

# MALARIA

is spread by the bite of infective female *Anopheles* mosquitoes. The disease can cause fever, chills, and flu-like illness. If it is not treated, it can cause severe complications and death.



Malaria remains a **preventable cause of serious illness and death worldwide**, including in the United States



**3.2 billion people** – almost half the world's population – are at risk



**241 million people** became ill from malaria in 2020 across 87 countries



**627,000 people** died from malaria in 2020



**\$12 billion** lost per year in economic productivity in Africa alone

Malaria is still a threat to American travelers, military personnel, and citizens living and working abroad. Typically, about **2,000 malaria cases are diagnosed** each year in the United States.

## DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS

Malaria's toll would be much higher without the efforts of the U.S. Government, including CDC, and other global partners.

With the massive scale-up of malaria prevention and treatment interventions:



**Globally, more than 10 million lives** were saved since 2000



**Malaria deaths** in Africa were **reduced by 36%** between 2000 and 2020

# CDC's EFFORTS

CDC provides scientific leadership in innovation and surveillance, monitoring and impact evaluation to fight malaria, working hand in hand with Ministries of Health, other U.S. Government agencies, and partners.



**Providing** scientific leadership and technical assistance to guide countries and partners



**Improving data quality and accessibility** for use in decision-making



**Scaling up** interventions through the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)



**Conducting** innovative research to improve diagnostics, antimalarial drugs, vaccines, and tools to control mosquitoes



**Preventing, treating, and tracking** malaria in the United States

## SPOTLIGHT ON KEY CDC ACTIVITIES



Serves as a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Prevention and Control of Malaria and participates on advisory and technical working groups to inform and improve global programs



Tracks reported malaria cases to prevent re-introduction to the United States, provides guidance to travelers, and advises physicians on prevention, diagnosis, and treatment



Co-implements PMI with U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and advises on surveillance, monitoring and evaluation, vector control, and research



Assesses pilot implementation of a new malaria vaccine (RTS,S) in western Kenya



Operates a state-of-the-art insectary and laboratory to help understand mosquito behavior and how to control the spread of malaria, and tracks trends in insecticide resistance



Supports development of diagnostic tools, builds capacity of states and countries to diagnose malaria, and evaluates malaria rapid diagnostic tests from various manufacturers for compliance with standards, preferred practices for labeling, and instructions for use



Monitors an emerging threat, *Anopheles stephensi*, a mosquito that has crossed from Southern Asia to Eastern Africa and threatens to reverse progress towards global malaria elimination

## WHAT'S NEEDED?

**Enhanced efforts** to prevent malaria in travelers and ensuring timely diagnosis and treatment of all cases of malaria in the United States

**Continued scale-up** in countries hardest hit by malaria, with insecticide-treated nets, indoor spraying, effective diagnostics and treatment, and prevention in pregnant women

**Improved surveillance systems** to monitor progress and targeting interventions to where they are most needed and evaluate impact

**Monitoring and mitigating** of threats from insecticide and drug resistance

**Evaluation** of new vaccines and other biologicals, improved diagnostics for case management, and vector control tools

**Targeted strategies** to reduce and interrupt transmission to achieve elimination

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about CDC's work to prevent, control, and eliminate parasitic diseases, visit [www.cdc.gov/malaria](http://www.cdc.gov/malaria)

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**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention