Maternal and Child Health

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
Title III
Funded through Global Health Programs

What are Maternal and Child Health programs?

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programming supports programs aimed at ending preventable maternal and child deaths. The programming strengthens national health systems; treats diarrheal disease, malaria, and pneumonia; improves nutrition and access to safe water and sanitation services; and provides voluntary family planning, immunizations, and immunization support.

What do the funds support?

- Expanding access to quality maternal and newborn care before, during, and after childbirth, and strengthening health care services to reduce the leading causes of child mortality, like diarrhea and pneumonia.
- Efforts to combat maternal mortality with expanded coverage of life-saving interventions such as the prevention and management of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, pre-eclampsia, sepsis, and anemia.
- Improving access to clean water and safe sanitation services and increasing the use of effective hygiene practices.
- Strengthening routine immunization systems and increasing equitable access to vaccines.

Foreign Aid Delivers

Preventing maternal and child deaths relies on sustained investment and integrated health programs focused on MCH, family planning and reproductive health, nutrition, and malaria. In 2021, USAID’s maternal and child health and nutrition programs helped expand access to lifesaving care for more than 59 million women and children globally. MCH programming saves lives while reducing preventable threats which lead to morbidity, disability, and mortality. In the past decade, USAID has delivered 177 million diarrhea and pneumonia treatments for children, postpartum care for 44 million newborns, access to safe drinking water for 49 million people, and training for 14 million health workers on MCH and nutrition. This has resulted in maternal and under-five mortality rates dropping by 42% and 58%, respectively, in USAID’s 25 priority countries. In addition, through USAID’s partnership with Gavi, 888 million people have been immunized and 15 million lives saved in 73 lower-income countries.

Funding History

Funding levels may not accurately reflect those in the appropriations bills and/or reports due to rounding.