

The Hard Facts on Poverty

...on hunger, water, education, children affected by conflict and HIV and AIDS

World Vision raises funds for programs that tackle hunger and other critical problems linked directly to poverty, including water shortages, children affected by conflict, and by HIV and AIDS. Here are some key statistics about these issues that contribute to the cycle of poverty experienced by developing countries.

Hunger and Malnutrition

- At the end of 2008, the number of people in the world who suffer from chronic malnutrition was **963 million**
Note: Prior to the onset of the global food crisis, this number was reported at 848 million. By September 2008 it had reached 923 million.
SOURCE: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 2008
- Percentage of underweight children under the age of five worldwide: **25%**
SOURCE: United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF). The State of the World's Children 2008.
- Percentage of overweight children in Canada: **26%**
SOURCE: Statistics Canada. Canadian Community Health Survey-Nutrition (CCHS) 2004.
- Estimated number of child deaths worldwide each day linked to extreme poverty: **nearly 30,000**
SOURCE: United Nation's Children's Fund (UNICEF) 2005. The State of the World's Children
- Canada's official overseas development assistance in 2007, in terms of percentage of gross national income (GNI): **0.28% in 2007, down from 0.29% in 2006**
Note: The goal is for every rich country to give 0.7%
SOURCE: Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2008.

Water

- Number of people worldwide who do not have access to safe water: **1.1 billion**
SOURCE: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Human Development Report (HDR) 2006.
- Number of people who die each year of water-related diseases: **5 million** (About 1.8 million are children)
SOURCES: Pacific Institute 2002. Dirty Water: Estimated Deaths from Water-Related Diseases 2000-2020; UNDP HDR 2006.
- Average daily quantity of water used by a person living in a developing country: **10 litres**
SOURCE: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) 2003. World Environment Day website.
- Amount of water used by someone living in Canada during a five-minute shower: **100 litres**
SOURCE: Environment Canada 2007. Freshwater website: Quickfacts.
- Average daily quantity of water used by someone living in Canada: **335 litres**
SOURCE: Environment Canada 2007. Freshwater website: Water: No Time to Waste.
- Funding required to reach the goal of providing clean drinking water for everyone in the world: **US\$12 to \$35 billion additional funding annually**
SOURCE: United Nations Education and Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) 2007. The Millennium Development Goals and Water.

Education

- Number of children worldwide who are not in school: **90 million**
SOURCE: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) 2007. Education For All Global Monitoring Report.

- Average number of years of formal education for a child in Mozambique: **3 years** (In Canada, the average is 13 to 16 years.)
SOURCE: Global Campaign for Education 2006
- Percentage of disabled children in developing countries who receive an education: **2%**
SOURCE: Child Rights Information Network 2007
- Number of cases of HIV and AIDS that could be prevented in the next decade if every child received a primary education: **7 million**
SOURCE: ActionAid 2006
- Amount of additional aid money estimated to be required annually to reach the goal of universal primary education: **US\$10 billion**
Source: ActionAid 2006
- Amount of money Americans spend on ice cream each year: **US\$20 billion**
SOURCE: ActionAid 2006
- Percentage of yearly spending on weapons that would be needed to put every child into school (as of 2000): **1%**
SOURCE: UNICEF 2005

HIV and AIDS

- Number of people living with HIV in the world today: **33 million**
SOURCE: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). 2008. Report on the global AIDS epidemic 2008.
- Number of people under age 25 who become HIV-positive every minute: **4** (1,150 children are newly infected each day.)
SOURCE: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) 2007. AIDS Epidemic Update: Introduction.
- Number of people infected with HIV in Canada: **58,000** (An estimated 27% of these people are unaware that they are infected.)
SOURCES: Health Canada 2006. The State of the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Canada; AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT).
- Number of people who die each day of AIDS: **5,479**
SOURCE: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). 2008. Report on the global AIDS epidemic 2008.
- Percentage of HIV-positive children in sub-Saharan Africa (in 2006) who have access to the anti-retroviral drugs they need: **15%**
SOURCE: WHO, UNAIDS and UNICEF 2007. Towards Universal Access : Progress Report
- Number of children who have lost one or both parents to AIDS: **nearly 12 million**. (This number is projected to reach 14 million by 2015.)
SOURCE: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). 2008. Report on the global AIDS epidemic 2008.
- Amount pledged by Canada to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria 2008–2010: **\$450 million**
SOURCE: Government of Canada, Ministry of Finance Budget 2008.

Children Affected by Conflict

- Number of children, under 18, currently serving in government forces or armed rebel groups: **300,000 (There are 300,000 child soldiers worldwide.)**
SOURCE: Human Rights Watch 2006. Facts About Child Soldiers.
- Number of countries where children are currently serving in armed forces: **36**
SOURCE: Human Rights Watch, 2006. Facts About Child Soldiers.
- Number of children who have been forced to flee their homes and live as refugees: **9 million**
SOURCE: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 2007.

- Annual worldwide military spending: **US\$1.3 trillion**
SOURCE: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. SIPRI Yearbook 200. Armaments, Disarmament and International Security.