

WEST AFRICA  
SMALLPOX ERADICATION/MEASLES CONTROL PROGRAM

SURVEILLANCE REPORT NO. 2

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare  
Public Health Service  
Communicable Disease Center  
Smallpox Eradication Program  
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Smallpox Eradication Program

According to notifications received by the World Health Organization through August 11, 1966, 5,689 cases of smallpox have been reported from the 19 countries participating in the West African Smallpox Eradication/Measles Control Program. This compares with 4,537 cases reported during a comparable time period in 1965, an increase of 25 percent. The numbers of cases reported by country are shown in Table 1.

Cases by week of report are depicted in Figure 1 for Dahomey, Mali and Niger. These 3 countries, along with Nigeria, have accounted for more than 95 percent of the reported smallpox in West Africa in 1966. In Dahomey, 59 of the 214 cases (through week 25) were reported during the 7th week of the year. Of these, 48 were from the Cercle of Aplahoue and probably represent a backlog of delayed reports as no additional cases have been reported from Aplahoue since that report. Eighteen cases have been reported from the Cercle of Cotonou, of which 12 were reported in June.

The three peaks in reported cases in Mali, weeks 7, 11 and 23, again probably represent backlogs of delayed reports. Of the 78 cases reported from the Cercle of San, 67 were reported during weeks 7 and 11. This same pattern of a few reports of high incidence separated by weeks during which no cases are reported is also true for the Cercles of Diré and Nioro where 48 and 41 cases, respectively, have been reported.

Weekly reports from Niger have been more consistent with the exception of the Cercle of Tillabery where 136 of the 149 cases reported have been reported during the weeks ending February 2, February 14 and May 24 with essentially no cases reported between these dates. Reporting has been more consistent from the Cercles of Niamey and Dosso where 146 and 130 cases have occurred, respectively.



Smallpox in Nigeria by month of report since 1962 is presented in Figure 2. An annual seasonal peak occurring in the early months of the year (dry season) is evident. During the current year, reported smallpox cases have increased for the second successive year following two low years, 1963 and 1964.

Table 1

Reported Smallpox Cases  
in 19 West African Countries  
1966\*

Country	Most Recent Reporting Date in 1966	Cumulative No. of Cases		Comments - 1966 Incidence
		1966	1965**	
Cameroon	April 30	3(r)	0(r)	2 cases reported from Division of Mayo-Danai and one case from Division of Margui-Wandala.
C.A.R.	***	0	0	
Chad	***	0	66(i)	
Congo(B)	April 3	2	63	
Dahomey	July 19	222	7	52 cases reported from circumscription of Aplahoue
Gabon	***	0	1	
Gambia	March 15	3	1	3 cases from Upper River, Division.
Ghana	June 10	12(i,r)	6	Kpandu District, Volta Region, declared free of smallpox on August 5.
Guinea	Feb. 26	3	28	
Ivory Coast	***	0	3	
Liberia	***	0	49	
Mali	July 24	249	521	78 cases reported from Cercle of San, 48 from Cercle of Diré, and 41 from Cercle of Niolo.
Mauritania	July 28	0(r)	0	WHO telegram of August 18 reports smallpox in Cercle of Hodh Occidental.
Niger	July 28	827	299	Over 130 cases reported from each of the Cercles of Tillabery, Niamey and Dosso.
Nigeria	July 16	4181	3428	Over 3400 cases reported from the Northern Provinces.
Senegal	***	0	0	
Sierra Leone	July 9	99(i)	46	49 cases, including 17 deaths, reported from Eastern Provinces since late March.
Togo	July 3	37	9	8 cases reported from Region des Plateaux in late May.
Upper Volta	April 26	51	10	40 cases reported from Cercle of Bobo-Dioulasso.
Total		5689	4537	

\* Reports received by WHO through Aug. 11, 1966.

\*\* Comparable time period in 1965.

\*\*\* No cases reported to WHO through Aug. 11, 1966.

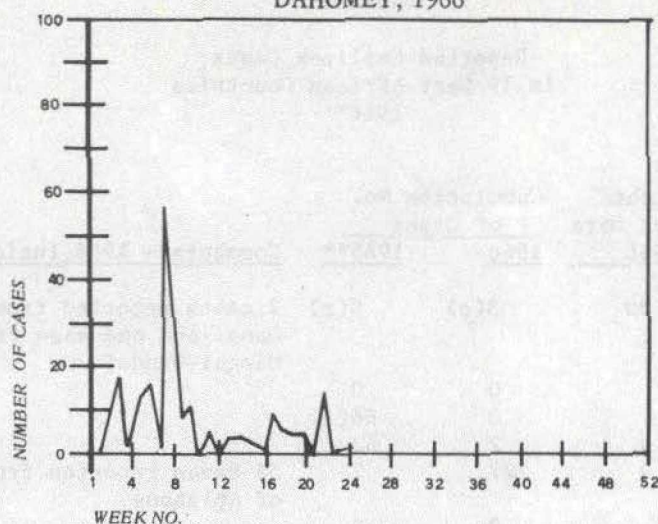
(i) Includes imported cases.

(r) Revised.



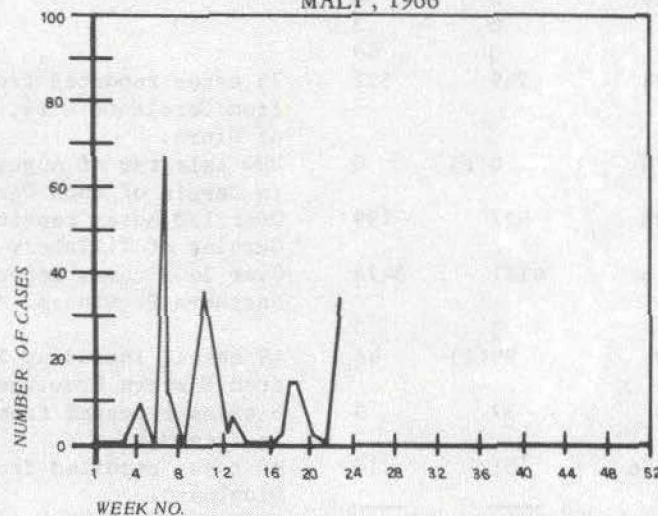
FIGURE 1

SMALLPOX CASES BY WEEK OF REPORT  
DAHOMY, 1966



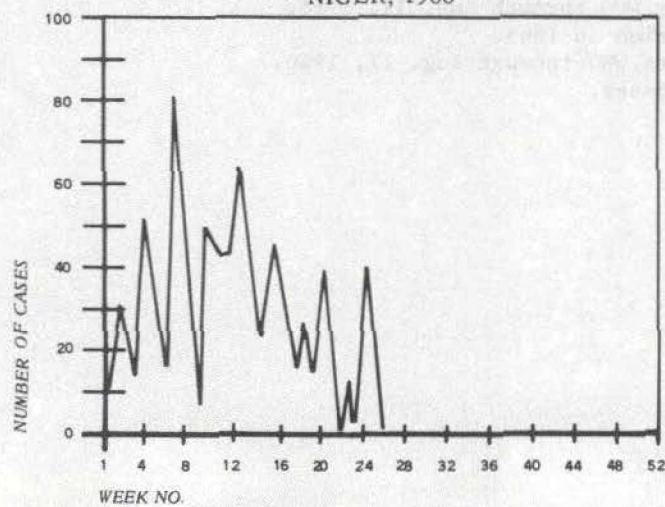
SOURCE: WHO REPORTS

SMALLPOX CASES BY WEEK OF REPORT  
MALI, 1966



SOURCE: WHO REPORTS

SMALLPOX CASES BY WEEK OF REPORT  
NIGER, 1966

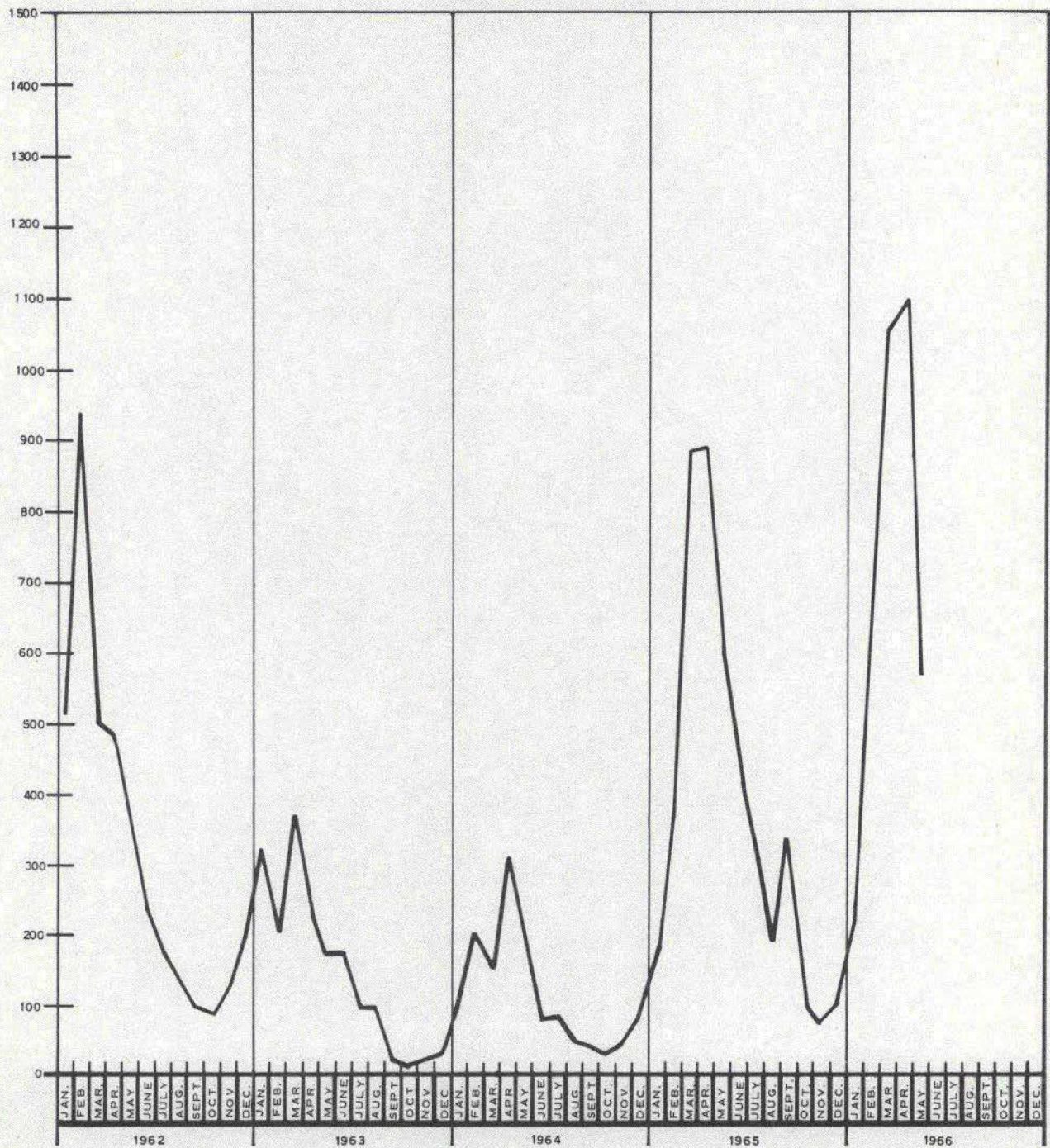


SOURCE: WHO REPORTS



FIGURE 2

SMALLPOX BY MONTH OF REPORT  
NIGERIA, 1962 - 1966



SOURCE: MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LAGOS.