



HIV/AIDS in Canada by the Numbers

General HIV & AIDS Statistics

- **65,000** - Estimated number of people living with HIV/AIDS in Canada in 2008. 26% of these individuals were undiagnosed, which means they could unknowingly transmit HIV.
- **21,300** - Number of AIDS cases reported since 1979.
- **2,300 - 4,500** - New cases of HIV reported each year.

HIV and Gay Men and Men Who Have Sex with Men

- **44%** - New infections in 2008 attributed to gay men and men who have sex with men, the group most affected by HIV.

Heterosexual Sex

- **36%** - Proportion of new cases of HIV attributed to heterosexual sex in 2008.

HIV and Women

- **26.2%** - Proportion of new HIV cases attributed to women in 2008. Prior to 1998, women accounted for only 12% of all positive test reports.
- **45%** - Proportion of positive HIV tests among women attributed to Aboriginal women, who represent about 4% of the total Canadian female population, in 2007.
- **20%** - Proportion of positive HIV tests among women attributed to black women, who represent a little more than 2% of women in Canada.
- **58.3%** - Proportion of positive test reports among women attributed to the age category 15 to 19 years in 2008.

HIV and Youth

- **17,453** - Number of positive HIV test reports among youth under the age of 30 years since 1985.
- **494** - Number of cases of HIV attributed to perinatal (mother to infant) transmission since 1984.

HIV and Drug Use

- **19.1%** - Proportion of newly reported cases of HIV in 2008 attributed to injection drug use.

HIV in Prisons

- **2% - 8%** - Estimate of HIV prevalence in Canadian federal and provincial prisons. Women in prison have higher HIV prevalence rates than men (about 4% compared to 1-2% for men).

Affected Age Groups

- **30 - 39 years** - The age group attributed to most new infections of HIV since 1985. Among women, this age group represents 36.9% of new reports, while among men, it represents 39.9% of reports.
- **Over 40 years** - The age group increasingly affected by HIV. In the period 1985-1997, the over 40 age group represented 26.5% of infections, while in 2008, while it represented 45% of all newly reported cases of HIV in 2008.
- **Over 50 years** - It is estimated that up to 12% of HIV-positive people in Canada are older than 50. This number is expected to increase by as much as 20% over the next decade.

HIV among Ethnocultural Populations

- **29.4%** - Proportion of overall positive test reports attributed to Aboriginal peoples in 2008.
- **14.5%** - Proportion of overall positive test reports attributed to black Canadians in 2008.

Top Three Provinces Most Affected by HIV

- **81%** - combined proportion of HIV reports attributed to Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia in 2008. On an individual basis, each province represents 42.7%, 24.7% and 13.6% of infections, respectively.
- **Saskatchewan, Ontario and British Columbia** - provinces with the highest per capita rate of HIV cases reported, while Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories and Nunavut reported the lowest rates.

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