



## Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In May 2012, there were 273 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 48% higher compared to the same period last year (n=184 in 2011) [Figure 1].

Most of the cases (96%) were males. The median age was 27 years (age range: 9-52 years). The 20-29 year (63%) age-group had the most number of cases. Fifty-one percent (138) of the reported cases were from the National Capital Region (NCR).

Reported mode of transmission were sexual contact (268), needle sharing among injecting drug users (4) and mother-to-child transmission (1). [Table 2, page 3]. Males having sex with other males (87%) were the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (96%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

### AIDS Cases

Of the 273 HIV positive cases, twelve were reported as AIDS cases, 9 males and 3 female. The median age is 41 years (age range: 9-52 years). Eleven acquired the infection through sexual contact (8 homosexual, 2 heterosexual contact and 1 bisexual). One acquired through mother-to-child transmission. Of the AIDS cases, there were two reported deaths for this month; both were males, ages 27 and 42 years old.

### Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

Twenty-five of the 273 (9%) reported cases were OFWs [Figure 11, page 4]. There were 23 males and 2 females. The median age was 31 years (age range: 22-48 years). All acquired the infection through sexual contact (7 heterosexual, 12 homosexual, and 6 bisexual).

Table 1. Quick Facts

Demographic Data	May 2012	Jan-May 2012	Cumulative 1984-2012
Total Reported Cases	273	1,305	9,669
Asymptomatic Cases	261	1,243	8,627
AIDS Cases	12	62	1,042
Males	261	1,243	8,133*
Females	12	62	1,525*
Youth 15-24yo	76	365	2,282
Children <15yo	1	4	62
Reported Deaths due to AIDS	2	9	352

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

Figure 1. Number of New HIV Cases per Month (2010-2012)

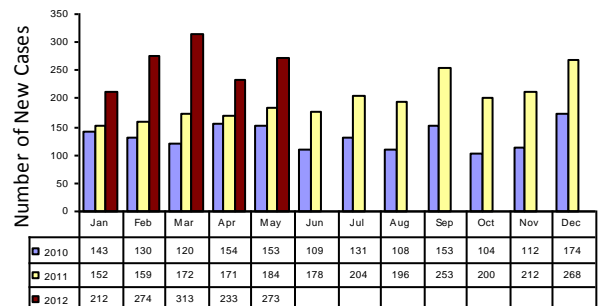


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2012, 2011 & Cumulative Data (1984-2012)

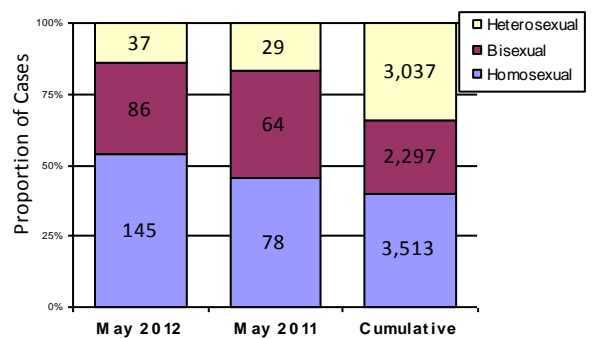
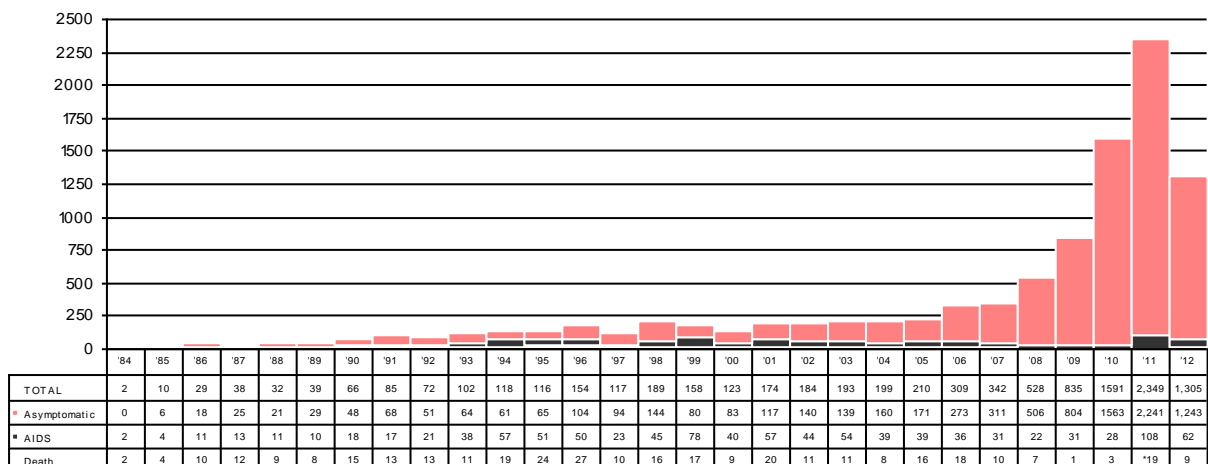


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, Jan 1984 to May 2012 (N=9,669)



\*Nine initially asymptomatic cases reported in 2011, died due to AIDS that same year.

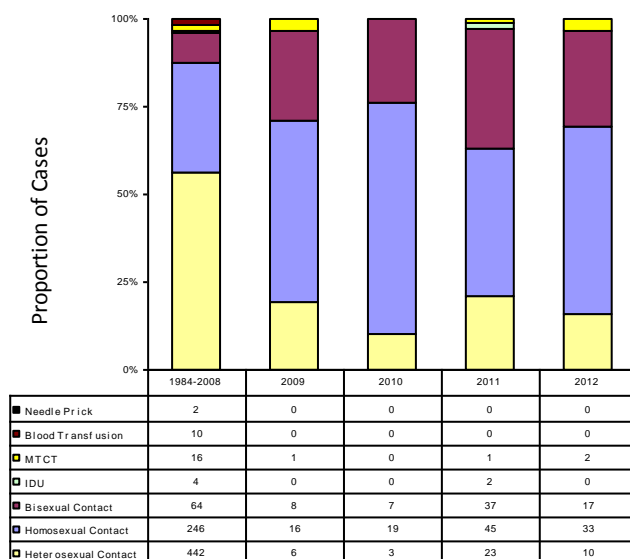
### AIDS Cases (1984-2012)

Of the 1,305 HIV positive cases in 2012, sixty-two were reported as AIDS cases. Of these, 57 were males and 5 were females. Ages ranged from 7-81 years (median 33 years). Ninety-seven percent (60) acquired the infection through sexual contact (33 homosexual, 17 bisexual and 10 heterosexual), and 3% (2) mother-to-child transmission.

From 1984 to 2012, there were 1,042 AIDS cases reported. Seventy-five percent (777) were males. Median age is 35 years (age range: 1-81 years). Of the reported AIDS cases, 352 (34%) had already died at the time of reporting. Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 94% (976) of all reported AIDS cases. Half (484) of sexual transmission was through heterosexual contact, followed by homosexual contact (359) then bisexual contact (133).

Other modes of transmission include: mother-to-child transmission (20), blood transfusion (10), injecting drug use (6), and needle prick injuries (2) [Figure 4]. Three percent (28) of the AIDS cases did not report mode of HIV transmission.

Figure 4. Proportion of Modes of Transmission of AIDS Cases by Year, Jan 1984–May 2012



\*Note: 28 did not report mode of transmission

### Demographic Characteristics (1984-2012)

In 2012, there were a total of 1,305 cases reported. 95% of the cases reported were males (1,243). Ages ranged from 2-81 years old (median 28 years). The 20-29 year old age group (59%) had the most number of cases for 2012. For the male age group, the most number of cases were found among the 20-24 years old (26%), 25-29 years old (33%), and 30-34 years old (19%) [Figure 6].

From 1984 to 2012, there were 9,669 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 8,627 (89%) were asymptomatic and 1,042 (11%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 6, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Eighty-four percent (8,133) were males. Ages ranged from 1-81 years (median 29 years). The age groups with the most number of cases were: 20-24 years (21%), 25-29 (28%), and 30-34 years (19%) [Figure 6].

Figure 5. Proportion of Sex & Age-Groups in May 2012 & Jan-May 2012

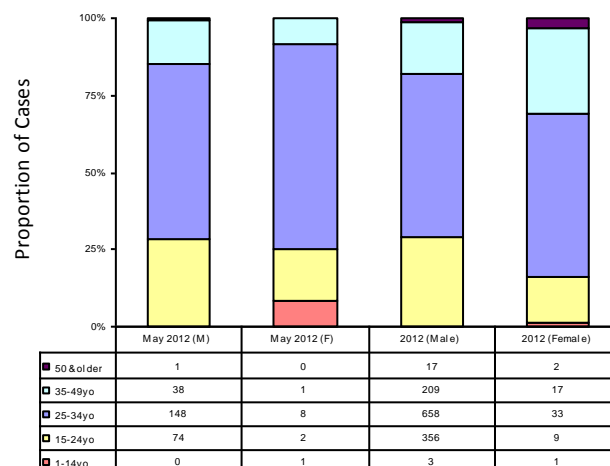
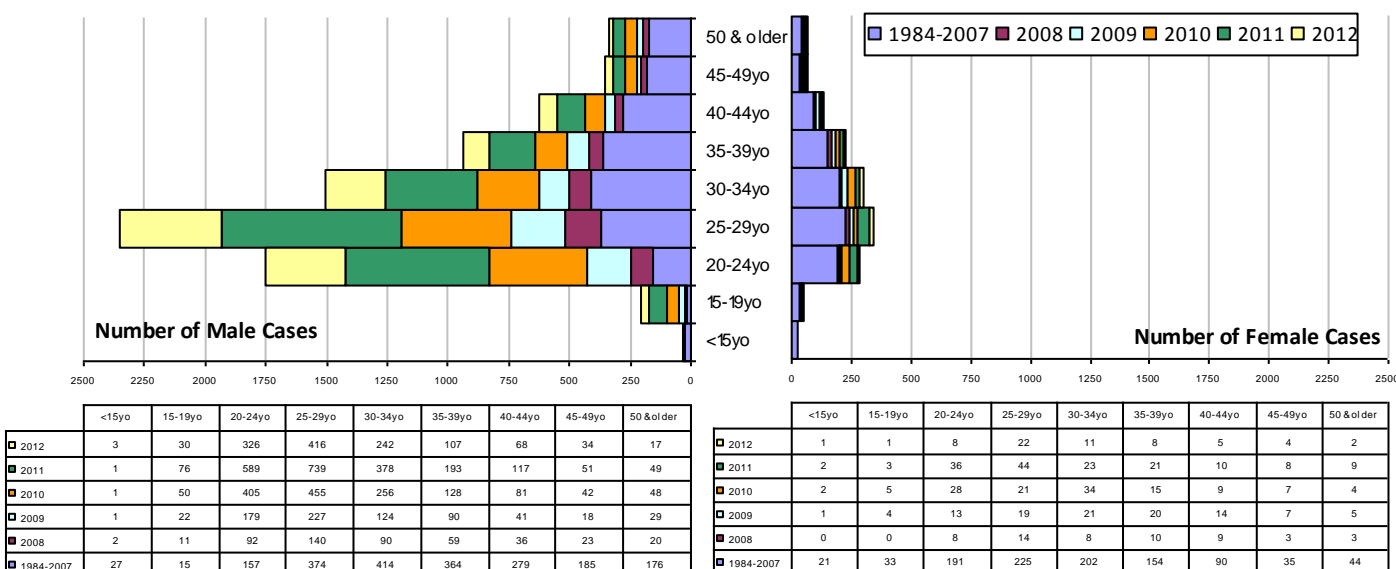


Figure 6. Comparison of the Distribution of Male and Female HIV Cases by Age-Group and Certain Highlighted Years



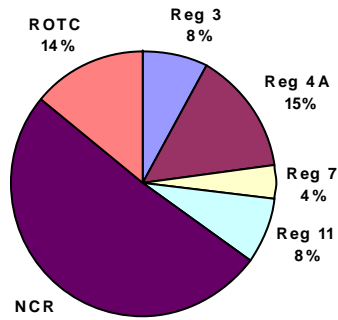
\*Note: 74 did not report age, 11 did not report sex, 10 did not report age and sex

### Geographic Distribution

Region	% of Cases
I	2%
II	<1%
III	8%
IVA	15%
IVB	0%
V	1%
VI	3%
VII	4%
VIII	1%
IX	1%
X	2%
XI	8%
XII	1%
CAR	1%
CARAGA	1%
ARMM	<1%
NCR	51%

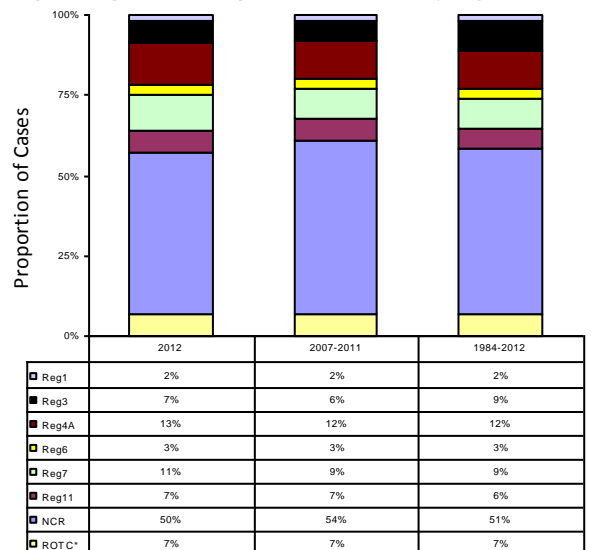
In May 2012, bulk of the new HIV cases came from NCR, Region 4A, Region 11, Region 3, and Region 7 [Fig 7]. The three highest reporting regions were NCR, Region 4A, and Region 11.

Figure 7. New HIV Cases by Region, May 2012



\*ROTC: Rest of the Country

Fig 8. Comparison of Proportion of HIV Cases by Region & Year



### Modes of Transmission (1984-2012)

In 2012, 92% (1,201) were infected through sexual contact, 8% (100) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, and <1% (4) through mother-to-child transmission (Table 2). There were 1,149 males and 52 females infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 15-81 years old (median 27 years).

Of the 9,669 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2012, 92% (8,847) were infected through sexual contact, 4% (365) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, 1% (59) through mother-to-child transmission, <1% (20) through blood transfusion and needle prick injury <1% (3) [Table 2]. No data is available for 4% (375) of the cases.

Table 2. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	May 2012 n=273	Jan-May 2012 n=1,305	Cumulative N=9,669
<b>Sexual Contact</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>8,847</b>
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>37(14%)</i>	<i>161(13%)</i>	<i>3,037(34%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>145(54%)</i>	<i>625(52%)</i>	<i>3,513(40%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>86(32%)</i>	<i>415(35%)</i>	<i>2,297(26%)</i>
<b>Blood/Blood Products</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Injecting Drug Use</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>365</b>
<b>Needle Prick Injury</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mother-to-Child</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>375</b>

Cumulative data shows 34% (3,037) were infected through heterosexual contact, 40% (3,513) through homosexual contact, and 26% (2,297) through bisexual contact. From 2007 there has been a shift in the predominant trend of sexual transmission from heterosexual contact (21%) to males having sex with other males (79%) [Figure 9].

Figure 9. Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission, Jan 1984–May 2012

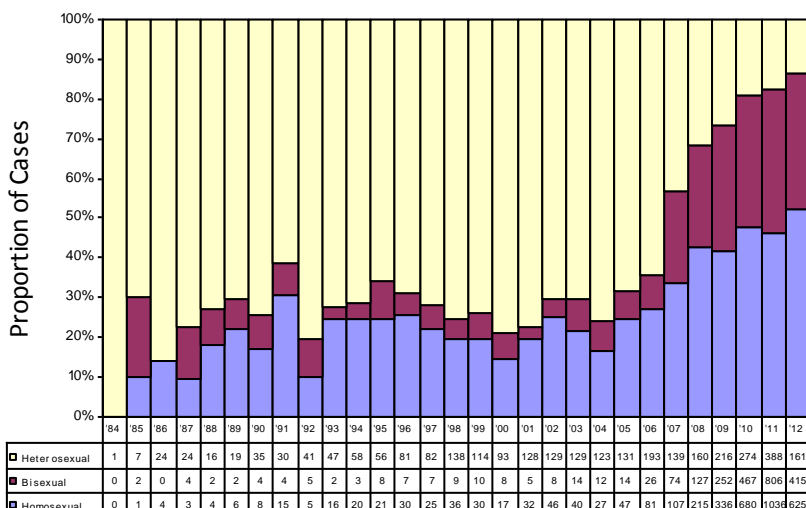
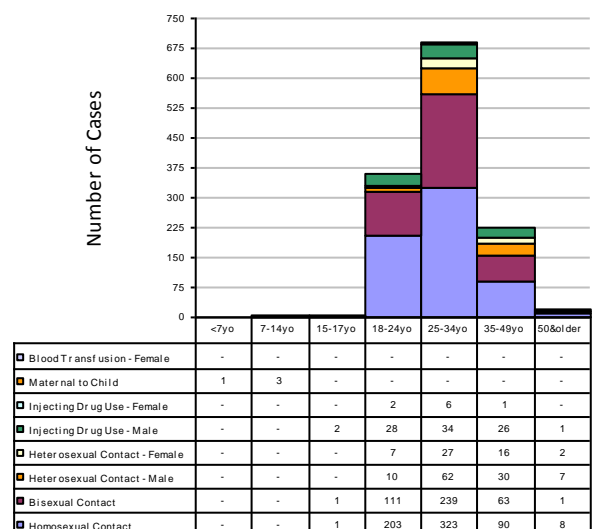


Figure 10. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2012 (n=1,305)



### Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

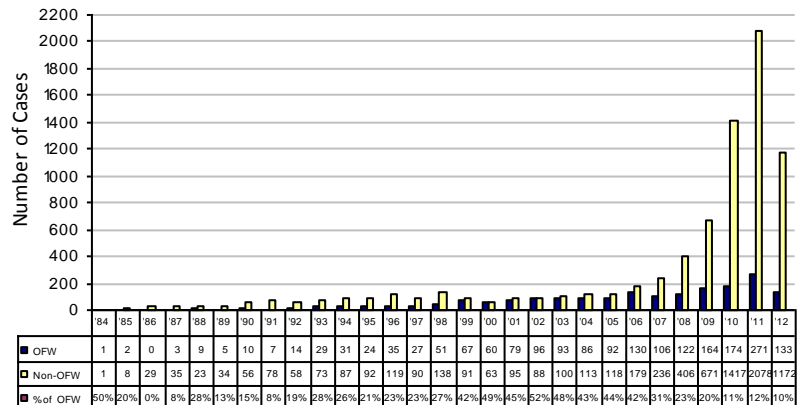
In 2012, there were 133 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 10% of cases reported for the year [Figure 11]. Of these, 118 (89%) were males and 15 (11%) were females. All were infected through sexual contact.

There were 1,921 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 20% of all reported cases [Figure 11]. Seventy-seven percent (1,488) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 69 years (median 35 years). Sexual contact (97%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 3). Eighty-five percent (1,631) were asymptomatic while 15% (290) were AIDS cases.

Table 3. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	May 2012 n=25	Jan-May 2012 n=133	Cumulative N=1,921
<b>Sexual Transmission</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>1,859</b>
Heterosexual contact	7(28%)	36(27%)	1,134(61%)
Homosexual contact	12(48%)	53(40%)	408(22%)
Bisexual contact	6(24%)	44(33%)	317(17%)
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	10
Injecting Drug Use	0	0	1
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
No Data Available	0	0	48

Figure 11. Number of OFWs Compared to Non-OFWs by Year (1984-2012)



### Blood Units Confirmed for HIV

As of May 2012, 111 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.

\*Update: Number of confirmed HIV Positive Units for March 2010 data was changed from 15 to 24. October 2010 data was changed from 20 to 27 and September 2011 was changed from 10 to 18.

Table 4. Number of Confirmed HIV Positive Blood Units

Month	2012	2011
January	17	11
February	18	15
March	34	14
April	21	20
May	21	10
June		32
July		22
August		18
September		*18
October		22
November		17
December		18
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>209</b>

### PLHIV on Anti-Retroviral Therapy

As of March 2012, there are 2,278\* People Living with HIV presently on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART). Data for April and May is not yet available.

Table 5. Number of PLHIV on ART

M Month	2012
January	2,087
February	2,169
March	2,278
April	Data not yet available
May	Data not yet available
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

#### Treatment Hubs in the Philippines

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

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



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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.