

# Country Disease Outlook

## Angola

August 2023



World Health  
Organization

African Region

### Background

The Republic of Angola is a country in Southern Africa, bordering Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia, and Zambia. It has a long coastline and a central plateau. It is a lower-middle income with a GDP per capita of US\$ 2,815 (2019). Its population of 36.7 million (2023) is relatively young, with 45% under the age of 15 years.

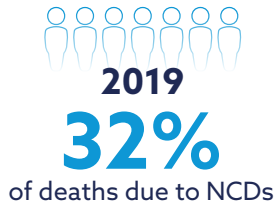
### Key points

- ◆ Angola has a high burden of communicable and non-communicable disease (NCDs), with the latter making up 32% of deaths in 2019.
- ◆ Angola has improved its child survival rates between 2015 and 2021, however it is not yet meeting the SDG targets for neonatal or under-five mortality rates.
- ◆ Angola has made limited progress in achieving the 95-95-95 goals for HIV. It was estimated that only 57% of people living with HIV knew their status in 2021.
- ◆ Angola is endemic for 4 of the 5 NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA). In 2021, there were 4.4 million people targeted for MDA, although only 2.7 million were treated.
- ◆ Angola has historically achieved suboptimal vaccination coverage rates. However, in 2021, the coverage rates were the lowest recorded for more than 15 years for both the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (45%) and the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (36%). This resulted in 707,721 under-immunised children and 553,309 zero-dose children and there is an urgent need for catch-up vaccination.

**UHC/CN**

Universal Health Coverage/Communicable  
and Non-communicable Diseases  
WHO Regional Office for Africa





## Broad disease outlook

The country has a high burden of both communicable (such as malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS) and non-communicable disease (NCDs). The latter was estimated to have caused 32% of deaths in 2019.

## Communicable diseases

### Malaria

Malaria remains a public health problem in Angola, with an estimated 8.8 million cases (incidence rate of 240 cases per 1000 population) in 2021, resulting in 17,836 deaths (case fatality ratio of 0.20%). The country is off track to meet the Global Technical Strategy for malaria targets as the incidence rate per 1,000 population has risen steadily since 2015.

There are opportunities to strengthen the malaria programme. Insecticide-treated bednet use in children under five years was only 22% and just 27% of people with fever, for whom care was sought and received a finger/heel prick, used artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT).

### Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS

The estimated TB incidence in 2019 is 350/100,000 population. Estimates of mortality rates related to TB remain high but have slightly decreased since 2015 to 51 per 100,000 population.

Progress against the 95-95-95 goals is yet to be fully achieved:

- ▲ 57% of people living with HIV that know their status.
- ▲ 72% of people living with HIV who know their status are on treatment.
- ▲ There is limited data on the number of people living with HIV and on treatment who are virally suppressed.

Approximately 128,292 people were receiving anti-retroviral treatment in 2021.

### Neglected tropical diseases

Angola is endemic for four of the five NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA), namely lymphatic filariasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis, schistosomiasis and onchocerciasis. There is limited data on trachoma. In 2021, there were 4.4 million people targeted for MDA, although only 2.7 million were treated.

Other notable NTDs that remain endemic are dracunculiasis (Guinea worm), leishmaniasis (cutaneous and visceral), human African trypanosomiasis (*gambiense*), leprosy and rabies.

## Non-communicable diseases

NCDs are a major health problems in Angola. The age-standardised mortality rate across four major NCDs (Cardiovascular Disease, Chronic Respiratory Disease, Cancer and Diabetes) was 755 per 100,000 in males and 552 in females in 2021.

Angola has implemented efforts on the NCD progress indicators related to tobacco control and alcohol availability, but progress has been more limited on indicators related to alcohol taxes and advertising restrictions, salt policies, trans fats policies, marketing to children and physical activity guidelines.

## Childhood Immunization

Historically, Angola is one of the countries where immunisation in children has been sub-optimal. The coverage rate for the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine in 2021 was only 45%, the lowest-level it has been since 2001. Similarly, the measles vaccination coverage for the first dose was 36% in 2021, the lowest since 2006.

The low coverage rate, combined with the relatively high population size, resulted in an estimated 707,721 under-immunised children and 553,309 zero-dose children. This suggests an urgent need to implement catch-up vaccination strategies in the country.

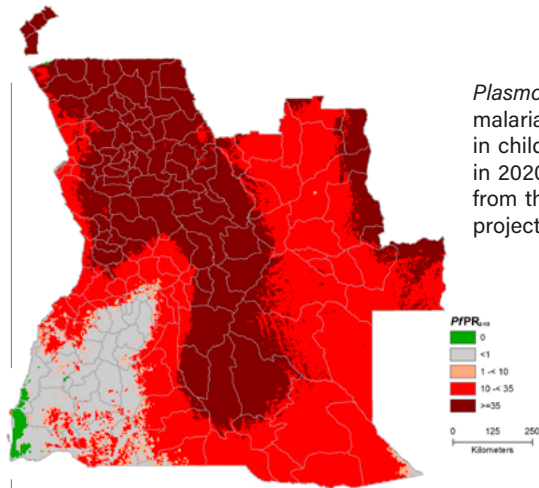
## Child survival

Based on the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) estimates, the under-5 mortality rate has fallen from 89 to 69 per 1000 live births between 2015 and 2021, it is still above the SDG target of 25 per 1,000 live births. Similarly, neonatal mortality fell from 31 to 27 per 1,000 live births in the same period, although it remains above the SDG target of 12.

**MALARIA**

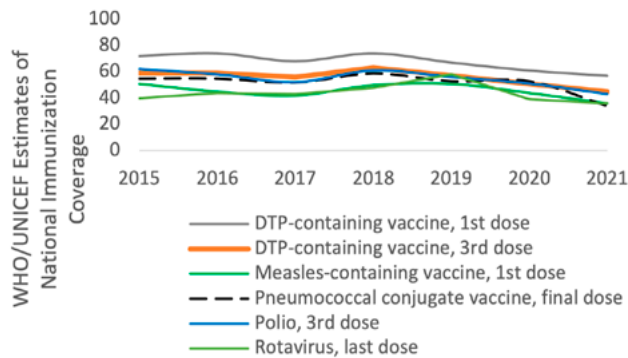
POPULATION AT RISK IN 2022	TOTAL MALARIA CASES IN 2021	TOTAL MALARIA DEATHS IN 2021
<b>34.5 million people</b>	<b>8.8 million</b>	<b>17,836</b>

ITN use in children under five years (**21.7%**) and **27.0%** use of ACTs among those with fever for whom care was sought and received a finger or heel prick.

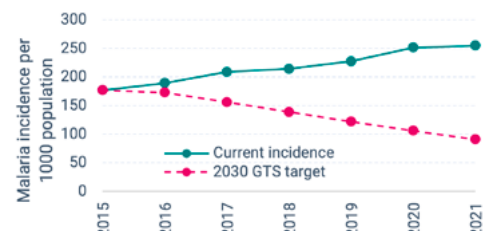


*Plasmodium falciparum* malaria prevalence in children in Angola in 2020. Estimates from the Malaria Atlas project

**EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION IN CHILDREN**



**Malaria incidence in 2021 compared to GTS targets shows that the country is off track**

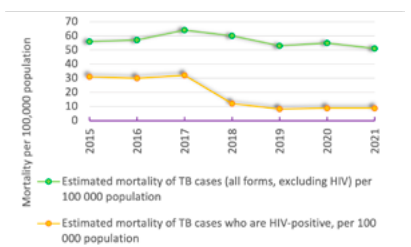
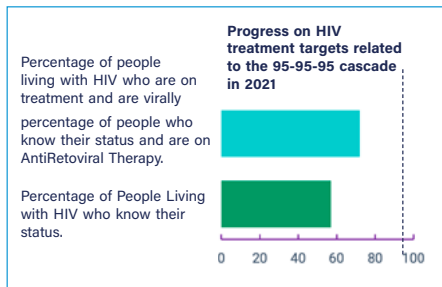


**Zero dose children 718,315 Under-immunized 1.3 million**

Low childhood immunization since 2015 with a decline since 2019. Average DPT1 coverage was 72% before 2019 and has since dropped to an average of 62%, since 2019. Coverage in other vaccine antigens is lower.

**HIV AND TUBERCULOSIS**

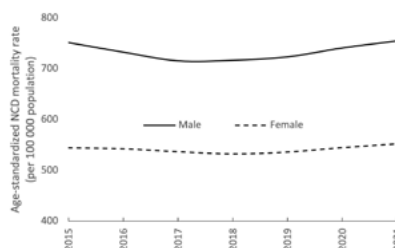
- 128,292** people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021
- 33%** Treatment success rate for HIV-positive TB cases
- 56%** of children (aged < 5 years) household contacts of bacteriologically-confirmed TB cases on preventive treatment
- 73%** Domestic funding for TB
- 16%** Domestic funding for HIV



- Indicator 1 - Targets
- Indicator 2 - CRV Mortality
- Indicator 3 - Surveys
- Indicator 4 - NCD policy and Plan
- Indicator 5A - Tobacco taxes
- Indicator 5B - Tobacco smoke free/pollution
- Indicator 5C - Tobacco health warning
- Indicator 5D - Tobacco advertising ban
- Indicator 5E - Tobacco media campaign
- Indicator 6A - Alcohol availability
- Indicator 6B - Alcohol advertising restriction
- Indicator 6C - Alcohol taxes
- Indicator 7A - Salt policies
- Indicator 7B - Trans fats policies
- Indicator 7C - Marketing to children
- Indicator 8 - Physical activity awareness
- Indicator 9 - NCD guidelines

**NCD PROGRESS INDICATORS**

- Achieved
- Partially achieved
- Not achieved/Unknown



**NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES**

- Endemic NTDS requiring Preventive Chemotherapy (PC)**
- Lymphatic filariasis
  - Schistosomiasis
  - Soil-transmitted helminthiasis
  - Trachoma (Unknown)
  - Onchocerciasis

**PC-NTDs treatment in 2021**  
 4.4 Million targeted for MDA  
 2.7 Million treated with MDA

**OTHER MAJOR NTDS**

- Dracunculiasis (Guinea worm)
- Leprosy
- Leishmaniasis (Cutaneous and visceral)
- Rabies
- Human Africa trypanosomiasis (*gambiense*)