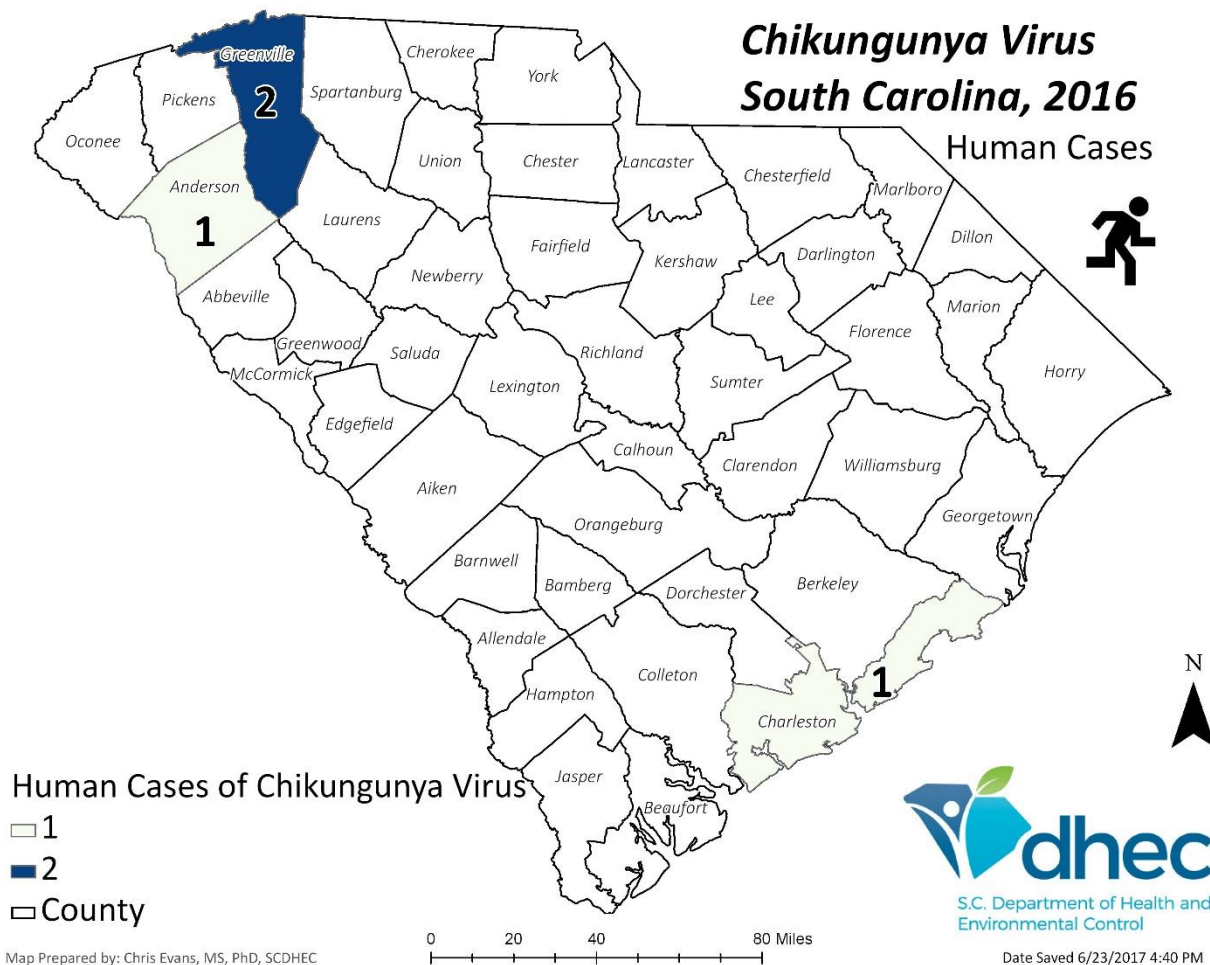


2016 Chikungunya Virus Events

Updated Friday, June 23, 2017

After the bite of an infected mosquito, onset of illness occurs usually between 4 and 8 days but can range from 2 to 12 days. Chikungunya is characterized by an abrupt onset of fever frequently accompanied by joint pain. Other common signs and symptoms include muscle pain, headache, nausea, fatigue, and rash. The joint pain is often very debilitating but usually lasts for a few days or may be prolonged to weeks. The virus can cause acute, subacute, or chronic disease.

Most patients recover fully, but in some cases joint pain may persist for several months or even years. Occasional cases of eye, neurological, and heart complications have been reported, as well as gastrointestinal complaints. Serious complications are not common, but the disease can contribute to the cause of death in the elderly. Symptoms in infected individuals are often mild and the infection may go unrecognized or be misdiagnosed in areas where dengue occurs. Co-infections of dengue and chikungunya can occur.



The geographic range of chikungunya virus is primarily in Africa and Asia and most recently in limited areas of Europe. For information on current outbreaks, consult CDC's Travelers' Health website (<http://www.cdc.gov/travel>). Given the current large chikungunya virus epidemics and the world-wide distribution of *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes, a risk of importation of chikungunya virus into new areas by infected travelers exists.

*All chikungunya human cases reported in South Carolina occurred in travelers to countries/territories outside of the 50 states.