

The Washington, DC Primer: Advocating for R&D Funding – The Who, What, Where, Why, & How

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Where Does Global Health Funding Come From?

How much do you think the US spends on foreign aid?

- 25%
- 15%
- 5%
- 1%

Answer

1%

Who is the largest funder of Neglected Disease R&D?

- Gates Foundation
- Industry
- Wellcome Trust
- US National Institutes of Health
- European Commission
- US Department of Defense

Answer

6. US Department of Defense
5. European Commission
4. Wellcome Trust
3. Gates Foundation
2. Industry
1. US National Institutes of Health

How much did NIH spend in 2014 on Neglected Diseases?

- \$5.2 billion
- \$2.7 billion
- \$1.3 billion
- \$900 million

Answer

**\$1.298 billion of out of
\$32 billion**

True or False?

- True or False: Funding for Neglected Disease Research went down in 2014?

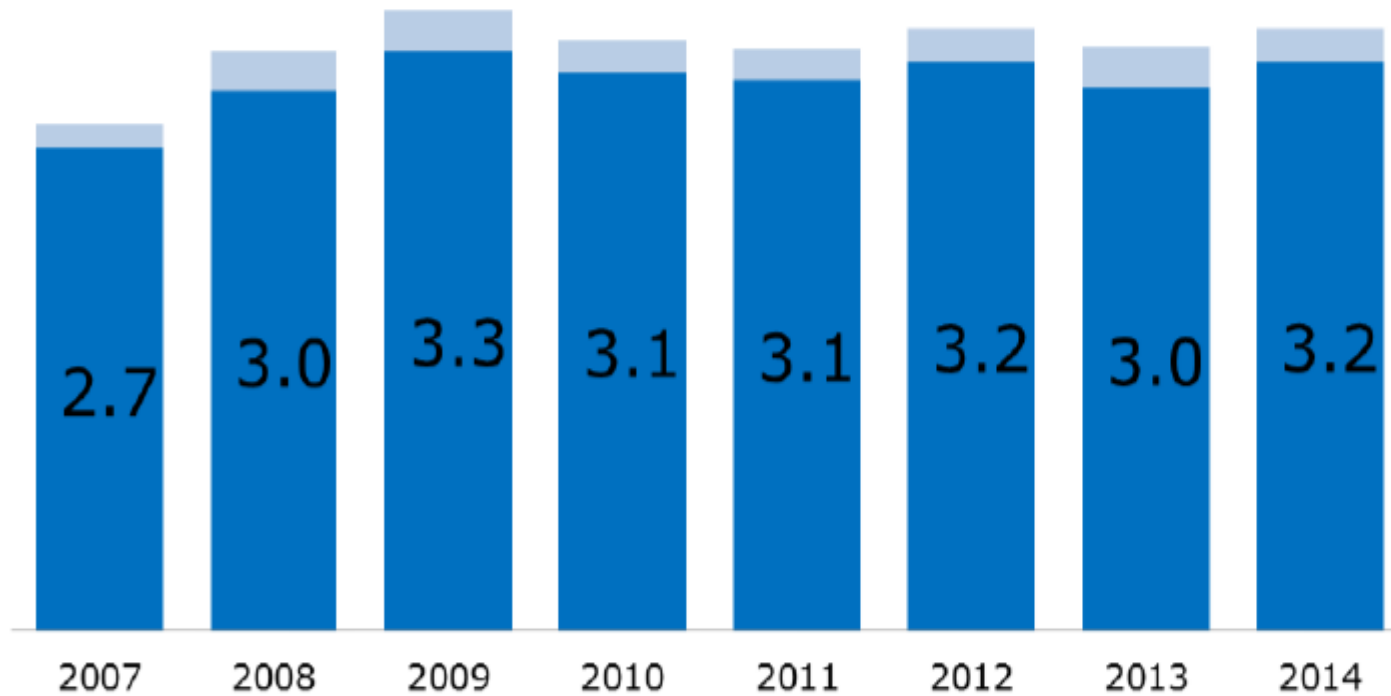
A: Both

- True or False: Funding for the big 3 (HIV/AIDS, malaria, and TB) went up in 2014?

A: Yes, largely due to increased investment in malaria R&D (up \$56m, 11%). TB funding was also slightly higher (up \$13m, 2.3%), with funding for HIV/AIDS essentially flat (down \$5.6m, -0.5%).

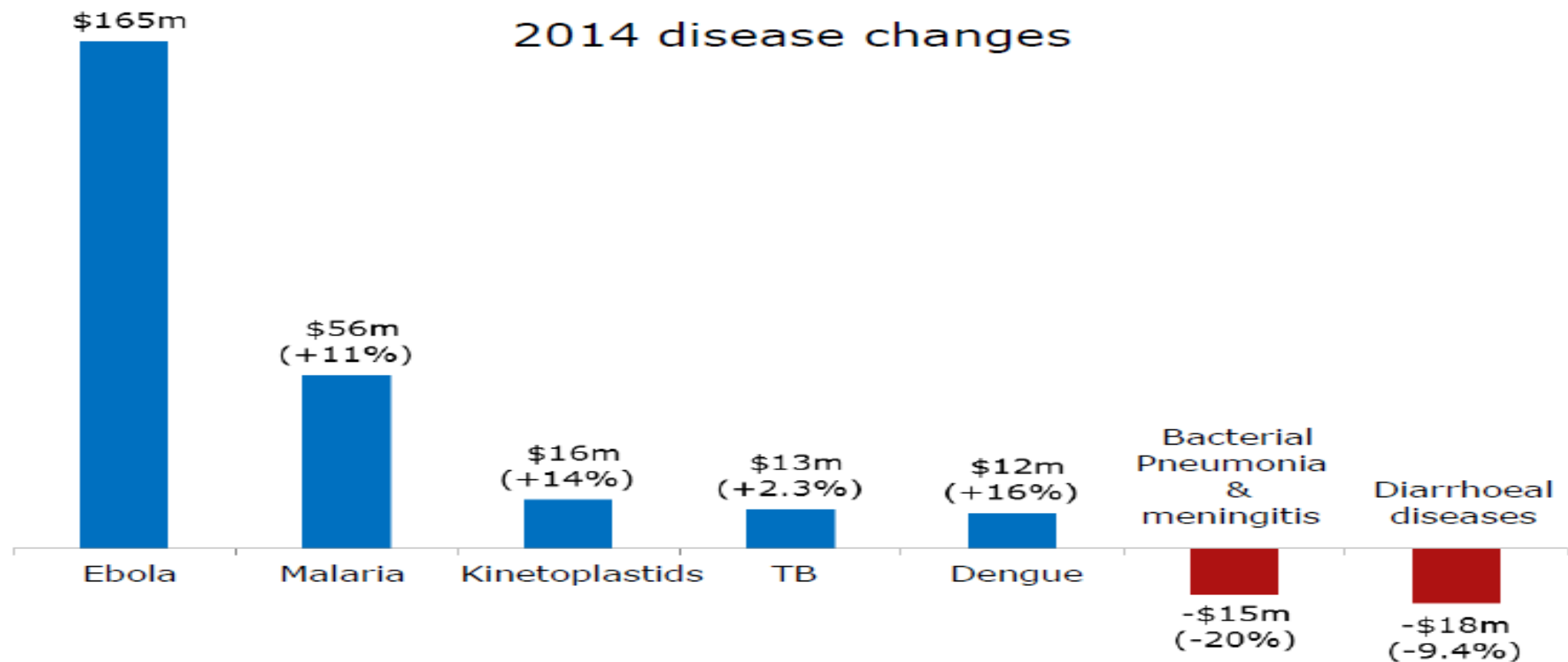
The Facts

Total funding 2007-2014 (US\$, billions)

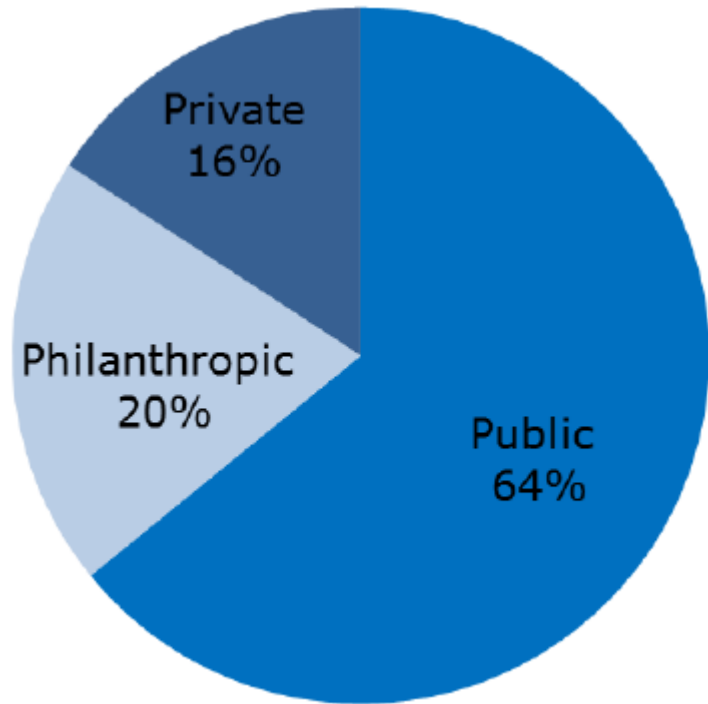


↑ \$150m

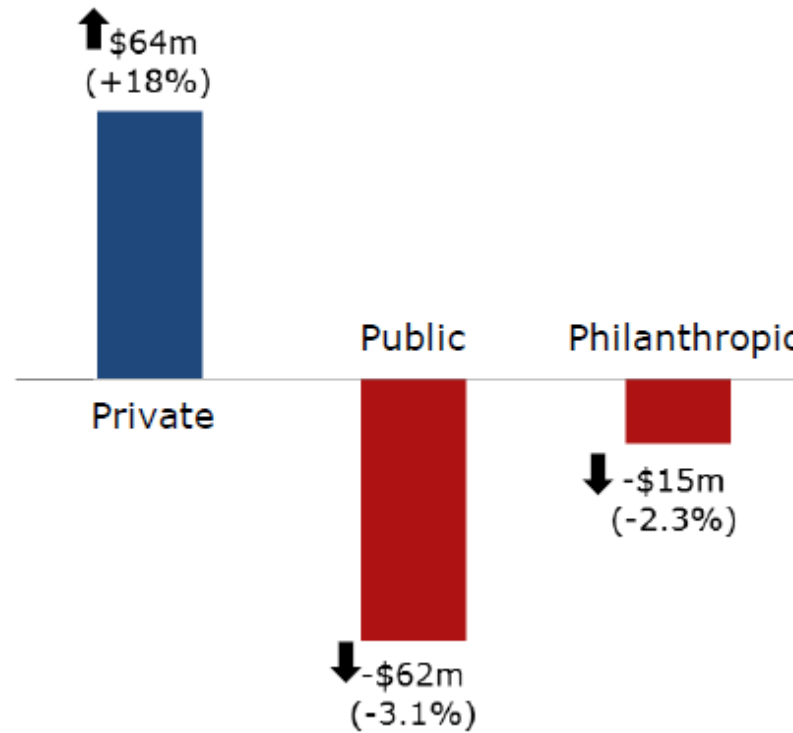
R&D Funding by Disease



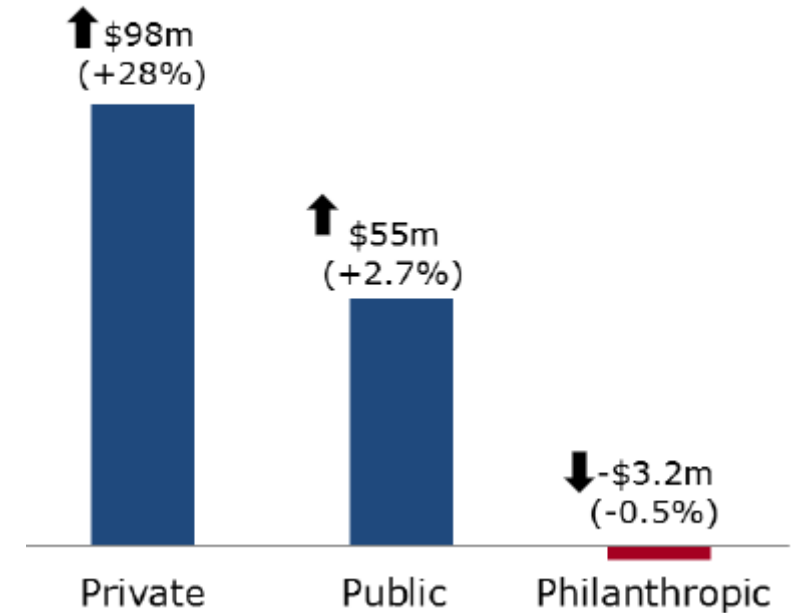
Who is Investing How Much?



2014 funding change – without Ebola



2014 funding change – with Ebola



US Government funding

- The US is the largest investor
- Contributes over 2/3 of global public funding (\$1.529m, 71%)
- NIH
- CDC
- USAID
- DOD

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

- Conducts basic science, research, and is the largest source of funding for medical research in the world
 - \$1.298 billion in neglected disease research in 2014
 - \$32 billion for NIH in fiscal year (FY) 2016
-
- Global health a small part of what they do
 - Everyone lobbies Congress for their disease/need
 - Still digging itself out of sequestration cuts

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- Responsible for public health, advising, monitoring & evaluation, health programs, health systems, planning, and emergency response
-
- CDC overall funding for FY 2016 = \$7.2 billion
 - CDC Parasitic Diseases and Malaria FY 2016 = \$24.5 million
 - Center for Emerging & Zoonotic Infectious Disease FY 2016 = \$527 million

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

- Implementers, fund global health programs
 - USAID ND R&D \$77 million (2014)
 - USAID Global Health & Child Survival \$2.8 billion in FY 2016
-
- USAID global health programs have fared OK so far but...
 - US public thinks we spend 25% of our budget on foreign assistance... We spend 1%

Department of Defense (DoD)

- R&D for tools to protect servicemen and women
 - DoD's role in global health R&D unknown
 - 2014 ND R&D funding was \$96 million
-
- Facing tremendous budget pressure and significant cuts
 - Very few policymakers appreciate DoD's contribution to global health
 - Important contribution to global health but small amount of funding in DoD budget terms

US Congress in Global Health



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- The US government is the largest funder of global health R&D
- US funding is decided every year
- Most Members of Congress do not understand science
- Most Members of Congress do not understand US impact of global health research
- Most groups advocating for global health do not have US constituents
- Members of Congress hear from patient advocates all the time

Do you live in one of these states?

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arkansas
- California
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- New Hampshire
- New Mexico
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Vermont
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin

So how the heck do you advocate? Tips

- Plan on 10 minutes – everything else is gravy.
- Be clear, brief, polite, & honest.
- Introduce yourself and your job and why you are here.
 - “My name is Jodie Curtis and I am run the global health program at the University of Wisconsin. I would like to talk to you about global health R&D funding.”
- Thank the staffer for the meeting and any previous support.
- Ask the staffer if he or she is familiar with global health or what issues they have in their portfolio.

So how the heck do you advocate? Tips

- Provide a brief background on issues and tie issues back to the U.S., if possible. Personalize your comments as much as you can when speaking with the staff.
 - They are not experts – keep it simple, do not overwhelm him or her with scientific information and data, listen and give a chance for the staffer to ask questions.
 - Talk about jobs or US public health contribution, if any.
 - “I know the NIH global health research grants at our university help fund 5 positions and contributed to early research on the Zika virus vaccine.”
- Discuss your specific “ask”.
 - “We are going to continue to face emergencies like Zika and Ebola and we can’t do this crisis by crisis; therefore, I would like Rep. Jones to robustly fund Global Health R&D at NIH, CDC, DoD, and USAID.”
 - You can follow ASTMH’s or another groups “asks.”

So how the heck do you advocate? Tips

- Keep track of any information you have promised and/or if you have been asked for anything.
- Be sure to get the staffer's business card so you can follow up and send your thank you correspondence.
- Offer to be a resource.

DC Specific Tips

- Meeting space is tight - you could meet with staff in the hallway, or be asked to go down to the cafeteria.
 - Members or staff may be late or cancel – it's important to be flexible and understanding.
- Staffers are young and may have little knowledge of global health – be patient and prepared to give them a brief “101.”

Thank You!!

Jodie Curtis

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- *Source: G-Finder 2015: NEGLECTED DISEASE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: THE EBOLA EFFECT: Mary Moran, Nick Chapman, Lisette Abela-Oversteegen, Dr Vipul Chowdhary, Christine Whittall, Rachel Howard, Dr Penny Farrell, Dale Halliday, Catherine Hirst. Download the full report at <http://policycures.org/downloads/Y8%20GFINDER%20full%20report%20web.pdf>*