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**Positive Plus one will:**

- (1) characterize HIV-serodiscordant couples across Canada;
- (2) examine the individual, inter-partner, and social determinants of relationship satisfaction;
- (3) examine links between relationship quality and management of HIV transmission risk;
- (4) assess HIV serodiscordant couples' needs and access to supportive services; and
- (5) document how serodiscordance affects their relationship and everyday life.

**POSITIVE PLUS ONE IS FUNDED BY:**



**Project recruitment entering its final phase**

We are calling on you for the last time as recruitment comes to a close on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018. We appreciate all of your efforts to assist us with recruitment for the project so far. In this newsletter, we provide an update on the participants recruited. To date, 588 people have completed the survey and we hope to surpass 600. Thank you for helping us with this final phase.

**Overview of participants**

As of May 11<sup>th</sup>, 342 HIV-positive and 246 HIV-negative people between the ages of 18 and 72 have completed the survey. Of these, 92% completed the survey in English and 8% in French.

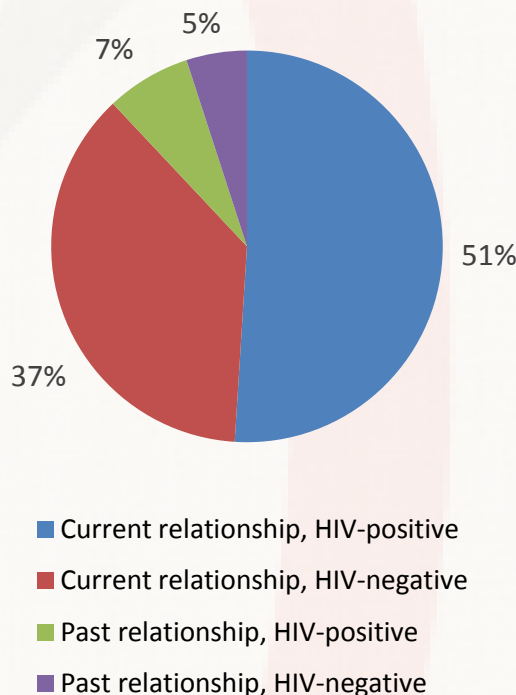
The represents 437 couples, and for 148 of these relationships both partners participated. Figure 1 shows participants' relationship and HIV status.

The majority of our participants were recruited by an ASO staff member, doctors or staff at a HIV clinic, or learned of the study through a poster, pamphlet, or card (see Table 1).

**Table 1. Source of participant recruitment (participant could identify more than one source)**

Recruitment source	Participants (%)
ASO staff member	29
ASO listserv/newsletter	9
Doctor/staff at clinic	16
Poster, pamphlet, card	21
Blog/website	6
Online ad	5
Heard from friend	8
Heard from partner	2
All else	4

**Figure 1. Participants by HIV status and relationship type**





### Participant Characteristics

Figures 2 to 8 provide detail on the sociodemographic characteristics of the participants.

Based on PHAC HIV surveillance figures, Positive Plus One under-represents HIV-positive people from Quebec and British Columbia (See Figure 5). We also currently under-represent Black African and Caribbean people and Indigenous persons (see Figure 6).

Figure 2. Sexual identity

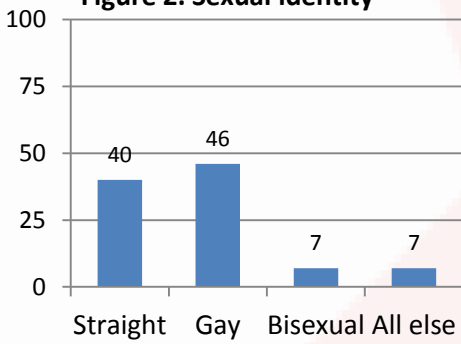


Figure 3. Gender identity

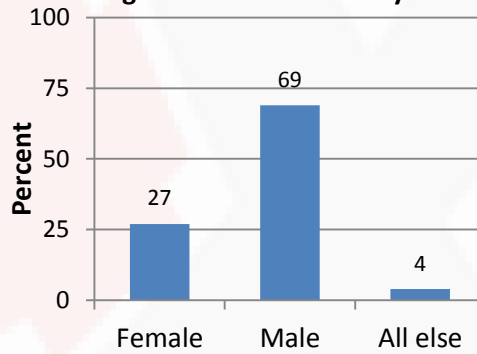


Figure 4. Relationship duration

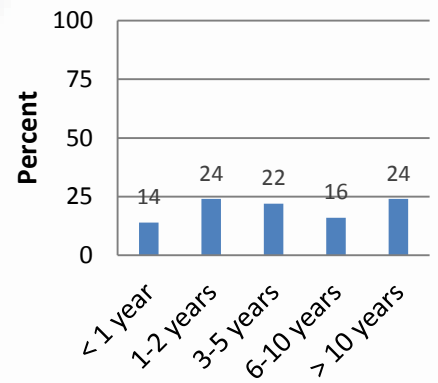


Figure 5. Participation by region

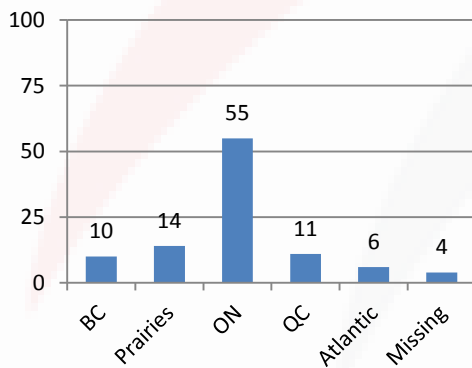


Figure 6. Race/ethnicity

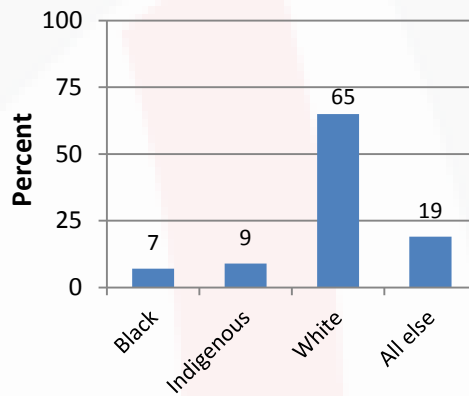


Figure 7. Citizenship

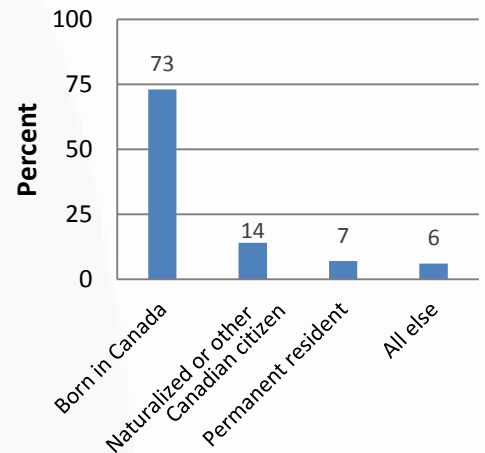
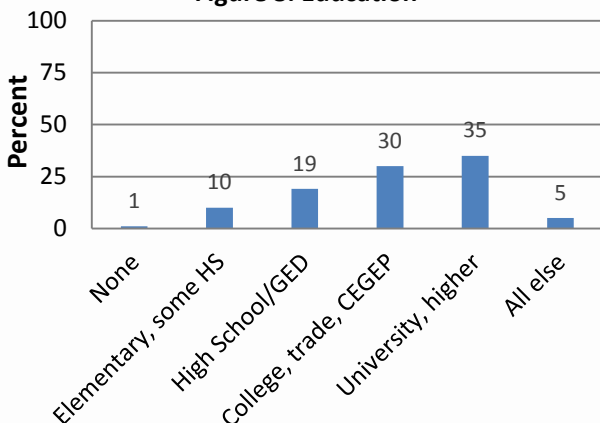


Figure 8. Education



**Note:** In all figures on this page, 'all else' is a combination of the most infrequently-chosen categories for that question. For example, for gender, 'all else' is a mix of transgendered, and two-spirited; most common 'other' race/ethnicity is a mixed Indigenous identity (e.g. 'Aboriginal and white').



SHARE

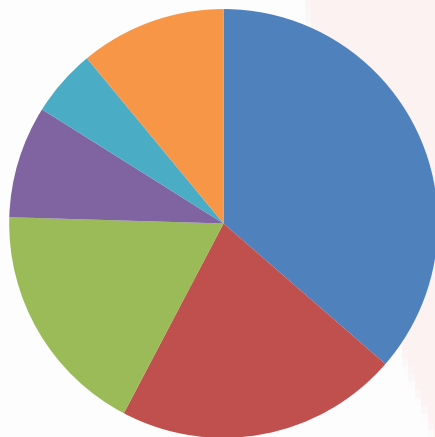


HELP



BE HEARD

Figure 9. Participants' requests for gift cards



- President's choice
- Wal-Mart
- Tim Horton's
- Canadian Tire
- Subway
- All else

To date, we have distributed 526 gift cards. The most popular was President's Choice.

The "All else" category includes individuals who were not comfortable sharing their address, did not want a gift card, or did not complete the gift card survey.

### Qualitative interview information

To date, 263 current and 37 past partners volunteered to participate in the qualitative interview; for 59 couples both partners volunteered to take part. We will be continuing with qualitative interviews for those who have volunteered, but have not yet been interviewed.

Please check out our Facebook page (at [facebook.com/PPlus1UofT/](https://facebook.com/PPlus1UofT/)) and Twitter page (at [https://twitter.com/P\\_Plus1\\_UofT](https://twitter.com/P_Plus1_UofT)) where we post articles or blogs regarding HIV care, HIV stigma, serodiscordant relationship and much more!

### A person may participate in Positive Plus One if:

- 1) They are currently in a relationship where one partner is HIV-positive and the other is HIV-negative and the relationship has lasted 3 months or longer, OR they were in one in the past 2 years,
- 2) They live in Canada, and lived in Canada during at least part of the relationship,
- 3) They are at least 18 years old,
- 4) They speak either English or French,
- 5) If they are HIV-positive, they have disclosed their status to their HIV-negative partner.

### Investigative Team:

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