



U. S. CDC
Haiti



Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/global-health/countries/haiti.html>

CDC established an office in Haiti in 2002. CDC Haiti works closely with Haiti’s Ministry of Public Health and Population and partner organizations such as the Pan-American Health Organization, U.S. Agency for International Development, and other non-governmental organizations to build and strengthen the country’s core public health capabilities. These include data and surveillance; laboratory capacity; workforce and institutions; prevention and response to health threats; innovation and research; and policy, communications, and diplomacy.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Data & Surveillance

- Supported the establishment of a laboratory-enhanced surveillance system and Haiti’s National Epidemiological Surveillance Network to monitor disease trends and detect potential outbreaks in real time; this network now covers over 60% of health facilities across the country



Laboratory

- Established a National Specimen Referral Network for efficient specimen transport to the National Public Health Laboratory, increasing testing capacity; and established a biosafety level 3 lab to improve multi-drug resistant TB detection and treatment



Workforce & Institutions

- Supported training for 470 public health professionals who graduated from the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)



Prevention & Response

- FETP residents have responded to more than 4,000 outbreaks and emergencies, including COVID-19 and cholera



Innovation & Research

- CDC supports the electronic CrisisZone, a national patient-tracing application that tailors preventive actions for people living with HIV in areas with heightened violence



Policy, Communications & Diplomacy

- Supported MSPP in implementing WHO’s Test and Start strategy, enabling immediate HIV treatment for nearly 125,000 people in 2021



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

CDC's increased support to MSPP has resulted in substantial advances in health security and public health system strengthening in Haiti. CDC's global health security efforts help improve the country's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks. These efforts help Haiti reach the targets outlined in the Global Health Security Agenda. CDC supports laboratory and disease surveillance capacity and improve emergency preparedness and response. CDC also facilitates immunization efforts and addresses antimicrobial resistance.

Workforce Development

CDC supports strengthening workforce capacity to investigate and respond to disease outbreaks through the FETP. FETP is a vital component of Haiti's health workforce and in promoting health security across the public health system. Graduates serve in leadership roles as departmental health directors, surveillance, and provide crucial epidemiological expertise during emergencies.

HIV AND TB

Through U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC works with MSPP and partners to build a robust national HIV response and in efforts to:

- Prevent the transmission of HIV
- Increase the accessibility and quality of HIV clinical services and treatment
- Increase patient adherence and treatment continuity
- Strengthen surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory, and health information management systems

Haiti has the highest incidence of TB in the Western Hemisphere. CDC supports expansion of the overall availability of treatment for multidrug-resistant TB. To increase TB case detection, CDC has worked closely with the MSPP to build laboratory and clinical capacity at high-volume sites. The establishment of a national biosafety level 3 laboratory has improved multi-drug resistant TB case detection and treatment capacities.

Cholera

CDC works closely with MSPP to control the cholera epidemic and reduce the impact of the disease. CDC supports efforts to eliminate cholera transmission include:

- Improving diarrheal disease surveillance
- Enhancing laboratory capacity for diagnosis
- Training rural potable water and sanitation technicians
- Expanding water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) capacity
- Supporting oral cholera vaccine campaigns

In 2022, Haiti experienced a resurgence of cholera after more than 3 years with no cholera cases reported. Although cases are lower than at the peak of the epidemic in 2011, the disease remains a persistent public health threat.

MALARIA

Since 2010, CDC provides technical assistance on malaria control and elimination activities and interventions. Within the Caribbean region, Malaria remains endemic only on Hispaniola. CDC supports MSPP and other partners in adopting malaria rapid diagnostic tests, monitoring for anti-malaria drug resistance, case management, vector control, surveillance, and adopting the policy for community health workers to test and treat malaria.

COVID-19

CDC played a critical role in MSPP's response to COVID-19 and provided technical and financial support in many areas. CDC leadership and technical staff participated as core members of the national incident management team. CDC provided technical assistance in surveillance systems, case management, infection prevention and control, emergency preparedness, personnel training, case investigation, contact tracing, vaccine administration, waste management, and community engagement. CDC also advised on national policy and implementation decisions alongside providing financial support for diagnostics, border surveillance, and WASH activities within health facilities.

NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

CDC assists with strategic planning for lymphatic filariasis elimination including new strategies to deliver mass drug administration medicines to at-risk populations. In 2013, CDC began working with the Haitian government to initiate the Haiti Animal Rabies Surveillance Program. This program is a cost-effective intervention to reduce human rabies deaths using a multidisciplinary strategy.

WASH

CDC provided support to conduct essential repairs on drinking water networks ensuring reliable access to clean water for numerous communities. CDC also worked to improve water quality to reduce the incidence of waterborne diseases.

VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES

CDC provides technical support to Haiti's vaccination programs for governance, vaccine strategy, and surveillance and diagnosis.

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

Developing infection prevention and control measures and updating standard operation procedures for healthcare facilities. These allowed for rapidly detecting and containing emerging threats to healthcare settings before spreading to patients and communities. As such, protecting healthcare workers and patients from infection in healthcare settings.

DENGUE

CDC provides technical assistance to the National Public Health Laboratory in the investigation and testing protocols of dengue cases.

