People With and At Risk for HIV

Key Points

- There were an estimated 2,165 new HIV infections in 2016 (incidence).
- There were an estimated 63,110 Canadians with HIV in 2016 (prevalence).
- An estimated 0.17% of Canadians had HIV in 2016 (HIV prevalence rate).
- UNAIDS goal of reaching 90-90-90 by 2020:
  - An estimated 86% of Canadians with HIV were aware of their infection in 2016.
  - An estimated 81% of those diagnosed were on treatment in 2016.
  - An estimated 91% of those on treatment achieved viral suppression in 2016.

An estimated 2,165 new HIV infections occurred in Canada in 2016 which is slightly higher than the estimated 1,960 new infections in 2014.

There were an estimated 63,110 Canadians with HIV at the end of 2016. This represents an increase of 2,945 people with HIV (5.0%) since 2014. An estimated 0.17% of Canadians had HIV in 2016 (prevalence rate).

UNAIDS has established a global health sector strategy on HIV to help eliminate AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. Canada has endorsed this strategy. A specific set of targets have been developed within this strategy – 90% of people with HIV will know their status; 90% of those diagnosed will by on treatment; and 90% of those on treatment will have viral suppression. The aim is to reach these targets by 2020.

Of the estimated 63,110 people with HIV in Canada in 2016, an estimated 86% were diagnosed and aware they had HIV (14% unaware); 81% of those who were diagnosed were on treatment; and 89% of those on treatment had achieved viral suppression. These represent improvements since 2014 in reaching the targets of 90-90-90. In 2014, an estimated 84% were diagnosed, 78% of those diagnosed were on treatment, and 91% of those on treatment had achieved viral suppression.

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 earlier estimates as new estimates are as yet unavailable.

Resources

The epidemiology of HIV in Canada – CATIE fact sheet

Summary: Estimates of HIV incidence, prevalence and Canada’s progress on meeting the 90-90-90 HIV targets, 2016 – 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

Disclaimer

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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