

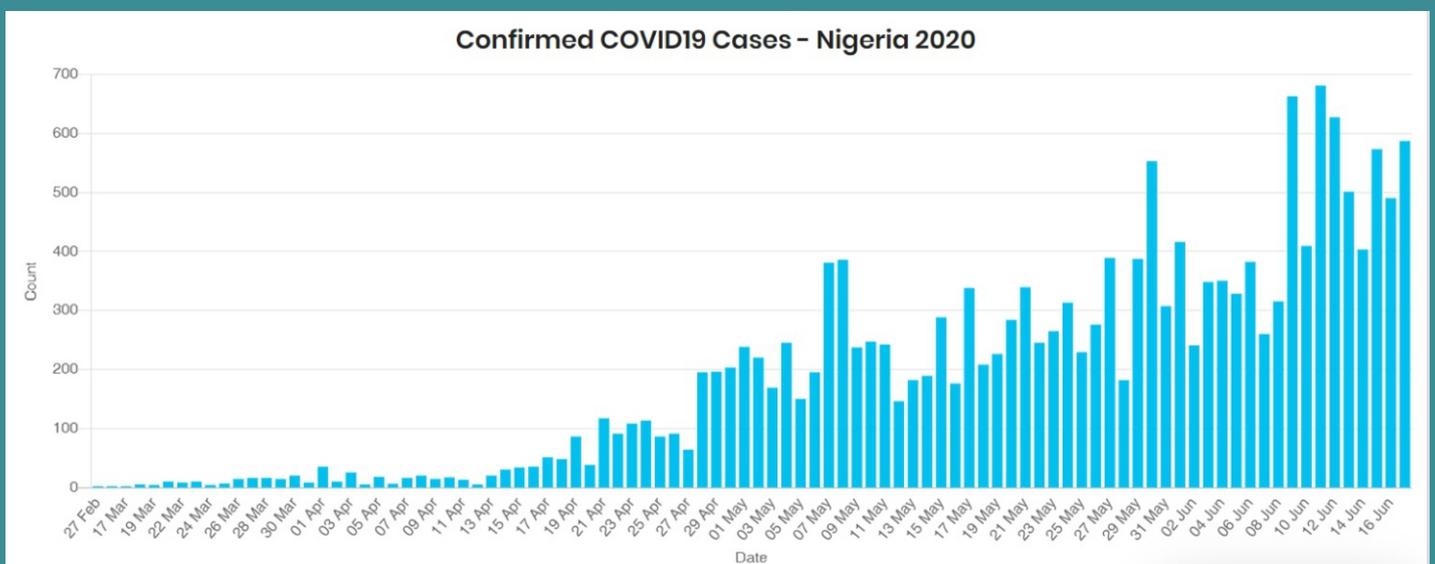
The coronavirus pandemic currently shocking the world gained entry into Nigeria with its first case confirmed on the 27th of February, 2020 in Lagos state. The discovery spiralled into a frenzy of misinformation as the NCDC and Federal Ministry of Health worked to allay citizens' fears and contain the outbreak. It is important that we all play a role in beating the virus by sharing only validated information and promoting effective preventive measures.

The Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC) gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nigeria to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus and debunks rumours before they can do more harm. Information sharing will be critical to defeating the virus, due to the diverse cultural backgrounds and drawbacks in national education. About 47% of the Nigerian population have access to internet services in according to a 2018 estimate by Statista.

Dealing With Covid-19 in Nigeria

Coronavirus poses a serious threat to Nigeria's population of over 180 million people given the country's weak healthcare system, high level of poverty, crowded living conditions and deep-set corruption in government. Economic and insecurity conditions in Nigeria were already tenuous before this outbreak, and Nigeria already fares badly against any health indicators, with high mortality rates and poor life expectancy. When and if coronavirus hits the highly populated communities of Nigeria's cities, it could be a disaster.

It is absolutely critical that Nigeria deals with this pandemic in forward-thinking, open, transparent ways to ensure the well-being of citizens, build resilience and rapidly curb the potential for social conflict. In Nigeria, this is a huge challenge but also a real opportunity to reimagine public health systems, redefine the relationship between citizens and those in power, and reinvigorate governance.



COVID-19 Update: Ease of Lockdown measures

The Presidential Task Force on COVID-19 announced a change in the restrictions for the ease of lockdown measures on the 1st of June. The new restrictions include:



1. Nationwide curfew remains in place, timing has been changed to 10pm – 4am.



2. Full opening of financial sector with normal working hours



3. Restricted opening of places of worship, (regular church and mosque services only), to be based on State Government protocols.



4. Interstate travel remains prohibited except for goods and essential travel



5. Gathering of more than 20 persons remains prohibited; outside of workplaces and religious services



6. Aviation Industry has been requested to develop protocols for domestic flights to possibly resume from June 21



7. Hotels may reopen



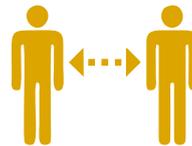
8. Restaurants outside of hotels must remain closed for eat-in but are allowed for takeout only



9. Bars, gyms, cinemas, nightclubs and parks are closed until further evaluation



10. All schools are to remain closed until further evaluation



11. Offices are to maintain 2m physical distancing at 75% maximum capacity.

Other considerations:

- Guidelines are to be implemented/enforced by State Governments
- All permitted openings (hotels, religious services etc) are to maintain non-pharmaceutical interventions (masks, sanitizers/ handwashing, 2 metres social distancing, capacity limits, etc)
- June 21 opening for domestic flights is tentative. Certain conditions have to be fulfilled prior to that date, including:
 - Aircraft have to be good and safe to fly (checks/maintenance must be conducted)
 - Necessary recertification and medical checks must be done for pilots/crew

RUMOURS



COVID-19 is a hoax started to stop religious worship

Coronavirus affects older people only.

Isolation centres are hoarding the cure for COVID-19

COVID-19 is not real because health workers are not affected

Washing of hands with disinfectant will better prevent COVID-19

VS



FACTS

Churches and mosques were closed during lockdown because they are likely to have large amounts of people from different areas gathered at the same time and this presents a higher risk of virus spread. Bars, restaurants, hotels, clubs etc. were also closed due to similar reasons.

Though older people are at highest risk from COVID-19, the statement is factually wrong. According to the WHO, 10% to 15% of people under 50 have moderate to severe infection. Severe cases of the disease have been seen in people in their teens and twenties, with many requiring intensive care and some passing away. People of all ages need to act in solidarity to prevent community spread of the virus.

There is no validated cure for COVID-19 and Isolation centres exist for quarantine and supportive management of cases. According to the NCDC, case management includes:

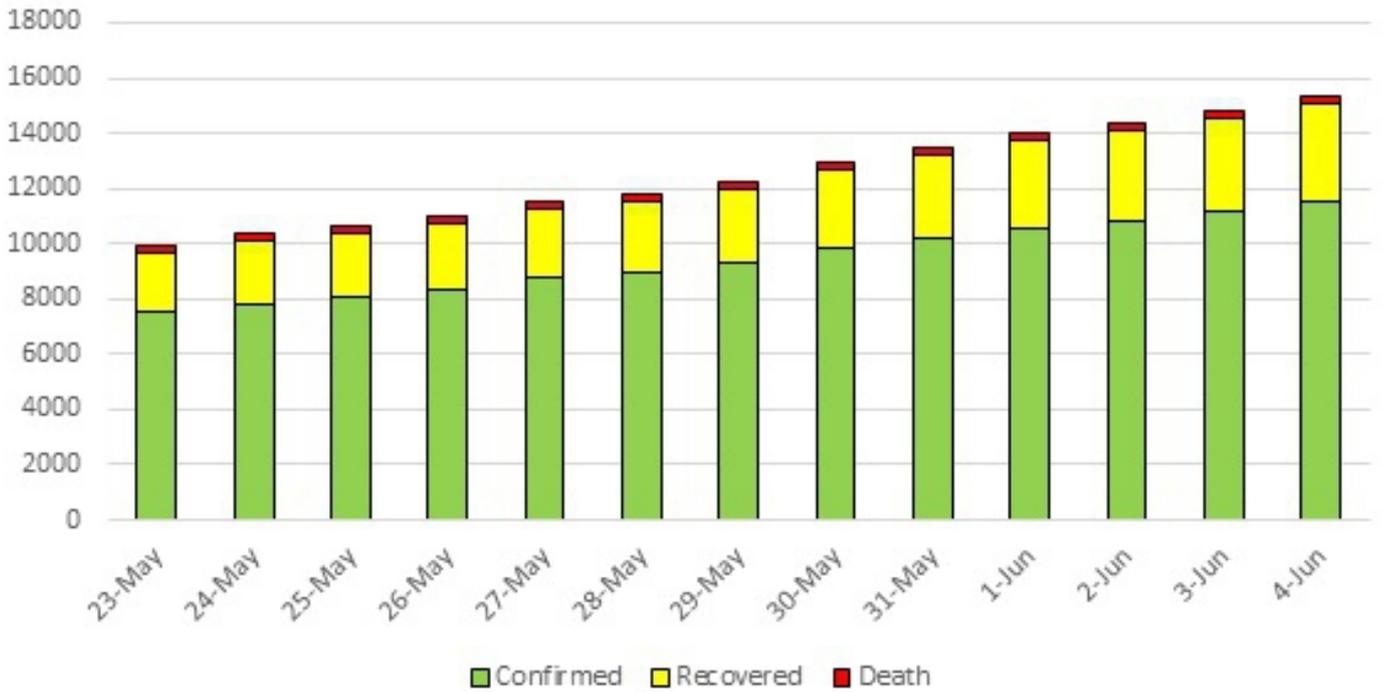
- Management of symptoms
- Management of pre-existing conditions
- Supplemental oxygen therapy
- Treatment of bacterial infection
- Ensuring patients are well-nourished and hydrated

According to the NCDC, 812 health workers have been infected with the coronavirus as at June 3, 2020. These include 29 NCDC workers. There have also been numerous reports of health worker casualties' due to the virus in the media.

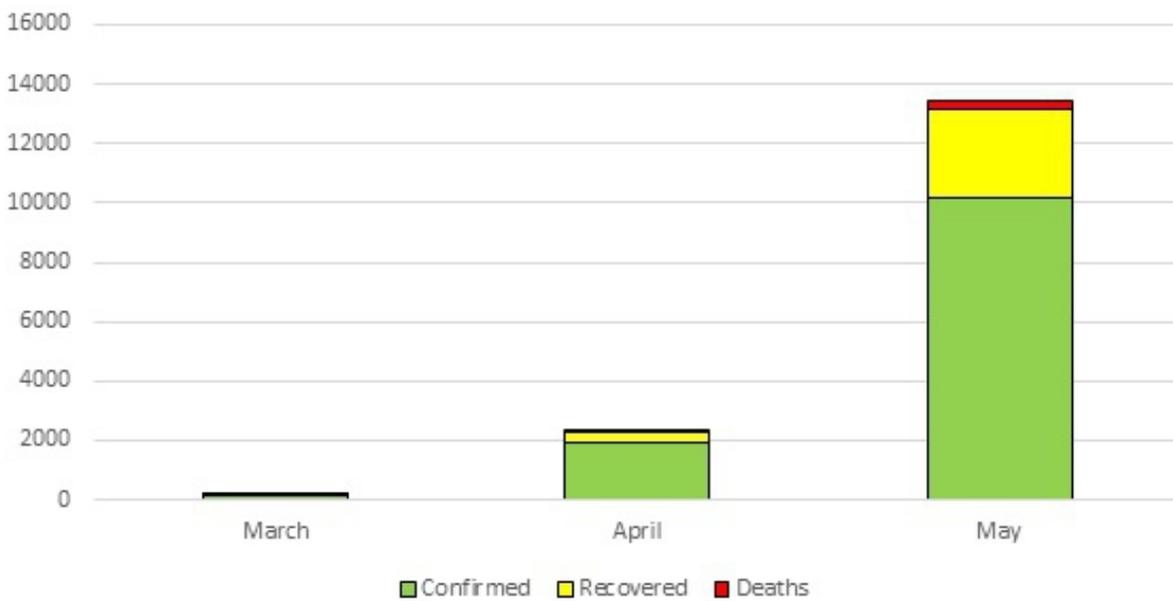
Disinfectants such as bleach are better suited for non-living surfaces as they can be toxic to the skin and affect the natural balance of the skin. Proper hand washing with soaps or use of hand sanitizers is enough to deactivate coronavirus particles on the skin.

COVID-19 Statistics

COVID-19 Past 14 Days Chart



COVID-19 Monthly Chart



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE IN NIGERIA AT AS TODAY - 18/06/2020

17,735

CONFIRMED CASES

469

DEATHS

5,967

RECOVERED

103,799

TESTED