

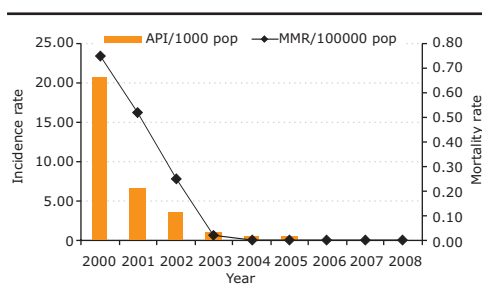


Malaria Situation in South-East Asia Region: Country Reports

Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, 6.74 million people are at low risk of malaria. Malaria transmission takes place throughout the year. Both *P. falciparum* as well as *P. vivax* malaria are prevalent. As compared to 2000, confirmed malaria cases declined from 210039 to 670 in 2008 and reported malaria deaths from 76 to 0 showing a decline of 68% and 100% respectively. All reported cases are examined microscopically or by RDT. The programme performance is exceedingly good and the country has reached malaria pre-elimination stage. ITNs / LLINs along with aggressive indoor residual spraying have been used for vector control. Besides first-line antimalarials, ACT was introduced into the NMCP in 2008. Malaria control is financed mainly by the government, the World Bank and the Global Fund.

Reported Malaria Incidence (/1000 pop) of confirmed cases and Malaria Mortality Rate (/100 000 pop) in Sri Lanka, 2000 -2008



Programme goals and targets

To reduce malaria morbidity and mortality until the disease is no longer a public health problem in the country.

Targets	Baseline data in 2005	2010
To reduce the API among at risk population	0.4	<0.1
To sustain zero mortality from malaria	00	00
Reported cases of uncomplicated malaria cases	1640	300
Percentage of children under 5 years who slept under an ITN the previous night in risk areas	N.A.	70%
Percentage of pregnant women who slept under an ITN the previous night in risk areas	N.A.	70%
Percentage of houses using at least one ITN	N.A.	70%

Partners and donors

- WHO
- World Bank
- Global Fund

Malaria situation at a glance: 2008

Total population	: 21.0 million
Population in malarious areas	: 6.74 million
Number of lab confirmed malaria cases	: 670
Number of probable malaria cases	: 0
Number of deaths due to malaria	: 0 (Reported)
No. of severe malaria cases	: N.A.
Cases treated with ACTs	: 32
No of LLINs distributed	: 253,000
No. of effective LLINs+ITNs (cumulative) availability	: 602,000
Population protected with ITNs	: 1.5 million
Population protected with IRS	: 650,742

- Supported by Global Fund and World Bank
- Reached pre-elimination stage of malaria

Achievement and initiatives in 2008

- Introduction of new Monitoring & Evaluation system targeting elimination – reorienting the control programme.
- Scaling up of the distribution of LLINs at risk population.
- Containment of northern outbreak in 2007 (in conflict areas) and prevention of spread to other areas.
- Introduction of artemisinin based combination therapy for treatment of uncomplicated falciparum infections.

Issues and challenges

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- Present epidemiological and entomological surveillance system has failed to warn about malaria outbreaks early enough for timely intervention.
- Lapses in the existing epidemiological surveillance system e.g. not reporting clinically treated patients and patients treated at private institutions.
- Lapses in the existing quality control systems have failed to deliver the expected results.
- Lack of research-based information has created problems in planning malaria control activities.
- Inadequate training opportunities have slowed incorporation of recent advances in the field of malariology.
- Lack of laboratory facilities at central and district level.
- Lack of management skills at all levels.

Best practices and success stories

- Surveillance through mobile malaria clinics in remote places.
- Implementation of Integrated vector (IVM).
- Establishment of elimination database