



# Lassa fever Situation Report

Epi Week 8: 20 February – 26 February 2023

## Key Points

**Table 1: Summary of current week (8), cumulative Epi week 1-8, 2023 and comparison with previous year (2022)**

Reporting Period	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Probable cases	Deaths (Confirmed cases)	Case Fatality Ratio (CFR)	States and LGAs affected (Confirmed cases)
<b>Current week</b> (week 8)	351	59	0	10	16.9%	State(s): 10 LGA(s): 24
<b>2023 Cumulative</b> (week 1-8)	2978	636	4	104	16.4%	State(s): 22 LGA(s): 88
<b>2022 Cumulative</b> (week 8)	2433	540	20	98	18.1%	State(s): 21 LGA(s): 79

## Highlights

- In week 8, the number of new confirmed cases increased from 46 in week 7 2023 to 59 cases. These were reported from Benue, Bauchi, Ondo, Taraba, Edo, Ebonyi, Kano, Jigawa, FCT, and Kogi States (Table 3)
- Cumulatively from week 1 to week 8, 2023, 104 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 16.4% which is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2022 (18.1%)
- In total for 2023, 22 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 88 Local Government Areas (Figures 2 and 3)
- Seventy (70%) of all confirmed Lassa fever cases were reported from these three states (Ondo, Edo, and Bauchi) while 30% were reported from 7 states with confirmed Lassa fever cases. Of the 70% confirmed cases, Ondo reported 33%, Edo 28%, and Taraba 9%
- The predominant age group affected is 21-30 years (Range: 1 to 93 years, Median Age: 31 years). The male-to-female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:0.9 (Figure 4)
- The number of suspected cases increased compared to that reported for the same period in 2022.
- Four new Healthcare workers were affected in the reporting week 8
- National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) activated to coordinate the response activities at all levels

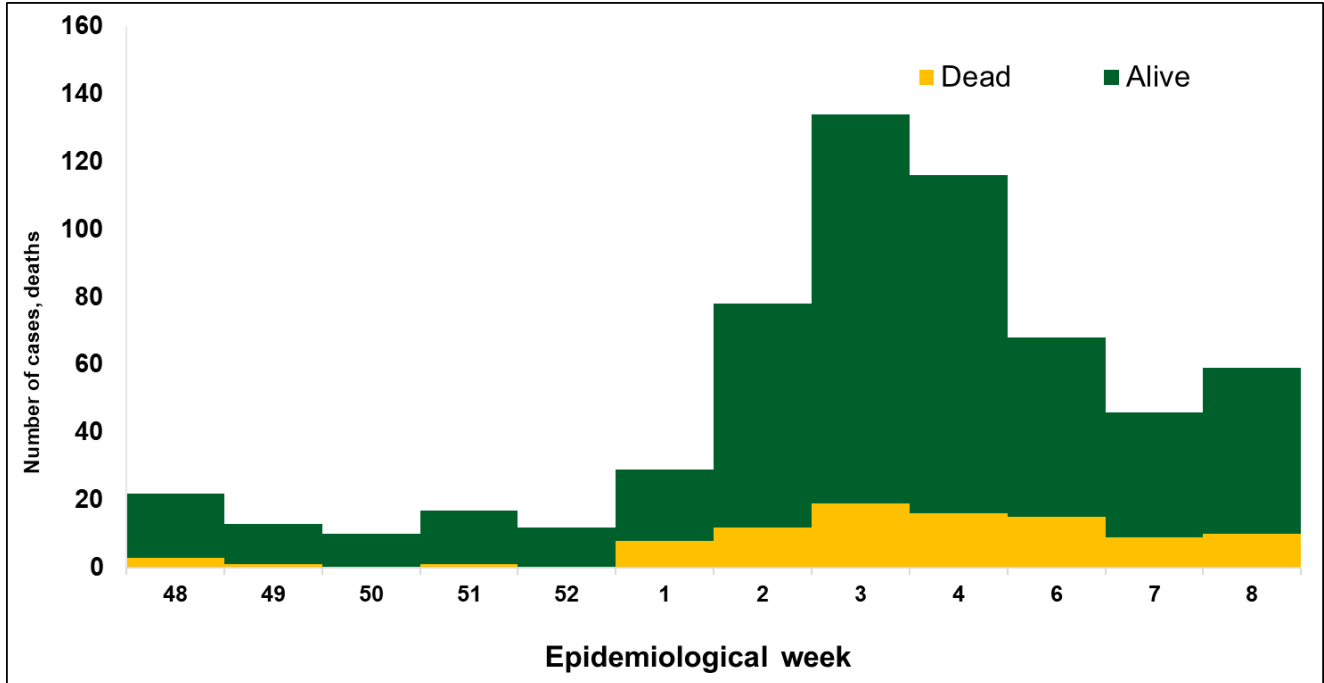


Figure 1. Confirmed Lassa fever cases in Nigeria epidemiological week 48, 2022 to week 8, 2023

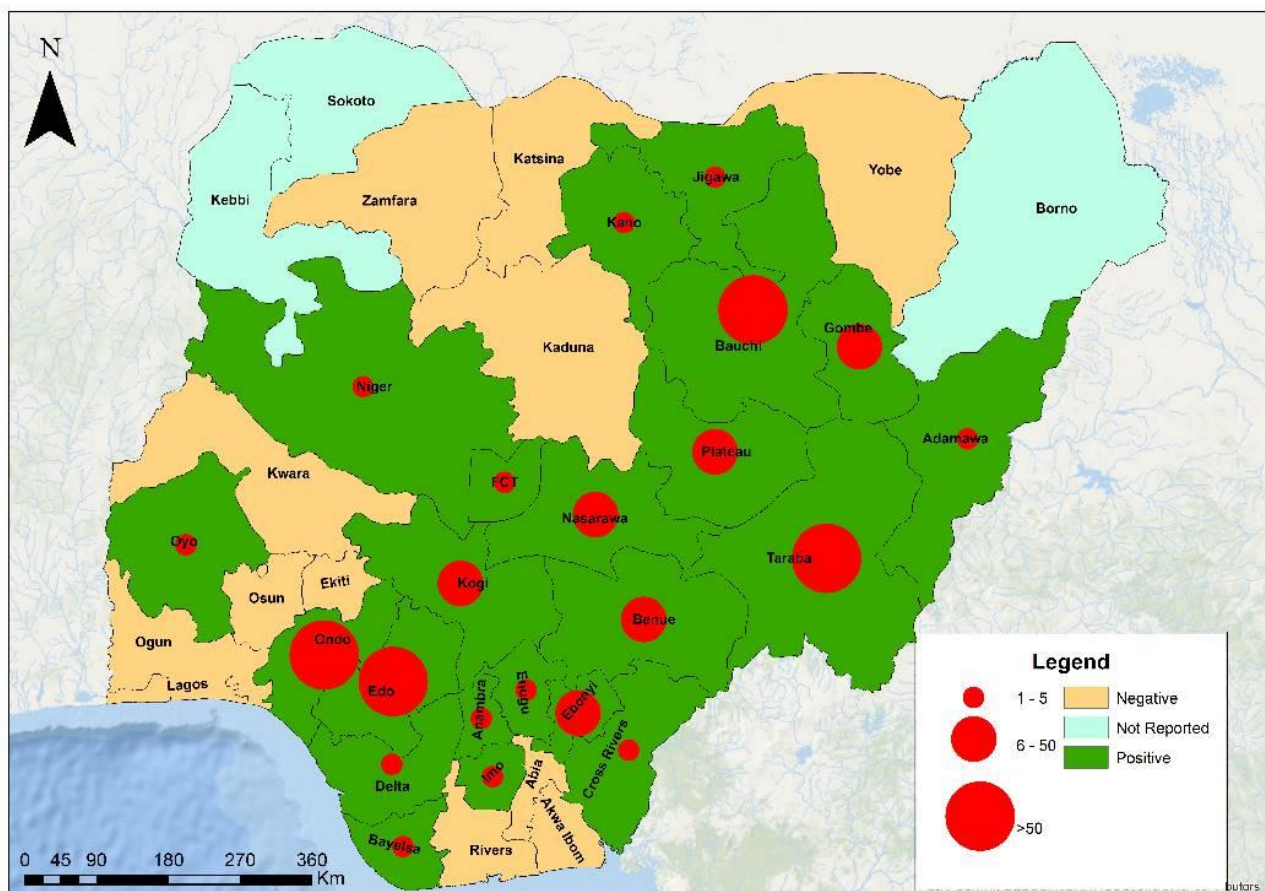


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 8, 2023

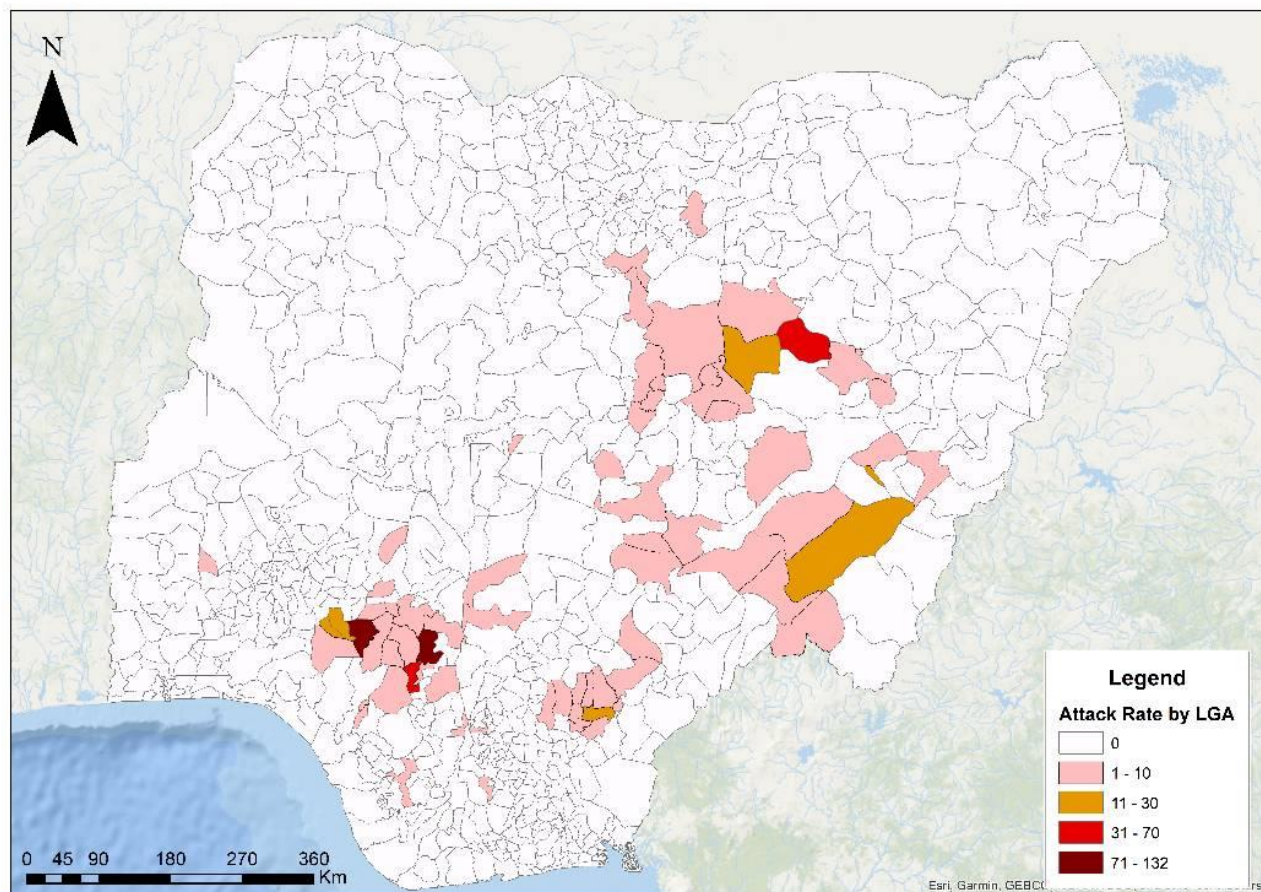


Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa fever rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, week 8, 2023

Table 2: Key indicators for current week 2023 and trend compared to previous week, Nigeria

Symptomatic contacts	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2023
Probable cases	1	↑	4
Health Care Worker affected	4	↑	32
Cases managed at the treatment centres	49	↑	532
<b>Contact tracing</b>			
Cumulative contact listed	172	↓	2152
Contacts under follow up	707	↓	707
Contacts completed follow up	0	↔	1441
Symptomatic contacts	4	↑	14
Positive contacts	4	↓	17
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔	0

Key

- ↑ Increase
- ↓ Decrease
- ↔ No difference

Table 3. Weekly and Cumulative number of suspected and confirmed cases for 2023

States	Current week: (Week 8 )					Cumulative (Week 1 - 8 )					
	Cases			Deaths (Confirmed Cases)	Probable HCW*	Cases			Deaths(Confirmed Cases)		
	Suspected	Confirmed	Trend			Suspected	Confirmed	Probable HCW*			
1 Ondo	63	10	▲		3	794	210		8	20	
2 Edo	107	5	▼		2	1024	180		4	24	
3 Bauchi	69	12	▲	4	2	416	60	1	7	7	
4 Taraba	29	10	▼		1	174	60		2	23	
5 Ebonyi	15	3	▼		1	104	34		3	17	
6 Benue	26	13	▲			69	32	2	1	3	
7 Nasarawa	6					99	13		3	2	
8 Plateau						36	11		1	1	
9 Kogi	3	1	▲		1	23	9		1	1	
10 Gombe	5		▼			21	6				
11 Kano	12	2	▲			28	4				
12 Enugu						20	3			1	
13 Jigawa	6	2	▲			6	2				
14 Anambra	1					27	2		1	2	
15 Fct	2	1	▲			41	2				
16 Delta						13	2		1		
17 Bayelsa			▼			2	1			1	
18 Adamawa	1					3	1				
19 Niger						4	1				
20 Oyo						7	1				
21 Imo	3					12	1			2	
22 Cross River						4	1				
23 Katsina	1					1					
24 Zamfara						1					
25 Abia						4					
26 Akwa-Ibom						2					
27 Yobe						4					
28 Ekiti						3					
29 Ogun	1					10					
30 Rivers						4					
31 Kwara						6					
32 Osun						4					
33 Kaduna	1					4					
34 Lagos						7					
<b>Total</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>▲</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2977</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>104</b>

Key	
▼	Decrease
▲	Increase

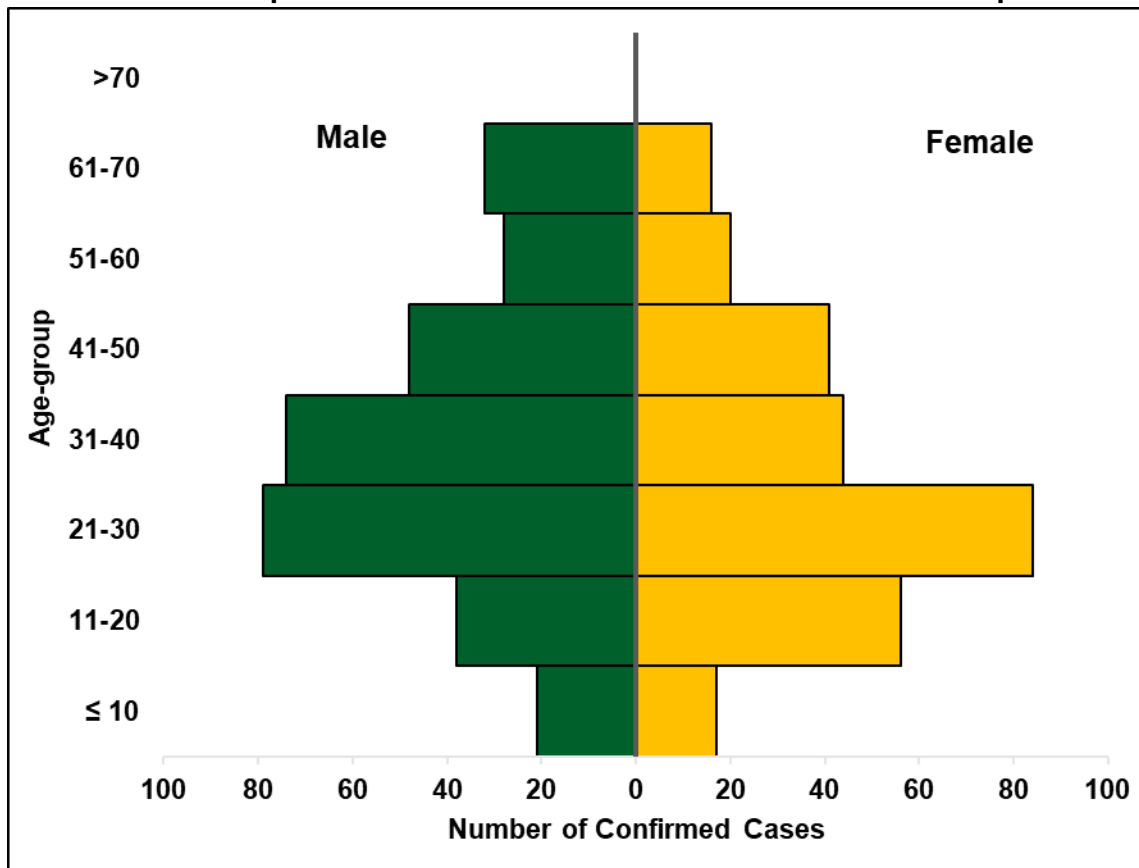


Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing the number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2023

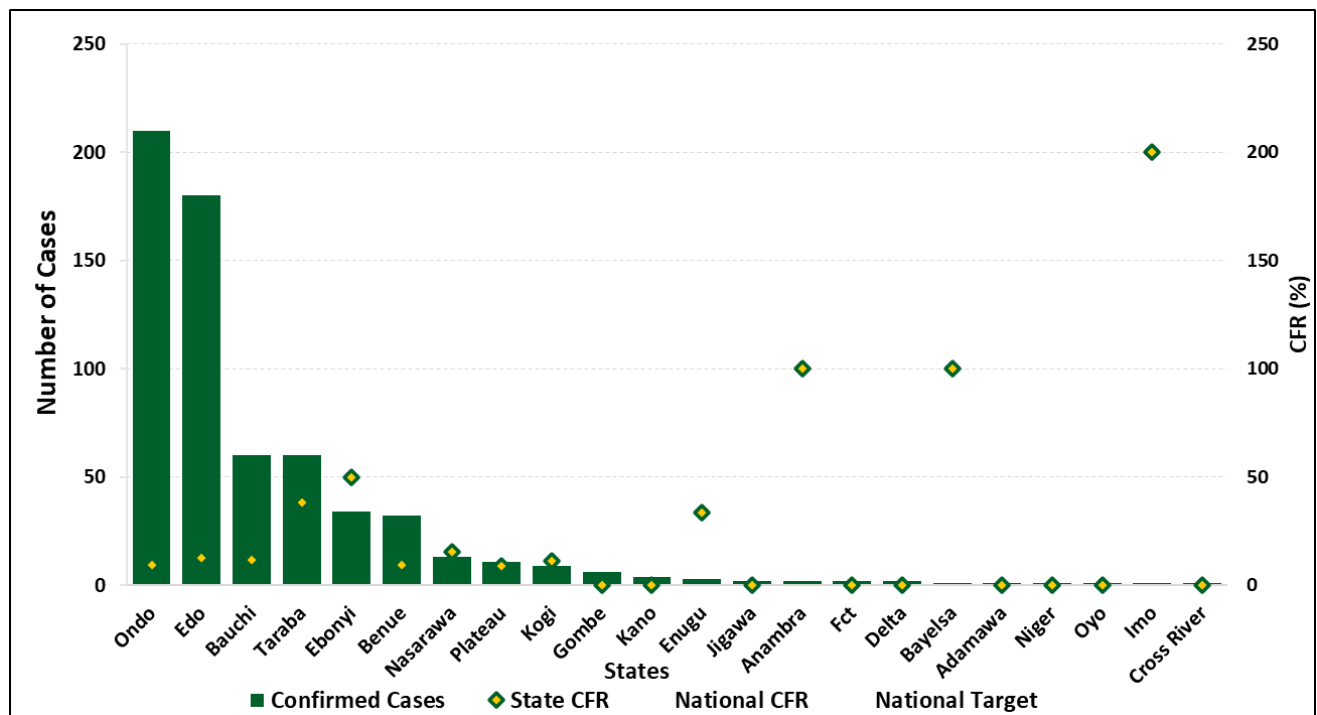


Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state week 8, 2023

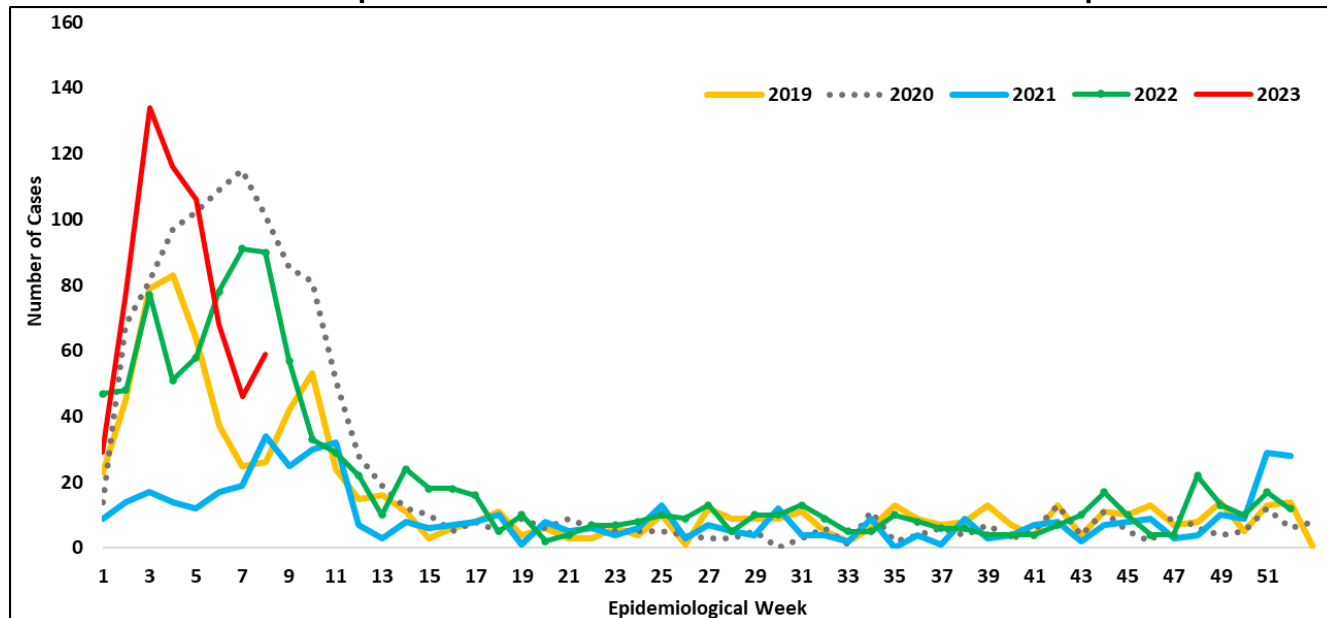


Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2019– 2023, Nigeria

## Challenges

- Late presentation of cases leading to an increase in CFR
- Poor health-seeking behaviour due to the high cost of treatment and clinical management of Lassa fever
- Poor environmental sanitation conditions observed in high-burden communities
- Poor awareness observed in high-burden communities

## Notes on this report

### Data Source

Information for this disease was case-based data retrieved from the National Lassa fever Emergency Operations Centre.

### Case definitions

- **Suspected case:** any individual presenting with one or more of the following: malaise, fever, headache, sore throat, cough, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, myalgia, chest pain, hearing loss and either a. History of contact with excreta or urine of rodents b. History of contact with a probable or confirmed Lassa fever case within a period of 21 days of onset of symptoms OR Any person with inexplicable bleeding/hemorrhagia.
- **Confirmed case:** any suspected case with laboratory confirmation (positive IgM antibody, PCR or virus isolation)
- **Probable case:** any suspected case (see definition above) who died or absconded without collection of specimen for laboratory testing
- **Contact:** Anyone who has been exposed to an infected person, or to an infected person's secretions, excretions, or tissues within three weeks of last contact with a confirmed or probable case of Lassa fever

### Calculations

- Case Fatality Rate (CFR) for this disease is reported for confirmed cases only

### VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

For social mobilization [https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/83\\_1517222929.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/83_1517222929.pdf)

For LGA Rapid Response Team [https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/82\\_1517222811.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/82_1517222811.pdf)

Healthcare worker laboratory [https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/81\\_1517222763.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/81_1517222763.pdf)

For healthcare workers [https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/80\\_1517222586.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/80_1517222586.pdf)

For community informant [https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/79\\_1517222512.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/vhfs/79_1517222512.pdf)

**NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR LASSA FEVER CASE MANAGEMENT**

[https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/92\\_1547068532.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/92_1547068532.pdf)

**VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER AND RESPONSE PLAN**

[https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/24\\_1502192155.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/24_1502192155.pdf)

**NATIONAL GUIDELINE FOR INFECTION, PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR VIRAL HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER**

[https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/24\\_1502192155.pdf](https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/24_1502192155.pdf)

**INFROMATION RESOURCE**

Nigeria Centre for Disease Control: [www.ncdc.gov.ng](http://www.ncdc.gov.ng)