

Malaria: Fact Sheet

Fact: In 2010, there were an estimated 216 million cases of malaria causing 655,000 deaths, mostly among African children younger than five.

Fact: Every 60 seconds, malaria claims an innocent life in Africa.

Fact: Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes.

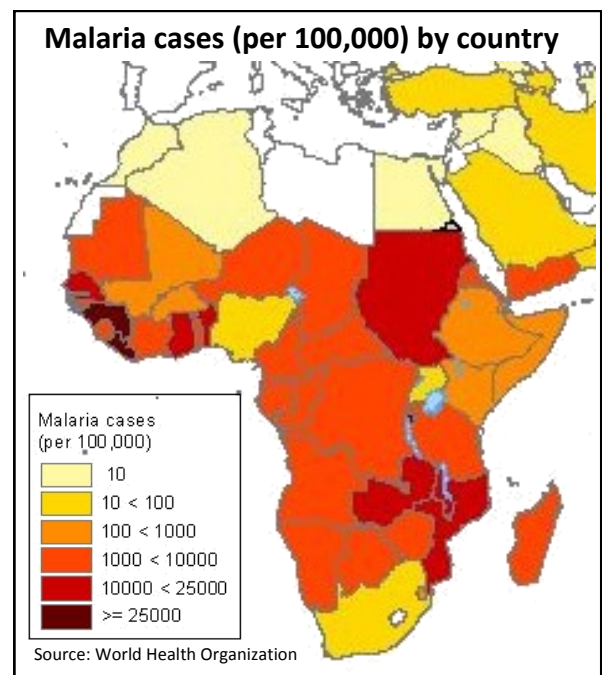
Fact: Malaria symptoms appear seven days or more (usually 10–15 days) after the infective mosquito bite. The first symptoms include fever, headache, chills and vomiting. If not treated within 24 hours, malaria can progress to severe illness often leading to death.

Fact: More than 85% of the world's malaria deaths are in Africa.

Fact: Malaria is preventable and curable. Increased malaria prevention and control measures are dramatically reducing the malaria burden in many places.

Fact: Malaria mortality rates have fallen by more than 25% globally since 2000.

Fact: There are currently no licensed vaccines against malaria. One research vaccine, known as RTS,S/AS01, is most advanced. This vaccine is currently being evaluated in a large clinical trial in 7 countries in Africa.



Fact: The United Methodist Church has more than 300 hospitals, clinics and health posts in Africa, all part of a comprehensive program to fight this killer disease.

Fact: Prior to 1951, Malaria was a serious public health problem in the United States—in fact, it led to the creation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). An comprehensive effort from 1947-1951 virtually eradicated malaria in the US.