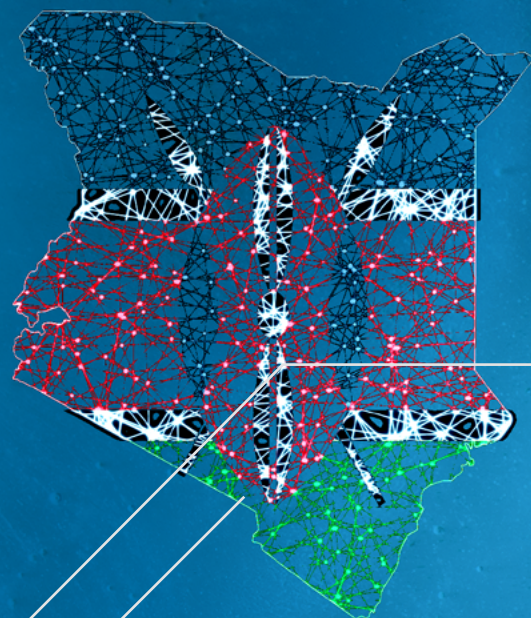


Country Disease Outlook

Kenya

August 2023



World Health
Organization

African Region

Background

Kenya is an East African country that covers an area of 582,550 km² and has a diverse ecology - savannah, tropical, equatorial, volcanic and tectonic. It is bordered by Tanzania to the south, Uganda to the west, South Sudan to the northwest, Ethiopia to the north and Somalia to the northeast. The great East African Rift Valley extends from Lake Victoria to Lake Turkana and further southeast to the Indian Ocean. It has the largest economy in East Africa with a GDP of US\$ 2,081. Its population was approximately 53 million in 2021, with a relatively young median age of 19 years.

Key points

- ◆ Kenya has improved its child survival rates between 2015 and 2021, although it is not yet meeting the SDG targets for neonatal and under-five mortality rates.
- ◆ Kenya had 1.1 million people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021 and has made progress towards achieving the 95-95-95 goals for HIV, reaching 84-89-89 in 2021. Additional efforts should be implemented to increase the number of people living with HIV that know their status.
- ◆ Kenya is still endemic for all the NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA) and reached 40.4 million people with MDA in 2020.
- ◆ Vaccination coverage has remained relatively high in Kenya. However, the country has experienced outbreaks of measles, rubella, and mumps since 2015.

UHC/CN

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





life expectancy
63
years
of deaths due to NCDs

Broad disease outlook

The country's life expectancy is 63 years, with communicable diseases reported as the leading cause of outpatient clinic visits and inpatient admissions. While the country's strategy is to Halt and Reverse the burden of non-communicable conditions, mortality due to NCDs is steadily increasing.

Communicable Diseases

Malaria

There is a risk of malaria in the majority of the country, although transmission rates vary. Approximately 70% of Kenya's population is at risk for malaria, with 14 million people in endemic areas and another 17 million in areas of epidemic and seasonal malaria. In 2021, 3.83 million cases of malaria were confirmed. Malaria is one of the leading causes of hospital visits with an estimated 10,700 attributable deaths in 2021.

HIV/TB

The incidence of tuberculosis in Kenya, in 2021, was 251 cases per 100,000 people. By 2021, Kenya was one of the seven high TB burden countries that had reached or passed the first milestone of a 20% reduction in the TB incidence rate compared with 2015. Progress on HIV/AIDS-related targets remains modest with approximately 1.1 million people receiving antiretroviral treatment in 2021.

Kenya has made progress with respect to the 95-95-95 targets;

- ▲ 84% of people living with HIV know their status.
- ▲ 89% of people living with HIV who know their status are on treatment.
- ▲ 89% of people living with HIV and on treatment are virally suppressed.

Mortality due to the incidence of TB (including co-infection with HIV) has declined from 2015 levels.

Neglected tropical diseases

Kenya was certified free of dracunculiasis disease (Guinea worm) in 2018. It is yet to be certified for yaws although the disease is not endemic. Kenya is still endemic for all the NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA) (lymphatic filariasis, soil-transmitted helminthiasis, schistosomiasis, trachoma and onchocerciasis). 40.4 million people of the 43.9 million targeted were reached with MDA in 2020.

Other notable NTDs still endemic include Buruli ulcer, chromoblastomycosis and other deep mycoses, food-borne trematodiasis, leishmaniasis (cutaneous and visceral), leprosy, rabies, mycetoma, taeniasis and cysticercosis. Integrated approaches for control and case management for NTDs are yet to be fully adopted and implemented.

Non-communicable diseases

Since 2015, there is increasing mortality related to NCDs. The age-standardised mortality rate across four major NCDs (Cardiovascular Disease, Chronic Respiratory Disease, Cancer and Diabetes) was over 600 per 100,000 population for the male population and over 500 per 100,000 for the female population.

At least five areas of the NCD target indicators related to key targets to reduce the burden of NCDs are yet to be achieved. Government policies related to tobacco and alcohol taxes and advertising are yet to be achieved fully.

Childhood Immunization

Vaccination coverage has remained relatively high in Kenya. However, the country has experienced outbreaks of measles, rubella, and mumps since 2015.

In 2021, there were an estimated 128,717 under-immunised children and 14,302 zero-dose. These are likely to vary sub-nationally and can be targeted through active tracking and community follow-up.

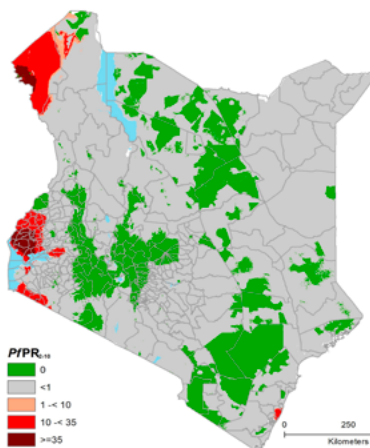
Child survival

Although the under-5 mortality rate (the probability that a child born in a specific year or period will die before reaching the age of 5 years) has fallen from 45.9 per 1000 live births in 2015 to 37.2 per 1000 live births in 2021, it is still above the SDG target of 25 per 1000 live births. There was a similar trend in neonatal mortality that stood at 18 per 1000 live births in 2021, down from 21 per 1000 in 2015.

MALARIA

POPULATION AT RISK IN 2022	TOTAL MALARIA CASES IN 2021	TOTAL MALARIA DEATHS IN 2021
53.0 million people	3.4 million	12,011

ITN use in children under five years (42.0%) and **42.3%** use of ACTs among those for whom care was sought and received a finger or heel prick

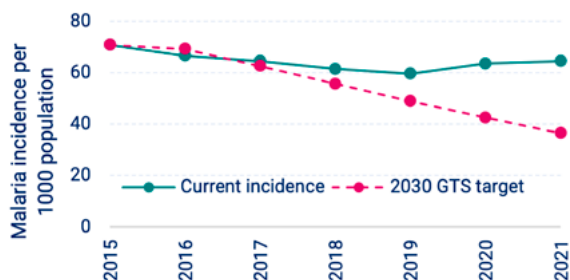
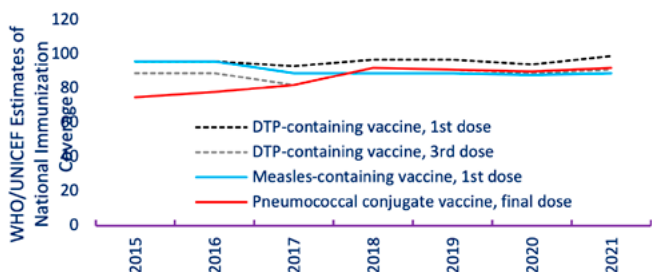


Plasmodium falciparum malaria prevalence in children in Kenya in 2020. Estimates from the Malaria Atlas project

Malaria incidence in 2021 compared to GTS targets shows that the country was initially on target but has since reversed targets since 2017

EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION IN CHILDREN

Vaccination coverage levels bounced back after 2019, suggesting resilience in the health system and catch-up to levels before 2019



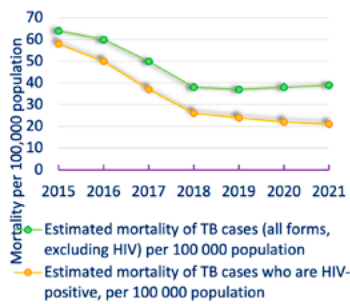
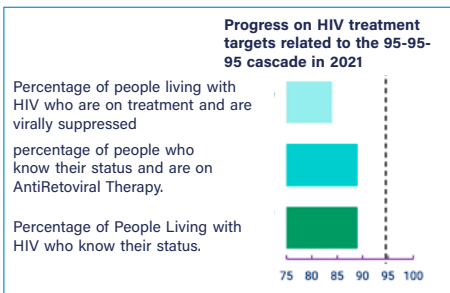
Zero dose children 14,302 **Under-immunized 128,717**

The drop in basic vaccination since 2019 suggests a strong need for catch-up in routine immunization for preventable diseases

HIV AND TUBERCULOSIS

- + **1.1** people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021
- 80%** Treatment success rate for HIV-positive TB cases
- 32%** of children (aged < 5 years) household contacts of bacteriologically-confirmed TB cases on preventive treatment

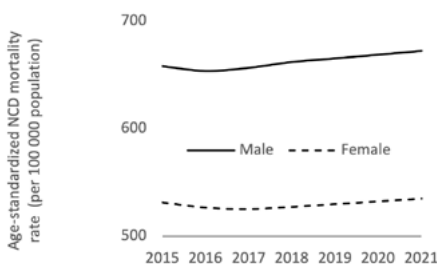
49% Domestic funding for TB
37% Domestic funding for HIV



- 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/polution
- 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
43.9 million targeted for MDA
40.4 million treated with MDA

OTHER MAJOR NTDS

- Buruli Ulcer
- Leishmaniasis (Cutaneous and visceral)
- Leprosy
- Rabies