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.

- **4.3 billion** people – almost half the world’s population – are at risk.
- **249 million** people became ill from malaria in 2021 across 85 countries and territories.
- **608,000** people died from malaria in 2022.

Malaria is still a threat to American travelers. In the US, there are about **2,000 people that are diagnosed with malaria** each year. Most of these cases are in people who have traveled to areas where malaria transmission occurs internationally.

**DEMONSTRATED SUCCESS**

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

- Globally, approximately **2 billion cases and 12 million deaths due to malaria** have been averted since 2000.
- The **Malaria mortality rate in Africa decreased 61%** between 2000 and 2022.
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 domestically reported malaria cases to prevent reintroduction to the United States, provides guidance to U.S. residents when traveling internationally, 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) and evaluate other potential interventions (monoclonal antibodies, mosquito control tools) 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 threats from insecticide, drug resistance, and invasive mosquitoes

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION