



Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In January 2013, there were 380 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 79% higher compared to the same period last year (n=212 in 2012) [Figure 1].

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

| Region | % of Cases |
|--------|------------|
| I | 3% |
| II | 1% |
| III | 9% |
| IVA | 15% |
| IVB | 1% |
| V | 1% |
| VI | 4% |
| VII | 6% |
| VIII | 1% |
| IX | 1% |
| X | 1% |
| XI | 8% |
| XII | 1% |
| CAR | 1% |
| CARAGA | <1% |
| ARMM | <1% |
| NCR | 48% |

Most of the cases (93%) were males. The median age was 27 years (age range: 17-62 years). The 20-29 year (61%) age-group had the most number of cases.

In January 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.

Reported mode of transmission were sexual contact (376) and needle sharing among injecting drug users (4). [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].

Table 1. Quick Facts

| Demographic Data | Jan 2013 | Cumulative 1984-2013 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| Total Reported Cases | 380 | 12,082 |
| Asymptomatic Cases | 355 | 10,888 |
| AIDS Cases | 25 | 1,194 |
| Males | 355 | 10,431* |
| Females | 25 | 1,640* |
| Youth 15-24yo | 101 | 2,915 |
| Children <15yo | 0 | 62 |
| Reported Deaths due to AIDS | 0 | 353 |

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

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

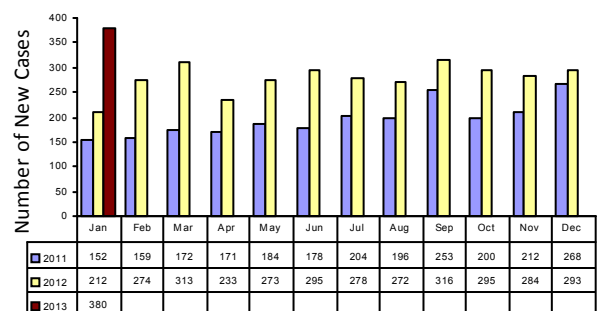


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2013, 2012 & Cumulative Data (1984-2013)

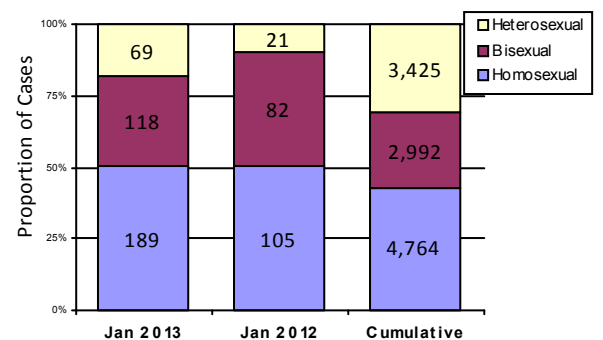
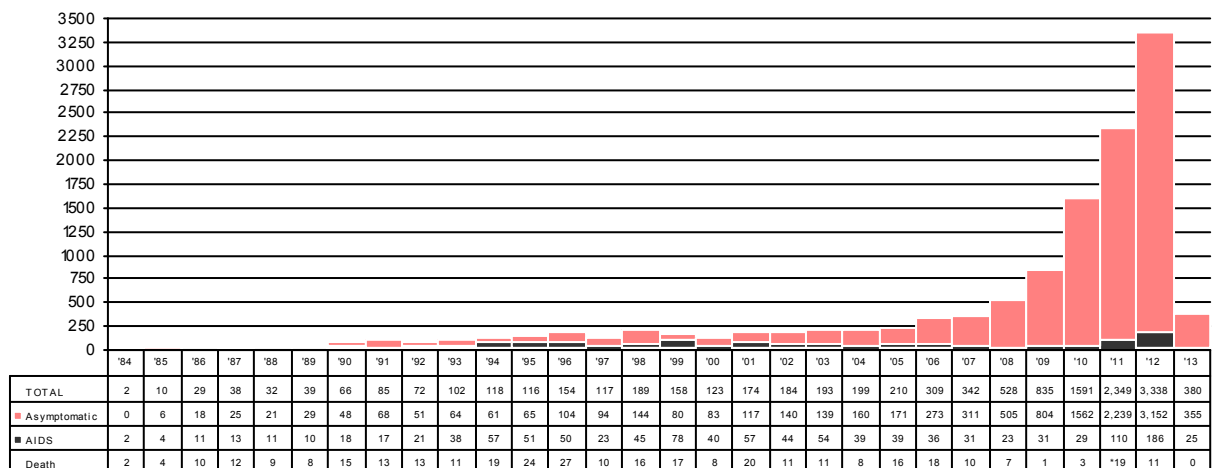


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, Jan 1984 to January 2013 (N=12,082)

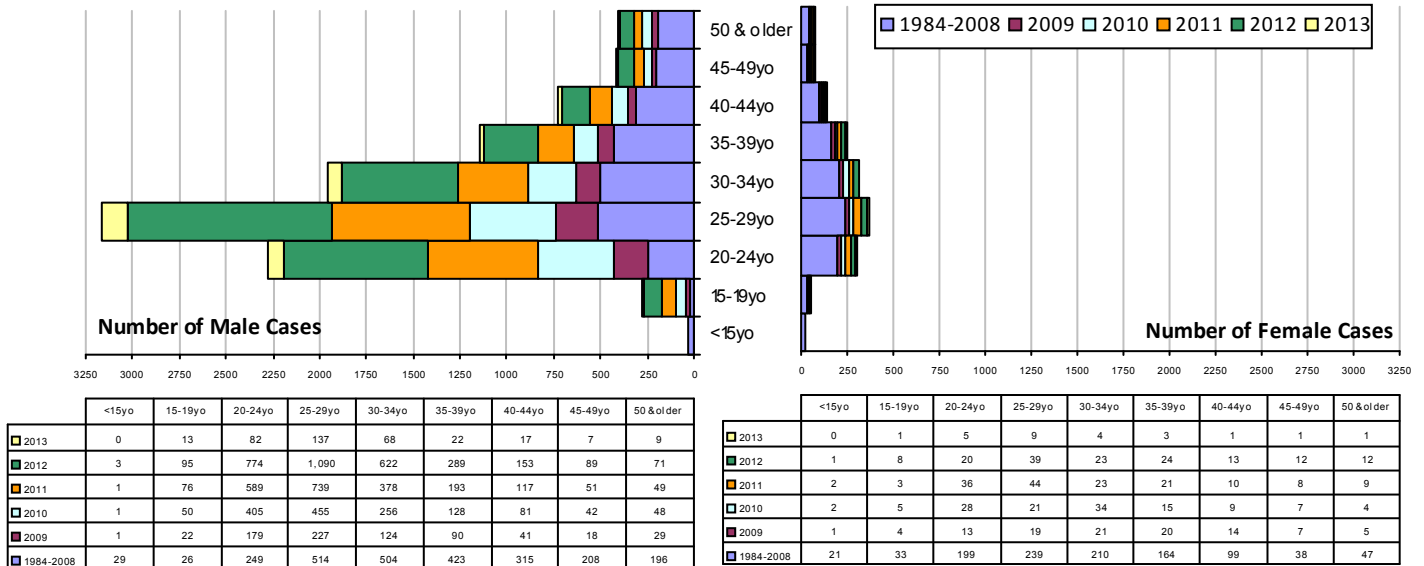


*Nine initially asymptomatic cases reported in 2011, died due to AIDS that same year.

Demographic Characteristics (1984-2013)

From 1984 to 2013, there were 12,082 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 10,888 (90%) were asymptomatic and 1,194 (10%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 4, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Eighty-six percent (10,431) 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, 99% (376) were infected through sexual contact and 1% (4) through needle sharing among injecting drug users (Table 3). There were 351 males and 25 females infected through sexual transmission. The age range of those infected through sexual transmission was 17-62 years old (median 27 years).

Of the 12,082 HIV positive cases reported from 1984 to 2013, 93% (11,181) 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 | Jan 2013 n=380 | Cumulative N=12,082 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Sexual Contact | 376 | 11,181 |
| <i>Heterosexual contact</i> | <i>69(18%)</i> | <i>3,425(31%)</i> |
| <i>Homosexual contact</i> | <i>189(50%)</i> | <i>4,764(43%)</i> |
| <i>Bisexual contact</i> | <i>118(31%)</i> | <i>2,992(27%)</i> |
| Blood/Blood Products | 0 | 20 |
| Injecting Drug Use | 4 | 444 |
| Needle Prick Injury | 0 | 3 |
| Mother-to-Child | 0 | 59 |
| No Data Available | 0 | 375 |

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

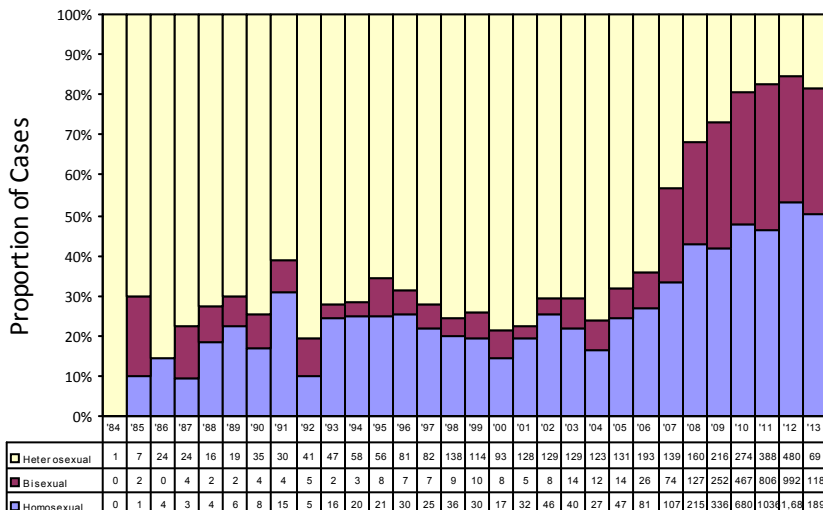
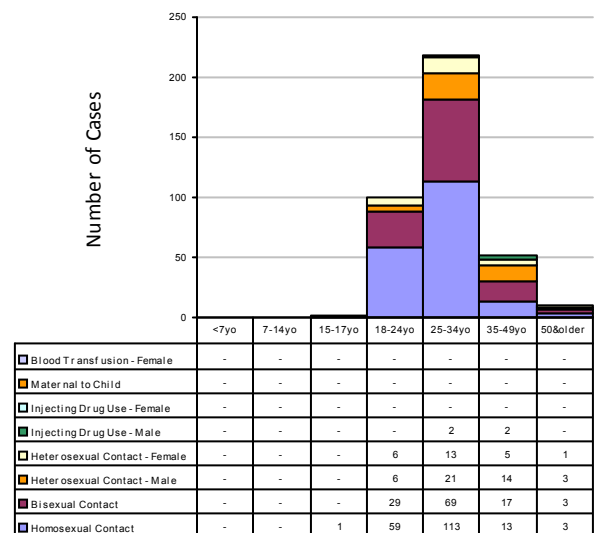


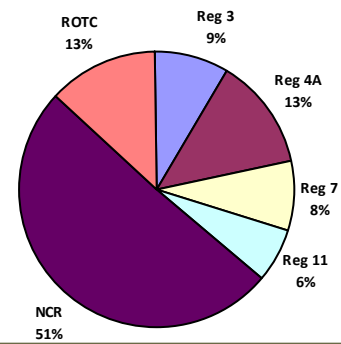
Figure 6. HIV Transmission by Age-Group, Jan 2013 (n=380)



Geographic Distribution (1984-2013)

Since 1984 to present, there were 12,082 cases reported. More than half (5,586) came from the National Capital Region. [Figure 7]. Thirteen percent (1,383) came from region 4A, followed by 9% (955) from Region 3, 8% (918) from Region 7, 6% (637) from Region 11 and the rest of the country comprises 13% (1,465) of all the cases.

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



AIDS Cases (1984-2013)

In January 2013, there were twenty five reported AIDS cases, 23 males and 2 females. The median age is 29 years (age range: 19-53 years). Ninety six percent (24) acquired the infection through sexual contact (14 homosexual, 7 heterosexual and 3 bisexual) and one acquired through sharing of needles with other IDUs.

From 1984 to 2013, there were 1,194 AIDS cases reported. Seventy-seven percent (924) were males. Median age is 34 years (age range: 1-81 years). Of the reported AIDS cases, 353 (30%) had already died at the time of reporting. Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 94% (1,126) of all reported AIDS cases.. Almost half (515) of sexual transmission was through heterosexual contact, followed by homosexual contact (443) then bisexual contact (168).

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)

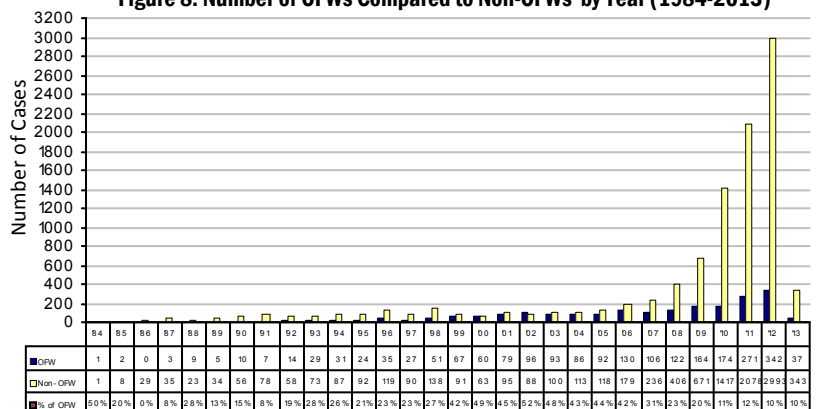
There were 2,167 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 18% of all reported cases [Figure 8]. Seventy-nine percent (1,707) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 69 years (median 34 years). Sexual contact (97%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 4). Eighty-six percent (1,866) were asymptomatic while 14% (301) were AIDS cases.

Thirty seven of the 380 (10%) reported cases were OFWs [Figure 8, page 3]. There were 36 males and 1 female. The median age was 32 years (age range: 21-56 years). Ninety seven percent acquired the infection through sexual contact (9 heterosexual, 10 homosexual and 17 bisexual). One acquired through needle sharing among IDU.

Table 4. Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

| Mode of Transmission | Jan 2013 n=37 | Cumulative N=2,167 |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Sexual Transmission | 36 | 2,104 |
| Heterosexual contact | 9(25%) | 1,215(58%) |
| Homosexual contact | 10(28%) | 501(24%) |
| Bisexual contact | 17(47%) | 388(18%) |
| Blood/Blood Products | 0 | 10 |
| Injecting Drug Use | 1 | 2 |
| Needle Prick Injury | 0 | 3 |
| No Data Available | 0 | 48 |

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



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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.