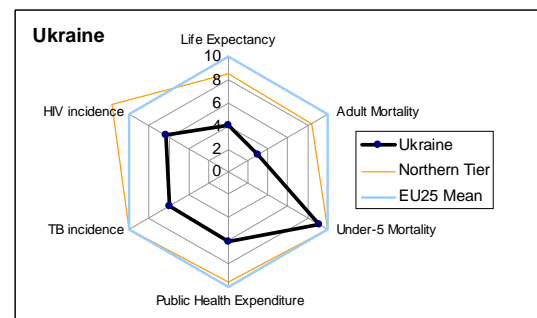


**Overview:** Since independence, the health status in Ukraine has deteriorated for many citizens. To respond to priority health needs, USAID leads a strong results-oriented health program in Ukraine that leverages considerable resources. The new Government of Ukraine has taken significant steps in addressing key health issues by articulating an increased commitment to addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic, approving national rollout of Directly Observed Treatment, Short Course Strategy (DOTS) for tuberculosis, adopting evidence-based maternal and infant health care practices, and developing a National Reproductive Health Program for 2006-2105. In its partnership with the GoU, USAID strives to strengthen health standards and create systems that will make Ukrainians better informed health consumers, while increasing demand for modern services and developing a quality medical workforce. Concurrently, USAID supports development of a civil society that interacts with government to expand access to services and ensure more transparent health management.

### Health Statistics

**Population:** 46.49 million (2007)  
**GDP per Capita (PPP):** \$7,800 (2006)  
**Population below poverty line:** 29% (2003)  
**Life Expectancy:** 68 (2005)  
**Adult Mortality Rate (15-59):** 271 per 1,000 (2005)  
**Under-5 Mortality Rate:** 17 per 1000 live births (2005)  
**Total Health Expenditures per Capita:** US\$89.7 (2004)  
**Public Health Expenditure:** 3.7% of GDP (2004)  
**Reported HIV Incidence:** 242.5 per 1 million (2005)  
**Estimated Tuberculosis Incidence:** 99 per 100,000 (2005)



*Northern Tier refers to the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia.*

### Health Vulnerability Highlights

Non-communicable diseases and injuries, as well as growing infectious diseases, have **reduced life expectancies** from 68 years in 1986 to 61 years for men in 2005 and from 76 for women in 1989 to 73 in 2005. In 2003, the main **non-communicable diseases** accounted for about 80% of all deaths in Ukraine. The World Health Organization estimates that Ukrainians spend about 12% (eight years) of their average life span with illness and disability. The current rate of population decline in Ukraine is 0.8% annually.

Ukraine has one of the fastest growing **HIV/AIDS** epidemics in the world. An estimated 377,600 people or 1.46% of the adult population is infected with HIV. Reported cases rose by over 16 % from 2005 to 2006. The mother-to-child transmission rate is estimated at 10-15% and 11-12% of children born to a HIV-positive mother are abandoned at the maternity hospital. The estimated economic impact of HIV/AIDS by 2044 is a reduction in the GDP of up to 6% and investment by 9%, with a 12% drop in labor supply and productivity.

**Tuberculosis incidence** of 99 cases per 100,000 and one of the highest rates of severe Multi-Drug Resistant TB (MDR TB) in the world make Ukraine vulnerable to deadly Extensively Drug Resistant TB (XDR-TB) if international standards for control are not implemented nation-wide.

Women's access for to adequate care during pregnancy and childbirth remains a serious concern for **mother and child health** in Ukraine. Limited use of modern contraception (38% in Ukraine compared to 70% in the United States) contributes to high rates of abortion which are three times higher than rates in Western Europe.

Ukraine's geographic location places it at great risk for **pandemic avian influenza**. The country reported its first case of bird flu in domestic poultry in December 2005. Since then, multiple outbreaks among wild and domestic birds cause great concern for wider outbreaks with serious health and economic repercussions.

*\*This radar graph compares the health status of a country against EU and E&E regional averages through six health indicators. For each indicator, the EU average is given a score of 10, suggesting ideal performance. A score of 1 is given to the poorest performance in the region. Country performance on each indicator is then scaled against this criterion.*

## USAID Health Programs

### **Maternal and Child Health (MCH)**

Mother and Infant Health Project II (MIHP): MIHP II is currently implemented in 52 maternities in 15 oblasts and cities. The project partners with the Ministry of Health to improve perinatal technologies, based on WHO recommendations and evidence-based medicine. In particular, MIHP advocates for family-oriented perinatal care and warm chain principles for newborns in order to improve overall reproductive and perinatal health.

*Implementer: John Snow, Inc.*

### **Family Planning and Reproductive Health (FP/RH)**

Together for Health: Together for Health is a 5 year project aimed at reducing abortion, unintended pregnancies and STIs by assisting Ukrainians in the adoption of modern FP/RH services and practices through public and private sectors. A key strategy for achieving goals is to foster a shift from a heavy reliance on abortion as a means of birth control to modern methods of contraception by working with health providers, youth, the pharmaceutical sector and the government. The project is currently operating in 7 of 25 oblasts and works with peer educators that reach an additional 6 oblasts. *Implementer: John Snow, Inc.*

### **HIV/AIDS**

Scaling Up the National Response to HIV/AIDS through Information and Services (SUNRISE): This five-year project seeks to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission and improve the care of people living with HIV/AIDS. SUNRISE makes high quality information and services accessible to at least 60% of people at high risk of contracting HIV in the most severely affected regions of the country. *Implementer: International HIV/AIDS Alliance*

Preventing Mother-to Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS (PMTCT): The Mother and Infant Health Project has integrated into its approach activities to prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS from the mother to the infant, to decrease stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, and to improve the mother's health with improved care and access to ARV treatment. *Implementer: John Snow, Inc.*

Families for Children: This three year project seeks to build a continuum of family-based care services for children out of family care. Four primary service areas include: family preservation, foster care, family type homes and domestic adoption. *Implementer: Holt International Children's Services, Inc.*

Reducing Stigma & Discrimination: This four year project supports interventions that give voice to those affected by HIV/AIDS. Efforts include promoting a supportive environment and advocating for legal reforms that protect the rights of those affected by the disease. Other activities include developing a communications campaign and an extensive network of peer educators equipped with the capacity to generate support and public acceptance for people living with HIV/AIDS. *Implementer: International Relief and Development, Inc. (IRD)*

### **Tuberculosis (TB)**

TB Control: This project aims to assist Ukraine to achieve a TB case detection rate of 70% and a treatment success rate of 85% by 2011, thereby contributing to a reduction of TB morbidity and mortality. Activities undertaken shall enable the GoU, in partnership with Ukrainian civil society at national and local levels, to take critical policy and programmatic actions to improve the prevention, detection, and treatment of tuberculosis and TB-HIV co-infection. This will require increasing both the quality and coverage of DOTS based services nationwide. The project also works with national counterparts reviewing current policies to revise national policies for international standards of TB detection and treatment. Finally, activities build provider expertise in TB/HIV co-infection and MDR-TB. *Implementer: Program for Appropriate Technologies in Health (PATH)*

### **Avian Influenza (AI)**

AI projects have delivered personal protective and other necessary equipment, created public education and awareness campaigns, and enhanced AI awareness. AI activities support the GoU by training public health workers and veterinary services workers in disease epidemiology and surveillance, enhancing their capability to detect and contain outbreaks and assist affected communities. *Implementer: International Relief and Development, Inc.*