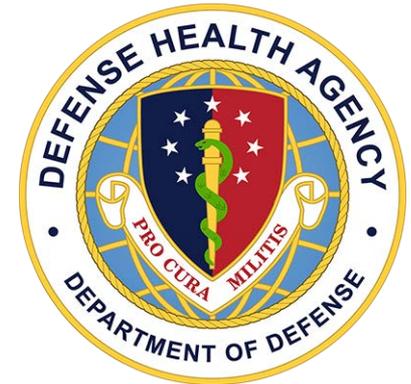


Department of Defense
Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch
West Africa Ebola Surveillance Summary
(18 MAR 2016)



Approved for Public Release

For questions or comments, please contact:

dha.ncr.health-surv.list.afhs-ib-alert-response@mail.mil



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (AFHSB)

West Africa Ebola Surveillance Summary #135

18 MAR 2016 (next report as needed)



CASE REPORT: As of 18 MAR, Guinea has reported a new family cluster of two confirmed Ebola virus disease (EVD) cases, with tests pending on three other patients, in Koropora town, Nzerekore Prefecture. The cluster was found after health officials reported three unexplained deaths in Koropora on 16 MAR. The confirmed cases are a mother and child, who are relatives of the deceased; they have been admitted to a treatment facility. Guinea was at day 80 of its 90-day period of enhanced surveillance. It had been declared Ebola transmission-free on 28 DEC 2015 with its last case in NOV 2015. A response that includes contact tracing, limited quarantine, vaccination, and enhanced infection control practices has been implemented.

Earlier on 17 MAR, [WHO declared](#) that human-to-human transmission linked to the most recent cluster of two cases of EVD reported from Sierra Leone on 14 JAN had ended, 42 days after the second and last case in the cluster provided a second consecutive negative blood sample (RT-PCR) and was discharged from hospital. WHO declared Liberia Ebola transmission-free on 14 JAN 2016, starting the country's 90-day period of enhanced surveillance. As of 17 MAR, there have been 28,641 (+2) confirmed, suspected, and probable EVD cases (11,316 deaths) in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Italy, Senegal, Nigeria, United Kingdom, Spain, Mali, and the United States.

Citing the rapid government-led containment of recent flare-ups of the disease, on 16 MAR [WHO said](#) health authorities from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, as well as representatives of partner organizations, expressed confidence in the capacity of the three Ebola-impacted countries to effectively manage residual risks of new Ebola infections. During the week ending 13 MAR, authorities followed up on 3,768 EVD surveillance alerts for febrile illnesses or deaths in Guinea (1,611), Liberia (663), and Sierra Leone (1,494); most resulted in laboratory testing.

WHO published interim guidance on [providing clinical care](#) to EVD survivors for the medical and psychological sequelae on 2 MAR; there are over 10,000 survivors in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. [According to WHO](#), Ebola virus can persist at various sites in the body for many months in some people. In NOV 2015, [CDC](#) posted information on persistent medical conditions after recovery from EVD. A study by CDC researchers published in the [New England Journal of Medicine](#) (NEJM) on 17 DEC showed that eight survivors treated in the U.S. had symptoms weeks to months after recovery that ranged from mild to severe.

On 15 DEC, WHO's eighth [Emergency Committee meeting](#) on the EVD outbreak found that the outbreak continued to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) due to the potential for re-introduction of the virus in densely populated areas by the survivor populations. The committee described the current period as a "critical phase of transition." WHO considers the West Africa epidemic to be in a [phase 3 response](#), which implements specific actions to achieve and maintain zero virus transmission.

DoD RESPONSE: On 10 AUG, the Deputy Secretary of Defense signed a [memorandum](#) that extends, for at least one year following the 30 JUN 2015 end of Operation United Assistance (OUA), selected DoD policies and EVD-related responsibilities, including those related to health surveillance, personal protective equipment, medical treatment for deployed DoD personnel, and transport of exposed or infected DoD personnel. DoD personnel continue to provide support to the Liberian Institute of Biomedical Research.

DIAGNOSTICS AND MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES: Information on [vaccines, therapies, and diagnostics](#) is available from WHO.

TRAVEL ADVISORY: [No travel notices are currently in effect](#) for Guinea, Liberia, or Sierra Leone. As of 19 FEB, the United States is no longer conducting enhanced entry screening for Ebola. According to CDC, travelers from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone should self-monitor for fever or other symptoms of Ebola for 21 days after departure and should seek health care if symptoms consistent with Ebola develop.

Text updated from the previous report will be printed in red; items in (+xx) represent the change in number from the previous AFHSB summary (18 FEB 2016).

All information has been verified unless noted otherwise. Sources include health agencies in the listed countries.

Approved for Public Release



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (AFHSB)

West Africa Ebola Surveillance Summary #135

18 MAR 2016



Latest Available Ebola Case Counts in or Related to West Africa, 2014-2016

Country (as of date)	EVD Cases All / Lab Confirmed	Deaths All / Lab Confirmed	EVD Cases in HCW / Deaths	Contacts Being Followed
Guinea (18 MAR 2016)	3,806 (+2) / 3,353 (+2)	2,538 / 2,085	196 / 100	NA
Sierra Leone (17 MAR 2016)	14,124 / 8,706	3,956 / 3,560	307 / 221	0
Liberia (14 JAN 2016)	10,675 / 3,160	4,809 / NA	378 / 192	0
Italy (20 JUL 2015)	1 / 1***	0 / 0	1 / 0***	0
United Kingdom (22 JAN 2015)	1 / 1***	0 / 0	1 / 0***	0
United States (4 DEC 2014)	4 / 4**	1 / 1	3 / 0	0
Mali (21 DEC 2014)	8 / 7	6 / 5	2 / 2	0
Nigeria (17 SEP 2014)	20 / 19	8 / 7	11 / 5	0
Senegal (20 SEP 2014)	1 / 1*	0 / 0	0 / 0	0
Spain (2 DEC 2014)	1 / 1	0 / 0	1 / 0	0
Total (18 MAR 2016)	28,641 (+2) / 15,253 (+2)	11,316 / 5,686[†]	900 / 520	NA

[†]Excluding Liberia / *Imported from Liberia / **1 imported from Guinea / ***Imported from Sierra Leone / NA = Not Available.

Shaded rows represent countries which have been declared Ebola transmission-free by WHO.

The total number of cases, which includes suspect, probable, and confirmed cases, is subject to change due to reclassification, retrospective investigation, consolidation of cases and laboratory data, and enhanced surveillance.

Text updated from the previous report will be printed in red; items in (+xx) represent the change in number from the previous AFHSB summary (18 FEB 2016).

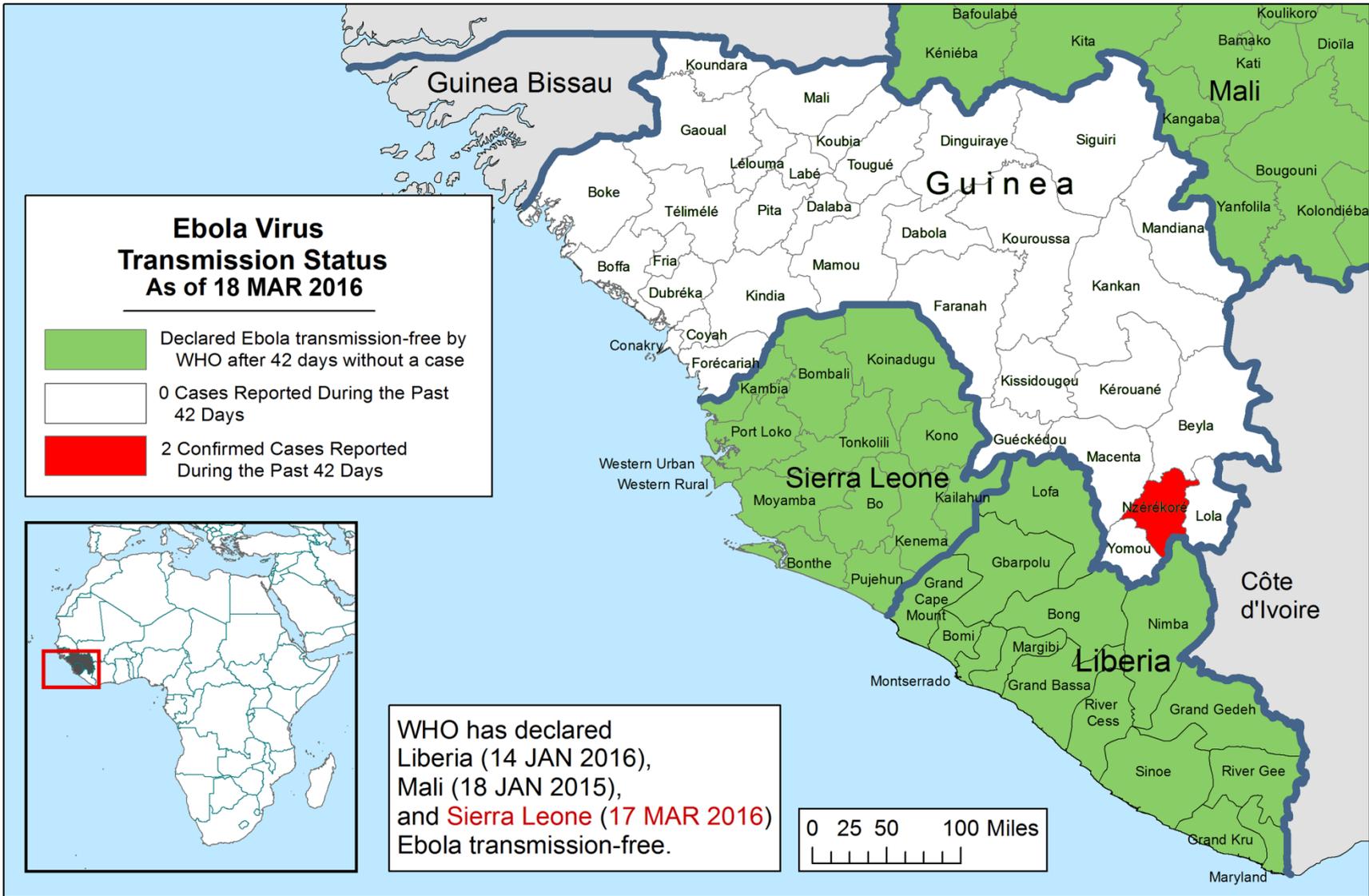
All information has been verified unless noted otherwise. Sources include WHO, CDC, and health agencies in the listed countries.



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (AFHSB)

West Africa Ebola Surveillance Summary #135

18 MAR 2016



All information has been verified unless noted otherwise.

Approved for Public Release