



People, Places, and Philanthropy: Responding to HIV in Women and Girls

December 2024

Women and girls around the globe are disproportionately impacted by HIV. Consider that:

- Cisgender women and girls represented 53% of people living with HIV globally in 2022.
- While data remains limited for this population, some studies have shown **almost 20% of transgender women are living with HIV.**¹

HIV philanthropic resources—equivalent to roughly \$2.70/year per woman living with HIV worldwide—will not be enough to address the systemic sexism, transphobia, stigma, economic injustice, and gender-based violence that fuels the epidemic among women.

Distilled from Funders Concerned About AIDS' annual resource tracking report, *Philanthropy's Response to HIV and AIDS: 2022 Grantmaking*,² these data provide an important advocacy tool to drive awareness and mobilize resources to address funding gaps for women and girls globally.

To learn how we define women and girls, please see [page 5](#).

2022 SNAPSHOT

\$55,450,694
total funding



89 funders



797 grants

Women and girls received **\$55 million** in HIV-related philanthropy, a **45% decline in funding** from the prior year and the **lowest level of funding in over 7 years.**

-45%

If you fund women's rights, education, economic advancement, and health, **you too could fight HIV.**

The Need

The Response

WOMEN AND GIRLS

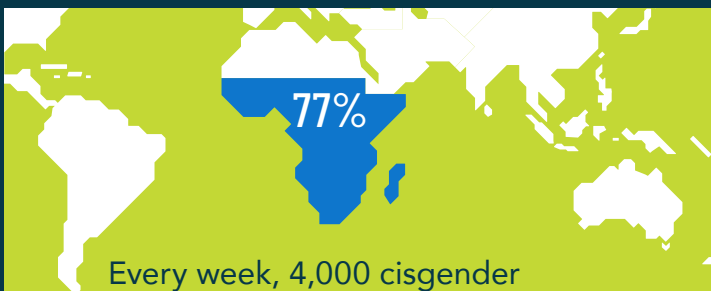
21 million

women are living with HIV globally.



\$55 million in HIV-related philanthropy was directed to women and girls globally, equating to **less than \$3 per woman living with HIV per year.**

ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN



Every week, 4,000 cisgender adolescent girls and young women (15–24 years old) acquired HIV globally in 2023, with 77% of infections occurring in sub-Saharan Africa.³

Only 3% (\$17M) of total HIV philanthropy was directed to adolescent girls and young women in 2022.

3%

WHERE DID FUNDING GO?

82% Sub-Saharan Africa



18% All Other Global Regions

TRANSGENDER WOMEN

20X

The risk of acquiring HIV was **20 times higher** among trans women globally in 2022 compared with other adults aged 15-49 years.⁴

\$8M
Trans women



\$24M
Other Trans Funding

of HIV philanthropy for trans gender communities in 2022 was specified for **trans women.**

WOMEN WHO USE DRUGS



HIV is nearly 2X as prevalent among women who inject drugs as their male counterparts.⁴

Less than 2% (\$1.6M)

of HIV philanthropy for women and girls focused on people who use drugs.

SEX WORKERS

Female sex workers were **30X more likely** to acquire HIV than the general female population in 2019.⁵



Just 2%

(\$14M) of all HIV philanthropy focused on sex workers.

Only \$5M

of that amount was specified for female sex workers.



PREGNANT WOMEN, MOTHERS, AND BABIES

While **84% of pregnant women** living with HIV in 2023 globally had access to antiretroviral medications, coverage varies dramatically by region.⁶ In the Middle East and North Africa, access is as low as **33%**.⁷

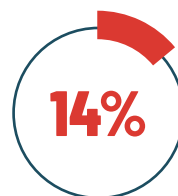
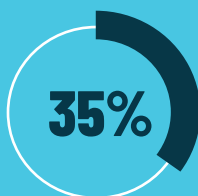


\$18M

in HIV philanthropy reached pregnant women, mothers, and their babies specifically.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

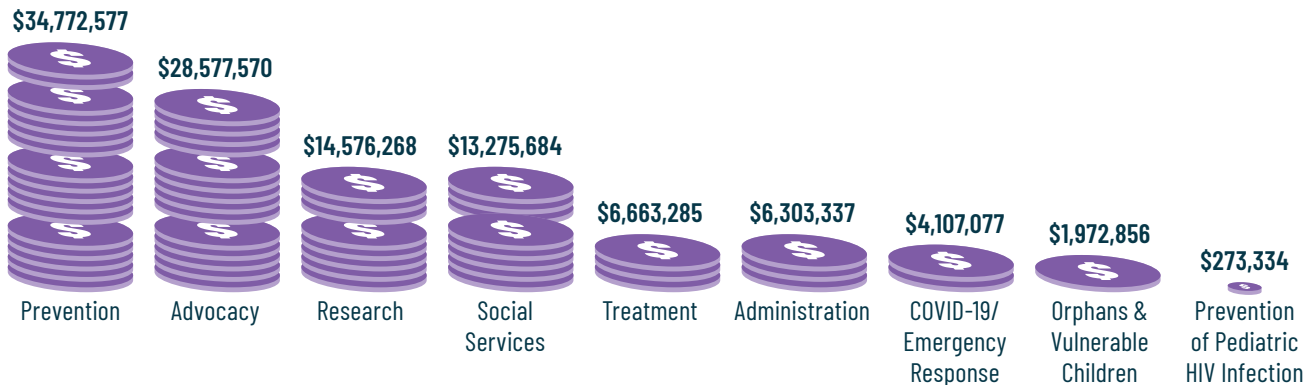
35% of women globally experience intimate partner violence or sexual violence in their lifetime, resulting in a greater risk of acquiring HIV.⁸



14% (\$7.5M) of HIV philanthropy for women and girls mentioned or focused on gender-based violence.

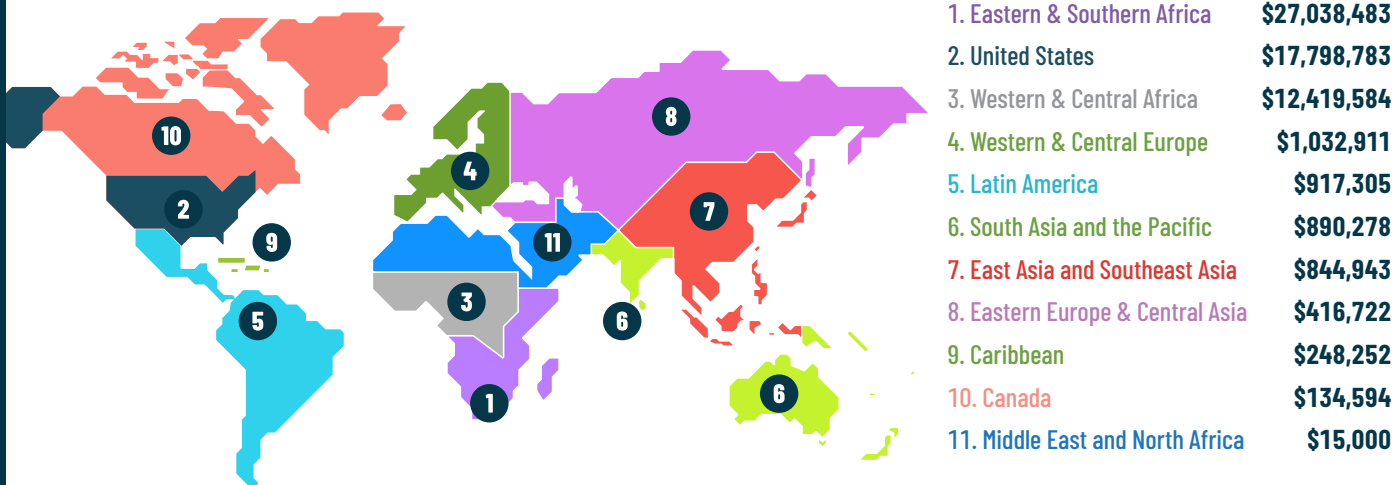
INTENDED USE OF FUNDING

HIV Philanthropy for Women & Girls, by Intended Use of Funding

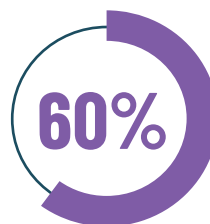
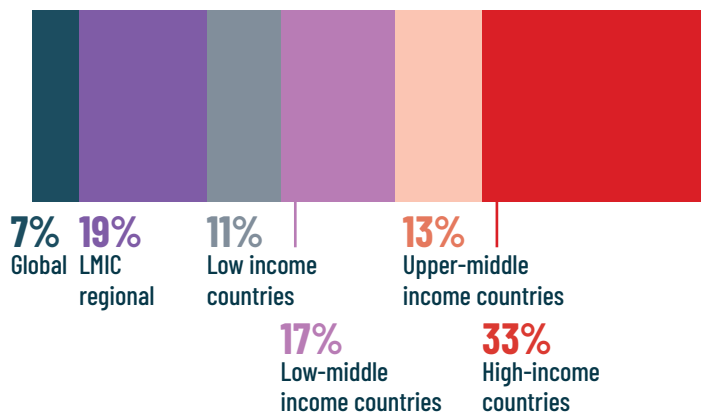


GLOBAL REGIONS

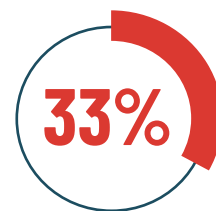
HIV Philanthropy for Women & Girls, by Global Region



HIV Philanthropy for Women & Girls, by Country Income Level



of all HIV philanthropy for women and girls went to low- and middle-income countries and regions.



went to high-income countries and regions, with the vast majority of that (92%) focused on the United States.

TOP 10 HIV FUNDERS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

1. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
2. ViiV Healthcare
3. Gilead Sciences, Inc.
4. Stephen Lewis Foundation
5. Children's Investment Fund Foundation
6. American Jewish World Service
7. Dutch National Postcode Lottery
8. African Women's Development Fund
9. UHAI-EASHRI
10. Wellcome Trust

71%

of HIV-related philanthropy for women and girls came from the top 10 donors.

Who Do We Mean by "Women and Girls"?

While demographic and epidemiological data cited from other sources may be specific to cisgender or transgender women and girls, FCAA's data is inclusive of cisgender and transgender women, *when specified by the funder*. Additional funding for other population categories is identified separately, but not included in the overall funding total. These include pregnant women/mothers and sex workers—which we know to include trans and cisgender women, even when women were not specified by the funder.

Though we understand most HIV funding for transgender people is focused on transgender women, we chose not to include the full amount of this funding in the overall total for women and girls. Many of these grants also include gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM), and often a disproportionate amount of this funding reaches MSM rather than trans women. In an attempt to not to inflate funding to cisgender and transgender women, we have opted to keep this and other overlapping population funding data separate, but draw attention to them throughout.

1. Stutterheim, S. E., van Dijk, M., Wang, H., & Jonas, K. J. (2021). [The worldwide burden of HIV in transgender individuals: An updated systematic review and meta-analysis](#). *PloS one*, 16(12), e0260063.
2. Funders Concerned About AIDS. (2024). [Philanthropy's Response to HIV and AIDS: 2022 Grantmaking](#).
3. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2023). [HIV and adolescent girls and young women: 2023 Global AIDS Update Factsheet](#).
4. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2024). [The urgency of now: AIDS at a crossroads](#).
5. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2021). [HIV and Sex Work](#).
6. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. (2024). [Fact Sheet 2024: Global HIV Statistics](#).
7. UNICEF. (2024). [Elimination of mother-to-child transmission](#).
8. United States Agency for International Development (USAID). (no date). [Ending Gender-Based Violence to End the HIV Epidemic](#).

ABOUT FCAA

Funders Concerned About AIDS (FCAA) unites philanthropic leaders to pursue a shared vision of a world without AIDS. Through research, advocacy, and opportunities for collaboration, we work to help mobilize and grow funding for the ever-changing fight against HIV. Our global network of members and partners represent the majority of HIV-related grantmaking today – providing critical support for the people and places most impacted by the epidemic and more than US\$331 million of funding in 2022. To learn more, please visit fcaaid.org.

