



## Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In January 2014, there were 448 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 is 18% higher compared to the same period last year (n=380 in 2013) [Figure 1].

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

Region	% of Cases
I	2%
II	2%
III	9%
IVA	16%
IVB	<1%
V	1%
VI	4%
VII	2%
VIII	<1%
IX	2%
X	1%
XI	7%
XII	2%
CAR	1%
CARAGA	1%
ARMM	<1%
NCR	50%

Most of the cases (97%) were male. The median age was 28 years (age range: 17-73 years). The 20-29 year (56%) age group had the most number of cases.

Reported modes of transmission were sexual contact (444) and needle sharing among injecting drug users (4) [Table 3, page 2]. Males having sex with other males (85%) were the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (87%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

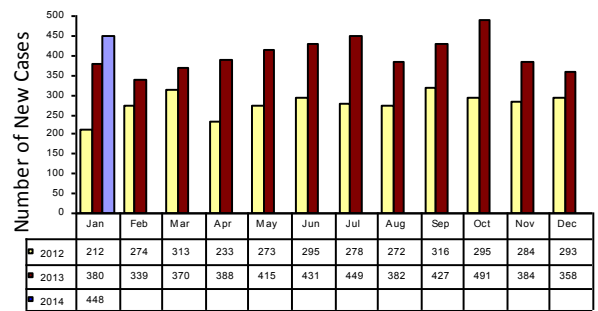
In January 2014, 86% of the new HIV cases came from NCR, Region 4A, Region 3, Region 11 and Region 6 [Table 2].

**Table 1. Quick Facts**

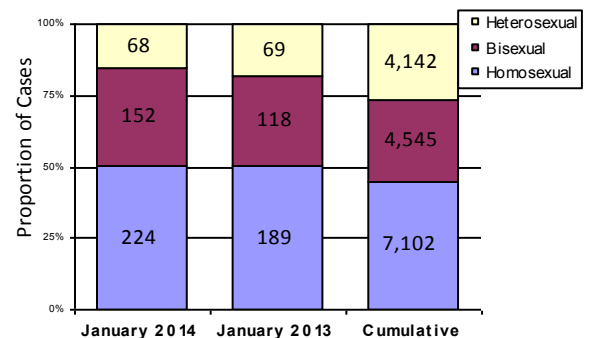
Demographic Data	January 2014	Cumulative 1984-2014
Total Reported Cases	448	16,964
Asymptomatic Cases	391	15,401
AIDS Cases	57	1,563
Males	434	15,094*
Females	14	1,859*
Youth 15-24yo	118	4,307
Children <15yo	0	65

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

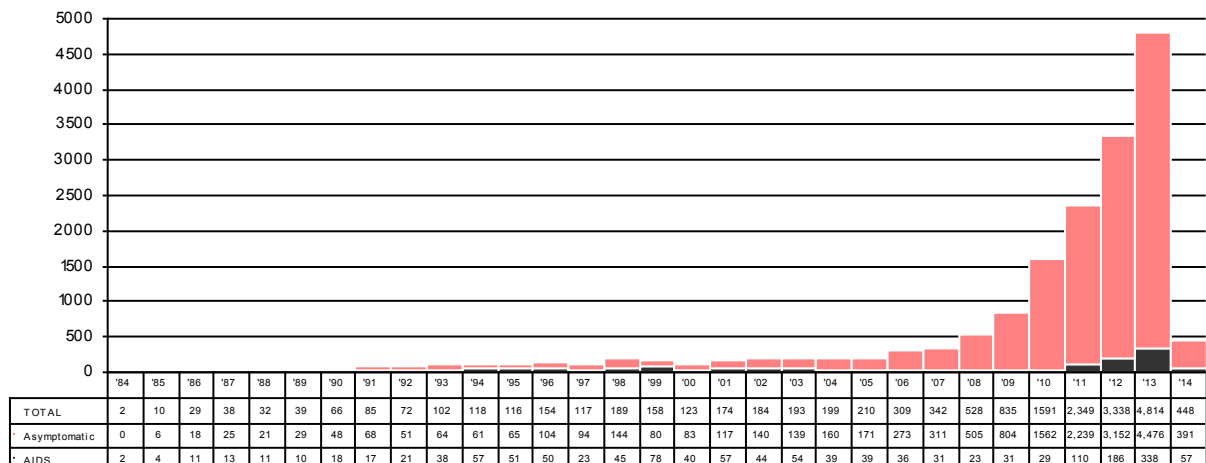
**Figure 1. Number of New HIV Cases per Month (2012-2014)**



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



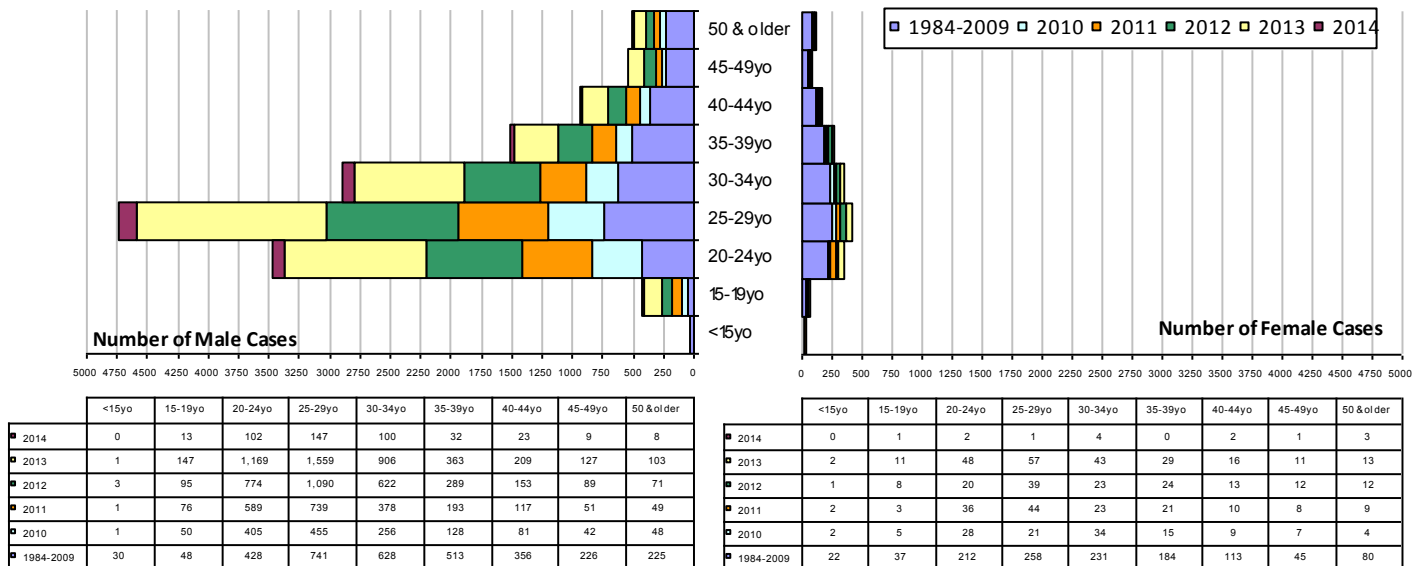
**Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, January 1984 to January 2014 (N=16,964)**



### Demographic Characteristics (1984-2014)

From 1984 to 2014, there were 16,964 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 15,401 (91%) were asymptomatic and 1,563 (9%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 4, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Eighty-nine percent (15,094) were male. Ages ranged from 1-81 years (median 28 years). The age groups with the most number of cases were: 20-24 years (22%), 25-29 (30%), 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 (1984-2014)

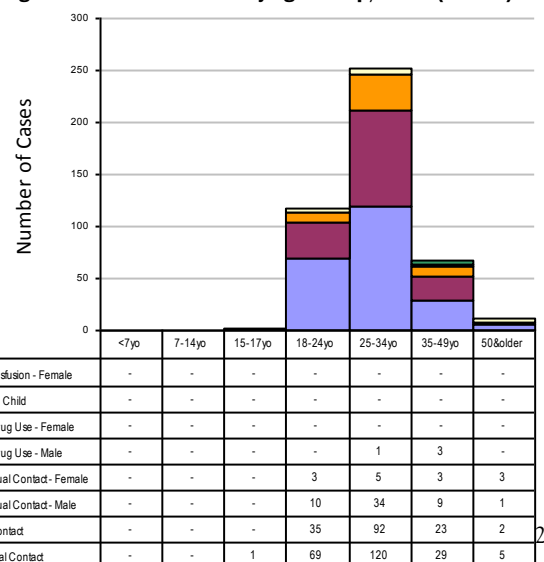
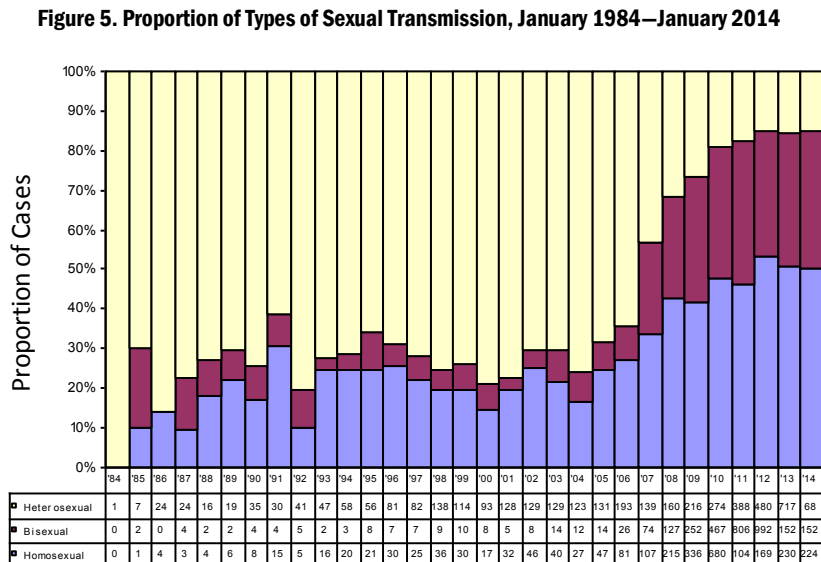
In January 2014, ninety-nine percent (444) were infected through sexual contact and 1% (4) through needle sharing among injecting drug users (Table 3). There were 430 male and 14 female infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 17-73 years old (median 28 years).

Of the 16,964 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2014, 93% (15,789) were infected through sexual contact, 4% (715) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, <1% (62) through mother-to-child transmission, <1% (20) through blood transfusion and needle prick injury <1% (3) [Table 3]. No data is available for 2% (375) of the cases.

Table 3. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	January 2014 n=448	Cumulative N=16,964
<b>Sexual Contact</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>15,789</b>
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>68(15%)</i>	<i>4,142(26%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>224(50%)</i>	<i>7,102(45%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>152(34%)</i>	<i>4,545(29%)</i>
<b>Blood/Blood Products</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Injecting Drug Use</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>715</b>
<b>Needle Prick Injury</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mother-to-Child</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>375</b>

Figure 6. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2014 (n=448)

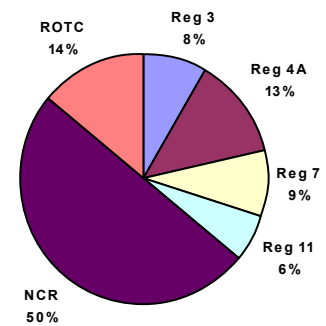


### Geographic Distribution (1984-2014)

Since 1984 to present, there were 16,964 cases reported. Half (7,843) came from the National Capital Region. [Figure 7]. Thirteen percent (2,065) came from region 4A, followed by 9% (1,419) from Region 7, 8% (1,310) from Region 3, 6% (956) from Region 11 and the rest of the country comprises 14% (2,233) of all the cases.

*\*Note: 1,137 or 7% of the cases had no reported data on their address at the time of diagnosis*

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



### AIDS Cases (1984-2014)

Of the 448 HIV positive cases in January 2014, fifty-seven were reported as AIDS cases. All were male. Ages ranged from 19-57 years (median 29 years). All acquired the infection through sexual contact (30 homosexual, 23 bisexual and 4 heterosexual).

From 1984 to 2014, there were 1,563 AIDS cases reported. Eighty-two percent (1,278) were male. Median age is 33 years (age range: 1-81 years). Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 95% (1,489) of all reported AIDS cases. Forty-two percent (630) of sexual transmission was through homosexual contact, followed by heterosexual contact (580) then bisexual contact (279).

Other modes of transmission include: mother-to-child transmission (20), injecting drug use (14), blood transfusion (10), and needle prick injuries (2). Two percent (28) of the AIDS cases did not report mode of HIV transmission.

### Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

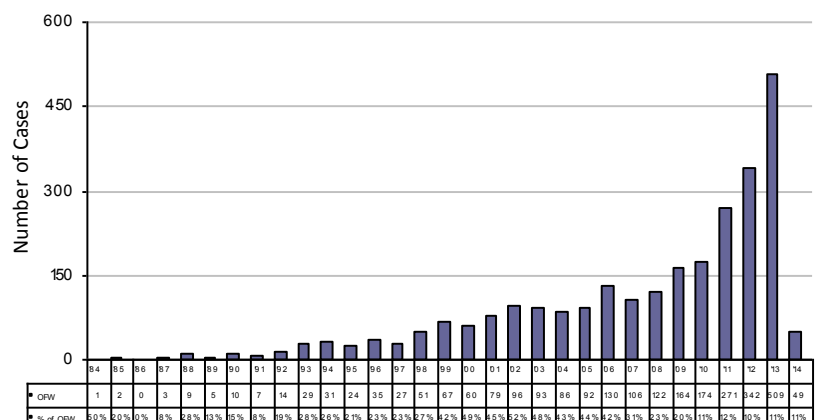
In January 2014, there were 49 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 11% of cases reported for the month [Figure 8]. Of these, 42 (86%) were male and 7 (14%) were female. All acquired the infection through sexual contact (21 heterosexual, 19 homosexual and 9 bisexual).

There were 2,687 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 16% of all reported cases [Figure 8]. Eighty-one percent (2,164) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 78 years (median 34 years). Sexual contact (98%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 4). Eighty-eight percent (2,355) were asymptomatic while 12% (332) were AIDS cases.

Table 4. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	January 2014 n=49	Cumulative N=2,687
<b>Sexual Transmission</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2,622</b>
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>21(43%)</i>	<i>1,376(52%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>19(39%)</i>	<i>701(27%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>9(18%)</i>	<i>545(21%)</i>
<b>Blood/Blood Products</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Injecting Drug Use</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Needle Prick Injury</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48</b>

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



### Deaths among People with HIV

From January 1984 to January 2014, there were 938 reported deaths among people with HIV [Table 5]. Eighty percent (749) were male. In total, there have been 107 deaths among youth (15-24 years old) and 15 deaths among children (<15 years old).

The annual number of deaths from 1984-2010 ranges from 2 to 36 cases with an average of 14 deaths per year. Beginning 2011, there has been an increase in the number of recorded deaths (69 in 2011, 177 in 2012 and 223 in 2013). The DOH-NEC established an official reporting form in 2012.

In January 2014, there were a total of 7 deaths. All were male [Table 5]. The highest number of deaths occurred in the 25-29 (57%) age-group, followed by the 20-24 (14%), 30-34 (14%) and the 50 and older (14%) age-group [Figure 9].

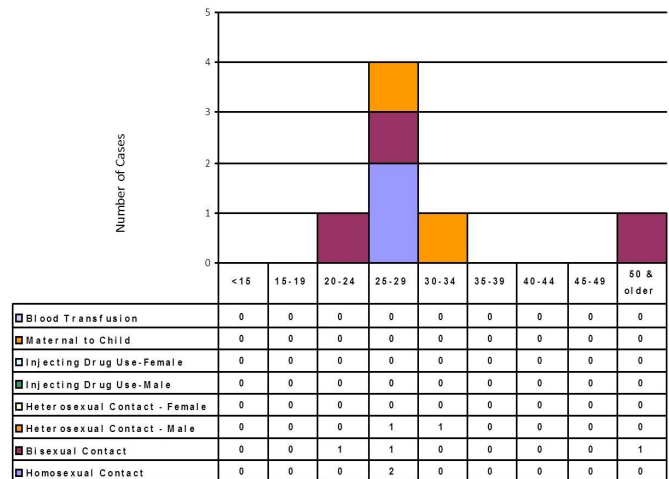
Among the reported deaths in 2014, sexual contact (100%) was the main mode of HIV transmission (2 homosexual, 3 bisexual, 2 heterosexual). There were no cases of infections through injecting drug use, maternal to child transmission and blood transfusion [Figure 9].

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

Demographic Data	Jan 2014	Jan-Dec 2013	Cumulative* (1984-2014)
Total Reported Deaths	7	223	938
Males	7	214	749
Females	0	9	189
Youth 15-24yo	0	30	107
Children <15yo	0	1	15

\*Note: No year of death reported for 44 cases

Figure 9. HIV Transmission by Age-Group of Reported Deaths among People with HIV, January 2014 (n=7)



### PLHIV on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART)

As of January 2014, there are 5,756\* 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 18 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

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

### Blood Units Confirmed for HIV

In January 2014, 40 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	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	
Total	40



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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.