

## STRATEGIC FOCUS

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) works closely with Zimbabwe's Ministry of Health and Child Care (MOHCC) to further expand the robust national HIV response to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control. CDC Zimbabwe provides technical assistance (TA) and supports program implementation to build Zimbabwe's public health capacity and technical expertise, while enhancing the infrastructure required for a high-impact, sustainable HIV response.

Current areas of strategic focus include:

- HIV prevention, testing, and antiretroviral therapy (ART),
- HIV and tuberculosis (TB) screening, treatment, and TB infection control program integration,
- Laboratory support for HIV and TB diagnosis and monitoring, and
- Health systems infrastructure strengthening, including health information systems, public health disease surveillance, capacity building, and quality improvement.

## KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### HIV Prevention and Case-Finding

By the end of calendar year 2020, CDC Zimbabwe launched four new DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe) districts with HIV prevention programs for adolescent girls and young women. CDC Zimbabwe also expanded pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) access from two to nine districts. By September 2020, CDC Zimbabwe had provided technical assistance and support to the MOHCC to successfully conduct 61,932 voluntary medical male circumcisions (PEPFAR program data 2020). CDC Zimbabwe and other implementing partners support the MOHCC to provide safe HIV testing services through implementation of the HIV epidemic control focused testing strategy. The models include HIV index contact testing, HIV self-testing, focused testing for high-risk populations, and HIV testing as part of clinical services offered during the provision of HIV prevention interventions.

### HIV Treatment Program

CDC Zimbabwe and other implementing partners collaborate with the MOHCC to expand ART to over 1.1 million Zimbabweans, translating to approximately 84% of people living with HIV (PLHIV) across the country receiving ART (PEPFAR program data 2020). This is largely the result of TA, direct human resource support, and strong coordination among stakeholders.

### Surveys, Surveillance and Program Information

CDC Zimbabwe supports the MOHCC to scale-up and roll out HIV case-based surveillance using an Electronic Health Record (EHR) system. The system uniquely identifies patients, and reports data in real-time for newly diagnosed and recent infections. By December 2020, 228 facilities were reporting data for all HIV-infected persons.

The second Zimbabwe Population-based HIV Impact Assessment was completed in 2020. Results show Zimbabwe met the UNAIDS' 2020 Fast-Track second 90 (97% on ART) and third 90 (90.3% have suppressed viral load (VL)) goals, showing good progress towards achieving epidemic control. CDC Zimbabwe is supporting the 2030 goals of 95-95-95 goals, which are 95% diagnosed among all people living with HIV (PLHIV), 95% on antiretroviral therapy (ART) among diagnosed, and 95% virally suppressed (VS) among treated

### TB/HIV

CDC Zimbabwe is collaborating with the MOHCC's AIDS and TB Programs and implementing partners to scale-up TB preventive treatment (TPT) for all eligible clients, including rolling out newer regimens. CDC Zimbabwe also supports routine TB screening for all PLHIV, including testing for those with symptoms.

### Laboratory Support

CDC Zimbabwe works, in partnership with the MOHCC, to strengthen universal access to VL testing for all people on treatment. By December 2020, 705,090 patients had accessed a VL test (Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) data 2020). Strategies to increase access to VL testing include optimization of the Integrated Specimen Transport systems, Clinic Laboratory Interface, and result management through LIMS and SMS result relay system. CDC Zimbabwe plans to accelerate the integration of LIMS and EHR.

### Key Country Leadership

President: Emmerson Mnangagwa

Minister of Health: Constantino Chiwenga

U.S. Ambassador: Brian A. Nichols

CDC/DGHT Director: Michael Melchior

**Country Quick Facts**  
([worldbank.org/en/where-we-work](http://worldbank.org/en/where-we-work))

Per Capita GNI: \$1,090 (2020)

Population (millions): 14.86 (2020)

Under 5 Mortality: 55/1,000 live births (2019)

Life Expectancy: 61 years (2019)

**Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic**  
([aidsinfo.unaids.org](http://aidsinfo.unaids.org))

Estimated HIV Prevalence (Ages 15-49): 11.9% (2020)

Estimated AIDS Deaths (Age  $\geq$ 15): 19,000 (2020)

Estimated Orphans Due to AIDS: 540,000 (2020)

Reported Number Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) (Age  $\geq$ 15): 1,128,432 (2020)

**Global Tuberculosis (TB) Epidemic**  
([who.int/tb/country/data\\_profiles/en](http://who.int/tb/country/data_profiles/en))

Estimated TB Incidence: 199/100,000 population (2019)

TB patients with known HIV status who are HIV-positive: 60% (2019)

TB Treatment Success Rate: 84% (2018)

Estimated TB Mortality: 43/100,000 population (2019)

**DGHT Country Staff: 41**  
Locally Employed Staff: 32  
Direct Hires: 6  
Fellows & Contactors: 3

Our success is built on the backbone of science and strong partnerships.

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