

### Epidemiological situation, weeks 14 - 26

769 suspect cases were reported this quarter with the largest number of cases reported from Burkina Faso. CSF samples were collected from 99% of suspect cases and 8% of suspect cases were confirmed (see Table 1). National Reference level laboratory case-based data of Togo and all case-based data for Chad were not submitted in time for inclusion in this bulletin.

Table 1. Epidemiological situation, weeks 14 - 26

Characteristics	Burkina Faso	Mali	Niger	Chad	Togo	MenAfriNet
	N (%)					
<b>Demographics</b>						
Population under Surveillance*	19,632,147	11,602,530	20,651,070	677,785	1,064,686	53,628,218
Districts submitting data†	62/70(89)	14/33(42)	9/72(13)	0/4(0)	21/35(60)	106/197(49)
Aggregate suspected cases	552	128	92	199	141	1112
MenAfriNet suspected cases	500	112	55	N/A	102	769
Deaths <sup>∞</sup>	19	1	5	N/A	8	33
<b>Laboratory</b>						
N (% of suspected cases)						
CSF collected	500 (100)	112 (100)	51 (93)	N/A (0)	100 (98)	763 (99)
CSF received at NRL	298 (60)	105 (94)	40 (73)	N/A (0)	N/A (0)	443 (66)
CSF analyzed by PCR or culture ‡	104 (21)	105 (94)	40 (73)	N/A (0)	30 (29)	279 (36)
CSF analyzed with gram stain	354 (71)	105 (94)	7 (13)	N/A (0)	65 (64)	531 (69)
Probable bacterial meningitis**	98 (20)	16 (14)	15 (27)	N/A (0)	3 (3)	132 (17)
Confirmed bacterial meningitis	37 (7)	16 (14)	11 (20)	N/A (0)	N/A (0)	64 (8)

**Abbreviation:**CSF, cerebrospinal fluid; NRL, National Reference Laboratory; PCR, Polymerase Chain Reaction (real-time)

† MenAfriNet districts submitting case-based data (denominator = Total number of MenAfriNet districts performing case-based surveillance)

∞ Deaths listed as outcome in case-based data

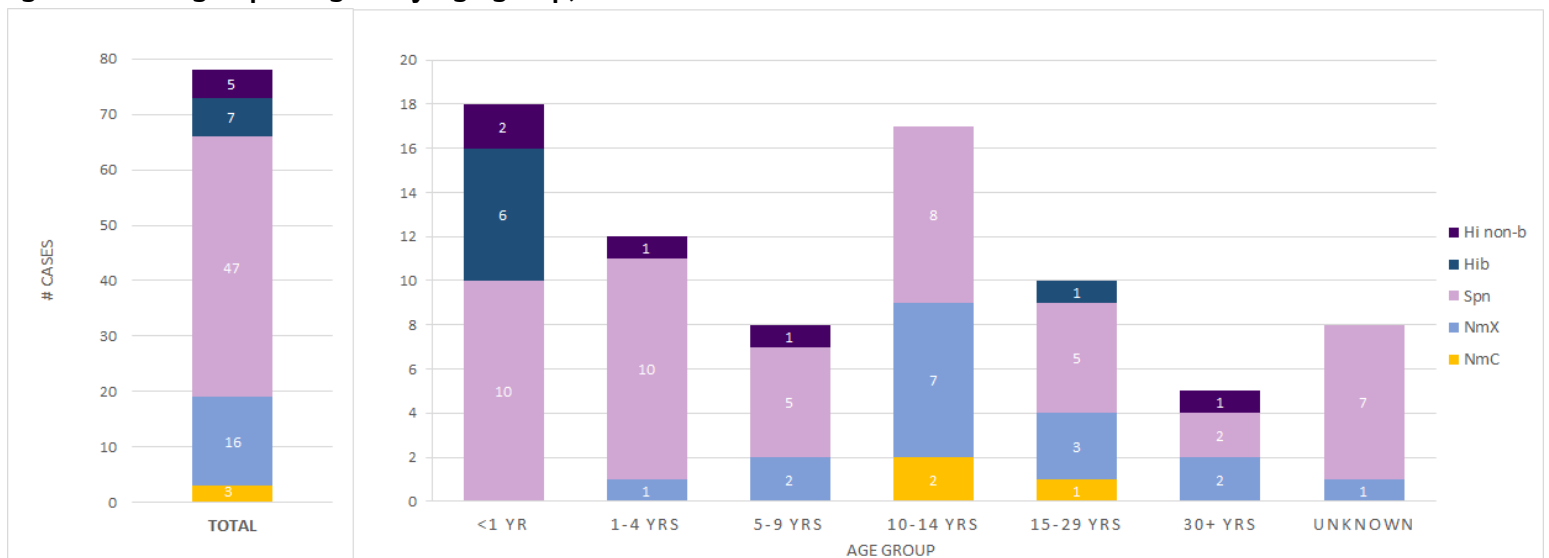
\*\*Tested negative for all pathogens and serogroups. Further details of probable meningitis cases can be found here (page 4): <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/312141/9789290234241-eng.pdf>

‡ CSF analyzed by PCR or culture at any lab (district, regional, or national levels)

### Meningitis pathogens

The leading causes of confirmed meningitis cases were *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Neisseria meningitidis* X, accounting for 81% of total confirmed cases. *Streptococcus pneumoniae* was most common in children less than 1 year old and 1-4 years old (see Figure 1).

Figure 1. Meningitis pathogens by age group, weeks 14 - 26





### MenAfriNet case-based surveillance performance indicators

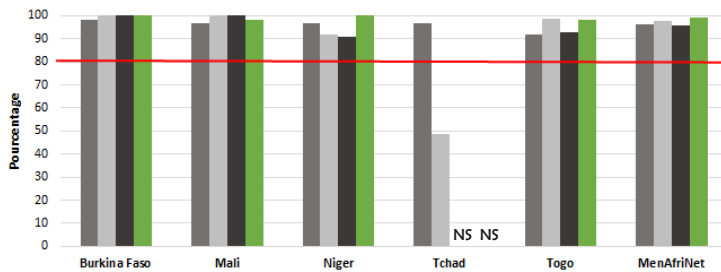
- CSF collection rates remain high across MenAfriNet countries with continued low contamination rates
- No data were received from Chad and there were significant missing laboratory data from Togo
- Of specimens collected for which data were submitted, 66% of specimens were received at the NRL
- The MenAfriNet Consortium aims to more deeply engage and support countries to improve quality of data

Figure 4. Quarterly Trends of Surveillance and Laboratory Performance Indicators

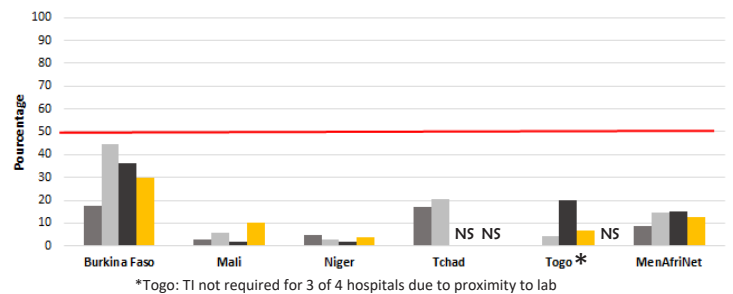
Key: — Indicator target

- 2018
- 2019
- 2020 Q1
- 2020 Q2 - meets target
- 2020 Q2 - does not meet target
- NS Case-based data not submitted

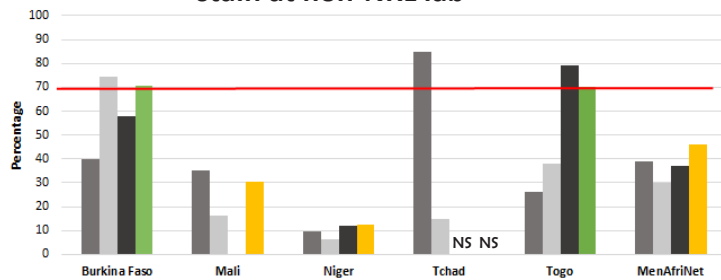
#### Percent cases with CSF collected



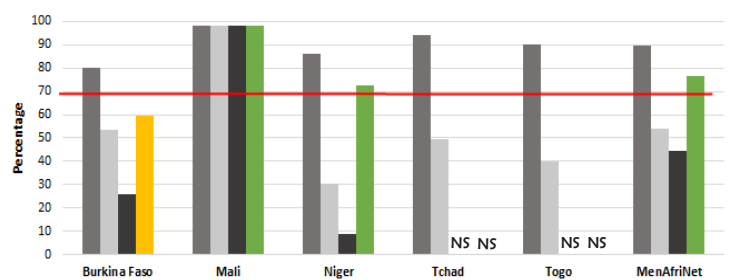
#### Percent CSF specimens received at any lab in trans-isolate (T-I) media



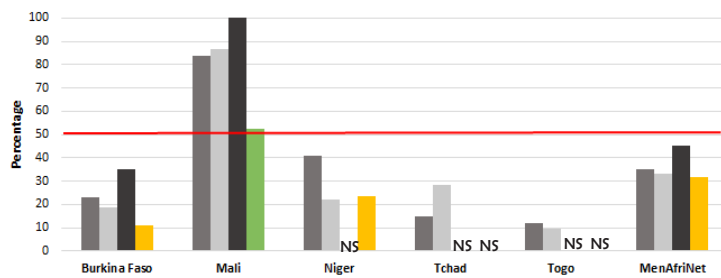
#### Percent CSF specimens tested by Gram stain at non-NRL lab



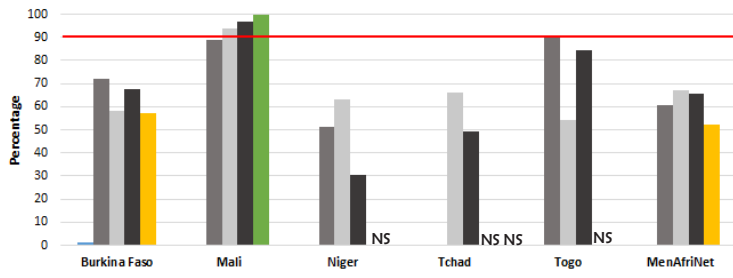
#### Percent CSF specimens received at NRL



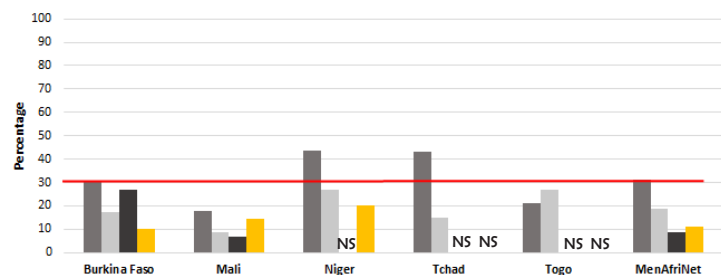
#### Percent cases with <7 days delay between CSF collection and date of receipt at NRL



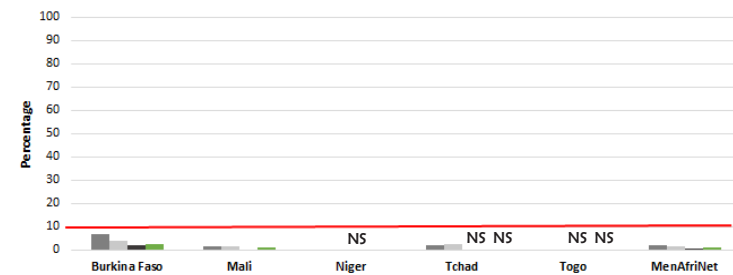
#### Percent CSF specimens analyzed by culture or PCR at NRL



#### Percent CSF specimens confirmed at NRL for Hi, Spn, Nm, or other bacterial meningitis pathogen



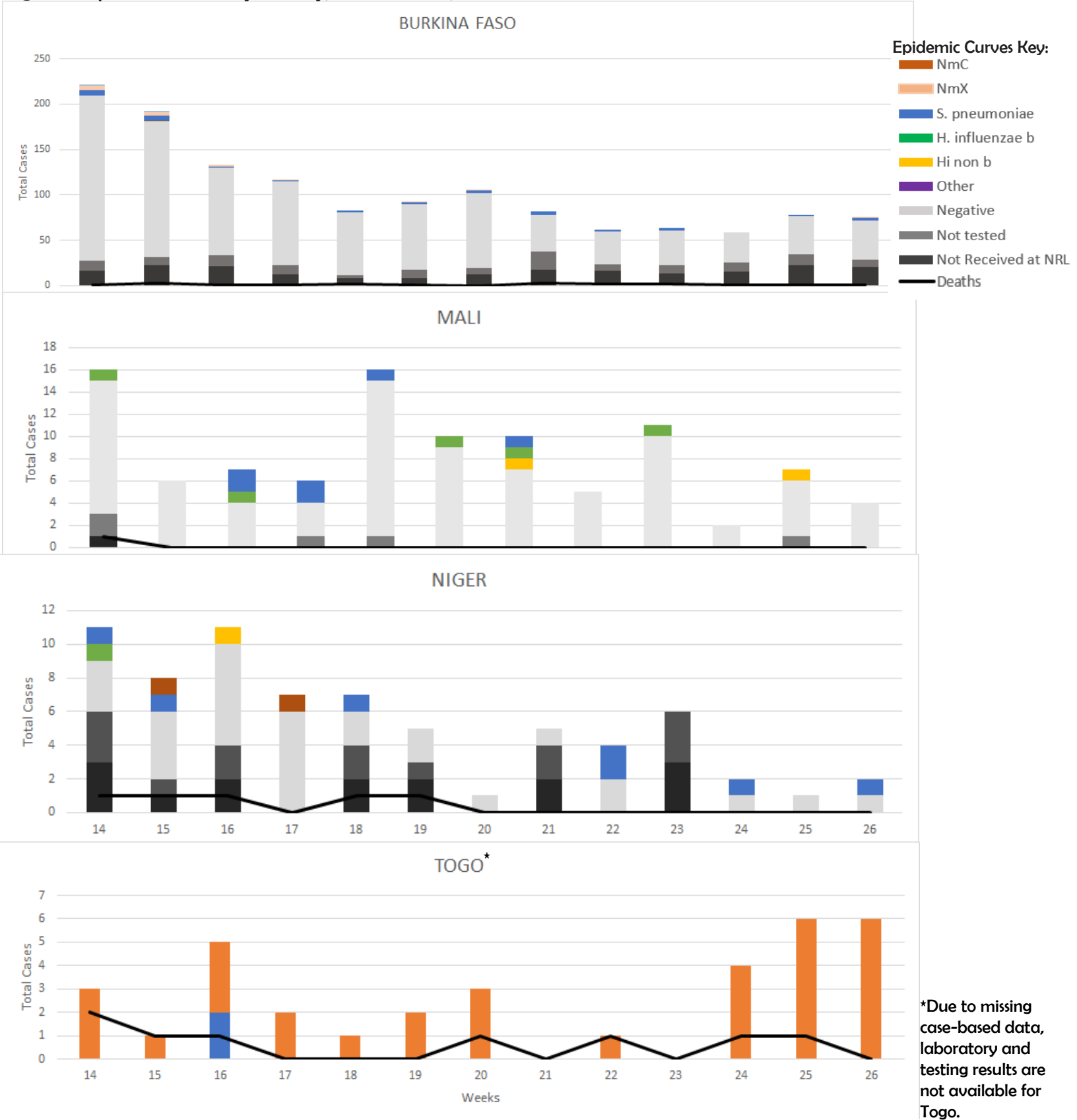
#### Percent contaminated among CSF tested by culture at NRL



**Epidemiological trends over time**

Total reported cases begin to trend slightly downward as weeks progress and the meningitis peak season comes to a close. No data were submitted for Chad and significant Togo laboratory data are missing.

**Figure 5. Epidemic curves by country, weeks 14 - 26, 2020**



\*Due to missing case-based data, laboratory and testing results are not available for Togo.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, bacterial meningitis surveillance, laboratory capacities, and data-related trainings of countries within the MenAfriNet Consortium have been negatively impacted. Data in this bulletin are reflective of these impacts.