



Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In November 2012, there were 284 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 34% higher compared to the same period last year (n=212 in 2011) [Figure 1].

Most of the cases (97%) were males. The median age was 28 years (age range: 17-59 years). The 20-29 year (52%) age-group had the most number of cases. Forty-seven percent (134) of the reported cases were from the National Capital Region (NCR).

Reported mode of transmission were sexual contact (282) and needle sharing among injecting drug users (2). [Table 2, page 3]. Males having sex with other males (82%) were the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (92%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

AIDS Cases

Of the 284 HIV positive cases, twenty-four were reported as AIDS cases, all were males. The median age is 29 years (age range: 20-45 years). Ninety-six percent (23) acquired the infection through sexual contact (15 homosexual, 4 heterosexual and 4 bisexual) and 1 acquired through needle sharing among injecting drug users. There was no reported death for this month.

Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

Thirty-five of the 284 (12%) reported cases were OFWs [Figure 11, page 4]. There were 32 males and 3 females. The median age was 32 years (age range: 21-52 years). All acquired the infection through sexual contact (12 heterosexual, 16 homosexual and 7 bisexual).

Table 1. Quick Facts

Demographic Data	Nov 2012	Jan-Nov 2012	Cumulative 1984-2012
Total Reported Cases	284	3,045	11,409
Asymptomatic Cases	260	2,873	10,255
AIDS Cases	24	172	1,154
Males	275	2,903	9,793*
Females	9	142	1,605*
Youth 15-24yo	70	818	2,735
Children <15yo	0	4	62
Reported Deaths due to AIDS	0	11	353

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

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

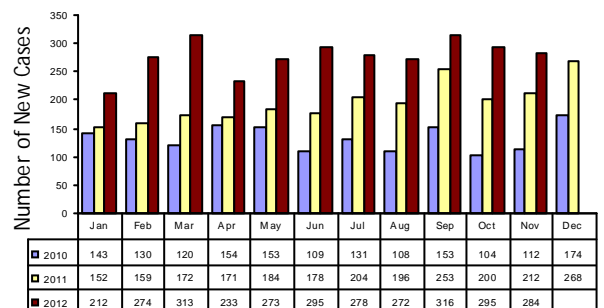


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2012, 2011 & Cumulative Data (1984-2012)

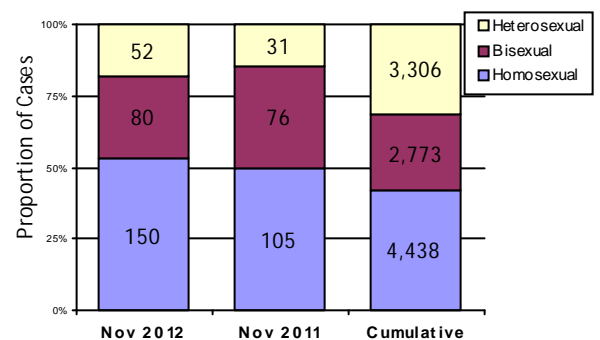
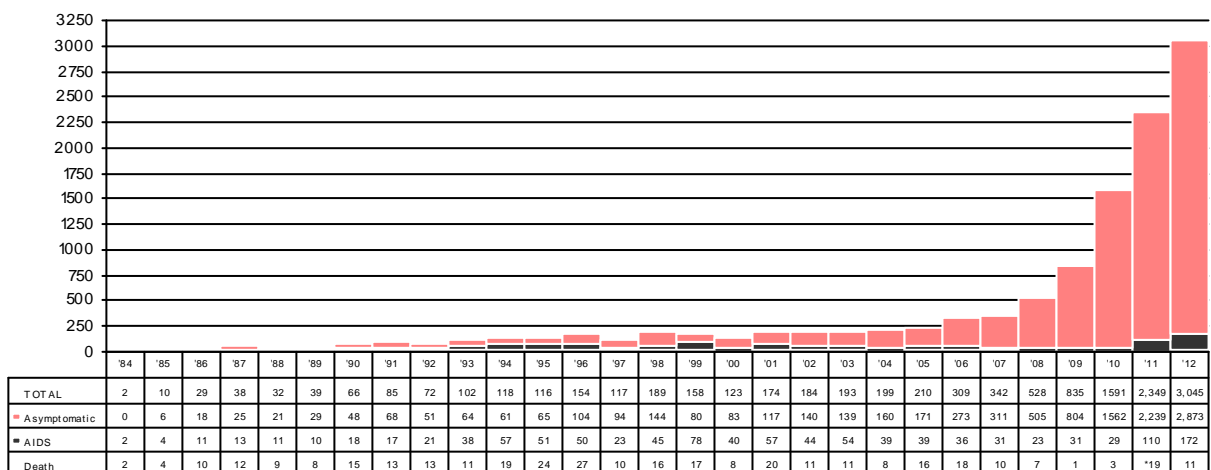


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, Jan 1984 to November 2012 (N=11,409)



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

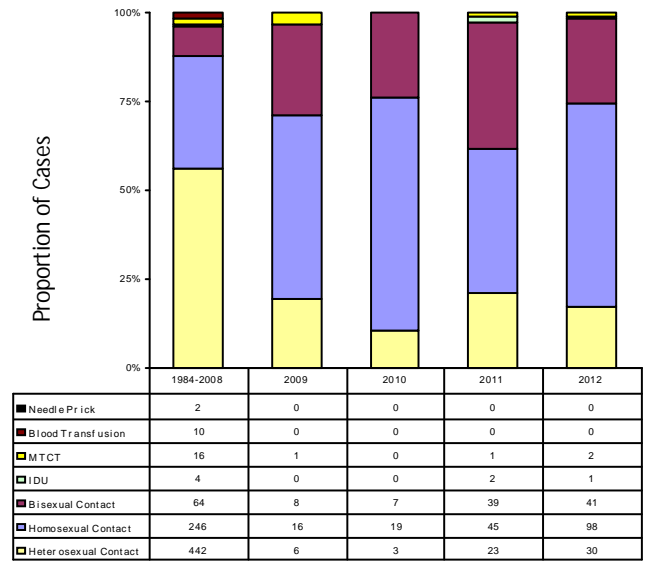
AIDS Cases (1984-2012)

Of the 3,045 HIV positive cases in 2012, one hundred seventy-two were reported as AIDS cases. Of these, 166 were males and 6 were females. Ages ranged from 7-81 years (median 31 years). Ninety-eight percent (169) acquired the infection through sexual contact (98 homosexual, 41 bisexual and 30 heterosexual), 1% (2) mother-to-child transmission, and 1% (1) injecting drug use.

From 1984 to 2012, there were 1,154 AIDS cases reported. Seventy-seven percent (888) were males. Median age is 34 years (age range: 1-81 years). Of the reported AIDS cases, 353 (31%) had already died at the time of reporting. Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 94% (1,087) of all reported AIDS cases. Almost half (504) of sexual transmission was through heterosexual contact, followed by homosexual contact (424) then bisexual contact (159).

Other modes of transmission include: mother-to-child transmission (20), blood transfusion (10), injecting drug use (7), and needle prick injuries (2) [Figure 4]. Two 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–November 2012



*Note: 28 did not report mode of transmission

Demographic Characteristics (1984-2012)

Ninety-five percent of the 3,045 cases were males (2,903). Ages ranged from 2 to 81 years old (median 28 years). The 20-29 year old age group had the most (58%) number of cases for 2012. For the male age group, the most number of cases were found among the 20-24 years old (24%), 25-29 years old (34%), and 30-34 years old (19%) [Figure 6].

From 1984 to 2012, there were 11,409 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 10,255 (90%) were asymptomatic and 1,154 (10%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 6, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Eighty-six percent (9,793) 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 (29%), and 30-34 years (19%) [Figure 6].

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

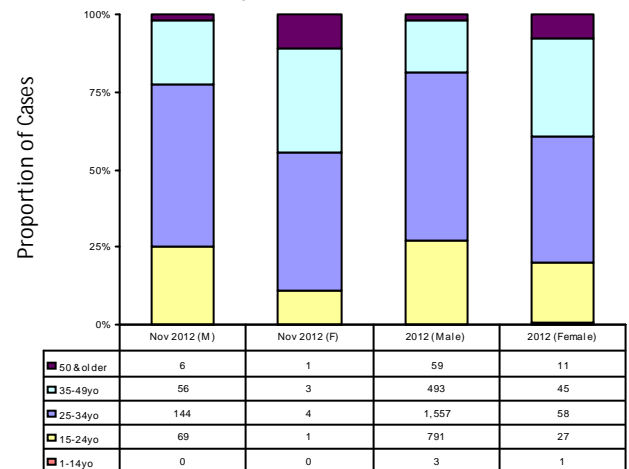
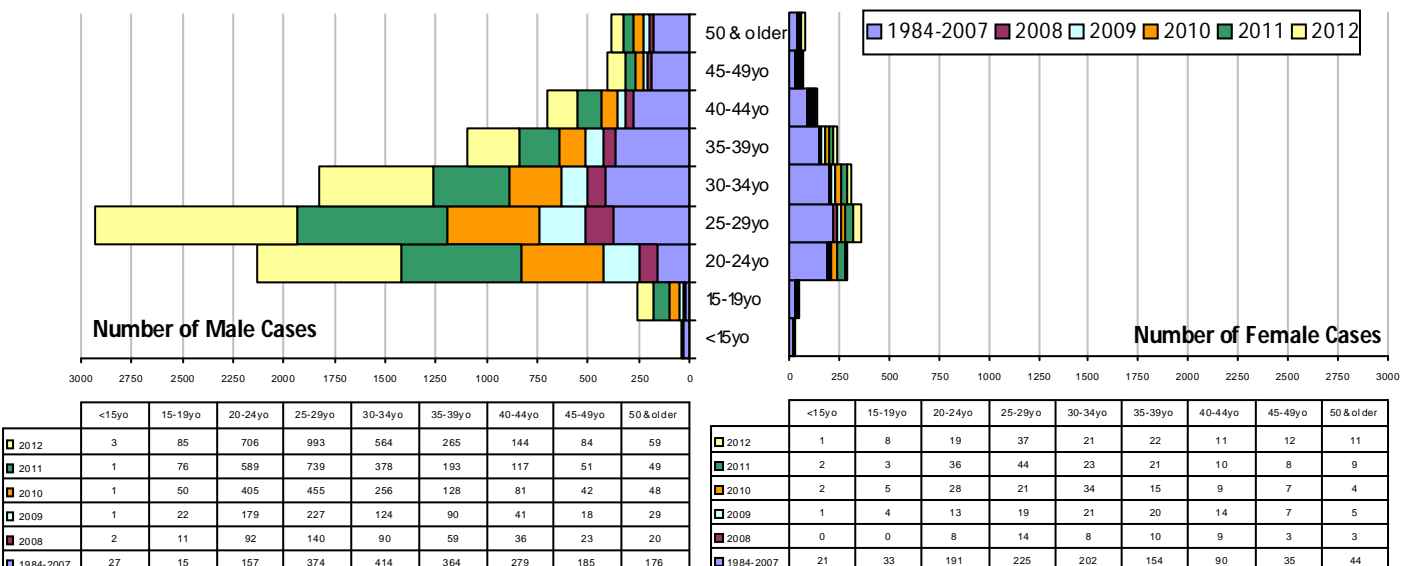


Figure 6. Comparison of the Distribution of Male and Female HIV Cases by Age-Group and Certain Highlighted Years



*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	17%
IVB	1%
V	0
VI	4%
VII	6%
VIII	1%
IX	0
X	1%
XI	8%
XII	2%
CAR	1%
CARAGA	2%
ARMM	0
NCR	47%

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

Figure 7. New HIV Cases by Region, November 2012

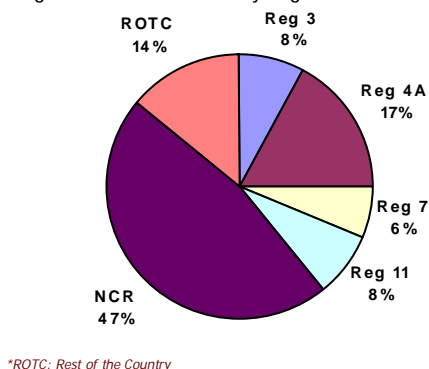
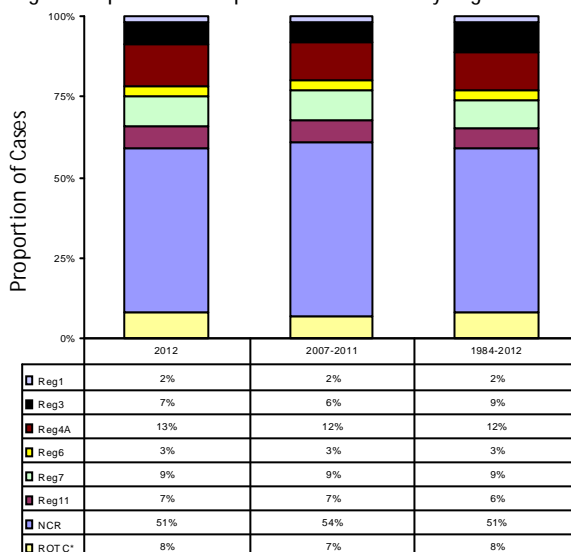


Fig 8. Comparison of Proportion of HIV Cases by Region & Year



Modes of Transmission (1984-2012)

In 2012, 94% (2,871) were infected through sexual contact, 6% (170) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, and <1% (4) through mother-to-child transmission (Table 2). There were 2,747 males and 124 females infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 15-81 years old (median 28 years).

Of the 11,409 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2012, 92% (10,517) were infected through sexual contact, 4% (435) 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 3% (375) of the cases.

Table 2. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	Nov 2012 n=284	Jan-Nov 2012 n=3,045	Cumulative N=11,409
Sexual Contact	282	2,871	10,517
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	52(18%)	430(15%)	3,306(31%)
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	150(53%)	1,550(54%)	4,438(42%)
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	80(28%)	891(31%)	2,773(26%)
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	20
Injecting Drug Use	2	170	435
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
Mother-to-Child	0	4	59
No Data Available	0	0	375

Cumulative data shows 31% (3,306) were infected through heterosexual contact, 42% (4,438) through homosexual contact, and 26% (2,773) through bisexual contact. From 2007 there has been a shift in the predominant trend of sexual transmission from heterosexual contact (20%) to males having sex with other males (80%) [Figure 9].

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

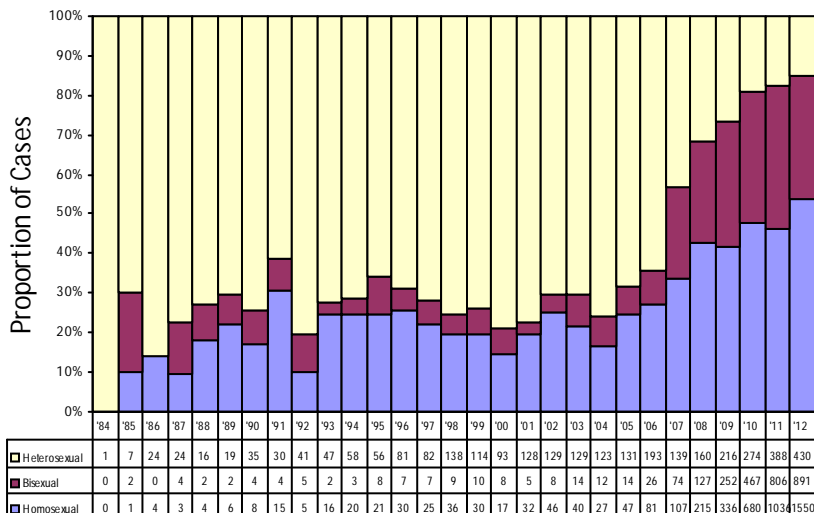
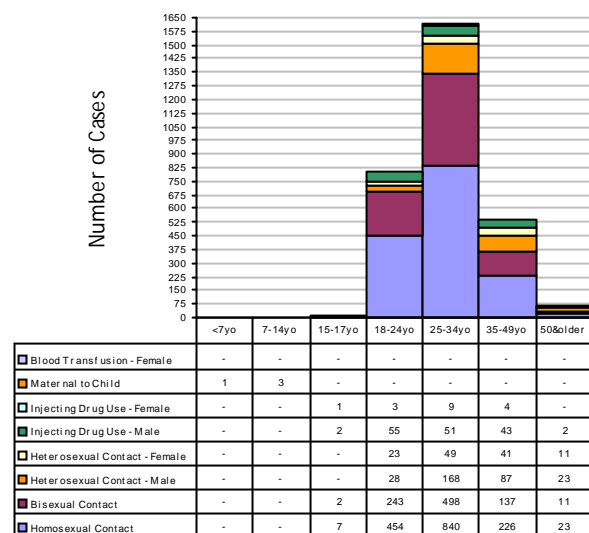


Figure 10. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2012 (n=3,045)



Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

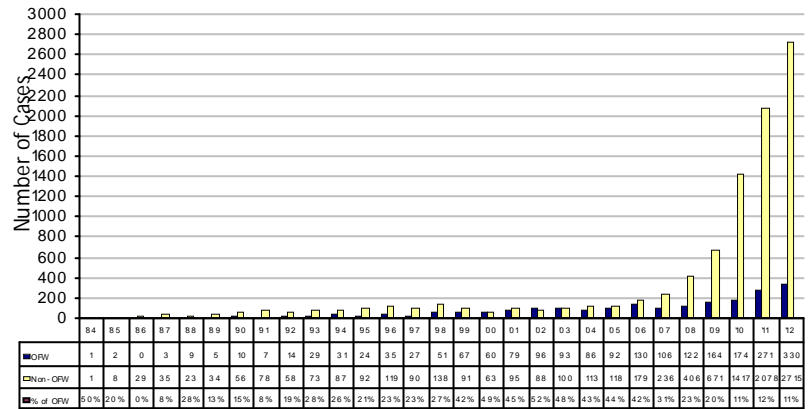
In 2012, there were 330 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 11% of cases reported for the year [Figure 11]. Of these, 290 (88%) were males and 40 (12%) were females. All were infected through sexual contact.

There were 2,118 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 19% of all reported cases [Figure 11]. Seventy-eight percent (1,660) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 69 years (median 34 years). Sexual contact (97%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 3). Eighty-six percent (1,819) were asymptomatic while 14% (299) were AIDS cases.

Table 3. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	Nov 2012 n=35	Jan-Nov 2012 n=330	Cumulative N=2,118
Sexual Transmission	35	330	2,056
Heterosexual contact	12(34%)	102(31%)	1,200(58%)
Homosexual contact	16(46%)	133(40%)	488(24%)
Bisexual contact	7(20%)	95(29%)	368(18%)
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 November 2012, 216 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 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	9	32
July	22	22
August	25	18
September	13	18
October	14	22
November	22	17
December		18
Total	216	217

PLHIV on Anti-Retroviral Therapy

As of September 2012, there are 3,115* People Living with HIV presently on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART). Data for July and August is not yet available.


Table 5. Number of PLHIV on ART

Month	2012
January	2,087
February	2,169
March	2,278
April	2,498
May	2,633
June	2,761
July	2,914
August	3,026
September	3,115
October	Data not yet available
November	Data not yet available
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.