



U.S. Spending on Global HIV Prevention: A Question and Answer Resource

July 2007

The U.S. Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria Act of 2003 (US Global AIDS Act, Public Law 108-25) is the Congressional Act that authorized \$15 billion for PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief). Within this law, Congress endorsed the "ABC" approach to HIV prevention (Abstain, Be faithful, use Condoms). Congress also mandated within this law that 20% of funds be dedicated to prevention of HIV, and that 33% of those prevention funds be used for abstinence-until-marriage programs (AB), beginning in fiscal year 2006.

Since the law was passed, there has been confusion around how U.S. global HIV prevention money has been spent. This guide attempts to answer some common questions that have been raised by advocates, service providers, and policy makers over the years.

The One-Third Abstinence-Until-Marriage Earmark

Q. What are abstinence-until-marriage programs?

A. There is no definition of abstinence-until-marriage programs in the law. However, the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) has reported to Congress that they count programs that "focus on abstinence and faithfulness" as abstinence-until-marriage.

Q. If programs that promote abstinence and faithfulness also include condoms (and other means of prevention), does the amount of money spent on the abstinence and faithfulness components of those programs count towards meeting the requirement that 1/3 of all HIV prevention funding be spent on abstinence-until-marriage programs?

A. No. Although the U.S. Global AIDS Act does not require programs to be abstinence-until-marriage-only, OGAC has chosen to count only those programs that exclusively promote abstinence or abstinence and fidelity toward meeting the earmark. In other words, programs that include abstinence, fidelity, *and* condom components are not counted toward the earmark.

PEPFAR's Overall Prevention Funding Breakdown

Q. What percentage of prevention funds is spent on sexual transmission of HIV?

A. The exact percentage varies from year to year. In fiscal year 2006, it was 60%.¹

Q. What is included in the other 40%?

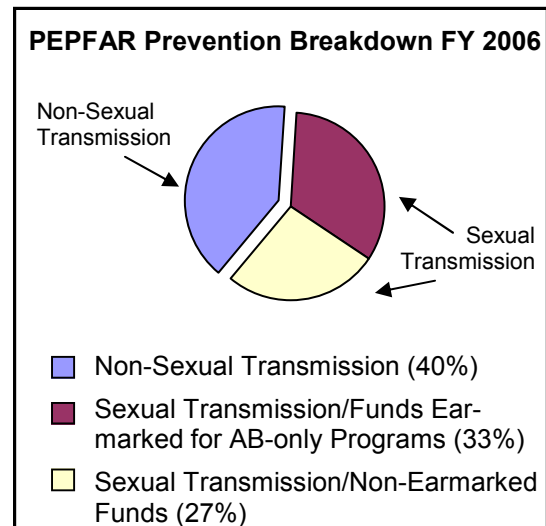
A. Non-sexual transmission prevention spending includes prevention of mother-to-child transmission, ensuring a safe blood supply, and providing clean needles in medical settings.

Q. How does the abstinence-until-marriage earmark fit into this?

A. PEPFAR is required to spend 1/3 of its total prevention budget on abstinence-until-marriage programs; however, this amount comes out of the sexual transmission prevention budget.

Q. What percentage of prevention funding is spent on preventing the sexual transmission of HIV with an approach other than abstinence-until-marriage-only?

A. The exact percentage varies from year to year. In fiscal year 2006, it was 27%.



¹ All percentages in this document are taken from PEPFAR's 3rd Annual Report to Congress, *The Power of Partnerships: The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief*, 2007.

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PEPFAR's Sexual Transmission Prevention Funding Breakdown

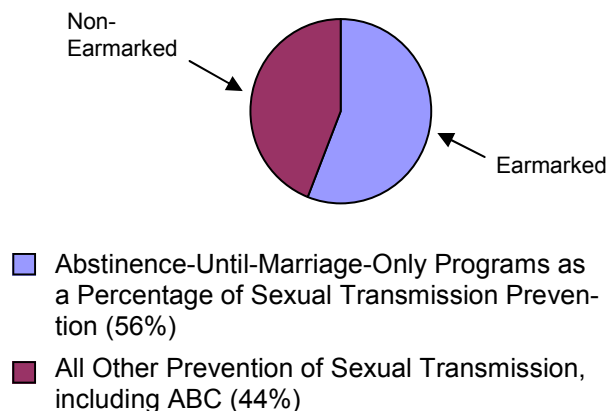
Q. What percentage of funds allocated to prevent the sexual transmission of HIV was spent on abstinence-until-marriage programs in fiscal year 2006?

A. Fifty-six percent of funds for preventing the sexual transmission of HIV was spent on abstinence-until-marriage programs in 2006.

Q. Was the remaining 44% of funding for the prevention of sexual transmission spent on condoms?

A. No. That 44% (27% of total prevention) was spent on a wide variety of other prevention programs that OGAC refers to as "Condoms and Related Activities." (The figure to the right refers to it by a more accurate name, "All Other Prevention of Sexual Transmission.")

PEPFAR Spending on Abstinence-until-Marriage-Only Programs vs. Spending on All Other Programs to Prevent the Sexual Transmission of HIV in FY 2006



Q. What counts as "Condoms and Related Activities"?

A. According to PEPFAR's Third Annual Report to Congress, "Correct and consistent use of condoms and related prevention includes behavior change activities outside of those promoting abstinence and being faithful that are aimed at preventing HIV transmission. Examples include mass media and community outreach programs that promote avoidance of or reduction of HIV risk behavior, community mobilization for HIV testing, and the social marketing or promotion of condoms, including work with high-risk groups such as injecting drug users, men who have sex with men, sex workers and their clients, and people living with HIV or AIDS."

In other words, programs that include *all three* parts of ABC, programs that address alcohol abuse and other contributors to HIV "risk behavior," programs that encourage people to get tested for HIV, and programs that are targeted at "high-risk groups" are all included within that 44%.

Q. So what amount of prevention funding does PEPFAR spend on condoms and programs that include condoms?

A. PEPFAR does not fund any programs that conduct condom-only programming. For any program that includes a condom component, "information about the correct and consistent use of condoms must be coupled with information about abstinence as the only 100% effective method of eliminating risk of HIV infections, and the importance of HIV counseling and testing, partner reduction, and mutual faithfulness as methods of risk reduction."

The U.S. reports spending only for the broad category "Condoms and Related Prevention Activities," so it is difficult to know what part of that 44% of prevention of sexual transmission funding went specifically to condoms and programs that include condoms.

Q. Does that mean that in addition to the 56% of prevention of sexual transmission funds that it spends on abstinence-until-marriage-only programs, PEPFAR also spends money on abstinence and be faithful components of programs that include a condom component?

A. Yes. That additional spending on abstinence and be faithful programs is counted as part of "Condoms and Related Prevention Activities."

Q. So, PEPFAR spends significantly more money on abstinence-until-marriage-only programs than it does on any other sexual transmission prevention intervention, including ABC?

A. Yes. Of all sexual transmission prevention funding in 2006, PEPFAR spent 56% on abstinence-until-marriage-only programs. The other 44% was divided among ALL other responses to the sexual transmission of HIV, including programs that include A, B, and C and programs that target "high-risk groups."

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