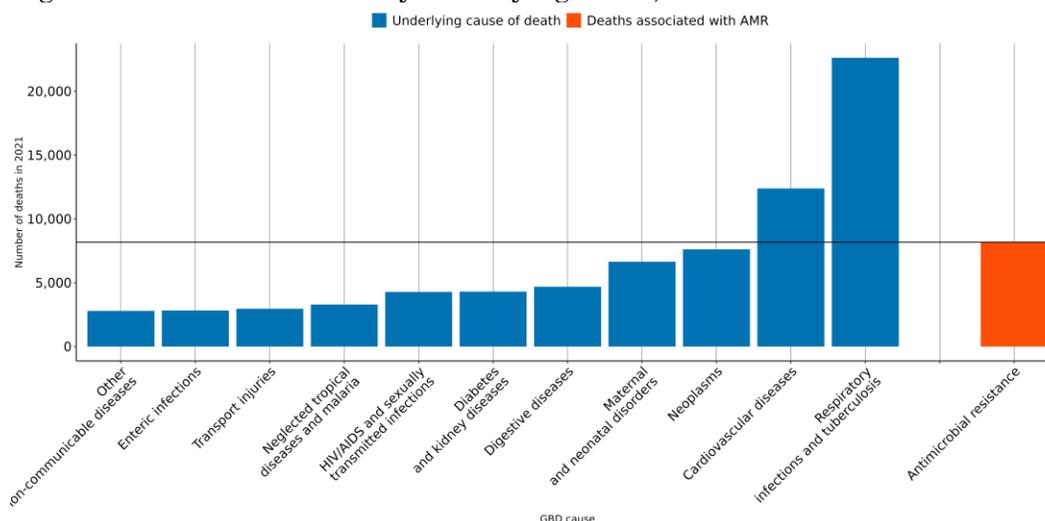


The burden of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in Rwanda

Executive summary

- Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a major global health threat, over **4,000 lives** have been lost each year since 1990 in Rwanda due to AMR.
- In 2021, there were an estimated **1,900 UI (1,360-2,440)** deaths attributable to AMR and **8,180 UI (6,050-10,300)** deaths associated with AMR in this location.
- The largest number of deaths associated with AMR in 2021 occurred among those aged **under 5** in the country.
- Among the most deadly pathogen-drug combinations in 2021 were *Staphylococcus aureus* resistant to methicillin, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* resistant to third-generation cephalosporins and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* resistant to carbapenems.

Figure 1 Number of deaths by underlying cause, and those associated with AMR in 2021



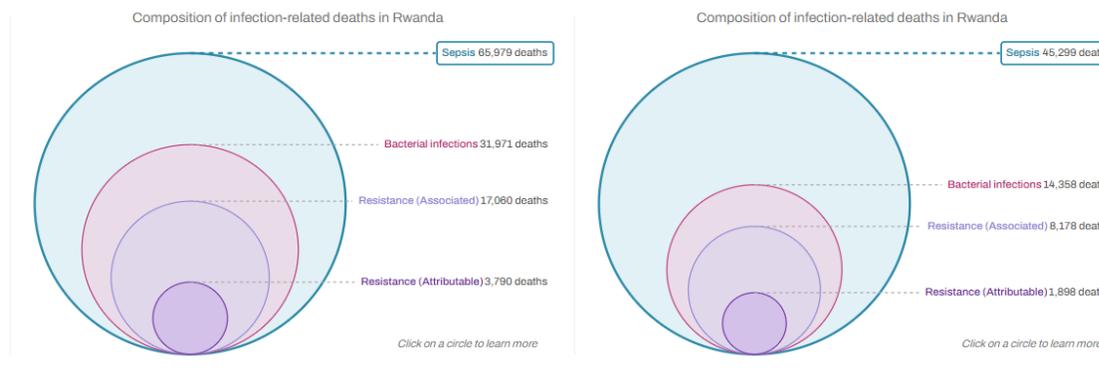
- In 2021, the number of deaths associated with AMR (orange bar in *figure 2*) were high compared to the most relevant underlying causes of death (depicted in blue) in the country. AMR associated deaths occur within multiple Global Burden of Disease (GBD) causes of death and AMR is not an underlying cause of death by itself.
- At the [2024 United Nations General Assembly high level meeting on antimicrobial resistance](#), country members agreed to aim for a **10% reduction** compared to 2019 baseline (**from 4.95 to 4.45 million**) in the global number of deaths associated with AMR by 2030. But [our forecast](#) indicates that in absence of concerted action, deaths associated with AMR could reach **5.5 million** (UI 4.8 - 6.2) if current trends continue. For Rwanda, a 10% reduction means to decrease the number of deaths associated with AMR to **7,700**, but currently the trend for this country could reach up to **9,430 UI [6,600-13,000]** AMR-associated deaths in 2030.

AMR in Rwanda

Key takeaways

- Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a major global health threat, over *a million lives* have been lost each year since 1990.
- Globally, 4.71 (95% Uncertainty Interval (UI) 4.2-5.2) million deaths were associated with bacterial drug-resistant infections in 2021.
- And 1.14 (UI 1 - 1.3) million deaths were attributable to bacterial drug-resistant infection in the same year.
- *39 (UI 33 - 46) million deaths* directly attributable to bacterial AMR are projected to occur between 2025-2050 unless concerted action is taken. This equates to three deaths every minute.

Figure 2 Comparing 30 years of infection related deaths, and those associated with and attributable to AMR in Rwanda between 1990 and 2019.



- To look at these and more visualization interactively visit [Measuring Infectious Causes and Resistance Outcomes for Burden Estimation \(MICROBE\)](#)
- In **Rwanda** in 2021, there were an estimated **1,900 UI (1,360-2,440)** deaths attributable to AMR and **8,180 UI (6,050-10,300)** deaths associated with AMR. Here “*attributable deaths*” are considered to be those that would have been prevented had the drug-resistant bacteria causing the infections not been drug-resistant. “*Associated deaths*” are considered to be those that would not have occurred had the infections been prevented entirely.
- Across 204 countries, **Rwanda has the 41st highest** age-standardized mortality rate associated with AMR in 2021.
- *Table 1* shows the bacteria which caused most deaths in 2021 (↑ indicates an increasing estimated annual rate between 1990-2021, ↓ indicates a decreasing annual trend), and *table 2* shows the pathogen-drug combinations which caused most deaths in 2021.

Table 1. Bacteria which cause most deaths in 2021 (Number of deaths in parenthesis)

	Overall susceptible and resistant	Associated	Attributable
Burden rank	Mycobacterium tuberculosis 3,650 UI (2,310-4,990) ↓	Klebsiella pneumoniae 1,700 UI (1,300-2,100) ↓	Klebsiella pneumoniae 405 UI (293-517) ↓
	Klebsiella pneumoniae 1,760 UI (1,350-2,170) ↓	Escherichia coli 1,370 UI (1,060-1,690) ↓	Staphylococcus aureus 289 UI (193-385) ↑
	Escherichia coli 1,500 UI (1,170-1,830) ↓	Streptococcus pneumoniae 1,060 UI (778-1,330) ↓	Escherichia coli 265 UI (180-349) ↓
	Staphylococcus aureus 1,250 UI (956-1,530) ↑	Staphylococcus aureus 984 UI (651-1,320) ↑	Streptococcus pneumoniae 212 UI (134-291) ↓
	Streptococcus pneumoniae 1,230 UI (950-1,510) ↓	Pseudomonas aeruginosa 873 UI (622-1,120) ↓	Pseudomonas aeruginosa 198 UI (129-268) ↓
	Pseudomonas aeruginosa 1,200 UI (925-1,480) ↓	Acinetobacter baumannii 462 UI (346-579) ↓	Acinetobacter baumannii 181 UI (138-223) ↓
	Group B Streptococcus 581 UI (430-732) ↓	Mycobacterium tuberculosis 259 UI (74-581) ↑	Mycobacterium tuberculosis 79 UI (0-223) ↑
	Acinetobacter baumannii 502 UI (382-622) ↓	Serratia spp. 225 UI (159-290) ↓	Serratia spp. 58 UI (41-76) ↓
	Serratia spp. 358 UI (270-445) ↓	Group B Streptococcus 206 UI (145-266) ↓	Enterobacter spp. 49 UI (36-63) ↓
	Haemophilus influenzae 326 UI (250-401) ↓	Haemophilus influenzae 195 UI (77-313) ↓	Haemophilus influenzae 43 UI (14-72) ↓

Annualized rate of change (1990-2021):
 <-3% (dark blue), -1.5% to 0% (light blue), 1.5% to 3% (medium blue), >5.0% (dark red)
 -3% to -1.5% (medium blue), 0% to 1.5% (light blue), 3% to 5% (medium blue)

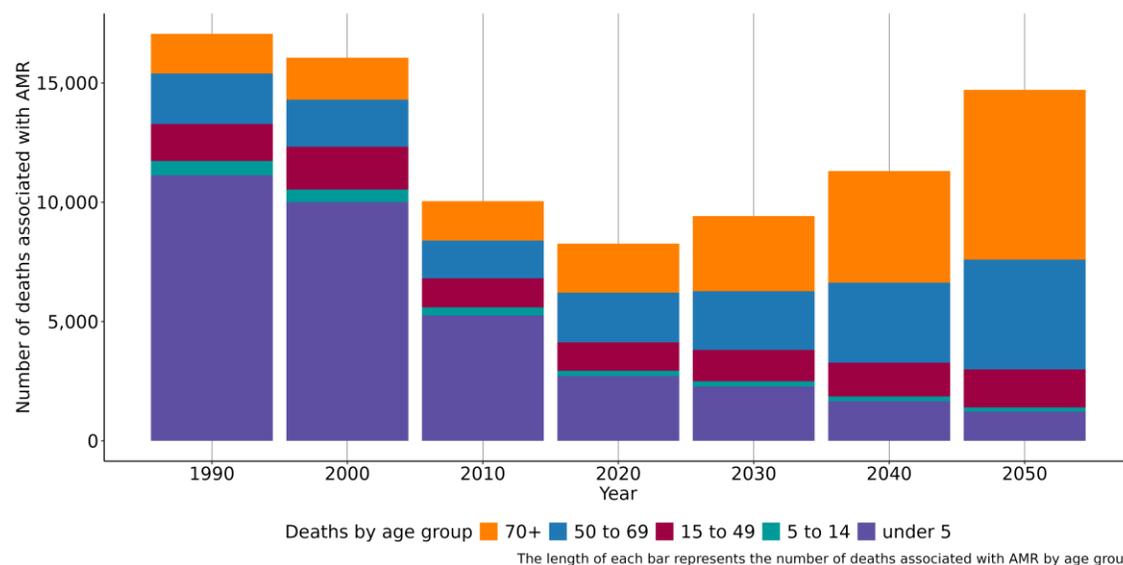
Table 2. Combinations which cause most deaths in 2021 (Number of deaths in parenthesis)

	Associated	Attributable
Burden Rank	Klebsiella pneumoniae Beta-Lactam/Lactamase Inhib. 1,690 UI (1,290-2,090) ↓	Staphylococcus aureus Methicillin 215 UI (137-292) ↑
	Klebsiella pneumoniae TMP-SMX 1,550 UI (1,170-1,930) ↓	Klebsiella pneumoniae 3GC 125 UI (69-181) ↓
	Klebsiella pneumoniae 3GC 1,400 UI (1,060-1,750) ↓	Streptococcus pneumoniae Carbapenems 87 UI (42-132) ↓
	Escherichia coli TMP-SMX 1,190 UI (909-1,480) ↓	Acinetobacter baumannii Carbapenems 86 UI (56-116) ↓
	Escherichia coli Aminopenicillin 1,150 UI (706-1,600) ↓	Mycobacterium tuberculosis MDR excluding XDR 77 UI (0-220) ↑
	Klebsiella pneumoniae Fluoroquinolones 1,080 UI (757-1,410) ↑	Klebsiella pneumoniae Fluoroquinolones 76 UI (45-106) ↑
	Escherichia coli Beta-Lactam/Lactamase Inhib. 1,080 UI (824-1,330) ↓	Pseudomonas aeruginosa Aminoglycosides 69 UI (44-95) ↓
	Klebsiella pneumoniae Aminoglycosides 1,010 UI (717-1,310) ↓	Escherichia coli TMP-SMX 66 UI (42-90) ↓
	Streptococcus pneumoniae TMP-SMX 1,010 UI (731-1,290) ↓	Klebsiella pneumoniae Aminoglycosides 63 UI (38-88) ↓
	Staphylococcus aureus Methicillin 867 UI (531-1,200) ↑	Klebsiella pneumoniae TMP-SMX 63 UI (31-95) ↓

Annualized rate of change (1990-2021):
 <-3% (dark blue), -1.5% to 0% (light blue), 1.5% to 3% (medium blue), >5.0% (dark red)
 -3% to -1.5% (medium blue), 0% to 1.5% (light blue), 3% to 5% (medium blue)

- Independently of antimicrobial resistance, the infectious syndromes accounting for the most deaths in 2021 were as follows (estimated thousands of deaths in parenthesis) bloodstream infections (6,520 UI (4,960-8,070)), lower respiratory infection (excl. COVID) (6,470 UI (4,940-8,010)), tuberculosis (3,650 UI (2,310-4,990)), diarrhea (2,660 UI (1,480-3,840)) and meningitis (1,060 UI (740-1,380)).

Figure 3. Number of deaths associated with AMR by age group between 1990-2020 and 2050 projection



- In Rwanda, people aged under 5 saw the largest number of deaths associated with AMR both in 1990 and 2021, which indicates that under 5 continues to be particularly vulnerable to infections which are resistant to antibiotics. In 2021, the number of deaths associated with AMR among the under 5 was 2,540 UI (1,810-3,280), whereas the mortality rate per 100,000 was 849 UI (636-1,060).

Data sources for Rwanda

In total, 520 million individual records or isolates covering 19,513 study-location-years were used as input data to our estimation process. The subset of input data for this country is shown below.

Table 3. Data inputs for Rwanda by source type

Source type	Years	Sample size	Sample size units
Antibiotic use	1990-2021	676	Study-year datapoints
Microbial or laboratory data without outcome	1990-2021	30	Isolates
Microbial or laboratory data with outcome	2010-2021	1,363	Isolates
Literature studies	1990-2021	3,873	Cases/isolates/susceptibility tests

More information

About GRAM:

The purpose of the Global Research on AntiMicrobial resistance (GRAM) project is to **generate accurate and timely estimates of the magnitude and trends in antimicrobial resistance (AMR) burden** across the world, which can be used to inform treatment guidelines and agendas for decision-making and research, detect emerging problems and monitor trends to inform global strategies, as well as facilitate the assessment of interventions over time.

GRAM is the flagship project of the University of Oxford–IHME Strategic Partnership. GRAM was launched with support from the United Kingdom Department of Health and Social Care’s Fleming Fund, and the Wellcome Trust.

All resources:

For all resources on AMR analysis at IHME, visit <https://www.healthdata.org/antimicrobial-resistance>.

To look at these and more visualization interactively visit [Measuring Infectious Causes and Resistance Outcomes for Burden Estimation \(MICROBE\)](#).

Data sources:

To download the list of data input sources by country, and AMR results by region, visit the [Global Health Data Exchange \(GHDx\)](#).

Contact us:

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- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/institute-for-health-metrics-and-evaluation>