Pictorial representations of children’s and young people’s opinions expressed in polls and surveys, and of children’s views on a world fit for children. The selected indices illustrate elements of the children’s vision set against challenges to their well-being.

MAPS

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In surveys and consultations around the world, children told what they think and what they know about issues that affect them.

- A high proportion of children and young women report having very little or no information on HIV/AIDS.

- Young women usually know less about HIV/AIDS than young men, and female HIV prevalence rates are higher.

- Despite largely positive relationships with parents, almost half of the children polled believe that their opinions are not considered when decisions that directly concern them are taken at home.

- With unemployment in Arab League countries at 15%, jobs and education top the list of concerns among 13- to 20-year-olds polled.

### Children’s involvement in domestic decision-making

The responses of children aged 9-18 who were asked if they are consulted before decisions are taken at home, regional average and selected countries


*Responses include: “No/not enough/it depends, sometimes yes, sometimes no.”*
**WHAT THE CHILDREN THINK**

### Knowledge of HIV/AIDS

Percentage of young women aged 15–24, in selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa, who feel they have sufficient knowledge to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS


The views of children aged 9–18 years on the information available on HIV/AIDS, in selected regions


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**Where the children are**

Under-18-year-olds as proportion of total population, 2001

- **50% and over**
- **25%–49%**
- **Under 25%**
- **No data**

**Source:** United Nations Population Division.

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**What the children think**

The views of children aged 9–18 years on the information available on HIV/AIDS, in selected regions


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**What are the key issues for youth in Arab states?**

The responses of 13- to 20-year-olds surveyed in 2001

- **Job opportunities**
- **Education**
- **Environment**
- **Poverty**
- **Participation in politics**
- **Health care**
- **Rich/poor divide**

**Source:** UNDP, Regional Bureau for Arab States, Arab Human Development Report 2002. Numbers in pie charts rounded.

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**This map does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.**
In a statement made at the UN Special Session on Children, children asked world leaders to ensure every child’s right to health care, education and healthy environments.

- Children who are not registered at birth are denied their identity, a recognized name and a nationality – all imperative for participation in society. In 2000, over 50 million babies were not registered, 41% of births worldwide.

- Nearly 120 million primary-school-age children are not in school, 53% of them girls.

- Millions of children under five die each year from diseases easily preventable by vaccines.

- Increases in greenhouse gases – such as carbon dioxide – caused by human activities contribute to global warming and climate change, which may lead to famines and other catastrophes.

- Children’s participation, for example in peer groups, is essential to their healthy growth and development.
WHAT THE CHILDREN WANT*
Health, education, healthy environment

School enrolment
Proportion of children enrolled in or attending primary school, 1995–2001

- Under 50%
- 50%–74%
- 75%–89%
- 90% and over
- No data

Countries where fewer than 40% of girls are enrolled in school and/or the gender gap is greater than 10%, 1997–2000

Source: UNESCO/UNICEF.

CO₂ emissions
Countries emitting more than 1 billion metric tonnes of CO₂, 1996–1998

Countries emitting 100 million–999 million metric tonnes of CO₂, 1996–1998


Immunization 2001
Percentage of one-year-olds fully immunized against DPT
Source: WHO/UNICEF.

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Children told world leaders at the Special Session on Children what they want: an end to poverty, exploitation and war.

- With poverty a major factor, 150 million children in developing countries are underweight, which increases the risk of death and inhibits mental and physical development.

- Since 1990, over 2 million children have been killed and 6 million have been seriously injured in wars.

- Legally binding, ILO Convention No. 182 protects children from abuse and exploitation. Some 180 million children aged 5–17 are believed to be engaged in the worst forms of child labour – one child in every eight worldwide. Every year, 1.2 million children are trafficked.

- 14 million children currently under 15 years old have lost one or both parents to AIDS.
WHAT THE CHILDREN WANT*

Protection

Hunger
Percentage of children under 5 years old who are moderately or severely underweight, 1995–2001

- 40% and over
- 20%–39%
- 5%–19%
- Under 5%
- No data

Source: UNICEF.

Armed conflict
Countries where major armed conflict took place in 2001


Child labour
States that have not ratified ILO C182 Worst Forms of Child Labour, as of September 2002

Source: ILO.

Children orphaned by AIDS
Countries where over 50% of orphans aged 0–14 years lost one or both parents to AIDS, 2001


This map does not reflect a position by UNICEF on the legal status of any country or territory or the delimitation of any frontiers. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.
General notes on the maps

These maps are based on UNICEF opinion polls, on consultations with children throughout the world, on various data sources and on the statement ‘A World Fit for Us’, delivered at the UN Special Session on Children in May 2002 (see Panel 8, pages 66-67).

Data sources for illustrations are given on each map. As many countries and territories as space allows have been included. Some countries and island nations are surrounded by a box if an indicator may not otherwise be seen easily.

Map 1. What the children think: UNICEF opinion polls collected representative samples of opinions from boys and girls that illustrate the views of 103 million 9- to 18-year-olds in Latin America and the Caribbean; 93 million 9- to 17-year-olds in Western Europe, CEE/CIS and the Baltic States; and 300 million 9- to 17-year-olds in East Asia and the Pacific. Due to different questions asked in the three regions, the results included here should not be used to compare countries in different regions. This is true for questions that seem the same but differ in the allowed responses. The views children expressed on the information available on HIV/AIDS in these regions are children’s perceptions of their knowledge, not based on any test of their knowledge. The young women in selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa who feel they have sufficient knowledge to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS both correctly identified ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and rejected major misconceptions about HIV transmission or prevention. This indicator is a composite of two prevention methods (condom use and one faithful partner) and these misconceptions. The key issues for young Arabs were sampled from two groups: 15- to 20-year-olds in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in 2001; and 13- to 17-year-old participants from 14 Arab countries at the Arab Children’s Conference, held in Amman, Jordan, in July 2001.


Map 3. What the children want – protection: Hunger and malnutrition are broad terms, each denoting complex issues – food insecurity, poverty, lack of delivery of services, inadequate care and unsafe water, to name a few. Both a cause and a consequence of income poverty, this indicator is shown here as a proxy for a poverty indicator. Using the SIPRI Yearbook 2002, a ‘major armed conflict’ is defined as a contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory over which the use of armed force between the military forces of two parties, of which at least one is the government of a State, has resulted in at least 1,000 battle-related deaths in any single year.