



photo: Olivier Asselin

The Global AIDS Pandemic: Key Facts

HIV and AIDS around the World

- In 2009, an estimated 107,000 infant HIV infections were averted through prevention of mother-to-child transmission services supported by the U.S. government and partner organizations. (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief [PEPFAR], 2009 Annual Report to Congress on PEPFAR Program Results, 2010)
- In 2009, more than 8.6 million women around the world received HIV counseling and testing services through U.S. government-funded programs. (PEPFAR, 2009 Annual Report to Congress on PEPFAR Program Results, 2010)
- Each day, the HIV/AIDS pandemic causes approximately 7,100 new infections and 4,900 deaths. (United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS [UNAIDS], Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- More than 1,000 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, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- Without treatment, almost half of newborns infected with HIV will die before their second birthdays. (United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS [UNAIDS], Towards Universal Access, 2010)
- Approximately 2.5 million children were living with HIV in 2009, up from 1.6 million in 2001. Children make up approximately 7 percent of the total number of people living with HIV. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- An estimated 370,000 children were newly infected with HIV in 2009, which is approximately 14 percent of the total new infections. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- An estimated 260,000 children died of AIDS-related illnesses in 2009, which is approximately 14 percent of the total deaths due to AIDS. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- Approximately 15.9 million women were living with HIV in 2009, up from 13.8 million in 2001. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- According to the United Nations, in 2009 53 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, and only 35 percent of HIV-exposed infants received medicines to prevent mother-to-child transmission. (UNAIDS, Towards Universal Access, 2010)
- As of December 2009, more than 5.2 million adults and children living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) for their illness. This represents just 36 percent of the 14.6 million people in need of ART. (UNAIDS, Towards Universal Access, 2010)
- In 2009, 356,400 children living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries were receiving ART. (UNAIDS, Towards Universal Access, 2010)

HIV and AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa

- Of the estimated 33.3 million people worldwide living with HIV in 2009, two-thirds (67 percent) were in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- Of the 2.6 million people who became newly infected with HIV in 2009, 1.8 million were in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- In 2009, approximately 1.8 million people died of AIDS-related illnesses. Approximately 72 percent of these deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)

- In 2009, approximately 2.3 million children in sub-Saharan Africa were living with HIV. This represents 92 percent of all children living with HIV worldwide. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- In 2009, 14.8 million children in sub-Saharan Africa were estimated to have lost one or both parents to AIDS. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)
- In sub-Saharan Africa in 2009, women accounted for approximately 54 percent of people living with HIV. (UNAIDS, Report on the Global AIDS Epidemic, 2010)

HIV and AIDS in North America and Western and Central Europe

- As of 2008, fewer than 500 children a year were infected with HIV in North America and Western and Central Europe. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- As of December 2008, less than 200 children a year are infected with HIV in the United States. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)

HIV and AIDS in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

- HIV infection rates in infants and children are rising in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, with 3,700 children newly infected in 2008. This is a 23 percent increase from 3,000 infections in 2001. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- As of December 2008, estimated coverage for prevention of mother-to-child transmission in Eastern Europe and Central Asia exceeded 90 percent. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)

HIV and AIDS in Asia

- In 2008, an estimated 21,000 children under the age of 15 were newly infected with HIV in Asia. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- As of December 2008, 25 percent of women living with HIV in Asia received antiretroviral drugs to prevent the transmission of HIV to their children. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)

HIV and AIDS in Other Parts of the World

- An estimated 52 percent of HIV-infected pregnant women in the Caribbean received the antiretroviral drugs necessary to prevent the transmission of HIV in 2008, exceeding the global average by 8 percent. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- In 2008, less than 500 children a year were infected with HIV in the Oceania region. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- HIV infection rates among infants and children are rising in Latin America. In 2008, 6,900 children were infected with HIV, an 11 percent increase from 2001. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- In 2008, 4,600 children were newly infected with HIV in the Middle East and North Africa, a 21 percent increase in the infection rate from 2001. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)
- Prevention coverage in antenatal settings remained virtually nonexistent in the Middle East and North Africa, with 1 percent regional coverage as of December 2008. (UNAIDS, AIDS Epidemic Update, 2009)

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Elizabeth Glaser acquired HIV 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 17 countries and at more than 5,100 sites around the world to prevent the transmission of HIV to children and help those already infected with the virus. The Foundation's global mission is to implement prevention, care, and treatment; further advance innovative research; and give those affected by HIV and AIDS a voice to bring dramatic change to the lives of millions of children, women, and families worldwide.

Updated 12/22/2010