

GLOBAL REPORT

FACT SHEET

North America and Western Europe

HIV epidemic is not over in high-income countries

- The total number of people living with HIV in North America and Western and Central Europe grew from an estimated 1.8 million [1.6 million–2.0 million] in 2001 to 2.3 million [2.0 million–2.7 million] in 2009—an increase of 30%.
- An estimated 100 000 [73 000–150 000] people were newly infected with HIV in 2009, compared to 97 000 [82 000–110 000] in 2001.
- There were approximately 35 000 [29 000–56 000] AIDS-related deaths in the region in 2009, compared to 37 000 [32 000–44 000] in 2001.
- More men are living with HIV in the region than women. In 2009, women accounted for about 26% of people living with HIV in North America and 29% in Western and Central Europe.

Resurging epidemics among men who have sex with men

- Unprotected sex between men continues to dominate patterns of HIV transmission in North America and Western and Central Europe
- Data from 23 European countries show that the annual number of HIV diagnoses among men who have sex with men rose by 86% between 2000 and 2006.
- In France, men who have sex with men represent only 1.6% of the general population, yet they account for more than 50% of new HIV infections among men.
- In 2007, there were 3160 new HIV diagnoses in the United Kingdom among men who have sex with men—the most ever reported in the country up to that point.
- In the United States of America, new HIV infections resulting from unprotected sex between men increased by more than 50% between 1991-1993 and 2003-2006. Similar trends were reported in Canada.

Some racial minorities are disproportionately impacted by HIV

- In the United States, African Americans represented 12% of the population but accounted for 45% of people newly infected with HIV in 2006.
- In Canada in the mid-2000s, aboriginal people represented 3.8% of the national population and 13% of people newly infected with HIV annually.

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UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, is an innovative United Nations partnership that leads and inspires the world in achieving universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. Learn more at unaids.org.

UNAIDS' vision: Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths.