

# an overview of Results Canada's issues

Our work to eradicate extreme poverty has the most significant impact by focusing on the key underlying causes of poverty. This document will give you an overview of these critical issues, along with talking points and facts that will help you sound like an expert, advocate effectively, and create positive change. Check out the [issues](#) section of our website or [email us](#) if you have any questions.

## tuberculosis

- Tuberculosis (TB) is a bacterial airborne infection that kills more people each year than any other infectious disease.<sup>1</sup> In 2018 alone, 1.5 million people died from TB and 10 million people fell ill with the disease.<sup>2</sup>
- While anyone can get TB, impoverished or marginalized populations are most at risk of the disease. TB is intimately connected to [social determinants](#) of health and it thrives in communities without consistent access to nutritious food and where the housing quality is poor or densely populated. Outbreaks are common in both the global south and places like Canada's north. The rates of TB for Inuit peoples of Canada are 300 times higher than Canadian-born non-Indigenous people.<sup>3</sup>
- The world is only spending half of what is needed to end the TB epidemic,<sup>4</sup> so financial support for organizations such as the [Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria](#) is crucial to providing treatment for all people affected by this disease.
- Perhaps the most tragic thing about TB and the deaths it causes is that a cure exists, yet a lack of political will makes it difficult to provide all TB patients with equitable access to treatment.
- *Visit our [TB webpage](#) for more information.*
- *Check out our current campaign [here](#). If Results has an active campaign on tuberculosis, use it to formulate your ask!*

## immunizations (child health)

- In 2018, 5.3 million children under the age of five died due to preventable illnesses and diseases.<sup>5</sup> Results Canada plays a leading role in ensuring that the Government of Canada is committed to bringing this number to zero, especially in light of the current government's focus on the education, health, and rights of women and girls.
- Vaccines are some of the most cost-effective health interventions, effectively reducing the rates of infectious diseases such as polio and measles.
- Financial support for multilateral organizations such as [Gavi](#), the [Vaccine Alliance](#) and the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) provide critical immunization programs.
- For every US\$1 spent in countries that [Gavi](#), the [Vaccine Alliance](#) supports, US\$21 is saved in healthcare costs, lost wages, and lost productivity due to illness.<sup>6</sup>
- Governments need to step up and support these coordinated efforts to improve child health.
- Visit our [immunizations webpage](#) for more information.
- Check out our current campaign [here](#). If Results has an active campaign on immunizations, use it to formulate your ask!

## nutrition

- Nutrition is a key building block for health, serving as the foundation for strong individuals and societies; however, no country is on track to meeting all [nine global nutrition targets](#) assessed in 2018.<sup>7</sup>
- Malnutrition affects one in three people globally, including the 149 million children worldwide who were stunted in 2019.<sup>8</sup> Women and children in particular are affected.
- 45% of all child deaths are linked to malnutrition. Poor nutrition compromises the immune system (increasing vulnerability to life-threatening diseases) as well as the development of the body and mind.<sup>9</sup>
- Investing in nutrition yields permanent benefits, with at least a US\$16 return on investment for every US\$1 spent,<sup>10</sup> and children with proper nutrition earning 20% more in adult wages compared to undernourished children.<sup>11</sup>
- Only with the political will to support nutrition can progress be made on improving the health and lives of women and children.
- Visit our [nutrition webpage](#) for more information.
- Check out our current campaign [here](#). If Results has an active campaign on nutrition, use it to formulate your ask!

## water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

- Improving water, sanitation and hygiene is critical to providing basic health services and preventing the spread of infectious diseases, such as diarrhea. Globally, 785 million people don't have clean water close to home, and 2 billion do not have a decent toilet of their own. Diarrhea caused by dirty water and poor toilets kills 1 child under the age of 5 every 2 minutes.<sup>12</sup>
- 31% of schools don't have clean water and 34% don't have clean toilets. This has gendered impacts, resulting in more girls than boys missing school due to lack of proper sanitation facilities needed while menstruating.<sup>13</sup>
- Simple solutions such as proper hand washing and water access in hospitals and schools can reduce maternal and child deaths globally; however, greater political will is needed to promote and fund universal access to water, sanitation, and hygiene.
- Visit our [water and sanitation webpage](#) for more information.
- Check out our current campaign [here](#). If Results has an active campaign on water, sanitation, and hygiene, use it to formulate your ask!

Email us if you have any questions or would like to know more about these issues.

Updated: May 2020

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization – Tuberculosis 2019

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization – Global Tuberculosis Report 2019

<sup>3</sup> Government of Canada – Actions Towards Eliminating Tuberculosis Across Inuit Nunangat

<sup>4</sup> Global Fund Advocates Network – Get Back on Track Report 2018

<sup>5</sup> World Health Organization – Children: reducing mortality 2019

<sup>6</sup> Gavi – Facts and Figures

<sup>7</sup> UNICEF – Press Release on 2018 Global Nutrition Report

<sup>8</sup> Nutrition for Growth – Why Nutrition

<sup>9</sup> AGA Khan Foundation Canada – Five surprising facts about global nutrition 2015

<sup>10</sup> Nutrition for Growth – Why Nutrition

<sup>11</sup> WHA – Global Nutrition Targets 2025: Stunting Policy Brief

<sup>12</sup> WaterAid – Facts and Statistics

<sup>13</sup> WaterAid – Facts and Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Global WASH Fast Facts