Since November 2015 when the first ZIKV cases were confirmed, Zika has been spreading in Suriname. Suspect cases were seen in all 10 districts in Suriname and these have formally been reported from all these districts.

Fig. 1: map of Suriname showing the 10 districts: 1: Nickerie; 2: Coronie; 3: Saramacca; 4: Para; 5: Sipaliwini; 6: Brokopondo; 7: Wanica; 8: Paramaribo (capital); 9: Commewijne; 10: Marowijne.

The telefonade, a sentinel surveillance system in the coastal area covering 8 districts (24 primary care clinics most RGD and a few from the private sector) shows no suspected zika cases. In EW 12-22 of 2017, zero Zika cases were reported.

The RGD (regional health foundation) covering 8 out of 10 districts, reported from 47 clinics a total of 2262 cases in 2016. (in Dec 2015: 220 cases were reported). From EW 1- 22 2017, eight cases were reported in total with the last case reported in EW 11 from district Paramaribo.

The surveillance system from the medical mission covering 3 districts, shows that in EW 1-22, 2017 no cases were reported.

Suspect Zika cases by district shows no suspect cases in EW 12-22.

Through the rash and fever surveillance, an increasing trend of cases had been reported in 2015 and 2016. The cases tested all negative for Measles and Rubella. A few of these were positive for Zika but most samples were taken around day 6. In 2017, one case of fever and rash was reported in EW 10 and this case was confirmed with zika and is from district Paramaribo.
More Guillain Barré syndrome (GBS) cases were seen in the 2015 and 2016. Some GBS cases were tested for Zika (PCR) and 4 tested positive in urine or serum. The graphs below show the number of hospitalized GBS cases per year since 2011 but underreporting maybe the case in the past years. In EW 48, 2016, 1 case of GBS was notified which tested negative for Zika. One GBS was notified in 2017.

Since the beginning of the Zika- epidemic in Suriname, 4 confirmed Zika- linked deaths were reported and these were in the first 4 weeks of 2016 during the peak of the epidemic. These regard males > 55 years of age that died within a short period of time after presenting to the hospital. All had an underlying illness or risk factors and concurrent disease cannot be excluded. Samples of these cases were sent to Institute Pasteur Guyane for confirmation.

The Academic Hospital (AZP)- lab reported in 2015, 477 requests of which 93 were positive and in 2016 till July , of more than 2653 test requests, 624 were confirmed. PCR lab tests in the AZP-lab are done on serum till day 7 after onset and on urine till day 21 after onset. The graph below shows the suspect cases (RGD and MZ); the confirmed cases are from both the Academic hospital (99%) and CARPHA.

In EW 26, 2016 the first probable case of congenital syndrome associated with Zika was been reported by a pediatrician in Suriname. This regards a female full-term child with a head circumference <2SD measured 24 hours after birth. The mother perceived only mild symptoms of rash and prurigo at 14 weeks of gestation but was not tested for Zika. The mother resides in Paramaribo; the child is in good health but is being followed up further. In EW 28 and 29 (2016), 3 cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika were reported which regard a probable, confirmed and a suspect case respectively. Two probable cases of congenital syndrome linked to Zika were reported which regard cases from EW 20 and 33 (2016); a probable and a suspect case from EW 35 and 36 (2016) respectively were included; the case of EW 36 died shortly after birth; in EW 36 (2016) one other case was reported which regards a probable case. In EW 42 (2016) a confirmed case of congenital syndrome linked to Zika was seen. Probable cases that date from EW 45 and EW 21 were reported as were a probable and suspect case which date from EW 47 and 48 respectively. Other cases of congenital syndrome linked to Zika were reported and these date from EW 17, 25 and 43 (2016) and regard 2 confirmed and 1 probable case respectively. The last reported suspect case of congenital syndrome linked to Zika dates from EW 52, 2016. With this report, the total number of cases of congenital syndrome associated with Zika virus infection is at 18, of which 4 cases were classified as suspect, 10 cases as probable and 4 cases were classified as confirmed cases (dating from EW 17, 25, 28 and 42). All these cases date from 2016 and in 2017, no cases were reported so far.