

# CDC in Guinea



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has collaborated with the Government of Guinea and other partners to control the historic Ebola outbreak that ravaged West Africa in 2014/2015. Response activities have been coordinated with United States Government partners, the Government of Guinea, other foreign governments, and nonprofit organizations.

In 2015, CDC established a country office in Conakry to help Guinea develop and sustain capacities to prevent, rapidly detect and effectively respond to public health threats such as Ebola. Priorities center on building and sustaining the government's capacity to prevent and reduce the likelihood of outbreaks, to save lives through early detection of and effective response to health threats. These are the objectives of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA), and CDC is continuing to provide technical assistance to the Government of Guinea to facilitate progress towards accomplishing GHSA targets in the eleven technical areas in collaboration with other partners.

## Staff

CDC office (physical presence)- as of May 2, 2016  
2 U.S. Assignees  
12 Locally Employed

## At a Glance

Population: 11,780,162  
Per capita income: \$1,300  
Life expectancy at birth women/men: 62/59 yrs  
Infant mortality rate: 53/1000 live births

Source: CIA 2015 The World Factbook (estimates)

## Top 10 Causes of Death

1. Lower respiratory infections 13%
2. Malaria 10%
3. Diarrheal diseases 6%
4. Stroke 6%
5. Birth Asphyxia & Birth Trauma 4%
6. HIV/AIDS 4%
7. Ischemic Heart Disease 4%
8. Preterm Birth Complications 4%
9. Meningitis 4%
10. Protein-Energy Malnutrition 3%

Source: WHO Country Health Profiles 2012: Guinea



## CDC Ebola Response in Guinea

Since March 2014, Guinea has been part of combatting the largest and most complex outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in history, with more than 28,000 cases. The epidemic began in Guinea and spread to other West African countries.

As of April 13, 2016, more than 3,800 cases had been reported from Guinea, including more than 2500 deaths.

CDC has deployed hundreds of staff to combat Ebola in Guinea. CDC provides technical advice, operational assistance, and strengthens the health care system in the areas of epidemiological surveillance, tracing contacts, data management, infection prevention and control, laboratory capacity building, protecting borders, emergency management, and health promotion and communication.

To cover staffing needs for the response in Guinea, CDC partners with the Public Health Agency of Canada, has engaged field epidemiologists from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti, and engaged with a wide range of partners.



WHO declared the end of Ebola transmission in Guinea on December 29, 2015. A cluster of cases in Southern Guinea in March/April 2014 resulted in a robust response and was controlled within a few generations through contact identification and monitoring, active case search, and other efforts including administration of Ebola vaccine. Much has been learned from this epidemic, including the possibility that the Ebola virus will persist in some survivors of Ebola virus disease, leading to delayed transmission. Thus, sporadic cases are not unexpected. These flares highlight the importance of maintaining vigilance for Ebola, maintaining the capacity to respond rapidly to possible cases of Ebola, and critically, the importance of making services available to survivors, both to meet their unique needs and to limit the risks of onward transmission.

### Immunization

CDC provides technical assistance to Guinea to support polio eradication, measles elimination, and to strengthen routine infant immunization programs. The focus of CDC-supported polio eradication activities is to increase the immunity of the population through immunization campaigns, to strengthen surveillance, to prevent re-importation of wild poliovirus, and to minimize the consequences of further international spread of virus into West Africa.

### Malaria

The US Government has been supporting malaria control efforts through the US President's Malaria Initiative, improving case management and malaria prevention (for example through the distribution of insecticide-treated bed nets). The program will build on these successes to support the integrated National Health Management Information System.



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