



General Country Information:

The Federal Republic of Nigeria is located in western Africa, and borders Benin, Chad, Cameroon and Niger. It has a south coast along the Gulf of Guinea, part of the Atlantic Ocean. Nigeria is divided in thirty-six states and one Federal Capital Territory. Abuja is the capital, but the largest city is Lagos.

In 1960, Nigeria gained its independence from Great Britain after being a British protectorate since 1901.

Nigeria has been undergoing explosive population growth and is considered the most populous country in Africa with a population of 140,003,542. (Census of Dec. 2006)

Poor conditions of health and health care are one of the factors responsible for the average life expectancy of only 47 years. Just over half the population has access to potable water and appropriate sanitation. Since the Bamako Initiative of 1987, Nigeria has been reorganizing its health system in promoting community-based methods leading to subsequent improvement in the health indicators. Nigeria like many developing countries suffers from a polio crisis as well as periodic outbreaks of cholera, malaria and sleeping sickness.

Cholera Background History:

The current cholera pandemic started in 1961, reaching West Africa and Nigeria late 1970. The first recorded cases of cholera in Nigeria occurred in a village near Lagos, on 26 December 1970 leading to an important epidemic of 22 931 cases and 2945 deaths with a case fatality rate (CFR) of 12.8% during 1971.

Between **1972 and 1990**, Nigeria reported only very few cases.

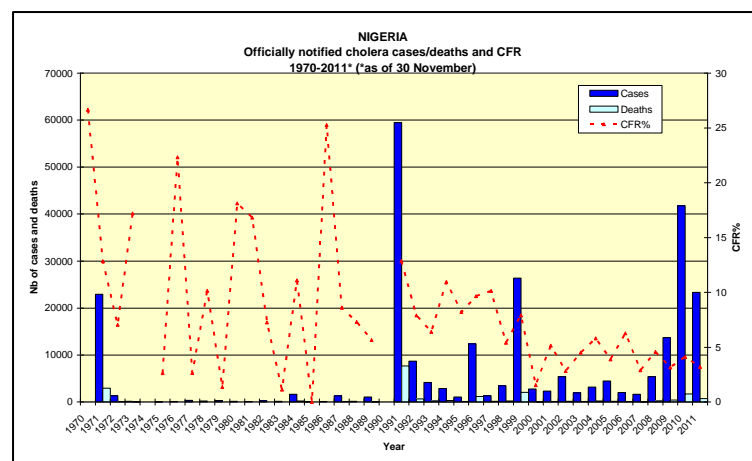
In **1991**, 59'478 cases and 7'654 deaths have been reported. The CFR was 12.9% which remains the highest rate reported by the country to date. Cases started to be registered in January and among the first affected states were Kano, Akwa Ibom, Bauchi, Niger and Oyo. By September, the disease had spread to 19 of the 21* States including the Federal Capital (*in 1991, Nigeria only had 21 States). *Vibrio cholerae* El Tor, Ogawa was identified.

In March **1999**, an outbreak of cholera was reported in Kano Municipal Local Government Area (LGA), Kano State. The outbreak was traced to the interruption of the domestic water supply for some days which forced people to use any water available. A total of 815 cases with 28 deaths have been recorded up to 6 May. The outbreak also spread to Tofa LGA where 182 cases with 19 deaths were recorded over two weeks beginning in late April and further to Adamawa State (76 cases, 18 deaths) and Edo State (49 cases 24 deaths).

Starting in **November 2001**, 2050 cases including 80 deaths were reported by 18 LGAs.

In November 2002, Kano reported 176 cases and 12 deaths.

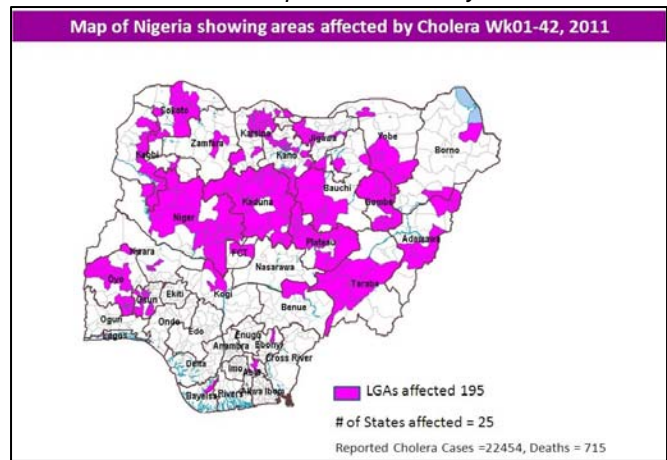
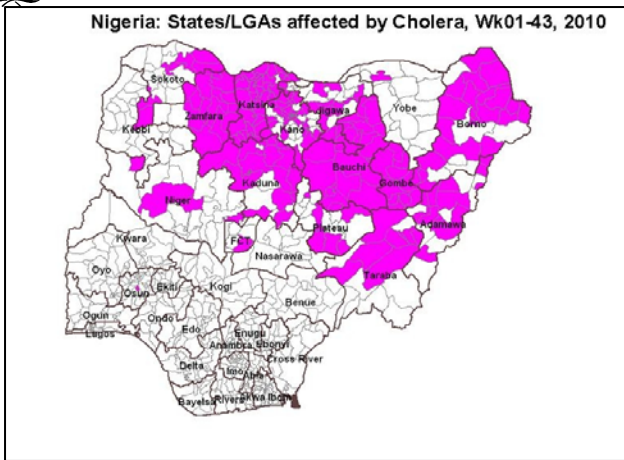
Kano State seems to be particularly affected by cholera outbreaks.



During the **first week of January 2007**, suspected cholera cases were reported in Delta State affecting the following LGAs: Ughelli South, Bomadi, Oshimili South and Burutu.

In October 2007, the Obi LGA in Benue State reported 60 cases of gastroenteritis including one death. In December 2007, Gbajimba, in Guma LGA, (Benue State) reported 36 cases including 9 deaths of "suspected" cholera cases. In both cases, the stool samples were sent to the laboratory but the results were not shared with WHO.

In 2008, Nigeria reported 5'140 cases including 247 deaths and **in 2009**, Nigeria reported 13'691 cases including 431 deaths affecting mostly the eastern states of the country



Cholera outbreak in 2010 and 2011:

From January to December 2010, Nigeria reported 41,787 cases including 1,716 deaths (CFR 4.1%) from 222 LGAs in 18 States of the country. The most affected states were Borno, Bauchi and Katsina. Only very few cases were reported after week 44. This outbreak affected three other neighboring countries of the "Lake Basin" area: Niger, Chad and Cameroon. The link between the different outbreaks affecting the different states was not clearly established.

In 2011, the number of cholera cases started to increase during week 8 to reach a first peak of 1200 weekly cases at the beginning of April. As of 23 October, 22 454 cases including 715 deaths (CFR 3.2%) are reported in 25 states (195 LGAs)

Demographic and Socio-Economic Data:

Sources for Document: WHO, UN (MDG), UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP

Geography	Total surface	923'768km2 (coastline of 853km)
	Capital	Abuja (population in :)
	Provinces	37 States and 1 Federal Capital Territory
	Official Language	English
Environment	Climate	Equatorial in south, tropical in center, arid in north
	Rainy season	Coast and southeast: rainy season begins in Feb. or March North: peak of the rainy season occurs in August
	Floods and droughts	Periodic droughts; flooding
	Desertification	Rapid deforestation and desertification
Demographics	Natural resources	Natural gas, petroleum, tin, iron ore, coal, limestone, niobium, lead, zinc
	Population	154'729'000 (2009)
	Religions	Muslim 50%, Christian 40%, indigenous beliefs 10%
	Ethnic groups	More than 250; among them: Hausa and Fulani 29%, Yoruba 21%, Igbo (Ibo) 18%, Ijaw 10%, Kanuri 4%, Ibibio 3.5%, Tiv 2.5%
Economy	Migrants	Undetermined number of IDPs (UNHCR, Sept. 2007), 8'230 refugees (August 2007, mostly Liberians)
	Industry	Crude oil, coal, tin, columbite; palm oil, peanuts, cotton, rubber, wood; hides and skins, textiles, cement and other construction materials, food products, footwear, chemicals, fertilizer, printing, ceramics, steel, small commercial ship construction and repair
Health Indicators	Farming	Cocoa, peanuts, palm oil, corn, rice, sorghum, millet, tapioca, yams, rubber; cattle, sheep, goats, pigs; timber; fish
	Per capita total expenditure on health (Int'\$)	136\$
	Life expectancy birth (yrs)	Males: 53 Females: 54
	Probability of dying under five (per 1 000 live births)	138
Communicable Diseases	Child mortality (per 1000)	
	Malaria and yellow fever, meningococcal meningitis, Lassa fever, leptospirosis and shistosomiasis, H5N1 avian influenza has been identified	
Risk Factors for Cholera	HIV prevalence (2005): 3.5%	
	Population with access to improved water source	58% (2008)
	Population with access to proper sanitation facilities	32% (2008)
	Chronic Malnutrition	9%