



Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In November 2014, there were 492 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 28% higher compared to the same period last year (n=384) [Figure 1].

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

Region	% of Cases
I	1%
II	1%
III	10%
IVA	13%
IVB	1%
V	1%
VI	3%
VII	10%
VIII	2%
IX	2%
X	1%
XI	7%
XII	3%
CAR	1%
CARAGA	2%
ARMM	0%
NCR	43%

Most of the cases (96%) were male. The median age was 28 years (age range: 17-68 years). The 20-29 year (56%) age group had the most number of cases.

Reported modes of transmission were sexual contact (n=464) and needle sharing among injecting drug users (n=28) [Table 3, page 2]. Males having sex with other males (85%) was the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (92%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

In November 2014, 83% of the new HIV cases came from NCR, Region 4A, Region 7, Region 3 and Region 11 [Table 2].

Table 1. Quick Facts

Demographic Data	November 2014	Jan-Nov 2014	Cumulative 1984-2014
Total Reported Cases	492	5,502	22,018
Asymptomatic Cases	452	4,997	20,007
AIDS Cases	40	505	2,011
Males	474	5,272	19,932*
Females	18	230	2,075*
Youth 15-24yo	134	1,561	5,750
Children <15yo	0	4	69

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

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

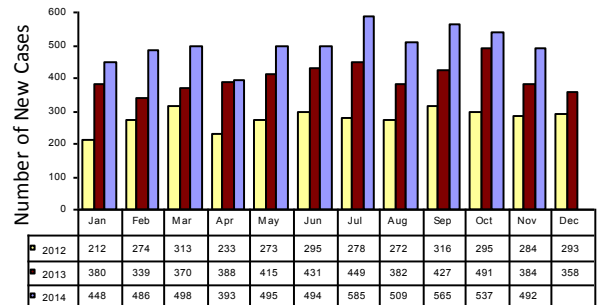


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2014, 2013 & Cumulative Data (1984-2014)

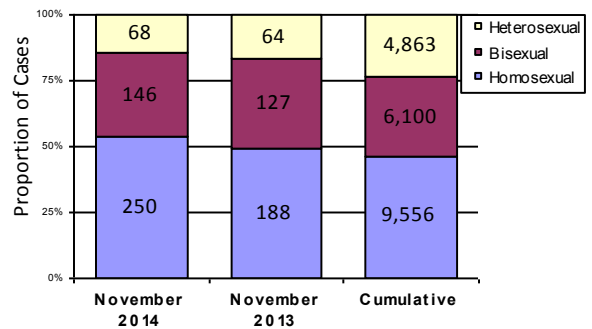
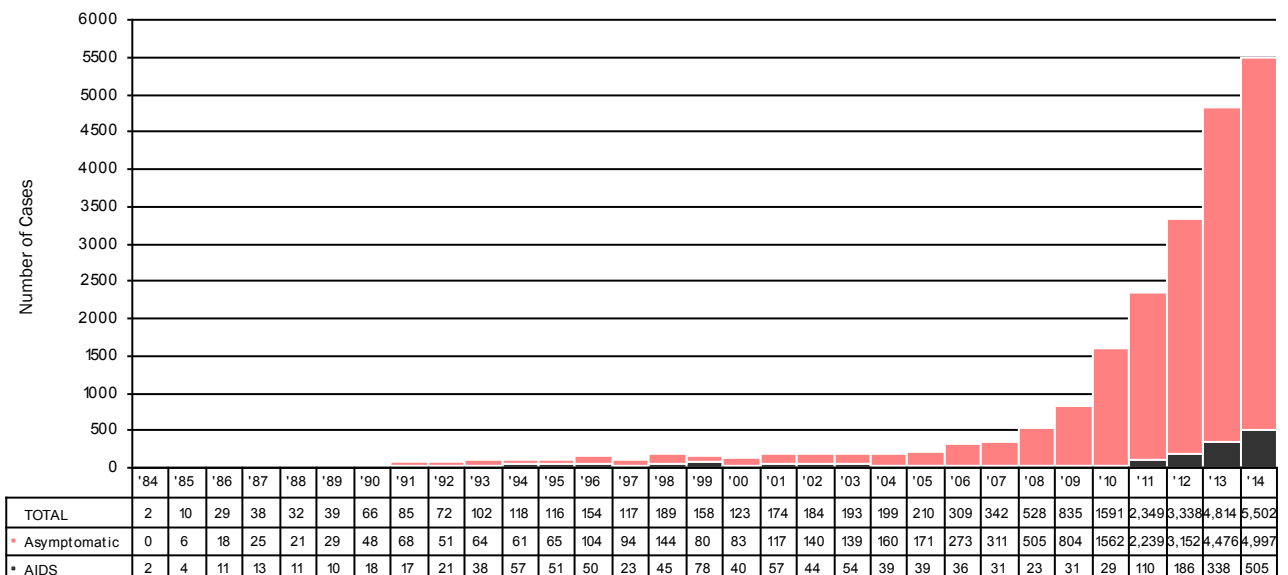


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, January 1984 to November 2014 (N=22,018)

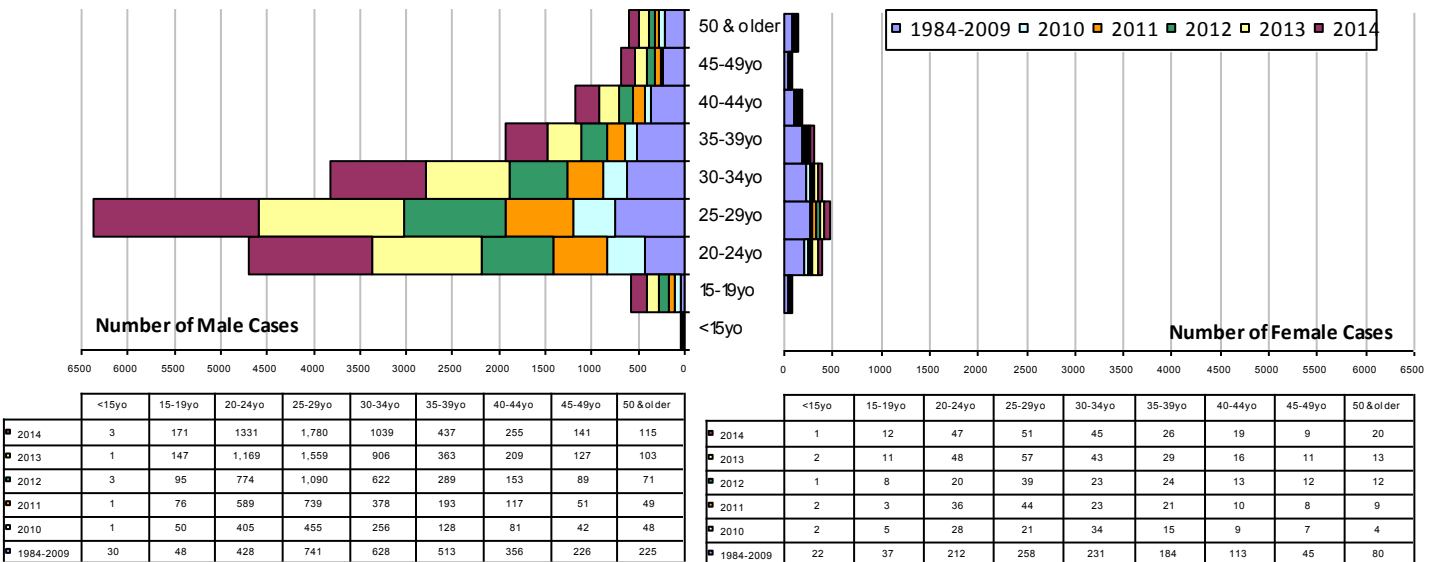


Demographic Characteristics (1984-2014)

Ninety-six percent of the 5,502 cases in 2014 were male (n=5,272). Ages ranged from 1 to 82 years old (median 28 years). The 20-29 year old age group had the most (58%) number of cases for 2014. For the male age group, the most number of cases were found among the 20-24 years old (25%), 25-29 years old (34%), and 30-34 years old (20%) [Figure 4].

From 1984 to 2014, there were 22,018 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 20,007 (91%) were asymptomatic and 2,011 (9%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 4, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Ninety-one percent (n=19,932) were male. Ages ranged from 1-82 years (median 28 years). The age groups with the most number of cases were: 20-24 years (23%), 25-29 (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 (1984-2014)

In 2014, ninety-four percent (n=5,174) were infected through sexual contact, 6% (n=324) through needle sharing among injecting drug users and 4 were infected through mother-to-child transmission (Table 3). There were 4,960 males and 214 females infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 15-82 years old (median 28 years).

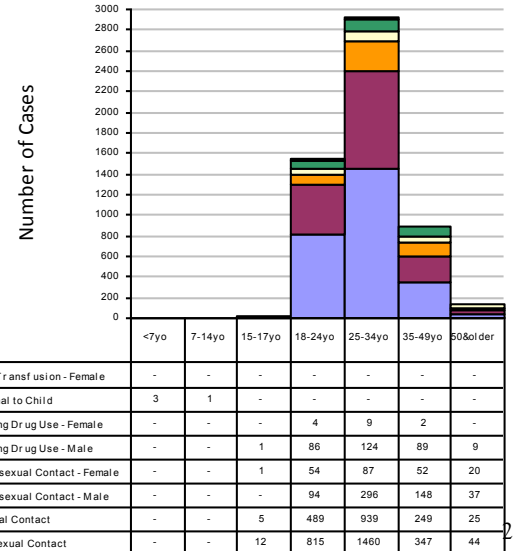
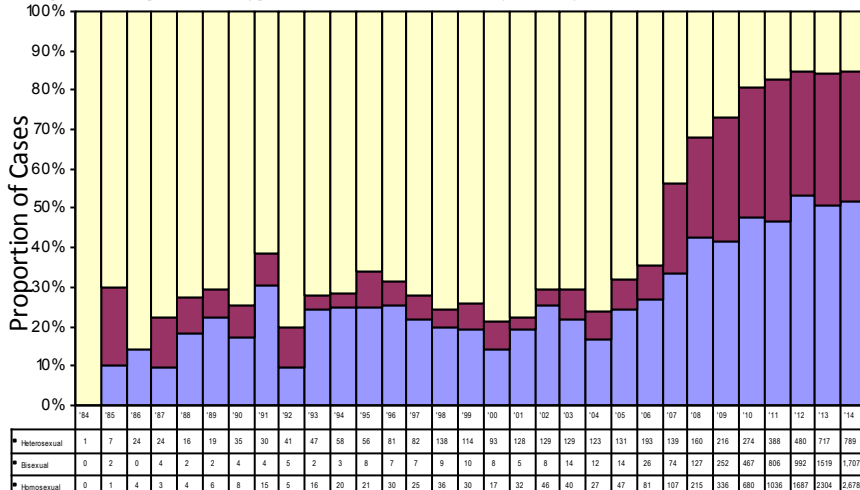
Of the 22,018 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2014, 93% (n=20,519) were infected through sexual contact, 5% (n=1,035) through needle sharing among injecting drug users, <1% (n=66) through mother-to-child transmission, <1% (n=20) through blood transfusion and needle prick injury <1% (n=3) [Table 3]. No data is available for 2% (n=375) of the cases.

Table 3. Reported Modes of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	November 2014 n=492	Jan-Nov 2014 n=5,502	Cumulative N=22,018
Sexual Contact	464	5,174	20,519
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>68 (15%)</i>	<i>789 (15%)</i>	<i>4,863 (24%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>250 (54%)</i>	<i>2,678 (52%)</i>	<i>9,556 (47%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>146 (31%)</i>	<i>1,707 (33%)</i>	<i>6,100 (30%)</i>
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	20
Injecting Drug Use	28	324	1,035
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
Mother-to-Child	0	4	66
No Data Available	0	0	375

Figure 6. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2014 (n=5,502)

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

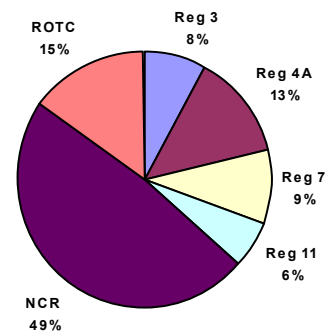


Geographic Distribution (1984-2014)

Since 1984 to present, there were 22,018 cases reported. Almost half (n=9,885) came from the National Capital Region. [Figure 7]. Thirteen percent (n=2,806) came from region 4A, followed by 9% (n=1,978) from Region 7, 8% (n=1,757) from Region 3, 6% (n=1,295) from Region 11 and the rest of the country comprises 15% (n=3,159) of all the cases.

**Note: 1,138 or 5% 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–November 2014



AIDS Cases (1984-2014)

Of the 5,502 HIV positive cases in 2014, five hundred five were reported as AIDS cases. Ninety-seven percent (n=489) were male and 3% (n=16) were female. Ages ranged from 17-69 years (median 30 years). Four hundred ninety-eight acquired the infection through sexual contact (271 homosexual, 155 bisexual and 72 heterosexual) and 7 acquired through injecting drug use.

From 1984 to 2014, there were 2,011 AIDS cases reported. Eighty-five percent (n=1,710) were male and 15% (n=301) were female. Median age is 32 years (age range: 1-81 years). Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 96% (n=1,930) of all reported AIDS cases. Forty-five percent (n=871) of sexual transmission was through homosexual contact, followed by heterosexual contact (n=648) then bisexual contact (n=411).

Overseas Filipino Workers (1984-2014)

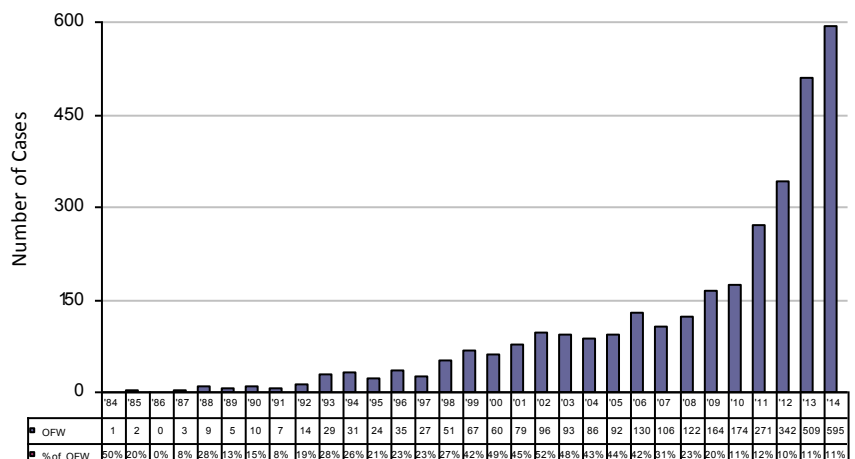
In 2014, there were 595 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 11% of cases reported for the year [Figure 8]. Of these, 522 (88%) were male and 73 (12%) were female. Most were infected through sexual contact (205 heterosexual, 230 homosexual and 158 bisexual).

There were 3,233 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 15% of all reported cases [Figure 8]. Eighty-two percent (n=2,644) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 80 years (median 33 years). Sexual contact (98%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 4). Eighty-nine percent (n=2,874) were asymptomatic while 11% (n=359) were AIDS cases.

Table 4. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	November 2014 n=54	Jan-Nov 2014 n=595	Cumulative N=3,233
Sexual Transmission	53	593	3,166
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>18(34%)</i>	<i>205(35%)</i>	<i>1,560(49%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>20(38%)</i>	<i>230(39%)</i>	<i>912(29%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>15(28%)</i>	<i>158(27%)</i>	<i>694(22%)</i>
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	10
Injecting Drug Use	1	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 1984 to November 2014, there were 1,101* reported deaths among people with HIV [Table 5]. Eighty-three percent (n=910) were male. In total, there has been 134 reported deaths among youth (15-24 years old) and 16 reported deaths among children (<15 years old).

From January to November 2014, there were a total of 171 reported deaths. Ninety-five percent (n=163) 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 (22%) and 20-24 years (13%) age groups. For the month of November 2014, there were 11 deaths reported to the Registry. Among these, 10 died in November while 1 died prior to the reporting month. [Table 5].

Among the reported deaths in 2014, sexual contact (96%) was the most common mode of HIV transmission (91 homosexual, 50 bisexual, 23 heterosexual). There were 7 cases who got infected through injecting drug use (4%) [Figure 9].

*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.

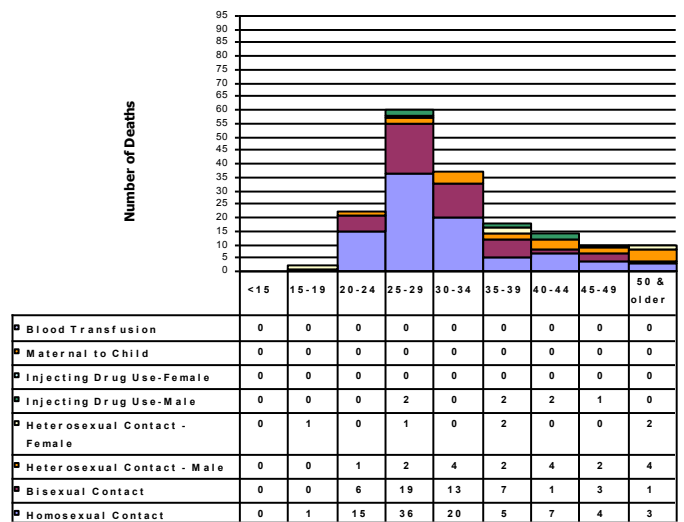
Table 5. Demographic data of reported deaths among People with HIV

Demographic Data	November 2014	Jan-Nov 2014	Cumulative* (1984-2014)
Total Reported Deaths	10**	171	1,101
Males	8	163	910
Females	2	8	191
Youth 15-24yo	2	24	134
Children <15yo	0	0	16

*Note: No year of death reported for 46 cases

**Note: There were 10 deaths in Nov 2014, 1 died prior to the reporting month.

Figure 9. HIV Transmission by Age-Group of Reported Deaths among People with HIV, Jan-Nov 2014 (n=171)



PLHIV on Anti-Retroviral Therapy (ART)

As of November 2014, there were 8,274 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, died or decided to stop taking ART.

Blood Units Confirmed for HIV

As of November 2014, 414 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
July	25
July	40
August	45
September	48
October	37
November	44
December	
Total	414



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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.