

# CDC *in* UKRAINE



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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established an office in Ukraine in 2010 to strengthen the capacity of the government and partners to prevent, detect, and respond to emerging global public health threats. CDC works with the Ukrainian Ministry of Health (MOH), the Public Health Center of Ukraine (UPHC), and other local and international partners to achieve HIV epidemic control. In addition, CDC supports Ukraine in strengthening laboratory, surveillance, and workforce capacity to combat disease outbreaks. CDC also supports Ukraine's COVID-19 response.



Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) graduates have played key roles in COVID-19, measles, anthrax, botulism, and polio outbreak investigations since 2018



44 public health professionals from 3 cohorts have graduated from Ukraine's FETP-Advanced program since 2018



40 public health professionals graduated from the FETP-Frontline course in 2020 and 2021



Uptake of antiretroviral therapy (ART) increased by 24% from 2019-2021



More than 6,000 people living with HIV (PLHIV) are currently enrolled in Medication-Assisted Therapy



More than 4,200 people have started pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) since 2020



Used key population surveys, HIV/AIDS mortality surveillance, and drug resistance monitoring to improve the utility and breadth of HIV data available



Scaled highly effective case-finding models to improve HIV testing services among people who inject drugs



Increased the availability of case managers to effectively link people living with HIV to treatment



Strengthened national laboratory systems to ensure continuity and quality of HIV laboratory service, molecular surveillance, and sequencing capacity



CDC helped launch the Global Laboratory Leadership Program (GLLP) in 2021



CDC helped stop a 2019 measles outbreak by supporting investigations and developing recommendations and control measures

## COVID-19

CDC supports Ukraine with emergency operations planning, strengthened laboratory infrastructure, disease surveillance and mitigation, and vaccine rollout. CDC's previous collaborations to strengthen laboratory capacity and surveillance systems are instrumental to the COVID-19 response. CDC supported the Public Health Center of Ukraine to:

- Establish a phone helpline to address questions from the public
- Engage religious leaders to pilot a COVID-19 contact tracing program in places of worship
- Develop and implement a COVID-19 mitigation strategy during the annual Hassidic pilgrimage in Uman, Central Ukraine

## Global Health Security

CDC's global public health security efforts in Ukraine help improve the country's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks before they become epidemics that could affect global populations. These efforts help Ukraine reach the goals outlined in the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA).

CDC collaborates with the MOH and other partners to provide ongoing expertise across GHSA action packages. With CDC's assistance, Ukraine developed detailed action plans on disease surveillance, laboratory systems, workforce development, biosafety and biosecurity, immunization, and other critical areas. Current efforts focus on implementation of these action plans to achieve the goals and competencies specified by GHSA and World Health Organization (WHO) regulations. CDC also works with partners to support:

- Establishment of a centralized Emergency Operations Center and rapid response teams
- Enhancement of border health and quarantine processes at key ports of entry
- Data modernization, digitization, and reporting

## Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)

The establishment of CDC's Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) in 2018 helps Ukraine strengthen the capacity of its workforce to investigate and respond to disease outbreaks. FETP trains epidemiologists, medical doctors, veterinarians, and other health professionals to identify and contain outbreaks before they become epidemics.

## National Public Health Institute

CDC assisted Ukraine's MOH to strengthen the country's Public Health Center (UPHC), which serves as an organizational home for Global Health Security programs and activities. The UPHC is responsible for ensuring the most effective allocation of limited public health resources to yield the maximum public health impact. CDC supports the UPHC on:

- Disease surveillance
- Emergency operations and management
- Rapid response
- Border health at ports of entry
- FETP-Frontline
- Laboratory systems strengthening

## Laboratory Systems Strengthening

CDC works with Ukraine's MOH and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) to implement the Global Laboratory Leadership Program (GLLP). The GLLP models a One Health approach that recognizes the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. GLLP strengthens laboratory leaders' management skills and promotes sustainable and effective laboratory systems. CDC also helps train laboratory staff in biosafety and security. Biosafety cabinets are critical components of laboratory infrastructure. CDC and APHL collaborate with the UPHC to develop a national plan for biosafety cabinet certification, inspection, and maintenance.

## HIV/AIDS

CDC is a key implementer of PEPFAR and works with Ukraine to build a sustainable, high-impact national HIV response program to accelerate progress in controlling the HIV epidemic. CDC works with the MOH to strengthen the National HIV/AIDS Reference Laboratory and their National Laboratory Network. Additionally, CDC works with the MOH, UPHC, and other partners to:

- Advance data quality and use to inform HIV surveillance and programs
- Accelerate HIV testing
- Interrupt, reduce, and prevent transmission of HIV
- Increase uptake of antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- Maximize viral suppression among people living with HIV (PLHIV)
- Increase retention of patients in treatment
- Strengthen information systems and management of care for PLHIV

## Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Many people in Ukraine are at increased risk of vaccine-preventable diseases due to low immunization coverage. Vaccination rates are 19% for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis, and 42% for measles, mumps, and rubella. CDC supports Ukraine's MOH to strengthen its national immunization program:

- In response to a 2021 polio outbreak, CDC helped the Ukrainian MOH strengthen polio surveillance and develop an outbreak response plan
- CDC supports revisions of immunization policy
- CDC develops strategies to address vaccine hesitancy, vaccine safety surveillance, and risk communication
- CDC helped stop a 2019 measles outbreak by supporting investigations and developing recommendations and control measures



### CDC STAFF

4 U.S. Assignees  
12 Locally Employed



### AT A GLANCE

Population: > 44 million  
Per capita income: \$13,260  
Life expectancy: F 77 / M 67 years  
Infant mortality rate: 7/1,000 live births

Sources:  
World Bank 2020  
Population Reference Bureau 2021



### TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

1. Ischemic heart disease
2. Stroke
3. Cirrhosis
4. Lung cancer
5. Alzheimer's disease
6. Cardiomyopathy
7. Colorectal cancer
8. Self-harm
9. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
10. Stomach cancer

Source:  
GBD Compare 2019, Ukraine



For more country information  
[www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/ukraine](http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/ukraine)