



Lassa Fever Situation Report

Epi Week 1: 30th December 2024 – 5th January 2025

Key Points

Table 1: Summary of the current week (1), cumulative Epi week 1, 2025 and comparison with the previous year (2024)

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)	196	54	0	10	18.5%	State(s):6 LGA(s): 20
2025 Cumulative (week 1)	196	54	0	10	18.5%	State(s):6 LGA(s): 20
2024 Cumulative (week 1)	190	53	0	6	11.3%	State(s):9 LGA(s): 27

Highlights

- In week 1, the number of new confirmed cases decreased from 70 in epi week 52, of 2024 to 54. These were reported in Ondo, Bauchi, Edo, Taraba, Ebonyi, and Kogi States (Table 3)
- Cumulatively in week 1, 2025, 10 deaths have been reported with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 18.5% which is higher than the CFR for the same period in 2024 (11.3%)
- In total for 2025, 6 States have recorded at least one confirmed case across 20 Local Government Areas (Figures 2 and 3)
- Seventy-eight (78%) of all confirmed Lassa fever cases were reported from these three states (Ondo, Edo, and Bauchi) while 22% were reported from 3 states with confirmed Lassa fever cases. Of the 78% confirmed cases, Ondo reported 35%, Edo 28%, and Bauchi 15%
- The predominant age group affected is 21-30 years (Range: 3 to 70 years, Median Age: 31.5 years). The male-to-female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:0.6 (Figure 4)
- The number of suspected cases increased compared to that reported for the same period in 2024.
- No new Healthcare worker was affected in the reporting week 1.
- National Lassa fever multi-partner, multi-sectoral Incident Management System (IMS) activated to coordinate the response activities at all levels.

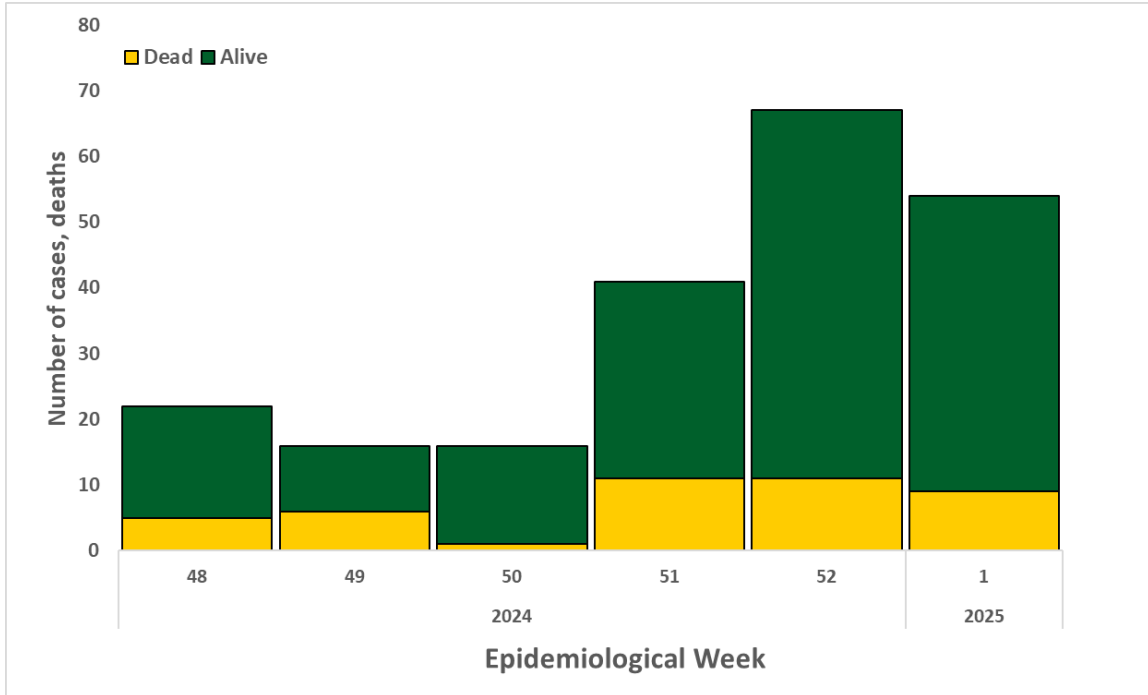


Figure 1. Confirmed Lassa Fever Cases in Nigeria Epidemiological Week 1, 2025

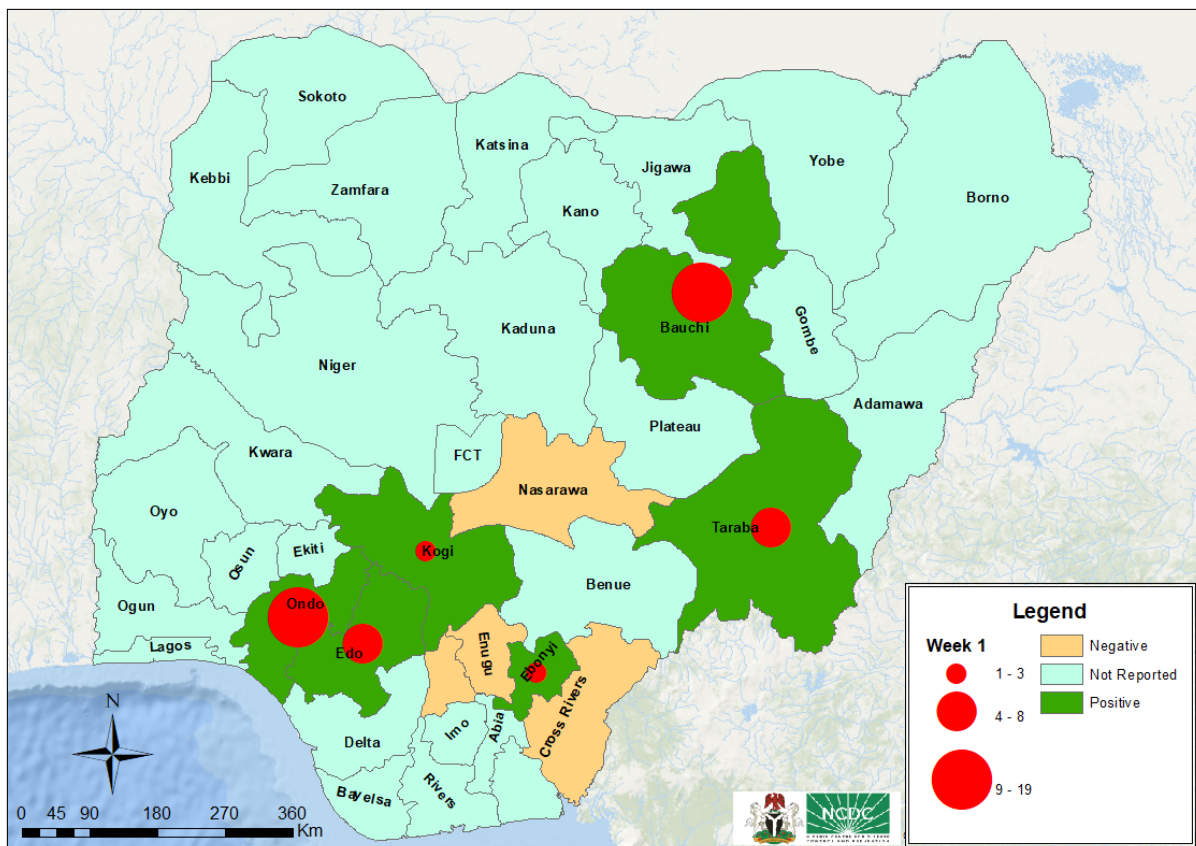


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa Fever Cases by States in Nigeria, Week 1, 2025

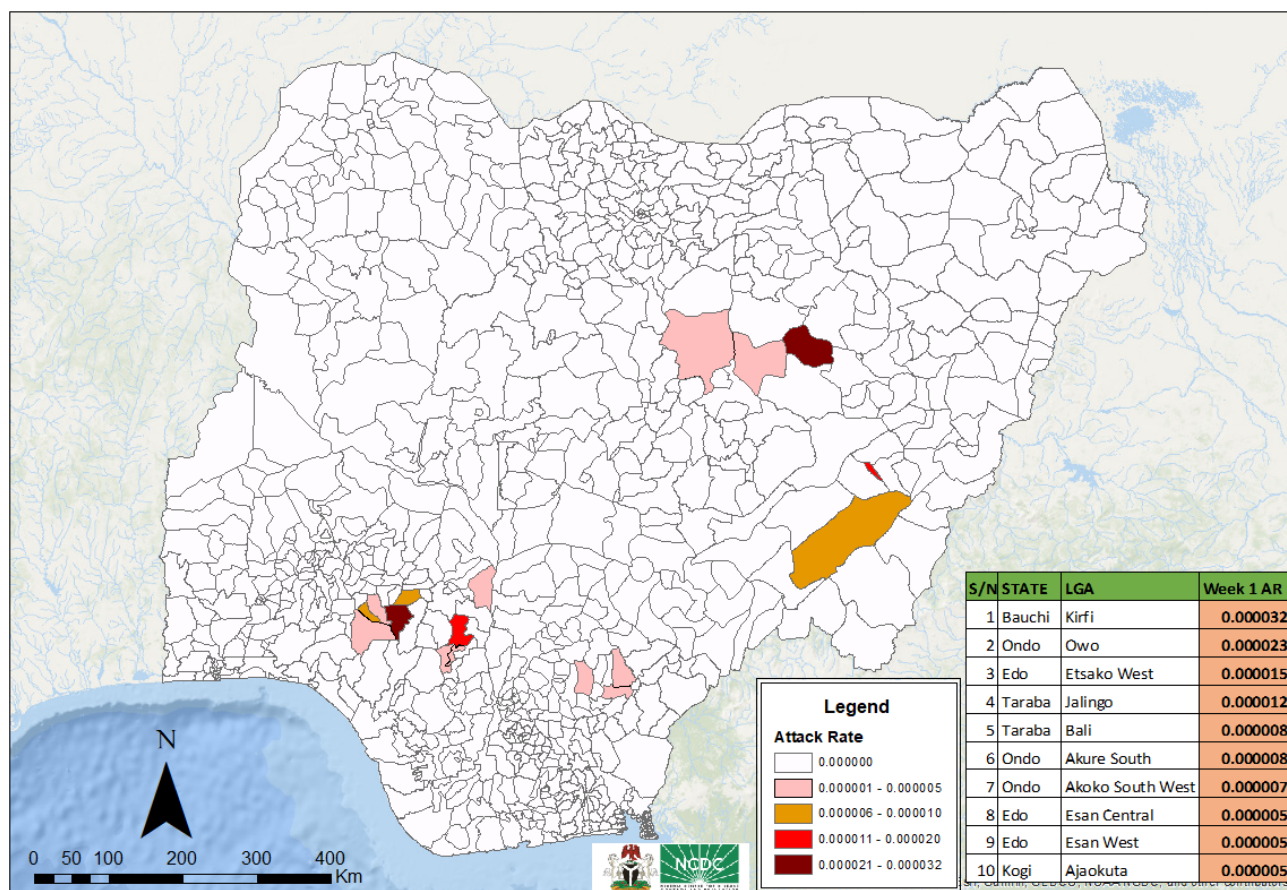


Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa Fever Attack Rate per 100,000 Population for LGAs in Nigeria, Week 1, 2025

Table 2: Key Indicators for the Current Week in 2025 and Trend Compared to the Previous Week, Nigeria

Symptomatic contacts	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2025
Probable cases	0	↔	0
Health Care Worker affected	0	↔	0
Cases managed at the treatment centres	44	↓	44
Contact tracing			
Cumulative contact listed	14	↔	25
Contacts under follow up	25	↔	25
Contacts completed follow up	15	↑	15
Symptomatic contacts	0	↔	0
Positive contacts	0	↔	0
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔	0

Key

- ↑ Increase
- ↓ Decrease
- ↔ No difference

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Epi Week: 1 2025

Table 3. Weekly and Cumulative Number of Suspected and Confirmed Cases for 2025

States	Current week: (Week 1)				Cumulative (Week 1 - 1)			
	Cases			Deaths	Cases			Deaths
	Suspected	Confirmed	Trend Probable HCW*	(Confirmed Cases)	Suspected	Confirmed	Probable HCW*	(Confirmed Cases)
1 Ondo	52	19	▲	4	52	19		4
2 Bauchi	54	15	▲	2	54	15		2
3 Edo	64	8	▲	1	64	8		1
4 Taraba	12	8	▲	3	12	8		3
5 Ebonyi	7	3	▲		7	3		
6 Kogi	1	1	▲		1	1		
7 Nasarawa	2				2			
8 Enugu	1				1			
9 Cross River	2				2			
10 Anambra	1				1			
Total	196	54	▲	10	196	54		10

Key	
▼	Decrease
▲	Increase

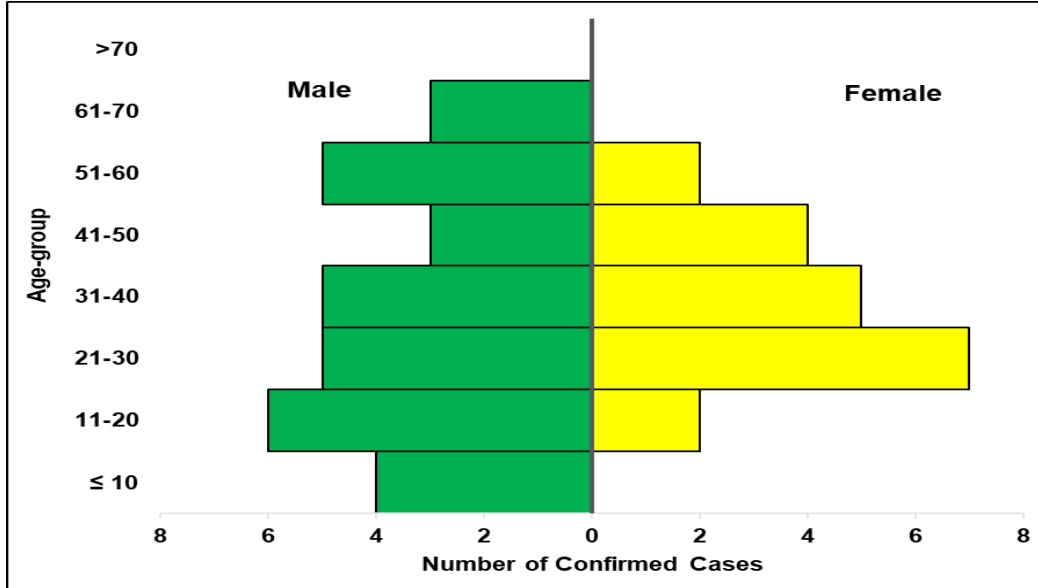


Figure 4. Age and Sex Pyramid Showing the Number of Confirmed Lassa Fever Cases for 2025

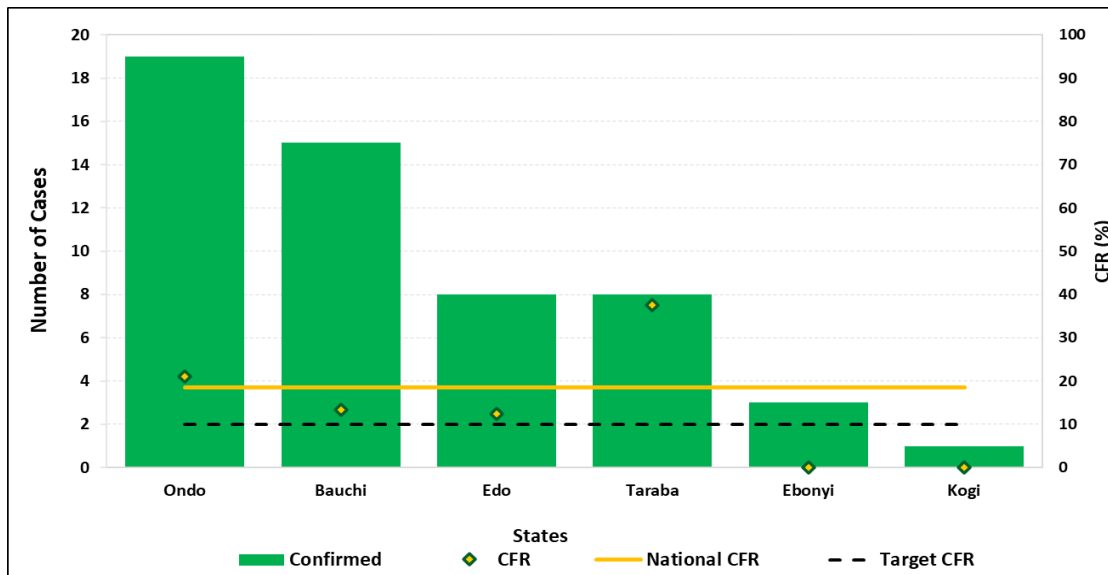


Figure 5: Number of Confirmed Cases with Case Fatality Rate (CFR) by State Week 1, 2025

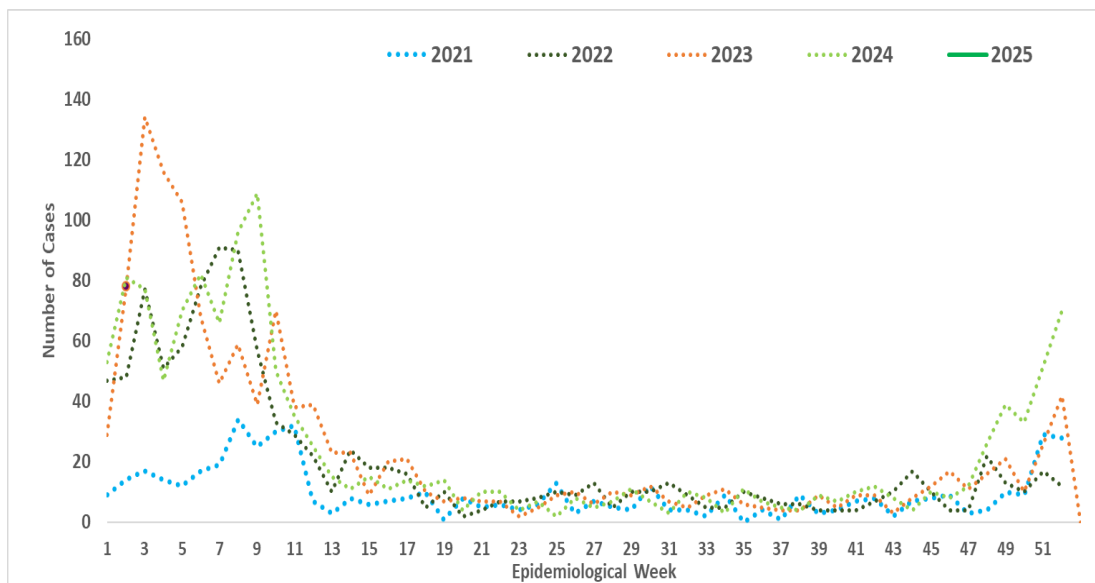


Figure 6: Trend of Confirmed Cases by Epidemiological Week, 2021–2025, Nigeria

- Activation of the Lassa Fever Incident Management System coordinated at the National Public Health Emergency Operation Centre
- Conducted a press briefing for Lassa fever
- Reviewed the Lassa Fever Advocacy toolkit with support from BA-N
- Held the 5th Webinar in the series in collaboration with the Laboratory pillar
- Conducted the Lassa fever risk assessment in preparation for the 2025 outbreak season
- Sent alert letters to the states
- Daily reviews of updates from SITAware/PHI meetings
- Continued provision of offsite support to all States sending daily and weekly situation reports
- Shared Public Health advisories to states
- Confirmed cases are treated at identified treatment centres across the states
- Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines
- Participated in the LF webinar series focused on Case Management and Psychosocial support
- IPC Guideline development workshop conducted in Bauchi State supported by WB through CoPREP
- Diagnosis of all samples in the Eight Lassa fever testing laboratories across the country
- External Quality Assurance (EQA) panel preparation for all testing laboratories ongoing
- Optimization of UBTH Benin and FMC Makurdi
- Participated in the 5th webinar series focused on Laboratory Preparedness for Lassa fever Outbreaks
- Distribution of response commodities -PPEs, Ribavirin (injection and tablets) body-bags, thermometers, hypochlorite hand sanitizers, and IEC materials distributed to states and treatment centres
- Development of distribution plan and the prepositioning of Lassa Fever Commodities
- Implementation of Nigeria Lassa fever epidemiological Study supported by CEPI
- Shared updates on the 'enable LF program-1.5' with funding from CEPI
- Shared report on Enable 1.5 Project Achievements
- Dissemination of media content including press releases, tweets, public advisories etc
- Sensitization of healthcare workers and other community structures across hotspot LGAs
- Collaborated with BA-N to review and validate the Lassa Fever advocacy toolkit
- Conducted a community survey in 3 States- Bauchi, Ebonyi, and Edo
- Developed a targeted communication strategy based on the data from the community survey conducted in 3 states
- Coordinate regular coordination meeting with SHPOs
- Update of VHF Case Investigation Form (CIF) database
- Enhanced surveillance (contact tracing and active case finding) in affected states.
- Monitoring of outbreak emergency composite indicators to guide action
- Stakeholder's mapping for pillar support
- Conducted the LF webinar series focused on Surveillance
- Multi-sectoral Incident Management System activated and coordinated from the Public Health Emergency Operation Centres (PHEOC) in affected States
- Intensive response activities through a one-health approach in affected LGAs
- Activation of state burial team in Ogun State
- Developed and disseminated SMS on LF with the support of Breakthrough Action Nigeria (BA-N) in Benue State
- Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop of One Health partners on rodent control and Lassa fever prevention collaboration with BA-N
- Implementation of Lassa fever Environmental response campaign in high-burden states

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 Technical Working Group.

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/haemorrhage.
- **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 informants 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 INFORMATION RESOURCE

https://ncdc.gov.ng/themes/common/docs/protocols/341_1707300274.pdf

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

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