



National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research Australian HIV Surveillance Report

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Diagnoses in the first quarter

1 January – 31 March 2008

a total of 263 diagnoses of HIV infection, 38 diagnoses of AIDS and 9 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 June 2008, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2008

in comparison, 288 diagnoses of HIV infection, 38 diagnoses of AIDS and 15 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2008, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2007

New HIV infection

During the first quarter of 2008, 74 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. A history of homosexual contact, with or without a history of injecting drug use, was reported in 69 (93.2%) cases.

Diagnoses in the year to 31 March 2008

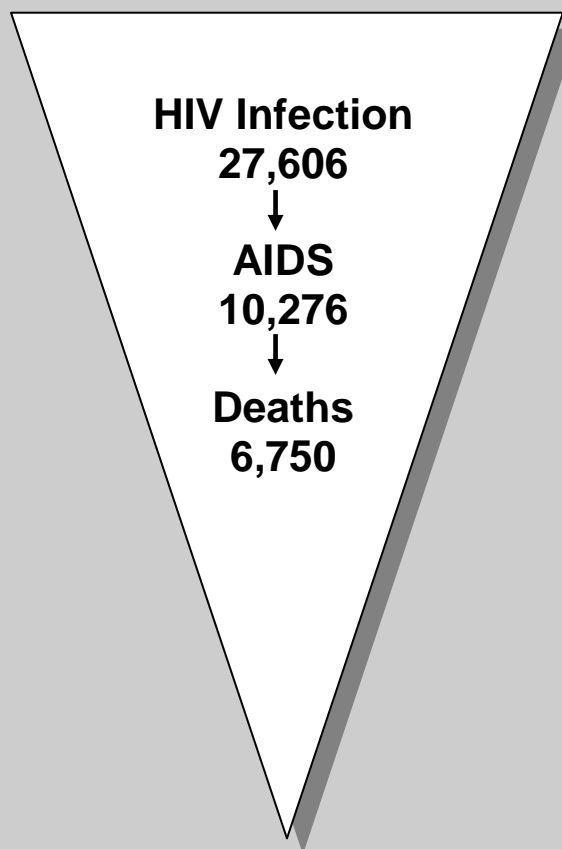
1,032 diagnoses of HIV infection

158 diagnoses of AIDS

47 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2008

The HIV Epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 31 March 2008



Announcements

The **20th annual ASHM Conference** will be held in Perth, Western Australia, on 17 – 20 September 2008. **The Australasian Sexual Health Conference** will also be held in Perth, Western Australia, on 15 – 17 September 2008. Further information may be obtained through the website <http://www.ashm.org.au/conference>

The **XVII International AIDS Conference** will be held in Mexico City, Mexico, on 3 – 8 August 2008. Further information may be obtained through the website <http://www.aids2008.org>

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HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 2008 had an average age of 37 years and 1.1% was in the age group 13 – 19 years

87.0% were male, 12.9% were female and was reported as transgender in 0.1%

of 818 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 31 March 2008 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 677 (82.8%) were attributed to male homosexual/bisexual contact, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

Total diagnoses to 31 March 2008

27,606 diagnoses of HIV infection

10,276 diagnoses of AIDS

6,750 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2008

HIV testing in sexual health clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,949 people in the quarter 1 January – 31 March 2008 who were not previously known to have HIV infection

of 1,245 men reported as having been tested for the first time, 13 (1.0%) was found to have HIV infection

of 2,599 men, reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 26 (1.0%) were found to have HIV infection

of 1,527 homosexually active men who were retested following a previous negative test, 24 (1.6%) were newly diagnosed with HIV infection

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 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases

State/Territory	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	0	0	2	0	94	10	104	1.0
NSW	89	6	53	9	5 520	264	5 802	56.5
NT	3	0	1	0	46	4	50	0.5
QLD	15	5	25	0	1 062	73	1 137	11.1
SA	9	0	4	0	413	32	446	4.3
TAS	3	0	2	0	55	4	59	0.6
VIC	53	6	49	6	2 068	117	2 198	21.4
WA	9	2	6	0	436	42	480	4.7
Total	181	19	142	15	9 694	546	10 276	100.0

Deaths

State/Territory	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	1	0	0	0	73	7	80	1.2
NSW	26	0	14	3	3 601	139	3 751	55.6
NT	3	0	1	0	30	1	31	0.5
QLD	10	2	9	0	677	43	722	10.7
SA	5	0	0	0	280	20	300	4.4
TAS	1	0	0	0	33	2	35	0.5
VIC	23	1	10	3	1 429	64	1 502	22.3
WA	4	1	4	3	299	29	329	4.9
Total	73	4	38	9	6 422	305	6 750	100.0

† Totals include 36 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 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07			1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	0.0	5.9
NSW	26.3	1.7	13.9	15.5	2.6	9.0
NT	27.4	0.0	14.2	9.0	0.0	4.7
QLD	7.3	2.4	4.9	12.0	0.0	6.0
SA	11.6	0.0	5.7	5.1	0.0	2.5
TAS	12.4	0.0	6.1	8.2	0.0	4.1
VIC	20.9	2.3	11.5	19.0	2.3	10.6
WA	8.7	2.0	5.3	5.6	0.0	2.8
Total	17.6	1.8	9.7	13.6	1.4	7.5

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 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases¹

Age group (years)	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total†	
0–2	0	0	1	0	10	9	19	0.2
2–12	0	0	1	0	22	12	34	0.3
0–12	0	0	2	0	32	21	53	0.5
13–19	0	0	0	0	28	5	33	0.3
20–29	11	2	9	3	1 457	126	1 598	15.6
30–39	59	8	33	3	3 935	199	4 146	40.4
40–49	67	5	57	5	2 820	106	2 931	28.5
50–59	27	2	25	2	1 043	48	1 095	10.6
60+	17	2	16	2	379	41	420	4.0
Total	181	19	142	15	9 694	546	10 276	100.0

Deaths²

Age group (years)	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	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	15	3	18	0.3
20–29	3	0	3	0	695	50	756	11.2
30–39	8	0	6	4	2 485	108	2 602	38.5
40–49	32	3	11	1	2 074	60	2 136	31.6
50–59	17	0	8	2	821	34	856	12.7
60+	13	1	10	2	310	38	348	5.2
Total	73	4	38	9	6 422	305	6 750	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 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	102	–	101	–	7 866	–	7 866	79.7
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	19	–	8	–	501	–	501	5.2
Injecting drug use	9	0	1	1	235	103	338	3.4
<i>Heterosexual</i>	3	0	0	0	143	78	221	
<i>Not further specified</i>	6	0	1	1	92	25	117	
Heterosexual contact	37	17	18	14	504	326	830	8.4
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	2	0	0	9	31	40	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	–	0	–	0	–	50	50	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	6	7	7	5	99	94	193	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	7	2	4	0	85	25	110	
<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>	2	0	1	4	35	37	72	
<i>Not further specified</i>	22	6	6	5	274	79	353	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	0	0	1	0	122	3	125	1.3
Receipt of blood/tissue	1	0	0	0	84	66	150	1.5
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	168	17	129	15	9 313	501	9 814	99.5
Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	0	0	2	0	17	18	35	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	0	0	2	0	33	21	54	0.5
Sub-total	168	17	131	15	9 346	522	9 868	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	13	2	11	0	348	24	408	
Total	181	19	142	15	9 694	546	10 276	

1 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 36 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 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	45	–	21	–	5 365	–	5 365	82.3
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	6	–	5	–	316	–	316	4.9
Injecting drug use	2	0	1	2	139	64	203	3.1
<i>Heterosexual</i>	1	0	0	2	86	52	138	
<i>Not further specified</i>	1	0	1	0	53	12	65	
Heterosexual contact	13	3	4	6	210	151	361	5.5
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	1	0	0	5	14	19	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	–	1	–	0	–	36	36	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	1	0	0	1	21	21	42	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	2	0	0	0	27	11	38	
<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>	0	0	0	2	21	17	38	
<i>Not further specified</i>	10	1	4	3	134	45	179	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	1	0	3	0	99	3	102	1.6
Receipt of blood/tissue	2	0	1	1	75	58	133	2.0
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	69	3	35	9	6 205	278	6 483	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	0	0	0	0	9	10	19	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	25	13	38	0.6
Sub-total	69	3	35	9	6 230	291	6 521	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	4	1	3	0	192	14	229	
Total	73	4	38	9	6 422	305	6 750	

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.

The National HIV Database

Table 2.1 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex¹ and State/Territory, cumulative to 31 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

State/Territory	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			Rate ²
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
ACT	3	0	11	0	273	32	305	89.6
NSW ³	353	46	359	52	13 922	940	15 120	218.8
NT	5	4	4	0	137	23	160	73.9
QLD	147	31	166	22	2 941	303	3 253	77.4
SA	60	8	34	11	989	113	1 103	69.4
TAS	6	2	5	1	114	13	127	25.7
VIC ⁴	255	30	264	31	5 571	405	6 020	115.2
WA	65	18	55	16	1 287	224	1 518	71.6
Total⁵	894	139	898	133	25 234	2 053	27 606	132.4

- 1 Sixty nine people (30 NSW, 9 QLD, 1 SA, 22 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 228 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 250 people whose sex was not reported.

Table 2.2 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection for which exposure category was reported, by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	659	–	654	–	17 987	–	17 987	76.0
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	41	–	23	–	1 016	–	1 016	4.3
Injecting drug use	23	11	15	4	720	230	956	4.0
<i>Heterosexual</i>	11	9	6	1	305	168	473	
<i>Not further specified</i>	12	2	9	3	415	62	483	
Heterosexual contact	117	112	126	116	1 601	1 463	3 067	13.0
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	8	3	4	39	120	159	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	–	5	–	3	–	159	159	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	35	57	34	59	377	518	896	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	29	6	48	9	366	153	519	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	1	3	0	0	6	21	27	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified</i>	9	8	6	13	98	195	294	
<i>Not further specified</i>	43	25	35	28	715	297	1 013	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	1.0
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	1	109	103	212	0.9
Health care setting ²	0	0	0	0	3	9	12	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents¹	840	123	818	121	21 655	1 809	23 475	99.2
Children (under 13 years at HIV diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection ³	2	2	6	5	51	47	98	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 children³	2	2	6	5	129	56	185	0.8
Sub-total	842	125	824	126	21 784	1 865	23 658	100.0
Other/undetermined ⁴	52	14	74	7	3 450	188	3 948	
Total¹	894	139	898	133	25 234	2 053	27 606	

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 420 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 31 March 2008.

4 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 3 929 adults/adolescents and 19 children. Sixty nine 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 2.1

Table 2.3 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 March 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Age group (years)	1 Apr 06 – 31 Mar 07		1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		Cumulative to 31 Mar 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
0–2	1	2	2	1	47	28	76	0.3
3–12	1	1	5	4	99	31	130	0.5
0–12	2	3	7	5	146	59	206	0.8
13–19	6	7	8	3	475	115	598	2.2
20–29	180	47	198	41	7 886	793	8 802	31.9
30–39	314	48	296	53	9 390	630	10 125	36.7
40–49	252	26	242	16	4 804	246	5 095	18.5
50–59	100	6	102	11	1 776	98	1 886	6.8
60+	40	2	44	4	619	80	703	2.5
Not reported	0	0	1	0	138	32	191	0.7
Total¹	894	139	898	133	25 234	2 053	27 606	100.0

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 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 Apr 07 – 30 Sep 07		1 Oct 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 07 to 31 Mar 08		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
NSW	60	2	56	5	116	7	123
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
QLD	18	0	32	2	50	2	52
SA	4	0	2	1	6	1	7
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	44	1	34	1	78	2	80
WA	9	0	6	1	15	1	16
Total	135	3	131	10	266	13	279

Table 2.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 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 Apr 07 – 30 Sep 07		1 Oct 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 07 to 31 Mar 08		Total ¹
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Male homosexual/bisexual contact	113	–	116	–	229	–	229
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	2	–	3	–	5	–	5
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	1	0	1	2	2	2	4
Heterosexual contact	13	2	7	8	20	10	30
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined ¹	6	1	4	0	10	1	11
Total¹	135	3	131	10	266	13	279

1. See Footnote Table 2.4

Table 2.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008 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 Apr 07 – 30 Sep 07		1 Oct 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 07 to 31 Mar 08		Total ¹
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
13 – 19	3	0	4	0	7	0	7
20 – 29 ¹	32	1	38	3	70	4	74
30 – 39	50	1	47	3	97	4	101
40 – 49	34	1	31	3	65	4	69
50 – 59	10	0	7	1	17	1	18
60+	6	0	4	0	10	0	10
Total¹	135	3	131	10	266	13	279

1. See Footnote Table 2.4

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 January to 31 March 2008

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, NSW	1 656	1 049	786	373	12	2	14
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	339	142	163	45	4	0	4
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 176	745	476	175	5	0	5
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	670	513	248	151	1	0	1
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 327	767	1 059	594	4	0	4
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	2 014	1 710	1 112	767	13	0	13
Total	7 182	4 926	3 844	2 105	39	2	41

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 January to 31 March 2008

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	1 981	--	77.1	--	24	--	24	1.6
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	98	--	75.5	--	0	--	0	0.0
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	121	111	61.2	56.8	1	0	1	0.7
Heterosexual contact	1 899	1 704	47.7	41.5	1	1	2	0.1
<i>outside Australia</i>	480	338	57.7	45.3	1	1	2	0.5
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 419	1366	44.3	40.6	0	0	0	0.0
Sex worker	--	805	--	61.6	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	71	--	60.6	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	43	97	44.2		0	0	0	0.0
Total	4 142	2 788	62.7	48.6	26	1	27	0.7

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 January to 31 March 2008

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	584	--	55.1	--	10	--	10	3.1
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	24	--	25.0	--	0	--	0	0.0
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	39	21	69.2	61.9	1	0	1	2.5
Heterosexual contact	1 722	1 614	49.6	37.8	2	1	3	0.2
<i>outside Australia</i>	503	402	55.5	46.5	2	1	3	0.6
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 219	1 212	47.2	34.9	0	0	0	0.0
Sex worker	--	225	--	38.7	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	11	--	54.5	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	276	233	13.0	14.2	0	0	0	0.0
Total	2 645	2 104	47.1	35.6	13	1	14	0.7

Table 3.4 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 January to 31 March 2008

Age group (years)	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	231	434	130	168	0	0	0
20 – 29	3 095	2 593	1 755	1 068	8	2	10
30 – 39	2 071	1 225	1 088	568	20	0	20
40 – 49	1 057	503	513	231	8	0	8
50 – 59	466	144	216	62	2	0	2
60+	262	27	142	8	1	0	1
Total	7 182	4 926	3 844	2 105	39	2	41

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Notes

The National AIDS Registry is maintained by NCHECR on behalf of the National Blood Borne Virus and Sexually Transmissible Infections Surveillance Committee, which consists of representatives from NCHECR, 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 NCHECR 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 NCHECR. 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). NCHECR is the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research.

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/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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