



# Malaria fact sheet

Malaria kills nearly one million people each year; eighty-percent are children under-five.

Source: [UNICEF State of the World's Children, 2008](#)

Malaria results in 8 percent of total under-five deaths worldwide, or approximately 776,000 under-five child deaths from malaria each year.

Source: [UNICEF State of the World's Children, 2008](#)

Malaria infects 350-500 million people each year.

Source: [UNICEF Health Malaria](#)

More than 2,000 children under-five years of age die from malaria each day.

Source: [UNICEF State of the World's Children, 2008](#)

The most common malaria species in Africa, *Plasmodium falciparum*, is estimated to cause as many as 10,000 maternal deaths each year and 8 percent to 14 percent of all low birth weight babies.

Source: [WHO Malaria in Pregnancy](#)

Malaria is a prime cause of low birth weight in newborns, anemia and infant deaths.

Source: [UNICEF State of the World's Children, 2008](#)

The protective effect of insecticide-treated bed nets has the potential to prevent as many as 1 million deaths from all causes for children under five years old in sub-Saharan Africa.

Source: [CDC Malaria Vector Control](#)

[Roll Back Malaria: The Cochrane Collaboration](#)

[AJTMH 68\(Suppl 4\), 2003 pp. 23-29](#)

Malaria has been estimated to cost Africa more than US\$ 12 billion every year in lost GDP, even though it could be controlled for a fraction of that sum.

Source: [UN RBM Malaria in Africa](#)

Approximately, 40 percent of the world's populations, mostly those living in the world's poorest countries, are at risk of malaria.

Source: [WHO Malaria](#)

In some countries with a very heavy malaria burden, malaria may account for as much as 40 percent of public health expenditure, 30-50 percent of inpatient admissions and up to 60 percent of outpatient visits.

Source: [WHO Malaria](#)

An estimated 57 percent of malaria deaths are attributable to undernutrition.

Source: [WFP World Hunger Series, 2007](#)