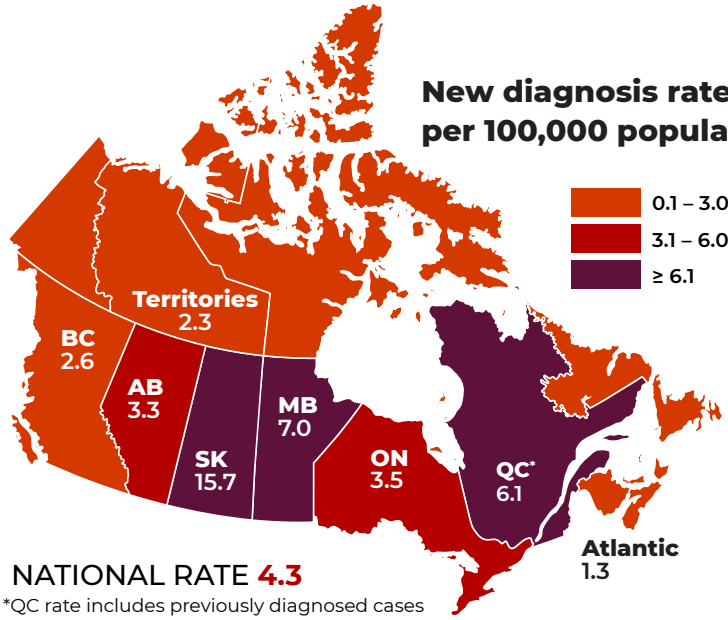
HIV IN CANADA: *2020 Surveillance Highlights*



NATIONAL RATE **4.3**

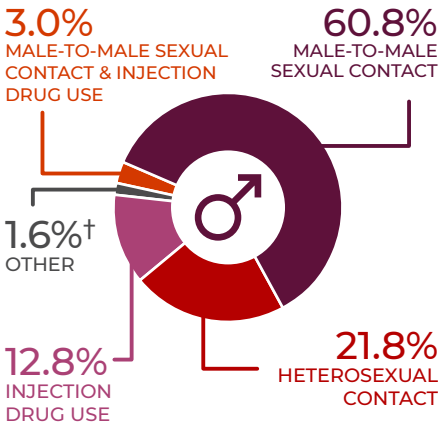
*QC rate includes previously diagnosed cases

1,639 new diagnosed cases of HIV in 2020 **(21% decrease** since 2019)

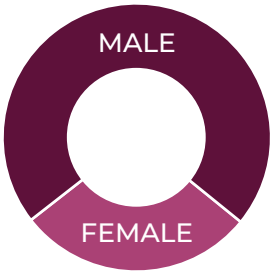
The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a decreased demand for, and ability to provide, services related to sexually transmitted and bloodborne infections, including HIV testing[1]. This may have had an impact on observed new diagnosis rates for HIV in 2020.

For most jurisdictions, data for 2020 exclude cases that have been previously diagnosed outside of Canada (e.g. prior to immigration) or in another province/territory.

Reported new HIV cases by exposure category in adult males (≥ 15 years)

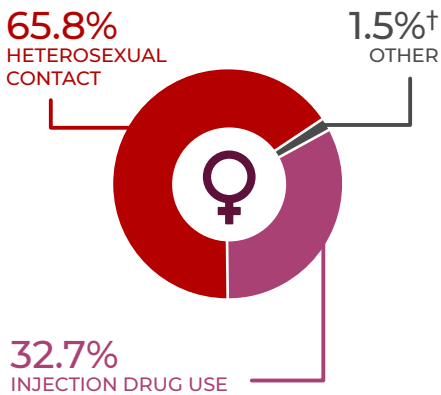


71.4% of newly diagnosed cases were **male**



28.6% of newly diagnosed cases were **female**

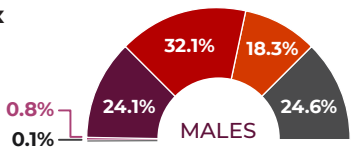
Reported new HIV cases by exposure category in adult females (≥ 15 years)

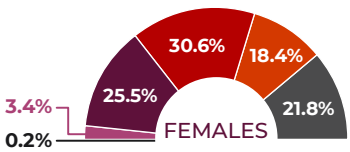


† *"Other" includes persons who were exposed during receipt of transfusion of blood or clotting factor, or perinatal exposure.*

Distribution of new HIV cases, by age group and sex

< 15 years
15 - 19 years
20 - 29 years
30 - 39 years
40 - 49 years
≥ 50 years





Perinatal HIV in 2020:

- **250 infants** exposed to HIV during pregnancy
- **97.2% of HIV positive mothers** received perinatal antiretroviral therapy (ART)
- **5 infants** were infected with HIV: **2 mothers** had any ART, 2 had none, and the status of 1 mother was unknown

Based on sentinel surveillance representing 95% of exposed infants

Data Sources

HIV/AIDS Surveillance System (HASS) and Canadian Perinatal HIV Surveillance Program (CPHSP)

[1]*Survey of the impact of COVID-19 on the ability to provide STBBI prevention, testing and treatment including harm reduction services in Canada. PHAC. 2021.*

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