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SOME 500 PEOPLE OF SCHOOL-GOING AGE WITH HIV

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 24 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian AIDS Council today clarified that according to Ministry of Health statistics there are about 500 people of school-going age (under 19) and not 500 school-attending students with HIV in the country.

In a statement here today the council said that the "500 people of school-going age" quoted by its president, Puan Marina Mahathir, yesterday was a cumulative figure since 1985 obtained from the ministry.

"The council did not mean to suggest that the HIV-positive youths recorded in the statistics are currently attending school," the statement said.

The statement also said that the council merely intended to highlight the large number of youths with HIV and to stress the importance of including HIV/AIDS education early in the curriculum. -- Bernama