

End the HIV Epidemic, Not HIV Funding.

End the HIV Epidemic, Not HIV Funding is a national campaign calling on the federal government to protect and strengthen investments in HIV programs. This fact sheet provides key information about the current state of HIV in Canada and why sustained federal investment is essential to ending the HIV epidemic.

What does HIV look like in Canada today?

- According to the Public Health Agency of Canada's most recent HIV estimates, there were 2,517 new HIV infections in Canada in 2024, a 22.8% increase over 2022, when 2,050 new infections were estimated.¹
- In 2022, gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM) made up 42% of new infections.²

What commitments has the Government of Canada made to guide its HIV response?

The federal government has committed to achieving UNAIDS' 95-95-95 targets, reflected in the *Government of Canada's sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBI) action plan 2024-2030*.³ By 2025, Canada was to have achieved the following targets:

- 95% of people living with HIV (PLHIV) are diagnosed/know their HIV status
- 95% of those diagnosed are on treatment
- 95% of those on treatment have a suppressed viral load

Canada has still not yet met all of its targets.

What community-based HIV funding does the Government of Canada provide to help meet these commitments?

- Administered by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), the HIV and Hepatitis C Community Action Fund (CAF) and the Harm Reduction Fund (HRF) collectively invest \$33.4M annually to support time-limited projects across Canada.⁴
- The Canadian Institutes for Health Research's HIV/AIDS and STBBI Research Initiative provides approximately \$21M annually to support HIV and STBBI research.⁵
- Unfortunately, Canada's community-based HIV funding levels have remained stagnant for decades. Currently, the Government has failed to commit to further multi-year community-based funding. News of pending cuts has raised alarms among affected communities.

1 <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/hiv-treatment/>

2 <https://www.catie.ca/the-epidemiology-of-hiv-in-canada>

3 <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/sexually-transmitted-blood-borne-infections-action-plan-2024-2030.html>

4 <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/funding-opportunities/sexually-transmitted-blood-borne-infections.html>

5 <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/25832.html>

What progress has been made and what challenges remain?

CAF-funded projects have made significant contributions to Canada's HIV response:

- Between December 1st, 2022, and March 31st, 2024, over 35 2S/LGBTQIA+-serving organizations collaborated to distribute 67,699 HIV self-testing kits to 28,280 2S/LGBTQIA+ people across Canada.⁶
- The Advance Alliance reached 4,662 healthcare and community service providers in 2022-2025, and 88% of those providers surveyed reported strengthened capacity to provide culturally responsive and culturally safe HIV and STBBI prevention, testing, treatment and care services.⁷
- 10,812 2S/GBTQ+ people were reached by the Advance Alliance during the same time period and, of those who were surveyed, 54% reported improved access to HIV/STBBI services.
- CBRC's Sex Now survey shows that knowledge of PrEP among 2S/GBTQIA+ participants increased by over 30% between 2015 and 2019, with similar increases also observed for knowledge of Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U).^{8,9}

But challenges remain:

- According to the Public Health Agency of Canada's most recent HIV estimates, there were 2,517 new HIV infections in Canada in 2024, a 22.8% increase over 2022, when 2,050 new infections were estimated.¹⁰
- Canada has failed to meet two of three 95-95-95 targets, with only 91% of people living with HIV estimated to be diagnosed and only 86% of those diagnosed on treatment (96% of those on treatment have an undetectable viral load).¹¹
- Trans and non-binary people are less likely to access HIV PrEP than their cisgender community members and nearly two-thirds of 2S/LGBTQIA+ people who would benefit from PrEP are not taking it.^{12,13}
- Due to the impacts of colonization, stigma, and sparse access to culturally appropriate care, Two-Spirit, Indigenous, African, Caribbean, and Black and racialized LGBTQIA+ communities experience barriers to accessing emerging HIV interventions. This is most recently evidenced by Manitoba's public health emergency declaration, with increased HIV cases predominantly affecting Indigenous communities.¹⁴

Want to learn more about our campaign to end the HIV epidemic, not HIV funding?



hivfunding.ca



6 Internal CBRC-collected performance measurement and evaluation data; CAF-funded project

7 Internal Advance Alliance-collected performance measurement and evaluation data; CAF-funded project

8 https://www.cbrc.net/undetectable_equals_untransmittable_u_u_knowledge_and_practices

9 https://www.cbrc.net/population_level_trends_in_hiv_pre_exposure_prophylaxis_prep_knowledge

10 <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/hiv-treatment/>

11 <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/hiv-treatment/>

12 Rutherford, L., Stark, A., Ablona, A., Klassen, B. J., Higgins, R., Jacobsen, H., Draenos, C. J., Card, K. G., & Lachowsky, N. J. (2021). Health and well-being of trans and non-binary participants in a community-based survey of gay, bisexual, and queer men, and non-binary and Two-Spirit people across Canada. PLOS ONE, 16(2), Article 2. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0246525>

13 Yang, Q., Wu, H., Lachowsky, N., Cox, J., Klassen, B., Apelian, H., Périnet, S., Elliott, J., Williams, A., Campeau, L., Curtis, T., Wong, M., Gatali, M., & Popovic, N. (2026). Estimating the percentage and number of people with indications for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) within two key populations, Canada, 2021. Canadian Journal of Public Health. <https://doi.org/10.17269/s41997-026-01170-5>

14 <https://news.gov.mb.ca/news/?archive=&item=73717>