



# Why Does Global Health Matter to Connecticut?

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 Connecticut. It matters to Connecticut’s economy and to Connecticut’s health.

## Connecticut has global ties . . .

- . . . through trade and commerce.

In 2007, Connecticut exported \$13.7 billion worth of goods to 194 foreign destinations. Some of Connecticut’s trade partners are developing countries in Asia, Africa, and South America.

- . . . through foreign investment.

Connecticut benefits from foreign investment and the creation of “in-sourced jobs” – employment by companies that are based outside the United States. About 100,900 Connecticut residents work for foreign-owned companies, which invest in Connecticut’s economy as they expand their operations in the Constitution State.

- . . . through its colleges and universities.

In the 2006-2007 academic year, 7,403 foreign students studied at Connecticut universities. International students and their families contributed \$218 million to the state’s economy.



## Global Ties Benefit Connecticut

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

## These Ties Can Be Jeopardized by Global Health Crises

Connecticut'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 Connecticut 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 many African countries, some of which are important trade partners for Connecticut businesses, would be 30 percent greater than it is today. Connecticut exports \$204 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 Connecticut, purchasing nearly \$565 million worth of Connecticut exports in 2007 alone.

## Research to Improve Global Health Benefits Connecticut

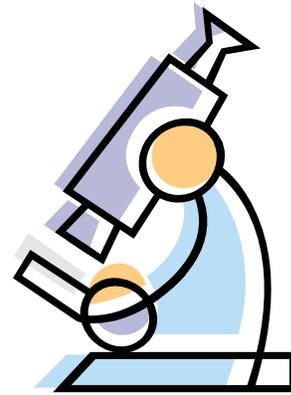
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is a world leader in biomedical research that improves health in the United States and around the world. Most of the research that is funded by NIH is conducted on university campuses across the country. NIH awards many grants to Connecticut universities, which in turn bring money and jobs to the state. In 2007, Connecticut received approximately \$476 million in research grants and contracts from NIH. Some of these grants fund research that will improve global health. In 2006, the Yale School of Medicine received a \$57.3 million Clinical and Translational Science Award from NIH to speed the transition from lab research to patient care. Grants from NIH bring jobs and higher wages to Connecticut at the same time that they help make progress in global health.

## Global Health, Yale University, and Connecticut

Situated in the heart of New Haven, Yale University has nearly 25,000 students and employees. The Yale School of Medicine, whose biomedical research has contributed to the growth of local pharmaceutical and biotech firms, makes the greater New Haven area one of the major biomedical research sites in the nation.

Yale University has produced life-saving medical innovations that may have saved lives here and abroad. For example, in 1992, two Yale scientists, William H. Prusoff, Ph.D. and Tai-Shun Lin, Ph.D., discovered d4T (Zerit), the first HIV/AIDS drug treatment. Since 2001, Zerit has become widely available at no cost to HIV/AIDS patients in the developing countries hardest hit by the epidemic. This has helped to extend the lives of millions of people worldwide.

A consistent leader in biomedical research, Yale School of Medicine ranked fifth in the nation of schools that received the most NIH funding in 2007. As one of the top recipients of NIH grants, Yale attracts some of the world's brightest and most talented scientists who continue to make great strides in global health.



## 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/global-health](http://www.familiesusa.org/global-health).

Sources available upon request from Families USA.



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