



Why Does Global Health Matter to Maryland?

Probably for more reasons than you think. Even though the term “global health” refers to diseases and health issues that disproportionately affect developing countries, global health matters to Maryland. It matters to the state’s economy and to the health of its residents.

Maryland has global ties . . .

- . . . through trade and commerce.

In 2007, Maryland exported \$8.9 billion worth of goods to 205 foreign destinations. Maryland’s global exports increased by 82 percent over the last five years, which is well above the U.S. average of 61 percent. Some of Maryland’s trade partners are developing countries in Asia, Africa, and South America.

- . . . through foreign investment.

Maryland benefits from foreign investment and the creation of “insourced” jobs – employment by companies that are based outside the United States. In 2006, about 104,100 Marylanders worked for foreign-owned companies, which invest in Maryland’s economy as they expand their operations in the Old Line State.

- . . . through travel and tourism.

Every day, some 800 passengers depart from cities all over the world destined for Maryland’s Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. Among the arrivals are international tourists and business people who spend millions of dollars a year in Maryland, generating wages and jobs that contribute significantly to the state’s economy.

- . . . through its colleges and universities.

In the 2006-2007 academic year, 13,562 foreign students studied at Maryland universities. International students and their families contributed \$364 million to the state’s economy.



Global Ties Benefit Maryland

Maryland's global ties benefit the state's economy, providing billions of dollars in revenue and thousands of jobs. For example, one in nine manufacturing workers in Maryland depends on international exports for his or her job.

These Ties Can Be Jeopardized by Global Health Crises

Maryland's global ties link the state's economic health to the health and economic growth of other countries and regions. When health care crises in other countries threaten economic and political stability, they can end up affecting Maryland as well.

What's the Link between Health and Wealth?

Epidemics and other health crises affect the ability of entire communities to work and limit the potential for economies to develop. The following examples illustrate the link between global health and economic development:

- Malaria costs Africa \$12 billion in lost economic output every year. It is estimated that without malaria, the economic output of several African countries, some of which are important trade partners for Maryland businesses, would be 30 percent greater than it is today. Maryland exports \$957 million worth of goods to Africa every year.
- UNAIDS estimates that the HIV rate in China is rising by 20-30 percent every year. China is a valuable trading partner for Maryland, purchasing nearly \$446 million worth of Maryland exports in 2007 alone.

Research to Improve Global Health Benefits Maryland

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is a world leader in biomedical research that improves health in the United States and around the world. Most of the research that is funded by NIH is conducted on university campuses across the country. NIH awards many grants to Maryland universities, which in turn bring money and jobs to Maryland. In 2007, Maryland received approximately \$1.6 billion in research grants and contracts from NIH, which helped create and support 21,299 new jobs. Maryland's Johns Hopkins University is consistently ranked as the top NIH-funded institution in the United States. Some of this research will go on to spur innovations in medicine that will improve domestic and global health. Grants from NIH bring jobs and higher wages to Maryland at the same time that they help the world to make progress in global health.

“Johns Hopkins University has its eye to the world.”

Based in Baltimore, Maryland, Johns Hopkins University is revered around the world for the quality and quantity of its contributions to the fields of medicine and science. Located in the same state as NIH and other centers of biomedical excellence, Johns Hopkins has delivered important scientific advances that have informed the practice of medicine and public health worldwide.

While Johns Hopkins is known for medical and research excellence, few appreciate the economic impact that the university has had on the state of Maryland. Since 1999, Johns Hopkins has added more than 1,000 jobs a year to its own payroll, while its spending has created an additional 1,000 jobs within Maryland businesses. In all, Johns Hopkins adds at least \$7 billion in income to the Maryland economy every year. In fact, one out of every 28 dollars in the state’s economy comes from Johns Hopkins.



The impact of Johns Hopkins does not end in Maryland, or even in the United States. It has reached into nearly every corner of the globe – from international student exchanges to research initiatives in dozens of countries. Its faculty, alumni, and research programs are leading the work on some of the most pressing global health challenges. For instance, researchers from Johns Hopkins have developed an HIV/AIDS treatment that could cut the transmission of HIV from breastfeeding mothers to their babies by 50 percent. This could potentially save hundreds of thousands of lives in the developing world, where HIV-positive mothers cannot afford to buy formula for their infant children. Other initiatives include the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute, which focuses on basic science research to prevent and cure malaria. At the same time that it is improving economic and job prospects for Marylanders, Johns Hopkins University serves as an ambassador for Maryland and for the United States, using the power of medical research to restore the hope for a healthier and longer life to millions of people.

Conclusion

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are taking the lead in the research and development of drugs and vaccines aimed at improving global health and lessening the impact of deadly diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria.

To find out how we can accelerate the search for better medical technologies, please visit www.familiesusa.org/issues/global-health.

Sources available upon request from Families USA.



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