

Overview of Lassa Fever in Nigeria

From 2020 to Epidemiological Week 22-2025



Lassa
Fever



41,425
Suspected Cases



6,091
Confirmed Cases



234
HCWs



1,117
Total Deaths



18.3
% CFR



Notes

- Data are based on the available situation reports from **Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC)**.

Key Highlights

- **6091 total cases** in 2020-2025.
- **1117 deaths** in 2020-2025.
- **234 HCWs** in 2020-2025.
- **18% overall CFR** in 2020-2025.

1 Lassa Fever in 2020-2024

Overall Burden of Lassa Fever in Nigeria

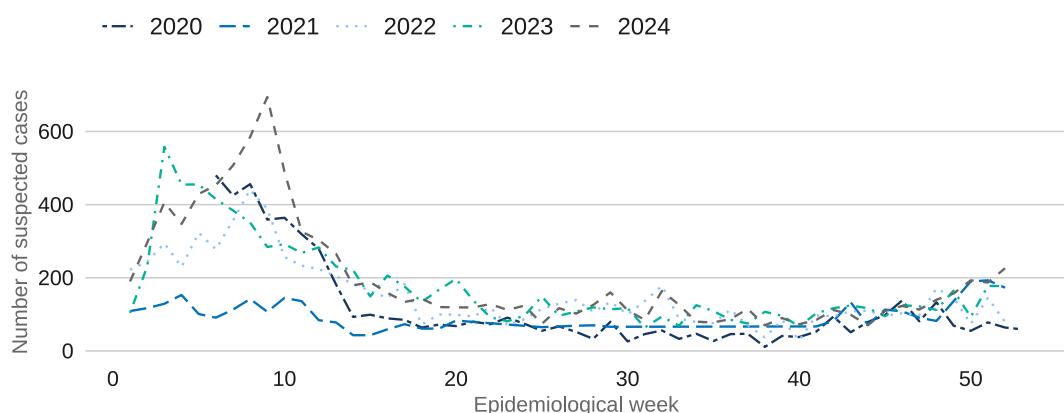


The effect of seasonality on the Lassa fever incidence 2020-2024

Confirmed Cases



Suspected cases

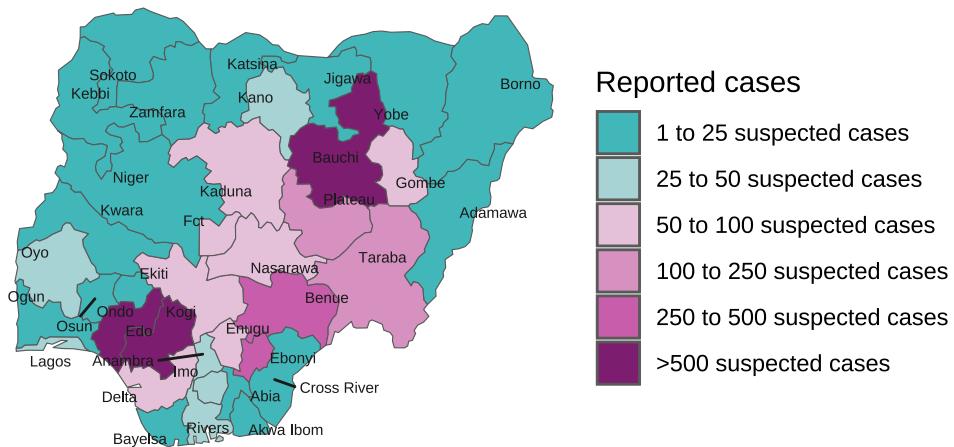




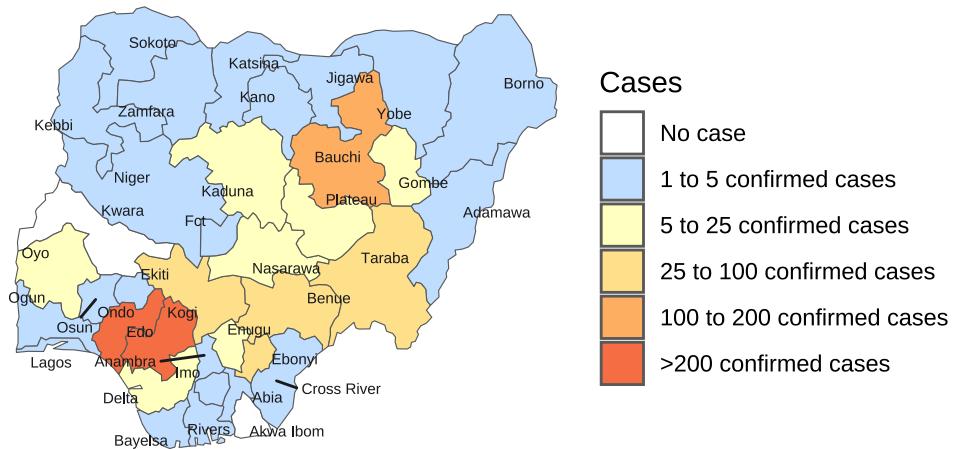
- Strengthening of capacity for lab diagnostics and case management in previous years resulted in greater case detection.
 - Major LF outbreaks reported in since 2018, with **5344 confirmed cases** since 2020.
 - Lassa fever cases in Nigeria by week show a seasonal effect: the number of cases peaks during the **dry season period** (from epi week 47 - week 12).
 - The **seasonal increase** of cases during the dry period may be attributed to an increase of the infected rodent population and/or a seasonal behavioural change in the human population resulting in a higher risk of exposure to infected animals and/or to food/household items contaminated with rodent excreta.
- From January 2018 to December 2024, **75% of Lassa fever confirmed cases** were from **Ondo** (33%), **Edo** (31%) and **Bauchi** (11%).
 - Total suspected cases: **41,425**
 - Total confirmed cases: **6,091**
 - Deaths from Confirmed Cases: **1,117**
 - Case Fatality Ratio: **21%**
 - Number of Health Care Workers: **234**

Lassa Fever Suspected cases, Confirmed cases and CFR, Nigeria 2020-2024

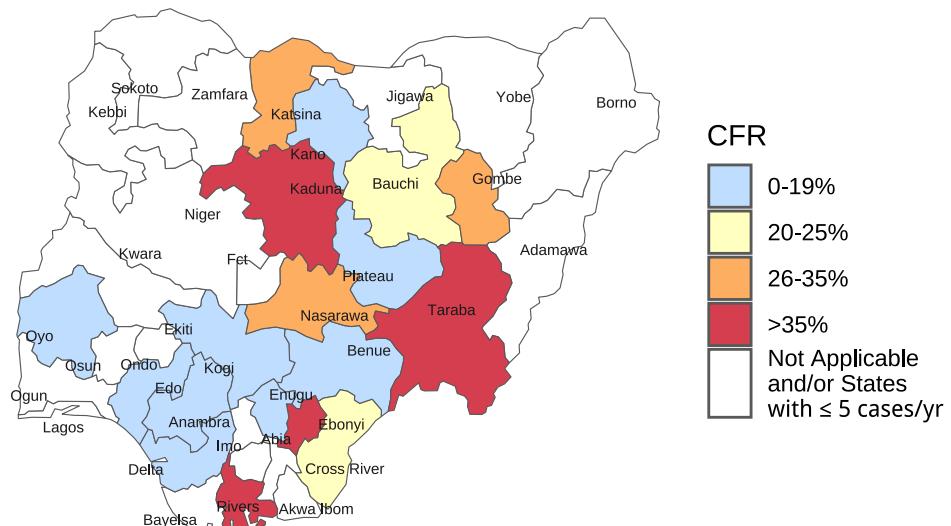
Suspected cases



Confirmed cases



Case Fatality Rate (%)



Suspected cases of Lassa fever 2020-2024



Case Fatality Rate (CFR) among Confirmed Cases of Lassa fever



CFR presented if ≥5 confirmed cases reported.

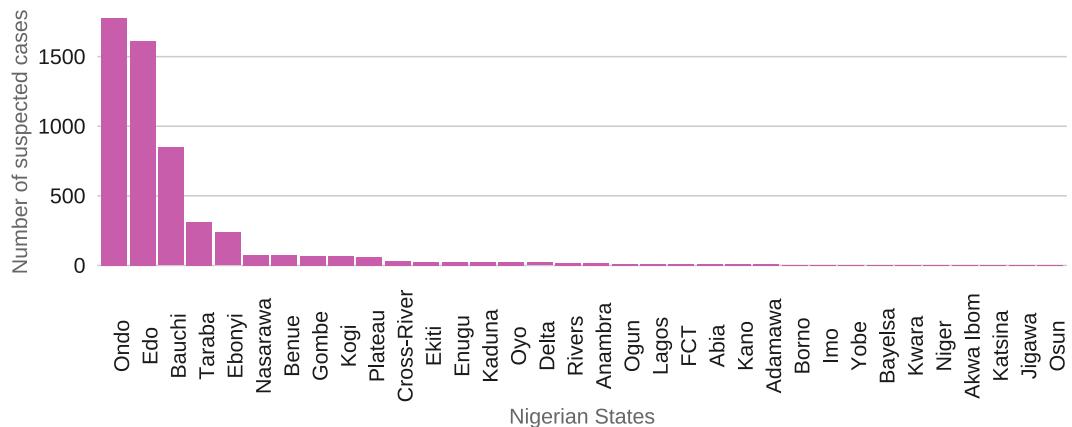
- From 2017-2024, CFR among all lab confirmed cases in Nigeria was **between 16-27% and decreased over time.**
- In 2024, overall **CFR for Nigeria was 16%** and differed greatly by individual State.
- The variation in CFR is likely due to late patient presentation and differences in case management, highlighting the need for improvement.

Lassa Fever Infections among Healthcare Workers (HCW)



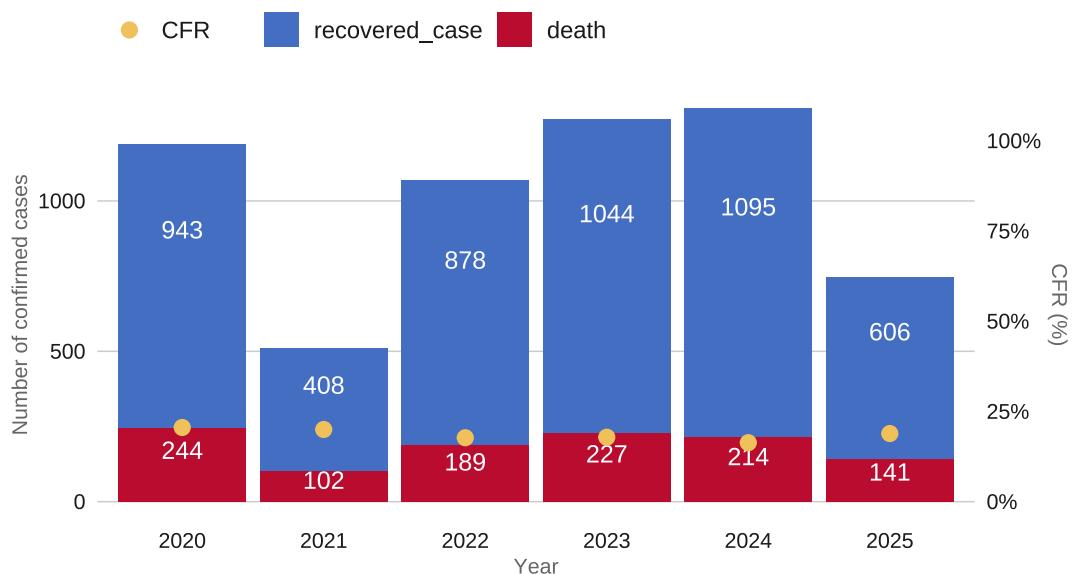
2 Lassa Fever in 2025 - Data from epi-week 1 to epi-week 22

Lassa Fever Suspected cases, Confirmed cases and CFR by State, Nigeria 2025



- In 2025, a total of **5,403** suspected cases were reported from **1** in **Jigawa, Osun** to **1,775** in **Ondo**.

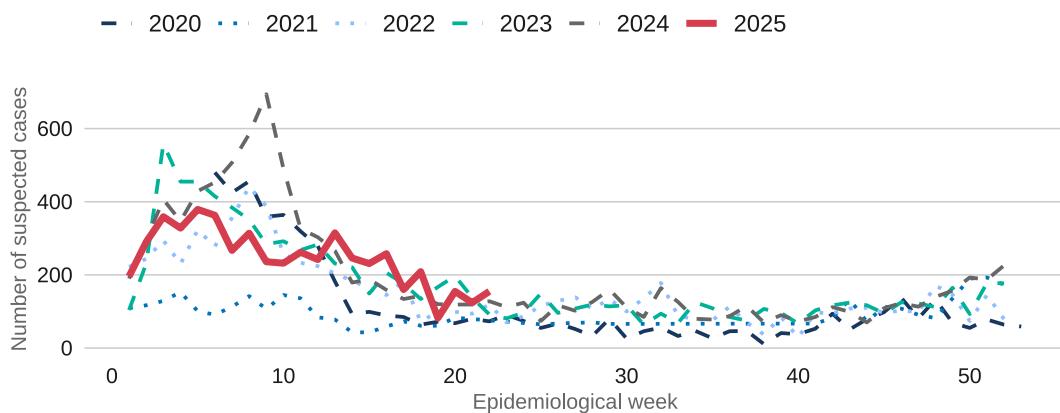
Cumulative Number of Confirmed Cases of Lassa Fever in 2025



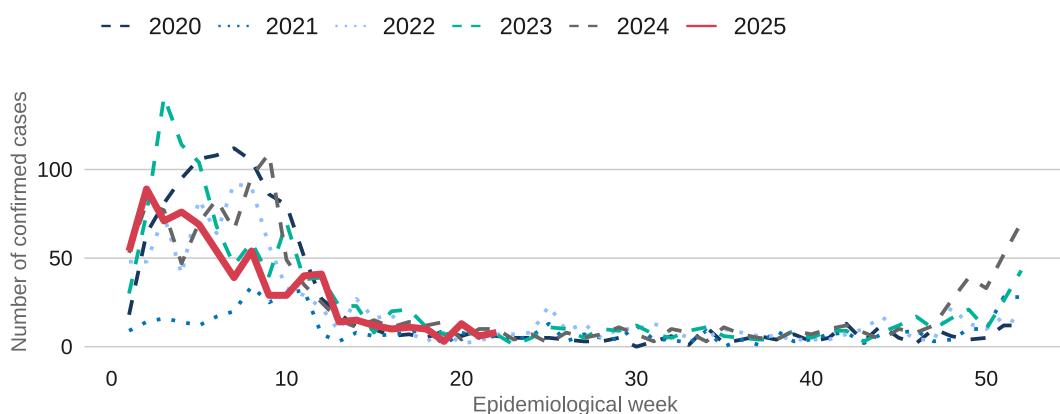
- Nigeria has the highest burden of Lassa fever cases in West Africa.
- Strengthening of capacity for lab diagnostics and case management in previous years resulted in greater case detection.
- Major LF outbreaks reported in since 2018, with **5344 confirmed cases since 2020**.

Seasonality of Lassa Fever

Suspected Cases



Confirmed Cases



- In 2025, similar trend as per previous years confirming a seasonal effect on Lassa fever incidence.
- Compared to 2024, **18% decrease** in the cumulative number of **confirmed cases** reported.

States Reporting Confirmed Cases of Lassa Fever in 2025

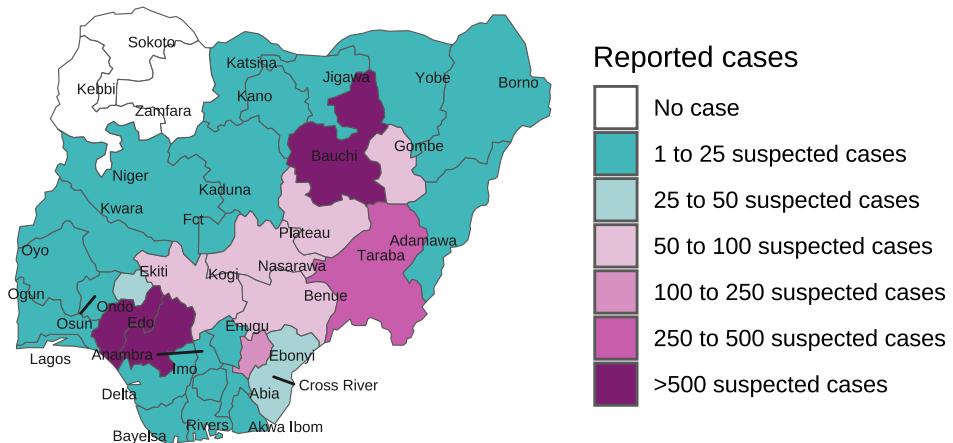
! Important

In 2025, as of epi week 22, **87%** of Lassa Fever cases are from **Ondo** (31%), **Bauchi** (25%), **Edo** (16%), and **Taraba** (16%) States.

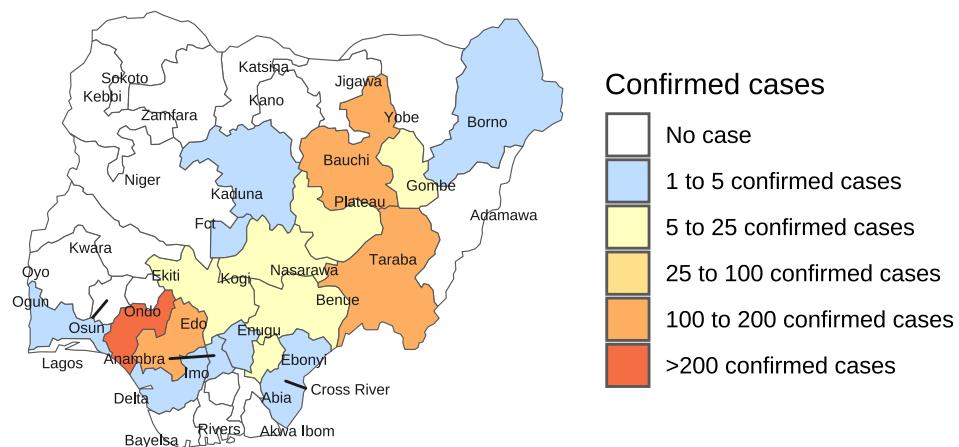
- Total **confirmed cases**: **747**
- Deaths** from Confirmed Cases: **141**
- Case Fatality Ratio**: **19%**
- Number of **Health Care Workers**: **22**

Lassa Fever Suspected cases, Confirmed cases and CFR in 2025

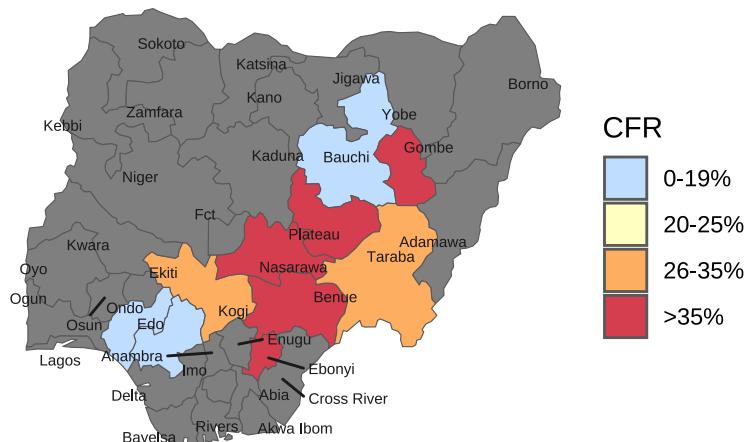
Suspected cases



Confirmed cases



Case Fatality Rate (%)



Case Fatality Rate (CFR) among Confirmed Cases of Lassa fever in 2025



CFR presented if ≥ 5 confirmed cases reported.

- As of epi week 22 2025, **cumulatively 747 cases and 141 deaths (CFR=19%) across 18 States** have been reported.
- At same period 2024, a total of **28 States** reported at least one confirmed cases.
- There is a **18% decrease in the number of suspected cases reported in 2025** compared to 2024.
- There is a **18% decrease in the number of confirmed cases reported in 2025** compared to 2024.
- In 2024, **37 States** had reported at least one suspected case versus **34 States** in 2025 to date.
- In 2024, **28 States** had reported at least one confirmed case versus **18 States** in 2025 to date.

Lassa Fever Infections among Healthcare Workers (HCW) in 2025

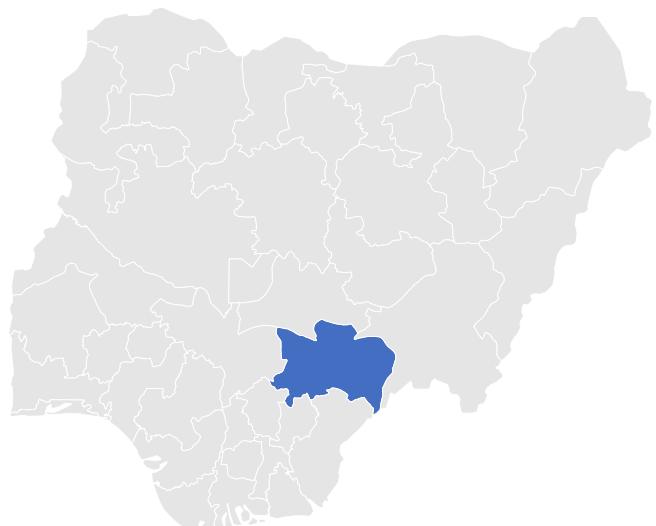


- Top 5 states reporting cases among HCW are Ondo (8), Bauchi (4), Taraba (3), Edo (2), and Gombe (2).**

3 Trends by state at a glance

location	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	CFR	Trends
Abia	98	6	2	30	
Adamawa	58	8	1	10	
Akwa Ibom	26	0	0	-	
Anambra	120	12	7	60	
Bauchi	3363	624	99	20	
Bayelsa	67	4	2	50	
Benue	1525	156	31	20	
Borno	55	5	1	20	
Cross-River	121	14	5	40	
Delta	295	29	7	20	
Ebonyi	1261	246	111	50	
Edo	9561	1251	162	10	
Ekiti	52	0	0	-	
Enugu	273	50	8	20	
FCT	218	10	2	20	
Gombe	369	56	21	40	
Imo	76	5	5	100	
Jigawa	76	5	1	20	
Kaduna	371	36	22	60	
Kano	128	11	2	20	
Katsina	79	8	4	50	
Kebbi	31	6	3	50	
Kogi	450	141	23	20	
Kwara	38	0	0	-	
Lagos	116	5	1	20	
Nasarawa	377	47	19	40	
Niger	29	5	2	40	
Ogun	90	3	2	70	
Ondo	6729	1410	196	10	
Osun	41	2	0	0	
Oyo	204	27	6	20	
Plateau	374	88	15	20	
Rivers	110	16	6	40	
Sokoto	30	6	3	50	
Taraba	1063	414	131	30	
Yobe	62	1	1	100	
Zamfara	24	1	0	0	

4 Lassa Fever Situation in Benue

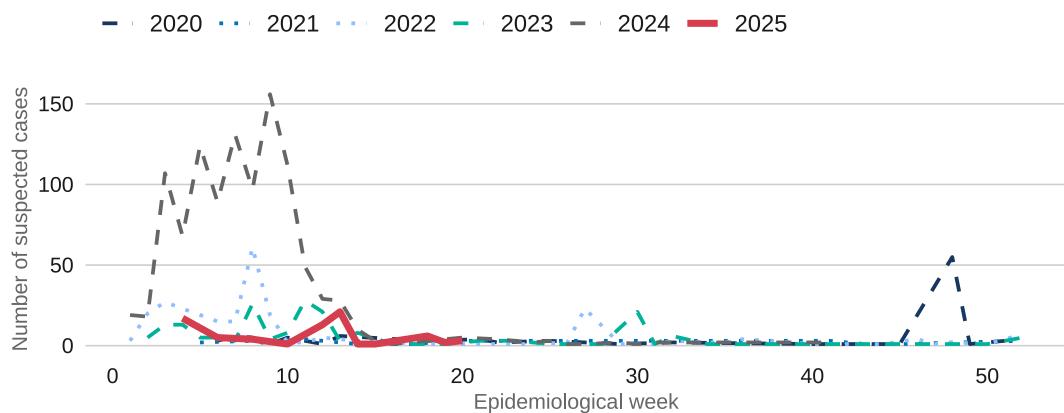


Overview

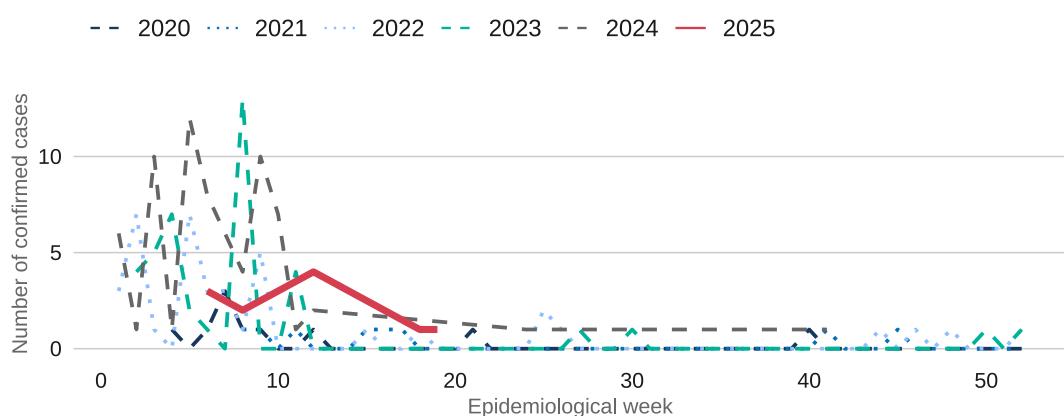
year	Suspected cases	Confirmed cases	Deaths	CFR	Trends
2020	36	9	4	40	
2021	21	6	0	0	
2022	195	32	8	20	
2023	149	36	3	10	
2024	1050	62	11	20	
2025	74	11	5	50	

Seasonality of Lassa Fever in Benue

Suspected Cases

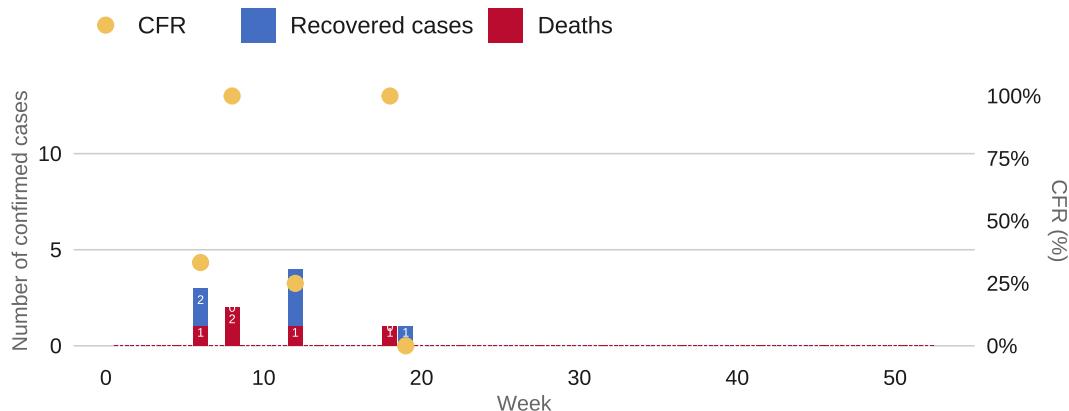


Confirmed Cases



Situation in Benue in 2025

Confirmed Cases in 2025



Suspected Cases in 2025

