

# CDC in Namibia

Factsheet



## Staffing

5 U.S. Assignees  
14 Locally Employed

## Impact in Namibia

- In fiscal year 2012, CDC directly supported the provision of antiretroviral treatment to 1,797 HIV positive pregnant women to prevent transmission to their infants.
- In FY 2012, CDC directly supported 965 voluntary medical male circumcisions.
- National laboratory networks were supported, enabling improved disease detection and response.



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has collaborated with the government of Namibia since 2002, working closely with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to support the national response to the HIV epidemic. As an implementing agency of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC provides technical assistance and financial support for the rapid expansion of access to antiretroviral therapy (ART), HIV counseling and testing, early infant diagnosis (EID), and prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) services. CDC also supports the MoHSS in strengthening the public health system through assistance for health promotion, epidemiology, surveillance, laboratory, quality assurance,

## Top 10 Causes of Death in Namibia

1. HIV	23%	6. Tuberculosis	5%
2. Cancer	8%	7. Ischemic Heart Disease	4%
3. Stroke	7%	8. Diabetes	3%
4. Lower Respiratory Infections	5%	9. Interpersonal Violence	3%
5. Diarrheal Diseases	5%	10. Malaria	3%

Source: GBD Compare (<http://viz.healthmetricsandevaluation.org/gbd-compare/>), 2010

## HIV/AIDS

CDC supports a comprehensive portfolio of HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, strategic information, and systems strengthening programs to the national public health sector. CDC's technical assistance has strengthened national efforts to prevent the sexual and biomedical transmission of HIV and to expand care and treatment services. It also supports MoHSS efforts to integrate primary health care services and promote the idea that HIV/AIDS investments can have an impact on maternity and pediatric, chronic disease, TB and malaria services. Activities include:

- Implement evidence-based prevention activities including PMTCT, male circumcision, blood safety, HIV counseling and testing, and the reduction of alcohol abuse.
- Improve laboratory systems and networks and other public health systems.
- Integrated primary health care services, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and maternal and child health services.
- Support HIV surveillance activities, monitoring and evaluation, research, and the maintenance of health information systems.
- Improve the quality of HIV treatment, training, and mentoring.



### Namibia at a Glance

Population:	2,364,000 <sup>1</sup>
Per capita income:	\$6,350 <sup>2</sup>
Life expectancy at birth women/men:	63/62 yrs <sup>2</sup>
Under 5 mortality:	31/1000 live births <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Population Reference Bureau, 2012

<sup>2</sup>Population Reference Bureau, 2011



CDC supports the Namibia Institute of Pathology, the Polytechnic of Namibia, and MoHSS through training for laboratory workers and support for infrastructure projects, including renovations, equipment, and laboratory information systems. A stronger laboratory system has allowed Namibia to expand early infant HIV diagnoses and TB diagnostic services. CDC provided technical assistance to MoHSS to develop the first National Public Health Laboratory Policy, which was approved by the Namibian government and will result in the establishment of a National Public Health Laboratory.

### Strategic Information

CDC supports the MoHSS to conduct HIV surveillance activities, monitoring and evaluation, research, and maintaining health information systems. Recent studies have looked at alcohol misuse as an HIV risk factor and the impact of clinic-based HIV prevention interventions. Key achievements and activities include:

- Support was provided for harmonized indicators and data systems.
- Data triangulation exercises were implemented.
- Support for biological and behavioral surveillance activities was provided.

### Systems Strengthening

CDC provides technical leadership and direct assistance to the Ministry of Health to strengthen the public health system and to improve laboratory systems and networks. CDC also supports integrated primary health care services to ensure that investments in HIV/AIDS are integrated with tuberculosis and maternal and child health services. Key achievements and activities include:

- Laboratory renovations and laboratory management support.
- Human resources capacity development and management.

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