



National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

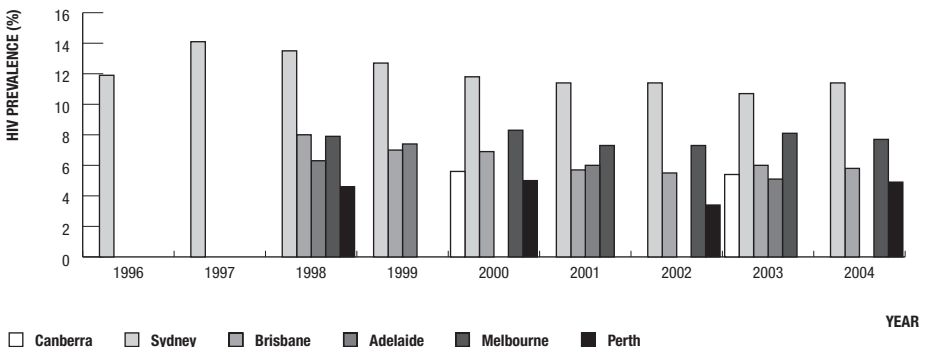
Australian HIV Surveillance Report

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HIV prevalence among homosexually active men in Australia, 1996 – 2004

In Australia, most gay men have been tested for antibody to HIV. Data available through the Gay Community Periodic Surveys (GCPS) carried out annually in Sydney indicate that about 90% of homosexually active men, recruited at venues and large gay community events, reported having ever been tested for HIV. Similarly high rates of HIV antibody testing were reported by homosexually active men participating in the Sydney Men and Sexual Health (SMASH) cohort study at their first study interview in 1993 – 1994, indicating that high levels of testing have been maintained in Sydney over the past decade. Homosexually active men recruited through venues and large gay community events in other capital cities in Australia also reported high rates of HIV antibody testing over the past 10 years (Table 1.1).

Figure 1.1 Prevalence of reported HIV infection among homosexually active men recruited into Gay Community Periodic Surveys at venues and large gay community events, by city and year of survey



The National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and is affiliated with the Faculty of Medicine, The University of New South Wales. The NCHCR Surveillance Program is a collaborating unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Its work is overseen by the Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis.

Announcements

National meetings

The **22nd National Serology Reference Laboratory, Australia, Workshop on Serology** will be held at the Hilton Hotel, Adelaide, South Australia, on 2 – 5 August 2005. Further information may be obtained from Linda Tracey, NRL,

4th Floor, Healy Building, 41 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, VIC 3065.

Telephone: +613 9418 1117

Facsimile: +613 9418 1155

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The **Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2004** will be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, on 22 – 24 August 2005. Further information may be obtained from Sexual Health Conference 2005,

Locked Mail Bag 5057, Darlinghurst NSW 1300.

Telephone: +61 2 9368 2718

Facsimile: +61 2 9331 6537

E-mail: conferenceinfo@ashm.org.au

Website: www.ashm.org.au/conference 2005

The **17th Annual Conference of Australasian Society for HIV Medicine** will be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, on 24 – 27 August 2005. Further information may be obtained from ASHM Conference 2005,

Locked Mail Bag 5057, Darlinghurst NSW 1300 Australia.

Telephone: +61 2 9368 2718

Facsimile: +61 2 9331 6537

E-mail: conferenceinfo@ashm.org.au

Website: www.ashm.org.au/conference2005

The **5th Australian Update on Paediatric HIV & Hepatitis C for health care professionals, carers and families** will be held at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick, NSW on 22 – 24 September 2005. The guest speaker will be Dr Hermione Lyall, Consultant in Paediatric Infectious Diseases, St. Mary's Hospital, London, United Kingdom. Sessions include updates on paediatric HIV & hepatitis C and related workshops. Further information may be obtained from Dr Pamela Palasanthiran (PalasanthiranP@sesahs.nsw.gov.au), telephone: 02 9382 1508, or from Kidest Nadew (NadewK@sesahs.nsw.gov.au), telephone: (02) 9382 1654.

The **5th Australasian conference on viral hepatitis** will be held at the Sydney Masonic Centre, Sydney, on 20 – 22 February 2006. Further information may be obtained from the 5th Australasian viral hepatitis conference 2006,

Locked Mail Bag 5057, Darlinghurst NSW 1300 Australia.

Telephone: +61 2 8204 0770

Facsimile: +61 2 9212 4670

E-mail: conferenceinfo@hepatitis.org.au

Website: www.hepatitis.org.au

Table 1.1 Percentage of homosexually active men recruited into Gay Community Periodic Surveys at venues and large gay community events who reported ever having been tested for HIV antibody, by city and year of survey

| City\Year | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Canberra | | | | | 90.0 | | | 90.0 | |
| Sydney | 87.0 | 89.3 | 87.5 | 89.5 | 89.2 | 92.1 | 92.2 | 90.8 | 92.3 |
| Brisbane | | | 86.4 | 85.9 | 86.3 | 84.6 | 86.8 | 88.3 | 87.2 |
| Adelaide | | | 85.2 | 84.7 | | 88.6 | | 88.8 | |
| Melbourne | | | 83.9 | | 85.0 | 83.5 | 84.1 | 84.6 | 85.5 |
| Perth | | | 84.7 | | 82.2 | | 79.4 | | 82.2 |

The majority of men participating in the GCPS, who reported that they did not have HIV infection, reported HIV antibody testing at least annually (Table 1.2). There has been some increase over time in the rate of testing among men participating in the Melbourne Gay Community Periodic Surveys. The GCPS findings are similar to the findings from the SMASH cohort, where 68.9% of men who reported that they did not have HIV infection indicated they had been tested in the year prior to their baseline study interview in 1993 – 1994, and to the more recent findings from the Health in Men (HIM) cohort study where 69.5% reported they had last been tested in the year prior to their baseline interview in 2001 – 2002.

Table 1.2 Percentage of homosexually active men without HIV infection recruited into Gay Community Periodic Surveys at venues and large gay community events who reported HIV antibody testing in the year prior to the survey, by city and year

| City\Year | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Canberra | | | | | 48.3 | | | 51.9 | |
| Sydney | 62.7 | 61.8 | 60.7 | 61.0 | 59.8 | 57.3 | 62.5 | 61.6 | 65.9 |
| Brisbane | | | 60.2 | 59.9 | 61.4 | 58.4 | 60.2 | 57.3 | 58.6 |
| Adelaide | | | 54.8 | 54.2 | | 57.3 | | 61.1 | |
| Melbourne | | | 51.0 | | 53.0 | 51.3 | 51.1 | 54.4 | 56.8 |
| Perth | | | 53.9 | | 52.5 | | 52.4 | | 52.9 |

With such high rates of testing among gay men in Australia, knowledge of one’s own HIV serostatus is correspondingly high within this population. It is not surprising, then, that self-reported HIV serostatus data, where available, has been highly reliable.

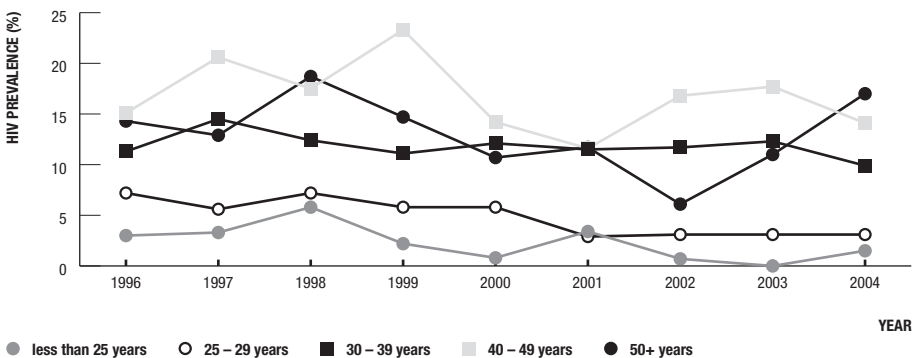
The 1,145 participants in the SMASH cohort study were asked to provide the name of their doctor, so that their HIV test results could be verified by the doctor. In 41.5% of cases, the results were provided and there was a 91.6% correspondence between their self-reported HIV serostatus and the test result obtained from their doctors, where their doctors were able to provide them. Doctors were unable to provide a test result because they had not performed the test for 21 men who had reported their HIV serostatus. However, 18 of these men reported having been diagnosed with HIV infection prior to the SMASH interview. Among men for whom test results were not obtained, the proportions reporting that they had HIV infection or were HIV negative (20.1% and 63.4% respectively) were similar to the self-reported HIV serostatus of those whose doctors provided information about their recent testing history (21.2% and 72.4%), although, of course, a higher proportion of those whose doctors provided such a report had indeed been tested.

In the more recent HIM cohort study, men were eligible to enrol in the study if they did not have HIV infection. Of the 1,434 men enrolled into the cohort by the end of 2004, 9 (0.6%) were diagnosed with HIV infection at baseline, indicating a strong correspondence between these tests and what men believed to be their HIV serostatus.

The prevalence of reported HIV infection among men recruited into the GCPS at venues and the major gay community events in each capital city has changed little over time (Figure 1.1). In Sydney, about one in 10 men reported that they had HIV infection, and about one in 12 in Melbourne and slightly less in the other cities. These figures closely match what was reported in the SMASH cohort study, and what was found in the equivalent surveys conducted in Melbourne and Brisbane. HIV prevalence was slightly lower in Adelaide, Canberra and Perth, but the numbers were small in those cities.

Trends in HIV prevalence may reflect trends in the epidemic as a whole, particularly if those trends are different for younger and older men. In the smaller cities, the numbers were insufficient to enable such an analysis by age groups, and as each city participated in the survey in different years, it is not possible to simply combine these samples to estimate a national trend in HIV prevalence by age group. However, confining such an analysis to Sydney, there was a significant decline over time in HIV prevalence reported among men aged less than 30 years ($p < 0.001$)(Figure 1.2).

Figure 1.2 Prevalence of reported HIV infection by homosexually active men recruited into the Sydney Gay Community Periodic Surveys at venues and large gay community events, by year and age group



Reported by:

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National AIDS Registry

Table 2.1 Cases of AIDS and deaths following AIDS by sex and State/Territory in which diagnosis of AIDS was made, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases

| State/Territory | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total† | % |
| ACT | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 92 | 9 | 101 | 1.1 |
| NSW | 126 | 1 | 71 | 5 | 5 173 | 224 | 5 412 | 57.0 |
| NT | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 42 | 2 | 44 | 0.5 |
| QLD | 19 | 4 | 23 | 5 | 978 | 63 | 1 043 | 11.0 |
| SA | 4 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 387 | 31 | 419 | 4.4 |
| TAS | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 48 | 4 | 52 | 0.5 |
| VIC | 42 | 4 | 32 | 5 | 1 873 | 97 | 1 980 | 20.8 |
| WA | 12 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 412 | 35 | 449 | 4.7 |
| Total | 209 | 12 | 142 | 17 | 9 005 | 465 | 9 500 | 100.0 |

Deaths

| State/Territory | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total† | % |
| ACT | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 6 | 77 | 1.2 |
| NSW | 43 | 2 | 36 | 1 | 3 513 | 128 | 3 650 | 56.1 |
| NT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 1 | 27 | 0.4 |
| QLD | 11 | 2 | 11 | 2 | 640 | 41 | 683 | 10.5 |
| SA | 5 | 2 | 10 | 0 | 269 | 20 | 289 | 4.4 |
| TAS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 2 | 34 | 0.5 |
| VIC | 16 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 370 | 59 | 1 437 | 22.1 |
| WA | 4 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 288 | 23 | 312 | 4.8 |
| Total | 80 | 9 | 75 | 5 | 6 209 | 280 | 6 509 | 100.0 |

† Totals include 30 AIDS cases and 20 deaths following AIDS in people whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 2.2 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 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| ACT | 18.8 | 6.1 | 12.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| NSW | 37.9 | 0.3 | 19.2 | 21.2 | 1.5 | 11.3 |
| NT | 28.7 | 10.6 | 20.1 | 9.5 | 10.6 | 10.0 |
| QLD | 10.0 | 2.1 | 6.1 | 11.9 | 2.6 | 7.2 |
| SA | 5.3 | 0.0 | 2.6 | 9.2 | 1.3 | 5.9 |
| TAS | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.2 | 0.0 | 2.1 |
| VIC | 17.3 | 1.6 | 9.4 | 13.0 | 2.0 | 7.4 |
| WA | 12.3 | 1.0 | 6.7 | 7.1 | 2.0 | 3.5 |
| Total | 20.8 | 1.2 | 11.2 | 14.2 | 1.7 | 8.0 |

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

Table 2.3 Cases of AIDS and deaths following AIDS by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases¹

| Age group (years) | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | % |
|-------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total† | |
| 0–2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 9 | 18 | 0.2 |
| 2–12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 | 11 | 32 | 0.3 |
| 0–12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 20 | 50 | 0.5 |
| 13–19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 4 | 31 | 0.3 |
| 20–29 | 15 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 406 | 113 | 1 532 | 16.2 |
| 30–39 | 78 | 6 | 48 | 5 | 3 729 | 171 | 3 910 | 41.2 |
| 40–49 | 54 | 4 | 52 | 4 | 2 567 | 81 | 2 652 | 27.8 |
| 50–59 | 43 | 1 | 27 | 4 | 930 | 40 | 973 | 10.2 |
| 60+ | 19 | 0 | 10 | 2 | 316 | 36 | 352 | 3.7 |
| Total | 209 | 12 | 142 | 17 | 9 005 | 465 | 9 500 | 100.0 |

Deaths²

| Age group (years) | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | % |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total† | |
| 0–2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 0.2 |
| 2–12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 | 6 | 23 | 0.3 |
| 0–12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 12 | 34 | 0.5 |
| 13–19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 3 | 17 | 0.3 |
| 20–29 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 689 | 49 | 749 | 11.5 |
| 30–39 | 26 | 4 | 17 | 4 | 2 444 | 103 | 2 554 | 39.2 |
| 40–49 | 33 | 3 | 27 | 0 | 1 998 | 49 | 2 049 | 31.5 |
| 50–59 | 11 | 0 | 20 | 1 | 773 | 32 | 805 | 12.4 |
| 60+ | 9 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 269 | 32 | 301 | 4.6 |
| Total | 80 | 9 | 75 | 5 | 6 209 | 280 | 6 509 | 100.0 |

1 Cases are classified by age at diagnosis.

2 Deaths are classified by age at death.

† Totals include 30 AIDS cases and 20 deaths following AIDS in people whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 2.4 Cases of AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous yearly intervals

| Exposure category | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | % |
|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total | |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact | 141 | – | 96 | – | 7 420 | – | 7 420 | 81.1 |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use | 16 | – | 13 | – | 435 | – | 435 | 4.8 |
| Injecting drug use | 11 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 208 | 94 | 302 | 3.3 |
| <i>Heterosexual</i> | 6 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 134 | 71 | 205 | |
| <i>Not further specified</i> | 5 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 74 | 23 | 97 | |
| Heterosexual contact | 28 | 10 | 16 | 14 | 413 | 260 | 673 | 7.4 |
| <i>Sex with injecting drug user</i> | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 26 | 35 | |
| <i>Sex with bisexual male</i> | – | 1 | – | 1 | – | 45 | 45 | |
| <i>From a high prevalence country</i> | 2 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 75 | 67 | 142 | |
| <i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i> | 4 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 69 | 20 | 89 | |
| <i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 12 | |
| <i>Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified</i> | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 38 | 33 | 71 | |
| <i>Not further specified</i> | 19 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 220 | 59 | 279 | |
| Haemophilia/coagulation disorder | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 120 | 3 | 123 | 1.3 |
| Receipt of blood/tissue | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 79 | 65 | 144 | 1.6 |
| Health care setting | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 0.0 |
| Total Adults/Adolescents | 197 | 12 | 134 | 15 | 8 676 | 425 | 9 101 | 99.5 |
| Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis) | | | | | | | | |
| Mother with/at risk for HIV infection | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 17 | 31 | 0.3 |
| Haemophilia/coagulation disorder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 0.0 |
| Receipt of blood/tissue | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 3 | 14 | 0.2 |
| Total children | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 20 | 50 | 0.5 |
| Sub-total | 197 | 12 | 134 | 15 | 8 706 | 445 | 9 151 | 100.0 |
| Other/undetermined ¹ | 12 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 299 | 20 | 349 | |
| Total | 209 | 12 | 142 | 17 | 9 005 | 465 | 9 500 | |

1 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 30 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 2.5 Deaths following AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous yearly intervals

| Exposure category | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | % |
|---|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total | |
| Male homosexual/ bisexual contact | 53 | – | 54 | – | 5 238 | – | 5 238 | 83.2 |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use | 9 | – | 7 | – | 294 | – | 294 | 4.7 |
| Injecting drug use | 6 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 127 | 58 | 185 | 2.9 |
| <i>Heterosexual</i> | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 82 | 47 | 129 | |
| <i>Not further specified</i> | 3 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 45 | 11 | 56 | |
| Heterosexual contact | 7 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 179 | 137 | 316 | 5.0 |
| <i>Sex with injecting drug user</i> | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 13 | 18 | |
| <i>Sex with bisexual male</i> | – | 2 | – | 1 | – | 32 | 32 | |
| <i>From a high prevalence country</i> | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 19 | 37 | |
| <i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i> | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 24 | 11 | 35 | |
| <i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 9 | |
| <i>Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified</i> | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 17 | 42 | |
| <i>Not further specified</i> | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 105 | 38 | 143 | |
| Haemophilia/coagulation disorder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 95 | 3 | 98 | 1.6 |
| Receipt of blood/tissue | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 70 | 56 | 126 | 2.0 |
| Health care setting | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0.0 |
| Total Adults/Adolescents | 75 | 8 | 74 | 5 | 6 004 | 256 | 6 260 | 99.5 |
| Children (under 13 years at death following AIDS) | | | | | | | | |
| Mother with/at risk for HIV infection | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 10 | 18 | 0.3 |
| Haemophilia/coagulation disorder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0.0 |
| Receipt of blood/tissue | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 0.2 |
| Total children | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 12 | 34 | 0.5 |
| Sub-total | 75 | 8 | 74 | 5 | 6 026 | 268 | 6 294 | 100.0 |
| Other/undetermined ¹ | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 183 | 12 | 215 | |
| Total | 80 | 9 | 75 | 5 | 6 209 | 280 | 6 509 | |

1 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 20 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.

The National HIV Database

Table 3.1 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex¹ and State/Territory, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous years intervals

| State/Territory | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total | Rate ² |
| ACT | 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 247 | 31 | 278 | 85.8 |
| NSW ³ | 386 | 32 | 345 | 60 | 12 697 | 785 | 13 746 | 204.2 |
| NT | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 123 | 18 | 141 | 70.5 |
| QLD | 110 | 17 | 133 | 22 | 2 438 | 231 | 2 678 | 69.0 |
| SA | 41 | 3 | 46 | 4 | 833 | 84 | 918 | 59.8 |
| TAS | 0 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 89 | 8 | 97 | 20.1 |
| VIC ⁴ | 187 | 17 | 190 | 23 | 4 767 | 311 | 5 119 | 102.9 |
| WA | 39 | 12 | 36 | 5 | 1 096 | 165 | 1 268 | 64.0 |
| Total⁵ | 771 | 83 | 765 | 120 | 22 290 | 1 633 | 24 245⁶ | 120.6 |

1 Sixty four people (28 NSW, 9 QLD, 1 SA, 19 VIC and 7 WA) whose sex was reported as transgender are included in the total columns of Tables 3.1 – 3.3

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 236 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 258 people whose sex was not reported.

6 Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 21 400 (range 20 910 to 21 890). Reference: Law MG, McDonald AM and Kaldor JM. Estimation of cumulative HIV incidence in Australia, based on national case reporting. *Aust NZ J Public Health* 1996; 20: 215 – 217

Table 3.2 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection for which exposure category was reported, by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous yearly intervals

| Exposure category | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | % |
|---|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total ¹ | |
| Male homosexual/ bisexual contact | 585 | – | 547 | – | 15 702 | – | 15 702 | 76.9 |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use | 34 | – | 31 | – | 871 | – | 871 | 4.3 |
| Injecting drug use | 24 | 6 | 26 | 8 | 656 | 204 | 866 | 4.2 |
| <i>Heterosexual</i> | 11 | 6 | 16 | 5 | 272 | 149 | 421 | |
| <i>Not further specified</i> | 13 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 384 | 55 | 445 | |
| Heterosexual contact | 70 | 70 | 88 | 100 | 1 257 | 1 112 | 2 376 | 11.6 |
| <i>Sex with injecting drug user</i> | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 33 | 100 | 133 | |
| <i>Sex with bisexual male</i> | – | 7 | – | 6 | – | 140 | 140 | |
| <i>From a high prevalence country</i> | 16 | 30 | 27 | 52 | 275 | 339 | 618 | |
| <i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i> | 25 | 9 | 27 | 11 | 246 | 122 | 368 | |
| <i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 18 | 22 | |
| <i>Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified</i> | 4 | 13 | 9 | 7 | 79 | 162 | 242 | |
| <i>Not further specified</i> | 21 | 8 | 24 | 19 | 620 | 231 | 853 | |
| Haemophilia/coagulation disorder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 218 | 4 | 222 | 1.1 |
| Receipt of blood/tissue | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 108 | 101 | 209 | 1.0 |
| Health care setting ² | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 11 | 0.1 |
| Total Adults/Adolescents¹ | 713 | 76 | 693 | 108 | 18 814 | 1 430 | 20 257 | 99.2 |
| Children (under 13 years at HIV diagnosis) | | | | | | | | |
| Mother with/at risk for HIV infection ³ | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 40 | 34 | 74 | 0.4 |
| Haemophilia/coagulation disorder | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65 | 0 | 65 | 0.3 |
| Receipt of blood/tissue | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 9 | 22 | 0.1 |
| Total children | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 118 | 43 | 161 | 0.8 |
| Sub-total | 713 | 78 | 693 | 109 | 18 932 | 1 473 | 20 418 | 100.0 |
| Other/undetermined ⁴ | 58 | 5 | 72 | 11 | 3 358 | 160 | 3 827 | |
| Total¹ | 771 | 83 | 765 | 120 | 22 290 | 1 633 | 24 245⁵ | |

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 342 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 31 December 2004.

4 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 3 807 adults/adolescents and 20 children. Sixty four 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.

5 See footnote Table 3.1

Table 3.3 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 December 2004, and for two previous yearly intervals

| Age group (years) | 1 Jan 03 – 31 Dec 03 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | Cumulative to 31 Dec 04 | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total ¹ | % |
| 0–2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 44 | 22 | 67 | 0.3 |
| 3–12 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 24 | 114 | 0.5 |
| 0–12 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 134 | 46 | 181 | 0.8 |
| 13–19 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 443 | 100 | 552 | 2.3 |
| 20–29 | 164 | 27 | 162 | 49 | 7 272 | 656 | 8 049 | 33.2 |
| 30–39 | 310 | 29 | 307 | 29 | 8 359 | 472 | 8 942 | 36.9 |
| 40–49 | 162 | 11 | 185 | 19 | 4 013 | 181 | 4 238 | 17.4 |
| 50–59 | 98 | 5 | 76 | 12 | 1 437 | 72 | 1 521 | 6.3 |
| 60+ | 32 | 5 | 28 | 4 | 476 | 73 | 552 | 2.3 |
| Not reported | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 156 | 33 | 210 | 0.9 |
| Total¹ | 771 | 83 | 765 | 120 | 22 290 | 1 633 | 24 245 | 100.0 |

1 See footnotes Table 3.1

Table 3.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004 for which an HIV seroconversion illness 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 04 – 30 Jun 04 | | 1 Jul 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total ¹ |
| ACT | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| NSW | 51 | 3 | 59 | 1 | 110 | 4 | 114 |
| NT | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| QLD | 18 | 2 | 24 | 1 | 42 | 3 | 45 |
| SA | 9 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 15 | 2 | 17 |
| TAS | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| VIC ¹ | 25 | 3 | 36 | 1 | 61 | 4 | 66 |
| WA | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Total¹ | 111 | 9 | 127 | 5 | 238 | 14 | 253 |

1 Total includes one person whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 3.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004 for which an HIV seroconversion illness 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 04 – 30 Jun 04 | | 1 Jul 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | |
|--|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total ¹ |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact | 92 | – | 111 | – | 203 | – | 203 |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use ¹ | 6 | – | 4 | – | 10 | – | 11 |
| Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male) | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Heterosexual contact | 10 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 15 | 11 | 26 |
| Health care setting | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other/undetermined | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 9 |
| Total¹ | 111 | 9 | 127 | 5 | 238 | 14 | 253 |

¹ Total includes one person whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 3.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004 for which an HIV seroconversion illness 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 04 – 30 Jun 04 | | 1 Jul 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | 1 Jan 04 – 31 Dec 04 | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total ¹ |
| 13–19 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 20–29 | 31 | 7 | 35 | 3 | 66 | 10 | 76 |
| 30–39 ¹ | 46 | 0 | 58 | 1 | 104 | 1 | 106 |
| 40–49 | 24 | 1 | 26 | 0 | 50 | 1 | 51 |
| 50–59 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 13 |
| 60+ | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Total¹ | 111 | 9 | 127 | 5 | 238 | 14 | 253 |

¹ Total includes one person whose sex was reported as transgender.

Sentinel surveillance of HIV infection in sexual health clinics

Table 4.1 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 clinic¹, during the quarter 1 October to 31 December 2004

| Sexual health clinic | Seen at Clinic | | Tested for HIV antibody | | Newly diagnosed with HIV infection | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total |
| Sydney Sexual Health Centre, NSW | 1 333 | 808 | 610 | 309 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD | 925 | 801 | 421 | 270 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD | 424 | 398 | 123 | 121 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA | 1 129 | 743 | 836 | 511 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC | 1 515 | 1 227 | 732 | 574 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Total | 5 326 | 3 977 | 2 722 | 1 785 | 13 | 2 | 15 |

1 Data from Livingstone Road Sexual Health Centre, Marrickville, NSW, not included for this quarter.

Table 4.2 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 2004

| Exposure category | Previous negative HIV antibody test | | % retested for HIV antibody | | Newly diagnosed with HIV infection | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total | % |
| Male homosexual/ bisexual contact | 1 191 | – | 65.7 | – | 12 | – | 12 | 1.5 |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use | 74 | – | 59.5 | – | 0 | – | 0 | 0.0 |
| Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male) | 154 | 113 | 55.2 | 49.6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Heterosexual contact | 1 717 | 1 384 | 46.2 | 42.2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| <i>outside Australia</i> | 374 | 271 | 63.1 | 58.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| <i>within Australia only</i> | 1 343 | 1 113 | 41.5 | 38.3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Sex worker | – | 594 | – | 62.6 | – | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Sex worker and injecting drug use | – | 85 | – | 63.5 | – | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other/undetermined | 26 | 49 | 42.3 | 36.7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 3 162 | 2 225 | 54.2 | 48.7 | 12 | 0 | 12 | 0.4 |

Table 4.3 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 2004

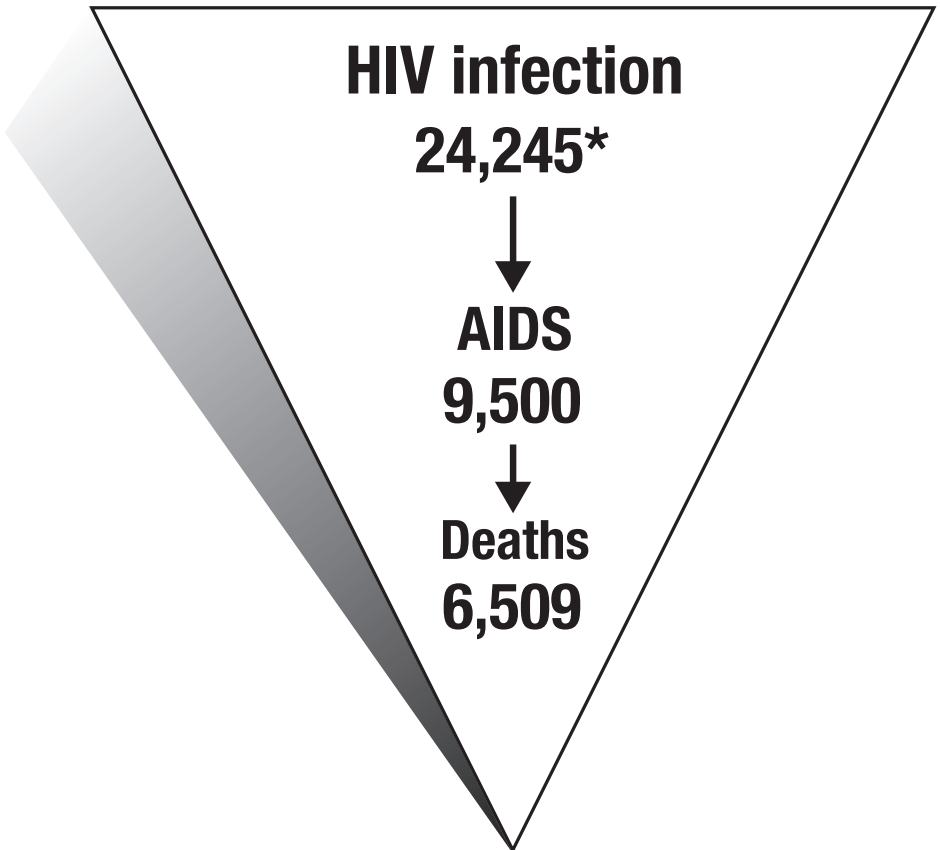
| Exposure category | No previous HIV antibody test | | % tested for HIV antibody | | Newly diagnosed with HIV infection | | | % |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total | |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact | 370 | – | 72.7 | – | 1 | – | 1 | 0.4 |
| Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use | 21 | – | 76.2 | – | 0 | – | 0 | 0.0 |
| Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male) | 40 | 33 | 92.5 | 45.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Heterosexual contact | 1 365 | 1 304 | 48.8 | 41.9 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0.2 |
| <i>outside Australia</i> | 296 | 227 | 55.7 | 51.5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| <i>within Australia only</i> | 1 069 | 1 077 | 46.9 | 39.9 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0.2 |
| Sex worker | – | 250 | – | 39.6 | – | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Sex worker and injecting drug use | – | 14 | – | 78.6 | – | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Other/undetermined | 145 | 124 | 13.1 | 23.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | 1 941 | 1 725 | 51.9 | 40.6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0.2 |

Table 4.4 Number of people seen, number of people tested for HIV antibody and number of people newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and age group, during the quarter 1 October to 31 December 2004

| Age group (years) | Seen at Clinic | | Tested for HIV antibody | | Newly diagnosed with HIV infection | | |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female | Total |
| 13–19 | 198 | 457 | 107 | 138 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20–29 | 2 179 | 2 073 | 1 149 | 948 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 30–39 | 1 618 | 955 | 832 | 458 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 40–49 | 838 | 369 | 387 | 181 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| 50–59 | 351 | 95 | 192 | 50 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 60+ | 142 | 28 | 55 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 5 326 | 3 977 | 2 722 | 1 785 | 13 | 2 | 15 |

The HIV Epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 31 December 2004



* Estimated number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, adjusted for multiple reports, was 21,400 (range 20,910 to 21,890).



National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

Australian HIV Surveillance Update

Vol 21 No 2 April 2005

Diagnoses in the fourth quarter

1 October – 31 December 2004

- a total of 225 diagnoses of HIV infection, 37 diagnoses of AIDS and 23 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 31 March 2005, to have occurred in the fourth quarter of 2004
- following adjustment for reporting delay, the estimated numbers of AIDS diagnoses and deaths following AIDS occurring in the fourth quarter of 2004 were 61 and 37
- in comparison, 202 diagnoses of HIV infection, 63 diagnoses of AIDS and 25 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2005, to have occurred in the fourth quarter of 2003

New HIV infection

During the fourth quarter of 2004, 49 cases among 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 HIV seroconversion illness. A history of male homosexual contact only was reported in 45 (91.8%) cases.

Diagnoses in the year to 31 December 2004

- 887 diagnoses of HIV infection
- 160 diagnoses of AIDS
- 80 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2005

HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 December 2004 had an average age of 37 years and 1.5% were in the age group 13 – 19 years

- 86.2% were male, 13.5% were female, and sex was not reported or was reported as transgender in 0.1% and 0.1% of cases, respectively
- of 694 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among men in the year to 31 December 2004 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 548 (79%) were attributed to male homosexual/bisexual contact only.

Total diagnoses to 31 December 2004

- 24,245 diagnoses of HIV infection
- 21,400 diagnoses of HIV infection following adjustment for multiple reporting
- 9,500 diagnoses of AIDS
- 6,509 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2005

HIV testing in sexual health clinics

Five sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 4,507 people in the quarter 1 October – 31 December 2004 who were not previously known to have HIV infection

- of 1,007 men reported as having been tested for the first time, 1 (0.1%) was found to have HIV infection
- of 1,715 men reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 12 (0.7%) were found to have HIV infection
- of 782 men who reported a history of homosexual contact and who were retested following a previous negative test, 12 (1.5%) were newly diagnosed with HIV infection

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Australian HIV Surveillance Report

National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

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NOTES

The National AIDS Registry is maintained by NCHECR on behalf of the National HIV Surveillance Committee, which consists of representatives from NCHECR, and the Health Departments of each State and Territory and the Commonwealth of Australia. 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 Database is maintained by NCHECR on behalf of the National HIV 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 NCHECR. Tabulations from the National AIDS Registry, the National HIV Database 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). NCHECR is the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research.

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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/public-health/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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