



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

CDC opened a country office in Brazil in 2003. In 2020, CDC launched the South America Regional Office, based in Brazil, as part of the agency's global health approach to include regional engagement. CDC Brazil works closely with the Ministry of Health (MOH), Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz), and other partners to build effective public health collaboration and partnerships, which strengthen the country's core public health capabilities. These include data and surveillance; laboratory capacity; workforce and institutions; prevention and response; innovation and research; and policy, communications, and diplomacy.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Data & Surveillance

- Expanded genomic surveillance capacity by supporting partners to identify genetic characteristics and monitoring mutations of SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and respiratory syncytial viruses



Laboratory

- Provided trainings for Candidemia laboratory surveillance and antifungal susceptibility testing capacity in over 30 sentinel hospital labs



Workforce & Institutions

- In 2023, more than 3,100 Frontline, 697 Intermediate, and nearly 170 Advanced residents graduated from FETPs in Brazil



Prevention & Response

- Strengthen detection, reporting, and response for emerging resistance in *Bordetella pertussis* (whooping cough)



Innovation & Research

- Conducted survey of catastrophic costs associated with TB, showing impacts of TB on families



Policy, Communications & Diplomacy

- Provided technical assistance to Brazil's National Laboratory Quality Technical Working Group, which was created to establish and implement a formal process to improve quality of public health laboratories

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

Workforce Development

CDC provides technical support to Brazil's Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP), called EpiSUS. This program trains Brazilian field epidemiologists to rapidly respond to emerging health threats by gathering critical data and turning it into evidence-based action. FETP graduates have played important roles in responding to public health emergencies like Zika, chikungunya, yellow fever, floods, and mudslides. In 2017, Brazil's FETP became the first program in Latin America to receive accreditation from the Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET).

In 2024, CDC worked with World Health Organization (WHO) and I-TECH to bring the Informatics and Data Science for Health (IDASH) Program to five countries in South America, with substantial participation in Brazil. IDASH is a 12-month competency-based fellowship program that provides training and mentorship to current and future public health leaders in the areas of public health informatics and data science.

Emergency Response

CDC's pandemic preparedness and response efforts provide support to enhance Brazil's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease outbreaks. CDC works with partners to strengthen Brazil's public health systems by providing technical expertise in disease surveillance, laboratory systems, and emergency response. For example, CDC supported the MOH in establishing a Public Health Emergency Management Program aimed to improve preparedness and response to disease outbreaks as well as climate-related disasters.

HIV AND TB

Through the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CDC partners with the MOH and state and municipal health departments to assist Brazil in reaching HIV epidemic control. CDC provides technical leadership and direct assistance to enhance HIV programming, monitoring, evaluation, and epidemiological surveillance. CDC supports the A Hora É Agora (AHA) Project with Fiocruz and other partners. The project enhances the local response to the HIV epidemic in five Brazilian cities: Campo Grande, Curitiba, Florianópolis, Fortaleza, and Porto Alegre. AHA strengthens health services in combined prevention, promotion of HIV testing, early detection of the virus and other sexually transmitted infections, and rapid initiation and adherence to treatment.

In addition, CDC created the Knowledge Translation Unit in 2022. This unit is responsible for developing the activities of the Practical Approach to Care Kit (PACK) program in Brazil. The PACK program provides guidance and training to health care providers in HIV focused health centers to take a client-centered approach by simplifying the process of providing primary care beyond HIV prevention and treatment. Other CDC accomplishments include:

- Gathering data that tracks the recency of HIV infections in individuals. The data is used to improve modeling of advanced HIV infection and identify areas where infections are more likely to occur
- Providing technical assistance to strengthen data collection for analysis and decision-making and

works closely with the country's National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) on shared priorities for TB control.

- Collaboration with Fiocruz to establish a master's level monitoring and evaluation program focusing on HIV. Over 50 students have graduated from the master's and certificate program.
- In 2022 the AHA provided 41 million HIV test and there were 709,00 new pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) initiations
- As of 2024, PACK in Brazil has trained 20 municipal Masters, who in turn trained over 200 on-site Champion Trainers.
- CDC increases workforce capacity for PrEP by using a massive online training course for healthcare workers across the country. As of 2024, nearly 12,000 students enrolled in the project.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AR) AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

CDC supports many activities to improve healthcare IPC and slow the spread of AR and other emerging threats in Brazil. The country is part of CDC's Global Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory and Response Network (Global AR Lab and Response Network) and the Global Action in Healthcare Network (GAIHN)-Healthcare-Associated Infection Module. Through these networks, CDC works with Ministry of Health in Brazil, Fiocruz, ANVISA and academic partners to:

- Strengthen laboratory AR detection methods and AR surveillance reporting in 25 sentinel labs and hospitals throughout the country.
- As of September 2023, 2,122 bacterial and 292 fungal specimens were submitted by sentinel labs to the national reference lab participating in the Global AR Lab and Response Network-Fiocruz collaboration for advanced AR testing.
- Support two pilot hospitals to implement AR detection and IPC response for emerging AR threats such as carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales and carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii.
- Develop and implement innovative methods to support HAI surveillance through GAIHN-HAI.
- With CDC support through GAIHN-HAI, a multidisciplinary team at Hospital Moinhos de Vento published on the genomic epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 in Porto Alegre and described a SARS-CoV-2 variant (CK.1) that was not previously identified in Brazil.
- The national laboratory network expansion of molecular diagnosis for Bordetella pertussis led to the identification of one positive test in 2022, 2 positive tests in 2023, and 130 positive tests by May 2024.

NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

CDC also works to address the presence of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs)—including Chagas disease, leishmaniasis, lymphatic filariasis, and trachoma. These diseases significantly impact health in Brazil, especially among people experiencing poverty. In collaboration with Brazilian laboratories, CDC developed a test using multiplex immunoassay technology, which allows the detection of multiple diseases in one test.

