



# By The Numbers: What We've Learned

Collective Action  
Community Change

*by the Women and  
HIV/AIDS Initiative (WHA)*

# Consultation Process

In 2021 / 2022 WHAI conducted consultations with women across Ontario who face systemic and structural risk factors related to HIV. To read the full report, see [Collective Action Community Change: A Report Amplifying Community Voices](#).

**Four** different consultation tools were used to ensure that communities had options for how they could share their experiences and feedback.

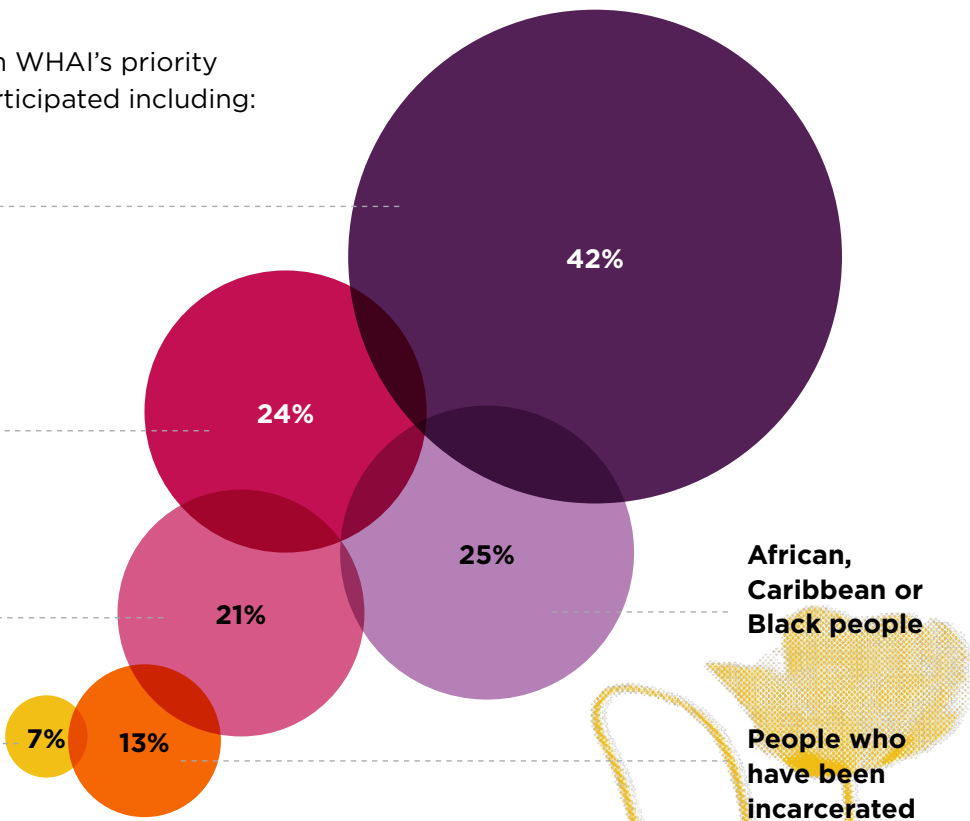
**501** people from WHAI's priority populations<sup>1</sup> participated including:

**People who use drugs**

**People living with HIV**

**Indigenous people**

**Trans, Non-Binary or 2-Spirit people**



Each tool had a similar set of questions related to health, wellness, and community, but not all participants were asked the same questions. This was because some tools were designed for brief interactions, while others were created for more in-depth engagement, recognizing that people share their knowledge differently.

Here is a summary of some key learnings:

365 

participants were asked "Do you know what **PrEP** or pre-exposure prophylaxis is?" and **52%** answered "No."

188

participants were asked about their familiarity with the concept of **U=U** or Undetectable=Untransmittable. **54%** answered "No, they were not familiar with U=U."

370 

participants were asked about their awareness of **HIV self-testing**. **54%** answered that they were not aware.

164

participants were asked about their top preferences for **HIV testing** options, and:

47%

said home self-testing kits were their preference.

31%

said Point of Care/Rapid Test (at a community organization or setting, or sexual health clinic) was their preference.

47%

46%

said anonymous testing (at a community organization or setting, or sexual health clinic) was their preference.

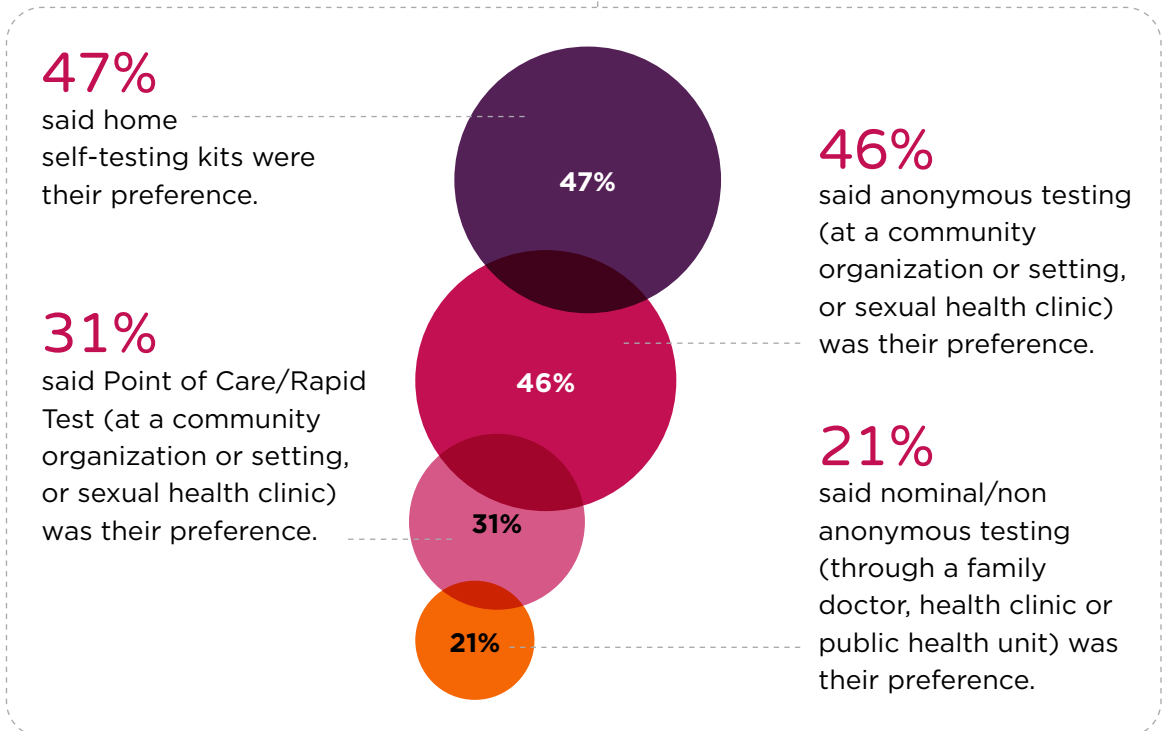
46%

21%

said nominal/non anonymous testing (through a family doctor, health clinic or public health unit) was their preference.

31%

21%



## CACC By The Numbers

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To increase awareness amongst WHAI's priority populations, WHAI is committed to community capacity building, education, and strengthening access to:

- ▶ **PrEP** and other HIV prevention tools such as **PEP** (Post Exposure Prophylaxis) and **PIP** (Post Exposure Prophylaxis-in-your-Pocket or an advanced prescription for PEP),
- ▶ **U=U** and what it means in the context of WHAI's priority populations
- ▶ Awareness raising and accessible **HIV testing**, focussing on self-testing, anonymous testing, and point of care / rapid testing primarily.

**For more information**, reach out to a local WHAI Coordinator through this [Connect](#) page or check out "The Who, What, Why & How of WHAI" on page 18-19 of [Collective Action Community Change: A Report Amplifying Community Voices](#). You can also read more under "Our Work" and "Our Approach" on our website at [whai.ca](http://whai.ca).

<sup>1</sup> WHAI seeks to be informed by and amplify the experiences of those who face structural discrimination and exclusion, impacting HIV risk and the health outcomes of those living with HIV. As such, our work focuses on engagement with cis and Trans women, 2-Spirit and Non-Binary Femme people who are living with HIV, and / or who are African, Caribbean, and Black, Indigenous, newcomers, who use drugs or substances, have experiences with violence and / or have been / are incarcerated. Within these communities, our work includes those who are pregnant or parenting, living with different abilities, and represent an age range spanning from young adult to seniors.

