Key Points

- There were an estimated 2,570 new HIV infections in 2014 (incidence).
- An estimated 75,500 Canadians were living with HIV in 2014 (prevalence).*
- An estimated 0.2% of Canadians were living with HIV in 2014 (HIV prevalence rate).
- An estimated 21% of Canadians living with HIV were not aware of their infection in 2014.

An estimated 2,570 new HIV infections occurred in Canada in 2014 which is slightly lower than the estimated 2,800 new infections in 2011.

An estimated 75,500 Canadians were living with HIV at the end of 2014. This represents an increase of 6,700 infections (9.7%) since 2011. An estimated 0.2% of Canadians were living with HIV in 2014 (prevalence rate).

Of the estimated 75,500 people living with HIV in Canada in 2014, an estimated 21% (16,020 people) were unaware they are living with HIV. This varies considerably by HIV transmission route. Amongst people whose HIV infection was acquired through male-to-male sex, an estimated 18% were unaware of their infection. Amongst people whose HIV infection was acquired through injection drug use, an estimated 20% were unaware of their infection. Amongst those whose HIV infection was acquired through heterosexual sex, an estimated 28% were unaware of their infection.

Infographics are available which graphically display HIV prevalence by region, HIV incidence by region, and HIV incidence for certain populations. Please note that these pertain to 2011 estimates as 2014 estimates are as yet unavailable.

*NOTE: In December 2016, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) released revised estimates for prevalence and the proportion of people unaware of their status. When complete updated estimates are available from PHAC, HIV in Canada will be updated.

Resources

The epidemiology of HIV in Canada – CATIE fact sheet

Summary: Estimates of HIV Incidence, Prevalence and Proportion Undiagnosed in Canada, 2014 – Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Summary: Measuring Canada's Progress on the 90-90-90 HIV Targets – PHAC

HIV/AIDS in Canada – CATIE infographic

HIV in Canada – PHAC infographic

Sources

Decisions about particular medical treatments should always be made in consultation with a qualified medical practitioner knowledgeable about HIV- and hepatitis C-related illness and the treatments in question.

CATIE provides information resources to help people living with HIV and/or hepatitis C who wish to manage their own health care in partnership with their care providers. Information accessed through or published or provided by CATIE, however, is not to be considered medical advice. We do not recommend or advocate particular treatments and we urge users to consult as broad a range of sources as possible. We strongly urge users to consult with a qualified medical practitioner prior to undertaking any decision, use or action of a medical nature.

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Information on safer drug use is presented as a public health service to help people make healthier choices to reduce the spread of HIV, viral hepatitis and other infections. It is not intended to encourage or promote the use or possession of illegal drugs.

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