



The EPI gazette

Epidemiology Program • www.seminolecohealth.com

World Tuberculosis (TB) Day

Tuberculosis (TB) is preventable and curable, but too many people continue to suffer from this disease in the United States (US). TB germs are spread when a person with TB disease of the lungs or throat, coughs, sneezes, speaks or sings. These germs can stay in the air for several hours, depending on the environment. Persons who breathe in the air containing these TB germs can become infected; this is called latent TB infection (LTBI). Although LTBI

has no symptoms, the general symptoms for TB include weakness or fatigue, weight loss, fever, and night sweats. The symptoms of TB disease of the lungs also include coughing, chest pain, and coughing up blood. Both diseases can be treated by taking several drugs for 6 to 9 months. It is very important that people who have TB disease finish the medicine, and take the drugs exactly as prescribed.

Seminole County

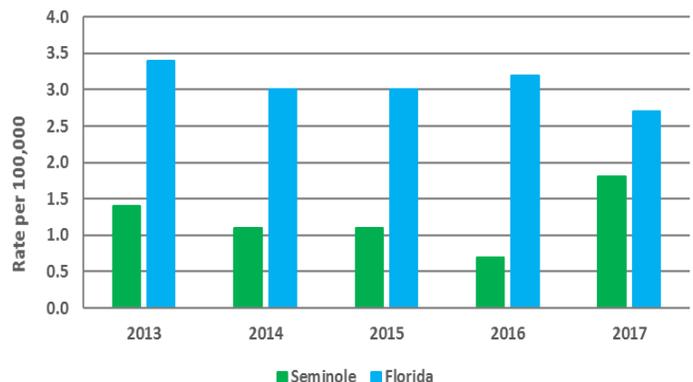
The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County (DOH-Seminole) offered free skin testing (TST) on Friday, March 23rd at the Airport Boulevard location, along

with education and awareness about the prevention, transmission, and treatment of TB to recognize World TB Day 2018. This year's theme was "Wanted: Leaders for a TB-Free United States. We can make history. End TB". The theme focused on building commitments to ending TB on all levels including government, community leaders, people affected with TB, advocates, health workers, and many other partners. The DOH-Seminole TB Program provides outreach and clinical services. The outreach component includes screening high-risk individuals, investigation, and testing of those exposed to an active case of TB, along with directly observed medication therapy of active TB cases. Clinical services provide the diagnosis and treatment of persons with active TB disease, and comprehensive case management of active cases of TB. Treatment is critical in achieving the elimination of TB as a public health problem in Florida.

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Tuberculosis Cases in Seminole County, 2013-2017



*The county rate was statistically significant in the years 2013-2015 *

Arbovirus Surveillance

Seminole County Mosquito-Borne Illness Statistics Jan thru March 2018 :

West Nile Virus: 0

Eastern Equine Encephalitis: 0

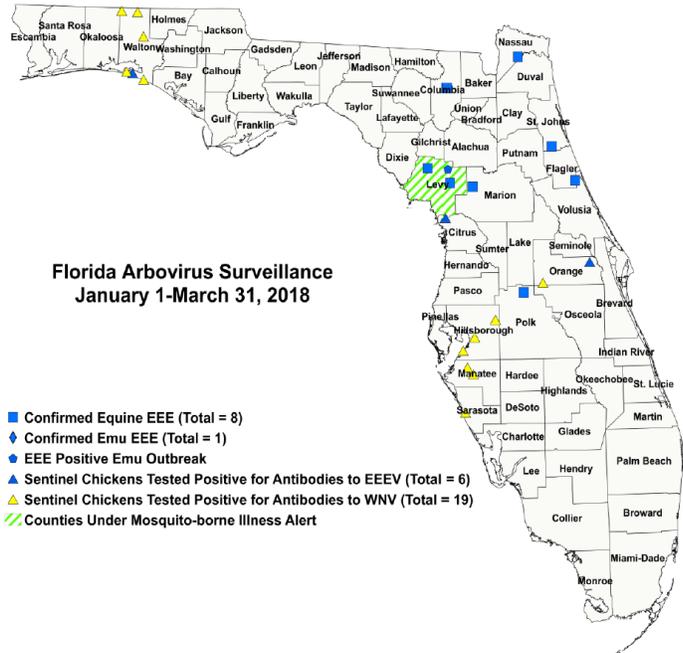
St. Louis Encephalitis: 0

Dengue: 0

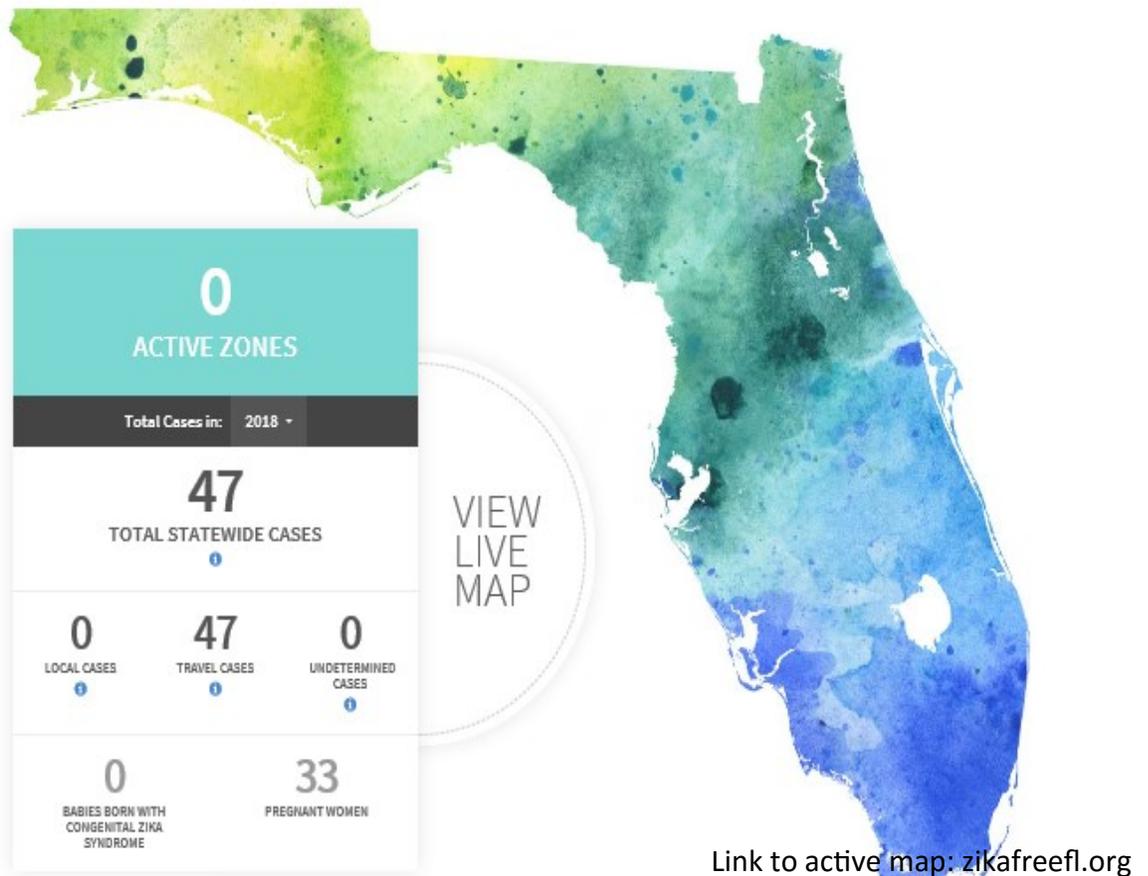
Chikungunya: 0

Malaria: 0

Zika Virus: 2



Statewide Zika Snapshot



Arbovirus Awareness

Historically, the southeastern United States has experienced repeated epidemics of arboviruses. The ecologic conditions in the southeastern United States seem poised to support endogenous transmission of introduced vector-borne pathogens normally endemic to the tropics. The long hot summers, long rainy seasons, and periods of drought in the southeastern United States make for optimal breeding conditions for mosquitoes. Several environmental issues in the southeast also influence arbovirus transmission. These issues include, but are not limited to, unique urban ecology in cities because of poor maintenance of residential swimming pools and wastewater treatment facilities.

The Florida Department of Health is advising residents of an increase in mosquito-borne disease activity statewide. The risk of disease transmission through bites of infected mosquitoes to humans has increased. The department continues to conduct statewide surveillance for mosquito-borne illnesses including West Nile virus, Eastern equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, malaria, chikungunya, and dengue infections.

Seminole County

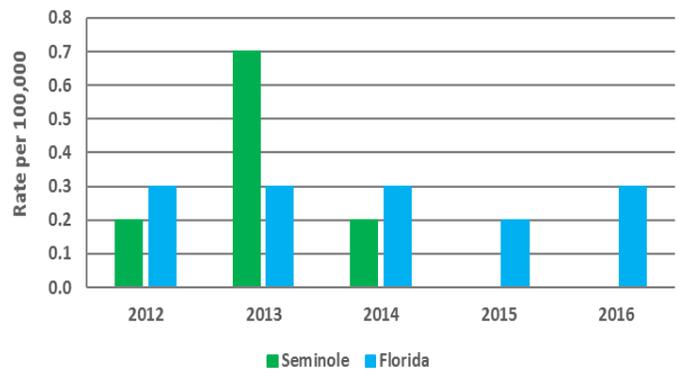
The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County would like to stress the importance of reporting suspect mosquito-borne disease cases to the county health department. Non-endemic viruses must be reported immediately upon suspicion (yellow fever) or immediately upon suspicion during business hours (Zika, dengue, chikungunya). Other mosquito-borne diseases endemic to Florida, such as West Nile virus illness, Eastern equine encephalitis, and St. Louis encephalitis are reportable by the next business day.

Local introduction of one or more non-endemic viruses has occurred annually in FL since 2009, when infected travelers were bitten by mosquitoes while in Florida. Prompt reporting of suspect cases helps ensure the county health department and local mosquito control officials are able to rapidly implement appropriate control measures.

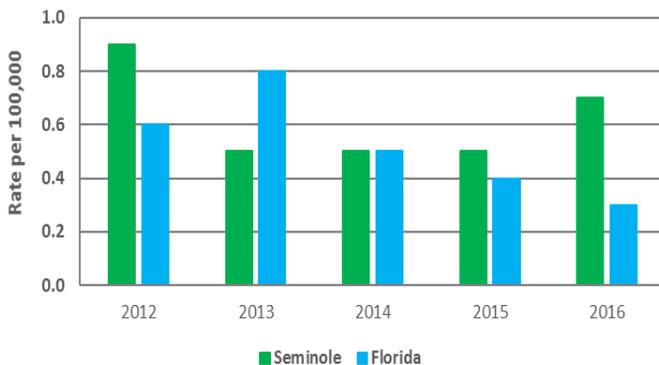
Precautions that should be taken to avoid mosquito bites while traveling and at home include:

- Use EPA registered insect repellent.
- Cover skin with long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Keep mosquitoes out of homes and other buildings.
- Travelers can protect family members and prevent infection of local mosquitoes by avoiding mosquito bites for at least 3 weeks following return home.
- Protect family members by draining standing water near residences and businesses at least weekly to keep local mosquito populations low and prevent local introductions.

Imported Malaria in Seminole County, 2012-2016



Imported Dengue Fever in Seminole County, 2012-2016



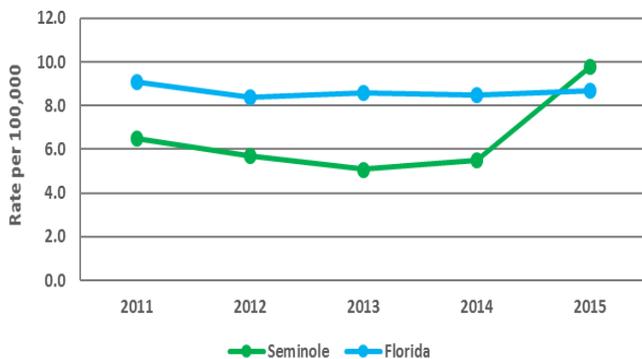
Tests for arboviruses are available commercially, in addition, testing for Zika, dengue, and chikungunya can be requested through the county health department for suspect local cases or for uninsured patients meeting clinical criteria. Yellow fever testing is available through your county health department for patients meeting clinical criteria. For more information please visit the Florida Department of Health’s website at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/index.html> or contact the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County.

Cervical Health Month

As of 2015, cervical cancer, or cancer starting in the cervix, is the 15th leading cause of cancer deaths among women in Florida. Nearly all cervical cancers are caused by Human Papilloma virus (HPV). HPV is a common virus that is passed from one person to another during sexual activity. HPV usually causes no symptoms so you cannot tell that you have it. For most women, HPV will go away on its own; however, if it does not, there is a chance that over time it may cause cervical cancer. Other risk factors of cervical cancer are: smoking, having HIV or another condition that makes it hard for the body to fight off health problems, using birth control pills for a long time (five or more years), having given birth to three or more children, and having several sexual partners. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cervical cancer is the easiest gynecological cancer to prevent, with regular screening tests and follow-up. Per the CDC, to reduce the risk or to prevent cervical cancer women should:

- Get the HPV vaccination between ages 9 and 26;
- See their health care provider regularly for a Pap test between ages 21 and 65;
- Not smoke; and
- Limit the number of sexual partners.

Cervical Cancer Incidence in Seminole County, 2011-2015

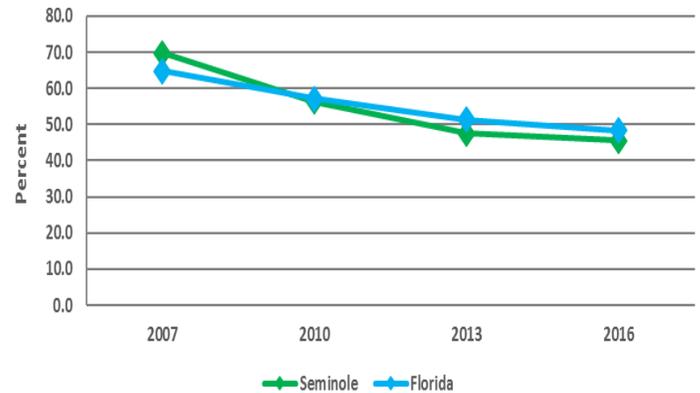


Completing the three dose HPV vaccination series can help prevent multiple cancers, including cervical cancer and cancer of the throat and mouth. Two screening tests can help to prevent cervical cancer or detect it early:

- The Pap test or (Pap smear) looks for precancers, cell changes on the cervix that might become cervical cancer if they are not treated appropriately.

- The HPV test looks for the virus that can cause these cell changes. It is important to talk to your health care provider about when a Pap test is most appropriate.

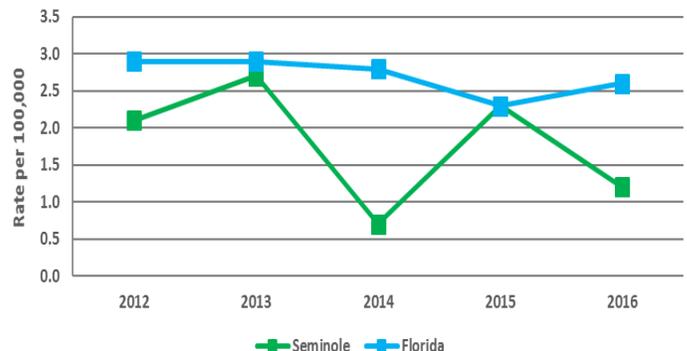
Women 18 years of Age and Older Who Received a Pap Test in the Past Year in Seminole County, 2007-2016



Seminole County

The Florida Department of Health in Seminole County (DOH-Seminole) encourages women to visit their health care provider to be screened for cervical cancer and learn more about how to prevent cervical cancer through lifestyle changes and vaccination. DOH-Seminole provides vaccinations for HPV through several programs. Additionally, women ages 50-64 who are uninsured and are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level can receive Pap tests through the department’s Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program.

Cervical Cancer Age-Adjusted Death Rate in Seminole County, 2012-2016



Disease Incidence Table-Seminole County

| Selected Diseases/Conditions Reported to DOH-Seminole | 2018 Jan-Mar | 2017 Jan-Mar | 2016 Jan-Mar | 2016-2018 Average |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| AIDS | 8 | 7 | 12 | 9 |
| Campylobacteriosis | 7 | 16 | 17 | 13.3 |
| Chlamydia | 436 | 402 | 394 | 410.6 |
| Cyclosporiasis | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Dengue | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1.3 |
| E. coli Shiga toxin-producing | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1.3 |
| Giardiasis | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2.0 |
| Gonorrhea | 145 | 131 | 88 | 121.3 |
| Haemophilus influenzae (invasive) | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1.6 |
| Hepatitis A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hepatitis B (acute and chronic) | 15 | 13 | 25 | 17.6 |
| Hepatitis B in Pregnant Women | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4.0 |
| Hepatitis C (acute and chronic) | 73 | 87 | 70 | 76.6 |
| HIV | 33 | 17 | 28 | 26 |
| Lead poisoning | 15 | 7 | 0 | 7.3 |
| Legionellosis | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2.0 |
| Meningococcal Disease | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Pertussis | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2.0 |
| (Animal) Rabies | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0.3 |
| Rabies , Possible Exposure | 30 | 20 | 12 | 20.6 |
| Salmonellosis | 15 | 9 | 9 | 11.0 |
| Shigellosis | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1.6 |
| S. pneumoniae – drug resistant | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1.3 |
| Syphilis | 13 | 25 | 14 | 17.3 |
| Tuberculosis | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1.0 |
| Varicella | 5 | 9 | 4 | 6.0 |
| Zika Virus, Non-Congenital | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1.6 |

***The disease was not reported in the year.

***All Data is Provisional ***



Disease Reporting

The Epidemiology Program conducts disease surveillance and investigates suspected occurrences of infectious diseases and conditions reported from physician’s offices, hospitals and laboratories. Surveillance is primarily conducted through passive reporting from the medical community as required by Chapter 381, Florida Statutes.

To report a reportable disease or outbreak during business hours please use the [Report of Communicable Disease Form](#) or Contact the Division of Epidemiology at 407-665-3266.

To report an urgent reportable disease or outbreak after hours, call 407-665-3266 and follow the instructions to reach the on-call Epidemiologist.

Reportable Disease Lists:

[Reportable Diseases/Conditions in Florida - Practitioner List](#)

[Reportable Diseases/Conditions in Florida - Laboratory List](#)

[Disease Reporting Information for Health Care Providers and Laboratories](#)

Foodborne Illnesses Reporting Links:

[Report illnesses due to food online 24/7](#)

[Report unsafe or unsanitary conditions](#)

Disaster Preparedness Link:

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/index.asp>

MISSION

To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts

VISION

To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

VALUES

- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Accountability
- Responsiveness
- Excellence

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Data Sources: FLHealthCHARTS/Merlin/PRISM