

# Impact of Stop Work Orders for PEPFAR Programs

The Trump Administration, through the U.S. Department of State, has ordered the immediate suspension of all foreign assistance consistent with the Executive Order issued by President Trump on January 20. This has paused all work supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) for at least 90 days, leaving millions at risk.

## Number of People Losing Access to ARV Treatment

There are currently more than 20 million people supported by PEPFAR on ARV treatment. Based on country guidelines and patient health factors (duration on treatment, etc) people are provided with either 30 days, 3 months, or 6 months of treatment each time they collect ARVs.

Based on FY2024 dispensing data, globally this means there are **222,333 people picking up new supplies of ARVs every single day, 365 days per year. This is the number of people who will lose access to treatment for every day that the stop work order is in effect.**

**Of these, 7,445 are children under the age of 15 losing access to treatment for each day the stop work order is in effect.**

Critically, getting people back onto treatment after the stop work order is lifted will take enormous effort.

### Most affected countries:

- South Africa: 101,368, of which 974 are children
- Mozambique: 25,932, of which 1,257 are children
- Kenya: 17,229, of which 841 are children
- Tanzania: 15,115, of which 601 are children
- Uganda: 14,015, of which 717 are children
- Nigeria: 11,077, of which 437 are children
- Zimbabwe: 10,325, of which 486 are children

## Clinical Workforce Facing Stop Work Orders:

Globally: PEPFAR directly supports 271,229 individual Health Care Workers delivering direct client services, amounting to 190,693 full-time equivalent positions. **These individuals are currently receiving orders to stop all clinical services, cease reporting to health clinics, or serve patients.** This includes:

- 12,579 (8,564 FTE) doctors/clinical officers
- 21,819 (14,577 FTE) nurses and midwives
- 7,222 (5,033 FTE) laboratory technicians
- 2,338 (1,881 FTE) pharmacists
- 153,888 (108,794 FTE) community health workers

In many cases, PEPFAR-supported health care workers may be the only staff of particular cadres at a given health facility. For instance, most smaller primary health centers will only have a single pharmacist, meaning that even if there are other staff providing clinical services, they have no legal mechanism to dispense medications during the stoppage. Likewise, the suspension of laboratory services will have systematic impacts on the entire HIV response in a country, regardless of whether there are clinicians funded through domestic governments or other funders. Importantly, the stoppage will affect an interwoven group of health care providers rather than a single group of workers.

### Most affected countries:

- **South Africa** (5,335,997 people currently on treatment in 2,887 facilities)
  - 13,815 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 178 doctors/clinical officers
    - 1,984 nurses and midwives
    - 53 laboratory staff
    - 199 pharmacists/assistants
    - 8,284 community health workers

- **Mozambique** (1,944,761 people currently on treatment)
  - 26,771 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 1,038 doctors/clinical officers
    - 840 nurses and midwives
    - 201 laboratory staff
    - 134 pharmacists/assistants
    - 19,795 community health workers
- **Nigeria** (1,526,390 people currently on treatment in 1,771 facilities)
  - 19,996 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 434 doctors/clinical officers
    - 593 nurses and midwives
    - 1,078 laboratory staff
    - 516 pharmacists
    - 7,110 community health care workers
- **Tanzania** (1,515,977 people currently on treatment)
  - 49,105 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 4,663 doctors/clinical officers
    - 7,445 nurses/midwives
    - 2,225 laboratory staff
    - 397 pharmacists/assistants
    - 23,020 community health workers
- **Uganda** (1,416,800 people currently on treatment in 2,051 facilities)
  - 20,809 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 923 doctors/clinical officers
    - 1,622 nurses and midwives
    - 756 laboratory staff
    - 68 pharmacists
    - 12,551 community health workers
- **Kenya** (1,336,300 people currently on treatment)
  - 35,703 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 1,952 doctors/clinical officers
    - 1,234 nurses/midwives
    - 578 laboratory staff
    - 340 pharmacists
    - 24,577 community health workers
- **Malawi** (936,480 people currently on treatment in 799 facilities)
  - 10,851 individual direct clinical providers, including:
    - 314 doctors/clinical officers
    - 561 nurses and midwives
    - 28 laboratory staff
    - 7,854 community health workers

## Pregnant Women and Babies Acquiring HIV

PEPFAR is currently providing ARV treatment to **679,936 pregnant women living with HIV both for their own health and to prevent transmission to their children.** With stop work orders, these services will be halted for a large number of these women. Importantly, the stoppage will affect an interwoven group of health care providers rather than a single group of workers. This means that, even if many of the antenatal clinic providers are

employed by the Ministry of Health (as is often the case), the commodities in use, the pharmacists, laboratory technicians, and others involved in the care of pregnant women are integrated, with each being essential to quality care. Based on an expected HIV transmission rate of 40% when a woman is not on treatment and assuming that 50% of pregnant women on ART would deliver **during a 90-day stoppage, we estimate that this would mean 135,987 babies acquiring HIV. These babies, however, are highly likely to also go undiagnosed because infant HIV testing services are also being suspended due to the stop work order.**

**Number of new HIV Infections among infants per day of the work stoppage:** 1,471

### Most affected countries:

- South Africa - 228
- Mozambique - 60
- Uganda - 41
- Tanzania - 30
- Zambia - 28

PEPFAR provided HIV testing to 660,024 babies born to mothers living with HIV in FY2024, equating to approximately 1,808 babies tested per day.

## Orphans and Vulnerable Children

6,458,420 children and adolescents are served by the Orphans and Vulnerable Children program annually, equating to approximately **17,694 served per day. This program is much more likely to be fully dependent on PEPFAR grant funding and will simply close down completely during the work stoppage.**

### Most affected countries (OVC beneficiaries served per day):

- Nigeria - 3,970
- Tanzania - 1,773
- Kenya - 1,602
- Zambia - 1,471
- Uganda - 1,443

## Cervical Cancer Screenings

Through the Go Further Campaign, PEPFAR supports cervical cancer screening, diagnoses, and treatment services for women living with HIV. **In 2024, PEPFAR supported screening of 2,614,743 women living with HIV and diagnosed 55,195 cases of cervical cancer or precancerous lesions.** This work is highly dependent on PEPFAR support.

On a daily basis, this equates to **7,164 women screened every day and 363 diagnoses of cervical cancer or precancerous lesions per day.**

**Most affected countries (WLHIV screened per day):**

- Tanzania - 1,326 cervical cancer screenings diagnosing 32 women per day
- Mozambique - 1,120 cervical cancer screenings diagnosing 151 women per day
- Kenya - 945 cervical cancer screenings diagnosing 12 women per day
- Zambia - 604 cervical cancer screenings diagnosing 23 women per day
- Zimbabwe - 804 cervical cancer screenings diagnosing 23 women per day

## Gender-Based Violence

In 2024, PEPFAR provided 1,320,402 survivors of gender-based violence with post-violence care. **This equates to providing services to 3,618 people experiencing domestic and sexual violence every day.** This includes things like rape kits, HIV testing, post-exposure prophylaxis, and other essential services.

**Most affected countries:**

- Kenya - 1,207 people provided violence support services per day
- Uganda - 692
- Tanzania - 649
- Nigeria - 232
- Mozambique - 180

## HIV Testing Services

**PEPFAR supported 83,223,512 HIV tests in FY2024, equating to approximately 228,010 people tested every day, resulting in 4,538 new daily diagnoses and 4,509 people newly initiated on treatment every day.**

HIV testing is extremely dependent on the community health care workforce and lay counselors funded by PEPFAR grants.

**Most affected countries:**

- South Africa - 42,736 (1,024 newly diagnosed and 1,035 initiated on treatment)
- Nigeria - 31,078 (341 newly diagnosed and 339 initiated on treatment)
- Mozambique - 28,746 (744 newly diagnosed and 728 initiated on treatment)
- Uganda - 23,687 (354 newly diagnosed and 339 initiated on treatment)
- Tanzania - 21,822 (371 newly diagnosed and 360 initiated on treatment)