

Lassa fever Situation Report

Epi Week 3: 17 – 23 January, 2022

Key Points

Table 1: Summary of current week (3), cumulative from Epi week 1–3, 2022 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 3)	294	74	0	11	14.9%	State(s): 9 LGA(s): 23
2022 Cumulative (week 3)	759	170	0	32	18.8%	State(s): 12 LGA(s): 37
2021 Cumulative (week 3)	354	40	0	10	25.0%	State(s): 6 LGA(s): 17

Highlights

- In week 3, the number of new confirmed cases increased from 48 in week 2, 2022 to 74 cases. These were reported from Ondo, Bauchi, Edo, Oyo, Ebonyi, Benue, Katsina, Kaduna and Taraba States (Table 3)
- Cumulatively from week 1 to week 3, 2022, 32 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 18.8% which is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2021 (25.0%)
- In total for 2022, 12 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 37 Local Government Areas (Figure 2 and 3)
- Of all confirmed cases, 74% are from Edo (28%), Ondo (28%) and Bauchi (23%) States.
- The predominant age-group affected is 21-30 years (Range: 1 to 80 years, Median Age: 30 years). The male to female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:0.9 (Figure 4)
- The number of suspected cases has increased compared to that reported for the same period in 2021
- No new Healthcare worker affected in the reporting week 3
- National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral Emergency Coordination Centre (EOC) activated to coordinate response activities at all levels

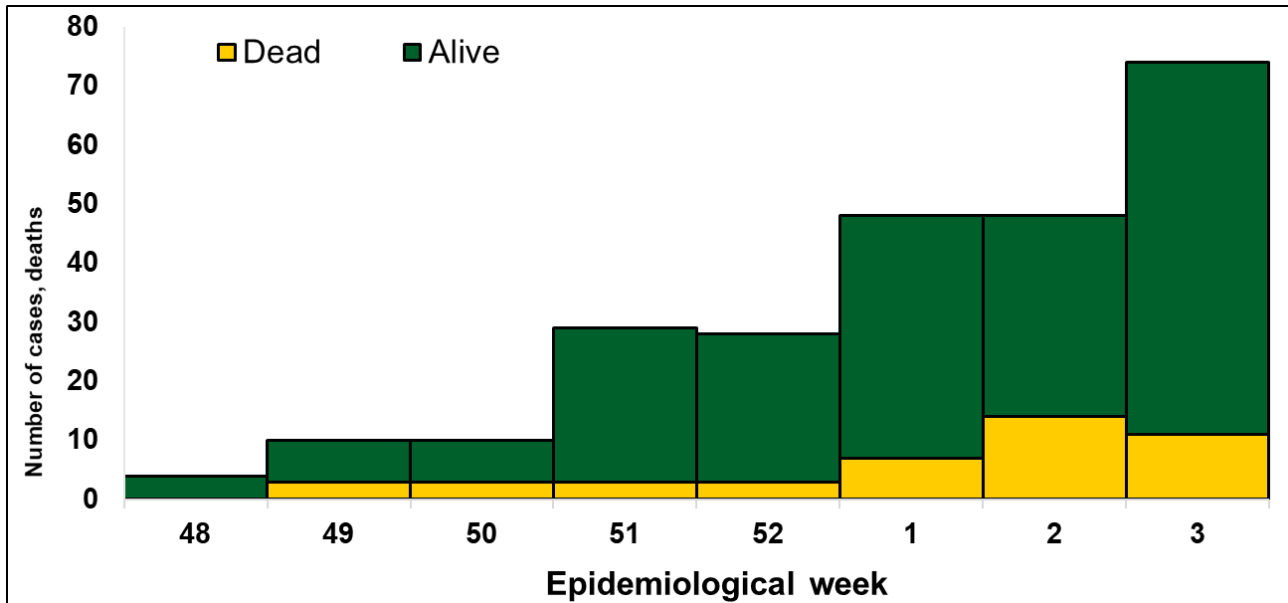


Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed Lassa fever cases epidemiological week 3, 2022

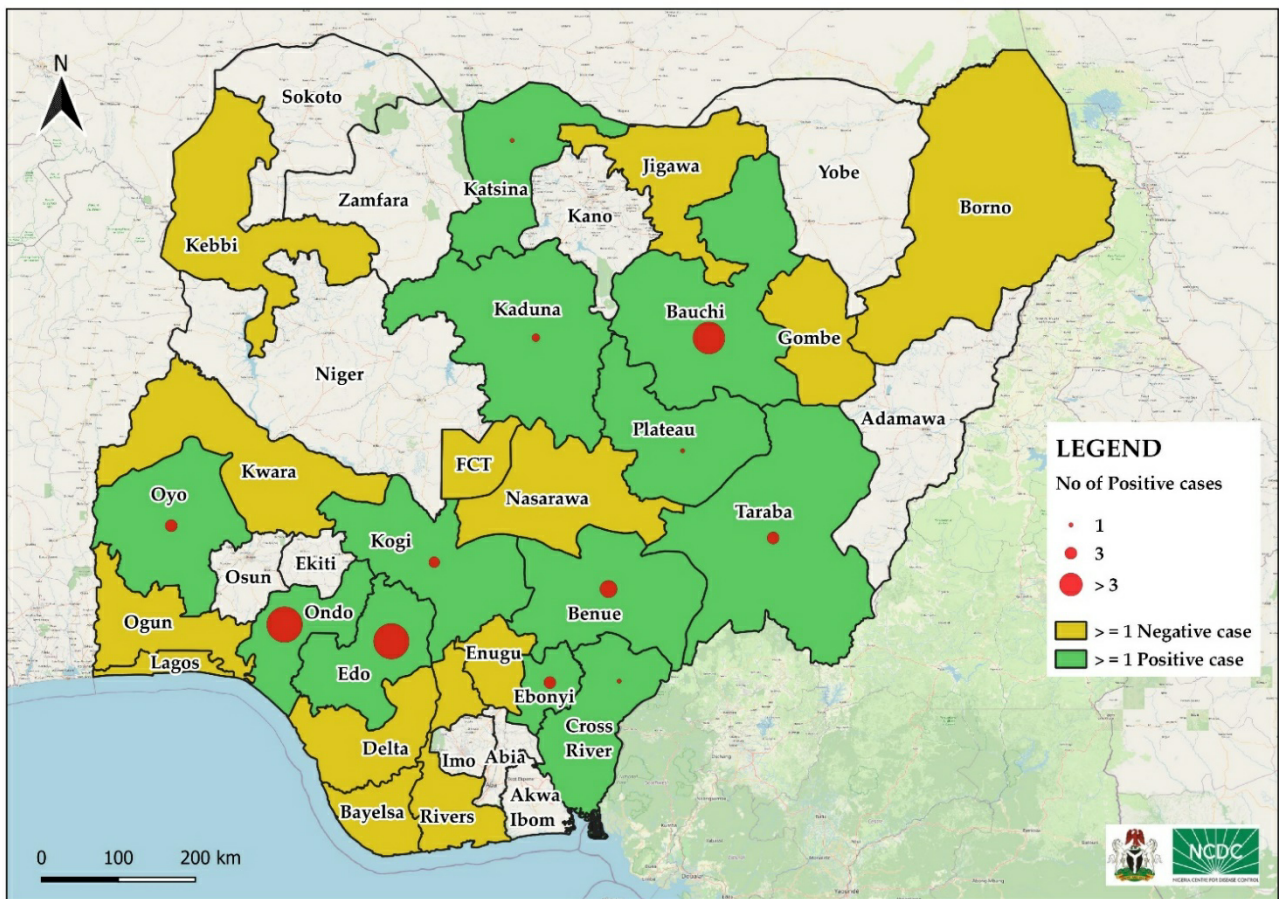


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 3, 2022

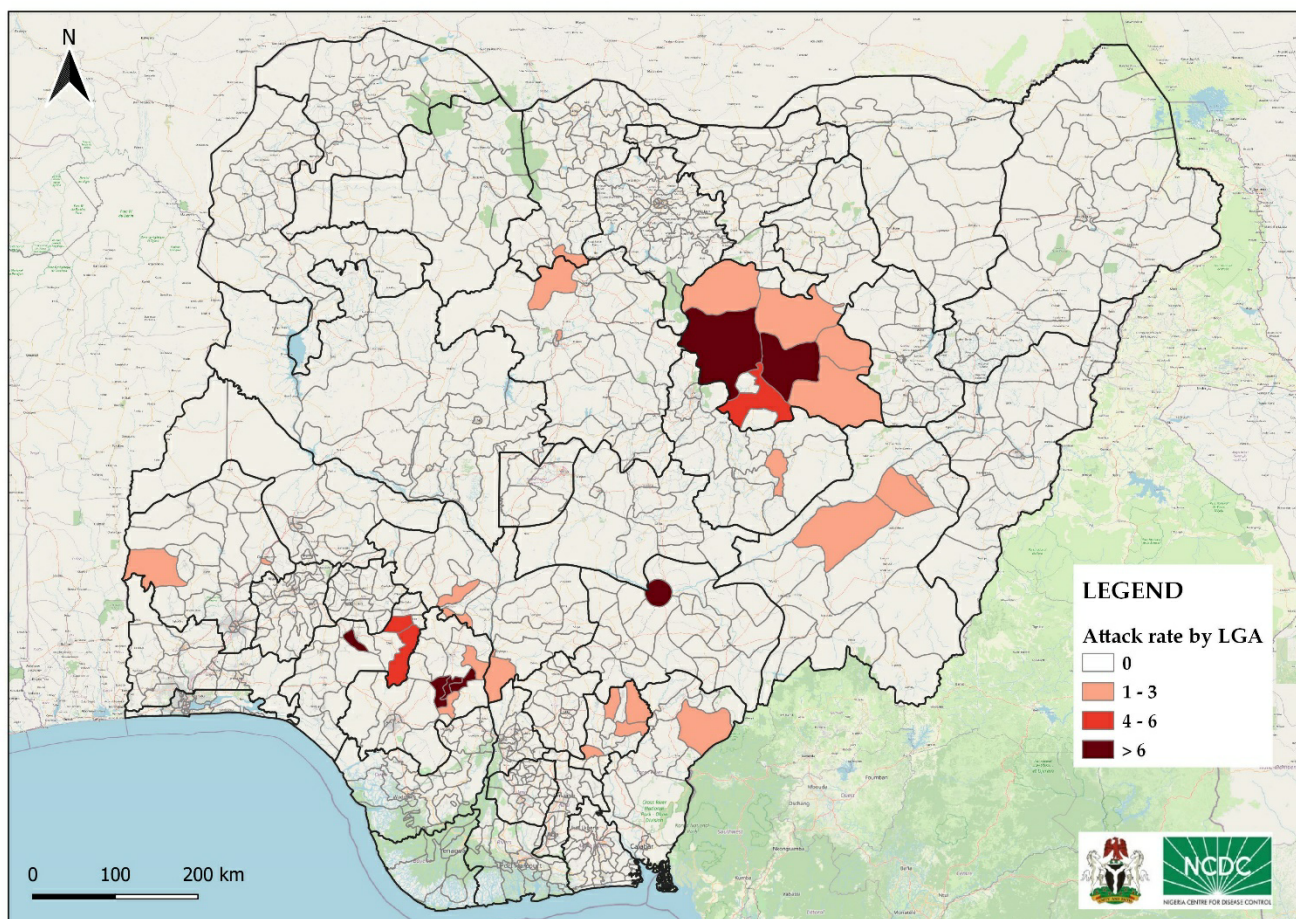


Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa fever rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, week 3, 2022

Indicator	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2022
Probable cases	0	↔ ↔	0
Health Care Worker affected	0	↔ ↔	4
Cases undergoing treatment in Treatment centres	74	↔	191
Contact tracing			
Cumulative contact listed	63	↔	500
Contacts under follow up	369	↔	369
Contacts completed follow up	17	↔	131
Symptomatic contacts	0	↔ ↔	2
Positive contacts	0	↔ ↔	0
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔ ↔	0

Table 2: Key indicators for current week 2021 and trend compared to previous week, Nigeria

Key

- ↑ Increase
- ↓ Decrease
- ↔ No difference

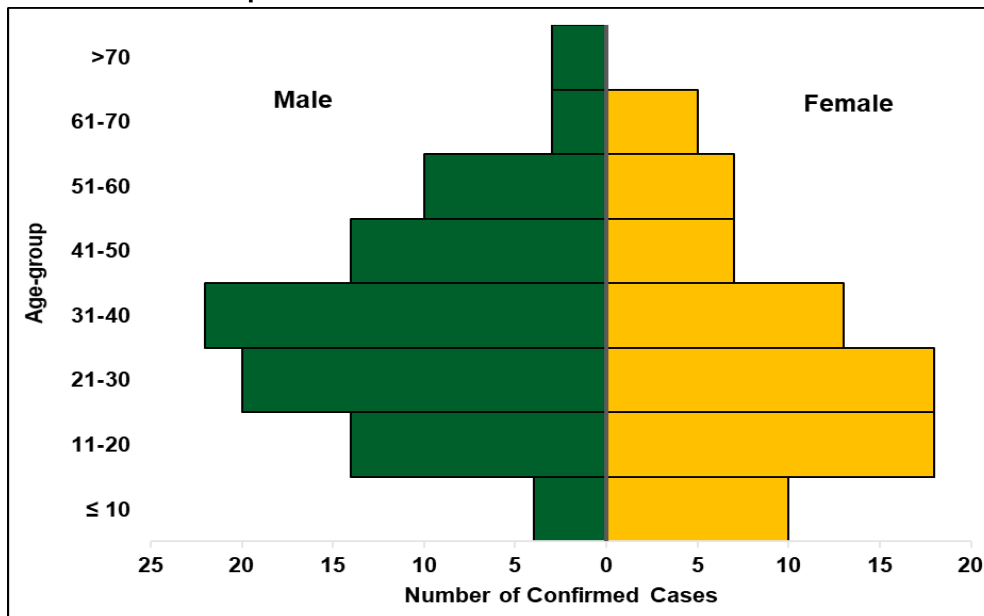


Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2022

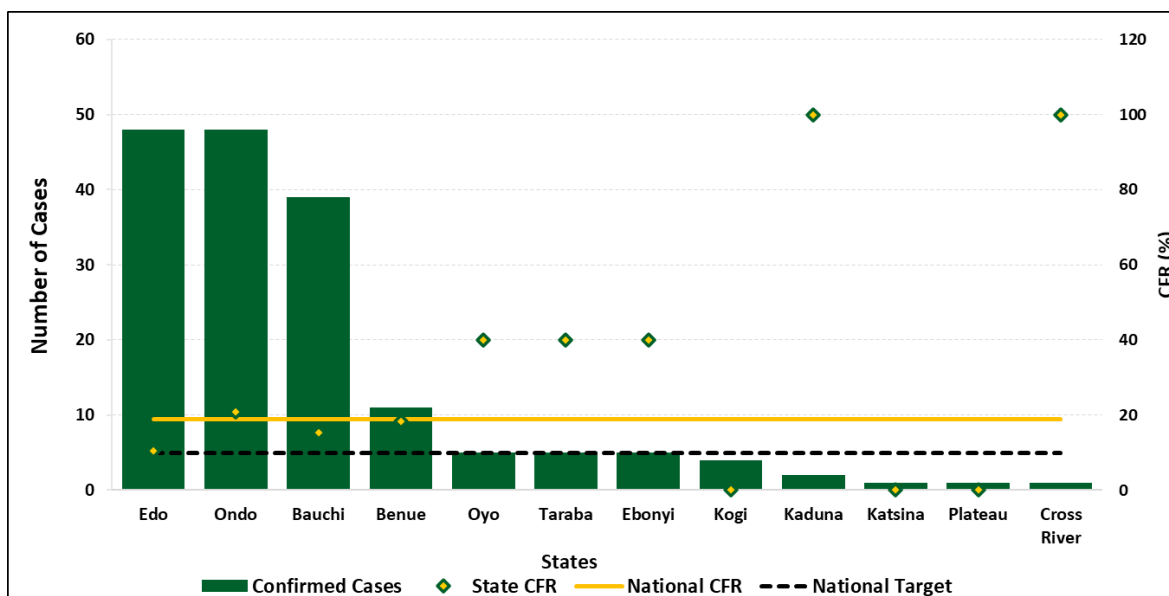


Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state week 3, 2022

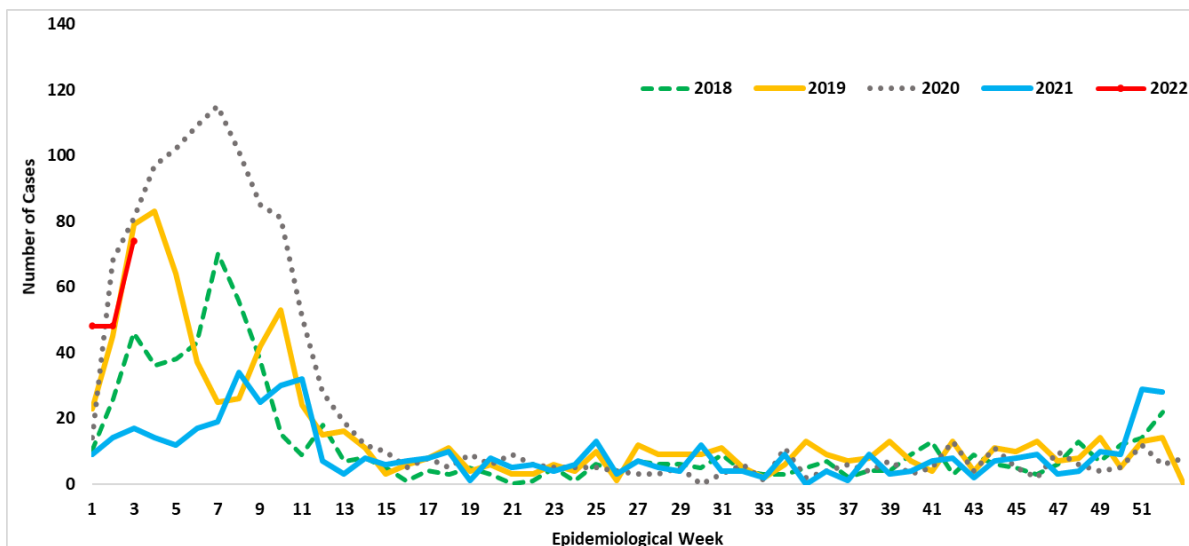


Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2018– 2022, Nigeria

Response activities

- The 2022 Lassa fever National Emergency Operations Centre response mode activated for effective multi-sectoral, multidisciplinary coordination of Lassa fever response
- Conducted 2022 Lassa fever States preparedness/response preparedness assessment
- Lassa fever alert letters sent to States
- State Public Health Emergency Operations Centre activated in affected States
- The Seven Lassa fever molecular laboratories in the NCDC network are working full capacity to ensure that all samples are tested, and results provided within the shortest turnaround time
- Confirmed cases are treated at identified treatment centres across the states
- Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines
- Risk communications and community engagement activities have been scaled up across states using television, radio, print, social media and other strategies
- Implementation of Lassa fever Environmental response campaign in high burden states by Federal Ministry of Environment
- Deployment of National Rapid Respond Teams to Seven States to support Lassa fever outbreak Response

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