

# HIV Testing Day Summary 2023

Community-based organizations across Saskatchewan coordinated the first province-wide HIV testing day on June 27, 2017 in response to high rates of HIV infection in the province. The initiative garnered national attention and is now observed across Canada as *National HIV Testing Day* with the purpose of promoting and offering HIV testing to educate, reduce stigma, and normalize HIV testing.

Saskatchewan hosted its **5th annual** province-wide HIV Testing Day.\*



The Saskatchewan Minister of Health proclaimed **June 27, 2023** to be the **“National HIV Testing Day”** in Saskatchewan.

Each year, targeted “testing fairs” and awareness events are organized throughout the province by community-based organizations in collaboration with the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB), and the Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA).

In **2023**:

- **15 HIV testing and awareness events** happened in **12 locations** across the province.
- **Approximately 1,130 people attended** these events.
- **244 people were tested** for HIV.
- **94 HIV self-test kits** were distributed.

\*Due to pandemic restrictions, there was no Saskatchewan HIV Testing Day in 2020 and 2021.

## HIV is different now. Know your status.

### STATS

**HIV Tests Reported by Quarter, January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2023**

		Jan. 01 – Mar. 31	Apr. 01 – Jun. 30	Jul. 01 – Sep. 30	Oct. 01 – Dec. 31
Year	Type of Test*	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2016	RRPL Tests	18,711	19,204	19,125	19,635
	PoC Tests	472	485	466	494
2017	RRPL Tests	20,597	20,781	19,616	20,036
	PoC Tests	449	676	434	591
2018	RRPL Tests	21,128	22,082	20,979	21,428
	PoC Tests	535	785	482	323
	DBS Tests	-	-	-	78
2019	RRPL Tests	21,763	23,643	24,552	23,169
	PoC Tests	467	434	421	420
	DBS Tests	84	424	197	740
2020	RRPL Tests	21,920	11,880	19,128	18,753
	PoC Tests	310	180	222	170
	DBS Tests	41	140	4	22
2021	RRPL Tests	18,910	20,229	19,492	20,227
	PoC Tests	202	224	236	220
	DBS Tests	3	96	No data	132
2022	RRPL Tests	20,121	22,433	23,277	22,764
	PoC Tests	228	260	243	229
	DBS Tests	43	175	186	305
2023	RRPL Tests	24,283	24,925	25,372	24,452
	PoC Tests	254	265	277	233
	DBS Tests	152	608	237	244

\* RRPL Tests – Roy Romanow Provincial Laboratory Tests

PoC Tests – Point-of-Care Tests

DBS Tests – Dried Blood Spot Tests (data only available starting in November 2018)



**HIV wallet cards and posters** encouraging the public to get tested were developed and distributed by the Ministry of Health.

*Notes: Roy Romanow Provincial Laboratory data reported in this summary does not include tests completed at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. Point-of-care tests conducted in First Nations communities are not included in the statistics reported in this summary.*