



Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In January 2012, there were 212 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 39% higher compared to the same period last year (n=152 in 2011) [Figure 1].

Most of the cases (96%) were males. The median age was 27 years (age range:7-56 years). The 20-29 year (61%) age-group had the most number of cases. Fifty-eight percent (123) of the reported cases were from the National Capital Region (NCR).

Reported mode of transmission were sexual contact (208), needle sharing among injecting drug users (3), and mother-to-child transmission (1) [Table 2, page 3]. Males having sex with other Males (90%) were the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (98%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

AIDS Cases

Of the 212 HIV positive cases, four were reported as AIDS cases, all were males. The median age is 34 years (age range: 7-47 years). Three acquired the infection through homosexual contact, and one through mother-to-child transmission. Of the AIDS cases, there was one reported death for this month; a seven-year old male.

Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

Thirty-two of the 212 (15%) reported cases were OFWs [Figure 9, page 3]. There were 30 males and 2 females. The median age was 31 years (age range: 19-54 years). All cases acquired the infection through sexual contact (4 heterosexual, 12 homosexual, and 16 bisexual).

Table 1. Quick Facts

Demographic Data	January 2012	Cumulative Data: 1984-2012
Total Reported Cases	212	8,576
Asymptomatic Cases	208	7,601
AIDS Cases	4	975
Males	203	7,093*
Females	9	1,472*
Youth 15-24yo	57	1,974
Children <15yo	1	59
Reported Deaths due to AIDS	1	342

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

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

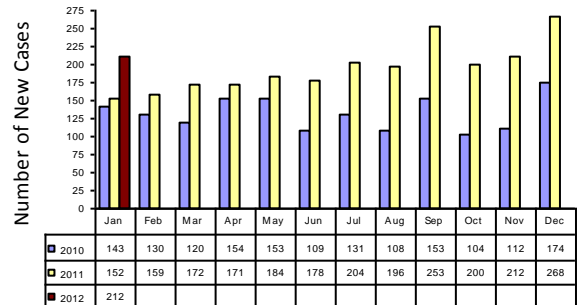


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2012, 2011 & Cumulative Data (1984-2012)

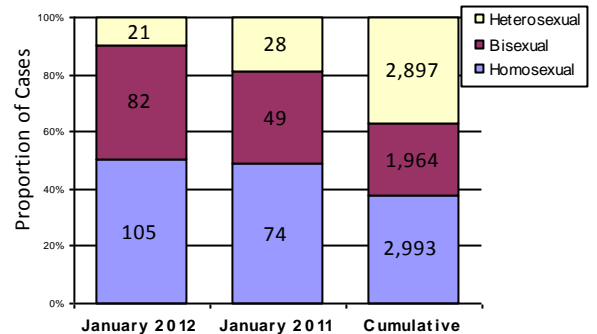
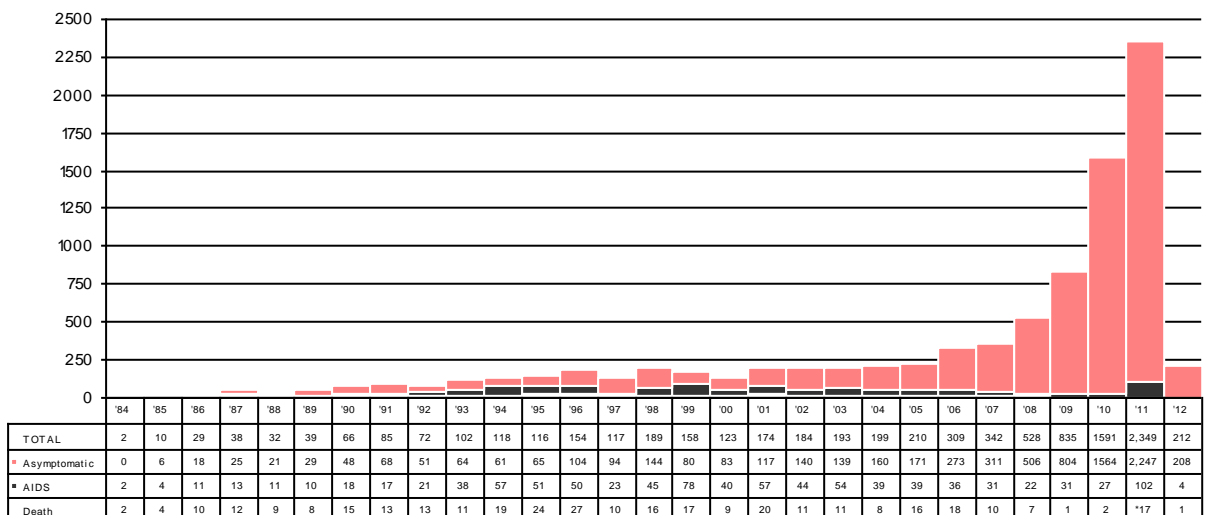


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, Jan 1984 to January 2012 (N=8,576)



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

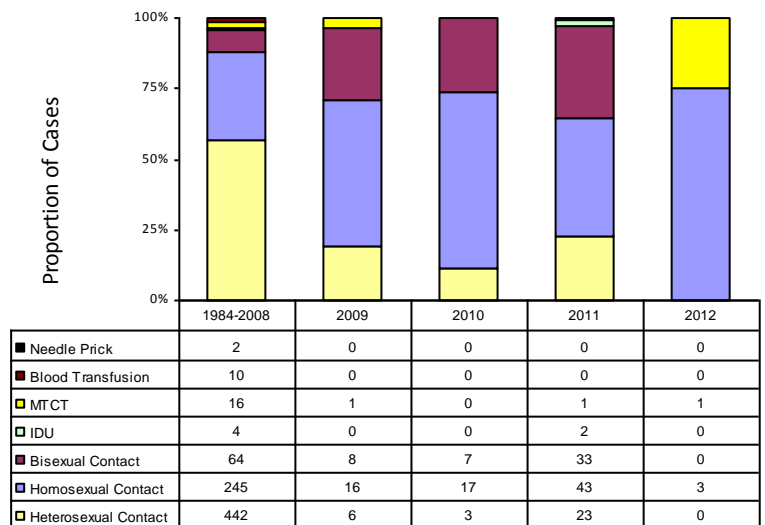
AIDS Cases (1984-2012)

From 1984 to 2012, there were 975 AIDS cases reported, 73% (715) were males. Median age was 35 years (range 1-72 years). Of the reported AIDS cases, 342 (35%) had already died at the time of reporting. Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 93% (910) of all reported AIDS cases.

More than half (474) of sexual transmission was through heterosexual contact, followed by homosexual contact (324) then bisexual contact (112).

Other modes of transmission include: mother-to-child transmission (19), 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.

Fig 4. Proportion of Modes of Transmission of AIDS Cases by Year, Jan 1984–January 2012

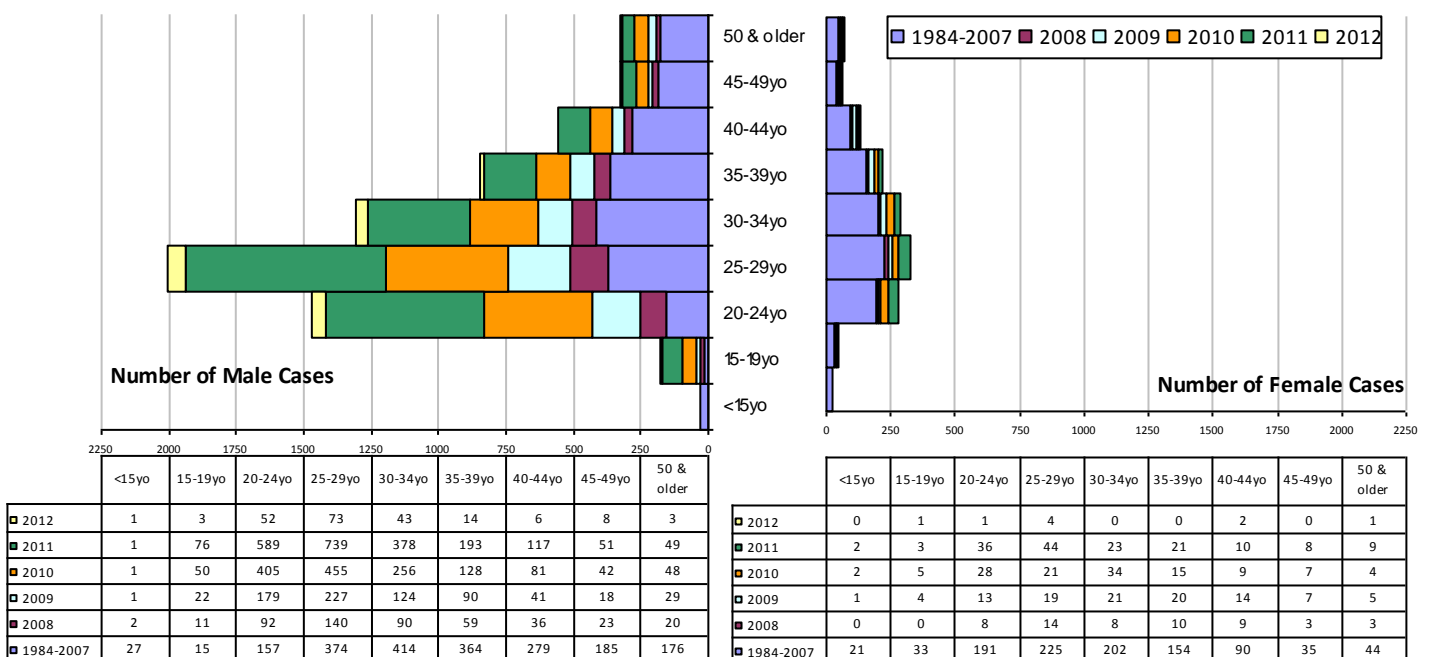


*Note: 28 did not report mode of transmission

Demographic Characteristics (1984-2012)

From 1984 to 2012, there were 8,576 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 7,601 (89%) were asymptomatic and 975 (11%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 5, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Eighty-three percent (7,093) were males. Ages ranged from 1-73 years (median 29 years). The age groups with the most number of cases were: 20-24 years (20%), 25-29 (27%) and 30-34 years (19%) [Figure 5].

Figure 5. 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

In January 2012, bulk of the new HIV cases came from NCR, Region 4A, Region 3, Region 11, Region 6, and Region 7 [Figure 6]. The three highest reporting regions were NCR, Region 4A, and Region 3.

Figure 6. Proportion of New HIV Cases by Region, January 2012

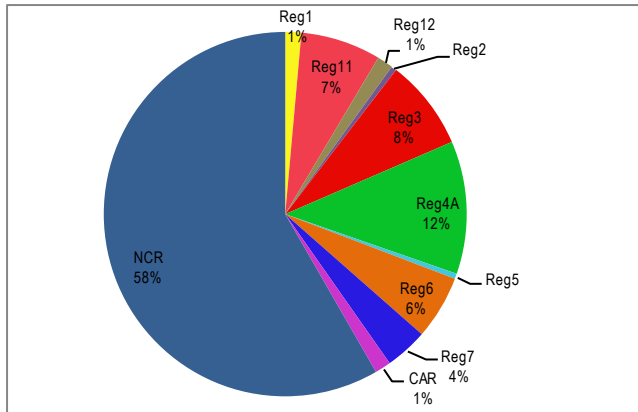
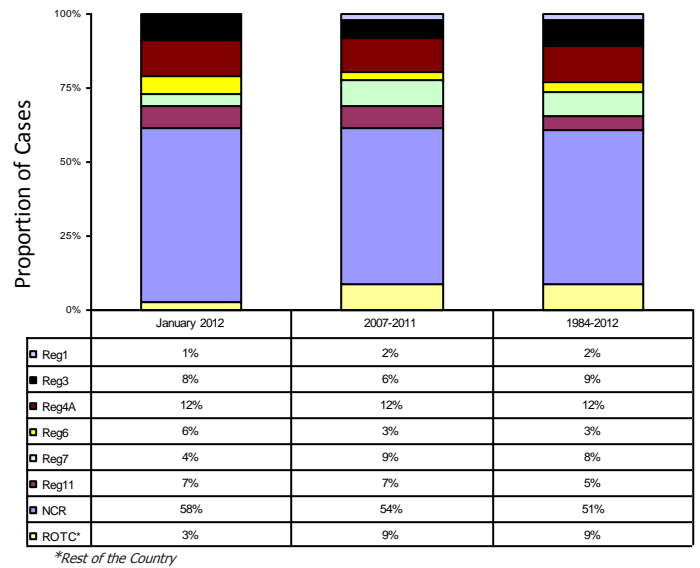


Figure 7. Comparison of Proportion of HIV Cases by Region in January 2012, 2007-2011, & Cumulative Data (1984-2012)



Modes of Transmission (1984-2012)

In 2012, 98% (208) were infected through sexual contact, 1% (3) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, and <1% (1) through mother-to-child transmission (Table 2). There were 199 males and 9 females infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 18-56 years old (median 27 years).

Of the 8,576 with HIV from 1984 to 2012, 92% (7,854) were infected through sexual contact, 3% (268) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, 1% (56) through mother-to-child transmission and <1% (20) through blood transfusion. Other modes of transmission are listed in Table 2. No data is available for 4% (375) of the cases.

Table 2. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	Jan 2012 n=212	Cumulative N=8,576
Sexual Contact	208	7,854
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>21(10%)</i>	<i>2,897(37%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>105(50%)</i>	<i>2,993(38%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>82(39%)</i>	<i>1,964(25%)</i>
Blood/Blood Products	0	20
Injecting Drug Use	3	268
Needle Prick Injury	0	3
Mother-to-Child	1	56
No Data Available	0	375

Cumulative data shows 37% (2,897) were infected through heterosexual contact, 38% (2,993) through homosexual contact, and 25% (1,964) through bisexual contact. From 2007 there has been a shift in the predominant trend of sexual transmission from heterosexual contact (22%) to males having sex with other males (78%) [Figure 9].

Figure 8. Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission, Jan 1984–Jan 2012

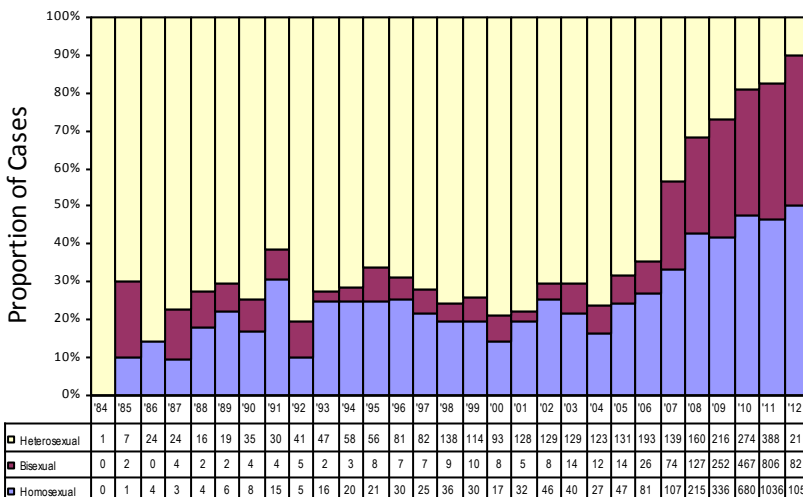
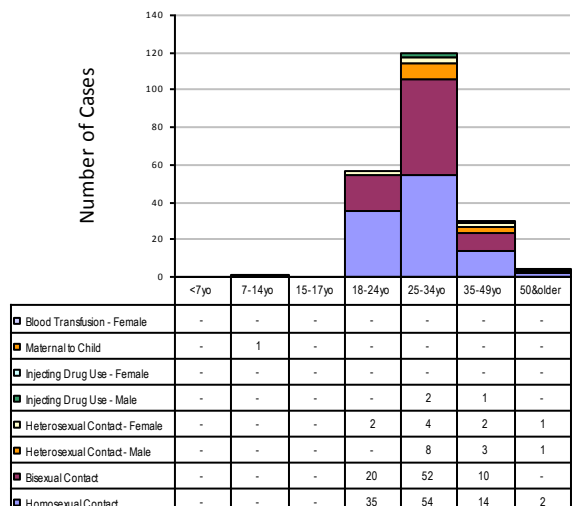


Fig 9. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2012 (n=212)



Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

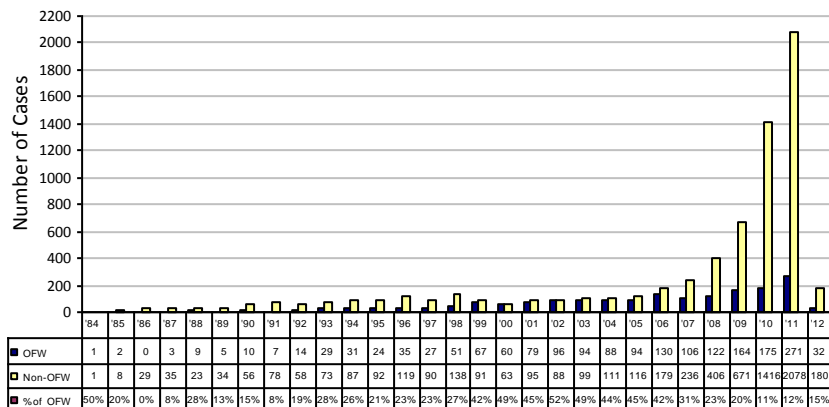
In 2012, there were 32 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 15% of cases reported for the year [Figure 10]. Of these, 30 (94%) were males and 2 (6%) were females; all infected through sexual contact.

There were 1,826 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 21% of all reported cases [Figure 10]. Seventy-seven percent (1,405) 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 (1,547) were asymptomatic while 15% (279) were AIDS cases.

Table 3. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	Jan 2012 n=32	Cumulative N=1,826
Sexual Transmission	32	1,764
Heterosexual contact	4(12%)	1,107(63%)
Homosexual contact	12(38%)	368(21%)
Bisexual contact	16(50%)	289(16%)
Blood/Blood Products	0	10
Injecting Drug Use	0	1
Needle Prick Injury	0	3
No Data Available	0	48

Figure 10. Number of OFWs Compared to Non-OFWs by Year (1984-2012)



Blood Units Confirmed for HIV

In January 2012, 17 blood units were confirmed positive for HIV by RITM. This was 55% higher compared to the same period last year (Table 4). 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

Monthly Report	2012	2011
January	17	11
February		15
March		14
April		20
May		10
June		32
July		22
August		18
September		10
October		22
November		17
December		18
Total for the year (Jan only)	17	209

PLHIV on Anti-Retroviral Therapy

As of January 2012, there are 2,087 People Living with HIV presently on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART).

Table 5. Number of PLHIV on ART

Month	2012
January	2,087*
February	
March	
April	
May	
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.



National HIV/AIDS & STI Strategic Information and Surveillance Unit

National Epidemiology Center, Department of Health, Bldg. 19, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003 Philippines

Tel: +632 651-7800 local 2926, 2952
 Fax: +632 495-0513
 Email: HIVepicenter@gmail.com
 Website: http://www.doh.gov.ph

Philippine HIV & AIDS Registry Report Editorial Team:

- María Lourdes Ann D.J. Ocampo
HIV Surveillance Assistant, HIV Unit
- Krizelle Anne G. Ronquillo
Asst. HIV Surveillance Officer, HIV Unit
- Noel S. Palaypayon, RN, MGM
HIV Surveillance Officer, HIV Unit
- Genesis May J. Samonte, MD, PHSAE
Epidemiologist, HIV Unit
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Chief, SRAE, NEC
- Enrique A. Tayag, MD, PHSAE, FPSMID
Director IV, NEC

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.