



Lassa fever Situation Report

Epi Week 1: 2 – 8 January 2023

Key Points

Table 1: Summary of current week (1), cumulative Epi week 1, 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)
Current week (week 1)	104	30	0	1	3.3%	State(s): 7 LGA(s): 15
2023 Cumulative (week 1)	104	30	0	1	3.3%	State(s): 7 LGA(s): 15
2022 Cumulative (week 1)	222	48	0	2	4.2%	State(s): 10 LGA(s): 20

Highlights

- In week 1, the number of new confirmed cases increased from 12 in week 52 2022 to 30 cases. These were reported from Edo, Ondo, Bauchi, Plateau, Kogi, Ebonyi and Nasarawa States (Table 3)
- Cumulatively in week 1, 2023, one death has been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 3.3% which is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2022 (4.2%)
- In total for 2023, 7 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 15 Local Government Areas (Figures 2 and 3)
- Eighty-three (83%) of all confirmed Lassa fever cases were reported from these three states (Ondo, Edo and Bauchi) while 17% were reported from 4 states with confirmed Lassa fever cases. Of the 83% of confirmed cases, Edo State reported 53%, Ondo 20% and Bauchi 10%
- The predominant age group affected is 21-30 years (Range: 1 to 70 years, Median Age: 28.5 years). The male-to-female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:0.8 (Figure 4)
- The number of suspected cases has decreased compared to that reported for the same period in 2022.
- One new Healthcare worker was affected from Nasarawa State
- National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral Technical Working Group (TWG) continues to coordinate the response activities at all levels

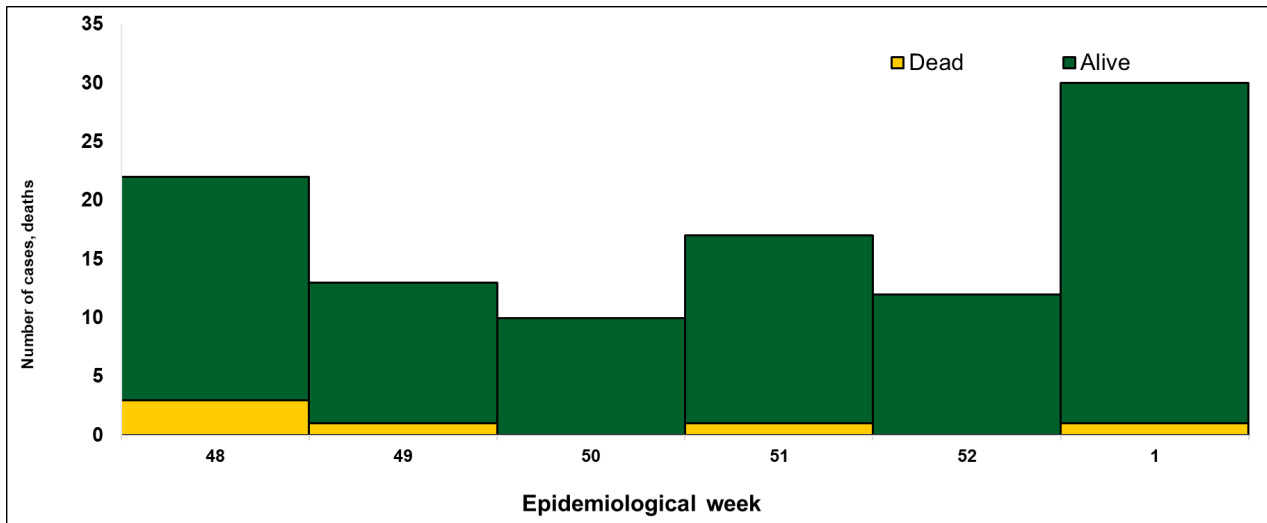


Figure 1. Confirmed Lassa fever cases in Nigeria epidemiological week 48, 2022 to week 1, 2023

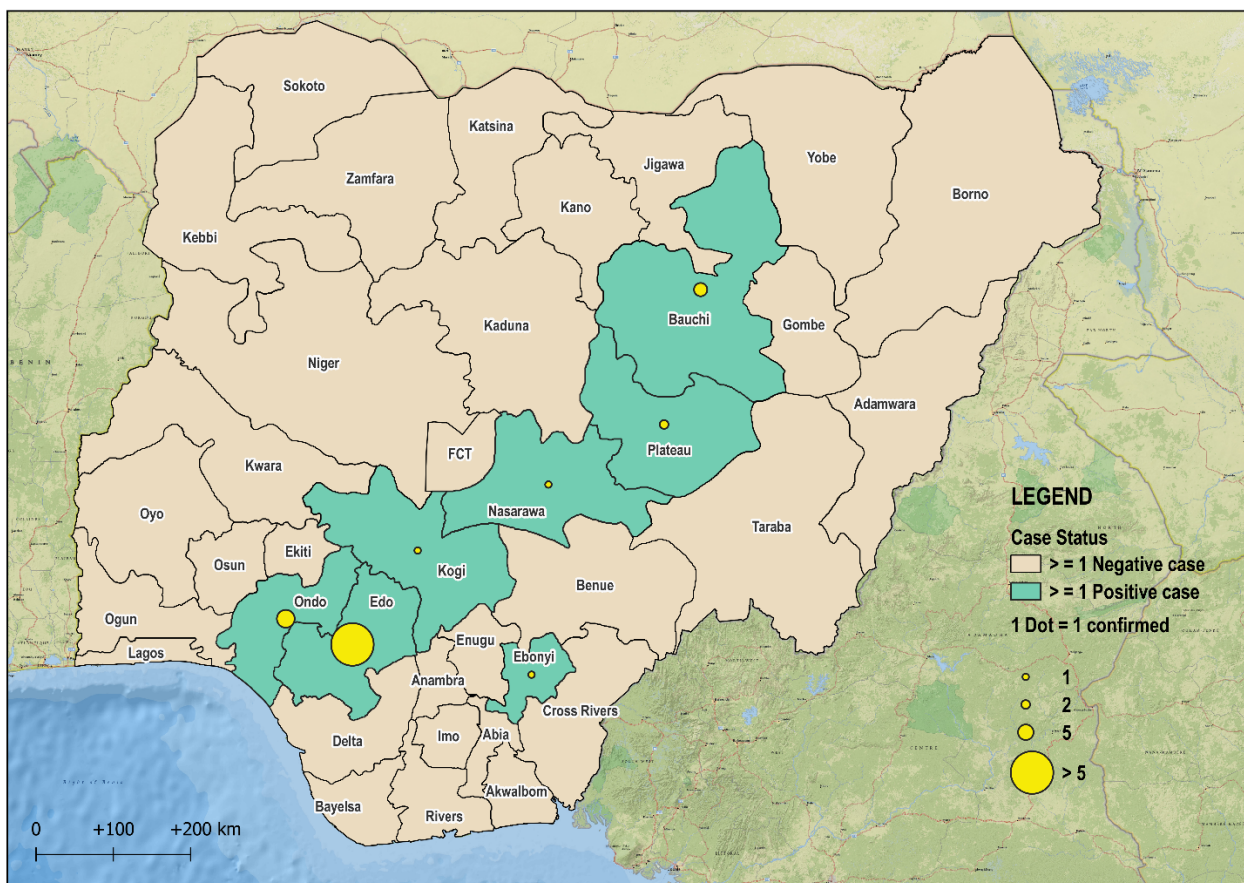


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 1, 2023

Table 2: Key indicators for current week 2022 and trend compared to previous week, Nigeria

Symptomatic contacts	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2022
Probable cases	0	↔	0
Health Care Worker affected	1	↔	1
Cases managed at the treatment centres	30	↔	29
Contact tracing			
Cumulative contact listed	88	↔	88
Contacts under follow up	88	↔	88
Contacts completed follow up	0	↔	0
Symptomatic contacts	0	↔	0
Positive contacts	0	↔	0
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔	0

Key

↑	Increase
↓	Decrease
↔	No difference

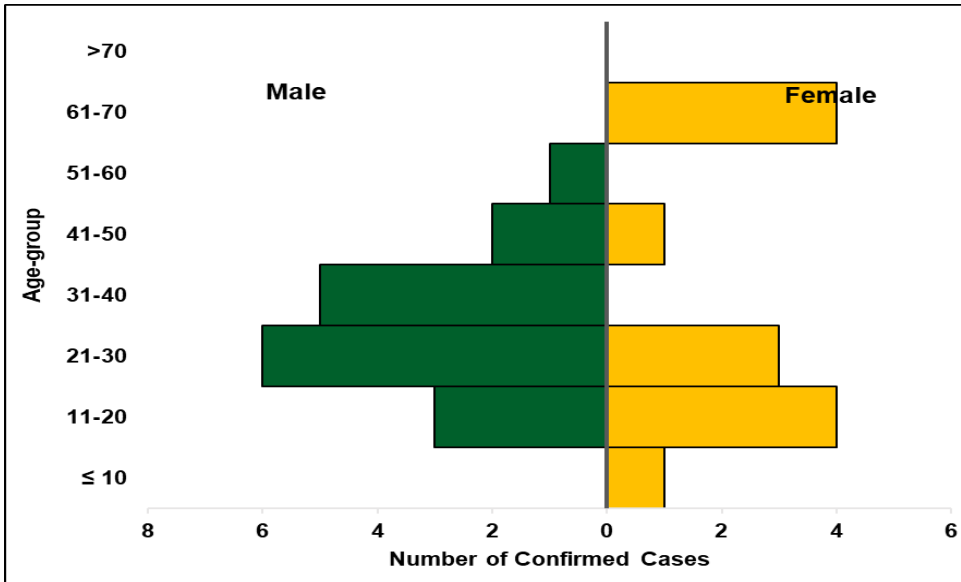


Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing the number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2022

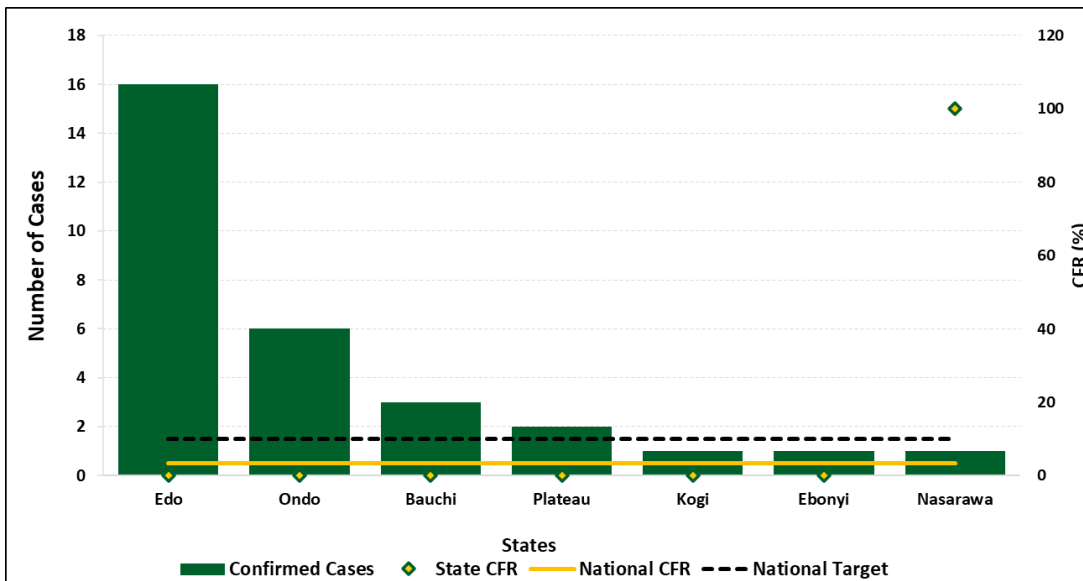


Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state week 1, 2023

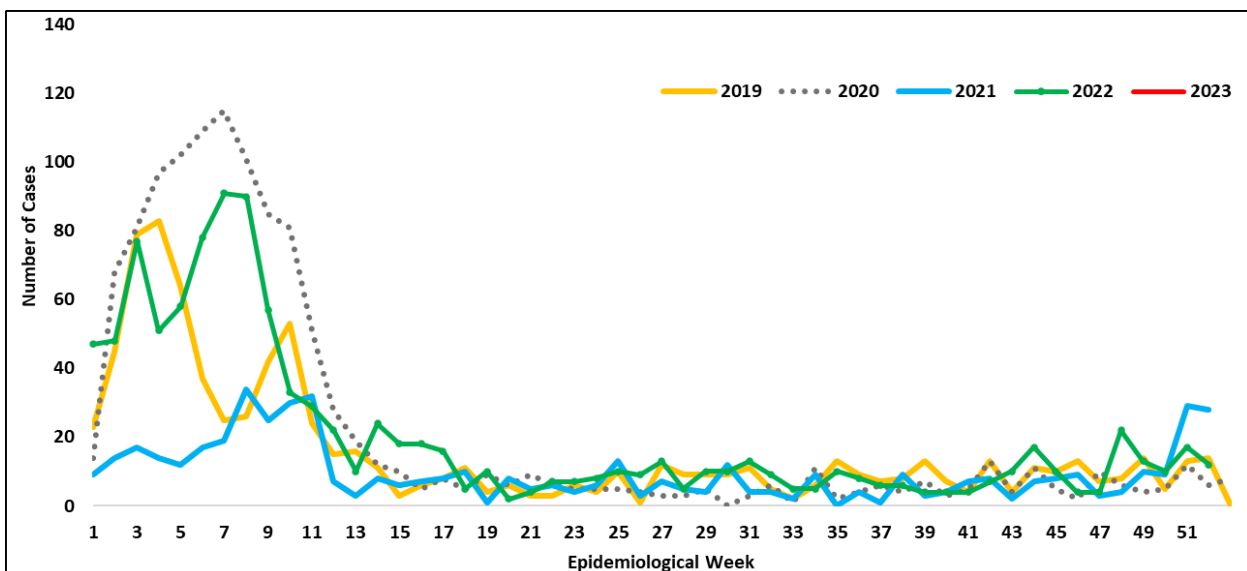


Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2019– 2023, Nigeria

Response activities

- Sent Lassa fever alert letters to Governors' forum, State Ministries of Health, professional bodies (NMA, MDCAN, NARD, NDA, MWAN, AGPMPN, AMLSN, NANNM) etc.
- Carrying out Lassa Fever preparedness survey in all states
- Conducted Lassa fever five-year Strategic plan and validation workshop.
- Confirmed cases are treated at identified treatment centres across the states.
- Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines
- Mortality review of Lassa fever deaths
- In-depth investigation of healthcare worker infections
- External Quality Assurance (EQA) panel preparation for all testing laboratories ongoing
- Distribution of response commodities -PPEs, Ribavirin (injection and tablets) body-bags, thermometers, hypochlorite hand sanitizers, IEC materials distributed to states and treatment centres.
- Implementation of Nigeria Lassa fever epidemiological Study supported by CEPI
- Multi-sectoral Public Health Emergency Operation Centres (PHEOC)activated in affected States

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
For LGA Rapid Response Team 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
For healthcare workers 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

NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR LASSA FEVER CASE MANAGEMENT

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

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

https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/24_1502192155.pdf

INFROMATION RESOURCE

Nigeria Centre for Disease Control: www.ncdc.gov.ng

