

## **U.S. EMBASSY, NASSAU, BAHAMAS**

### **Security Message: Zika Virus Reported in New Providence in The Bahamas**

August 24, 2016

The U.S. Embassy in Nassau informs U.S. citizens that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a travel notice [regarding the Zika virus](#) for the island of New Providence in The Bahamas (which includes the city of Nassau). There is evidence that Zika is linked to birth defects in the fetuses of infected pregnant women and Guillain-Barré syndrome in infected individuals of any age or gender. Zika is typically a mosquito-borne illness, but there are reports that the virus has been transmitted through sexual contact and blood transfusion. For general information about Zika, please visit the [CDC website](#). For information about CDC travel notices, call 1-800-[CDC-INFO](#) (1-800-232-4636) from within the United States, or 1-404-639-3534 from overseas or visit the [CDC](#) website.

We recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in the Bahamas enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency.

For the latest Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution, visit the [State Department's website](#). Before traveling abroad, read the [Country Specific Information](#) for your destination and use the [Traveler's Checklist](#) to learn steps you can take for a safe and healthy trip.

#### **Contact Information**

Contact the U.S. Embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). In The Bahamas, the Embassy is located at 42 Queen Street in downtown Nassau, and can be reached at 242-322-1181. The U.S. Consular Agency for Turks and Caicos is located at 2 Venture Ct, Grace Bay Suite 102E in Providenciales and can be reached at 649-946-5713.