

# CDC in MOZAMBIQUE



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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established an office in Mozambique in 2000 with an initial focus on surveillance and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. The launch of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in 2004 and the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) in 2005 expanded CDC's work in Mozambique. CDC works with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to address HIV, tuberculosis (TB), malaria, COVID-19, and influenza. CDC also supports strengthening of laboratory, disease surveillance, and workforce capacities to respond to disease outbreaks.



CDC supports health systems strengthening through enhanced human resources for health, public health infrastructure, electronic patient tracking system, and laboratory systems



Since 2010, nearly 60 health professionals have completed the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) in Mozambique



As of 2021, FETP graduates responded to more than 40 disease outbreaks, including measles, cholera, rabies, typhoid fever, vaccine-derived polio, malaria, and dengue



Since 2020, FETP graduates have supported the national COVID-19 response through case investigation, community-level mortality surveillance, and assessments of contact tracing effectiveness and compliance with quarantine and isolation



CDC helped adapt the existing laboratory information system for COVID-19 sample referral, result transmission, and generation of daily national caseload reports



To reduce disease transmission among healthcare workers and patients, CDC helped establish handwashing facilities in 48 clinics in areas with higher risk of COVID-19 surges



As of December 2021, PEPFAR supported more than 1.6 million people living with HIV to receive antiretroviral treatment (ART) in Mozambique



In 2021, CDC and implementing partners ensured that 99% of pregnant women accessing antenatal care in CDC-supported provinces knew their HIV status and 98% were linked to treatment



HIV viral load coverage among people living with HIV increased from 62% to 77% in 2021 due to enhanced laboratory systems



Since March 2020, CDC efforts have contributed to a 20% increase of TB preventive treatment (TPT) coverage among people living with HIV and a 41% increase of TPT completion



100% of TB patients were tested for HIV and 97% of HIV-positive TB patients started ART since March 2020



To reduce malaria morbidity and mortality among people who are internally displaced, CDC supported a three-round Mass Drug Administration (MDA) campaign in Cabo Delgado province in 2020

## Health Systems Strengthening

CDC works with the MOH to establish and strengthen laboratory networks, surveillance systems, public health infrastructure, and workforce capacity. These public health assets are essential for delivering high-quality HIV/TB prevention and treatment services and responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. CDC works with the MOH to strengthen the national health system by:

- Developing and supporting electronic health information systems
- Enhancing the availability, accessibility, quality, and use of service-delivery data
- Supporting strengthened capacity, sustainability, and effectiveness of Human Resources for Health (HRH)

## Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)

CDC helped Mozambique establish an FETP in 2010 to strengthen the workforce's capacity to investigate and respond to disease outbreaks. FETP strengthens participants' skills in applied epidemiology, laboratory management, data collection, and translating data into evidence-based action. As part of their training, FETP fellows also support the MOH with HIV and TB surveillance, monitoring, and evaluation.

## COVID-19

The first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in Mozambique in March 2020. CDC partnered with the MOH and National Institute of Health (INS) to develop the overall strategy, operational plan, and budget for Mozambique's COVID-19 response. CDC staff also provide subject matter expertise across technical working groups that guide the response. CDC supports efforts to:

- Strengthen local capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to COVID-19
- Decrease transmission of COVID-19 in communities, across borders, and in healthcare facilities
- Leverage existing laboratory systems to diagnose COVID-19

## Tuberculosis (TB)

Mozambique is one of the countries most affected by TB in the world. Based on 2020 data from the WHO and MOH, approximately 12,400 TB-related deaths occur in Mozambique each year. The HIV epidemic complicates the TB epidemic, with almost half of annual TB-related deaths occurring among people living with HIV. For more than 10 years, CDC has assisted the National TB Program in Mozambique with early diagnosis, integration of TB and HIV services, and diagnosis and treatment of drug-resistant TB. CDC partners also work with people

who work in mines, people who are imprisoned, and healthcare workers to increase rapid detection of TB and HIV. CDC supports the MOH and INS with various TB activities, including:

- Infection prevention and control plans in health facilities
- Safety and quality improvement of laboratories
- Technical collaboration on national policies, strategies, training, health communications, mentoring, and supervision

## HIV

HIV is a leading cause of mortality and morbidity in Mozambique and affects 13% of the adult population. Through PEPFAR, CDC partners with the MOH to build a sustainable national HIV response program that is aligned with UNAIDS global goals for HIV epidemic control. CDC and the MOH collaborate across a broad range of HIV prevention and treatment activities, such as:

- Advising and developing policies, strategies, guidelines, training materials, and monitoring and evaluation programs
- Preventing, diagnosing, and treating common comorbidities, such as TB and cervical cancer
- Implementing the Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-Free, Mentored and Safe (DREAMS) program
- Supporting community-based efforts to reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination

## Malaria

Through PMI, CDC assigned a resident advisor to Mozambique to support the MOH with prevention and control activities that reduce malaria-related morbidity and mortality. CDC provides technical advice and research and programmatic support. CDC and PMI strategically emphasize indoor residual spraying and mosquito monitoring, case management and drug efficacy monitoring, drug-based prevention, supply chain management, and social and behavior change.

## Influenza

Influenza viruses require continued vigilance to protect the world from seasonal influenza and novel strains that could trigger a pandemic such as COVID-19. CDC has worked with the Government of Mozambique to help build surveillance and laboratory capacity to detect and respond to influenza. Mozambique participates in the WHO's External Quality Assessment Project (EQAP) for influenza laboratories. By monitoring quality and performance standards, the EQAP helps strengthen diagnostic capacity and preparedness to respond to influenza outbreaks worldwide.



### CDC STAFF

21 U.S. Assignees  
73 Locally Employed



### AT A GLANCE

Population: > 31.25 million  
Per capita income: \$1,250  
Life expectancy: F 57 / M 54 years  
Infant mortality rate: 49/1,000 live births

Sources:  
World Bank 2020, Mozambique  
Population Reference Bureau 2021, Mozambique



### TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

1. HIV/AIDS
2. Neonatal disorders
3. Tuberculosis
4. Malaria
5. Stroke
6. Lower respiratory infections
7. Ischemic heart disease
8. Diarrheal diseases
9. Congenital defects
10. Road injuries

Source:  
GBD Compare 2019, Mozambique



For more country information  
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