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U.S. Launches Interactive HIV/AIDS Database on Census.gov

The U.S. Census Bureau today launched an <u>interactive global resource</u> on the prevalence of HIV infection and AIDS cases and deaths. The database was developed in 1987 and now holds 149,000 statistics, an increase of approximately 10,800 new estimates in the last year, making it the most complete of its kind in the world. The launch comes as thousands of people worldwide meet in Washington, D.C., for the <u>International AIDS Conference</u> this week.

The resource is maintained by the Census Bureau with funding from the <u>U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief</u> (PEPFAR) through the <u>United States Agency for International Development</u> (USAID).

U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator Ambassador Eric Goosby, head of PEPFAR, said on the launch, "This release of the HIV/AIDS database will expand global access to data that are critical to understanding the epidemic. This information is invaluable for the evidence-based response PEPFAR is championing."

Census Bureau Director Robert Groves said "This database provides the people who need it with quality statistics — supporting the life-saving efforts of our partners at PEPFAR and USAID and the doctors, nurses and public health officials working to reach the end of AIDS."

The tool is a library of statistics from more than 12,000 articles in international scientific and medical journals, individual countries' annual HIV/AIDS surveillance reports, and papers and posters presented at international conferences.

The menu-driven access tool permits users to search for statistical information in countries and territories across the world, as well as by subpopulation, geographic subarea (such as urban and rural), age, sex and year (back to 1960).

Statistics for the United States are available separately from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.