

Zambia

In Zambia, health programs supported by the Global Fund partnership have helped save 1.2 million lives.

The Global Fund has served as a vital source of support to those affected by HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria in Zambia, investing US\$1.7 billion in programs to fight the three diseases and build resilient and sustainable systems for health since 2003.

Together with Zambia's Ministry of Health, the Churches Health Association of Zambia and key technical and financial partners, the Global Fund is supporting interventions that aim to halve the number of new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths (compared to 2019), reduce TB deaths by almost 50% (compared to 2015), eliminate local malaria infection and achieve significant reductions in malaria mortality. Global Fund investments are also supporting Zambia to strengthen pandemic preparedness and to enhance systems that will help the country withstand future health threats.



A mother carries home a mosquito net near the village of Mukwela in southern Zambia.
The Global Fund/John Rae

1.2 million lives saved: Measuring the impact of Global Fund-supported programs to fight HIV, TB and malaria in Zambia



1.2 million

People on antiretroviral therapy for HIV in 2021



320,000

TB cases notified* (2003-2021)



33.9 million

Mosquito nets distributed (2003-2021)

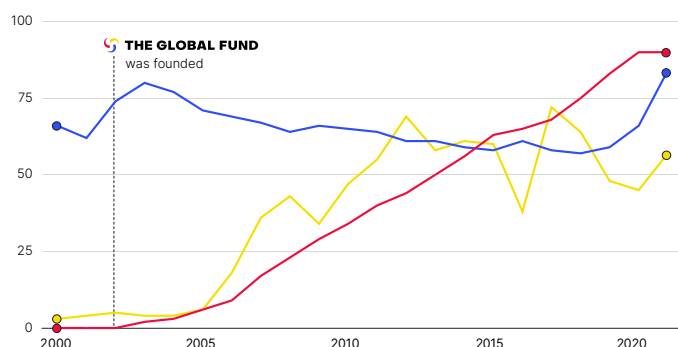


64.3 million

Suspected cases of malaria that received a parasitological test (2017-2021)

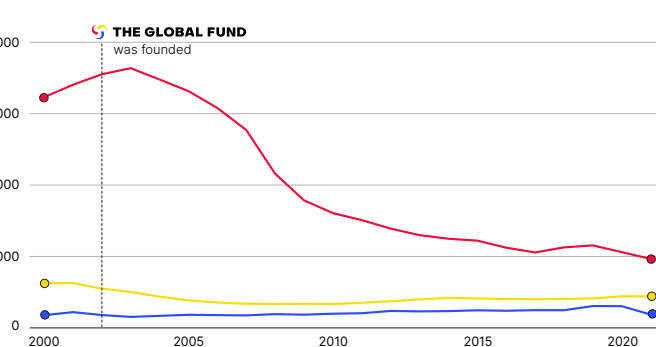
Coverage of treatment and prevention interventions in Zambia

- HIV: % of people living with HIV on antiretroviral therapy
- TB: % of TB treatment coverage
- Malaria: % of population with access to a long-lasting insecticide-treated net



Deaths from AIDS, TB and malaria in Zambia

- AIDS-related deaths
- TB deaths (excl. HIV+)
- Malaria deaths



Data source for graphs: UNAIDS 2022 release, WHO Global Tuberculosis Report 2022, WHO World Malaria Report 2022

*TB cases notified include all forms TB cases notified between 2017-2021 and smear-positive TB cases detected between 2003-2016, due to data availability.

Key results in 2021



HIV

- UNAIDS estimated that around 1.3 million people were living with HIV in Zambia.
- 91% of people living with HIV knew their HIV status.
- 1.2 million people – 90% of people living with HIV – were on antiretroviral therapy (ART), which corresponds to 99% of people who knew their HIV status being on ART.
- 87% of people living with HIV had a suppressed viral load.
- 49,000 mothers living with HIV received medicine to keep them alive and prevent transmitting HIV to their babies.
- More than half a million people aged 10-24 were reached with HIV prevention programs.

Zambia has made significant progress toward halting and reversing its HIV epidemic over the past two decades. Between 2002, when the Global Fund was founded, and 2021, new HIV infections fell by 59% and AIDS-related deaths reduced by 73%.

Despite these strong gains, significant gender- and age-related disparities in the HIV burden remain and experiences of harassment and violence persist for key populations. The Global Fund partnership is focused on continuing efforts to scale up integrated adolescent and youth-friendly services and combat stigma and discrimination against key populations. These interventions, along with a host of other targeted prevention, testing and treatment activities, are helping to drive Zambia's HIV epidemic further into retreat.

COVID-19

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the provision of health services in Zambia. To mitigate the impact of the pandemic on HIV, TB and malaria, strengthen health and community systems and support pandemic preparedness, the Global Fund has approved more than US\$144 million since 2020 through our COVID-19 Response Mechanism. This funding has supported the purchase of personal protective equipment, diagnostic tests and tools, and has also supported the strengthening of laboratory, surveillance and health systems.



TB

- Out of an estimated 60,000 people with TB, around 50,000 started TB treatment, which corresponds to 84% treatment coverage.
- The TB treatment success rate was estimated to be 91% (in 2020).
- 98% of people with TB who were co-infected with HIV were receiving ART.
- 25,000 people who were in contact with people with TB received TB preventive therapy.
- The treatment success rate for drug-resistant TB was estimated to be 75% (in 2019).
- 419 people with drug-resistant TB began second-line treatment.

Zambia has made progress in reducing its TB burden: The number of people newly diagnosed with TB in 2021 was 18% less than in 2002. TB deaths, after spiking in 2019 and 2020, fell in 2021 to the lowest level in more than a decade.

However, the disease remains a major public health threat, and Zambia is among the 30 highest TB/HIV burden countries in the world. Global Fund investment prioritizes high-impact activities to further close gaps in diagnosis for HIV and TB co-infection, identify the thousands of people with TB who are missed by health systems after not being diagnosed, treated or reported each year, and tackle TB in community settings with locally led strategies. Support is also being provided to strengthen the information and laboratory systems and human resources for health that are critical to reducing Zambia's TB burden.



Malaria

- More than 13 million people with suspected malaria received a parasitological test.
- 97% of suspected malaria cases were tested.
- 6.6 million cases of malaria were treated.
- Almost 1 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets were distributed.
- Population coverage for mosquito nets was estimated to be 57%.
- Usage of mosquito nets was estimated to be 50%.
- 2.4 million households were covered by indoor residual spraying.
- 400,000 pregnant women attending antenatal clinics received intermittent preventive treatment for malaria.

Hard-won gains have been made against malaria in Zambia. Between 2002-2021, deaths fell by 20% and new cases by 6%. Almost every person with suspected malaria in Zambia now receives a parasitological test – a significant increase compared to a decade ago.

Malaria remains endemic in Zambia. We are continuing to support a robust malaria response through grants that are geared toward driving up the implementation rate of interventions, increasing the malaria-free health facility catchment areas to 100% and strengthening vector control, monitoring, evaluation, case management, community systems, human resources for health and financial management. These strategies are designed to support ongoing gains in quality and efficiency, which are key to achieving the objectives set by the national strategic plan to fight malaria.

About the Global Fund

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria invests US\$4 billion a year to defeat HIV, TB and malaria and ensure a healthier, safer, equitable future for all. We unite the world to find solutions that have the most impact, and we take them to scale worldwide. It's working. We have saved 50 million lives. We won't stop until the job is finished.