Nigeria Centre for Disease Control
Protecting the health of Nigerians

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Lassa Fever Situation Report

Epi Week 09: 24 February-1 March 2020

Key Points

Table 1: Summary of current week (09), cumulative from Epi week 01–09, 2020 and comparison with previous year (2019)

Reporting Period	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Probable cases	Deaths (Confirmed cases)	Case Fatality Ratio (CFR)	States and LGAs affected (Confirmed cases)
Current week (week 09)	421	85	0	11	12.9%	State(s): 9 LGA(s): 30
2020 Cumulative (week 1-9)	3054	775	9	132	17.0%	State(s): 27 LGA(s): 118
2019 **Cumulative** (week 1-9)	1374	420	15	93	22.1%	State(s): 21 LGA(s): 66

Highlights

- In week 09, the number of new confirmed cases decreased from 102 cases in week 08, 2020 to 85 cases. These were reported from 9 States (Edo, Ondo, Ebonyi, Bauchi, Plateau, Benue, Kogi, Taraba and Kebbi) (Table 3).
- Cumulatively from week 1 to week 09, 2020, 132 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 17.0% which is lower than the CFR for the same period in 2019 (22.1%).
- In total for 2020, 27 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 118 Local Government Areas (Figure 2 and 3).
- Of all confirmed cases, 73% are from Edo (34%), Ondo (32%) and Ebonyi (7%) states.
- The predominant age-group affected is 21-30 years (Range: <1 to 78 years, Median Age: 33 years). The male to female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:1.2 (Figure 4).
- The number of suspected cases has significantly increased compared to that reported for the same period in 2019.
- One new health care worker was affected in Edo state in the reporting week 09.

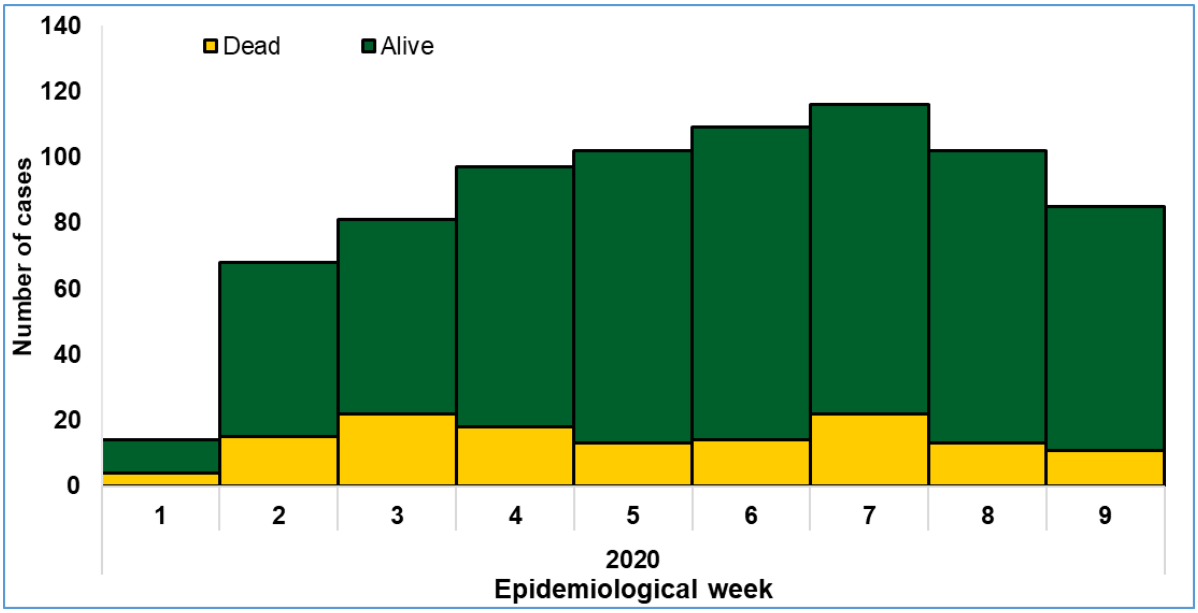

Figure 1. Epidemic curve of confirmed Lassa fever cases from epidemiological week 01 to 09, 2020

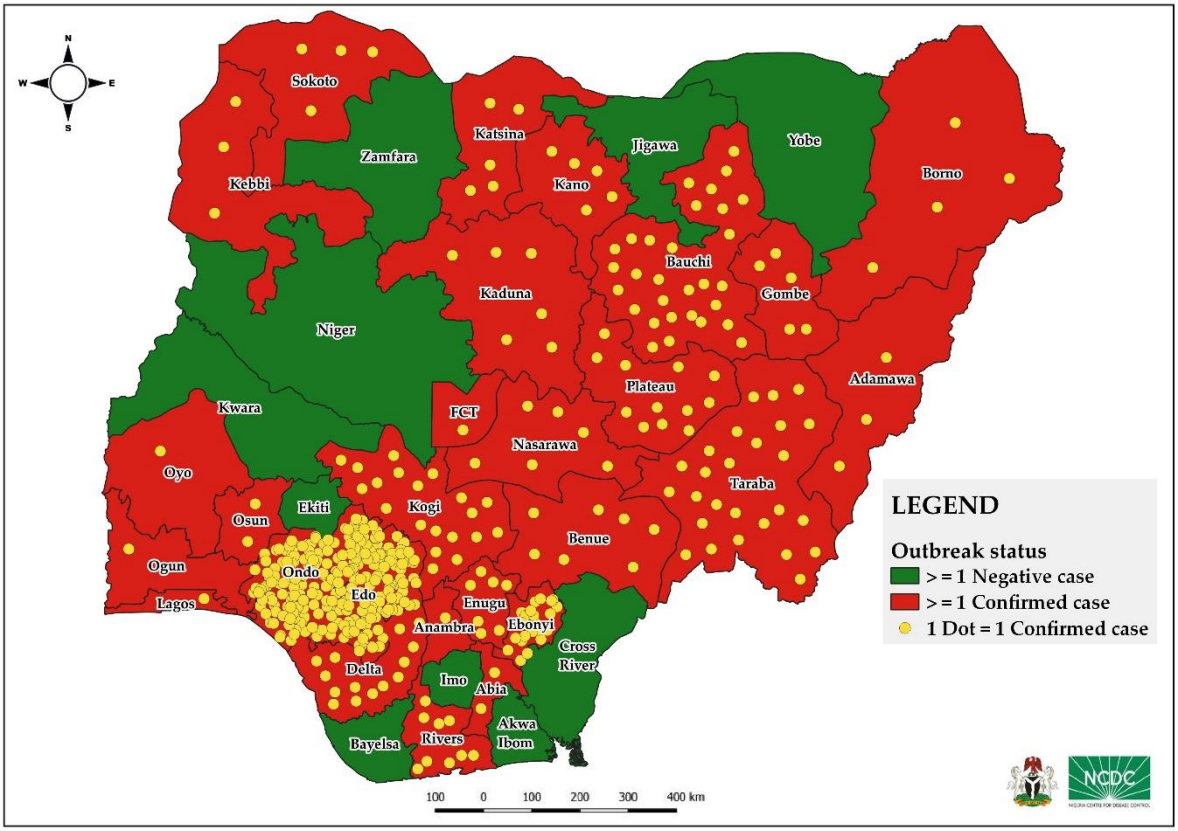

Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 01- 09, 2020

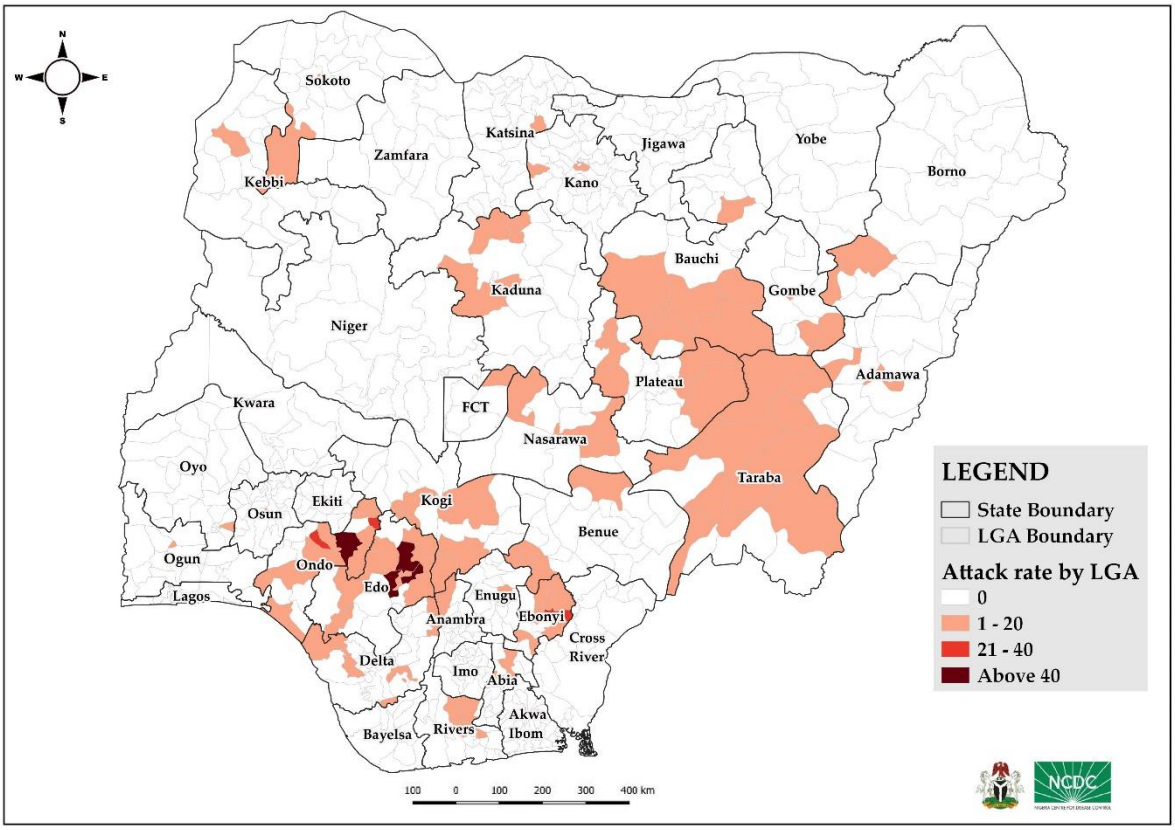

Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa fever rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, week 01- 09, 2020

Table 2: Key indicators for current week 2020 and trend compared to previous week, Nigeria

Indicator	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2020
Probable cases	0	←→	**9**
Health Care Worker affected	1	↓	**27**
Cases undergoing treatment in Treatment centres	154	↓	**768**
Contact tracing			
Cumulative contact listed	951	↓	**6299**
Contacts under follow up	2551	↑	**2551**
Contacts completed follow up	437	↓	**3684**
Symptomatic contacts	3	↓	**130**
Positive contacts	0	↓	**60**
Contacts lost to follow up	4	↑	**4**

Key

↑ Increase
↓ Decrease
↔ No difference

Table 3. Weekly and Cumulative number of suspected and confirmed cases for 2020

	States	Current week: (Week 9)						Cumulative (Week 1 - 9)				
		Cases					Deaths	Cases				Deaths
		Suspected	Confirmed	Trend	Probable	HCW*	(Confirmed Cases)	Suspected	Confirmed	Probable	HCW*	(Confirmed Cases)
1	Abia	4						37	2			2
2	Adamawa			▼				11	3			1
3	Akwa Ibom	1						8				
4	Anambra	1						17	1			
5	Bauchi	35	3	▼				172	33		2	8
6	Bayelsa							4				
7	Benue	1	1					20	7			1
8	Borno	4						27	4		1	1
9	Cross River							6				
10	Delta	9		▼				69	13		3	1
11	Ebonyi	20	8				1	158	55		1	10
12	Edo	176	31	▲		1	1	1196	263	1	9	28
13	Ekiti							11				
14	Enugu	2		▼				30	7			1
15	FCT	4						32	1			
16	Gombe	2		▼				27	5	1		1
17	Imo	2						15				
18	Jigawa	1						22			1	
19	Kaduna	13		▼				96	6	1	1	3
20	Kano							12	5	2	3	1
21	Katsina			▼				35	5	1	1	2
22	Kebbi	4	1	▲				20	3			2
23	Kogi	13	6	▲			1	71	27	1		8
24	Kwara							6				
25	Lagos	6		▼				23	1			
26	Nasarawa	4		▼				28	6			3
27	Niger	1						8				
28	Ogun	2						30	1			
29	Ondo	83	25	▼			3	603	246		4	34
30	Osun	2						29	2			
31	Oyo							10	1			
32	Plateau	9	1	▼			2	85	23			4
33	Rivers	1		▼				16	9			3
34	Sokoto	5		▼				20	4			1
35	Taraba	16	9	▲			3	82	42	2	1	17
36	Yobe							3				
37	Zamfara							15				
	Total	**421**	**85**	▼	**0**	**1**	**11**	**3054**	**775**	**9**	**27**	**132**

Key	
▼	Decrease
▲	Increase

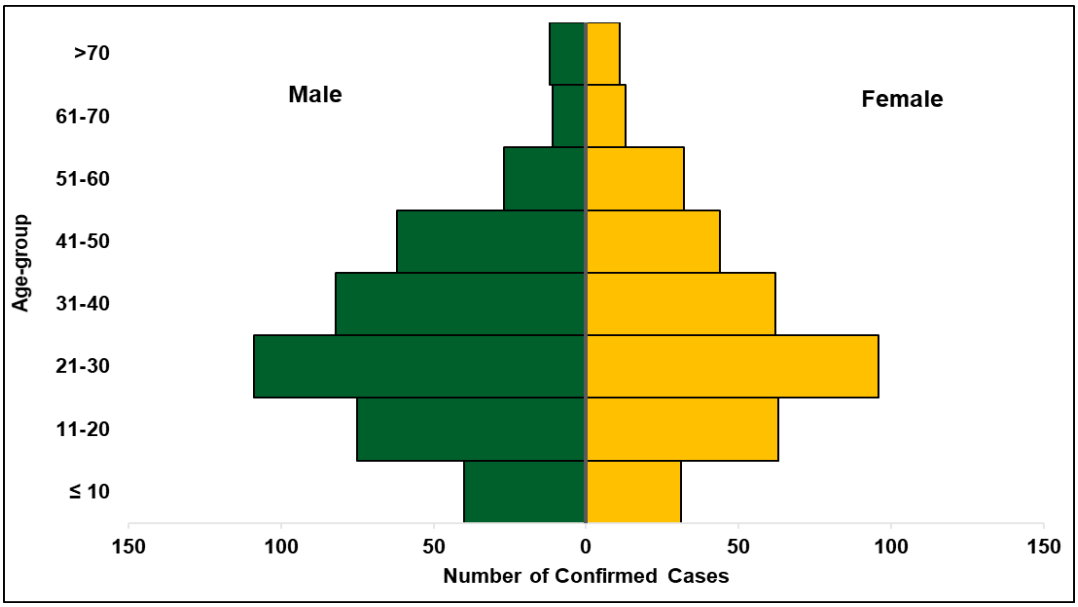

Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2020

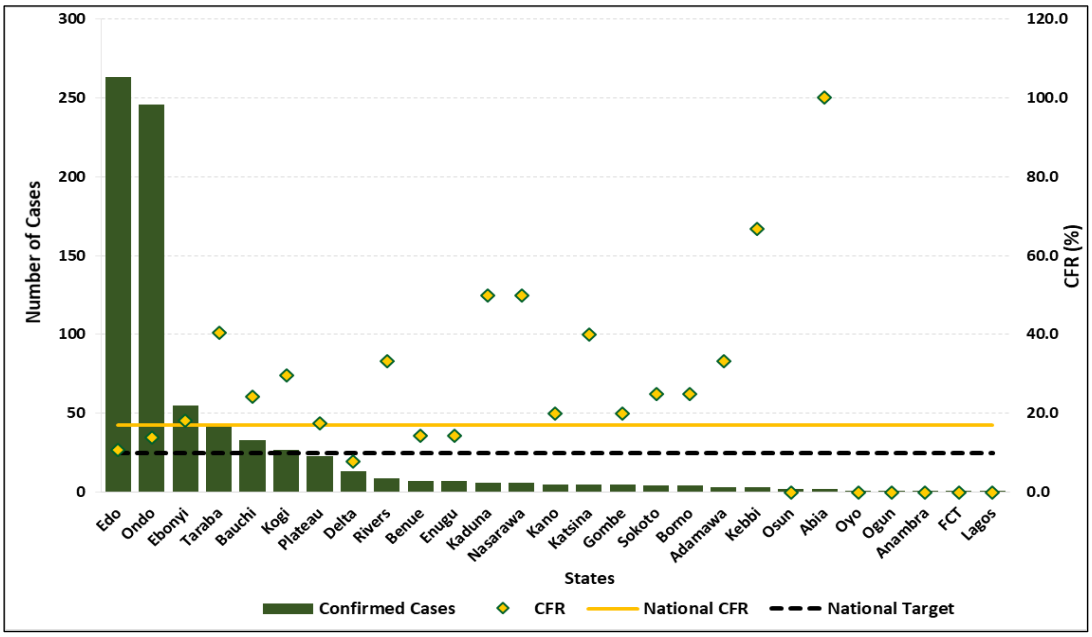

Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state, week 01- 09, 2020

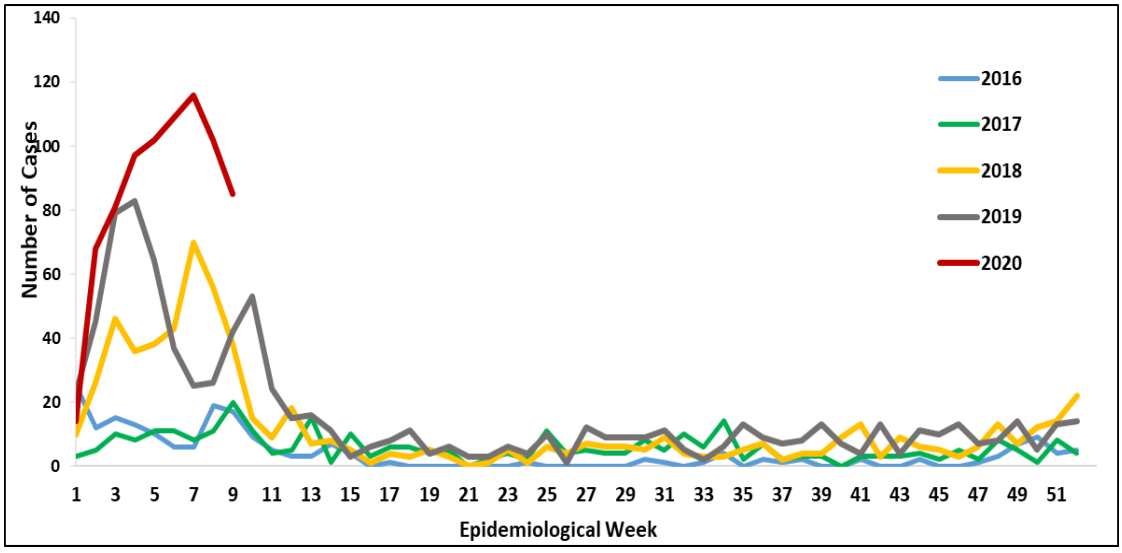

Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2016 – 2020 (09), Nigeria

Response activities

- The National Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has been activated to coordinate response activities across states. Of the states with confirmed cases, eight of them have activated state-level EOCs
- National Rapid Response Teams have been deployed from NCDC to support response activities in nine states
- Surge staff (Doctors, Nurses, Laboratory technicians, Hygienists) deployed to ISTH and FMC Owo
- State Public Health Emergency Operations Centre activated in affected states
- The five molecular laboratories for Lassa fever testing in the NCDC network are working full capacity to ensure that all samples are tested and results provided within the shortest turnaround time
- NCDC is working to support every state in Nigeria to identify one treatment centre, while supporting existing ones with care, treatment and IPC commodities
- Risk communications and community engagement activities have been scaled up across states using television, radio, print, social media and other strategies

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
- ***Healthcare workers (HCW) infections may not necessarily be of nosocomial origin,** proposed study to differentiate nosocomial healthcare worker infection from community infection

Calculations

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