

CDC in Haiti



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Haiti office opened in 2002 and initially focused on preventing the transmission of HIV/AIDS, providing care and treatment to those already infected, increasing laboratory and strategic information capacity, and building health care systems.



Staff

CDC office (physical presence)
10 U.S. Assignees
70 Locally Employed

At a Glance

Population: 10,924,000
Per capita income: \$1,750
Life expectancy at birth women/men: 65/61 yrs
Infant mortality rate: 42/1000 live births

Source: [Population Reference Bureau 2014: Haiti](#)

Top 10 Causes of Death

1. Stroke 12%
2. Lower Respiratory Infections 9%
3. HIV/AIDS 9%
4. Ischemic Heart Disease 6%
5. Diarrheal Diseases 5%
6. Diabetes 5%
7. Interpersonal Violence 4%
8. Preterm Birth Complications 3%
9. Tuberculosis 3%
10. Birth Asphyxia & Trauma 3%

Source: [WHO Country Health Profile 2012: Haiti](#)

Post-Earthquake Reconstruction

After the devastating earthquake in January 2010, CDC received funding to strengthen Haiti's public health system and address immediate health needs. As part of these efforts, CDC is engaged with a wide range of activities, including malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, and rabies. CDC funding is primarily directed towards local partners, including the Haitian Ministry of Health, Partners in Health/Zanmi Lasante, and GHESKIO, and is coupled with high impact technical assistance.

Global HIV/AIDS

The Division of Global HIV/AIDS and TB (DGHT) opened CDC's first office in Haiti in 2002 to support the Government of Haiti in addressing their HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 2003, under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), DGHT resources increased substantially to turn the tide against HIV/AIDS. CDC's focus in country has been to diagnose HIV through testing and counseling services, provide treatment to those who are already infected, prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and increase national laboratory capacity to effectively monitor patients on treatment. CDC also provides direct support to improve surveillance, epidemiology, and health information systems to Haiti's Ministry of Health.

Malaria and Lymphatic Filariasis

Haiti is on the verge of eliminating two mosquito-borne disease: malaria and lymphatic filariasis (LF). National coverage for LF mass drug administration was achieved for the first time in March 2012, with over 8 million people treated, including 2.3 million in Port-au-Prince. Thanks to improved diagnostics and availability of effective treatment, confirmed cases of malaria were down 45% from 2011 to 2015.



Field Epidemiology Training Program

The Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) works with ministries of health around the world to strengthen national and local public health systems and to address the severe shortage of skilled epidemiologists worldwide. The Haiti FETP has graduated 234 students who participated in specialized trainings to improve the capacity of Haitian public health leaders to respond to disease outbreaks, better understand the situation of water and foodborne diseases in Haiti, and conduct case investigations of epidemic-prone illnesses.

Safe Water

Access to safe water and sanitation are fundamental to public health. The National Directorate of Potable Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) was created to address challenges to and lack of regulations for the rural water sector in Haiti. Since its inception, DINEPA has established regional water and sanitation offices in each of Haiti's four main regions, and Rural Departmental Units in each of the country's 10 departments. To further support and strengthen this work, CDC developed and helped implement training for over 250 rural potable water and sanitation technicians who work in all rural areas of Haiti to inventory, rehabilitate, and disinfect rural water supplies.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Immunization is recognized as one of the most cost-effective public health interventions in the world. In Haiti, CDC has worked with the Ministry of Health and other partners on a number of vaccine-related programs, from mass immunization of children for measles and rubella in 2012 to the introduction of new vaccines to the national program. Additional projects include improvements to the central vaccine warehouse and the addition of new and optimization of existing solar refrigerators in health facilities. With CDC support, cold storage capacity at the central level has doubled and departmental level storage capacity has increased by 212% since 2010, which will allow for sufficient vaccine storage capacity until 2018.

Impact in Haiti

- Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV is provided to 90% of women in need (one of the highest rates in the world).
- Over 1 million people were tested for HIV in 2015.
- The TB treatment success rate is now 84% and the case detection rate is 81%.
- More than 83% of eligible children vaccinated against measles and rubella in 2013.
- Improved sanitation, clean water and cholera prevention have reduced cholera rates by 90% in from 2011 to 2015.



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For more country information: <http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/haiti>

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