

Everything you need to know about

Zika Virus Information for Visitors



Currently the City of New Orleans Mosquito and Termite Control Board (NOMTCB) and the New Orleans Health Department (NOHD) are working with partners to provide you with information about Zika. NOMTCB is monitoring the mosquito population. Mitigation efforts to limit the mosquito population will utilize a combination of chemical control and habitat reduction methods as needed.

For more information

If you have questions about mosquitoes or Zika, call 311 for further information and assistance.

What is Zika?



Zika virus disease (Zika) is a disease spread to people primarily through the bite of an infected mosquito. It can also spread when an infected person has sex with another person. Most people with Zika do not know they have it. Symptoms are usually mild, lasting about a week.

Common Symptoms: Fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis (red eyes). Other symptoms include headache and muscle pain.

If you develop symptoms within 2 weeks of travel, see a doctor and tell the doctor where you traveled.

Planning a trip to New Orleans

New Orleans does not have local transmission of Zika. New Orleans does have the mosquitoes that could transmit Zika and other viruses.

If you are planning a trip to New Orleans, you should protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites. It is always important to wear insect repellent.

Traveling from a country with Zika

If you have recently returned from an area with ongoing virus transmission:

- Wear mosquito repellent even if you do not have Zika symptoms.
- Even without symptoms, females should avoid sex or use condoms for 8 weeks, and males should avoid sex or use condoms for 6 months. Returning travelers should wait this long before attempting to conceive.
- If you feel sick, visit a doctor or call Louisiana Department of Health Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section at (800) 256-2748.

How to protect yourself



Cover your skin by wearing long-sleeve shirts and long pants. For extra protection, treat clothing with the permethrin insect repellent.



Daytime is when mosquitoes that spread Zika virus are most aggressive, but they can also bite at dawn and dusk.



EPA-registered insect repellents when used as directed, are proven safe and effective even for pregnant or breastfeeding women.

- Look for these ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, OLE, or PMD.
- Reapply insect repellent as directed.
- Apply sunscreen before insect repellent.
- Do not apply repellent directly to a child's face. Spray it into your hand first, then apply.



Practice safe sex because Zika can be sexually transmitted. It is important to always use condoms.

Stay in places with air conditioning or that use window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside.