

Country Disease Outlook

Mali

August 2023



World Health Organization

African Region

Background

The Republic of Mali is a landlocked country in west Africa, bounded by Algeria, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal. It is a low-income country with a GDP per capita of US\$ 833 (2022) and a population of 22.6 million (2022).

Key points

- ◆ Mali has a high burden of communicable and non-communicable disease (NCDs), with the latter making up 30% of deaths in 2019.
- ◆ Mali 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.
- ◆ Mali had 59,982 people receiving antiretroviral treatment in 2022 and has not met any of the three 95-95-95 goals, with additional efforts particularly needed to increase the testing rates among people living with HIV.
- ◆ Mali's coverage rates of vaccination in children have historically been below the 90% target rate. After a dip in 2020, vaccination rates recovered in 2021, with the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine reaching 77%, while the coverage rate for the first dose of measles vaccine was 70%. This resulted in 157,055 zero-dose children and 200,681 under-immunized children. It is important for Mali to continue to strengthen its routine immunization system, while also implementing catch-up vaccination strategies in the country to ensure that no children are left unprotected from vaccine-preventable diseases in the future.

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 30% of deaths in 2019.

Communicable diseases

Malaria

Malaria remains a significant public health problem in Mali with an estimated 7.7 million cases in 2021, resulting in 19,933 deaths. The country is off track to meet the targets set by the Global Technical Strategy for Malaria. Although the malaria incidence rate has decreased since 2015, it has not dropped fast enough to meet the targets.

Tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS

The mortality rate of TB cases (all forms, excluding HIV coinfection) has remained fairly constant between 2015-2021 at 7.5 per 100,000 population. In contrast, the TB mortality rate among HIV-positive people is lower and has decreased from 3.1 to 1.4 in the same period.

Mali has not met any of the 95-95-95 goals:

- ▲ 60.6% of people living with HIV know their status
- ▲ 53% of the people living with HIV that know their status are on treatment
- ▲ 40% people living with HIV and on treatment are virally suppressed.

Approximately 56,194 people were receiving antiretroviral treatment in 2021.

Neglected tropical diseases

Mali is endemic for three of the five NTDs amenable to preventive chemotherapy through mass drug administration (MDA), namely lymphatic filariasis, schistosomiasis, and trachoma. In 2020, 4 million of the 4.2 million targeted (95%) were treated with MDA.

Other notable NTDs that remain endemic are leishmaniasis (cutaneous), taeniasis and cysticercosis, dracunculiasis, leprosy, and rabies.

Non-communicable diseases

NCDs are a significant health problem in Mali. The age-standardised mortality rate across four major NCDs (Cardiovascular Disease, Chronic Respiratory Disease, Cancer and Diabetes) was 618 per 100,000 in males and 630 in females in 2021.

Mali has implemented limited efforts on the NCD progress indicators on areas including the NCD policy and plan and tobacco taxes, however there is very limited progress against the remaining indicators. These include the NCD guidelines, alcohol availability, alcohol taxes, alcohol advertising restrictions, tobacco smoke free/pollution, salt policies, trans fats policies, marketing to children and physical activity awareness.

Childhood Immunization

Mali's coverage rates of vaccination in children have historically been below the 90% target rate. After a dip in 2020, vaccination rates recovered in 2021, with the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine reaching 77%, while the coverage rate for the first dose of measles vaccine was 70%. This resulted in 157,055 zero-dose children and 200,681 under-immunized children. It is important for Mali to continue to strengthen its routine immunization system, while also implementing catch-up vaccination strategies in the country to ensure that no children are left unprotected from vaccine-preventable diseases in the future.

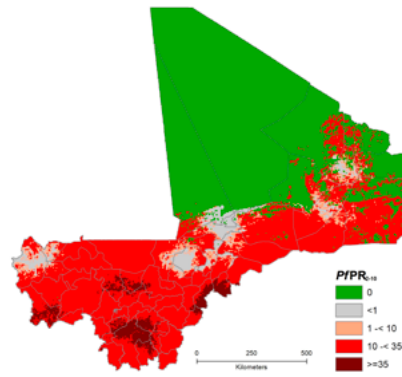
Child survival

Based on the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME) estimates, the under-5 mortality rate has fallen from 116 to 97 per 1,000 live births between 2015 and 2021, although it is still well above the SDG target of 25 per 1,000 live births. Similarly, the neonatal mortality rate decreased from 37 to 33 per 1,000 live births in the same period, remaining above the SDG target of 12.

MALARIA

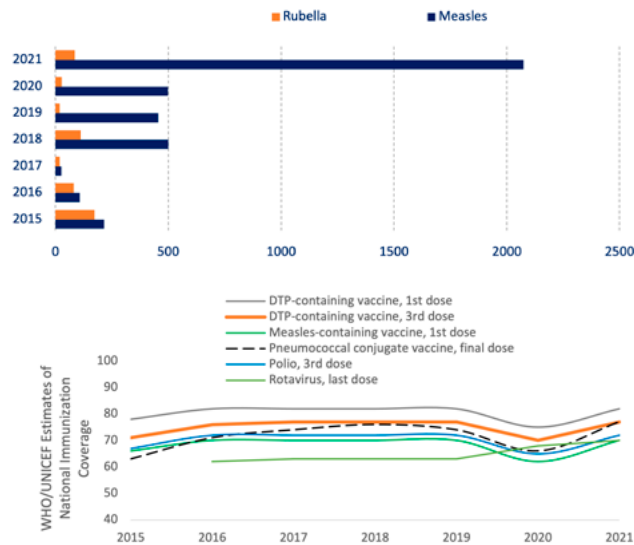
POPULATION AT RISK IN 2022	TOTAL MALARIA CASES IN 2021	TOTAL MALARIA DEATHS IN 2021
21.9 million	7.7 million	19,933

ITN use in children under five years 79.0% and 24.4% use of ACTs among those with fever for whom care was sought and received a finger or heel prick

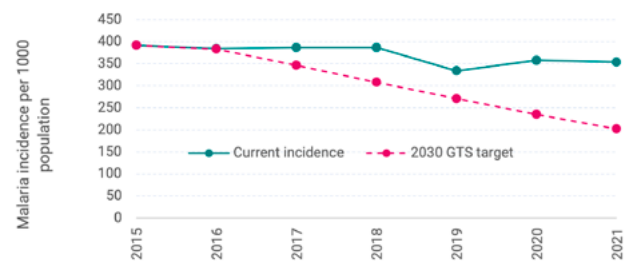


Plasmodium falciparum malaria prevalence in children in 2020. Estimates from the Malaria Atlas project

EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION IN CHILDREN



Malaria incidence in Mali since 2015 compared to GTS targets shows that the country is off track on GTS targets



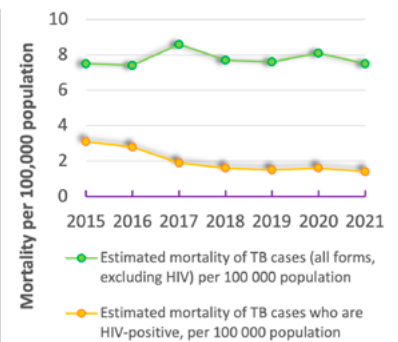
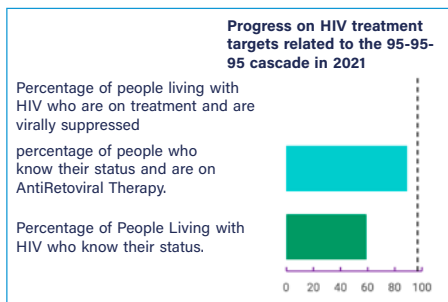
Zero dose children 157,055 **Under-immunized 200,681**

WUENIC estimates show that, for most basic antigens, coverage declined in 2020 but started recovering to pre-2019 levels.

Measles outbreaks occurred in 2021 and continues to be a major public health problem in Mali.

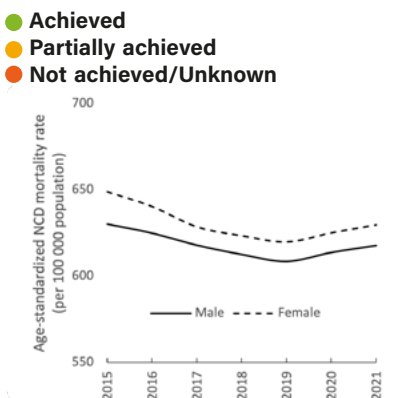
HIV AND TUBERCULOSIS

- 56,194** people receiving antiretroviral therapy in 2021
 - 74%** Treatment success rate for HIV-positive TB cases
 - 10%** of children (aged < 5 years) household contacts of bacteriologically-confirmed TB cases on preventive treatment
- 7.3%** Domestic funding for TB
Unknown 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 restrictions
- 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



NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

- Endemic NTDS requiring Preventive Chemotherapy (PC)**
- Lymphatic filariasis
 - Schistosomiasis
 - Trachoma
 - Onchocerciasis (non-endemic)
- PC-NTDs treatment in 2021**
- 4.2 million targeted for MDA
4.0 million treated with MDA
- OTHER MAJOR NTDS**
- Leishmaniasis (cutaneous)
 - Taeniasis and cysticercosis
 - Dracunculiasis
 - Leprosy
 - Rabies