The Global AIDS Pandemic: Key Facts

HIV and AIDS Around the World

• In 2013, Secretary of State John Kerry announced that 1 million babies globally had been born HIV-free thanks to PEPFAR support. (U.S. Department of State, 2013)

• In 2011, more than 11 million women around the world received HIV counseling and testing services through U.S. government–funded programs. (U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief [PEPFAR], Annual Report to Congress on PEPFAR Program Results, 2013)

• Each day, the HIV/AIDS pandemic causes approximately 6,300 new infections and 4,300 deaths. (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS [UNAIDS], Global Report, 2013)

• Nearly 700 children under 15 years of age are infected with HIV every day, most as a result of mother-to-child transmission of the virus. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• Without treatment, almost half of newborns infected with HIV will die before their second birthdays. (UNAIDS, Together We Will End AIDS, 2012)

• Approximately 3.3 million children were living with HIV in 2012, 91 percent of them in sub-Saharan Africa. Children make up approximately nine percent of the total number of people living with HIV. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• An estimated 260,000 children were newly infected with HIV in 2012, which is approximately 11 percent of the total new infections. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• An estimated 210,000 children died of AIDS-related illnesses in 2012, which is approximately 13 percent of the total deaths due to AIDS. (United Nations Children’s Fund [UNICEF], Towards an AIDS-free Generation - Children and AIDS: Sixth Stocktaking Report, 2013)

• Approximately 16.1 million women were living with HIV in 2012, up from 13.7 million in 2001. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• In 2012, 62 percent of pregnant women living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries received the medicines they needed to prevent transmission of HIV to their babies; in 2012, only 34 percent of HIV-exposed children age 14 or younger received medicines to prevent HIV transmission. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• In 2012, more than 9 million adults and children living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) for their illness, an increase of 50 percent from 2010. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013; Together We Will End AIDS, 2012)

• In 2012, 646,812 children living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries were receiving ART. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

HIV and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa

• Of the estimated 35.3 million people worldwide living with HIV in 2012, two-thirds (71 percent) were in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• Of the 2.3 million people who became newly infected with HIV in 2012, 1.6 million were in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

• In 2012, approximately 1.6 million people died of AIDS-related illnesses. Approximately 75 percent of these deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• In 2012, approximately 2.9 million children in sub-Saharan Africa were living with HIV. This represents 91 percent of all children living with HIV worldwide. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• In sub-Saharan Africa in 2012, 5 in 10 adults living with HIV were women. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

HIV and AIDS in North America and Western and Central Europe
• As of 2010, fewer than 400 children a year were infected with HIV in North America and Western and Central Europe. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• As of 2012, fewer than 200 children a year were infected with HIV in the United States. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

HIV and AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
• The coverage of antiretroviral therapy for children increased from 56 percent in 2009 to 75 percent in 2012. (WHO, Global HIV/AIDS Response, 2011; UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• The region is faced with the fastest HIV growth in the world. Approximately 91,000 people died of AIDS-related causes, nearly three times more than the estimated 36,000 who died in 2001. (UNAIDS, Together We Will End AIDS, 2012)
• As of December 2012, estimated coverage for prevention of mother-to-child transmission in Eastern Europe and Central Asia exceeded 95 percent. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

HIV and AIDS in Asia
• In 2012, 37 percent of children in need of HIV treatment were able to access it. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• In 2012, 22 percent of pregnant women living with HIV in Asia received effective antiretroviral drugs to prevent the transmission of HIV to their children. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

HIV and AIDS in Other Parts of the World
• An estimated 95 percent of HIV-infected pregnant women in the Caribbean received effective antiretroviral drugs necessary to prevent the transmission of HIV to their children in 2012. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• In 2012, women comprised 35 percent of the adults living with HIV in the Oceania region. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• The number of children living with HIV in Latin America is declining. An estimated 42,000 children were living with HIV in 2010, versus 47,000 in 2001. (WHO, Global HIV/AIDS Response, 2011)
• In 2012, approximately 3,000 children were newly infected with HIV in the Middle East and North Africa. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)
• Prevention coverage in antenatal settings remained low in the Middle East and North Africa, with 8 percent regional coverage as of December 2012. (UNAIDS, Global Report, 2013)

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Elizabeth Glaser acquired HIV in 1981 through a blood transfusion and unknowingly passed the virus on to her daughter, Ariel, and her son, Jake. Following Ariel’s death in 1988, Elizabeth joined with two close friends with one goal: to bring hope to children with AIDS. The foundation that now bears Elizabeth Glaser’s name has become a global leader in the effort to eliminate pediatric AIDS, working in 15 countries and at more than 7,300 sites around the world to prevent the transmission of HIV to children and help those already infected with the virus. EGPAF’s global mission is to implement prevention, care, and treatment; further advance innovative research; and give those affected by HIV and AIDS a voice - bringing dramatic change to the lives of millions of children, women, and families worldwide.

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