

## Global Overview

TOTAL DEATHS: [967,164](#)

TOTAL CASES: [31,425,029](#)

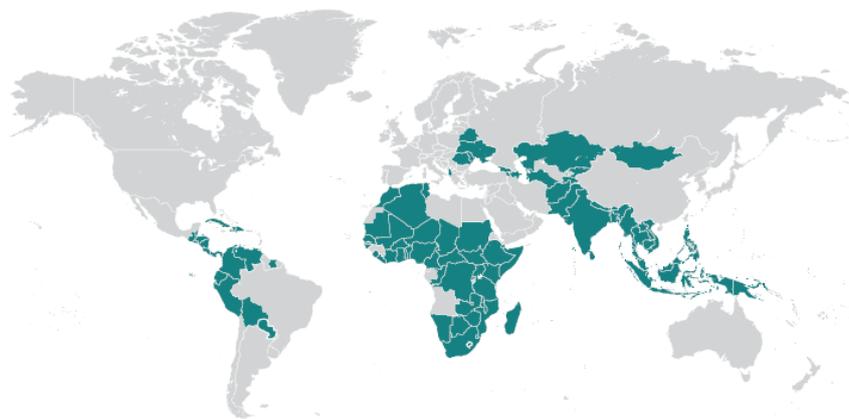
From 14 to 20 September, nearly 2 million new cases were reported worldwide, the highest number in a single week since the epidemic began. An increase in the weekly case incidence was reported across all WHO regions except Africa in the last seven days. During the same period, the number of new deaths decreased by 10%. The United States remain the worst-hit country with a death toll approaching 200,000. India is second with 5.6 million cases, but reported on 22 September its lowest daily tally of COVID-19 cases in almost a month. Many of the hardest-hit countries by COVID-19 are also extremely hard hit by HIV, TB and malaria, particularly India (the country with the highest global burden of TB); South Africa (the country with the highest global burden of HIV); Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines and Indonesia (high TB burden countries); and Ukraine and Kazakhstan (high-burden multidrug-resistant TB countries). On the global response, 64 higher income countries have joined COVAX with 38 countries expected to sign in the coming days.

## Global Fund Response: At a Glance

The Global Fund responded quickly and at scale to the COVID-19 pandemic and we are playing a critical role in the global response to COVID-19 in the poorest and most vulnerable countries. The Global Fund has approved a total of US\$736 million to support the COVID-19 response across 104 countries and 12 multicountry programs. Requests for funding have been approved within five-10 days in the majority of cases. We are leveraging the Global Fund's extensive health and community networks and our well-established health procurement and distribution system to distribute new COVID-19 tools, medical supplies and training at scale. US\$172 million of funding has been approved for personal protective equipment (PPEs) to protect front-line health workers across 76 countries. US\$103 million of funding has been approved for diagnostics tests, and 2 million automated PCR diagnostic tests have been procured and distributed.

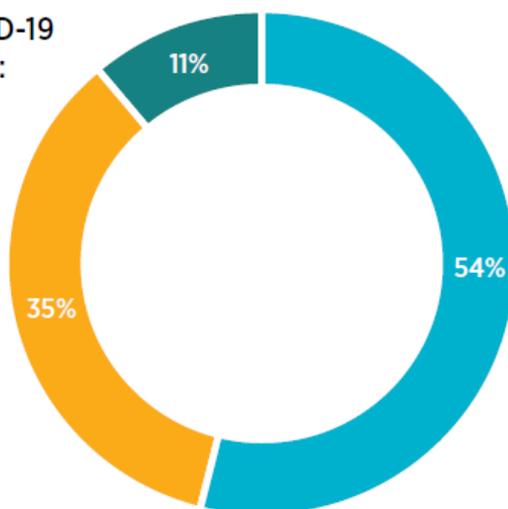
- **Total funds approved to date:** US\$736 million
- **Fundraising target:** An additional US\$5 billion over 12 months

► **Countries receiving Global Fund support for COVID-19:**  
104 countries and 12 multicountry programs



► **How countries are using COVID-19 Response Mechanism support:**

- **54%:** COVID-19 test, trace and treat; protection for front-line health workers
- **35%:** Adapting HIV, TB and malaria programs to safeguard progress
- **11%:** Reinforce systems for health to respond to COVID-19 and prepare for roll-out of vaccines once available



## Global Fund Response: In Depth

The Global Fund is providing up to US\$1 billion and operational flexibility to help countries fight COVID-19, shore up health systems and mitigate the impacts on lifesaving HIV, TB and malaria programs. The initial US\$500 million the Global Fund made available through the COVID-19 Response Mechanism has now been fully deployed; however, country needs are continuing to increase as the pandemic worsens in many low- and middle-income countries. Countries can still access some funding through [grant flexibilities](#); however, as most countries have already used their program savings or are unable to shift funds from HIV, TB and malaria programs, it is expected this source of funding will soon be exhausted.

The Global Fund is working with donors and partners to urgently mobilize an additional US\$5 billion to help countries continue to fight COVID-19, mitigate the impact on HIV, TB and malaria, protect health workers and reinforce systems for health. Germany's additional contribution of EUR150 million to the COVID-19 Response Mechanism is now being deployed; more funds are urgently needed to avoid a critical funding gap in the world's poorest countries in the coming weeks.

As part of the global response to COVID-19, the Global Fund is working with health leaders, partners and governments to ensure the global response to COVID-19 includes lessons learned from the fight against HIV, TB and malaria: protect human rights and address stigma and discrimination, particularly among key and vulnerable populations; fight human rights and gender barriers to health; engage communities in the response; and fairly allocate limited COVID-19 resources and new tools so that no one is left behind.

The Global Fund is a founding partner of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, a global collaboration of organizations and governments working to accelerate the development, production and equitable access to new COVID-19 technologies. As part of ACT-A, we are a co-convenor of both the Diagnostics Partnership (with FIND) and the Health Systems Connector (with the World Bank), and we are a procurement and deployment partner in the Therapeutics Partnership. We also co-lead the WHO Diagnostics Consortium along with UNICEF to negotiate pricing and procure molecular diagnostic tests for COVID-19, and we have opened our innovative online sourcing portal, [wambo.org](#), to all countries and organizations so they also can benefit from the Global Fund's economies of scale for health products.

**Funding Approved (full list of countries with approved funding is available [here](#)<sup>1</sup>.)**

	<b>Total approved</b>	<b>Additional detail</b>
<b>Grant flexibilities</b>	<b>US\$210 million</b>	Use of funds remains mostly from grant savings, focused mainly on infection control, Dx activities & products, and lab equipment; reprogramming requests approved in small number of cases.
<b>COVID-19 Response Mechanism</b>	<b>US\$526 million</b>	99 funding requests have been received. Demand for funding has exceeded available funds.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>US\$736 million</b>	

**Protecting Front-Line Health Workers:** The Global Fund is providing funding to countries to purchase personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves and gowns. Countries can purchase equipment locally or can place orders for price-assured quality health products through our Pooled Procurement Mechanism or on [wambo.org](http://wambo.org), the Global Fund’s online sourcing portal. To date:

- US\$172 million approved funding for PPEs for 76 countries
- 23 countries have purchased PPEs on [wambo.org](http://wambo.org)

**Diagnostics:** The Global Fund is the co-lead of the ACT-Accelerator Diagnostics Pillar, along with FIND. We also co-lead the WHO Diagnostics Consortium along with UNICEF to negotiate pricing and procure molecular diagnostic tests for COVID-19. To date through the Global Fund:

- US\$103 million approved funding for diagnostics tests
- 2 million automated PCR diagnostic tests procured and distributed

**Treatment:** Following the recent [WHO recommendation](#), the Global Fund is supporting the use of corticosteroids for COVID-19. Global Fund implementers can include corticosteroids for COVID-19 in COVID-19 funding requests. No global orders have been placed to date; corticosteroids are a standard medication in most countries and available for local purchase, and many countries and partners had existing stock.

**ACT-Accelerator:**

- At the first meeting of the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council on 10 September, co-chaired by South Africa and Norway and co-hosted by the WHO and the EC, over 30 heads of state and ministers released a statement of commitment to galvanize support for the ACT-Accelerator and the need for the financial resources required to leave no one behind.
- G20 finance and health ministers met the week of 14 September and emphasized the importance of collective action to accelerate the research, development, manufacturing and distribution of COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, including through the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) initiative and its COVAX facility. They

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<sup>1</sup> NOTE: the totals in the country table online may differ from the total funding approved because countries are only added to the list once they have been officially notified of funding approval.

noted that further actions are needed to meet the financing needs and recognized the role of extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission.

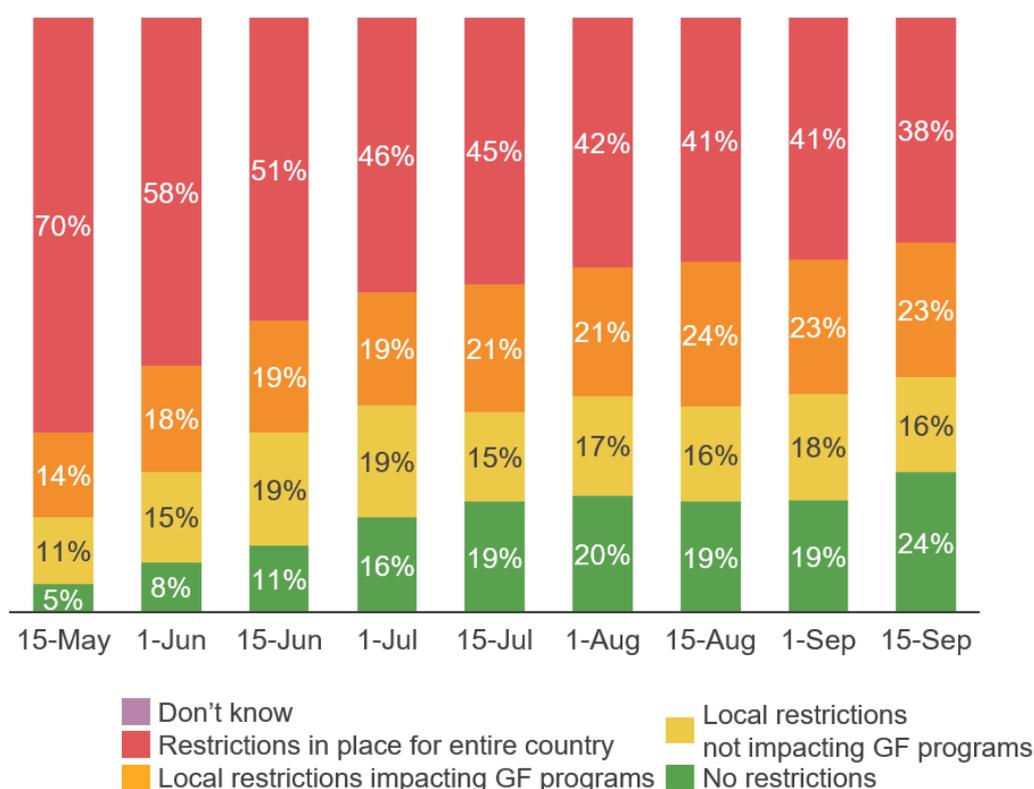
- **Diagnostics Pillar update:** Two new rapid antigen tests will be ready for roll out shortly; around 50 diagnostic tests are being evaluated; and 15.5 million test kits have been delivered to LMICs since May through the Diagnostics pillar of the ACT-Accelerator.
- **Therapeutics Pillar update:** Approximately 20 treatments – new medication in development and existing medication repurposed to treat COVID-19 – are under close review, and more are in the development pipeline.
- **ACT-Accelerator funding:** Only US\$2.6 billion of the US\$38 billion needed has been pledged towards the ACT-Accelerator’s goals of producing and procuring 500 million tests, 245 courses of treatment and 2 billion vaccine doses.

## Global Fund COVID-19 Country Monitoring

Country-based Local Fund Agents, who monitor grant implementation and progress on behalf of the Global Fund, complete a biweekly survey online to help identify potential risks and disruptions to programs. The tool identifies potential risks and disruptions to programs but is not meant to be a rigorous assessment of the country situation. The data is based on in-country stakeholder views but not on verified data. Key insights as of 15 September 2020:

**Countries in lockdown:** 38% of countries are in lockdown, down from 70% on 15 May. One quarter of countries have no restrictions, up from 5% on 15 May.

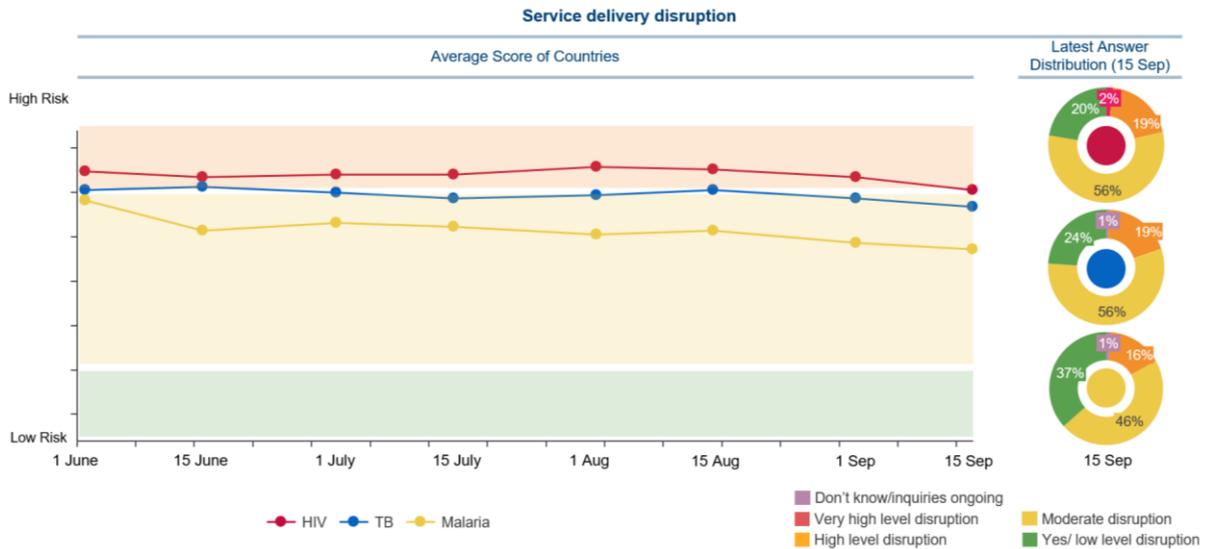
### Lockdown Status



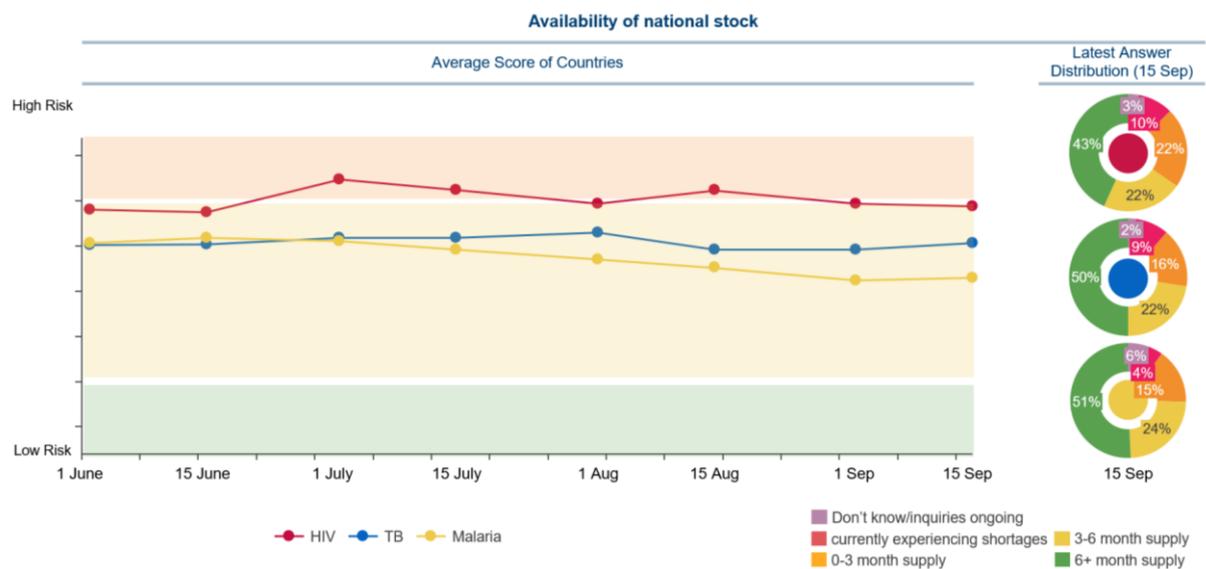
**Costed national plans:** 80% of countries have costed plans for their COVID-19 response.

**Disruption to health service delivery:** The level of disruption to HIV, TB and malaria service delivery remain largely unchanged compared to the previous two-week period. Overall, disruptions have declined since 1 August, but 2% of countries are still experiencing very high disruption in HIV.

- 75% of programs report moderate to high levels of disruption to HIV service delivery; 2% of programs report very high levels of disruption.
- 75% of programs report moderate to high levels of disruption to TB service delivery.
- 62% of programs report moderate to high levels of disruption to malaria service delivery.

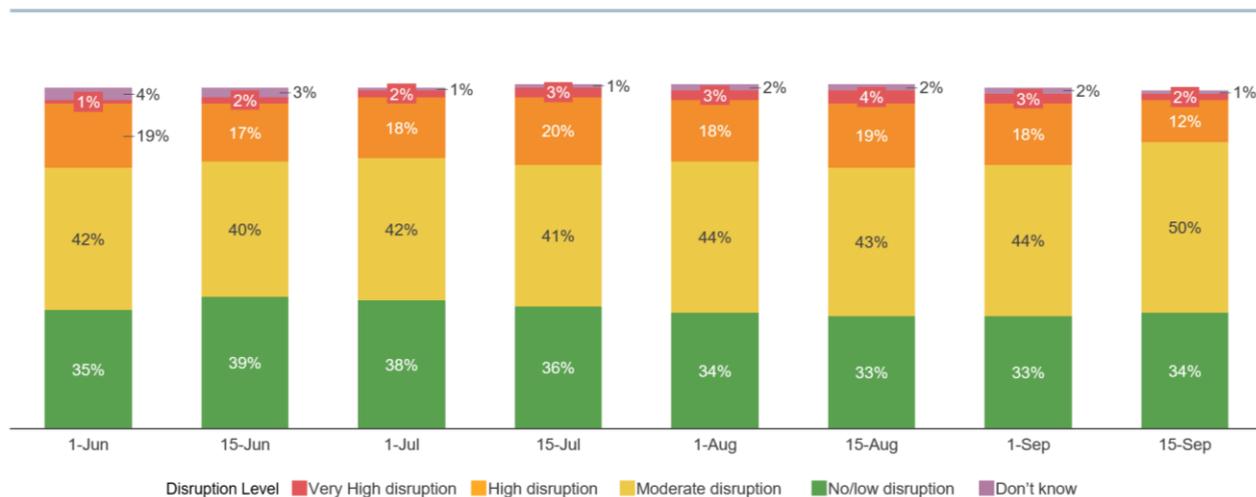


**Disruption to supply of key medicines:** Levels of disruption to national stocks of HIV and TB medicines remain high, with 10% of countries reporting shortages of HIV medicines and 9% for TB medicines. 4% of countries report shortages for malaria medicines.



**Lab services:** Lab services continue to be disrupted by the COVID-19 epidemic, as laboratory staff and resources are diverted to the COVID-19 response. There was a significant improvement in risk for lab services reported since September 1 (from 21% high/very high disruption to 14% high/very high disruption). This is the first significant decrease since 1 June.

HIV and/or TB lab services disruption



## Communications, Media and Events

### Communications Products

- [Results Report 2020](#)
- [Results Report 2020: Communications and Social Media Toolkit](#)
- [Video - Peter Sands: "The stakes could not be higher"](#)
- [Video - Nombasa's fight against HIV, TB and COVID-19](#)
- [Story - Eswatini Meets Global 95-95-95 HIV Target](#)
- [Story - Myanmar Makes Major Progress Fighting Malaria](#)

### Global Fund in the News

- [The unfinished agenda of financing Africa's COVID-19 response](#) – Brookings – 8 September 2020
- [Help Africa's Contribution to Global Health](#) – Wall Street Journal – 9 September 2020
- [In Africa, Covid delays the fight against infectious diseases](#) – RTS – 12 September 2020
- [25 years wiped out in 25 weeks: Pandemic sets the world back decades](#) – Politico – 14 September 2020
- [Global Fund Partnership has saved 38 million lives – but COVID-19 could wipe out progress](#) – CNBC Africa – 14 September 2020
- [COVID-19 has eroded gains achieved in fight against HIV, TB and malaria, says Global Fund](#) – The Sun – 14 September 2020
- [Global Fund: Covid risks erasing decades of progress on HIV, tuberculosis and malaria](#) – II Sole 24 Ore – 14 September 2020
- [Testing of HIV and TB fall dramatically: "There is a risk of a surge in infections"](#) – L'Avvenire – 14 September 2020
- ['AIDS, TB, malaria deaths, infection could skyrocket in next 12 months'](#) – The Guardian (Nigeria) - 14 September 2020
- [Fragile progress in the fight against HIV, tuberculosis and malaria](#) - RFI - 14 September 2020
- [Good practices in the face of the three deadliest pandemics in the world save 38 million lives](#) - El Pais - 14 September 2020

- [The Covid-19 Pandemic Is Taking A Toll On The International Tuberculosis Response, New Survey Finds](#) – Forbes – 15 September 2020
- [The New AIDS Epidemic - The cost of coronavirus](#) – Politico EU – 15 September 2020
- [COVID-19 is a turning point for infectious diseases](#) – Devex – 16 September 2020
- [COVID-19 a turning point for infectious diseases](#) – Arab News – 17 September 2020
- [The fears of the Global Fund](#) – Seronet – 22 September 2020

## On Social Media

- Results Report: <https://twitter.com/GlobalFund/status/1305387059008372736?s=20>
- Peter Executive Summary Video: <https://twitter.com/GlobalFund/status/1305388696888389632?s=20>
- 38 Million Lives Saved: <https://twitter.com/GlobalFund/status/1305392482230956033?s=20>
- Nombasa Video: <https://twitter.com/GlobalFund/status/1305469022318755845?s=20>
- Wall Street Journal Op-Ed: <https://twitter.com/bfrist/status/1304060284324151297?s=20>
- Inaugural Meeting of the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator Facilitation Council: <https://twitter.com/WHO/status/1304117585051607041?s=20>

## Upcoming Events

- 14-30 September: UNGA 2020
  - 24/09: The Private Sector’s Evolving Role in Health Emergencies
  - 24/09: Sustainable Development Impact Summit 2020 (SDIS): “Fixing the Public Health Investment Crisis” (WEF)
  - 29/09: Side event on Malaria (ALMA)
  - 30/09: ACT-A event (WHO)
- 18 & 28 September: Cross sector partnerships / New Compact initiative
- 30 September: PMI / Rotarian Malaria Partners meeting
- 7 October: C20 Session on UHC, Community Responses for Health on AIDS, TB, Malaria and the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic
- 20 October: HIV 2020 panel
- 21 October: UNION conference - GF/FIND Symposium on COVID-19 and TB
- 27 October: World Health Summit