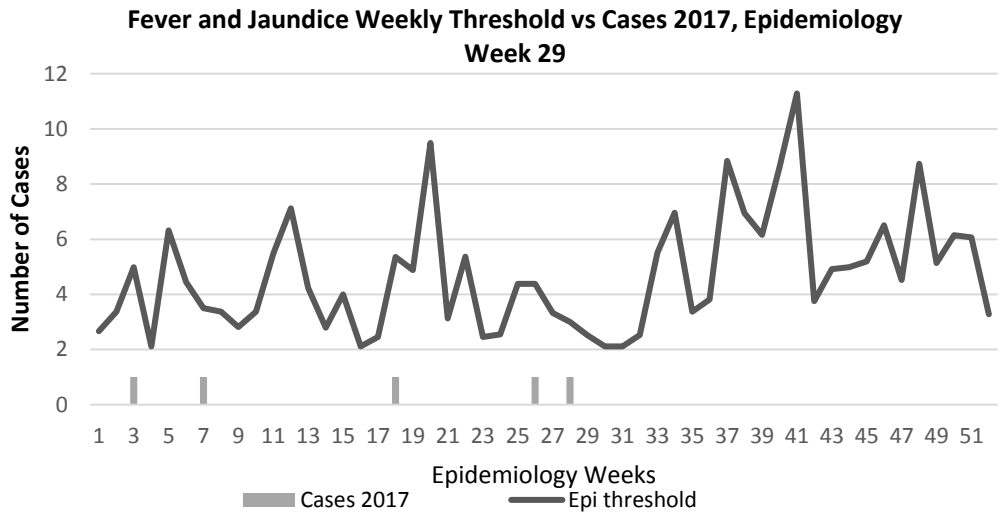


**SENTINEL REPORT-** 79 sites\*. Automatic reporting

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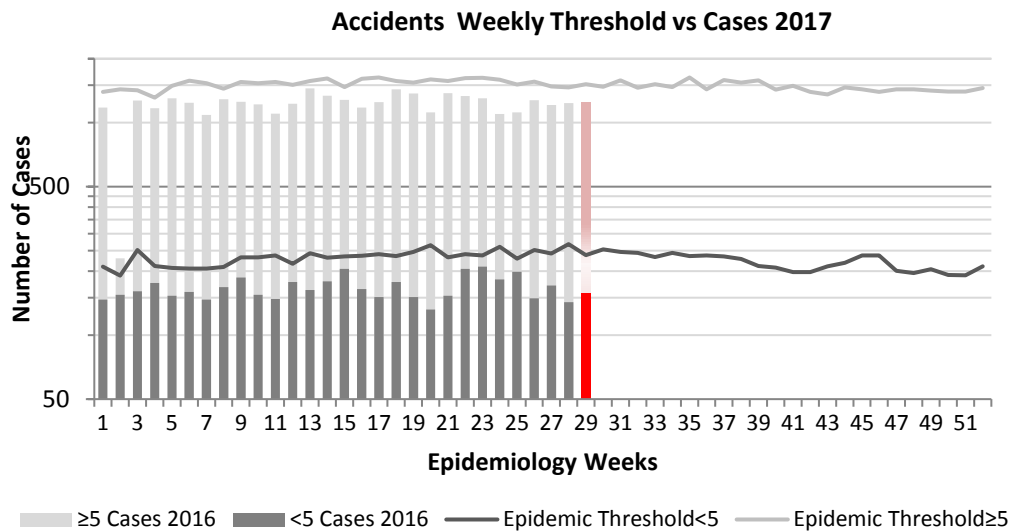
### FEVER AND JAUNDICE

Temperature of  $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$  /  $100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$  (or recent history of fever) in a previously healthy person presenting with jaundice.



### ACCIDENTS

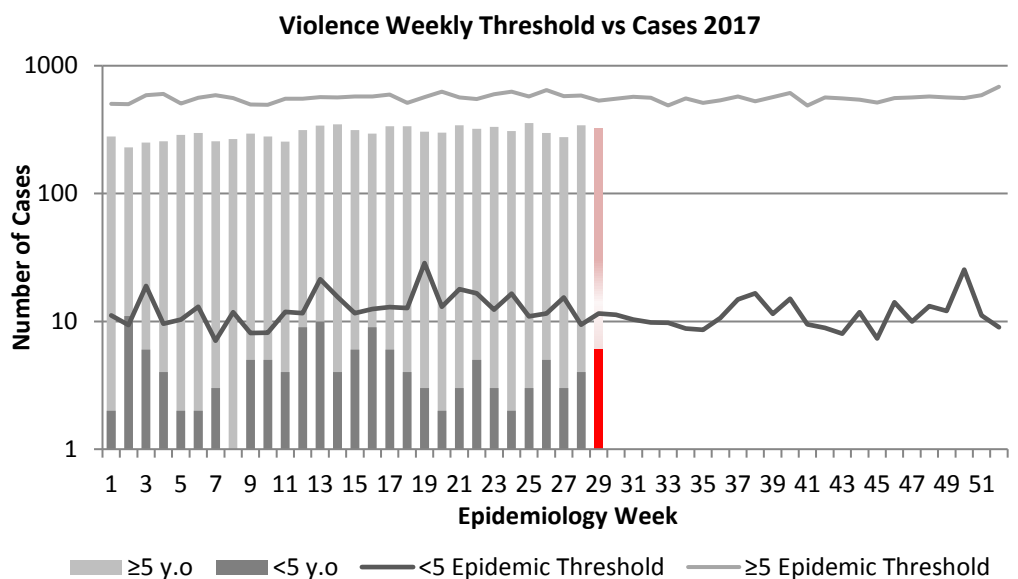
Any injury for which the cause is unintentional, e.g. motor vehicle, falls, burns, etc.



### VIOLENCE

Any injury for which the cause is intentional, e.g. gunshot wounds, stab wounds, etc.

The epidemic threshold is used to confirm the emergence of an epidemic so as to step-up appropriate control measures.



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**INVESTIGATION REPORTS-** Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events





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**CLASS ONE NOTIFIABLE EVENTS**

**Comments**

|                                  | CONFIRMED YTD                                     |              | Comments |               |  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------|----------|---------------|--|---|
|                                  | CLASS 1 EVENTS                                    | CURRENT YEAR |          | PREVIOUS YEAR |  |   |
| NATIONAL /INTERNATIONAL INTEREST | Accidental Poisoning                              |              | 60       | 92            | AFP Field Guides from WHO indicate that for an effective surveillance system, detection rates for AFP should be 1/100,000 population under 15 years old (6 to 7) cases annually. |   |
|                                  | Cholera   |              | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  | Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever <sup>1</sup>             |              | 0        | 3             |  |   |
|                                  | Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)                        |              | 0        | 2             |  |   |
|                                  | Hepatitis B                                       |              | 32       | 19            |  |   |
|                                  | Hepatitis C                                       |              | 4        | 4             |  |   |
|                                  | HIV/AIDS - See HIV/AIDS National Programme Report |              |          |               |  |   |
|                                  | Malaria (Imported)                                |              | 7        | 2             |  | Pertussis-like syndrome and Tetanus are clinically confirmed classifications. |
|                                  | Meningitis (Clinically confirmed)                 |              | 26       | 37            |  |   |
| EXOTIC/ UNUSUAL                  | Plague  |              | 0        | 0             | The TB case detection rate established by PAHO for Jamaica is at least 70% of their calculated estimate of cases in the island, this is 180 (of 200) cases per year.             |   |
| HIGH MORBIDITY/ MORTALITY        | Meningococcal Meningitis                          |              | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  | Neonatal Tetanus                                  |              | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  | Typhoid Fever                                     |              | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  | Meningitis H/Flu                                  |              | 0        | 0             |  |   |
| SPECIAL PROGRAMMES               | AFP/Polio   |              | 0        | 0             |  | 1 Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever data include Dengue related deaths;                |
|                                  | Congenital Rubella Syndrome                       |              | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  | Congenital Syphilis                               |              | 0        | 0             |  | 2 Maternal Deaths include early and late deaths.                              |
|                                  | Fever and Rash                                    | Measles      | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  |   | Rubella      | 0        | 0             |  |   |
|                                  | Maternal Deaths <sup>2</sup>                      |              | 18       | 25            | Hep B increase for wk 29, 2017 due to results received from NBTS/NPHL  |   |
|                                  | Ophthalmia Neonatorum                             |              | 142      | 264           |  |   |
|                                  | Pertussis-like syndrome                           |              | 0        | 0             |        |   |
|                                  | Rheumatic Fever                                   |              | 3        | 6             |  |   |
|                                  | Tetanus   |              | 1        | 0             |  |   |
| Tuberculosis                     |   | 22           | 30       |               |  |   |
| Yellow Fever                     |   | 0            | 0        |               |  |   |
| Chikungunya                      |   | 0            | 4        |               |  |   |
| Zika Virus                       |   | 0            | 111      |               |  |   |



**NOTIFICATIONS-**  
All clinical sites



**INVESTIGATION REPORTS-** Detailed Follow up for all Class One Events



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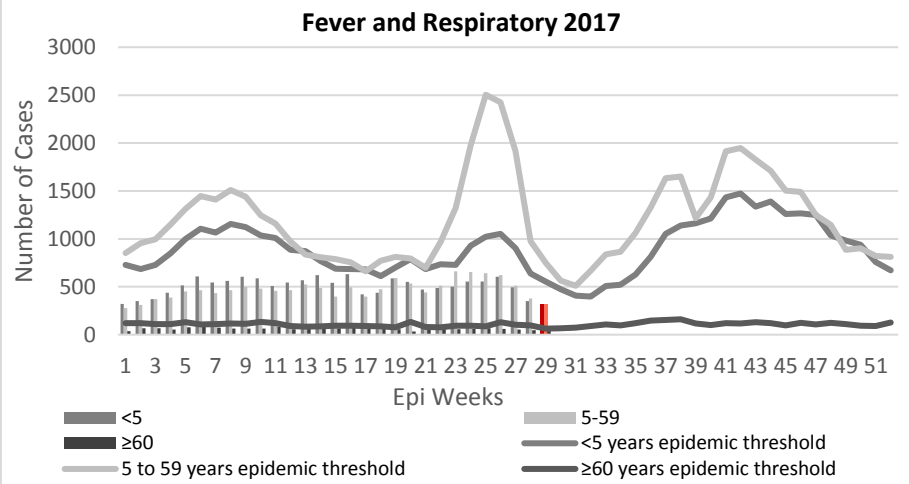
# NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE UNIT INFLUENZA REPORT

*EW 29*

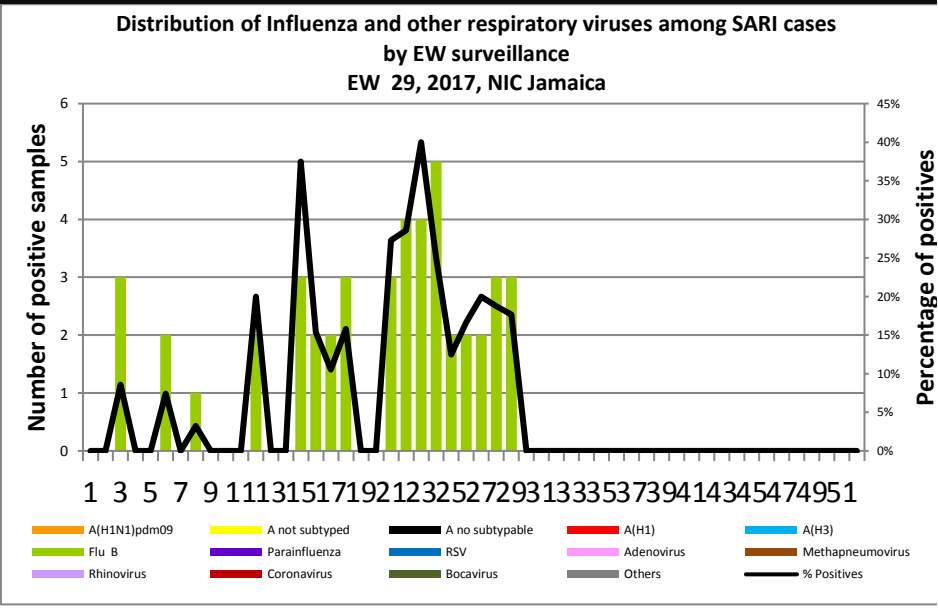
July 16-22, 2017

Epidemiology Week 29

| July 2017                               |          |           |
|---|----------|-----------|
|   | EW 29    | YTD       |
| SARI cases                              | 4        | 297       |
| <b>Total Influenza positive Samples</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>26</b> |
| <b>Influenza A</b>                      | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b>  |
| H3N2                                    | 0        | 0         |
| H1N1pdm09                               | 0        | 0         |
| Not subtyped                            | 0        | 0         |
| <b>Influenza B</b>                      | <b>4</b> | <b>26</b> |
| <b>Other</b>                            | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b>  |



**Comments:**  
 During EW 29, the proportion of SARI hospitalizations among all hospitalizations decreased below the average epidemic curve and the alert threshold as compared to previous weeks.  
 During EW 29, the number of SARI cases slightly decreased as compared to previous weeks and was lower than the previous seasons for the same period.  
 During EW 29, few influenza detections were reported, with increased activity (20% positivity) and influenza B predominating.



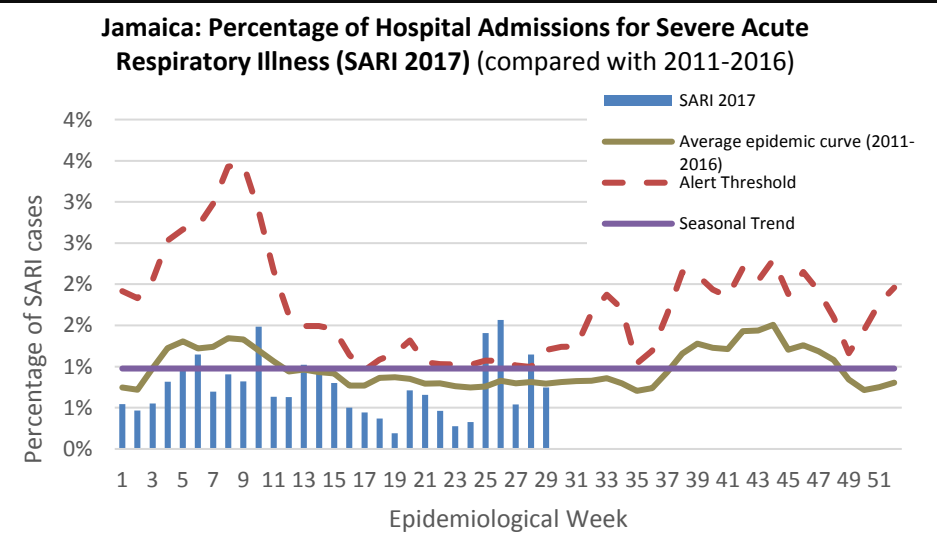
**INDICATORS**

**Burden**  
 Year to date, respiratory syndromes account for 4.4% of visits to health facilities.

**Incidence**  
 Cannot be calculated, as data sources do not collect all cases of Respiratory illness.



**Prevalence**  
 Not applicable to acute respiratory conditions.



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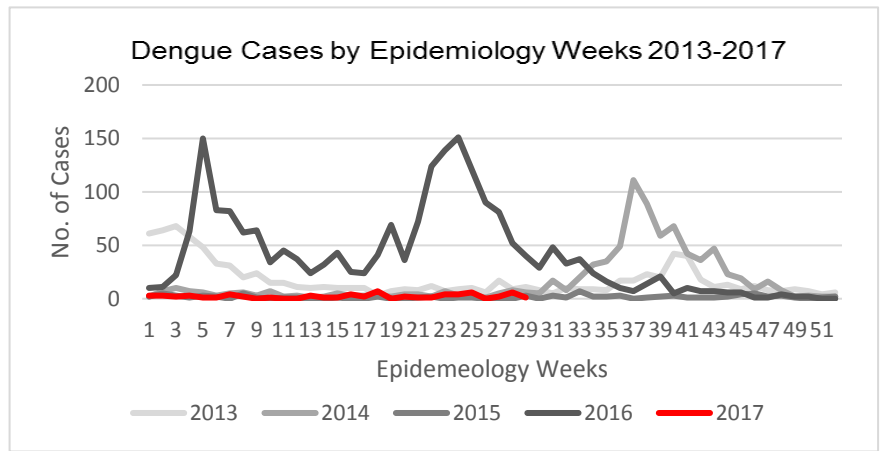
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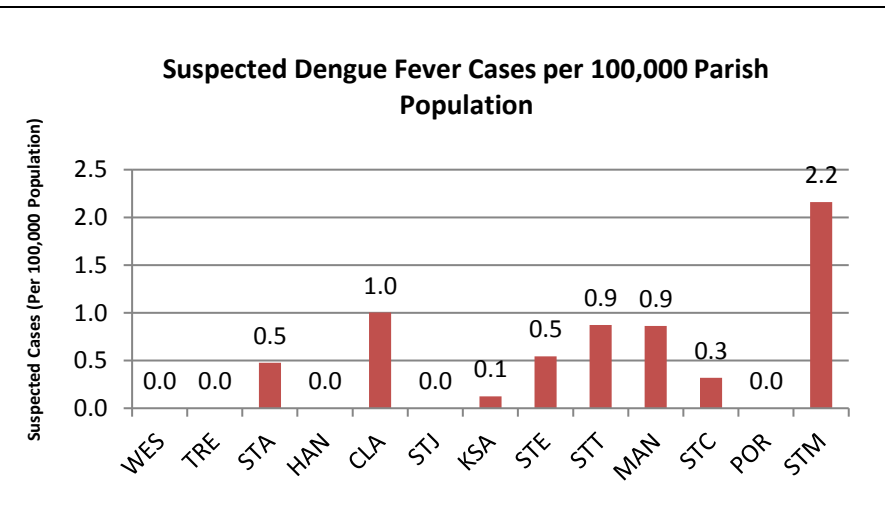
# Dengue Bulletin

July 16-22, 2017

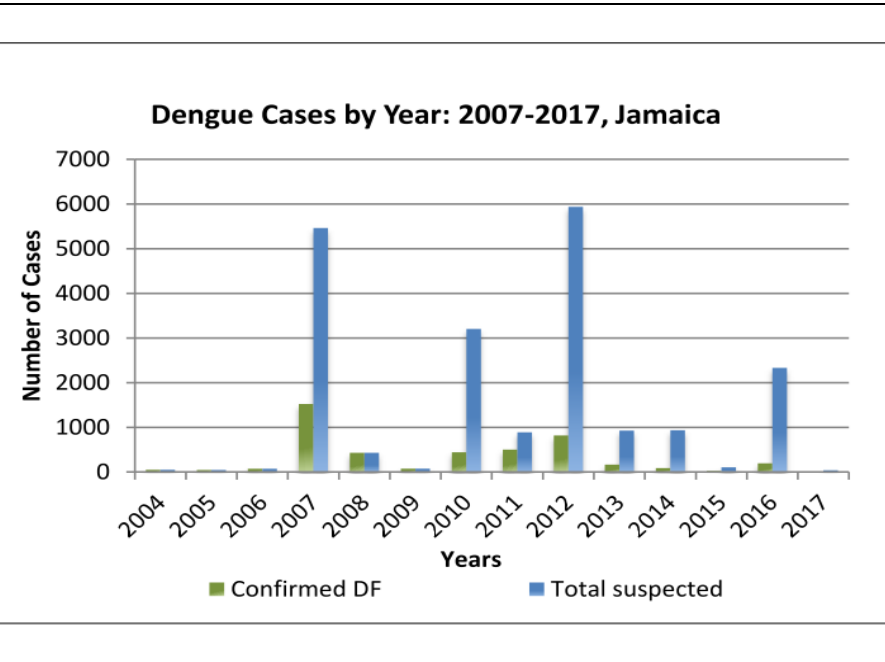
Epidemiology Week 29



| DISTRIBUTION                        |           |           |          |           |            |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Year-to-Date Suspected Dengue Fever |           |           |          |           |            |
|                                     | M         | F         | Un-known | Total     | %          |
| <1                                  | 1         | 0         | 0        | 1         | 1.5        |
| 1-4                                 | 4         | 2         | 0        | 6         | 9.2        |
| 5-14                                | 6         | 9         | 0        | 15        | 23.1       |
| 15-24                               | 7         | 7         | 0        | 14        | 21.5       |
| 25-44                               | 12        | 6         | 1        | 19        | 29.2       |
| 45-64                               | 3         | 5         | 0        | 8         | 12.3       |
| ≥65                                 | 0         | 0         | 0        | 0         | 0          |
| Unknown                             | 1         | 1         | 0        | 2         | 3.2        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>34</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>65</b> | <b>100</b> |



| Weekly Breakdown of suspected and confirmed cases of DF,DHF,DSS,DRD |                       |       |     |          |
|---|-----------------------|-------|-----|----------|
|   |                       | 2017  |     | 2016 YTD |
|   |                       | EW 29 | YTD |          |
|   |                       |       |     |          |
| Total Suspected Dengue Cases  |                       | 1     | 65  | 1621     |
| Lab Confirmed Dengue cases  |                       | 0     | 11  | 124      |
| CONFIRMED   | DHF/DSS               | 0     | 0   | 3        |
|   | Dengue Related Deaths | 0     | 0   | 0        |



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# Gastroenteritis Bulletin

EW  
29

July 19-22, 2017

Epidemiology Week 29

## Weekly Breakdown of Gastroenteritis cases

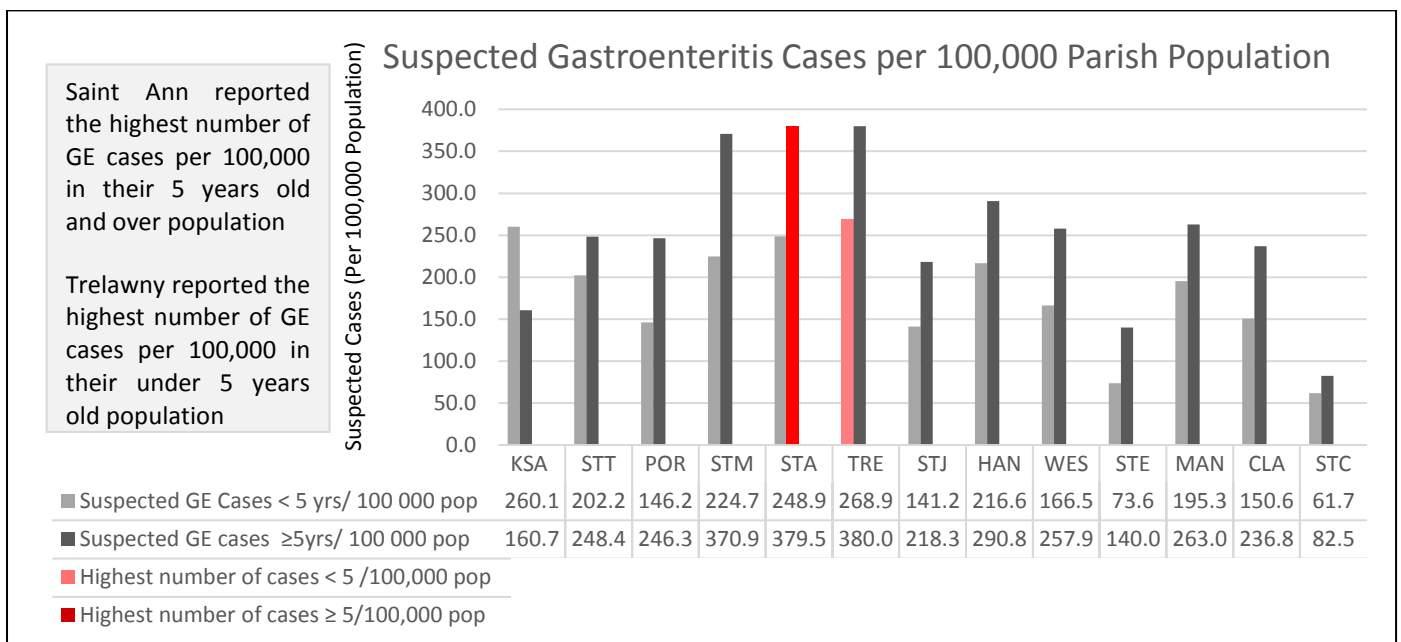
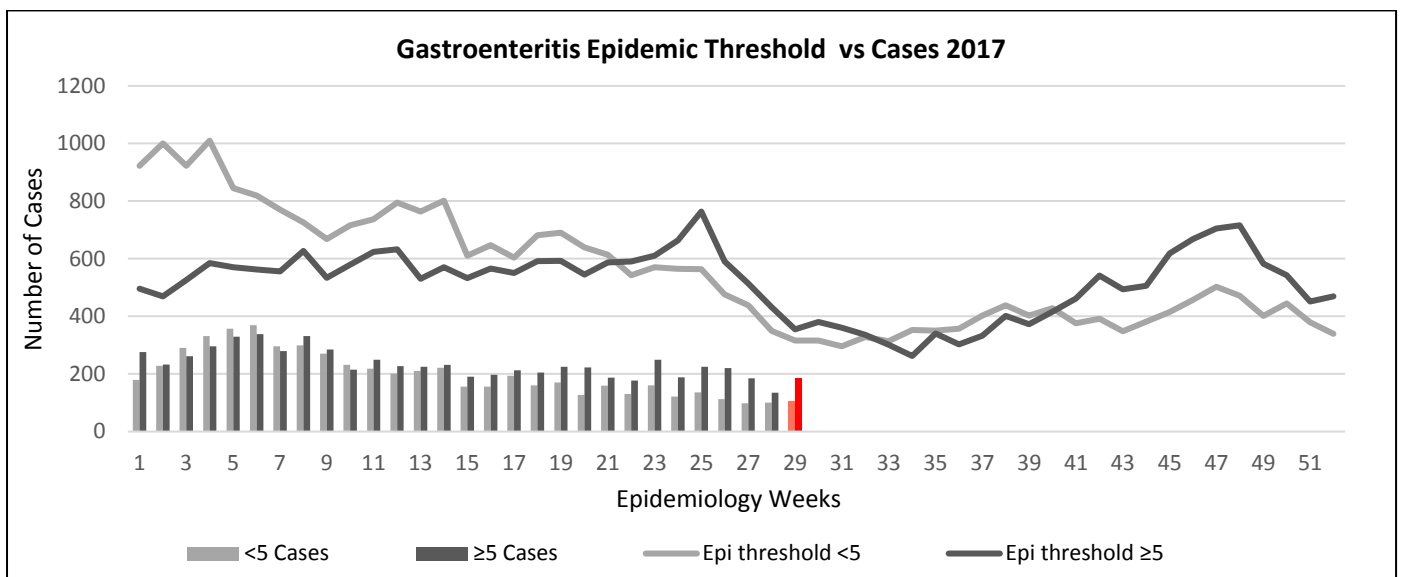
| Year | EW 29 |     |       | YTD   |       |        |
|------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-------|--------|
|      | <5    | ≥5  | Total | <5    | ≥5    | Total  |
| 2017 | 106   | 187 | 293   | 5,789 | 6,782 | 12,571 |
| 2016 | 119   | 197 | 316   | 4,217 | 6,755 | 10,972 |

### Gastroenteritis:

In Epidemiology Week 29, 2017, the total number of reported GE cases showed an 11% decrease compared to EW 29 of the previous year. The year to date figure showed a 15% increase in cases for the period.



Figure 1: Total Gastroenteritis Cases Reported 2016-2017



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# RESEARCH PAPER

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## HIV Case-Based Surveillance System Audit

*S. Whitbourne, Z. Miller*

**Objectives:** Evaluate the Public Health Surveillance System for HIV reporting, to help ensure that the data collected is accurate and useful for understanding epidemiological trends.

**Background:** Public health programmes focus on the monitoring, control and reduction in the incidence of target diseases, conditions or health events through various interventions and actions. The surveillance system is the primary mechanism through which specific disease information is collected and needs to be periodically assessed.

**Methodology:** In 2016, an audit was conducted of the HIV Case-Based Surveillance System in Jamaica. Laboratory records were reviewed from seven major health care facilities representing all four Regional Health Authorities. Cases with a positive HIV test in 2014 were noted and comparisons of positive cases were made with the cases that had been reported to the National Surveillance Unit. Qualitative data was also collected from key personnel in the form of questionnaires related to the processes involved in diagnosis, detection, investigation and reporting of HIV positive cases, but this paper will focus on the quantitative findings.

**Findings:** Preliminary data analysis reveals a high level of underreporting of HIV cases to the national level.

**Conclusions:** Audits and other forms of assessment need to be conducted on surveillance systems to ensure that the data supporting a public health programme is reliable and accurate, for effective delivery of services to target populations.



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