

Global Malaria Dashboard Report

Executive Summary

The Global Malaria Dashboard shows mixed progress in the fight against malaria. Reported cases increased to **120 million (+2.47% YoY)**, while reported deaths declined to **52,000 (-8.84% YoY)**, suggesting improvements in treatment and prevention despite ongoing transmission. However, reporting gaps remain, with only **88% coverage for reported cases** and **86% for reported deaths**, forcing continued reliance on estimates.

Estimated data reveals the true scale of the burden: **219 million cases** and **435,000 deaths**, highlighting that only about half of cases and one in ten deaths are officially reported. Global incidence per 1,000 at risk fell to **9.01 (-3.97% YoY)**, yet some countries like **Rwanda (486)** and **Burkina Faso (399)** face extremely high incidence, underscoring uneven progress. Overall, the data shows both encouraging declines in mortality and persistent gaps in reporting and local burden.

Page 1: Data Quality & Coverage

Overview:

This page provides an assessment of the completeness of malaria data across reported and estimated cases and deaths.

KPIs:

Metric	Coverage
% Data Coverage – Reported Cases	88%
% Data Coverage – Reported Deaths	86%
% Data Coverage – Estimated Cases	100%
% Data Coverage – Estimated Deaths	100%

Maps:

- Reported Malaria Cases by Country (Latest Year)
- Reported Malaria Deaths by Country (Latest Year)

The maps visually represent country-level distributions of reported malaria cases and deaths, helping identify regions with higher burden.

Insight:

Reported malaria data has notable gaps (12–14% missing for cases and deaths), which means countries still rely heavily on estimates. Stronger reporting systems are needed in high-burden countries to ensure accuracy and accountability.

Page 2: Reported Numbers**Overview:**

This page highlights the officially reported malaria cases and deaths worldwide.

Cards:

Metric	Latest Year	YoY Change
Total Reported Malaria Cases	120,000,000	+2.47%
Total Reported Malaria Deaths	52,000	-8.84%

Slicer:

Filter by WHO Region

Line Charts:

- Reported Malaria Deaths by Year: 2013: 119,017 | 2014: 101,671 | 2015: 120,335 | 2016: 105,929 | 2017: 96,561
- Reported Malaria Cases by Year: 2013: 49,175,016 | 2014: 78,094,271 | 2015: 92,230,099 | 2016: 117,447,110 | 2017: 120,349,525

Bar Chart:

Top 10 Countries – Reported Malaria Cases (Latest Year)

- Democratic Republic of Congo: 15.2M
- Uganda: 11.7M
- Nigeria: 11.6M
- Burkina Faso: 10.2M
(Remaining countries follow similarly)

Navigator:

Navigate to other pages of the dashboard.

Insight:

Reported cases are rising, but reported deaths are falling. This suggests that while malaria transmission remains high, access to treatment and prevention may be improving. The burden is still heavily concentrated in a few African countries, showing the need for country-specific interventions.

Page 3: Estimated Numbers**Overview:**

This page presents model-based estimates of malaria cases and deaths, complementing the reported numbers.

Cards:

Metric	Latest Year	YoY Change
Total Estimated Malaria Cases	219,000,000	+1.08%
Total Estimated Malaria Deaths	435,000	-3.47%

Slicer:

Filter by WHO Region

Gauges:

- Reported vs Estimated Cases (Latest Year): Value: 120M (Reported Cases) | Target: 219M (Estimated Cases)
- Reported vs Estimated Deaths (Latest Year): Value: 52K (Reported Deaths) | Target: 435K (Estimated Deaths)

Line Charts:

- Estimated Malaria Deaths by Year: 2013: 500,341 | 2014: 483,273 | 2015: 468,768 | 2016: 450,759 | 2017: 435,102
- Estimated Malaria Cases by Year: 2013: 220,965,004 | 2014: 217,072,770 | 2015: 214,170,951 | 2016: 216,654,765 | 2017: 219,001,657

Insight:

Estimated numbers are far higher than reported ones, showing major underreporting. Only about half of cases and one in ten deaths are captured by official reporting. While estimated

deaths are slowly decreasing, the gap between reported and estimated highlights serious weaknesses in surveillance.

Page 4: Incidence per 1000 Population at Risk

Overview:

This page shows malaria incidence relative to populations at risk.

Card:

Global Malaria Incidence per 1000 at Risk (Latest Year): 9,011 (YoY Change: -3.97%)

Slicer:

Filter by WHO Region

Line Chart:

Global Malaria Incidence per 1000 at Risk by Year:

2013: 9,847 | 2014: 9,349 | 2015: 9,219 | 2016: 9,466 | 2017: 9,383 | 2018: 9,011

Bar Chart:

Top 10 Countries – Malaria Incidence per 1000 at Risk (Latest Year)

- Rwanda: 486
- Burkina Faso: 399
- Mali: 387
- Benin: 386
(Remaining countries follow similarly)

Insight:

Global malaria incidence per 1,000 at risk is declining, but progress is uneven. Countries like Rwanda and Burkina Faso still experience extremely high incidence, showing that global averages can mask severe local challenges.

Overall Insights

The Global Malaria Dashboard highlights both progress and persistent challenges. While mortality continues to decline and access to treatment appears to be improving, transmission remains high, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. Large reporting gaps mean that official statistics understate the true burden, with only about half of cases and one in ten deaths captured. Progress is therefore uneven: some countries show sharp improvements, while others such as Rwanda and Burkina Faso face extreme incidence rates. These findings underscore the urgent need for both stronger surveillance and country-specific interventions.

Recommendations

Based on the findings from the Global Malaria Dashboard, the following actions are recommended:

1. **Strengthen data reporting systems** – Close the 12–14% gaps in reported cases and deaths by investing in stronger surveillance and health information systems, particularly in high-burden countries.
2. **Target high-incidence countries** – Prioritize interventions in countries such as Rwanda (486/1,000), Burkina Faso (399/1,000), and Nigeria (11.6M reported cases), where malaria burden is disproportionately high.
3. **Sustain progress in reducing deaths** – Continue scaling up access to treatment, preventive tools (e.g., bed nets, indoor spraying), and rapid diagnostics to maintain the declining trend in mortality.
4. **Bridge the gap between reported and estimated data** – Improve collaboration between national health authorities and international agencies to ensure official reports better reflect the true malaria burden.