



6.1.3 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – The Facts

FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME

Affects
1 to 3 / 1,000
Babies born in Canada.

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER

Affects **10/ 1,000**
babies born in Canada.
This can be as high as **190/1,000 live births** in
some Canadian communities.

Graphic created by CICH using data from Robinson GC, Conry JL, Conry RF. Clinical profile and prevalence of fetal alcohol syndrome in an isolated community in British Columbia. CMAJ 1987;137:203–7.

It is estimated that 1 to 3 per 1,000 babies born in Canada have fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS). Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) is estimated to affect approximately 1% of the population. Some communities in Canada report prevalence rates as high as 190 per 1,000 live births.¹

¹ Robinson GC, Conry JL, Conry RF. Clinical profile and prevalence of fetal alcohol syndrome in an isolated community in British Columbia. CMAJ. 1987;137:203–7

Implications

FASD cannot be cured. It can have lifelong effects on individuals, their families, and their communities. There is a need to develop a better understanding of risk factors associated with FASD.

