

# Statistics and Facts

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## Refugees and the Displaced

- By the end of 2014, 59.5 million individuals have been forcibly displaced across the world, which breaks down to 19.5 million refugees, 38.2 million internally displaced persons, and 1.8 million asylum-seekers. *Source: The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), June 2015*
- An estimated 13.9 million persons were newly displaced due to conflict or persecution in 2014. *Source: UNHCR, June 2015*
- Developing countries are host to 86% of the world's refugees, with wealthy countries caring for just 14%. *Source: UNHCR, June 2015*
- Unaccompanied children are arriving in the U.S. at unprecedented numbers. From October 2013 to June 2014, more than 52,000 unaccompanied children were apprehended while crossing the southern border. This is twice the number for the same period last in 2013. Advocates cite violence, gangs, crime, and neglect or abuse as factors driving the migration. *Source: Immigration Advocates Network*
- The top ten countries hosting refugees are Turkey, Pakistan, Lebanon, Islamic Republic of Iran, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya, Chad, Uganda, and China. Together, they host 57% of the world's refugee population. *Source: UNHCR, June 2015*
- 50 percent of the world's refugees are children. *Source: International Refugee Committee*
- Of the 1.5 million internally displaced people in Haiti since the 2010 earthquake, nearly 1.2 million have left camps and relocated. *Source: World Bank*
- Since at least the 1840s, when the Irish potato famine killed 1 million people and drove 2 million overseas, poverty and hunger have been major causes of immigration to the United States. *Source: Bread for the World*
- Today, approximately 40 million immigrants live in the United States—13 percent of the population. About one-fourth of all immigrants to the U.S.—about 11 million people—are unauthorized. *Source: Bread for the World*
- In Sub-Saharan Africa, the number of refugees increased for the fifth consecutive year, standing at 3.7 million by year end. Multiple refugee crises across sub-saharan Africa in recent years have led to the highest such levels observed in two decades. *Source: UNHCR, June 2015*
- In the Asia and Pacific region, the total number of refugees, including individuals in a refugee-like situation, was estimated at more than 3.8 million at the end of 2014, a net increase of about 300,000 persons. *Source: UNHCR, June 2015*
- The United States of America registered an estimated 121,200 individual asylum claims in 2014, a 44% increase from the year before. 42% of all asylum claims in the U.S. were lodged by asylum-seekers from Mexico and Central America. *Source: UNHCR, June 2015*
- “The number of people around the world forced by conflict to flee their homes, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reported, has soared past 51 million, the highest number since World War II. That’s more than six times the population of New York City, emptied into squalid camps.” *Source: New York Times, June 20, 2014 (www.nytimes.com/2014/06/22/opinion/sunday/in-refugee-statistics-a-stark-tale-of-global-strife.html?\_r=0)*

## Poverty

- Nearly 1.5 billion people in developing countries live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 a day. *Source: Bread for the World*
- The extreme poor live on less than \$1.25 a day. Many lack basic sanitation and clean drinking water; they're malnourished and suffer from lack of education. *Source: World Bank*
- 2.5 billion people lack access to proper sanitation; 1.1 billion still practice open defecation. *Source: WHO/UNICEF*
- About 75% of the world's poor people live in rural areas and depend on agriculture for their livelihood. *Source: Bread for the World*

- Most Americans, approximately 51.4 percent, will live in poverty at some point before age 65. *Source: Urban Institute*
- 23 out of every 1,000 children in Vietnam will die before their 5th birthday. *Source: World Bank*
- In Latin America, 1 in every 4 people aged 15-29 is poor or extremely poor. *Source: United Nations Development Program*
- Between 1990 and 2010, the poverty rate across Latin America decreased from 48.4 percent to 31.4 percent, while the rate of indigence - or extreme poverty - fell from 22.6 percent to 12.3 percent. *Source: United Nations*
- Only 17.2 percent of Kenya's government budget is spent on education. *Source: UNESCO*
- African youth are more likely to be underemployed and among the working poor than the general population. *Source: International Labor Organization*

## Hunger

- One in eight people still go to bed hungry in our world. *Source: UNDP*
- Every day, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes. *Source: Bread for the World*
- In the United States, 14.5 percent of households struggle to put food on the table. *Source: Bread for the World*
- More than one in four American children are at risk of hunger. More than one in five children live in households that struggle to put food on the table. *Source: Bread for the World*
- More people escaped poverty during the 2000s than any other decade in history. *Source: Bread for the World*
- Each year, under-nutrition is responsible for as many as 2.6 million deaths of children under age 5, one-third of the total number of children's deaths. *Source: UNICEF*
- World-wide, 1 in 8 persons is under-nourished. That means a total of 870 million in all do not eat enough to be healthy. *Source: World Food Program*
- 870 million people in the world are chronically food insecure. *Source: CARE*
- Nearly half of Pakistan's population of 180 million live in food insecure households. *Source: UNICEF*
- Asia has the largest number of the world's hungry, more than 560 million. *Source: WFP*
- In countries with high levels of childhood malnutrition, the economic loss can be as high as 2-3 percent of GDP. *Source: Bread for the World*
- 14.5 percent of U.S. households struggle to put enough food on the table. More than 48 million Americans—including 15.9 million children—live in these households. *Source: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture*

## Water

- 11 percent of the world's population still doesn't have access to clean drinking water. *Source: UN*
- 783 million people do not have access to clean water and almost 2.5 billion do not have access to adequate sanitation. *Source: UN*
- In Africa alone, people spend 40 billion hours every year walking for water. Women and children usually bear the burden of water collection, walking miles to the nearest source, which is unprotected and likely contaminated. *Source: Charity Water*
- In rural Cambodia, only about 1 out of every 2 people has access to drinking water that is free of disease and pollution. *Source: UN*
- Diseases from unsafe water and lack of basic sanitation kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. *Source: WHO*

- Children are especially vulnerable to water-borne diseases, as their bodies aren't strong enough to fight diarrhea, dysentery and other illnesses. 90% of the 30,000 deaths that occur every week from unsafe water and unhygienic living conditions are in children under five years old. Source: *WHO*
- 3.4 million people die each year from a water related disease. Source: *water.org*

## Gender and Development

- 774 million adults - 64 percent of whom are women - still lack basic reading and writing skills. Source: *UNESCO*
- Women and girls account for six out of 10 of the world's poorest and two-thirds of the world's illiterate people. Source: *UNDP*
- If female farmers had the same access to resources as men, the number of hungry people in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million. Source: *WFP*
- The world's poorest inhabitants - six out of ten of whom are female - are the most severely affected by increasingly longer droughts, more severe storms and flooding, species depletion, soil degradation, deforestation, and other negative alterations to the natural environment. Source: *UNDP*
- Women spend 200 million hours a day collecting water. Source: *water.org*
- About half of all girls worldwide attend schools without toilets. The lack of privacy causes many girls to drop out when they reach puberty. Source: *water.org*
- Women do 66% of the world's work but own only 1% of its property. Source: *IRC*
- "Less than 1% of U.S. foreign aid is specifically targeted to women and girls." Source: *Half the Sky, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn*

## Disasters

- 53% of people affected by disasters live in developing countries. Source: *UN*
- 3 out of every 4 people impacted by disaster worldwide live in Asia. Source: *UN*
- In the context of emergencies, vulnerable groups may include individuals with disabilities, pregnant women, children, elderly persons, prisoners, certain members of ethnic minorities, people with language barriers, and the impoverished. Source: *UC Davis Law Review*
- Wild weather and unpredictable seasons are changing what farmers can grow and is making people hungry. Food prices are going up. Food quality is going down. Soon, climate change will affect what all of us can eat. Source: *Oxfam*
- "Storms, floods, famine, cyclones, drought, typhoons, earthquakes, mudslides, avalanches. Each year for the past decade, an average of 258 million people have lived through some kind of disaster - in total, this is the equivalent of almost half of the world's population." Source: *Christian Aid*
- More than 50 times as many people were affected by disasters in developing countries as in developed countries. Source: *Christian Aid*
- Each year, the death toll from disasters is growing greater - from 84,570 in 1995 to 249,896 ten years later. Source: *Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development*
- "In Bangladesh, an average of 12 to 13 tropical storms strike every year. These storms and cyclones are among the most destructive in the world. While they only contribute around 5% of the global total of storms they account for about 75% of global losses from storms in terms of lives and property." Source: *Christian Aid*
- "In Malawi, poor rains repeatedly result in pitiful harvests. When crops fail up and down the country, thousands of children are reduced to eating just one meal a day or less. It's not lack of rain that leads to this. It is people's poverty that prevents them storing food and having the funds to plant more crops." Source: *Christian Aid*

## Rights and Protection

- There are more than 370 million indigenous peoples living in 90 countries across the globe. Source: UN

## Quotes

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*“Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into the places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish. Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears. Compassion requires us to be weak with the weak, vulnerable with the vulnerable, and powerless with the powerless. Compassion means full immersion in the condition of being human.”*  
- HENRI J.M. NOUWEN

*“A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees.”*  
-AMELIA EARHART

*“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean, but the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.”*  
-MOTHER TERESA

*“There is a nobility in compassion, a beauty in empathy, a grace in forgiveness.”*  
-JOHN CONNOLLY

*“If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion.”*  
-DALAI LAMA XIV

*“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or touched - they must be felt with the heart.”*  
-HELEN KELLER

*“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”*  
-THEODORE ROOSEVELT

*“It is not with your own wealth that you give alms to the poor, but with a fraction of their own which you give back; for you are usurping for yourself something meant for the common good of all. The earth is for everyone, not only for the rich.”*  
- ST. AMBROSE

*“You know, the only time Christ is judgmental is on the subject of the poor. ‘As you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me (Matthew 25:40)’. As I say, good news to the poor.”*  
-BONO

*"I hope my life tries to give testimony to the message of the Gospel, above all that God loves the world and loves those who are poorest within it."*

-GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ

*"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."*

-FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

*"If I see the gift as mine alone to give, I might give hesitantly, even grudgingly, considering my options, then giving from a sense of ought. If I see the gift as God's who allows me to use it for a time, then the gift can flow more freely, as I join with others to be a channel for God's love and mercy."*

-ROBERTA PORTER

*"If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time."*

-MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

*"It just seems to me that as long as we are both here, it's pretty clear that the struggle is to share the planet, rather than to divide it."*

-ALICE WALKER

*"For it is in giving that we receive."*

-ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

*"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."*

-JANE GOODALL

*"Compassion is the sometimes fatal capacity for feeling what it is like to live inside somebody else's skin. It's the knowledge that there can never really be any peace and joy for me until there is peace and joy finally for you too."*

-FREDERICK BUECHNER

*"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."*

-MAYA ANGELOU

*"We were not put on earth to make ourselves happy. The path to true happiness lies in helping others."*

-HELEN CALDICOTT

*“Compassion is not a relationship between the healer and the wounded. It’s a relationship between equals. Only when we know our own darkness well can we be present with the darkness of others. Compassion becomes real when we recognize our shared humanity.”*

-PEMA CHÖDRÖN

*“Giving frees us from the familiar territory of our own needs by opening our mind to the unexplained worlds occupied by the needs of others.”*

-BARBARA BUSH

*“I cannot think of a better definition of Christianity than that: give, give, give.”*

-JAMES I. MCCORD

*“Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege.”*

-JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR.

*“Stewardship is the act of organizing your life so that God can spend you.”*

-LYNN A. MILLER

*“If you think you are too small to make a difference, you haven’t spent a night with a mosquito.”*

-AFRICAN PROVERB

*“Poverty is the greatest form of violence.”*

-GANDHI

*“The churches have to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and shelter the homeless. But they have also to remember that the answer to homelessness is homes, not shelters. What the poor and downtrodden need is not piecemeal charity but wholesale justice.”*

-WILLIAM SLOANE COFFIN

*“Each and every one of us has the opportunity to make choices – moving beyond a question like, ‘How is it that you ask a drink of me?’ and stretching towards holiness, where seeds are planted and harvested, where water is drawn from wells, and where all of us are invited to the feast and to drink without reservation, because we understand in our hearts, in our minds, and in the depths of our souls what it means to be human, and believe that truly, there is enough for all.”*

-JOHN MCCULLOUGH, CEO AND PRESIDENT, CWS

*“The ends you serve that are selfish will take you no further than yourself but the ends you serve that are for all, in common, will take you into eternity.”*

-MARCUS GARVEY

*“The point is not that Jesus was a good guy who accepted everybody, and thus we should do the same (though that would be good). Rather, his teachings and behavior reflect an alternative social vision. Jesus was not talking about how to be good and how to behave within the framework of a domination system. He was a critic of the domination system itself.”*

-MARCUS J. BORG

*“Genuine equality means not treating everyone the same, but attending equally to everyone’s different needs.”*

- TERRY EAGLETON

*“There is more beauty than our eyes can bear, precious things have been put into our hands and to do nothing to honor them is to do great harm.”*

-MARILYNNE ROBINSON

*“All I ever wanted was to reach out and touch another human being not just with my hands but with my heart.”*

-TAHEREH MAFI

*“No one has ever become poor by giving.”*

- ANNE FRANK

*“Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive.”*

-DALAI LAMA XIV

*“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”*

- MAYA ANGELOU

*“That’s what I consider true generosity: You give your all, and yet you always feel as if it costs you nothing.”*

-SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR

*“Compassion is a verb.”*

-THÍCH NHAT HANH

*“Good works is giving to the poor and the helpless, but divine works is showing them their worth to the One who matters.”*

- CRISS JAMI

*“Giving does not only precede receiving; it is the reason for it. It is in giving that we receive.”*

- ISRAELMORE AYIVOR

*"To make an option for the poor is to make an option for Jesus."*  
-GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ

*"Whatever God does, the first outburst is always compassion."*  
-MEISTER ECKHART

*"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."*  
-GANDHI

