

## KEY FINDINGS

Condom use increased from first to last sexual experience, BUT use is still below provincial and national averages.<sup>1</sup>

Condoms are less likely to be used with older, more experienced partners.

Partying, alcohol, hooking-up, and using condoms are connected.

Youth are more concerned with pregnancy than STIs.

Only 63 youth reported anal sex. This is too few to draw conclusions about their condom use.

## WHAT DO THESE RESULTS SUGGEST ABOUT PROGRAMMING AND STRATEGIES TO ENCOURAGE CONDOM USE?

Programming to increase condom use should:

- ✓ Address higher risks when sexual partners are much older and more experienced.
- ✓ Be tailored differently for those without and with sexual experience.
- ✓ Address specific situations like parties where alcohol and hook-ups are common.
- ✓ Talk about oral sex. You're safer from HIV, but there are other STIs spread through oral sex.

Places where condoms should be available:

- ✓ Private parties.
- ✓ Diverse public locations (clubs, bars, college and university residence).
- ✓ Public parties, youth-popular events (e.g., Sports Weekend).

## FREE CONDOMS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

📍 AIDS Committee of Windsor  
African, Caribbean and Black Community Outreach Program  
511 Pelissier Street  
Windsor, ON N9A 4L2  
(519) 973-0222

📍 Windsor-Essex County Health Unit  
Sexual Health Clinic  
1005 Ouellette Avenue  
Windsor, ON N9A 4J8  
(519) 258-2146

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**References and electronic copies of this fact sheet are available at:**

<http://www.aidswindsor.org/Programs-and-Services/african-caribbean-services.html>  
<http://www.accho.ca/>

**For information on HIV/AIDS and HIV testing, go to:**  
AIDS and Sexual Health Infoline  
(1-800-668-2437 or <http://sexualhealthontario.ca/>)  
[aso411.ca/](http://aso411.ca/)  
[www.acby.info](http://www.acby.info)  
[www.aidswindsor.org](http://www.aidswindsor.org)  
[www.accho.ca](http://www.accho.ca)



## PROMOTING & OWNING EMPOWERMENT & RESILIENCE AMONG AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN, & BLACK YOUTH IN WINDSOR

### CONDOM USE

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND

Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), this community-based research project identified factors that (a) contribute to infection with the human immune-deficiency virus (HIV) and other sexual health outcomes among African, Caribbean, Black, and mixed youth, and (b) reduce vulnerability.

#### WHAT WE DID



**Where?** Windsor & Essex County, Ontario.

**When?** March 2013 to July 2014.

**Who?** Single African, Caribbean, and Black youth, 16-25 years old.

## WHO PARTICIPATED?

### 11% Black

Their families had lived in North America for at least 2 generations, and their ancestors came from Africa



### 32% Caribbean

They or their parents were born in the Caribbean



### 7% Mixed

Only one parent can trace his or her heritage to Africa

### 50% African

They or their parents were born in Sub-Saharan Africa



### 20%

In Canada less than 4 years

### 25%

In Canada 4 years or more

### 55%

Born in Canada

- ↻ 50% female, 50% male; 3% identified as transgender.
- ↻ 95% heterosexual, 5% lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, questioning or asexual.
- ↻ 74% Christian, 13% Muslim.
- ↻ 86% full-time students, 7% part-time students.
- ↻ Of those who were not full-time students, 18% employed full-time, 30% part-time, 52% unemployed.

## WHY ARE WE CONCERNED WITH CONDOM USE?

Using condoms consistently and correctly is considered the most effective way for sexually active people to protect themselves against sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.



## WHO IS USING CONDOMS?

55% reported participating in vaginal intercourse and 11% reported participating in anal intercourse.

Of every 10 youth reporting vaginal or anal sex:

- 👤👤 **2 used a condom at first vaginal sex**
- 👤👤👤 **5 used a condom at first anal sex**
- 👤👤👤👤 **6 used a condom at most recent vaginal sex**
- 👤👤👤 **4 used a condom at most recent anal sex**

## WHAT INFLUENCED CONDOM USE AT MOST RECENT SEX?

### We looked at:

#### Personal Characteristics

- ☑ Sex
- ☑ Age
- ☑ Ethnic/racial group (African, Caribbean, Black, or Mixed)
- ☑ Religion
- ☑ A student or not
- ☑ Born in Canada or elsewhere
- ☑ Living with family members or not



#### Attitudes and Knowledge:

- ☑ Knowledge about HIV/AIDS
- ☑ Stigmatizing attitudes/beliefs
- ☑ Sense of belonging
- ☑ Sense of responsibility for condom use

#### Experiences:

- ☑ How spend free time
- ☑ Neighbourhood quality
- ☑ Use of clinics and health services
- ☑ Experiencing discrimination

#### Sexual History:

- ☑ Age of 1st vaginal sex
- ☑ African, Caribbean or Black sexual partners
- ☑ Number of U.S. sexual partners
- ☑ Alcohol/drunkenness
- ☑ Casual/one night stand
- ☑ Sexual experience of partner

## CONDOM USE AT MOST RECENT SEX WAS:

👤 **MORE LIKELY FOR YOUTH WHO FELT MORE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDOM USE**

👤 **MORE LIKELY WHEN 1<sup>ST</sup> PARTNER WAS AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN OR BLACK**

👤 **MORE LIKELY WHEN DRINKING ALCOHOL WAS PART OF SEX**

👤 **LESS LIKELY WHEN PARTNER WAS IN THEIR 30s**

👤 **LESS LIKELY WHEN PARTNER WAS MORE SEXUALLY EXPERIENCED**

## WHAT DID YOUTH SAY IN FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS?

Condoms are not talked about.

👤 **"...just put it on yourself; you don't say anything."**

Males said females control condom use.

👤 **"The girl can like stop and be like, 'you need to get a condom.' You know, 'I'm not going to go any further unless you have it.'"**

No condom? Youth suggest switching to oral sex. Females said both partners are responsible for condom use.

👤 **"I think it's both of their responsibility."**

African females are stigmatized for carrying condoms.

👤 **"If a condom drops out of a girl's purse, they would be like, ooh, she's a slut [slut], but then if a condom drops out of a guy's wallet or whatever, they would be like oh yeah, you're getting some."**

Condoms are used when you don't know your partner

👤 **"You're probably using condoms more during side stuff, when you're not sure of the individual."**

Condoms aren't used when you have a history or didn't plan.

👤 **"Friends with benefits don't use protection because they know that they're each other's only friend with benefits."**

Some youth said that alcohol got in the way of condom use.

👤 **"...like it just happened so if it just happened, you didn't plan it; you might not be prepared; then let's go, let's go do it."**

👤 **"Usually the one night stand, she's probably already had a couple drinks in her and you have a couple drinks in you too, so both your judgments are off and you guys are not thinking and that whole risk doesn't look as big anymore, and you're just in the moment and things happen."**

Others felt that wasn't necessarily true.

👤 **"It's just a habit. You know you'll be drinking and hooking-up so you bring condoms and using them is just a habit."**