



## Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In February 2013, there were 339 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 24% higher compared to the same period last year (n=274 in 2012) [Figure 1].

**Table 2. Percentage of HIV Cases per Region (Feb 2013)**

Region	% of Cases
I	1%
II	<1%
III	7%
IVA	10%
IVB	<1%
V	1%
VI	2%
VII	5%
VIII	1%
IX	<1%
X	2%
XI	5%
XII	1%
CAR	1%
CARAGA	<1%
ARMM	1%
NCR	61%

Most of the cases (96%) were males. The median age was 27 years (age range: 18-58 years). The 20-29 year (60%) age group had the most number of cases.

Reported mode of transmission was sexual contact (339) [Table 3, page 2]. Males having sex with other males (82%) were the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. Most (93%) of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

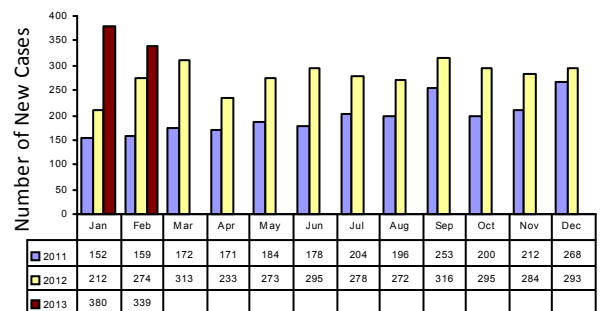
In February 2013, bulk of the new HIV cases came from NCR, Region 4A, Region 3, Region 11, and Region 7 [Table 2]. The three highest reporting regions were NCR, 4A and 3.

**Table 1. Quick Facts**

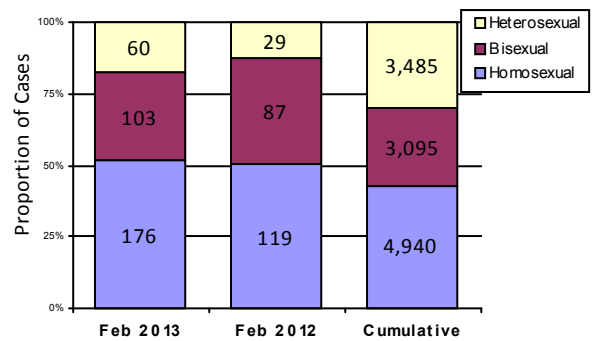
Demographic Data	Feb 2013	Jan-Feb 2013	Cumulative 1984-2013
Total Reported Cases	339	719	12,421
Asymptomatic Cases	316	671	11,204
AIDS Cases	23	48	1,217
Males	327	682	10,758*
Females	12	37	1,652*
Youth 15-24yo	96	197	3,011
Children <15yo	0	0	62
Reported Deaths due to AIDS	0	0	353

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

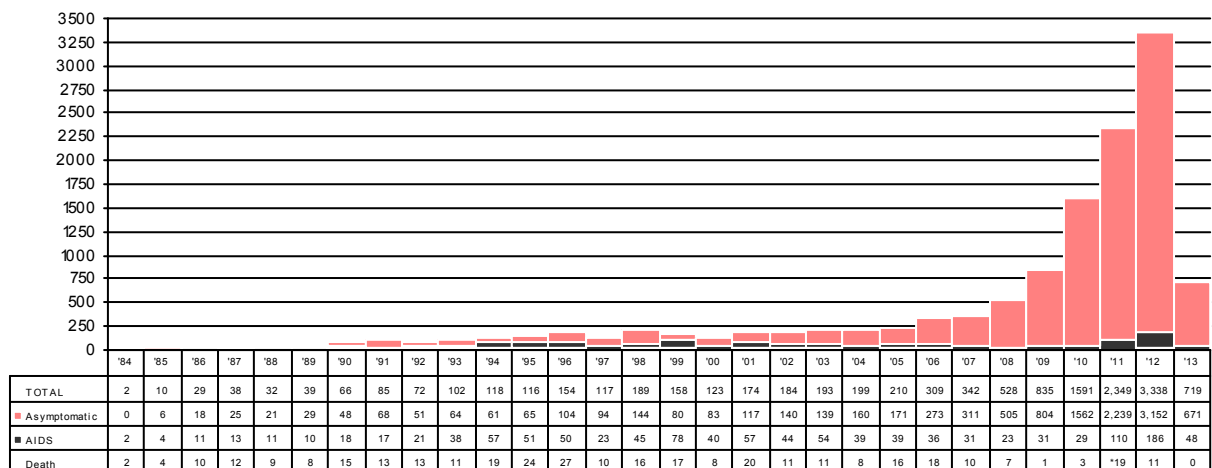
**Figure 1. Number of New HIV Cases per Month (2011-2013)**



**Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2013, 2012 & Cumulative Data (1984-2013)**



**Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, Feb 1984 to February 2013 (N=12,421)**



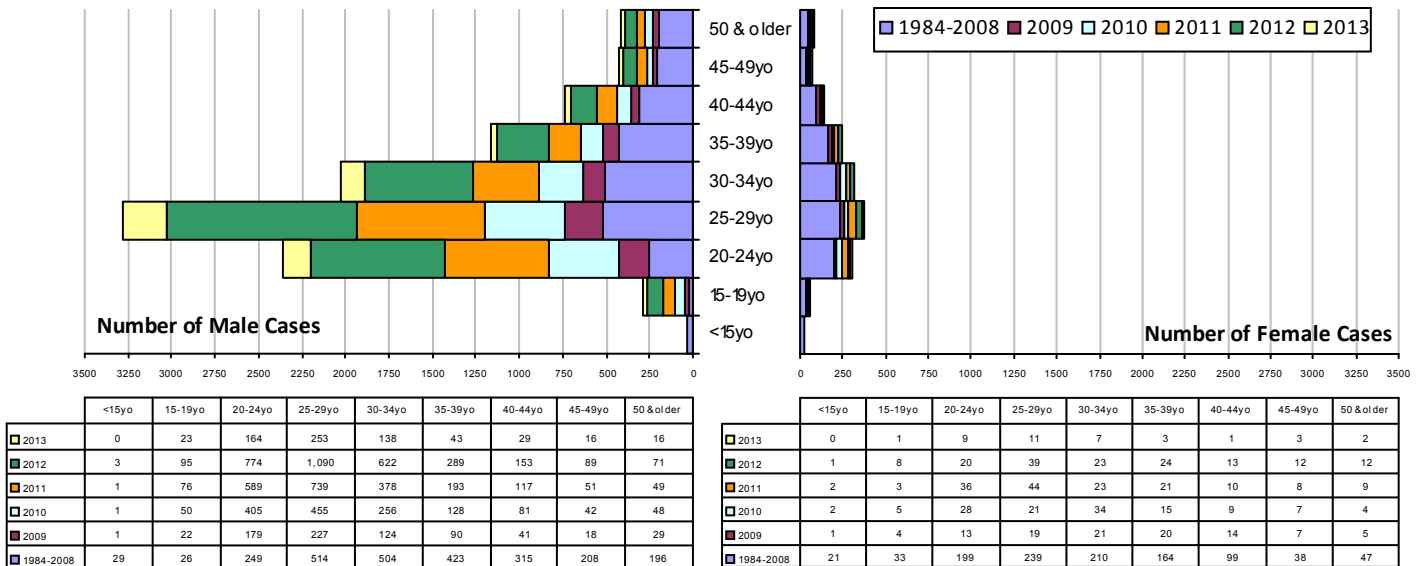
\*Nine initially asymptomatic cases reported in 2011, died due to AIDS that same year.

### Demographic Characteristics (1984-2013)

Ninety-five percent of the 719 cases in 2013 were males (682). Ages ranged from 17 to 62 years old (median 27 years). The 20-29 year old age group had the most (61%) number of cases for 2013. For the male age group, the most number of cases were found among the 20-24 years old (24%), 25-29 years old (37%), and 30-34 years old (20%) [Figure 4].

From 1984 to 2013, there were 12,421 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 10,758 (87%) were asymptomatic and 1,217 (10%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 4, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Eighty-seven percent (10,758) were males. Ages ranged from 1-81 years (median 29 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 (1984-2013)

In 2013, ninety-nine percent (715) were infected through sexual contact and 1% (4) through needle sharing among injecting drug users (Table 3). There were 678 males and 37 females infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 17-62 years old (median 27 years).

Of the 12,421 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2013, 93% (11,520) were infected through sexual contact, 4% (444) 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 3]. No data is available for 3% (375) of the cases.

Table 3. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission

Mode of Transmission	Feb 2013 n=339	Jan-Feb 2013 n=719	Cumulative N=12,421
<b>Sexual Contact</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>11,520</b>
<i>Heterosexual contact</i>	<i>60(18%)</i>	<i>129(18%)</i>	<i>3,485(30%)</i>
<i>Homosexual contact</i>	<i>176(52%)</i>	<i>365(51%)</i>	<i>4,940(43%)</i>
<i>Bisexual contact</i>	<i>103(30%)</i>	<i>221(31%)</i>	<i>3,095(27%)</i>
<b>Blood/Blood Products</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Injecting Drug Use</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>444</b>
<b>Needle Prick Injury</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mother-to-Child</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>No Data Available</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>375</b>

Figure 5. Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission, Jan 1984–February 2013

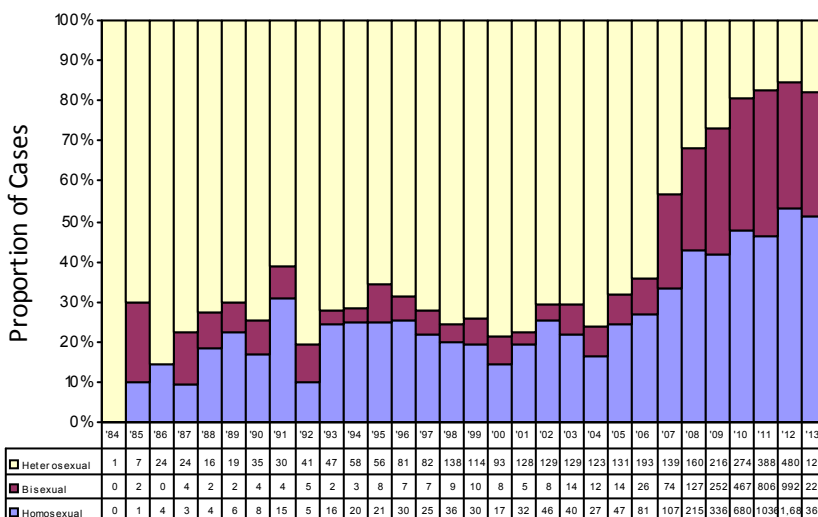
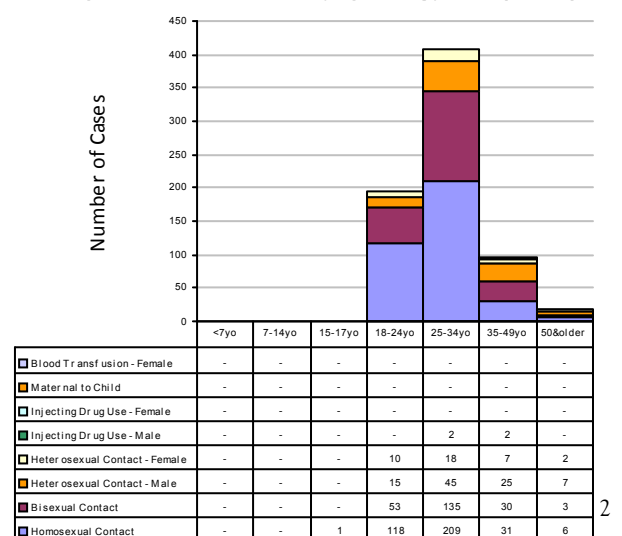


Figure 6. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2013 (n=719)

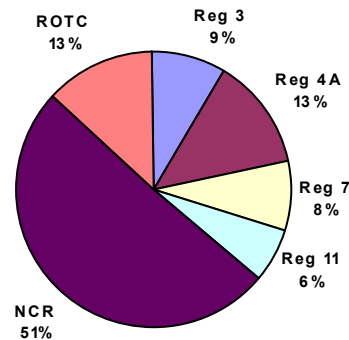


### Geographic Distribution (1984-2013)

Since 1984 to present, there were 12,421 cases reported. More than half (5,793) came from the National Capital Region. [Figure 7]. Thirteen percent (1,418) came from region 4A, followed by 9% (978) from Region 3, 8% (936) from Region 7, 6% (653) from Region 11 and the rest of the country comprises 13% (1,505) of all the cases.

*\*Note: No data available on region for (1,138) cases*

Figure 7. HIV Cases by Region, Jan 1984-February 2013



### AIDS Cases (1984-2013)

Of the 719 HIV positive cases in 2013, forty eight were reported as AIDS cases. Of these, 46 were males and 2 were females. Ages ranged from 19-53 years (median 29 years). Ninety-eight percent (47) acquired the infection through sexual contact (27 homosexual, 8 bisexual and 12 heterosexual) and 2% (1) through injecting drug use.

From 1984 to 2013, there were 1,217 AIDS cases reported. Seventy-eight percent (947) were males. Median age is 34 years (age range: 1-81 years). Of the reported AIDS cases, 353 (29%) had already died at the time of reporting. Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 94% (1,149) of all reported AIDS cases.. Almost half (520) of sexual transmission was through heterosexual contact, followed by homosexual contact (456) then bisexual contact (173).

Other modes of transmission include: mother-to-child transmission (20), blood transfusion (10), injecting drug use (8), and needle prick injuries (2). Two percent (28) of the AIDS cases did not report mode of HIV transmission.

### Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

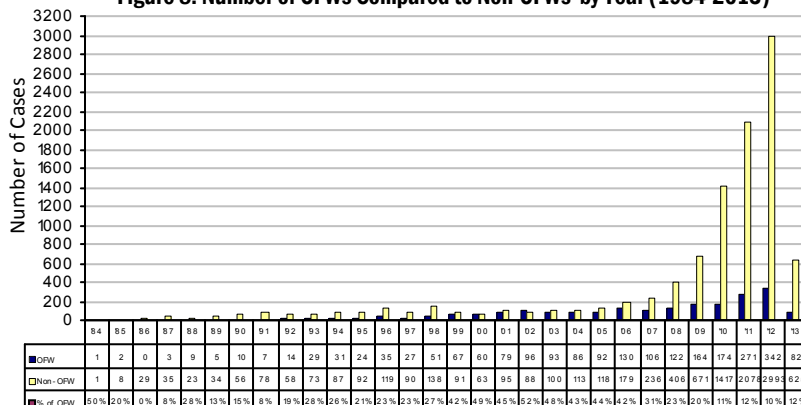
In 2013, there were 82 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 12% of cases reported for the year [Figure 11]. Of these, 79 (96%) were males and 3 (4%) were females. Ninety-nine percent acquired the infection through sexual contact (20 heterosexual, 29 homosexual and 32 bisexual) and 1% through injecting drug use.

There were 2,212 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 18% of all reported cases [Figure 8]. Seventy-nine percent (1,750) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 69 years (median 34 years). Sexual contact (97%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 4). Eighty-six percent (1,910) were asymptomatic while 14% (302) were AIDS cases.

Table 4. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	Feb 2013 n=45	2013 n=82	Cumulative N=2,212
<b>Sexual Transmission</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>2,149</b>
Heterosexual contact	11(24%)	20(25%)	1,226(57%)
Homosexual contact	19(42%)	29(36%)	520(24%)
Bisexual contact	15(33%)	32(40%)	403(19%)
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	10
Injecting Drug Use	0	1	2
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
No Data Available	0	0	48

Figure 8. Number of OFWs Compared to Non-OFWs by Year (1984-2013)



**NEC** 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:  
 Patricia Isabel T. Gayya, RN, MSPH  
 HIV Surveillance Assistant, HIV Unit  
 Krizzelle Anne G. Bonquillo, RSW  
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 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.