

Between 2000 and 2015, more people living with diagnosed HIV became engaged in the care cascade



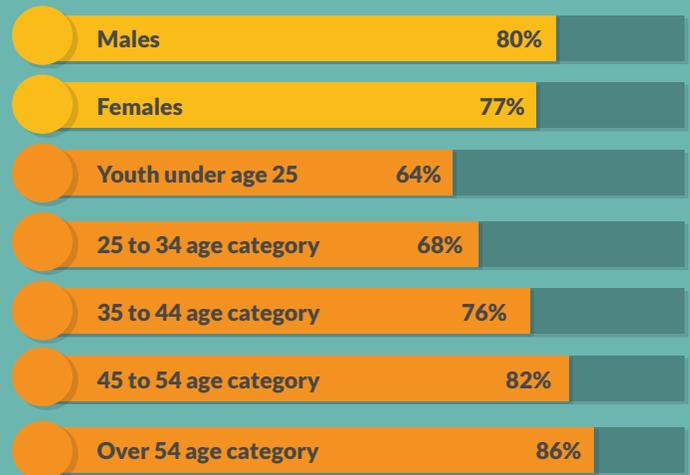
The cascade is a series of steps that people living with HIV progress through to achieve viral suppression. Being virally suppressed improves health and means HIV can't be passed to others.

Where do these numbers come from?

Numbers in this factsheet come from the Public Health Ontario Laboratory (PHOL). PHOL conducts HIV diagnostic and viral load testing for the province, and databases with this information were used to create a group (also known as a cohort) of people with diagnosed HIV. This cohort includes the vast majority of people living with diagnosed HIV in the province and in 2015 there were 16,110 individuals.

Females and younger individuals – particularly youth under age 25 – are less likely to be engaged in the care cascade

In 2015, the percent of people with diagnosed HIV who were virally suppressed was:



The UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets

What's the difference between the care cascade numbers and the UNAIDS 90-90-90 targets?

In the cascade figure on the left, all cascade numbers are a percentage of people living with diagnosed HIV.

On the other hand, the UNAIDS targets are a subset of the previous target: the first 90 is the percent of all people living with HIV who have been diagnosed, the second 90 is the percent of people with diagnosed HIV who are on treatment and the third 90 is the percent of diagnosed people on treatment who are virally suppressed.



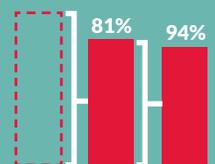
Ontario's progress on the 90-90-90 targets

In 2015:

First 90 - OHESI is working with mathematical modellers to estimate this target.

Second 90 - 81% of Ontarians with diagnosed HIV were on treatment.

Third 90 - 94% of Ontarians on treatment were virally suppressed.



The number of Ontarians living with diagnosed HIV has steadily increased over time to 16,110 in 2015. This increase is due to:

Better treatments so people with HIV are living longer



Ongoing new HIV diagnoses in Ontario each year



Ontarians living with diagnosed HIV are older and mainly male. In 2015:

About 2 in 3 (63%) were aged 45 or older - compared to fewer than 1 in 3 (29%) in 2000



About 1 in 5 (20%) were female



Ontarians who are newly diagnosed with HIV are linking to care and becoming virally suppressed more quickly

The percent who linked to care within 3 months of diagnosis increased from 67% in 2000 to 82% in 2014



The percent who became suppressed within 6 months of diagnosis increased from 22% in 2000 to 42% in 2014



Improvements in Ontario's cascade numbers are likely due to a combination of:



Better access to care and treatment



More effective treatments that are easier to take



New guidelines that recommend starting treatment much earlier



Dedicated front-line service providers



Healthier, older and more informed people living with HIV