

Department of Defense Armed Forces Health Surveillance West Africa Ebola Surveillance Summary (29 OCT 2015)



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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (AFHS)

West Africa Ebola Surveillance Summary #123

29 OCT 2015 (next report 5 NOV 2015)



CASE REPORT: According to [WHO on 28 OCT](#), between 19 OCT and 25 OCT there were **three** new confirmed Ebola virus disease (EVD) cases in **Forecariah, Guinea**; **all three lived in the household of a known case and were registered contacts**. Guinea is following **364** contacts. All contacts have completed follow-up in Sierra Leone, **but the whereabouts of one high-risk contact is unknown**. The total count of **28,575 cases** (11,313 deaths) includes past confirmed, suspected, and probable cases and all deaths from Sierra Leone, Liberia, Italy, Senegal, Nigeria, United Kingdom, Spain, Mali, and the United States.

Liberia is in a 90-day period of heightened surveillance after being declared Ebola virus transmission-free on 3 SEP. On 26 SEP Sierra Leone started a 42-day countdown to transmission-free status on 8 NOV. As a result of the consistently low incidence in limited geographic areas, WHO considers the epidemic to be in a [phase 3 response](#), which implements specific actions to achieve and maintain zero virus transmission.

A Scottish nurse who recovered from EVD in JAN and was readmitted to a London hospital for late complications of the disease in early OCT has [meningitis](#) caused by a persistent Ebola virus infection. Glasgow health authorities are tracking **65** close contacts; **40 met the clinical criteria to be vaccinated and 26 were vaccinated**. **The remainder declined or had other health issues that prevented them from receiving vaccination**.

A study published online in the 15 OCT [New England Journal of Medicine](#) shows Ebola virus RNA persisted in the semen of 93 male EVD survivors for months after recovery. Ebola virus RNA was found in 65% of subjects after 4 to 6 months and in 26% after 7 to 9 months. The authors do not know if a positive finding is associated with infection risk. [According to WHO](#), a growing volume of data from clinical observation and testing of recovered EVD patients indicates that the Ebola virus can persist at various sites in the body for many months in some people.

On 1 OCT, WHO's seventh [Emergency Committee meeting](#) on the EVD outbreak agreed that the outbreak continued to constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) and proposed new temporary recommendations that would supersede those previously issued.

DoD RESPONSE: On 10 AUG, the Deputy Secretary of Defense signed a [memorandum](#) declaring that DoD needs to maintain the capability to operate in an infectious disease environment in the future. The memorandum extends for at least one year following the 30 JUN 2015 end of 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: Despite declining EVD cases, on 9 OCT [Johnson and Johnson](#) announced it will start trials of its prime boost vaccine regimen in Sierra Leone. Visit the WHO's [Ebola vaccines, therapies, and diagnostics](#) page for information about clinical trials and evaluations of potential vaccines, therapies, and diagnostics for Ebola virus disease.

USG AND GLOBAL RESPONSE: Current information and guidance is available at the [CDC](#) and [WHO](#) Ebola web sites.

TRAVEL ADVISORY: CDC is maintaining its [Warning - Level 3, Avoid Nonessential Travel](#) advisory for Guinea and Sierra Leone. For Liberia the advisory level is [Watch - Level 1, Practice Usual Precautions](#). The State Department issued an [updated travel notice](#) for West Africa on 21 SEP when CDC announced that [enhanced entry screening was discontinued](#) for travelers coming to the U.S. from Liberia. These travelers will no longer be funneled through the five U.S. airports [conducting enhanced entry screening](#) (JFK, Newark Liberty, Washington Dulles, Chicago O'Hare, and Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson). CDC recommends that travelers from Liberia self-monitor for fever or other symptoms of Ebola for 21 days after departure. Recommendations and procedures have not changed for travelers entering the United States from Guinea or Sierra Leone. CDC continues to recommend that state public health departments implement active post-arrival monitoring for 21 days along with other movement restrictions based on a traveler's exposure risk category using CDC definitions for travelers from Sierra Leone or Guinea.

Text updated from the previous report will be printed in **red**; items in **(+xx)** represent the change in number from the previous AFHS summary (22 OCT 2015).

All information has been verified unless noted otherwise. Sources include NCMI, WHO, HHS, CDC, DoS, and health agencies in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

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Latest Available Ebola Case Counts in or Related to West Africa, 2014-2015

Country (as of date)	EVD Cases All / Lab Confirmed	Deaths All / Lab Confirmed	EVD Cases in HCW / Deaths	Contacts Being Followed
Guinea (25 OCT)	3,806 (+3) / 3,350 (+3)	2,535 / 2,082	196 / 100	364
Sierra Leone (25 OCT)	14,061 (+60) / 8,704	3,955 / 3,589	307 / 221	0
Liberia (30 AUG)	10,672 / 3,157	4,808 / NA	378 / 192	0
Italy (20 JUL)	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 (25 OCT)	28,575 (+63) / 15,245 (+3)	11,313 / 5,683†	900 / 520	364

†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.

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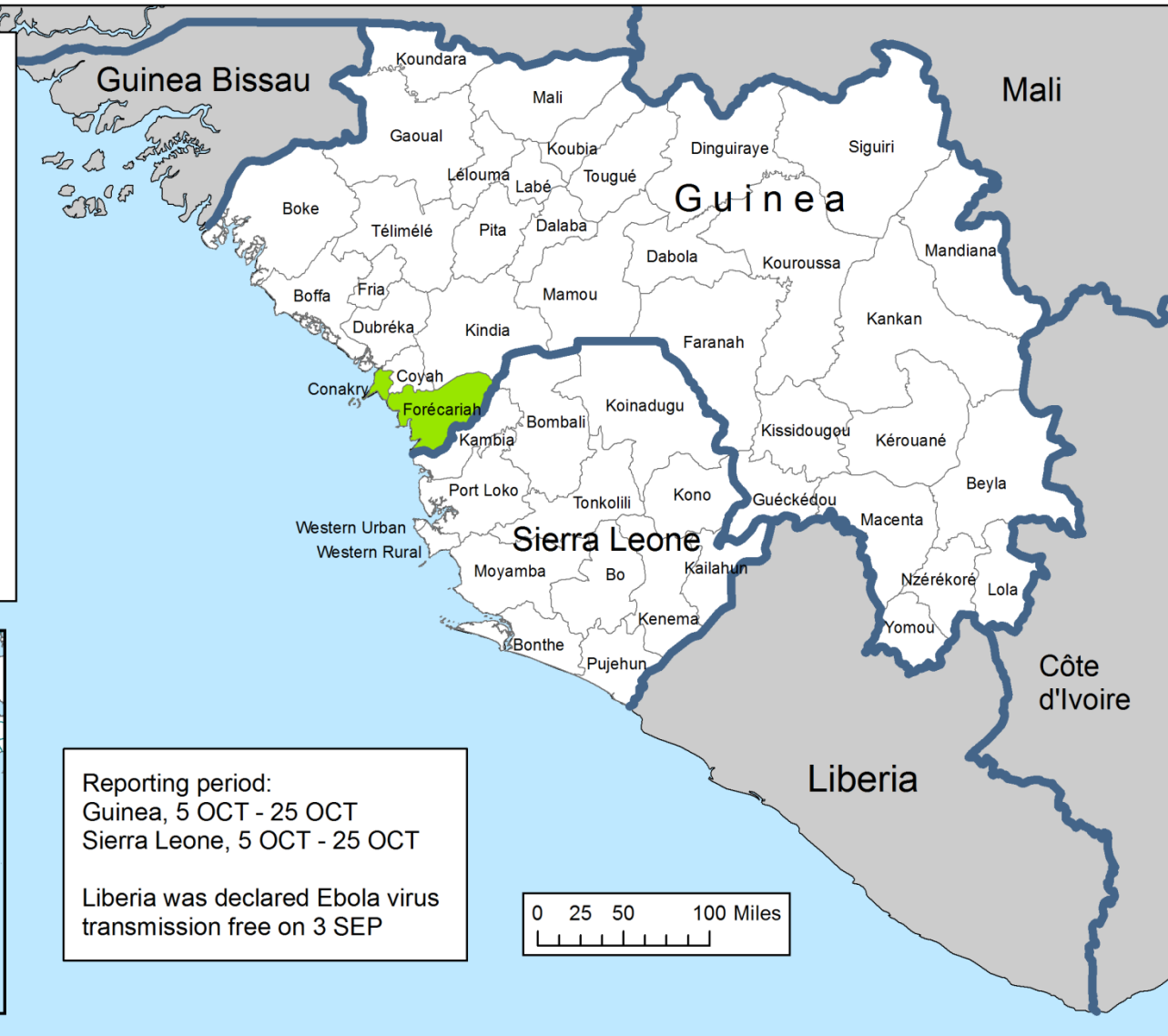
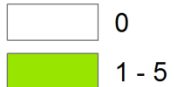
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New confirmed Ebola virus disease cases by district in West Africa, during the most recently reported three-week period

New Confirmed Cases



All information has been verified unless noted otherwise. Sources include WHO, and the Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone Ministries of Health.

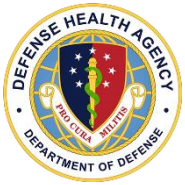
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Additional Resources and Media Reports

Ebola Web Sites

- [WHO](#)
- [CDC](#)
- [Liberia MOH](#)
- [Sierra Leone MOH](#)
- [Humanitarian Response \(West Africa\)](#) Access to MOH, WHO, UN, and other reports
- [AFHS Guidelines for Detecting and Reporting DoD Cases of Ebola Virus](#)
- [USAMRIID](#)
- [State Department Travel Site](#)
- [USAID Ebola Site](#)
- [DoD News](#)

Information and News

- [Ebola Situation Report - 28 October 2015](#) (WHO, 28 OCT)
- [The politics behind the Ebola crisis](#) (International Crisis Group, 28 OCT)
- [Ebola Blantyre nurse Pauline Cafferkey's condition is still serious](#) (Daily Record (Glasgow) 23 OCT)
- [Saving lives: The civil-military response to the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa](#) (Univ. of Sydney, 23 OCT)
- [New clues into Ebola as ill nurse improves](#) (NY Times, 21 OCT)
- [Mystery deaths in Sierra Leone spread fear of Ebola relapses](#) (Reuters, 21 OCT)
- [Ebola RNA persistence in semen of Ebola virus disease survivors](#) (NEJM, 14 OCT)
- [Persistent virus in people recovering from Ebola virus disease](#) (WHO, 14 OCT)
- [J&J starts vaccine trial in Sierra Leone, even as Ebola fades](#) (Reuters, 9 OCT)
- [Statement on the 7th meeting of the IHR Emergency Committee regarding the Ebola outbreak in West Africa](#) (WHO, 5 OCT)
- [Ebola response phase 3](#) (WHO, SEP 2015)
- [Inovio receives \\$24 Million option grant from DARPA to advance Ebola program development](#) (GlobalNewswire, 21 SEP)
- [Termination of Operation United Assistance and maintaining certain DoD Ebola virus disease-related guidance and authorities](#) (U.S. DoD, 10 AUG)
- [Report of the Ebola Interim Assessment Panel](#) (WHO, 7 JUL)