



Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In December 2014, there were 509 new HIV Ab sero-positive individuals confirmed by the STD/AIDS Cooperative Central Laboratory (SACCL) and reported to the HIV and AIDS Registry (Table 1). This was 42% higher compared to the same period last year (n=358) [Figure 1].

Table 2. Percentage of HIV Cases per Region (December 2014)

Region	% of
I	2%
II	1%
III	12%
IVA	11%
IVB	<1%
V	1%
VI	5%
VII	10%
VIII	2%
IX	1%
X	2%
XI	7%
XII	3%
CAR	1%
CARAGA	1%
ARMM	0%
NCR	41%

Most of the cases (95%) were male. The median age was 28 years (age range: 2-65 years). The 20-29 year (57%) age group had the most number of cases.

Reported modes of transmission were sexual contact (n=475), needle sharing among injecting drug users (n=33) and mother to child transmission (1). [Table 3, page 2]. Males having sex with other males (85%) was the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (93%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

In December 2014, 81% of the new HIV cases came from NCR, Region 3, Region 4A, Region 7 and Region 11 [Table 2].

Table 1. Quick Facts

Demographic Data	December 2014	Jan-Dec 2014	Cumulative 1984-2014
Total Reported Cases	509	6,011	22,527
Asymptomatic Cases	471	5,468	20,478
AIDS Cases	38	543	2,049
Males	486	5,758	20,418*
Females	23	253	2,098*
Youth 15-24yo	129	1,690	5,879
Children <15yo	1	5	70

*Note: No data available on sex for (11) cases.

Figure 1. Number of New HIV Cases per Month (2012-2014)

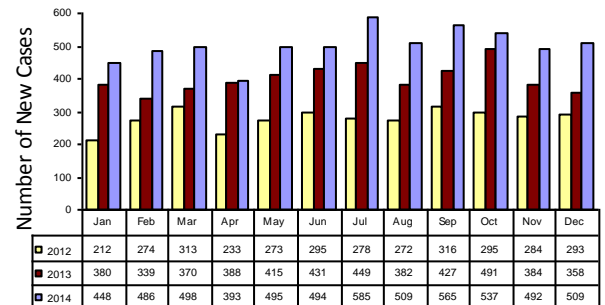


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2014, 2013 & Cumulative Data (1984-2014)

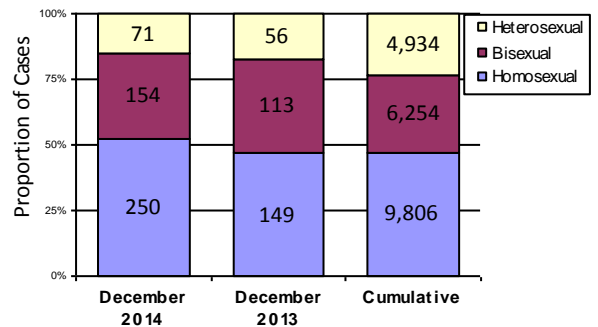
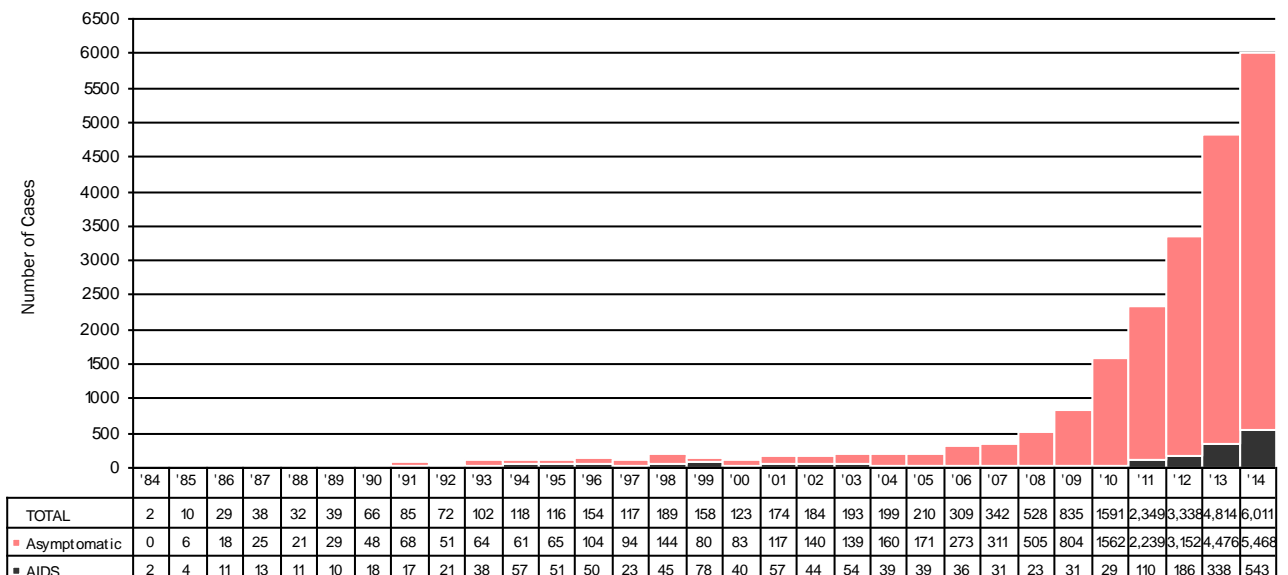


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, January 1984 to December 2014 (N=22,527)

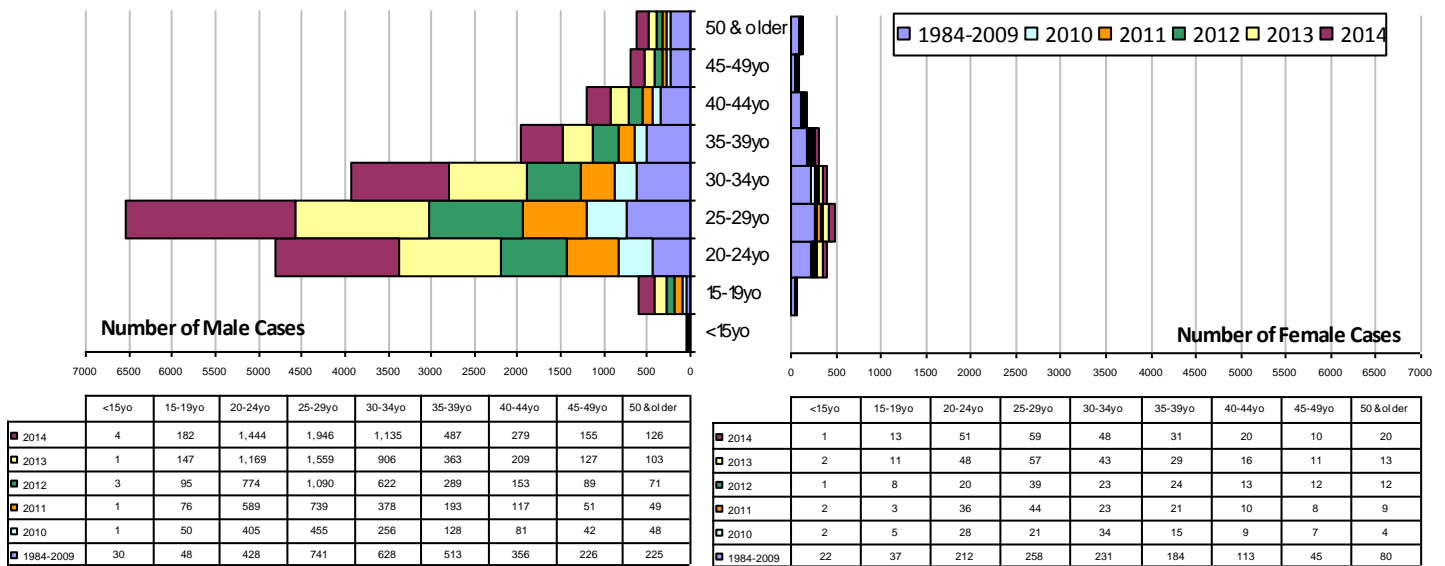


Demographic Characteristics

Of the 6,011 cases in 2014, 5,758 (96%) were male. Ages ranged from 1 year to 82 years old (median 28 years). The 20-29 year old age group had the most (58%) number of cases for 2014.

From 1984 to 2014, there were 22,527 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1); of which 2,049 (9%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 4, 20,418 (91%) were male. Ages ranged from 1 year-82 years (median 28 years). The age groups with the most number of cases were: 20-24 years (23%), 25-29 years (31%), and 30-34 years (19%) [Figure 4].

Figure 4. Comparison of the Distribution of Male and Female HIV Cases by Age-Group and Certain Highlighted Years



*Note: 74 did not report age, 11 did not report sex, 10 did not report age and sex

Modes of Transmission

In 2014, 5,649 (94%) were infected through sexual contact, 357 (6%) through needle sharing among injecting drug users and 5 (<1%) through mother-to-child transmission (Table 3). Of those infected through sexual contact, 5,413 (96%) were male. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 15 years-82 years (median 28 years).

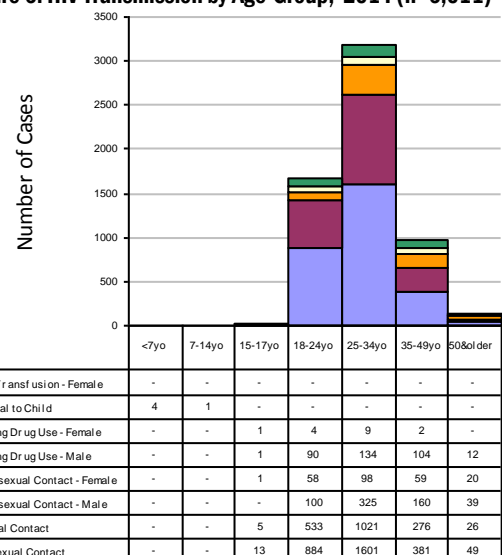
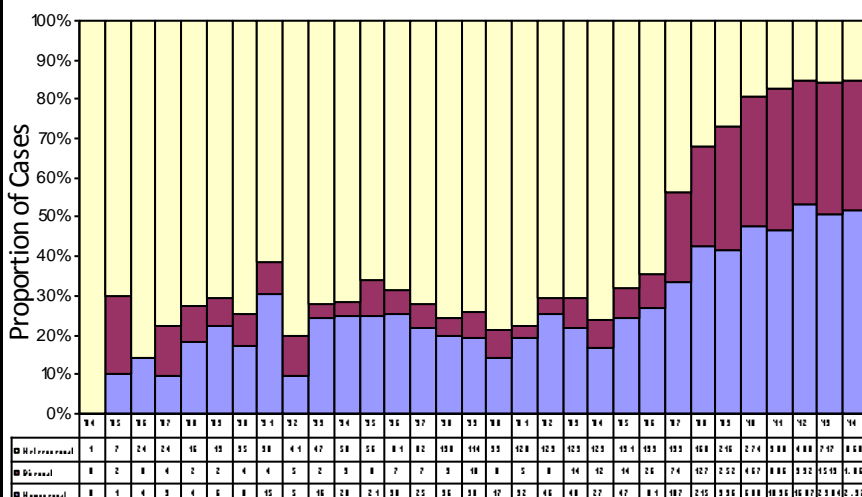
Of the 22,527 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2014, 20,994 (93%) were infected through sexual contact, 1,068 (5%) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, 67 (<1%) through mother-to-child transmission, 20 (<1%) through blood transfusion and needle prick injury 3 (<1%) [Table 3]. No data is available for 375 (2%) of the cases.

Table 3. Reported Modes of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	December 2014 n=509	Jan-Dec 2014 n=6,011	Cumulative N=22,527
Sexual Contact	475	5,649	20,994
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>71 (15%)</i>	<i>860 (15%)</i>	<i>4,934 (24%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>250 (53%)</i>	<i>2,928 (52%)</i>	<i>9,806 (47%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>154 (32%)</i>	<i>1,861 (33%)</i>	<i>6,254 (30%)</i>
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	20
Injecting Drug Use	33	357	1,068
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
Mother-to-Child	1	5	67
No Data Available	0	0	375

Figure 6. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2014 (n=6,011)

Figure 5. Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission, January 1984–December 2014



Geographic Distribution

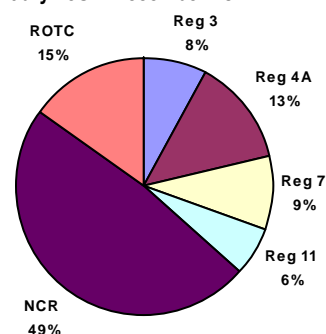
In 2014, 2,473 (41%) of the cases were from NCR. Eight hundred sixty-seven (14%) came from Region 4A, followed by 618 (10%) from Region 7, 549 (9%) from Region 3, 403 (7%) from Region 11 and 1,094* (18%) were from the other regions of the country.

Of the 22,527 HIV cases reported from 1984-2014, 10,092 (45%) came from NCR, [Figure 7] 2,862 (13%) came from Region 4A, followed by 2,028 (9%) from Region 7, 1,819 (8%) from Region 3, 1,329 (6%) from Region 11 and 3253 (15%)** comprises the rest of the country's cases.

*Note: 7 cases had no reported data on their address at the time of diagnosis

**Note: 1,144 had no reported data on their address at the time of diagnosis

Figure 7. Percentage of HIV Cases by Region, January 1984–December 2014



AIDS Cases

Of the 6,011 HIV positive cases in 2014, 543 (9%) were reported as AIDS cases. Five hundred twenty-three (96%) were male. Ages ranged from 17 years-69 years (median 30 years). Five hundred thirty-five (99%) acquired the infection through sexual contact (290 homosexual, 164 bisexual and 81 heterosexual) and 8 (<1%) acquired through injecting drug use.

From 1984 to 2014, there were 2,049 (9%) AIDS cases reported. One thousand seven hundred forty-four (85%) were male. Ages ranged from 1 year-81 years (median is 32 years). One thousand nine hundred sixty-seven (96%) were infected through sexual contact. (890 homosexual, 657 heterosexual, 420 bisexual).

Overseas Filipino Workers

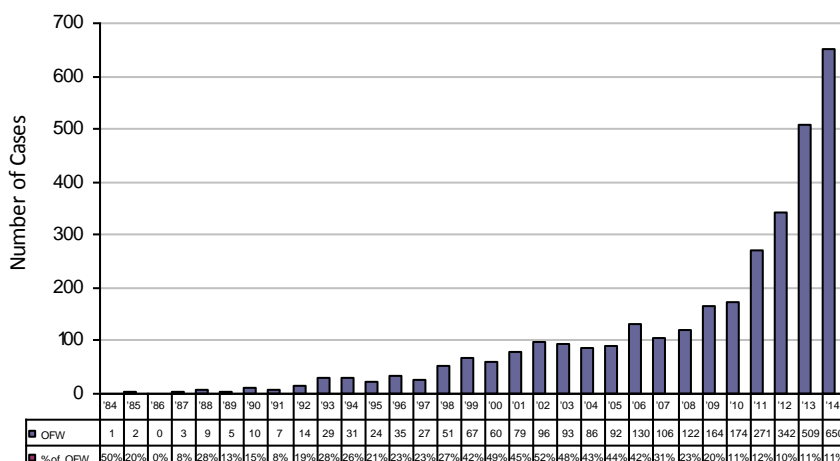
In 2014, out of the 6011 cases, 650 (11%) were HIV positive OFWs [Figure 8]. Of these, 569 (88%) were male. Most (99%) were infected through sexual contact (226 heterosexual, 250 homosexual and 172 bisexual).

There were 3,288 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 15% of all reported cases [Figure 8]. Two thousand six hundred ninety-one (82%) were males. Ages ranged from 18 years to 80 years (median 33 years). Sexual contact (98%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 4). Three hundred sixty-two (11%) were AIDS cases.

Table 4. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	December 2014 n=55	Jan-Dec 2014 n=650	Cumulative N=3,288
Sexual Transmission	55	648	3,221
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>21(38%)</i>	<i>226(35%)</i>	<i>1,581(49%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>20(36%)</i>	<i>250(39%)</i>	<i>932(29%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>14(25%)</i>	<i>172(27%)</i>	<i>708(22%)</i>
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	10
Injecting Drug Use	0	2	6
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
No Data Available	0	0	48

Figure 8. Number of OFWs and the Proportion of OFWs among the Total HIV Cases by Year



Deaths among People with HIV

From January to December 2014, there were a total of 188 reported deaths. One hundred eighty (96%) were male [Table 5]. The highest number of deaths occurred in the 25-29 years (35%) age group [Figure 9]. This was followed by the 30-34 years (21%) and 20-24 years (13%) age groups. Among the reported deaths in 2014, sexual contact (95%) was the most common mode of HIV transmission [Figure 9]. For the month of December 2014, there were 17 deaths reported to the Registry. Among these, 14 died in December while 3 died prior to the reporting month. [Table 5].

From 1984 to 2014, there were 1,118* reported deaths among people with HIV [Table 5]. Nine hundred twenty-seven (83%) were male. In total, there has been 138 reported deaths among youth (15-24 years old) and 16 reported deaths among children of <15 years.

*The DOH established a separate reporting mechanism for deaths in 2012. Prior to this, deaths were infrequently reported to the HIV/AIDS Registry. It is likely that the number reflected here is an underestimate of the total number of deaths among People with HIV in the Philippines.

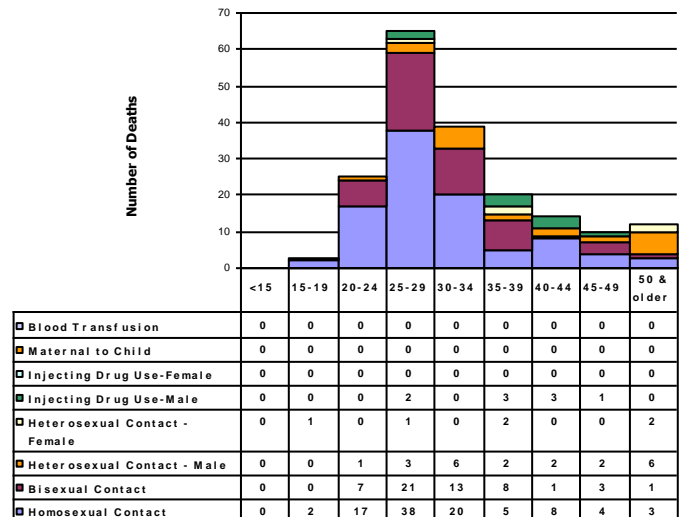
Table 5. Demographic data of reported deaths among People with HIV

Demographic Data	December 2014	Jan-Dec 2014	Cumulative* (1984-2014)
Total Reported Deaths	14**	188	1,118
Males	14	180	927
Females	0	8	191
Youth 15-24yo	4	28	138
Children <15yo	0	0	16

*Note: No year of death reported for 36 cases

**Note: There were 14 deaths in Dec 2014, 3 died prior to the reporting month.

Figure 9. HIV Transmission by Age-Group of Reported Deaths among People with HIV, Jan-Dec 2014 (n=188)



PLHIV on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART)

As of December 2014, there were 8,481 People Living with HIV presently on Anti Retroviral Therapy. These are the combined numbers of adult and pediatric patients currently enrolled and accessing Anti-Retroviral drugs in the 19 treatment hubs listed on the right.

Treatment Hubs in the Philippines	
1.	Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center
2.	Cagayan Valley Medical Center
3.	Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center
4.	Jose B. Lingad Medical Center
5.	James L. Gordon Memorial Hospital
6.	Makati Medical Center
7.	Philippine General Hospital
8.	Research Institute for Tropical Medicine
9.	San Lazaro Hospital
10.	The Medical City
11.	Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital
12.	Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital
13.	Western Visayas Medical Center
14.	Gov. Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital
15.	Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center
16.	Zamboanga City Medical Center
17.	Southern Philippines Medical Center
18.	Northern Mindanao Medical Center
19.	Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center

* This is not a cumulative number. It does not include those who already have, left the country, lost to follow up or decided to stop taking ART.

Blood Units Confirmed for HIV

As of December 2014, 438 blood units were confirmed positive for HIV by RITM. There is no available data yet on the total number of blood units donated.

*These are confirmed positive blood units, not blood donors. One donor can donate more than one blood unit. HIV positive blood donors may not be in the HIV & AIDS Registry unless they underwent voluntary counseling and testing as individuals.

Table 6. Number of Confirmed HIV Positive Blood Units*

Month	2014
January	40
February	29
March	45
April	34
May	27
June	25
July	40
August	45
September	48
October	37
November	44
December	24
Total	438



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Philippine HIV & AIDS Registry

The Philippine HIV & AIDS Registry is the official record of the total number of laboratory-confirmed HIV positive individuals, AIDS cases and deaths, and HIV positive blood units in the Philippines. All individuals in the registry are confirmed by the STD/AIDS Cooperative Central Laboratory (SACCL) at San Lazaro Hospital. While all blood units are confirmed by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM). Both are National Reference Laboratories (NRL) of the Department of Health (DOH).

Mandatory HIV testing is unlawful in the Philippines (RA 8504). The process of reporting to the Registry is as follows: All blood samples from accredited HIV testing facilities that are screened HIV reactive are sent to SACCL (individuals) or RITM (blood units) for confirmation. Confirmed HIV positive individuals and blood units are reported to the DOH-National Epidemiology Center (NEC), and are recorded in the Registry.

The Registry is a passive surveillance system. Except for HIV confirmation by the NRL, all other data submitted to the Registry are secondary and cannot be verified. An example would be an individual's reported place of residence. The Registry is unable to determine if this reported address is where the person got infected, or where the person lived after being infected, or where the person is presently living, or whether the address is valid. This limitation has major implications to data interpretation. Thus, readers are cautioned to carefully weigh the data and consider other sources of information prior to arriving at conclusions.