



# CDC in Eswatini

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began supporting the Kingdom of Eswatini in 2004 and established an office in 2007 to respond to the HIV epidemic. CDC works to improve coverage and quality for HIV and tuberculosis treatment services with support from the Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization, and the International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs among other partners.



## CDC STAFF

- 3 U.S. Assignees
- 6 Locally Employed



## AT A GLANCE

Population: 1,367,254 (2017)  
Per capita income: \$8,520  
Life expectancy at birth: F 61/M 54 years  
Infant mortality rate: 50/1,000 live births

Sources:  
World Bank 2018, Eswatini  
Population Reference Bureau 2018, Eswatini



## TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

1. HIV/AIDS
2. Lower respiratory infections
3. Ischemic heart disease
4. Diabetes
5. Stroke
6. Diarrheal diseases
7. Tuberculosis
8. Road injuries
9. Neonatal disorders
10. Interpersonal violence

Source:  
GBD Compare 2018, Swaziland



## HIV and Tuberculosis

HIV is a leading cause of death and a health threat to millions worldwide. As a key implementer of the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC works with Eswatini to build a sustainable, high-impact national HIV response program to accelerate progress towards the UNAIDS global targets to control the HIV epidemic by the year 2020.

CDC works closely with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and other partners to improve the coverage and quality of HIV and tuberculosis (TB) treatment services throughout the country. CDC supports the Eswatini National AIDS Program and the National TB Control Program to

- Improve provider and client-initiated HIV testing and counseling services.
- Prevent mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV.
- Improve pediatric and adult antiretroviral treatment (ART) programs.
- Assist the MOH in its efforts to link people testing positive for HIV to appropriate services and retain them in treatment services.
- Improve provider and client-initiated HIV testing and counseling services, prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV, and pediatric and adult antiretroviral treatment (ART) programs.



**U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention



CDC assists the MOH in planning and implementing high quality, decentralized HIV testing and treatment services (including scaling-up HIV index and self-testing, Test and Start, and routine viral load monitoring). Community HIV testing services are enhanced under the ARROWS project (ART Referral, Retention, and Ongoing Wellness Support).

CDC supported the Government of Eswatini to successfully conduct the HIV Incidence Measurement Survey 2, which is a part of the global population-based HIV impact assessment initiative. The survey was conducted from August 2016 to April 2017, and preliminary results were disseminated in July 2017.

CDC also supports the MOH's Health Research Training Program, which trains mid-career professionals with the health care system on research methodology. CDC supports the MOH's health research units and epidemiology and disease control unit, as well as the central statistics office to promote routine collection, use, and dissemination of data for effective programming and public health policy making development.

## Health Systems Strengthening

All CDC-supported facilities are assessed through the site improvement monitoring system to check the quality of service delivery and increase impact. Data is presented at regional and national HIV semi-annual reviews. These management review meetings, organized by the MOH and supported by CDC, provide site, regional, and national-level performance feedback to health providers and program implementers.

## Laboratory Capacity Building

Eswatini has significantly improved its laboratory capacity to perform viral load testing, enabling the country to move from targeted to routine viral load testing. CDC assisted with the implementation of the World Health Organization's stepwise laboratory improvement process toward accreditation that is ongoing through all major public laboratories in the country.

## CDC IMPACT IN ESWATINI



14% increase in the number of HIV tests administered in 2017 compared to 2016



Almost 85% of HIV positive adults were aware of their status in 2016/17. Eswatini has nearly achieved the UNAIDS goal of 90% of all people living with HIV knowing their status by the year 2020.



71% of HIV adult patients showed viral load suppression in 2016/17 thanks to scaling up antiretroviral treatment.



Eswatini is one of the few countries to decrease HIV incidence among adults from 2.5% to 1.4%.

**For more country information, visit:**  
[www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/eswatini](http://www.cdc.gov/globalhealth/countries/eswatini)

**For more information, please contact:**

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