

THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2005

# CHILDHOOD UNDER THREAT

EMBARGOED  
9 DECEMBER  
2004

For every child  
Health, Education, Equality, Protection  
ADVANCE HUMANITY

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# CHILDHOOD UNDER THREAT

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## THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN 2005

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*The State of the World's Children 2005* focuses on how poverty, conflict and HIV/AIDS threaten the ideal of childhood as a time for children to grow and develop to their full potential.

Childhood is a special time in each individual's life – a time when they should be encouraged to learn and play by their family and an extended community of caring adults – and an essential element in the development of healthy and productive future generations. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, offers a new definition of childhood based on human rights. It heralded significant advances in the fulfilment of children's rights to survival, health and education through the provision of essential goods and services, and a growing recognition of the need to create a protective environment to shield children from exploitation, abuse and violence.

However, in several regions and countries, some of these gains are in danger of reversal as a result of poverty, conflict and HIV/AIDS. The rights of over 1 billion children are violated because they are denied of one or more of the basic services required to survive, grow and develop. Millions of children are growing up in families and communities torn apart by armed conflict. In sub-Saharan Africa, HIV/AIDS has led to increasing child mortality rates, dramatic reductions in life expectancy and millions of orphans.

These are not the only factors that undermine childhood, but they are certainly among the most significant, with profoundly damaging effects on a child's chances of survival and development. The harm they cause lingers well beyond the years of childhood, increasing the likelihood that the next generation will be affected by the same threats and endangering the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the aims of 'A World Fit for Children'.

# Children living in poverty

Children living in poverty are deprived of their rights to survival, health and nutrition, education, participation, and protection from harm, exploitation and discrimination. Millions of children are severely deprived of nutrition, water, sanitation facilities, access to basic health-care services, shelter, education and information. Gender discrimination is both a visible outcome and an underlying factor of severe deprivation. Even in countries where absolute deprivation is low, relative deprivation in terms of family income and wealth implies unequal opportunities for children.



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Children whose rights to safety and dignity are denied are also impoverished. Each year, tens of millions of children are the victims of exploitation, violence and abuse, which rob them of their childhood, preventing them from achieving anything close to their full potential.

The many dimensions of poverty mean that reducing it requires an integrated, multifaceted approach:

- Define and measure child poverty. Accept that child poverty cannot be understood only in terms of family income. Responses to it should be based on how children experience poverty.
- Ensure that poverty-reduction strategies prioritize actions to protect childhood. Poverty-reduction strategies should focus strongly on fulfilling children's rights, addressing key issues of deprivation and protection for children and their families.
- Expand basic social and educational services and ensure universal access. Countries successful in improving access to basic health care and education for children, in both the developing world and the more affluent countries, are ready to spend more on social services, even in times of economic or financial crisis.
- Set targets and mobilize stakeholders. All stakeholders must be engaged to meet development targets. Presently, the world is falling behind on reaching the Millennium Development Goals and in fulfilling the aims of 'A World Fit for Children', which address many of the dimensions of child poverty.

- Promote the family. Families form the first line of defence for children: the further away children are from their families, the more vulnerable they are to violence, exploitation, poverty and abuse.
- Eliminate gender discrimination by pursuing labour market and fiscal policies that address economic insecurity among women. Empowering women is an effective strategy to combat child poverty.
- Encourage local solutions and community participation. Developing countries successful in reducing poverty are increasingly promoting community participation. Children should be encouraged to participate in debates that focus on ways of reducing poverty.

## Children caught up in conflict

Children are always among the first affected by armed conflict. Even if they are not killed or injured, they can be orphaned, abducted or left with psychological and psychosocial distress from direct exposure to violence, dislocation, poverty or the loss of loved ones. Those who survive often find themselves enveloped in a battle of a different kind – against disease, inadequate shelter, a lack of basic services and poor nutrition. Schools can also become caught up in violence, often with tragic consequences. Children may be forcibly recruited into combat and servitude, experience sexual violence or exploitation, or be exposed to explosive remnants of war that kill and maim thousands each year. Girls are especially vulnerable to sexual violence, abuse, exploitation and stigmatization during and after conflict situations. Many girls also experience war on the front lines.

To protect children from armed conflict, a number of actions must be pursued:

- Put children first, before and during conflict. Countries must consider the impact on children before engaging in conflict or imposing sanctions, and must allow humanitarian agencies the scope to protect children and women during conflict.



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- End the recruitment of child soldiers. Adoption and application of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict must be stepped up.
- Strengthen the protective environment for children at every level. Encourage countries to ratify and apply – without reservation – treaties designed to protect children from the pernicious effects of conflict.
- Eradicate the culture of impunity and strengthen accountability. Perpetrators of genocide, war crimes – including the conscription of children under 15 – and crimes against humanity must be brought to justice.
- Improve monitoring and reporting on child rights violations during conflict.
- Expand demobilization and mine-awareness campaigns. The sensitive reintegration into civil society of child combatants through a comprehensive support programme is vital. Greater attention must be paid to the reintegration of girl combatants. Mine-risk education should be included in school syllabuses and in public health programmes.
- Restart education for children caught up in armed conflict as soon as possible as a way to inject stability and normalcy into their lives.

## The impact of HIV/AIDS on children

HIV/AIDS is tearing at the very fabric of childhood. Around 15 million children under the age of 18 had been orphaned by the pandemic by the end of 2003. Eight out of 10 of these children live in sub-Saharan Africa. Unless action is taken, swiftly and decisively, to stem the tidal wave of infection and loss, it is estimated that by 2010 over 18 million African children will have lost one or both parents to HIV/AIDS.

The loss of a parent implies more than just the disappearance of a caregiver. It pervades every aspect of a child's life: their emotional



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well-being, physical security, mental development and overall health. It deprives them of the right to live in a family environment. It means that part of the safety net against violence, abuse, exploitation, stigmatization and discrimination is lost, often further isolating children from others at a time when they need as much care and support as possible. In the most extreme cases, children can find themselves living on the streets, utterly devoid of family support.

A child's right to an education is often jeopardized when caregivers become sick or die, since it propels children out of the classroom and into the adult roles of caring and providing for their families. The right to rest, play and recreation is also lost. As HIV/AIDS often exacerbates poverty – from the first time adults fall sick they may not be able to work – it may force children to engage in hazardous labour and increases the risk of exploitation.

Respecting the rights of children orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS must be an international priority over the next two decades. This means that action must be taken on several fronts:

- Limit the spread of HIV/AIDS through forthright national leadership, widespread public awareness and intensive prevention efforts.
- Dedicate funds to support programmes for orphans and vulnerable children, which currently receive only a small proportion of overall HIV/AIDS funding.
- Prolong the lives of parents and provide economic, psychosocial and other support.
- Mobilize and support community-based responses to provide both immediate and long-term support to vulnerable households.
- Ensure access to essential services, including education, health care and birth registration, to orphaned and other vulnerable children.

## **A childhood for every child**

For hundreds of millions of children, the promise of childhood laid down in the Convention on the Rights of the Child already appears broken. They do not inherit their right to a childhood of love, care and protection in a family environment, encouraged to reach their full potential. When they become parents, their

own children are at risk of having their rights denied as the threats to childhood – particularly poverty, armed conflict and HIV/AIDS – replicate themselves from one generation to the next.

It does not have to be this way. We have an unparalleled opportunity to fulfil the rights of children. The intent is there, as evidenced by the near-universal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the endorsement of other

international and national instruments related to children's rights and well-being. The resources – knowledge, money, technology, strategies and people – are available in abundance. The targets are clear: Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the broad aims of 'A World Fit for Children' would do much to make the world a better place for children.

UNICEF believes that the rights of all children everywhere can be fulfilled, if only the world demonstrates the **will** to enact them by:

- Reaffirming and recommitting to their moral and legal responsibilities to children.

- Applying a human rights-based approach to social and economic development. Placing rights at the heart of human development strategies allows countries to prioritize goods and services essential for children, and to construct a protective environment.
- Adopting socially responsible policies, keeping children specifically in mind. Pursuing measures with children specifically in mind is the most effective route to reduce poverty and lower HIV prevalence. A key starting point would be to abolish school fees, which will encourage poor families to enrol their children in school.
- Investing additional funds in children, through both increased official development assistance and improvements in the quality of national public finances.

Childhood is the foundation of the world's future. Many are already contributing, at all levels and in innovative ways, to ensuring that every child enjoys their right to a childhood. Many more must follow their example.



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# SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	665,496,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	340,099,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	112,679,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	46	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	104	54
Under-five mortality rate (2003)	175	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	14	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	940	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	58	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	61	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	57	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	36	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	74	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	60	78
Polio3	63	79
Measles	62	77
Hepatitis B3	30	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	496	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	0.4	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	38	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	43	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	no data	12
education	no data	5
defence	no data	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	11	18
highest 20 per cent	59	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	7.5	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	25,000,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	1,900,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	12,300,000	15,000,000

# MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	362,498,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	153,400,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	44,212,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	67	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	45	54
Under-five mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	56	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	15	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	220	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	79	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	63	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	87	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	72	58
Percentage of of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	88	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	87	78
Polio3	87	79
Measles	88	77
Hepatitis B3	71	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	1,465	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	2.0	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	15	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	3	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	4	12
education	14	5
defence	13	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	17	18
highest 20 per cent	46	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	0.3	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	510,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	22,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	no data	15,000,000

# SOUTH ASIA

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	1,436,478,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	584,618,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	171,284,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	63	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	67	54
Under-five mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	92	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	30	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	560	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	75	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	54	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	84	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	35	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	82	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	71	78
Polio3	72	79
Measles	67	77
Hepatitis B3	no data	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	511	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	3.6	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	7	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	32	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	2	12
education	2	5
defence	15	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	21	18
highest 20 per cent	42	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	0.7	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	5,000,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	130,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	no data	15,000,000

# EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	1,928,182,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	593,672,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	154,424,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	69	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	31	54
Under-5 mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	40	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	8	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	110	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	90	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	87	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	78	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	50	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	91	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	86	78
Polio3	87	79
Measles	82	77
Hepatitis B3	66	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	1,426	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	6.2	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	6	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	15	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	1	12
education	8	5
defence	11	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	16	18
highest 20 per cent	47	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	0.2	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	2,400,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	39,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	no data	15,000,000

# LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	537,825,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	197,133,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	55,677,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	70	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	27	54
Under-five mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	32	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	10	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	190	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	93	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	89	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	89	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	75	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	96	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	89	78
Polio3	91	79
Measles	93	77
Hepatitis B3	73	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	3,311	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	1.3	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	44	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	10	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	6	12
education	16	5
defence	4	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	10	18
highest 20 per cent	60	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	0.7	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	2,000,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	48,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	no data	15,000,000

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	406,157,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	107,963,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	25,526,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	70	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	34	54
Under-five mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	41	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	9	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	64	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	87	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	97	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	91	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	81	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	95	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	88	78
Polio3	89	79
Measles	90	77
Hepatitis B3	81	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	2,036	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	-0.5	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	102	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	6	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	4	12
education	5	5
defence	9	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	17	18
highest 20 per cent	47	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	0.6	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	1,300,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	8,100	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	no data	15,000,000

# INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	949,593,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	206,750,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	54,425,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	78	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	5	54
Under-five mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	6	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	7	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	13	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	96	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	no data	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	100	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	100	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	no data	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	95	78
Polio3	93	79
Measles	92	77
Hepatitis B3	62	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	28,337	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	1.8	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	2	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	no data	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	15	12
education	4	5
defence	10	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	19	18
highest 20 per cent	42	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	0.4	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	1,600,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years) living with HIV/AIDS	17,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	no data	15,000,000

# DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

## Basic indicators

INDICATOR	REGION	WORLD
Total population (2003)	5,083,370,000	6,286,228,000
Population under 18 (2003)	1,924,210,000	2,183,635,000
Population under five (2003)	552,742,000	618,227,000
Life expectancy at birth (2003)	62	63
Infant mortality rate (under one), per 1,000 live births (2003)	60	54
Under-five mortality rate, per 1,000 live births (2003)	87	80
Percentage of infants with low birthweight (1998-2003)	17	16
Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births (2000 adj.)	440	400
Net primary school enrolment/attendance (1996-2003)	78	80
Adult literacy rate (2000)	74	80
Percentage of population using improved drinking water sources (2002)	79	83
Percentage of population using adequate sanitation facilities (2002)	49	58
Percentage of 1-year-old children immunized (2003) against:		
Tuberculosis	85	85
DPT3 (diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus)	76	78
Polio3	77	79
Measles	75	77
Hepatitis B3	40	42

## Economic indicators

GNI per capita (US\$) 2003	1,255	5,488
GDP per capita (US\$) annual growth rate (1990-2003)	3.7	2.1
Average annual rate of inflation (1990-2003)	25	7
Percentage of population living on less than \$1 a day (1990-2002)	22	21
Percentage of central government expenditure (1992-2002) allocated to:		
health	3	12
education	10	5
defence	10	10
Percentage share of household income (1990-2002):		
lowest 40 per cent	15	18
highest 20 per cent	50	43

## HIV/AIDS

Adult prevalence rate (per cent, 15-49 years)	1.2	1.1
Estimated number of adults and children (0-49 years) living with HIV/AIDS	34,900,000	37,800,000
Estimated number of children (0-14 years ) living with HIV/AIDS	2,100,000	2,100,000
Estimated number of children (0-17 years) orphaned by HIV/AIDS	15,000,000	15,000,000

## Childhood

- Number of children in the world: 2.2 billion.
- Number of children living in developing countries: 1.9 billion.
- Number of children living in poverty: 1 billion – every second child.
- The under-18 population in: Sub-Saharan Africa: 340 million; Middle East and North Africa: 153 million; South Asia: 585 million; East Asia and Pacific: 594 million; Latin America and Caribbean: 197 million; and in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS): 108 million.

## Shelter, water and health care

- 640 million children in developing countries live without adequate shelter: one in three.
- 400 million children have no access to safe water: one in five.
- 270 million children have no access to health services: one in seven.

## Education, communication and information

- More than 121 million primary-school-age children are out of school; the majority of them are girls.
- Number of telephones per 100 people in Sweden, 162; in Norway, 158; in South Asia, 4.
- Number of Internet users per 100 people in Iceland, 65; in Liechtenstein, 58; in Sweden, 57; in the Republic of Korea and the United States, 55; in Canada, Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands, 51; and in South Asia, 2.

## Survival

- Total number of children younger than five living in France, Germany, Greece and Italy: 10.6 million
- Total number of children worldwide who died in 2003 before they were five: 10.6 million. Most of these deaths could have been prevented.
- Daily toll of children in the world who die before their fifth birthday: 29,158
- The number who die each day because they lack access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation: 3,900; those who die each year: 1.4 million.
- Ranking of the 10 countries where children are most likely to die before their fifth birthday, in descending order: Sierra Leone, Niger, Angola, Afghanistan, Liberia, Somalia, Mali, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea-Bissau.

## Immunization

- Percentage of infants who receive DPT3 vaccine: 76.
- Number of infants vaccinated each year: 100 million.
- Number of child lives that could be saved each year through routine immunization: 2.2 million.

## Malnutrition

- Percentage of infants with low birthweight: in Yemen, 32; Sudan, 31; Bangladesh, 30; India, 30; and Sweden, 4.
- Percentage of children under five who are moderately and severely underweight: in Sub-Saharan Africa, 29; Middle East and North Africa, 14; South Asia, 46; East Asia and Pacific, 17; Latin America and Caribbean, 7; and in CEE/CIS, 6.
- Percentage of children under five who are severely underweight: in Sub-Saharan Africa, 8; Middle East and North Africa, 2; South Asia, 16; East Asia and Pacific, 3; Latin America and Caribbean, 1; and CEE/CIS, 1.

## Life expectancy

- Life expectancy for a child born in Japan in 2003: 82 years; number of Japanese children who died before they were five years old: 5,000.
- Life expectancy for a child born in Zambia in 2003: 33 years; number of Zambian children who died before they were five years old: 82,000.
- Worldwide life expectancy has increased by seven years in the past 30 years: from 56 to 63.
- Increase in life expectancy in Middle East and North Africa since 1970: 16 years.
- Number of countries in Africa where life expectancy has declined since 1970: 18.

## HIV/AIDS

- Percentage of 15- to 49-year-olds in Botswana who are HIV-positive: 37.3; in Swaziland, 38.8.
- Number of children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS worldwide: 15 million; the number of children living in Germany: 15.2 million; the number in the United Kingdom: 13.2 million.
- Estimated number of children under 14 years old in sub-Saharan Africa who are HIV-positive: 1.9 million; the number of children under five living in Spain: 1.9 million.
- Total number of new HIV infections in 2003: 5 million; number among people under the age of 25: > 2.5 million.
- Global number of people living with HIV/AIDS: 38 million; number between 15 and 24 years old: > 10 million; number of these who are female: 6.2 million.

## Cost of treating HIV/AIDS

- Percentage of adults in Mozambique who are infected with HIV: 12.
- Approximate lowest possible cost of generic antiretroviral therapy for one year: \$300.
- Per capita annual income in Mozambique: \$210.
- Percentage of people in developing countries who need antiretroviral therapy but do not have access to it: 93.

## **Conflict**

- Number of major armed conflicts from 1990 to 2003: 59. Number of these conflicts that involved war between countries: 4.
- Number of the world's 20 poorest countries that have suffered a major civil war in the past 15 years: 16.
- Estimated number of children killed in conflicts since 1990: 1.6 million.
- Estimated rise in the under-five mortality rate during a 'typical' five-year war: 13 per cent.
- As many children have been forced by conflict or human rights violations to leave their homes as there are children under five living in the United States: 20 million.
- Number of children killed in Rwanda in 90 days in 1994: 300,000; number of children born in Canada in 2003: 319,000.
- The number of times the children of Iraq have been caught up in conflict in the past 20 years: 3. Almost half the population is under the age of 18.
- Total number of years Iraq was under comprehensive UN sanctions: 12.
- Estimated number of hazardous sites in Baghdad, mostly related to cluster bombs and caches of dumped ammunition: 800.
- Total number of primary schools in Iraq: 14,000; schools without an adequate water supply or sewage system in Iraq: 7,000; those without a supply of safe water: 3,700.
- Cost of basic education supplies for Iraqi children of primary school age: \$5.
- Gross female enrolment in Iraqi secondary schools, as a percentage of males: 62; world average: 92.

## **Protection abuses**

- The number of children trafficked each year is the same as the number of children under five living in Australia: 1.2 million.
- The number of children sexually exploited in the multibillion-dollar commercial sex industry is the same as the number of children living in Belgium: 2 million.

## **A willing world can end poverty, conflict and HIV/AIDS**

- Number of Millennium Development Goals: 8; those related to children: 8.
- Estimated annual cost required to meet the Millennium Development Goals by 2015: \$40 billion-\$70 billion. World military spending in 2003: \$956 billion.
- Members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee: 22. Percentage of gross national income that the UN recommends they devote to official development assistance: 0.7. Number of countries that met or exceeded the target in 2002: 5.
- Total number of countries that have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child: 192; countries that have not yet ratified the Convention: 2.
- Countries that have ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict: 82.
- Countries that have ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography: 83.

\* See *Statistical Tables, pages 103-145 of The State of the World's Children 2005.*

“Only as we move closer to realizing the rights of all children will countries move closer to their goals of development and peace.”

Kofi A. Annan  
Secretary-General of the United Nations

*The State of the World's Children 2005* focuses on how poverty, conflict and HIV/AIDS threaten the ideal of childhood as a time for children to grow and develop to their full potential.

This year, in addition to the print version of the report, *The State of the World's Children 2005* is also available on CD-ROM. This is an exciting new product with many features that enhance the print report.

**The CD-ROM includes:**

- *The State of the World's Children 2005*
  - Abridged interactive version (HTML)
  - Full text version (PDF)
- Downloadable photos and charts
- Feature stories
- Maps
- Multimedia presentations
- Statistical tables
- Videos
- Useful links and resources

**Minimum technical requirements:**

- Internet Explorer 5.5 (for optimum results, use Internet Explorer 6 or higher)
- Macromedia Flash 6 or higher (for videos)
- Adobe® Acrobat® (for PDF downloads)

The CD-ROM also holds DevInfo, an easily accessible database of indicators for monitoring progress on global and national commitments to sustained human development. (This version of DevInfo has been adapted for *The State of the World's Children 2005* and does not contain the full set of indicators.)

For additional updates and features from *The State of the World's Children 2005*, go to [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org). For further information on DevInfo, visit [www.devinfo.org](http://www.devinfo.org).

**The world must recommit to its moral and legal responsibilities to children – one billion of them robbed of their childhood, living in poverty, in countries in conflict, in communities besieged by HIV/AIDS.**

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