

# Why Does Global Health Matter to New Jersey?

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 New Jersey. It matters to the state's economy and to the health of its residents.

# New Jersey has global ties . . .

### • ... through trade and commerce.

In 2007, New Jersey was the ninth largest merchandise exporter among the 50 states, with exports that totaled \$30.8 billion headed to 216 foreign destinations. Some of New Jersey's trade partners are developing countries in Asia, Africa, and South America.

### ... through foreign investment.

New Jersey ranks seventh in the nation in the number of "insourced" jobs—employment by companies that are based outside the United States. In 2006, about 230,500 New Jerseyites worked for foreign-owned companies, which invest in New Jersey's economy as they expand their operations in the Garden State.

## ... through travel and tourism.

Every day, some 13,700 passengers depart from cities all over the world destined for New Jersey's Newark Liberty International Airport. Among the arrivals are international tourists and business people who spend millions of dollars a year in New Jersey, generating wages and jobs that contribute significantly to the state's economy.



### • ... through its colleges and universities.

In the 2006-2007 academic year, 13,100 foreign students studied at New Jersey universities. International students and their families contributed \$369 million to the state's economy.

## Global Ties Benefit New Jersey

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

### These Ties Can Be Jeopardized by Global Health Crises

New Jersey'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 New Jersey 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 valuable trade partners for New Jersey businesses, would be 30 percent greater than it is today. New Jersey exports \$527 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 New Jersey, purchasing nearly \$901 million worth of New Jersey exports in 2007 alone.

### Research to Improve Global Health Benefits New Jersey

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 New Jersey universities, which in turn bring money and jobs to New Jersey. In 2007, New Jersey received \$280 million in research grants from NIH, which helped create and support 3,738 new jobs. Some of these grants were for research that will improve global health. 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 New Jersey at the same time that they help the world make progress in global health.

# A Garden of Growth: Global Health, Bioscience Research, and New Jersey

A state with an already rich history of scientific innovation, New Jersey continues to be a leader in bioscience research and development (R&D). In 2006, FierceBiotech named New Jersey one of the world's top hot spots for biotech



companies. New Jersey supports biotech businesses, university research centers, pharmaceutical companies, and contract research organizations. This has created a dynamic market, contributing to greater employment and economic growth, and it has established the Garden State as an R&D leader in improving health at home and abroad.

This growth in the biotech industry has had a significant positive economic impact on the state, while simultaneously allowing developing countries to move toward healthier societies and healthier economies. In 2006, the industry and associated vendors supported more than 27,000 jobs and generated an estimated income of more than \$1.7 billion for their employees. And bioscience centers such as the International Center for Public Health research tuberculosis (TB) and other infectious diseases that disproportionately affect developing countries.

Johnson & Johnson, one of the world's leading biomedical companies, is based in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Johnson & Johnson operates in more than 57 countries with 120,200 employees worldwide. Invested in scientific innovation to advance health globally, Johnson & Johnson is committed to strengthening the health of its workforce by offering programs that are adapted to the cultural and business needs of the countries in which it operates. For instance, with company offices in countries such as South Africa, Indonesia, and Brazil, in addition to the United States, Johnson & Johnson recognizes that some of its employees may struggle to cope with diseases like HIV. Through its Global Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS, the company provides confidential, non-discriminatory support and treatment to employees and their dependents who are living with HIV/AIDS. For Johnson & Johnson, global health matters: It affects the company, its employees, and ultimately, its success.

### 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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