

# SOLOMON ISLANDS

Almost the entire population of Solomon Islands is at high risk for malaria, with only 1% of the population living in areas free of malaria. On average almost 62% of the entire population is tested for malaria once a year. About 60% of the cases are due to *P. falciparum* and there has been no significant decline in this percentage over the years. With 40% of the cases confirmed parasitologically, malaria cases have declined from an annual average of 380 187 during 2000–2005 to 84 078 cases in 2009 (78% decline). No systematic reduction was reported in malaria admissions (1100 per year) in the last 4 years. Although malaria deaths had fallen to 12 in 2006 and 5 in 2007, this number increased to 53 deaths in 2009. The NMCP delivered about 147 300 ITN/LLINs during 2007–2009, sufficient to cover 57% of the population at risk; IRS was also implemented, protecting about 156 000 people a year during same period. The programme delivered over 290 000 treatment courses of ACT in 2009, which was more than enough to treat all malaria cases. Funding for malaria control has remained at an average of US\$ 1.9 million per year since 2003, mainly financed by the Global Fund, the government and other agencies. The government contribution has increased to approximately 30%.

## I. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE

### Population and epidemiological profile

Population (in thousands)*	2009	%
All ages	523	
< 5 years	73	14
Rural	428	82
Population by malaria endemicity (in thousands)	2009	%
High transmission ( $\geq 1$ case per 1000 population)	520	99
Low transmission (0–1 cases per 1000 population)	0	0
Malaria-free (0 cases)	3	1

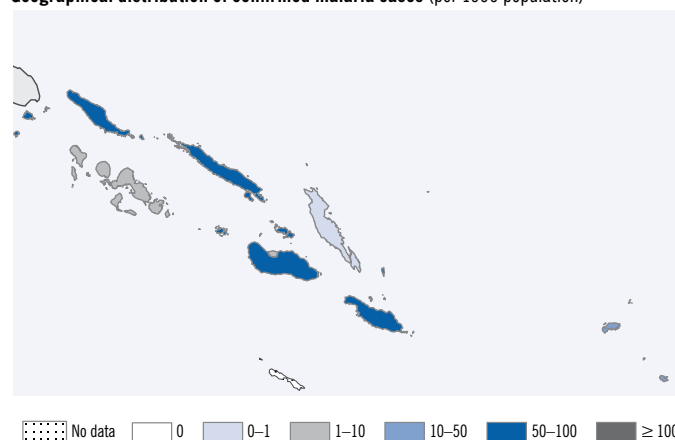
#### Vector and parasite species

Major *Anopheles* species *farauti, koliensis, punctulatus*

Major *Plasmodium* species *falciparum, vivax*

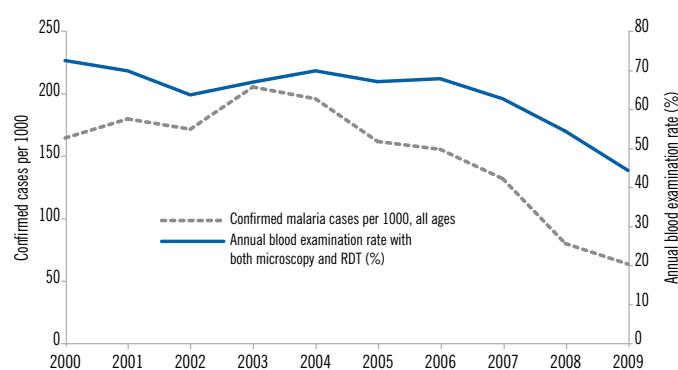
\* UN Population Division estimates

Geographical distribution of confirmed malaria cases (per 1000 population)

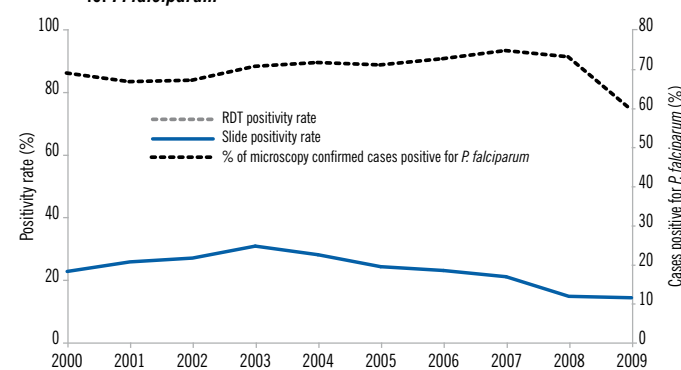


### Trends in malaria morbidity and mortality

Confirmed malaria cases, per 1000 and annual blood examination rate



Malaria test positivity rate and % of microscopy confirmed cases positive for *P. falciparum*

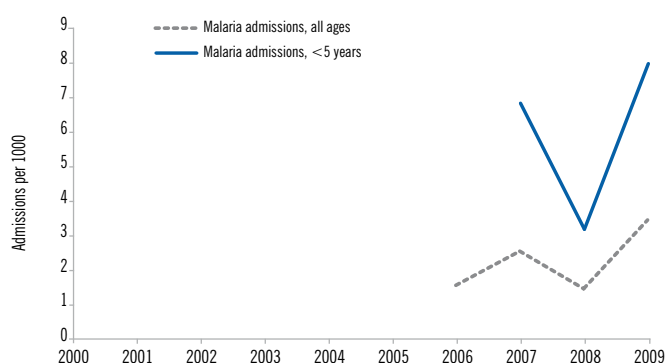


Year	All ages										< 5 years		
	All-cause outpatient consultations	Suspected cases (tested + probable)	Probable cases (not tested)	Total cases tested (microscopy + RDT)	Total confirmed cases (microscopy + RDT)	Malaria cases (confirmed + probable)	Examined by microscopy	Microscopy positive <i>P. falciparum</i>	Examined by RDT	RDT positive	All-cause outpatient consultations	Malaria cases (confirmed + probable)	
2000		601 612	300 806	300 806	68 107	368 913	300 806	68 107	46 703			3 058	
2001		594 690	297 345	297 345	76 493	373 838	297 345	76 493	50 806			3 730	
2002		556 356	278 178	278 178	74 936	353 114	278 178	74 936	50 090			4 536	
2003		416 728	116 137	300 591	92 227	208 364	300 591	92 227	64 910			5 443	
2004		643 908	321 954	321 954	90 297	412 251	321 954	90 297	64 449			5 377	
2005		633 796	316 898	316 898	76 390	393 288	316 898	76 390	54 001			4 489	
2006		657 110	328 555	328 555	75 337	403 892	328 555	75 337	54 441			4 426	
2007	972 732	396 169	84 722	311 447	65 404	150 126	311 447	65 404	48 612	0	0	256 955	56 880
2008	618 375	338 244	61 605	276 639	40 535	102 140	276 639	40 535	29 492	0	0	120 000	30 401
2009	574 748	282 297	51 076	231 221	33 002	84 078	231 221	33 002	19 580	0	0	172 183	25 859

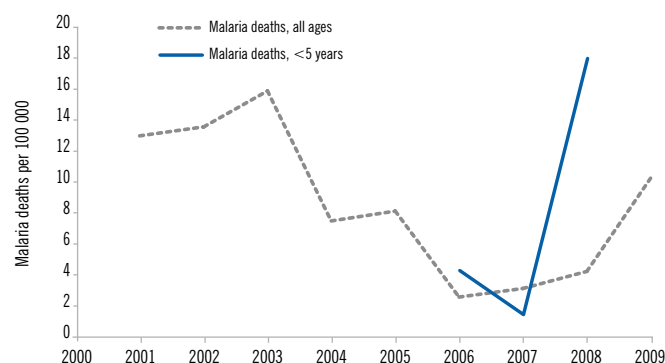
Note: Reporting completeness of outpatient health facilities (%) in 2009: 65.5%

## I. EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE (continued)

Reported malaria admissions, per 1000 population



Reported malaria deaths, per 100 000 population



Year	All ages		<5 years	
	All-cause admissions	Malaria admissions	All-cause admissions	Malaria admissions
2000	22 505			
2001	22 397			
2002	20 608			
2003	15 944			
2004	20 286			
2005	22 272			
2006	21 000	743		
2007	18 852	1 253	0	489
2008	16 053	731	0	230
2009	24 127	1 785	2 318	584

Year	All ages		<5 years	
	All-cause deaths	Malaria deaths	All-cause deaths	Malaria deaths
2000				
2001		55		
2002		59		
2003		71		
2004		34		
2005		38		
2006		12		3
2007	0	15	0	1
2008	0	21	0	13
2009	0	53	0	

## II. INTERVENTION POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

Intervention	WHO-RECOMMENDED POLICIES / STRATEGIES	YES or NO	Year adopted	OTHER POLICY / STRATEGY	YES or NO	Year adopted
Insecticide-treated nets (ITN)	ITNs/LLINs are distributed free of charge	YES	2006	ITNs/LLINs are distributed through antenatal clinics	YES	2006
	ITNs/LLINs are distributed to all age groups	YES	1996	ITNs/LLINs are distributed through EPI clinics	YES	2006
				ITNs/LLINs are distributed through mass campaigns to < 5 only	YES	2006
Indoor residual spraying (IRS)	IRS is recommended by malaria control programme	YES	1996	IRS is only used to prevent and control epidemics	YES	1996
	DDT is used for IRS	–	–	Where IRS is conducted, ITNs are also applied	YES	1996
				Insecticide resistance monitoring is undertaken	YES	2007
Intermittent preventive treatment (IPT)	IPT is used to prevent malaria during pregnancy	–	–			
Case management	Patients of all ages should receive diagnostic tests	YES	1968	Malaria diagnosis is free of charge in the public sector	YES	2007
	RDTs are used at community level	–	–	ACT is delivered by community agents	–	–
	ACT is free of charge for all age groups in the public sector	YES	2009	Therapeutic efficacy monitoring is undertaken	YES	2009
	Pre-referral treatment with parenteral quinine or artemisinin derivatives or artesunate suppositories is provided	YES	1978			
	Oral artemisinin-based monotherapies are not registered	–	–			

Antimalarial policy	Type of medicine	Year adopted
First-line treatment of <i>P. falciparum</i> (unconfirmed)	–	–
First-line treatment of <i>P. falciparum</i> (confirmed)	AL	2007
Treatment failure of <i>P. falciparum</i>	QN	2007
Treatment of severe malaria	AL; AS	2007
Treatment of <i>P. vivax</i>	AL + PQ(14d)	2007

Therapeutic efficacy studies (percentage of clinical and parasitological failure)

Name of first-line antimalarial medicine	Study year	No. of studies	Failure rate			Follow-up Remarks
			Minimum	Median	Maximum	
Artemether-lumefantrine (AL)	2008–2008	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	28 days

