HIV PREVALENCE, INCIDENCE, MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION AMONG AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN, AND BLACK (ACB) POPULATIONS IN CANADA AS OF 2008

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Demographic profile of the ACB population in Canada:

- According to the 2006 Canadian census, Black people living in Canada represented 2.5% of the country’s population.¹
- 85.1% of Canada’s Black population resided in Ontario (62.1%) or Quebec (23.0%).¹
- From 2001 to 2006, 7.9% of immigrants to Canada originated from a country where HIV is endemic (i.e. a high HIV prevalence country where heterosexual transmission predominates; countries that are categorized HIV-endemic are primarily, but not exclusively, located in the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa).²

From the Public Health Agency of Canada

- An estimated total of 65,000 people were living with HIV infection in Canada as of December 2008.³
- Of these, 9,250 people were in the HIV-endemic category, representing 14% of HIV-infected persons in Canada.³ Approximately 5,000 were women and 4,000 were men.⁴
- In 2008, there were an estimated 2,300-4,300 new HIV infections in Canada, of which 370-690 (16%) were among persons from HIV-endemic countries.³ This latter number includes HIV-infected persons newly arriving in Canada as well persons living in Canada newly infected.
- In the five-year period from 2005 to 2009, 7.2% of new adult HIV-positive test reports and 7.1% of reported adult AIDS cases were among persons from HIV-endemic countries. With respect to gender, the HIV-endemic category accounted for 3.9% of new adult male HIV-positive test reports and 6.2% of reported adult male AIDS cases, while accounting for 17.3% of new adult female HIV-positive test reports and 10.5% of reported adult female AIDS cases during this same time period.⁵
- From 2005 to 2009, women represented 60% of HIV-positive test reports in Canada attributed to the HIV-endemic category and 31% of AIDS cases were reported under this category during the same time period.⁵
- From 1998 to 2006, 78% of HIV-positive test reports and 61% of reported AIDS cases in the HIV-endemic category were under 40 years of age.⁶
• Of 1,282 AIDS cases in the HIV-endemic category reported cumulatively to December 2009, 53.8% were from Quebec and 34.5% from Ontario.\textsuperscript{5}
• Of 2,851 newborns known to have been perinatally exposed to HIV in Canada from 1984 to 2008, 46.8% (n=1,333) were Black. Of the cumulative 523 infants confirmed infected during this period, 54.7% (n=286) were Black.\textsuperscript{3}

Other (non-ACB specific) statistics:

• Of the estimated 2,300-4,300 new HIV infections in 2008 in Canada, MSM accounted for 44%, IDU 17%, persons infected by heterosexual transmission not born in HIV-endemic countries 20% and people infected heterosexually and born in HIV endemic countries 16%.\textsuperscript{3}
• As of 2008, an estimated total of 65,000 (54,000-76,000) people in Canada were living with HIV, which represented an increase of about 14% from the 2005 estimate of 57,000 (47,000-67,000).\textsuperscript{3}
• Of the estimated 65,000 people living with HIV in Canada, MSM represented 48% (31,330), IDU represented 17% (11,180), persons infected by heterosexual transmission and born in non-endemic countries represented 17% (10,700), and people infected by heterosexual transmission and born in endemic countries accounted for 14% (9,250).\textsuperscript{3}
• Of the estimated 65,000 people living with HIV in Canada in 2008, 26% were unaware of their HIV infection, with variation by exposure category: an estimated 19% of infections in MSM, 25% of infections due to IDU and 35% in the two heterosexual exposure categories were undiagnosed.\textsuperscript{3}
• From 2004 to 2009, women represented 26% of HIV-positive test reports in Canada and 20% of AIDS cases during the same time period.\textsuperscript{5}
• 21,681 AIDS cases have been reported in Canada since the beginning of the epidemic; the number of reported AIDS cases decreased dramatically in the past decade; 224 persons with AIDS were diagnosed in 2009.\textsuperscript{5}
• Of the 21,681 AIDS cases reported in Canada cumulatively to December 31, 2009, 39.4% were from Ontario, 28.1% Quebec, 20.2% British Columbia and 6.7% Alberta.\textsuperscript{5}
• From 1984 to 2008, overall, 2,851 women known to be infected with HIV gave birth in Canada; 523 of these infants were confirmed to be HIV-infected.\textsuperscript{5}

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank Dr. Chris Archibald and Jessica Halverson of the Surveillance and Risk Assessment Division, Centre for Communicable Disease and Infection Control, Public Health Agency of Canada for their valuable contribution in the preparation of this factsheet.
References


