



Nigeria Centre for Disease Control
Protecting the health of Nigerians

Weekly Epidemiological Report

Week 13: 29th March – 4th April 2021

Highlight of the Week

Optimising Diagnostic Capacity for Cerebrospinal Meningitis through BLoTIMA Study



Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM) is one of the priority epidemic-prone diseases under the National Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response Strategy that is reported all year round in Nigeria. Despite its endemicity, CSM has predilection for dry season with peak between January and May. It is characterised by acute severe infection of the central nervous system causing inflammation of the meninges with associated morbidity and mortality. Highest burden occurs in the part of sub-Saharan Africa known as the “Meningitis Belt”. In Nigeria, the belt covers all the 19 northern states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

In 2020, Nigeria recorded a total of 603 cases and 13 deaths reported from 138 Local Government Areas in 30 States of the Federation. Despite this burden, the problem of under-reporting due to low cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) collection rate still remains. This can be as low as less than 10% during outbreak. To address this, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) with the support of relevant development partners is working with states to conduct a pilot study to specifically determine the prevalence of bacteraemia by quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) among suspected cases.

The study aims to develop approaches that can increase diagnostic yield of confirmed meningitis and to allow for easy detection of outbreaks with great rapidity to hasten reactive vaccination campaign. The specific objectives are to:

- Determine whether and by how much inclusion of blood testing in addition to CSF testing increases case ascertainment of meningococcal disease over case ascertainment by CSF testing alone
- Investigate if inclusion of blood testing will reduce the time between the onset of an outbreak and the activation of reactive vaccination campaign
- Evaluate the utility of dried blood and dried CSF specimen in Nigeria

To achieve the above objectives, the NCDC, with the support of partners, from April 12-16 2021 conducted a residential workshop for states' actors on Blood Testing to Enhance Case Ascertainment during Meningococcal Meningitis Outbreaks in the African Meningitis Belt (BLoTIMA). A total of 27 personnel were trained (Clinicians, Biomedical Scientists, Laboratory Scientists and Disease Surveillance and Notification Officers (DSNOs)) in the five selected states- Sokoto, Zamfara, Katsina, Kebbi, and Niger.

The workshop provided an opportunity to strengthen the capacity of the states' focal persons on CSM diagnosis using qPCR, CSM case management as well as data collection and management using Surveillance Outbreak Response Management and Analysis System (SORMAS) tool. This will promote early detection of CSM outbreaks for appropriate public health responses.

We remain grateful to our partners- University College London, World Health Organisation and Public Health England for co-facilitating the training. The NCDC will continue to support the sub-national level to improve CSF

collection, diagnostic and case management capacity for timely decision making. We are working towards reducing significantly, the morbidity and mortality associated with CSM in Nigeria.

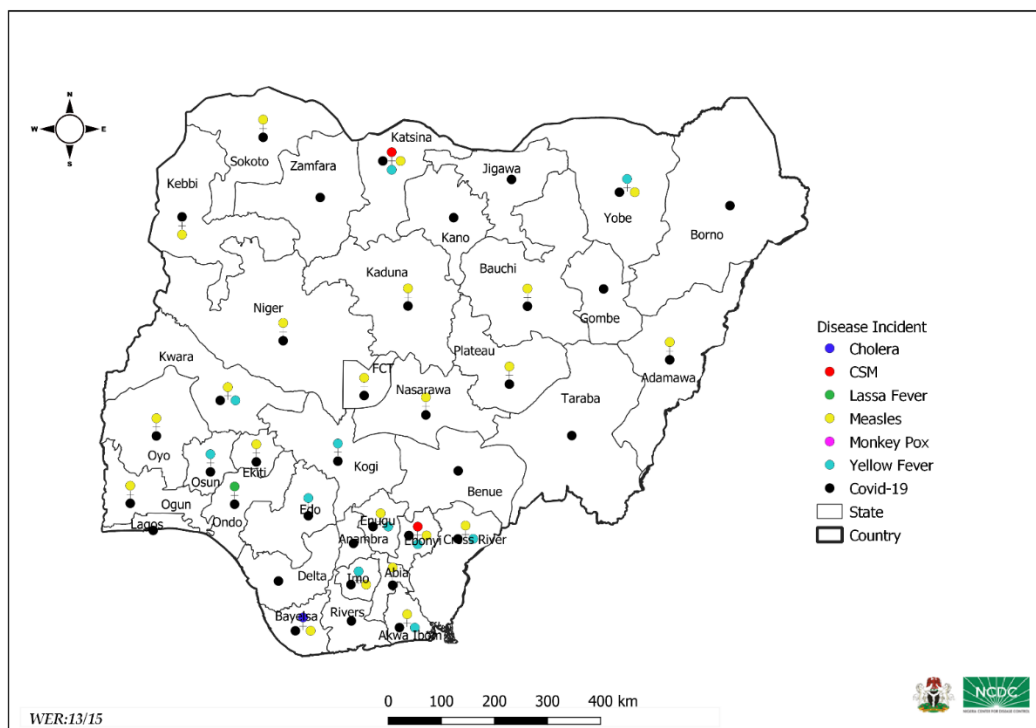
Summary of Incidents

Ongoing incidents

2

Ongoing incidents are defined as confirmed cases where a national EOC or equivalent has been activated (EOC is currently activated for COVID-19 and Avian influenza (H5 series))

Other incidents are those with confirmed cases for which EOC is not activated



Summary

Week 13: 29th March – 4th April 2021

(Note: Coronavirus Disease as at 18th April 2021)

Lassa Fever _{1,2}	Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM) _{3,4}	Yellow Fever _{3,4}
78 Suspected case(s)	3 Suspected case(s)	19 Suspected case(s)
3 Confirmed case(s)	2 Confirmed case(s)	0 Confirmed case(s)
0 Death(s)	0 Death(s)	0 Death(s)
Cholera _{3,4}	Measles _{3,4}	Monkeypox _{1,4}
151 Suspected case(s)	163 Suspected case(s)	0 Suspected case(s)
0 Confirmed case(s)	5 Confirmed case(s)	0 Confirmed case(s)
9 Death(s)	0 Death(s)	0 Death(s)
Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) _{3,4}	National Sentinel influenza surveillance ₅	Coronavirus Disease as at week 15 ₁
41 Suspected case(s)	362 Suspected case(s)	1,870,915 Suspected case(s)
0 Confirmed case(s)	10 Confirmed case(s)	164,233 Confirmed case(s)
		2,061 Death(s)

Timeliness of reports ₃	Completeness of reports ₃
95.3% Last 4 weeks	97.3% Last 4 weeks
97.1% Year to date	99% Year to date

Notes

- Information for this disease was retrieved from the Technical Working Group and Situation Reports
- Case Fatality Rate (CFR) for this disease is reported for confirmed cases only
- Information for this disease was retrieved from IDSR 002 data
- CFR for this disease is reported for total cases i.e. suspected + confirmed
- Information for sentinel influenza was retrieved from the laboratory

Lassa Fever

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
78	3	0	State: 1 LGA: 2

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	CFR
2020 2021	2020 2021	2020 2021	2020 2021
4194 1509	961 233	185 49	19.5% 21%

Figure 1: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of Lassa Fever, Nigeria, Weeks 1 – 52, 2021

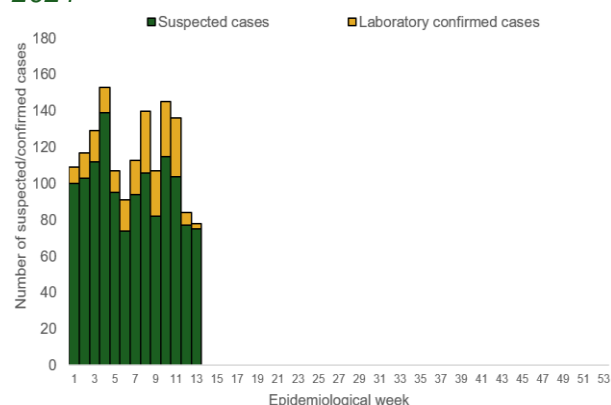
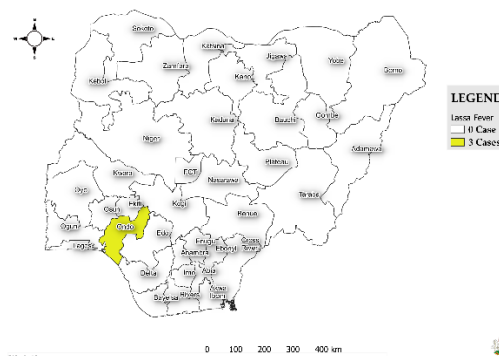


Figure 2: Location of **confirmed** cases of Lassa Fever by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There were 78 suspected cases, three were laboratory confirmed and no death was recorded from two LGAs in Ondo State

Actions

To date:

- Conducted 2021 Lassa fever(LF) high burden states preparedness/response engagement meeting
- Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines
- Ensured all five LF molecular laboratories in the NCDC network are working at full capacity for timely testing of samples with reduced turnaround time

Planned:

- Finalise Lassa fever five-year strategic plan

Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM)

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
3	2	0	State: 2 LGA: 3

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	CFR
2020 2021	2020 2021	2020 2021	2020 2021
194 76	0 5	3 0	1.6% 0%

Figure 3: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of CSM, Nigeria, weeks 1 – 52, 2021

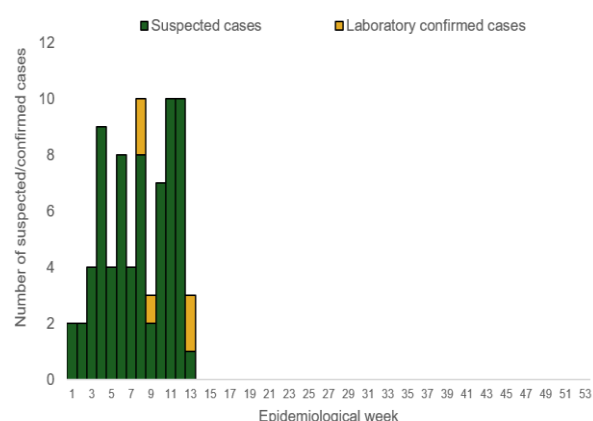
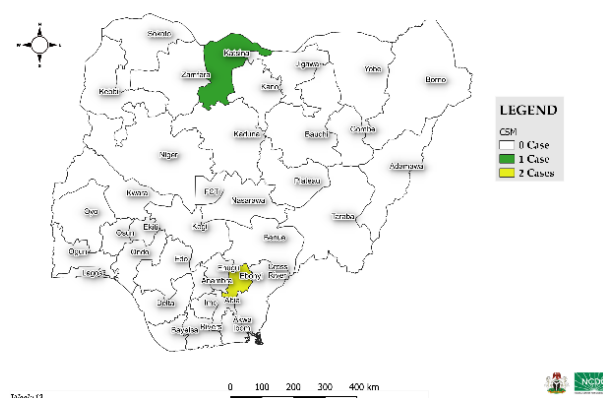


Figure 4: Location of suspected cases of CSM by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There were three suspected cases of Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM) reported from three LGAs in two states (Ebonyi – 2 & Katsina – 1). Two were laboratory confirmed and no death was recorded

Actions

To date:

- National CSM TWG meets weekly to review reports from states and plan appropriately
- Enhanced surveillance in all states

Planned:

- Continue harmonisation of the national line list and SORMAS data
- Continue to ensure that states reporting cases send their line lists and collect CSM samples

Yellow Fever

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
19	0	0	State: 11 LGA: 17

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases		Confirmed cases		Deaths		CFR	
2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
654	340	6	0	0	0	0%	0%

Figure 5: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of Yellow Fever, Nigeria, weeks 1 – 52, 2021

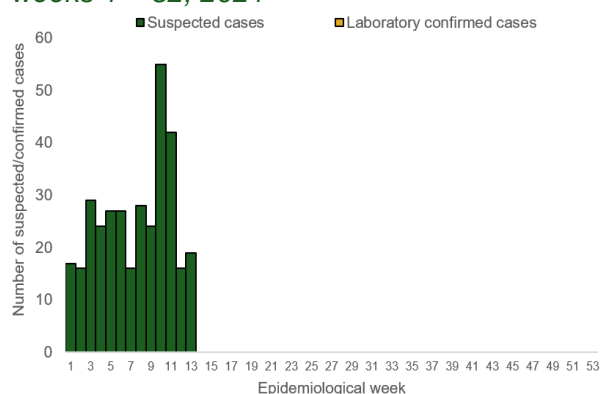
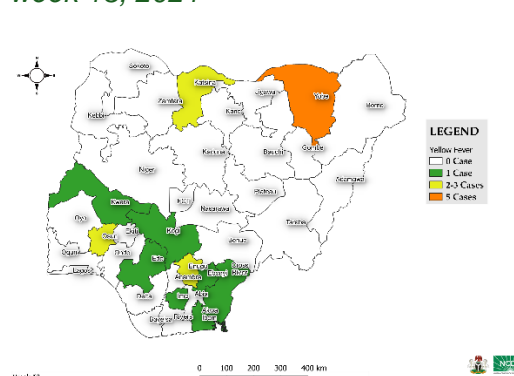


Figure 6: Location of suspected cases of Yellow Fever by States, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There were 19 suspected cases of Yellow Fever (YF) reported from 17 LGAs in 11 states. None were laboratory confirmed and no death was recorded

Actions

To date:

- National YF multi-partner Technical Working Group (TWG) continues to coordinate activities across states.
- Daily monitoring and analysis of surveillance data across the country to guide response activities

Planned:

- Continue supporting affected states across all pillars of response
- Continue harmonisation of surveillance and laboratory data ongoing

Cholera

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
151	0	9	State: 1 LGA: 5

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	CFR
2020 2021	2020 2021	2020 2021	2020 2021
742 634	0 1	31 21	4.8% 3.3%

Figure 7: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of Cholera, Nigeria, weeks 1 – 52, 2021

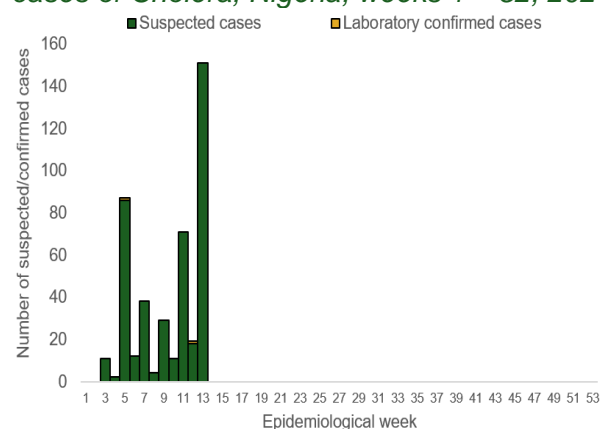
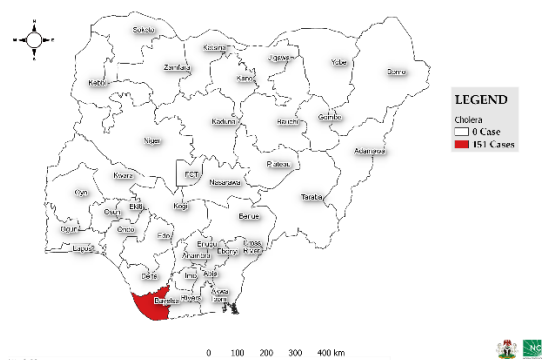


Figure 8: Location of suspected cases of Cholera by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There were 151 suspected cases of cholera reported from five LGAs in Bayelsa State. None were laboratory confirmed and nine deaths were recorded

Actions

To date

- National Cholera Multi-Sectoral Technical Working Group (TWG) is monitoring all states and supporting affected states
- Developed the 2021 Annual Cholera Preparedness and Response Workplan
- Cholera jingles being aired in English and local languages across the country

Planned:

- Continue follow up and monitoring of non-reporting states
- Build capacity for sample collection, transportation, and laboratory diagnosis across states

Measles

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
163	5	0	State: 21 + FCT LGA: 69

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases		Confirmed cases		Deaths		CFR	
2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
10105	3683	636	62	29	8	0.3%	0.2%

Figure 9: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of Measles, Nigeria, weeks 1 – 52, 2021

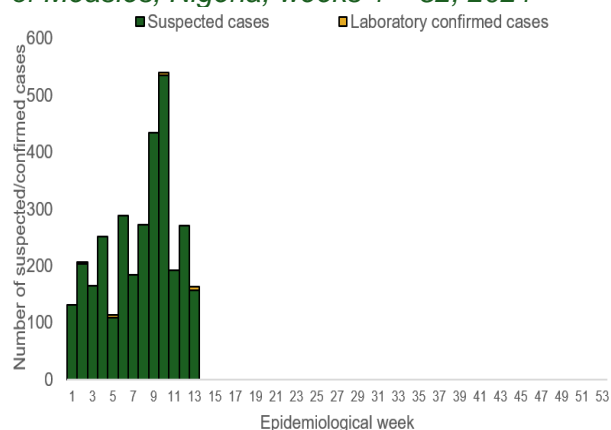
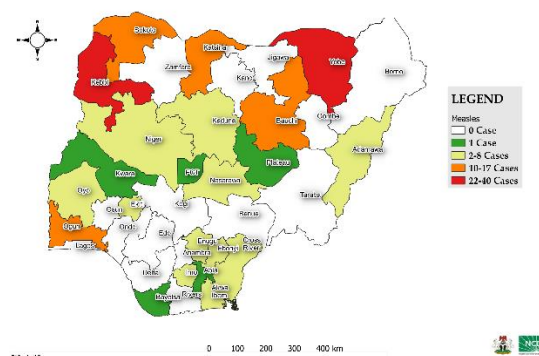


Figure 10: Location of suspected cases of Measles by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There were 163 suspected cases of measles reported from 69 LGAs in 21 states and FCT. Five were laboratory confirmed and no death was recorded

Actions

To date

- National Measles TWG is closely monitoring measles surveillance data and providing feedback to relevant agencies and development partners
- Ongoing weekly surveillance and laboratory data harmonisation

Planned:

- Intensify follow up with states to update and transmit line list
- Continue monthly measles surveillance data review

Monkeypox

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
0	0	0	State: 0 LGA: 0

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases		Confirmed cases		Deaths		CFR	
2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
13	25	2	4	0	0	0%	0%

Figure 11: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of Monkeypox, Nigeria, weeks 1 – 52, 2021

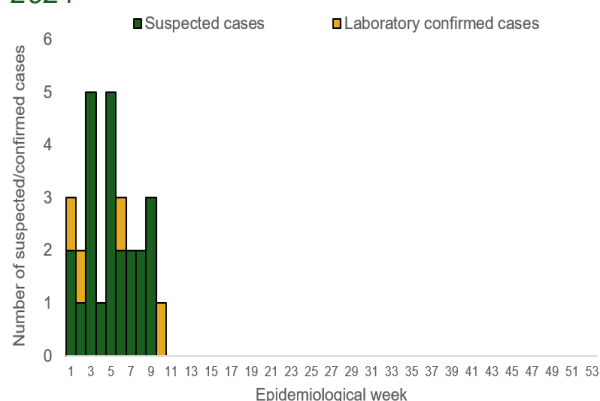
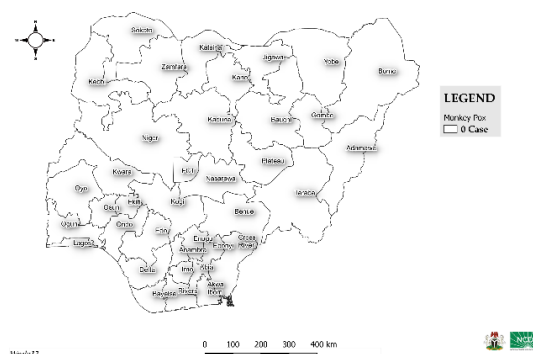


Figure 12: Location of suspected cases of Monkeypox by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There was no suspected case of monkeypox in the reporting week

Actions To date

- National Monkeypox Technical Working Group (TWG) is monitoring activities in all states

Planned:

- Enhance surveillance for monkeypox in high burden states
- Continue harmonisation of the national line list and SORMAS data

Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
41	0	0	State: 18 LGA: 41

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

Suspected cases		Confirmed cases		Deaths		CFR	
2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
1094	621	0	0	0	0	0%	0%

Figure 13: Number of suspected and confirmed cases of AFP, Nigeria, weeks 1 – 52, 2021

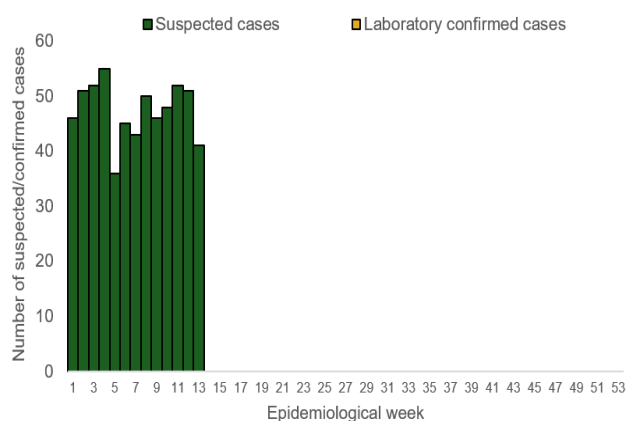
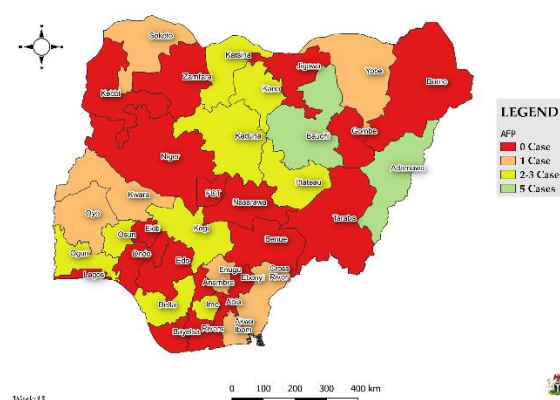


Figure 14: Location of suspected cases of AFP by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Key points

- There were 41 suspected cases of AFP reported from 41 LGAs in 18 states. None were laboratory confirmed and no death was recorded

National Influenza Sentinel Surveillance

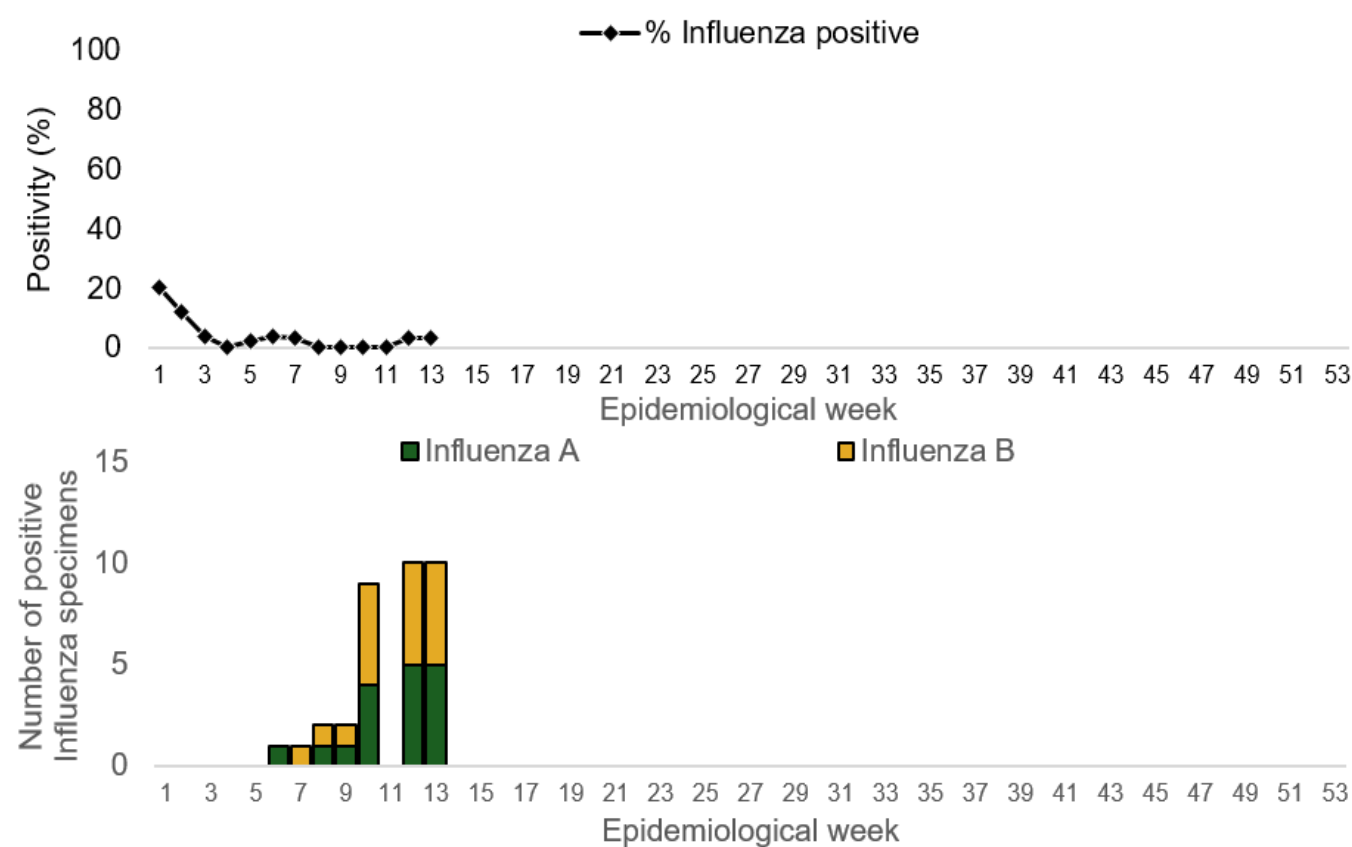
Year to date (week 1 – 13)

	Suspected cases	Suspected ILI	Suspected SARI
Number (Percentage)	464	399 (86%)	65 (14%)

Week 13

	Confirmed cases		Confirmed ILI		Confirmed SARI	
	Influenza A	Influenza B	Influenza A	Influenza B	Influenza A	Influenza B
Number	5	5	0	0	0	0
Positivity (%)	1.4%	1.4%	0%	0%	0%	0%

Figure 15: Number of influenza positive specimens by type and percent positive by epidemiological week, 2021.

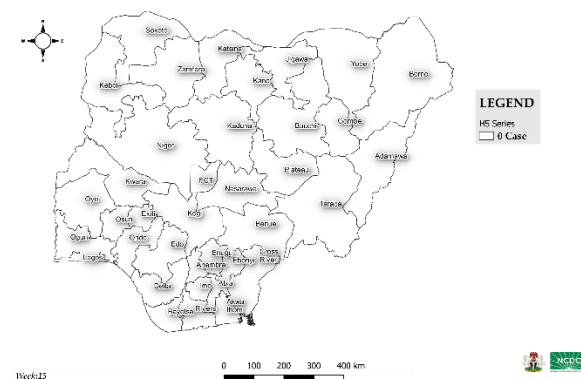


Avian influenza (H5 series)

Week 13

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
0	0	0	State: LGA:

Figure 16: Location of confirmed human cases of Avian influenza (H5 series) by State, Nigeria, week 13, 2021



Actions

To date:

- A multi-sectoral Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues to coordinate the response
- So far, all confirmed seven human positive samples have been shipped to WHO coordinating centre for further lab analysis

Planned:

- Continue to intensify surveillance activities and monitor contacts across the country
- Conduct risk assessment at the national level

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

From outbreak onset (Feb 27 2020) to epi-week 15 2021

Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	Number of States and LGAs affected
1,870,915	164,233	2,061	State: LGA:

Figure 17: Epidemic curve of confirmed cases of COVID-19, Nigeria, week 1, 2020 – 14, 2021

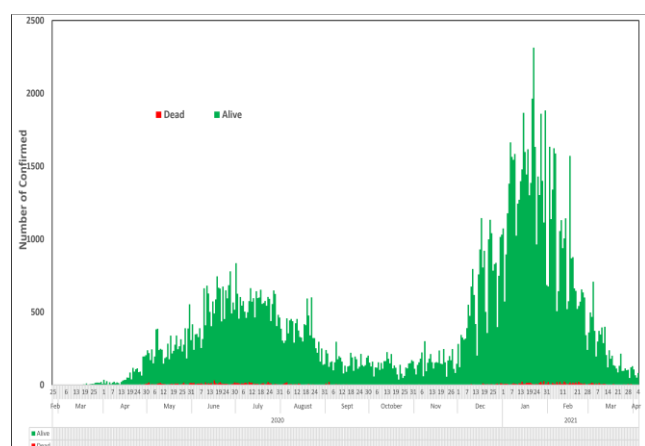
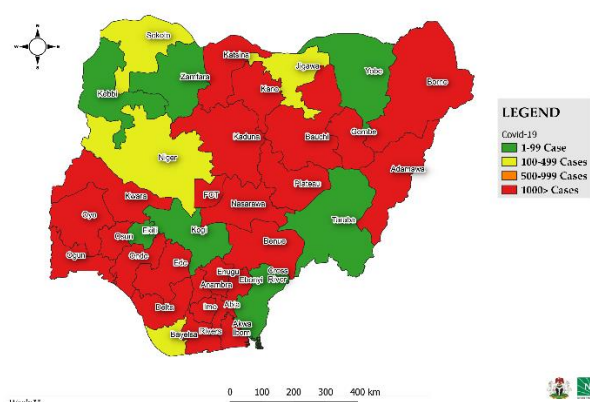


Figure 18: Location of **confirmed** cases of COVID-19 by State, Nigeria, as at week 15, 2021



Actions

To date:

- National COVID-19 multi-partner Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues to coordinate response activities across states
- Held a virtual strategic coordination meeting with State Incident Managers and State Epidemiologists on increasing sample collection and testing in states
- Conducted webinar on Ag-RDT policy and use
- Conducted bi-monthly meeting with state Health Educators (SHEs)

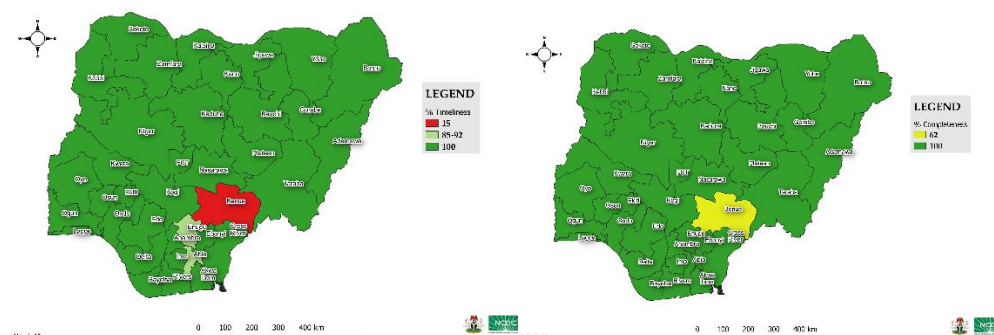
Planned:

- Deploy antigen-based rapid diagnostic test (Ag-RDT) kits and sample collection materials to the selected states
- Intensify genomic surveillance activities
- Conduct WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) assessment across all health facilities
- Finalise Local Government Area (LGA) / State transmission categorisation

Timeliness and Completeness of Reports

Week 13

Figure 19: A – Timeliness by State (%); B – Completeness by State (%), week 13, 2021



Number of reports received on time, late or not received, the percentage timeliness and completeness, in the last 4 weeks and year to date

Nigeria Total Reports	Last 4 Weeks Week 10 – 13	Year to date Week 1 – 52
Reports sent on time	141	467
Reports sent late	3	9
Reports not received	4	5
Timeliness	95.3%	97.1%
Completeness	97.3%	99%

States with reports not received in 2021 (week 1 – 52)

State	Week(s) report not received
Benue	7, 10, 11, 12 & 13

Timeliness and Completeness of Reports by State

Year to date (week 1 – 52)

State	Timeliness (%)	Completeness (%)
Abia	92	100
Adamawa	100	100
Akwa Ibom	100	100
Anambra	100	100
Bauchi	100	100
Bayelsa	100	100
Benue	15	62
Borno	100	100
Cross River	100	100
Delta	100	100
Ebonyi	100	100
Edo	100	100
Ekiti	100	100
Enugu	85	100
FCT	100	100
Gombe	100	100
Imo	100	100
Jigawa	100	100
Kaduna	100	100
Kano	100	100
Katsina	100	100
Kebbi	100	100
Kogi	100	100
Kwara	100	100
Lagos	100	100
Nasarawa	100	100
Niger	100	100
Ogun	100	100
Ondo	100	100
Osun	100	100
Oyo	100	100
Plateau	100	100
Rivers	100	100
Sokoto	100	100
Taraba	100	100
Yobe	100	100
Zamfara	100	100