

# CDC *in* NIGERIA



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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established an office in Nigeria in 2001. CDC Nigeria works with the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH), state ministries of health, government agencies, and partners to address HIV, tuberculosis (TB), malaria, and vaccine-preventable diseases. CDC Nigeria also supports laboratory, surveillance, and workforce capacity in response to disease outbreaks.



All 774 local government areas in Nigeria now use an electronic case-based reporting system to detect and track emerging disease threats in real-time



Nigeria can activate its public health Emergency Operations Center (EOC) within two hours of receiving an early warning or notification of a public health event



CDC helped establish 36 sub-national public health EOCs across the six geo-political zones in Nigeria, all of which are linked to the National EOC



CDC worked with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and partners to integrate COVID-19 testing into the laboratory network, enabling the country to conduct more than 5.5 million COVID-19 tests between 2020 and 2022



CDC supported the development of the Incidence Action Plan that guides COVID-19 operations in Nigeria



To increase COVID-19 preventive and protective behaviors in Nigeria, CDC supported the training of volunteers, community and religious leaders, media, and celebrities to disseminate COVID-19 messages



CDC helped implement a national software system for routine immunization and an SMS texting system for weekly reporting in 18 states. CDC also supported an electronic data management system for COVID-19 vaccines



More than seven million people were tested for HIV between July 2021 and June 2022



More than one million people living with HIV were screened for TB from July 2021 to June 2022. Nearly 6,000 people living with HIV were also confirmed to have TB and started treatment



CDC helped provide 22 million doses of malaria prevention medicine to pregnant women, nine million doses to children, and 129 million treatment doses at health facilities and communities in 2020



CDC helped provide 62 million rapid test kits to diagnose and treat patients for malaria and other fevers in 2020



CDC's support contributed to Nigeria being certified as free of wild poliovirus in 2020. Nigeria also experienced a 24% increase in routine immunization coverage between 2015 and 2019

## Global Health Security

Countries with strong and resilient public health systems can quickly prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats. In 2019, Nigeria became a Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) partner country committed to improving progress toward GHSA goals and International Health Regulations requirements. CDC works with the Government of Nigeria and partners to achieve these goals by strengthening workforce development, surveillance, emergency response, and laboratory capacity. Public health expertise in Nigeria has been strengthened throughout the control of HIV, TB, and malaria, the eradication of wild poliovirus, the response to mpox, and preparedness efforts for Ebola, influenza, and other pandemic diseases.

CDC Nigeria helps train epidemiologists in the basic, intermediate, and advanced Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programs. These epidemiologists work in relevant sectors of Nigeria's public health system, including the COVID-19 response. Graduates and current program residents include disease surveillance and notification officers, community health extension workers, state epidemiologists, physicians, lab scientists, and veterinarians.

## National Public Health Institute (NPHI)

CDC supported the creation of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC). In addition, CDC provided technical support to establish five Africa CDC Regional Collaborating Centers. The West African Regional Collaborating Center is in Nigeria. With assistance from CDC, Africa CDC and the regional centers established the Surveillance and Response Unit and continue to strengthen workforce capacity. CDC Nigeria also supports NPHI, which integrates public health functions, coordinates across sectors, and accounts for public health resources. CDC helps strengthen the NPHI technical capacities that enable Nigeria to pivot when disasters strike. Nigeria's NPHI works to: prevent and control communicable diseases; coordinate surveillance systems; support states with outbreak response; develop and maintain public health laboratories; conduct public health research to inform policy; and coordinate compliance with international health regulations.

## COVID-19

Global health security investments and decades of global cooperation and support for outbreak response and routine immunization have built strong foundations and systems that are critical to the COVID-19 response. CDC Nigeria provided strategic direction to the Presidential Steering Committee on COVID-19 and continues to collaborate with national and state governments and partners to support ongoing response activities. CDC Nigeria supports COVID-19 surveillance and epidemiology, emergency response operations, case management, laboratory systems strengthening, risk communication, and vaccination. CDC also supported the establishment and operation of national and state-level Emergency Operation Centers (EOC).

## HIV and TB

HIV and TB are the world's two deadliest infectious diseases. Moreover, these epidemics are tragically interconnected, as TB is the leading cause of death for people living with HIV. As a key implementer of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC works with the FMOH and partners to build sustainable and high-impact national HIV response programs. The objective is to achieve the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) 95-95-95 goals and accelerate HIV epidemic control.

CDC's data-driven approach combined with HIV treatment and prevention strategies strengthen collaborative activities in Nigeria. Some activities include targeted HIV testing and counseling, HIV treatment, services to prevent mother-to-child transmission, and TB/HIV integrated service delivery. CDC also supports the expansion of diagnostic services for TB and COVID-19 testing and infection prevention and control for patients and healthcare workers.

## Malaria

Malaria is endemic in Nigeria and is a leading cause of death and disease in many countries. Young children and pregnant women are the most affected groups. Under the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), CDC works with national and international partners to implement malaria prevention and control interventions. In Nigeria, PMI supports key intervention areas in the national malaria control strategy. PMI prioritizes the areas in Nigeria with the highest burden of malaria to achieve significant reduction in death and illness. CDC assigned a resident advisor to Nigeria to support malaria control efforts, including: sourcing and distributing long-lasting insecticide-treated bed nets; preventing malaria in pregnancy; improving diagnostics and case management; and monitoring and evaluating malaria-related activities. CDC also supports a routine health information system in select states and local government areas and strengthens entomological monitoring and insecticidal resistance monitoring capacity at federal and state levels.

## Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

CDC provides technical and programmatic expertise to eradicate, eliminate or control vaccine-preventable diseases through immunizations. CDC works with international and local partners to strengthen immunization systems and provide evidence-based technical knowledge to expand routine vaccine delivery. This work helps prevent cases of infectious diseases like polio and measles. Nigeria was certified as free of wild poliovirus by the Africa Regional Certification Commission in August 2020. CDC supported field activities to eliminate polio in Nigeria for the past 10 years, including: vaccination campaign planning, program monitoring, acute flaccid paralysis surveillance, outbreak investigations, community outreach, research, and data management.



### CDC STAFF

14 U.S. Assignees  
94 Locally Employed



### AT A GLANCE

Population: > 211.4 million  
Per capita income: \$5,000  
Life expectancy: F 56 / M 54 years  
Infant mortality rate: 58/1,000 live births



### TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

1. Neonatal disorders
2. Malaria
3. Diarrheal diseases
4. Lower respiratory infection
5. HIV/AIDS
6. Ischemic heart disease
7. Stroke
8. Congenital defects
9. Tuberculosis
10. Meningitis

Source:  
GBD Compare 2019, Nigeria



For more country information  
[www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/nigeria](http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/nigeria)

Sources: World Bank 2021, Nigeria;  
Population Reference Bureau 2021, Nigeria