

The Kirby Institute Australian HIV Surveillance Report

Vol 29 No 2 April 2013

Diagnoses in the fourth quarter

1 October – 31 December 2012

a total of 314 diagnoses of HIV infection, 15 diagnoses of AIDS and 0 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2013, to have occurred in the fourth quarter of 2012

in comparison, 270 diagnoses of HIV infection, 25 diagnoses of AIDS and 0 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2013, to have occurred in the fourth quarter of 2011

New HIV infection

During the fourth quarter of 2012, 95 males were reported as having newly acquired HIV infection identified by a negative test within the 12 months prior to diagnosis, or the diagnosis of primary HIV infection. Men who had sex with men, with or without a history of injecting drug use, accounted for 93.7% (89) of cases.

Diagnoses in the year to 31 December 2012

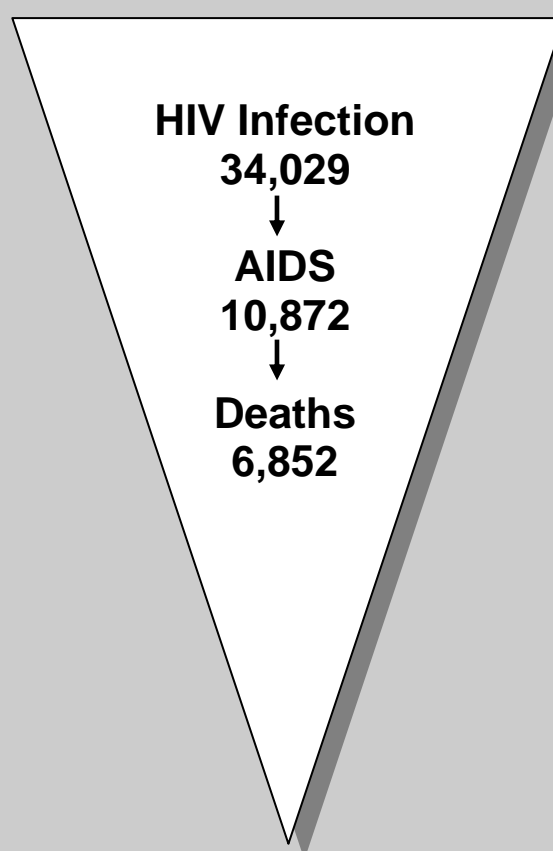
1 253 diagnoses of HIV infection

75 diagnoses of AIDS

9 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2013

HIV diagnoses in Australia

A cumulative profile to
31 December 2012



Announcements

The 2013 Australasian HIV & AIDS

Conference will be held in Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, on 21 – 23 October 2013. Further information may be obtained through the website www.hivaidsconference.com.au

The 2013 Australasian Sexual Health

Conference will be held back-to-back with the Australasian HIV & AIDS Conference (21-23 October 2013) in Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, on 23 – 25 October 2013. Further information may be obtained through the website www.shconference.com.au

The **National AIDS Registry** tables, summarising the pattern of AIDS diagnosis in Australia by year, State/Territory, sex, age group and exposure category, will no longer be published as an AIDS diagnosis in Australia has become an infrequent and reversible event following the introduction of antiretroviral treatment for HIV infection and is no longer a marker of HIV disease progression (Kaldor *et al* 2009).

Tables summarising the pattern of newly diagnosed HIV infection in Australia, broken down by year, State/Territory, sex, age group and exposure category will continue to be published in the *Australian HIV Surveillance Report*. Detailed analyses and interpretation of national HIV surveillance data are also published annually in *HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia Annual Surveillance Report*. Both the quarterly *Australian HIV Surveillance Report* and the *Annual Surveillance Report* are available at www.kirby.unsw.edu.au

Reference:

Kaldor JM, Delpech V and Guy RJ. AIDS case reporting: do we still need it? *Lancet* 2009; 373: 181-183

...continued from page 1

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 December 2012 had an average age of 37 years and 1.8% were in the age group 13 – 19 years

87.2% were male and 12.7% were female

of 1 035 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 31 December 2012 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 865 (83.6%) were attributed to men who had sex with men, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

Total diagnoses to 31 December 2012

34 029 diagnoses of HIV infection

10 872 diagnoses of AIDS

6 852 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2013

National AIDS Registry

Table 1.1 Cases of AIDS and deaths following AIDS by sex and State/Territory in which diagnosis of AIDS was made, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases

State/Territory	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	0	0	0	0	95	10	105	1.0
NSW	36	7	22	4	5 694	293	6 006	55.2
NT	2	0	7	1	60	7	67	0.6
QLD	4	1	16	0	1 133	81	1 216	11.2
SA	0	0	0	0	427	32	460	4.2
TAS	3	0	2	0	60	4	64	0.6
VIC	49	6	13	3	2 267	139	2 419	22.2
WA	5	2	7	0	482	51	535	4.9
Total	99	16	67	8	10 218	617	10 872	100.0

Deaths

State/Territory	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	0	0	0	0	73	7	80	1.2
NSW ¹	12	2	5	0	3 629	144	3 784	55.2
NT	0	0	1	0	34	1	35	0.5
QLD	0	0	0	0	687	44	733	10.7
SA	0	0	0	0	281	20	301	4.4
TAS	0	0	0	0	34	2	36	0.5
VIC	9	1	3	0	1 475	67	1 551	22.6
WA	0	0	0	0	301	30	332	4.8
Total	21	3	9	0	6 514	315	6 852	100.0

[†] Totals include 37 AIDS cases and 23 deaths following AIDS in people whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 1.2 Incidence of AIDS per million current population¹ by sex and State/Territory of diagnosis for the two most recent yearly intervals

State/Territory	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11			1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NSW	10.0	1.9	6.0	6.1	1.1	3.6
NT	16.5	0.0	8.6	56.7	8.9	34.0
QLD	1.8	0.4	1.1	7.0	0.0	3.5
SA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TAS	11.8	0.0	5.9	7.8	0.0	3.9
VIC	17.9	2.1	9.9	4.7	1.1	2.8
WA	4.2	1.7	3.0	5.7	0.0	2.9
Total	8.9	1.4	5.1	5.9	0.7	3.3

1 Population estimates by sex, State/Territory and calendar period from *Australian Demographic Statistics* (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

Table 1.3 Cases of AIDS and deaths following AIDS by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases¹

Age group (years)	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
0 – 2	1	0	0	0	11	12	23	0.2
2 – 12	0	0	0	0	22	12	34	0.3
0 – 12	1	0	0	0	33	24	57	0.5
13 – 19	0	0	0	0	28	7	35	0.3
20 – 29	10	1	9	0	1 507	133	1 656	15.2
30 – 39	24	6	11	4	4 077	227	4 316	39.7
40 – 49	30	7	20	3	2 986	124	3 115	28.7
50 – 59	17	2	17	0	1 152	58	1 214	11.2
60+								4.4
	17	0	10	1	435	44	479	
Total¹	99	16	67	8	10 218	617	10 872	100.0

Deaths²

Age group (years)	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
0 – 2	0	0	0	0	6	6	12	0.2
2 – 12	0	0	0	0	17	6	23	0.3
0 – 12	0	0	0	0	23	12	35	0.5
13 – 19	0	0	0	0	15	3	18	0.3
20 – 29	2	0	0	0	700	50	761	11.1
30 – 39	2	0	1	0	2 496	111	2 616	38.2
40 – 49	4	1	1	0	2 102	64	2 168	31.6
50 – 59	7	2	3	0	848	37	886	12.9
60+	6	0	4	0	330	38	368	5.4
Total¹	21	3	9	0	6 514	315	6 852	100.0

1 Cases are classified by age at diagnosis.

2 Deaths are classified by age at death.

Table 1.4 Cases of AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Men who had sex with men	63	--	36	--	8 189	--	8 189	78.6
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	5	--	3	--	526	--	526	5.0
Injecting drug use	4	2	1	0	251	108	359	3.5
<i>Heterosexual</i>	3	2	0	0	151	82	233	
<i>Not further specified</i>	1	0	1	0	100	26	126	
Heterosexual contact	23	14	18	8	624	390	1 014	9.7
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	0	0	0	10	33	43	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	--	0	--	1	--	54	54	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	7	7	2	5	114	115	229	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	3	1	3	0	115	33	148	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	0	0	0	0	2	10	12	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, other exposure</i>	2	1	0	1	49	46	95	
<i>Not further specified</i>	11	5	13	1	334	99	433	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	124	3	127	1.2
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	83	64	147	1.4
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	95	16	58	8	9 798	568	10 366	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	1	0	0	0	18	21	39	0.4
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0.0
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	11	3	14	0.1
Total children	1	0	0	0	34	24	58	0.6
Sub-total	96	16	58	8	9 832	592	10 407	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	3	0	9	0	386	25	452	
Total	99	16	67	8	10 218	617	10 872	

1 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 37 AIDS cases in people whose sex was reported as transgender. The category was excluded from the calculation of the percentage of cases attributed to each exposure category.

Table 1.5 Deaths following AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Men who had sex with men	18	--	4	--	5 426	--	5 426	82.1
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	2	--	1	--	322	--	322	4.9
Injecting drug use	2	0	0	0	142	67	209	3.2
<i>Heterosexual</i>	2	0	0	0	89	53	142	
<i>Not further specified</i>	0	0	0	0	53	14	67	
Heterosexual contact	4	2	1	0	217	156	373	5.6
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	0	0	0	5	14	19	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	--	0	--	0	--	36	36	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	0	0	0	0	21	22	43	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	3	0	0	0	30	12	42	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	0	0	0	0	2	7	9	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, other exposure</i>	0	1	0	0	21	18	39	
<i>Not further specified</i>	1	1	1	0	138	47	185	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	101	3	104	1.6
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	75	59	134	2.0
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0.0
Total Adults/Adolescents	26	2	6	0	6 284	287	6 571	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	0	0	0	0	10	10	20	0.3
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0.1
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	11	3	14	0.2
Total children	0	0	0	0	26	13	39	0.6
Sub-total	26	2	6	0	6 310	300	6 610	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	2	1	3	0	204	15	242	
Total	28	3	9	0	6 514	315	6 852	

1 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 23 deaths following AIDS in people whose sex was reported as transgender. The category was excluded from the calculation of the percentage of cases attributed to each exposure category.

National HIV Registry

Table 2.1 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex¹ and State/Territory, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

State/Territory	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			Rate ²
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
ACT	10	1	15	2	332	42	374	99.7
NSW ³	360	29	408	50	16 424	1 130	17 822	244.0
NT	8	1	18	8	193	41	234	99.5
QLD	194	29	229	32	3 907	456	4 372	95.7
SA	50	17	31	10	1 212	159	1 372	82.8
TAS	11	4	13	0	171	26	197	38.5
VIC ⁴	296	31	283	30	7 012	566	7 628	135.5
WA	67	31	95	27	1 662	361	2 030	83.3
Total⁵	996	143	1 092	159	30 913	2 781	34 029	149.7

- 1 Eighty six people (41 NSW, 9 QLD, 1 SA, 28 VIC and 7 WA) whose sex was reported as transgender are included in the total columns of Tables 2.1 – 2.3
- 2 Rate per one hundred thousand current population. Population estimates by sex, State/Territory and calendar interval from *Australian Demographic Statistics* (Australian Bureau of Statistics).
- 3 Cumulative total for NSW includes 227 people whose sex was not reported.
- 4 Cumulative total for VIC includes 22 people whose sex was not reported.
- 5 Cumulative total for Australia includes 249 people whose sex was not reported.

Table 2.2 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
Men who had sex with men	773	--	832	--	22 384	--	22 384	75.0
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	30	--	33	--	1 219	--	1 219	4.1
Injecting drug use	14	7	22	5	832	263	1 101	3.7
<i>Heterosexual</i>	11	7	9	5	381	194	575	
<i>Not further specified</i>	3	0	13	0	451	69	526	
Heterosexual contact	131	124	141	141	2 307	2 115	4 425	14.8
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	3	2	3	45	137	182	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	--	7	--	5	--	190	190	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	26	62	40	68	585	835	1 421	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	45	10	47	18	542	211	753	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	0	0	0	1	7	26	33	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, other exposure</i>	10	17	6	15	135	256	392	
<i>Not further specified</i>	50	25	46	31	993	460	1 454	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	0.7
Receipt of blood/tissue	1	1	3	1	129	106	235	0.8
Health care setting ²	0	0	0	0	5	9	14	0.0
Total Adults/Adolescents¹	949	132	1 031	147	27 095	2 497	29 601	99.2
Children (under 13 years at HIV diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection ³	4	6	3	1	68	64	132	0.4
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	65	0	65	0.2
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	1	0	14	10	24	0.1
Total children⁴	4	6	4	1	150	79	229	0.8
Sub-total	953	138	1 035	148	27 245	2 576	29 830	100.0
Other/undetermined ⁵	43	5	57	11	3 668	205	4 199	
Total¹	996	143	1 092	159	30 913	2 781	34 029	

1 Total column includes people whose sex was not reported.

2 'Health care setting' includes 5 cases of occupationally acquired HIV infection and 4 cases of HIV transmission in surgical rooms.

3 A total of 688 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 31 December 2012.

4 Total includes 8 children from high prevalence countries.

5 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 4 171 adults/adolescents and 28 children. Eighty six people whose sex was reported as transgender were included in the 'Other/undetermined' category. The 'Other/undetermined' category was excluded from the calculation of the percentage of cases attributed to each exposure category.

Table 2.3 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 December 2012, and for two previous yearly intervals

Age group (years)	1 Jan 11 - 31 Dec 11		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Cumulative to 31 Dec 12			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
0 – 2	1	1	0	0	50	33	84	0.2
3 – 12	3	5	1	0	112	48	160	0.5
0 – 12	4	6	1	0	162	81	244	0.7
13 – 19	12	6	17	6	534	136	678	2.0
20 – 29	263	33	315	52	9 248	1 027	10 405	30.6
30 – 39	308	55	326	65	11 301	910	12 321	36.2
40 – 49	238	35	241	23	6 256	364	6 667	19.6
50 – 59	126	6	127	10	2 411	139	2 564	7.5
60+	45	2	65	3	865	92	961	2.8
Not reported	0	0	0	0	136	32	189	0.6
Total¹	996	143	1 092	159	30 913	2 781	34 029	100.0

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January to 31 December 2012 for which primary HIV infection was diagnosed or the date of a prior negative test was within one year of diagnosis of HIV infection, by sex and State/Territory and for two six month intervals of HIV diagnosis

State/Territory	1 Jan 12 - 30 Jun 12		1 Jul 12 - 31 Dec 12		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Total ¹
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
ACT	5	0	5	0	10	0	10
NSW ¹	85	4	92	4	177	8	186
NT	1	1	1	0	2	1	3
QLD	29	2	32	1	61	3	64
SA	0	0	6	0	6	0	6
TAS	1	0	3	0	4	0	4
VIC	55	2	37	0	92	2	94
WA	12	1	16	1	28	2	30
Total¹	188	10	192	6	380	16	397

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January to 31 December 2012 for which primary HIV infection was diagnosed or the date of a prior negative test was within one year of diagnosis of HIV infection, by sex and exposure category and for two six month intervals of HIV diagnosis

Exposure category	1 Jan 12 - 30 Jun 12		1 Jul 12 - 31 Dec 12		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Total ¹
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Men who had sex with men	172	--	172	--	344	--	344
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	7	--	7	--	14	--	14
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	3	1	0	0	3	1	4
Heterosexual contact	4	9	10	6	14	15	29
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined ¹	2	0	3	0	5	0	6
Total¹	188	10	192	6	380	16	397

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January to 31 December 2012 for which primary HIV infection was diagnosed or the date of a prior negative test was within one year of diagnosis of HIV infection, by sex and age group and for two six month intervals of HIV diagnosis

Age group (years)	1 Jan 12 - 30 Jun 12		1 Jul 12 - 31 Dec 12		1 Jan 12 - 31 Dec 12		Total ¹
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
13 – 19	5	1	3	0	8	1	9
20 – 29	63	6	69	4	132	10	143
30 – 39	62	2	56	0	118	2	120
40 – 49	36	0	35	2	71	2	73
50 – 59	20	1	21	0	41	1	42
60+	2	0	8	0	10	0	10
Total¹	188	10	192	6	380	16	397

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Sentinel surveillance of HIV infection in sexual health clinics

Table 3.1 Number of people seen, number of people tested for HIV antibody and number of people newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and sexual health clinic, during the quarter 1 October to 31 December 2012

Sexual health clinic	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Sydney Sexual Health Centre	2 419	1 212	810	325	10	1	11
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	599	177	292	83	5	1	6
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 008	644	338	117	1	0	1
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	761	457	204	109	2	0	2
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 372	609	1 144	489	6	1	7
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	3 957	2 114	2 529	1 151	8	0	8
Total	10 116	5 213	5 317	2 274	32	3	35

Table 3.2 Number of people seen who had a *previous negative HIV antibody test*, percent retested for HIV antibody and number (percent) newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, during the quarter 1 October to 31 December 2012

Exposure category	Previous negative HIV antibody test		% retested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Men who have sex with men	3 604	--	73.3	--	18	--	18	0.7
Men who have sex with men and injecting drug use	147	--	76.2	--	5	--	5	4.5
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	114	61	62.3	58.0	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	2 454	1 848	45.4	42.8	2	1	3	0.2
<i>outside Australia</i>	789	577	57.7	48.5	1	0	1	0.1
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 665	1 271	39.6	40.2	1	1	2	0.2
Sex worker	--	899	--	68.1	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	28	--	71.4	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	27	65	48.1	63.1	0	0	0	0.0
Total	6 346	2 901	62.2	51.6	25	1	26	0.5

Table 3.3 Number of people seen with *no previous HIV antibody test*, percent tested for HIV antibody for the first time, and number (percent) newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, during the quarter 1 October to 31 December 2012

Exposure category	No previous HIV antibody test		% tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Men who have sex with men	738	--	53.9	--	5	--	5	1.3
Men who have sex with men and injecting drug use	39	--	43.6	--	2	--	2	11.8
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	50	24	54.0	54.2	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	1 957	1 700	46.7	37.1	0	1	1	0.1
<i>outside Australia</i>	561	424	54.4	48.6	0	0	0	0.0
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 396	1 276	43.6	33.2	0	0	0	0.1
Sex worker	--	145	--	70.3	--	1	1	1.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	10	--	60.0	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	499	403	2.2	6.7	0	0	0	0.0
Total	3 283	2 282	41.6	34.1	7	2	9	0.4

Table 3.4 Number of people seen, number tested for HIV antibody and number newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and age group, during the quarter 1 October to 31 December 2012

Age group (years)	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	406	434	211	129	0	0	0
20 – 29	4 540	2 937	2 434	1 171	12	1	13
30 – 39	2 671	1 221	1 425	629	14	1	15
40 – 49	1 445	447	700	266	3	1	4
50 – 59	681	149	345	73	3	0	3
60+	373	25	202	6	0	0	0
Total	10 116	5 213	5 317	2 274	32	3	35

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Notes

The National AIDS Registry is maintained by the Kirby Institute on behalf of the National Blood Borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee, which consists of representatives from the Kirby Institute, the Health Departments of each State and Territory, the affected communities and the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing. The Registry is based on reports from doctors who diagnose AIDS, made to the Health Department in the State/Territory of diagnosis. Date of birth and a name code (first two letters of first and last name) are used to minimise duplicate registration, while maintaining confidentiality.

The National HIV Registry is maintained by the Kirby Institute on behalf of the National Blood Borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee. It is based on reports of new diagnoses of HIV infection from HIV Reference Laboratories (ACT, NSW, TAS, VIC), or from a combination of Reference Laboratory and diagnosing doctors (NT, QLD, SA, WA). In order to avoid counting the same case more than once, only diagnoses which are determined to be new by the diagnosing laboratory or doctor are reported for the purposes of national surveillance.

Sentinel surveillance is carried out by six sexual health clinics in five Australian cities, which send quarterly reports on HIV antibody testing to the Kirby Institute. Tabulations from the National AIDS Registry, the National HIV Registry and Sentinel HIV Surveillance in sexual health clinics are based on data available three months after the end of the reporting interval indicated, to allow for reporting delay and to incorporate newly available information.

Abbreviations: HIV is the human immunodeficiency virus, and unless otherwise specified, refers to HIV-1 only. AIDS is the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and STI stands for sexually transmissible infection. High prevalence countries are those of sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and specific countries in South East Asia (Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand), where HIV prevalence is above 1% and transmission is believed to be predominantly heterosexual. The Australian States and Territories are: Australian Capital Territory (ACT), New South Wales (NSW), Northern Territory (NT), Queensland (QLD), South Australia (SA), Tasmania (TAS), Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA).

All data in this report are provisional and subject to future revision.

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State/Territory publications of surveillance data, available through the Internet, are listed below:

NSW Public Health Bulletin	www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/phb/phb.html
The Northern Territory Disease Control Bulletin	www.nt.gov.au/health/cdc/aids_std/report/index.shtml
Sexually Transmitted Diseases in South Australia	www.stdservices.on.net/publications
Victorian Infectious Diseases Bulletin	www.dhs.vic.gov.au/phd/vidb/
Disease WATch	www.public.health.wa.gov.au/

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