



Lassa fever Situation Report

Epi Week 03: 13 – 19 January 2020

Key points

Table 1: Summary of current week indicators

Suspected cases (Negative)	Confirmed cases	Deaths (Confirmed cases)	Case Fatality Rate (CFR)	Number of States and LGAs affected (Confirmed cases)
159 (78)	81	10	12.3%	State: 6 LGA: 17

Table 2: Cumulative data compared to previous year (week 1– current week)

Suspected cases (Negative)		Confirmed cases		Deaths (Confirmed cases)		CFR	
2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020
379 (237)	398 (235)	141	163	33	24	23.4%	14.7%

Highlights

- In week 03, the number of new confirmed cases has increased from 64 cases in week 1, 2020 to 81. These were reported from six states (Ondo, Edo, Delta, Taraba, Plateau, and Bauchi) (Table 3).
- The number of deaths has decreased. The overall case fatality rate (CFR) for 2020 is (14.7%) which is lower than the CFR for the same period during 2019 (23.4%) (Figure 5).
- In total for 2020, nine states have recorded at least one confirmed case across 32 Local Government Areas.
- 89% of all confirmed cases are from Edo (38%), Ondo (38%) and Ebonyi (11%) states.
- The predominant age-group affected is 11-40 years (Range: >11 to 60 years, Median Age: 33 years). The male to female ratio for confirmed cases is 1:1 (Figure 3).
- The number of suspected cases has increased but is lower than the numbers reported in 2019.
- No Health Care Worker infection was identified in the reporting week 03.

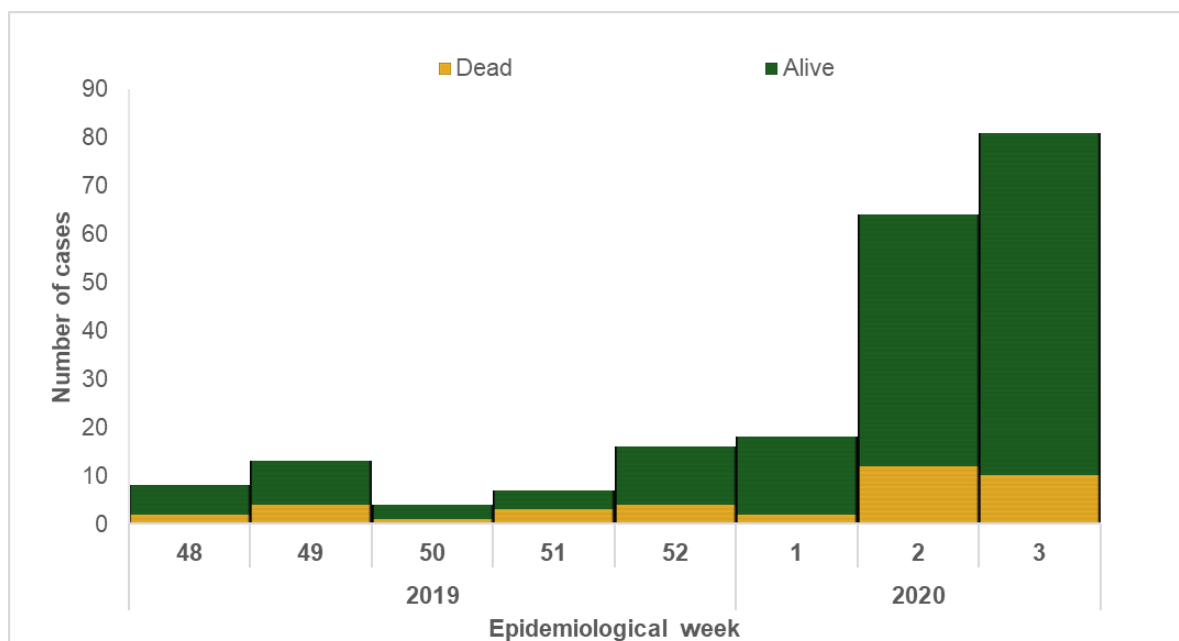


Figure 1. Epidemic curve showing number of confirmed Lassa Fever cases by epidemiological, week 48, 2019 to week 3, 2020

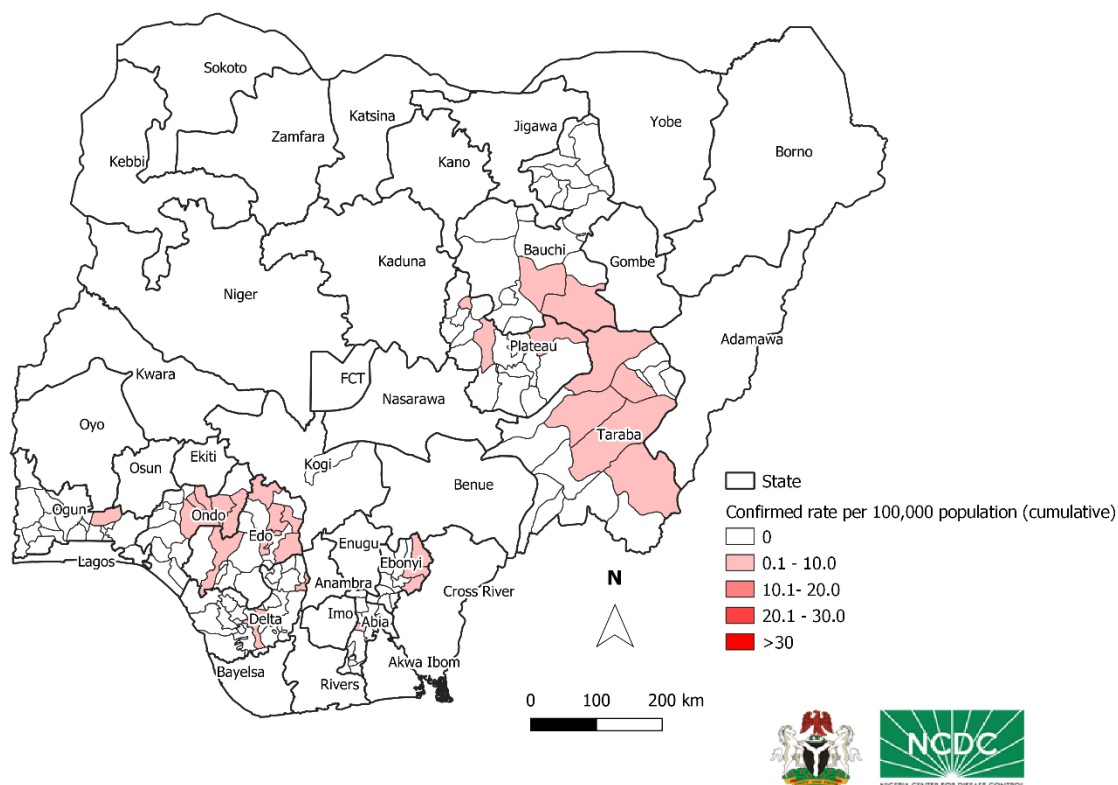


Figure 2. Confirmed Lassa fever rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, cumulative 2020 to current week

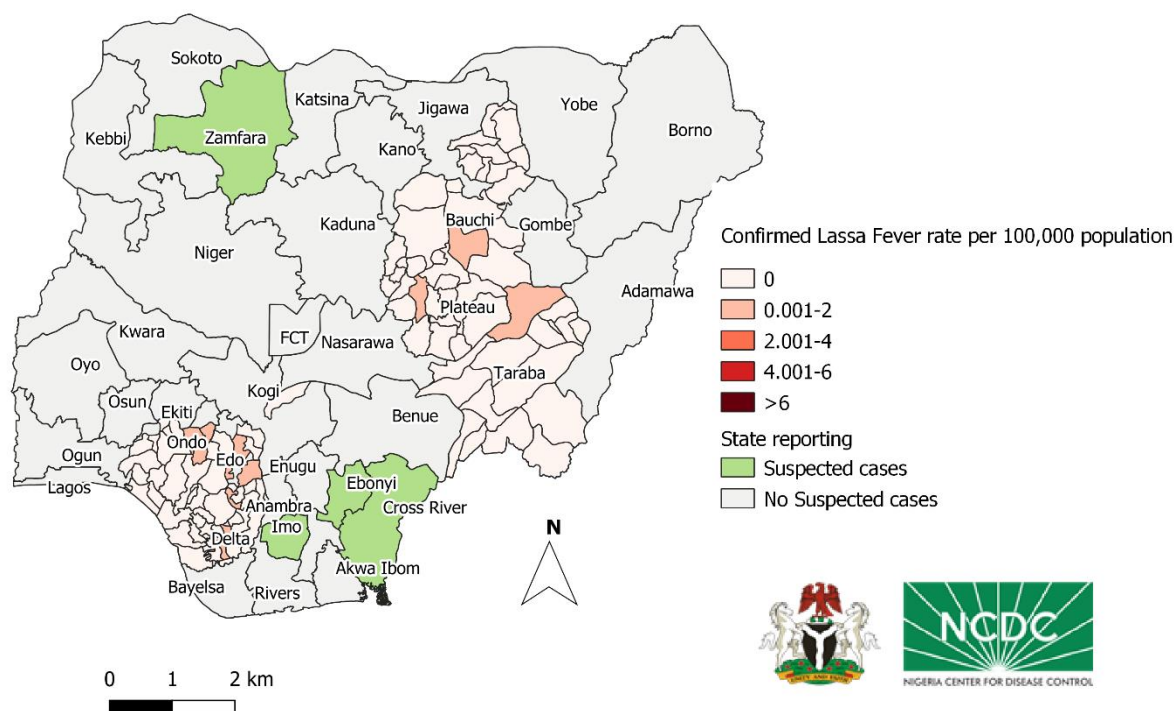


Figure 3. Confirmed Lassa fever rate per 100,000 population for LGAs in Nigeria, week 03 2020

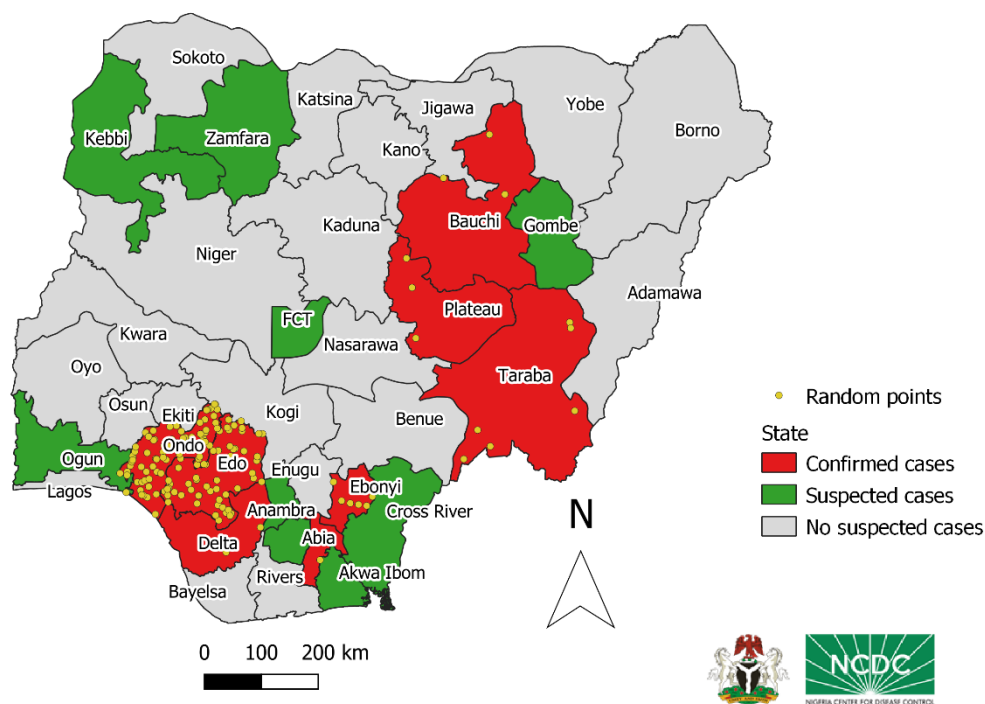


Figure 4. Confirmed Lassa fever cases by States in Nigeria, week 01- 03, 2020

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Epi Week: 03 2020

Table 3. Total number of confirmed cases for 2020 and new confirmed cases for the current week by State in Nigeria with trend compared to previous week.

* Grey denotes state no longer in outbreak, completed 21 days without a case.

State	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	New confirmed cases	Trend	State	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	New confirmed cases	Trend	State	Cumulative number of confirmed cases	New confirmed cases	Trend
Ondo	81	42	↑	Bayelsa	0	0	↔	Katsina	0	0	↔
Edo	58	33	↑	Benue	0	0	↔	Kwara	0	0	↔
Ebonyi	7	0	↓	Borno	0	0	↔	Lagos	0	0	↔
Taraba	6	1	↑	Cross River	0	0	↔	Nasarawa	0	0	↔
Plateau	3	1	↓	Delta	2	2	↑	Niger	0	0	↔
Bauchi	4	2	↑	Ekiti	0	0	↔	Osun	0	0	↔
Ogun	1	0	↓	Enugu	0	0	↔	Oyo	0	0	↔
Abia	1	0	↔	FCT	0	0	↔	Rivers	0	0	↔
Kebbi	0	0	↔	Gombe	0	0	↔	Sokoto	0	0	↔
Kogi	0	0	↔	Imo	0	0	↔	Yobe	0	0	↔
Adamawa	0	0	↔	Jigawa	0	0	↔	Zamfara	0	0	↔
Akwai Ibom	0	0	↔	Kaduna	0	0	↔				
Anambra	0	0	↔	Kano	0	0	↔				
Nigeria total									163	81	↑

Key

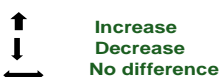
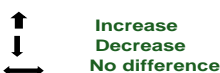


Table 4: Key indicators for current week 2020 and trend compared to previous week, Nigeria

Indicator	Number for current week	Trend from previous week	Cumulative number for 2020
Probable cases	0	↔	0
HCW affected	0	↔	0
Cases undergoing treatment in Treatment centres	57	↑	141
Contact tracing			
Contacts under follow up	830	↑	891
Contacts completed follow up	59	↑	59
Symptomatic contacts	0	↔	0
Positive contacts	0	↔	0
Contacts lost to follow up	0	↔	0

Key



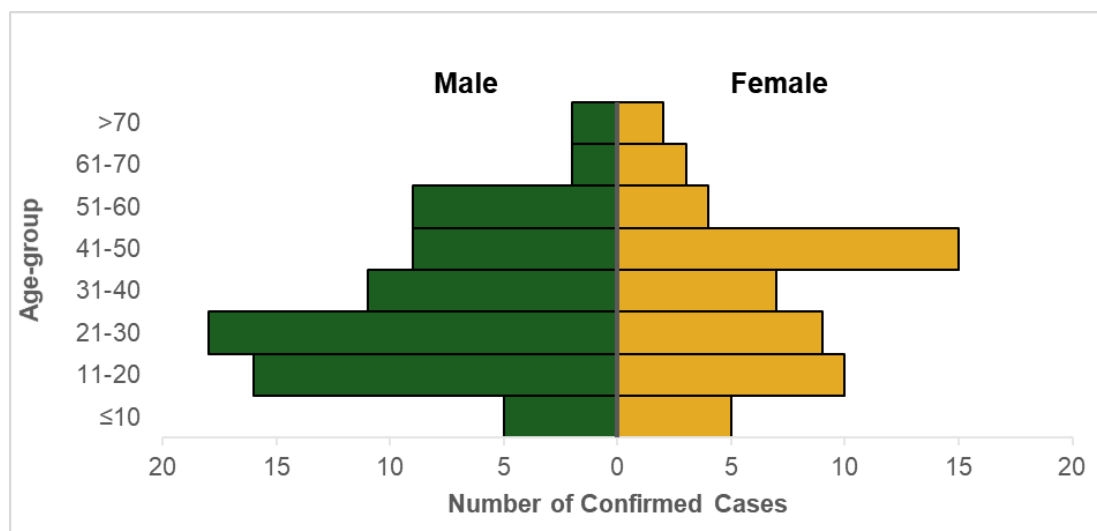


Figure 4. Age and sex pyramid showing number of confirmed Lassa fever cases for 2020

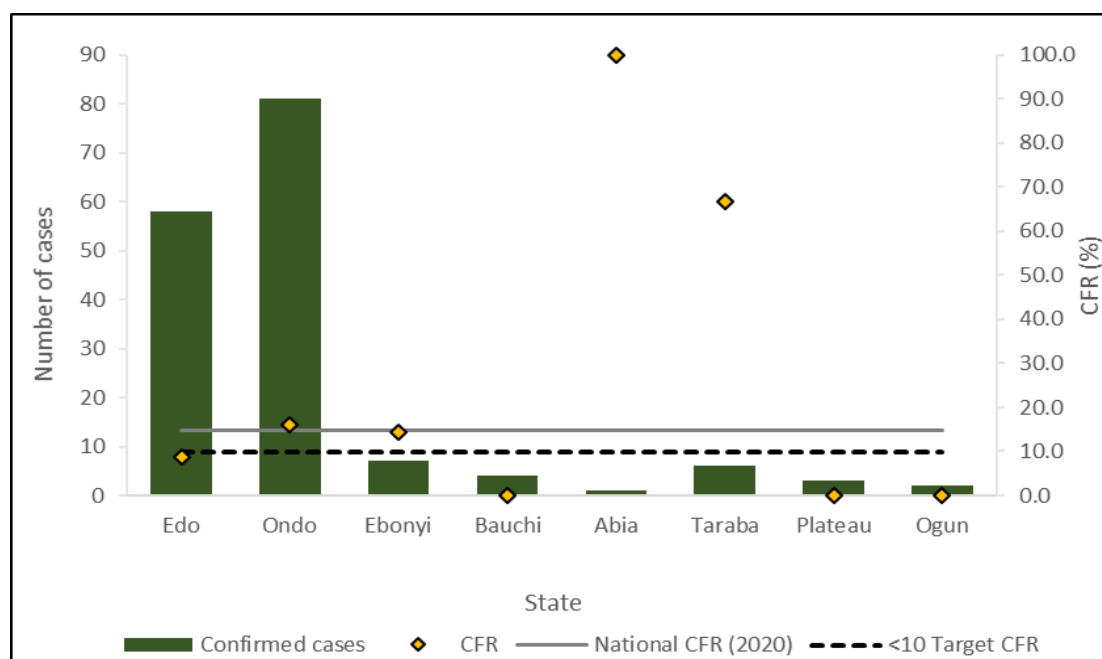


Figure 5: Number of confirmed cases with case fatality rate (CFR) by state, week 01- 03, 2020

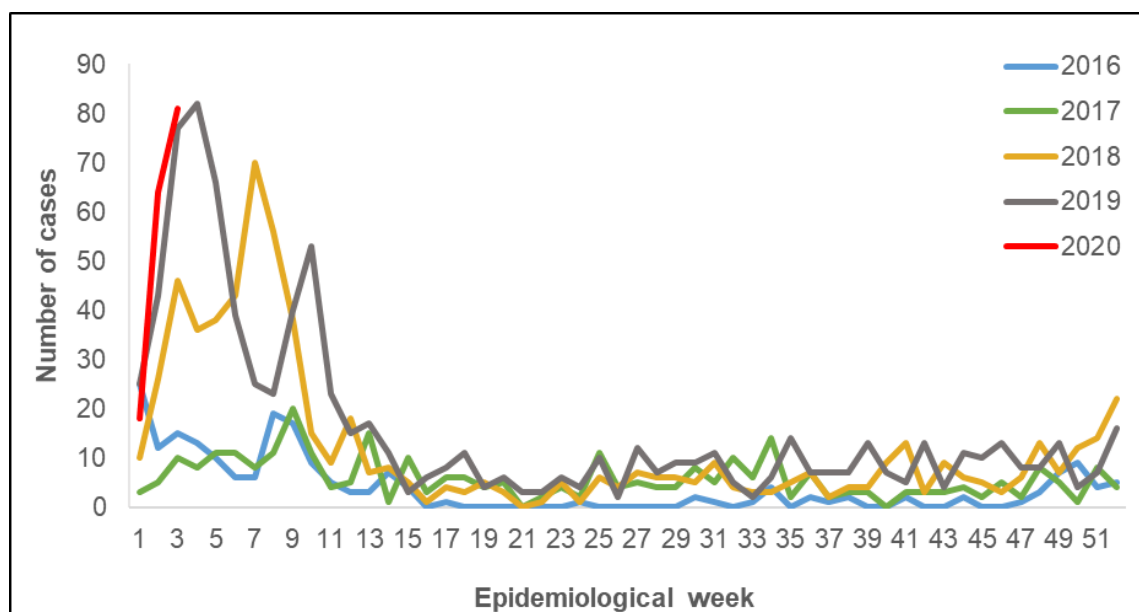


Figure 6: Trend of confirmed cases by epidemiological week, 2016 - 2020, Nigeria.

Table 5: Response activities

Pillar	Activities to date	Next steps
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lassa fever Technical Working Group continues to coordinate the response activities at the national level with on/offsite collaboration of MDAs (Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Federal Ministry of Environment) and Partners • Lassa fever advisory/alert letters sent to 36 states and FCT • Emergency Operations Centre activated in Ondo and Ebonyi • NCDC Rapid Response Team deployed to Ondo and Ebonyi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalisation of the Lassa fever 5-year Strategic plan
Case management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed cases are treated at identified treatment centres across the states with Ribavirin and necessary supportive management also instituted • Dissemination of reviewed case management and safe burial practices guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot indigent patient treatment scheme through the basic healthcare provision funds • Mortality review of Lassa fever deaths • In-depth investigation of healthcare worker infections
Infection Prevention and Control and Safe burial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of reviewed IPC and safe burial guideline • Dissemination of health facility IPC advisory • Dissemination Lassa fever Healthcare worker advisories 	
Laboratory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosis of all samples in the five Lassa fever testing laboratories across the country • Establishment of Lassa fever testing Laboratory in FMC Owo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harmonisation of laboratory and surveillance data ongoing
Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response commodities -PPEs, Ribavirin (injection and tablets), beds, Tents, body-bags, thermometers, hypochlorite hand sanitizers, IEC materials, guidelines and SOPs distributed to states and treatment centres 	
Research Pillar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lassa fever proposal development workshop held for national level staff 	
Risk communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of targeted risk communication activities in most affected States • Developed and shared media content including press releases, tweets, Lassa fever public advisories etc. Monitoring of media reports on Lassa fever 	
Surveillance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of the VHF Case Investigation Form (CIF) database • Enhanced surveillance (contact tracing and active case finding) in affected states • Monitoring outbreak intensity 	

Challenges

- Sustainability of Lassa fever outbreak response by States
- Poor environmental sanitation conditions observed in high burden communities
- Poor risk communication activities at the State level leading to late presentation of cases
- Poor IPC institutionalisation at State level and treatment centres
- Implementation of rodent control measures in hotspot LGAs - Phase 2

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/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
- **Active State:** means where there has been at least one confirmed case, and contacts within 21 days post exposure

Calculations

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

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