

Country Disease Outlook

Guinea

August 2023



World Health
Organization

African Region

Background

The Republic of Guinea, is located in West Africa, with the Atlantic Ocean to the west, Guinea-Bissau to the northwest, Senegal to the north, Mali to the north-east, Cote d'Ivoire to the southeast, and Sierra Leone and Liberia to the south. It has a population of 13.5 million, with a median age of 18 years, and an area of 245,857 km².

Key points

- ◆ Guinea has a high burden of communicable and non-communicable disease (NCDs), with the latter making up 32% of deaths in 2019.
- ◆ Guinea 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.
- ◆ Guinea had 64,773 people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021. It has not yet achieved the 95-95-95 goals for HIV.
- ◆ Guinea is endemic for all five NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA), reaching 6.6 million people with MDA in 2020.
- ◆ Guinea is one of the countries where vaccination coverage rates among children has historically been sub-optimal. In addition, the recent outbreaks of measles in 2017 and 2019 reinforce the need to reach hard-to-reach populations and increase overall immunisation rates.

UHC/CN

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





2019

32%

of deaths due to NCDs

Broad disease outlook

The country has a high burden of communicable disease (such as malaria, Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS) and non-communicable disease (NCDs), with the latter contributing to 32% of deaths in 2019.

Communicable diseases

Malaria

Malaria remains a public health problem with the entire population at risk. Just over 4.5 million malaria cases (with incidence rate of 317 per 1000 population) were reported in 2021 and 9,439 deaths. The dominant vector of malaria is the *Anopheles gambiae sensu lato*. 96% of malaria cases are *Plasmodium falciparum*, but *P. malariae* and *P. ovale* have previously been reported in Guinea. The national malaria strategy aims to reduce malaria-related morbidity and mortality by 75% compared to 2016 levels. However, the recent trend in malaria GTS targets shows the country to be off-track with malaria targets.

Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS

Incidence rate of tuberculosis in 2021 was estimated 175 per 100,000 people. TB screening and detection in Guinea are a challenge, driven by factors including low coverage of TB services, human resources shortages, and lack of follow-ups among patients. Since 2015 both HIV and TB mortality has been steadily dropping, although TB mortality has been increasing. There were approximately 64,773 people with HIV on anti-retroviral treatment. Guinea has made little progress against the 95-95-95 goals as follows:

- ▲ 59% of people living with HIV know their status.
- ▲ 88% 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. are virally suppressed.

Neglected tropical diseases

While it was never endemic to dracunculiasis disease (Guinea worm), the country was certified in 2009. Guinea is endemic for all the NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA) (lymphatic filariasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis and schistosomiasis, trachoma and onchocerciasis). In 2020, 7.3 million people were targeted for MDA and 6.6 million were treated.

There are known endemic NTDs including Buruli ulcer, chromoblastomycosis and other deep

mycoses, foodborne trematodiasis, leprosy, rabies, mycetoma, taeniasis and cysticercosis and human African trypanosomiasis (*gambiense*). Integrated approaches for control and case management for NTDs are yet to be fully adopted and implemented.

Non-communicable diseases

The age-standardised mortality rate across four major NCDs (cardiovascular Disease, chronic respiratory disease, cancer and diabetes) was greater than 600 per 100,000 population since 2015 for both males and females. The country has implemented a National NCD policy and plan. However, several other progress indicators of the global targets to reduce the burden of NCDs are yet to be implemented. Impressively, Guinea has implemented measures to raise awareness of the importance of physical activity.

Childhood Immunization

Guinea is one of the countries where immunisation in children has historically been sub-optimal. For example, the first dose coverage rates of both DTP and measles have been stagnant at 62% and 47%, respectively. The estimate of zero-dose children was 168,248 in 2021. Further, recent outbreaks of measles in 2017 and 2019 suggest an overall need to reach hard-to-reach population and increase overall immunisation rates.

Strengthen routine immunization programmes for hard-to-reach populations.

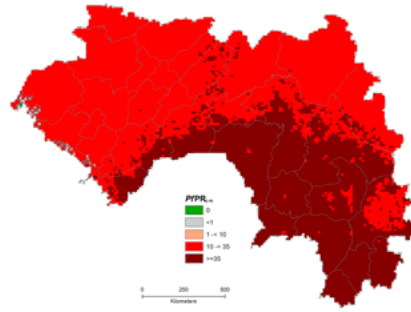
Child survival

Based on the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) estimates derived from national data from censuses, surveys or vital registration systems, the under-5 mortality stands at 98.7 per 1000 live births down from 112.6 in 2015. The neonatal mortality was 31.1 per 1000 live births and modest reduction from 33.3 per 1000 live births in 2015. These indicators are still higher than the SDG3 target of 25 per 1000 live births and 12 per 1000 live births, respectively. Child deaths are attributed to generally preventable causes, including malaria, pneumonia, and diarrhoea.

MALARIA

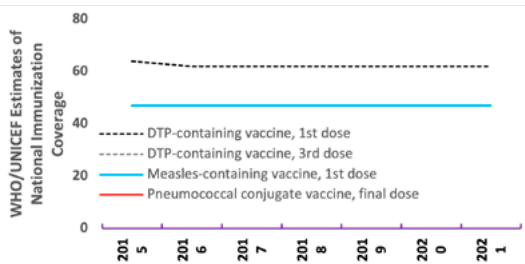
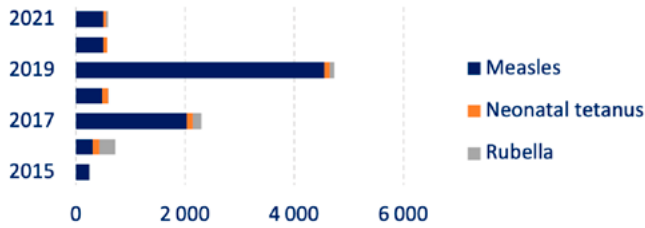
POPULATION AT RISK IN 2022	TOTAL MALARIA CASES IN 2021	TOTAL MALARIA DEATHS IN 2021
13.5 million	4.5 million	9,439

ITN use in children under five years 38.1% and 36.6% use of ACTs among those for whom care was sought and received a finger or heel prick



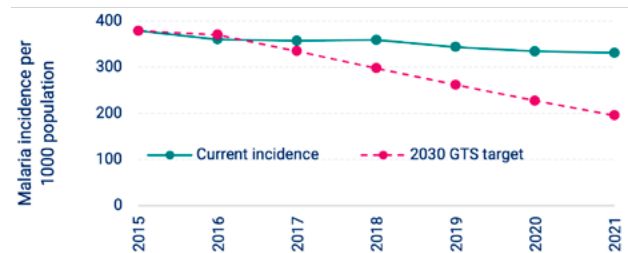
Plasmodium falciparum malaria prevalence in children in Guinea in 2020. Estimates from the Malaria Atlas project

EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION IN CHILDREN



Malaria incidence in 2021 compared to GTS targets shows that the country was initially on target but has since reversed targets since the 2016-17 period

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



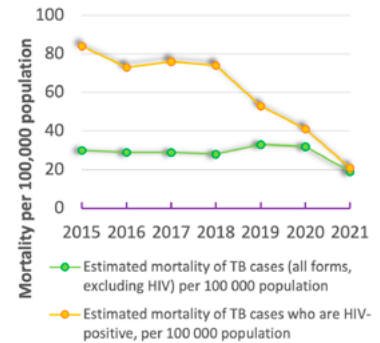
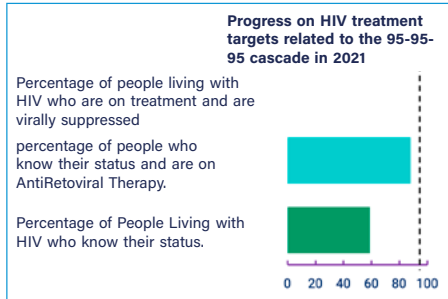
Zero dose children 168,258 **Under-immunized 234,675**

WUENIC estimates show that vaccination coverage remains low (64% for DPT1) and constant since 2015. Other doses DPT3 and MCV1 have for a long time been 47%. There has been a significant outbreak of measles in 2017 and 2019. Challenges include reaching marginalised populations, supply and distribution and limited access to health facilities

HIV AND TUBERCULOSIS

- 64,773** people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021
- 88%** Treatment success rate for HIV-positive TB cases
- 95%** of children (aged < 5 years) household contacts of bacteriologically-confirmed TB cases on preventive treatment

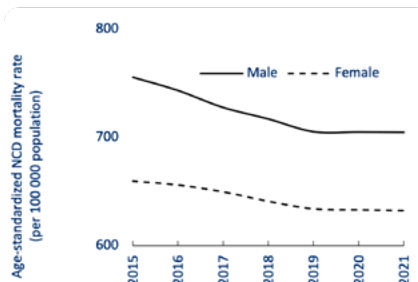
19% Domestic funding for TB
8% Domestic funding for HIV



- 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/polutior
- Indicator 5C - Tobacco health warning
- Indicator 5D - Tobacco advertising ban
- Indicator 5E - Tobacco media campaign
- Indicator 6A - Alcohol availability
- Indicator 6B - Alcohol advertising restrictio
- 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
 - Soil-transmitted helminthiasis
 - Schistosomiasis
 - Trachoma
 - Onchocerciasis

PC-NTDs treatment in 2021
7.3 million targeted for MDA
6.6 million treated with MDA

OTHER MAJOR NTDs

- Buruli Ulcer
- Human African trypanosomiasis (*gambiense*)
- Leprosy
- Rabies