

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

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#### Diagnoses in the second quarter

### 1 April - 30 June 2008

- a total of 276 diagnoses of HIV infection, 20 diagnoses of AIDS and 6 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 September 2008, to have occurred in the second quarter of 2008
- in comparison, 266 diagnoses of HIV infection, 45 diagnoses of AIDS and 12 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 September 2008, to have occurred in the second quarter of 2007

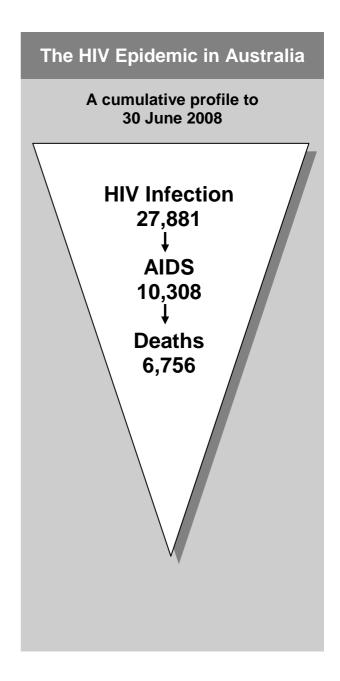
#### **New HIV infection**

During the second 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 61 (82.4%) cases.

## Diagnoses in the year to 30 June 2008

1,042 diagnoses of HIV infection 137 diagnoses of AIDS

41 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 September 2008



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 NCHECR 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**

The **Australasian Sexual Health Conference 2009** will also be held in Brisbane, Queensland, on 7 – 9 September 2009. Further information may be obtained through the website <a href="http://www.ashm.org.au/conference">http://www.ashm.org.au/conference</a>

The **21st annual ASHM Conference** will be held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, on 9 – 12 September 2009. Further information may be obtained through the website <a href="http://www.ashm.org.au/conference">http://www.ashm.org.au/conference</a>.

#### **HIV diagnoses**

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 30 June 2008 had an average age of 36 years and 1.1% was in the age group 13 – 19 years

- 85.6% were male, 14.3% were female and was reported as transgender in 0.1%
- of 828 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 30 June 2008 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 673 (81.3%) were attributed to male homosexual/bisexual contact, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

#### Total diagnoses to 30 June 2008

27,881 diagnoses of HIV infection10,308 diagnoses of AIDS6,756 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30September 2008

#### HIV testing in sexual health clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,690 people in the quarter 1 April – 30 June 2008 who were not previously known to have HIV infection

- of 1,151 men reported as having been tested for the first time, 7 (0.6%) was found to have HIV infection
- of 2,489 men, reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 14 (0.6%) were found to have HIV infection
- of 1,434 homosexually active men who were retested following a previous negative test, 13 (0.9%) 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 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

#### Cases

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
ACT	0	0	2	0	94	10	104	1.0
NSW	91	6	38	6	5 524	265	5 807	56.3
NT	2	0	1	0	46	4	50	0.5
QLD	17	4	24	1	1 071	74	1 147	11.1
SA	9	0	3	0	413	32	446	4.3
TAS	0	0	2	0	55	4	59	0.6
VIC	55	5	48	6	2 081	118	2 212	21.5
WA	8	2	6	0	439	42	483	4.7
Total	182	17	124	13	9 723	549	10 308	100.0

#### Deaths

ACT NSW	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	}
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
ACT	0	0	0	0	73	7	80	1.2
NSW	22	0	12	5	3 601	141	3 753	55.6
NT	3	0	2	0	31	1	32	0.5
QLD	12	1	5	0	677	43	722	10.7
SA	5	0	0	0	280	20	300	4.4
TAS	0	0	0	0	33	2	35	0.5
VIC	18	4	12	0	1 432	64	1 505	22.3
WA	4	2	3	2	299	29	329	4.9
Total	64	7	34	7	6 426	307	6 756	100.0

<sup>†</sup> 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 population<sup>1</sup> by sex and State/Territory of diagnosis for the two most recent yearly intervals

	1	Jul 06 – 30 Jun 0	7	1	l Jul 07 – 30 Jun 0	8
State/Territory	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	0.0	5.9
NSW	26.9	1.7	14.2	11.1	1.7	6.4
NT	18.3	0.0	9.5	9.0	0.0	4.7
QLD	8.3	2.0	5.1	11.5	0.5	6.0
SA	11.6	0.0	5.7	3.8	0.0	1.9
TAS	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2	0.0	4.1
VIC	21.7	1.9	11.7	18.6	2.3	10.4
WA	7.7	2.0	4.9	5.6	0.0	2.8
Total	17.7	1.6	9.6	11.9	1.2	6.5

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 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

#### Cases<sup>1</sup>

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
0-2	0	0	1	1	10	10	20	0.2
2 – 12	0	0	1	0	22	12	34	0.3
0 – 12	0	0	2	1	32	22	54	0.5
13 – 19	0	0	0	0	28	5	33	0.3
20 – 29	10	3	8	2	1 459	127	1 601	15.5
30 – 39	54	3	32	3	3 946	199	4 157	40.3
40 – 49	69	8	45	3	2 829	107	2 941	28.5
50 – 59	31	2	22	2	1 047	48	1 099	10.7
60+	18	1	15	2	382	41	423	4.1
Total	182	17	124	13	9 723	549	10 308	100.0

#### Deaths<sup>2</sup>

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
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	4	0	1	0	695	50	756	11.2
30 – 39	8	1	7	3	2 486	108	2 603	38.5
40 – 49	23	3	10	1	2 075	61	2 138	31.6
50 – 59	16	1	6	2	821	35	857	12.7
60+	13	2	10	1	312	38	350	5.2
Total	64	7	34	7	6 426	307	6 756	100.0

<sup>1</sup> Cases are classified by age at diagnosis.

<sup>2</sup> Deaths are classified by age at death.

Table 1.4 Cases of AIDS by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 0	8
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	101	_	90	_	7 887	_	7 887	79.7
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	20	_	4	_	501	_	501	5.1
Injecting drug use	6	0	1	1	235	104	339	3.4
Heterosexual	1	0	0	0	143	78	221	
Not further specified	5	0	1	1	92	26	118	
Heterosexual contact	36	16	20	11	511	328	839	8.5
Sex with injecting drug user	0	1	0	0	9	31	40	
Sex with bisexual male	_	0	_	0	_	50	50	
From a high prevalence country	6	6	10	3	103	94	197	
Sex with person from a high prevalence country	8	2	2	0	86	25	111	
Sex with person with medically acquired HIV	0	0	0	0	2	10	12	
Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified	2	1	1	3	35	37	72	
Not further specified	20	6	7	5	276	81	357	
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	164	16	116	12	9 341	504	9 845	99.5
Children (under 13 years at AID	S diagnosis)							
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	0	0	2	1	17	19	36	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	1	33	22	55	0.5
Sub-total	164	16	118	13	9 374	526	9 900	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>1</sup>	18	1	6	0	349	23	408	
Total	182	17	124	13	9 723	549	10 308	

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 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	33	_	21	-	5 365	-	5 365	82.2
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	6	_	4	_	316	_	316	4.9
Injecting drug use	1	1	1	1	139	64	203	3.1
Heterosexual	0	1	0	1	86	52	138	
Not further specified	1	0	1	0	53	12	65	
Heterosexual contact	13	5	4	5	210	153	363	5.6
Sex with injecting drug user	0	0	0	0	5	14	19	
Sex with bisexual male	_	1	_	0	_	36	36	
From a high prevalence country	1	1	0	0	21	21	<i>4</i> 2	
Sex with person from a high prevalence country	2	0	0	1	27	12	39	
Sex with person with medically acquired HIV	0	0	0	0	2	7	9	
Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified	0	0	0	2	21	17	38	
Not further specified	10	3	4	2	134	46	180	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	3	0	2	0	100	3	103	1.6
Receipt of blood/tissue	3	0	0	1	75	58	133	2.0
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	59	6	32	7	6 206	280	6 486	99.4
Children (under 13 years	at AIDS diag	ınosis)						
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	59	6	32	7	6 231	293	6 524	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>1</sup>	5	1	2	0	195	14	232	
Total	64	7	34	7	6 426	307	6 756	

<sup>1</sup> 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 sex<sup>1</sup> and State/Territory, cumulative to 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	3
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	Rate <sup>2</sup>
ACT	2	1	10	1	273	34	307	89.7
NSW <sup>3</sup>	385	44	346	51	14 007	948	15 213	219.1
NT	6	2	7	1	142	24	166	76.3
QLD	163	34	175	28	2 989	317	3 315	77.4
SA	58	8	31	12	996	116	1 113	78.1
TAS	6	2	5	1	115	13	128	25.8
VIC <sup>4</sup>	252	28	259	38	5 634	418	6 096	115.8
WA	56	22	59	17	1 304	232	1 543	72.2
Total <sup>5</sup>	928	141	892	149	25 460	2 102	27 881	131.3

<sup>1</sup> 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

<sup>2</sup> Rate per one hundred thousand current population. Population estimates by sex, State/Territory and calendar interval from *Australian Demographic Statistics* (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

<sup>3</sup> Cumulative total for NSW includes 228 people whose sex was not reported.

<sup>4</sup> Cumulative total for VIC includes 22 people whose sex was not reported.

<sup>5</sup> 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 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	e to 30 Jun (	08
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>	%
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	684	_	648	_	18 159	_	18 159	75.9
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	36	_	25	_	1 024	_	1 024	4.3
Injecting drug use	22	10	20	5	729	234	969	4.0
Heterosexual	11	8	10	4	312	171	483	
Not further specified	11	2	10	1	417	63	486	
Heterosexual contact	126	118	135	128	1 641	1 508	3 152	13.2
Sex with injecting drug user	1	8	4	4	41	121	162	
Sex with bisexual male	_	5	_	9	_	165	165	
From a high prevalence country	34	59	42	61	389	539	929	
Sex with person from a high prevalence country	37	9	38	9	371	157	528	
Sex with person with medically acquired HIV	1	1	0	0	6	21	27	
Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified	8	10	8	9	102	195	298	
Not further specified	45	26	43	36	732	310	1 043	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	0.9
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	1	109	103	212	0.9
Health care setting <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	3	9	12	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents <sup>1</sup>	868	128	828	134	21 884	1 858	23 751	99.2
Children (under 13 years at HIV di	agnosis)							
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection <sup>3</sup>	2	3	7	5	52	47	99	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 <sup>3</sup>	2	3	7	5	130	56	186	0.8
Sub-total	870	131	835	139	22 014	1 914	23 937	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>4</sup>	58	10	57	10	3 446	188	3 944	
Total <sup>1</sup>	928	141	892	149	25 460	2 102	27 881	

<sup>1</sup> Total column includes people whose sex was not reported.

<sup>4 &#</sup>x27;Health care setting' includes 5 cases of occupationally acquired HIV infection and 4 cases of HIV transmission in surgical rooms.

A total of 452 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 30 June 2008.

The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 3 919 adults/adolescents and 25 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.

Table 2.3 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to 30 June 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

0 – 2 3 – 12 0 – 12 3 – 19	1 Jul 06 –	30 Jun 07	1 Jul 07 –	30 Jun 08		Cumulative	to 30 Jun 08	i
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>	%
0-2	1	1	4	2	56	38	95	0.3
3 – 12	1	3	5	3	93	23	116	0.4
0 – 12	2	4	9	5	149	61	211	0.8
13 – 19	6	5	9	2	477	114	599	2.1
20 – 29	192	47	202	48	7 940	812	8 875	31.8
30 – 39	324	51	292	59	9 470	648	10 223	36.7
40 – 49	258	24	246	20	4 866	254	5 165	18.5
50 – 59	103	7	94	13	1 793	101	1 906	6.8
60+	42	3	40	2	627	80	711	2.6
Not reported	1	0	0	0	138	32	191	0.7
Total <sup>1</sup>	928	141	892	149	25 460	2 102	27 881	100.0

Table 2.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 July 2007 to 30 June 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

	1 Jul 07 –	31 Dec 07	1 Jan 08 –	30 Jun 08	1 J	ul 07 to 30 Ju	n 08
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
ACT	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
NSW	45	4	71	4	116	8	124
NT	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
QLD	29	2	28	1	57	3	60
SA	1	0	4	1	5	1	6
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	42	1	36	3	78	4	82
WA	7	1	10	0	17	1	18
Total	125	8	150	9	275	17	292

Table 2.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 July 2007 to 30 June 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

	1 Jul 07 –	31 Dec 07	1 Jan 08 –	30 Jun 08	1 J	ul 07 to 30 Ju	n <b>0</b> 8
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
Male homosexual/bisexual contact	102	_	131	_	233	_	233
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	2	_	5	_	7	-	7
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	2	1	0	0	2	1	3
Heterosexual contact	14	6	11	9	25	15	40
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined	5	1	3	0	8	1	9
Total	125	8	150	9	275	17	292

Table 2.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 July 2007 to 30 June 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

	1 Jul 07 –	1 Jul 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 30 Jun 08		1 Jul 07 to 30 Jun 08		
Age Group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
13 – 19	4	0	3	0	7	0	7	
20 – 29	33	2	46	4	79	6	85	
30 – 39	44	3	48	2	92	5	97	
40 – 49	28	2	40	3	68	5	73	
50 – 59	11	1	9	0	20	1	21	
60+	5	0	4	0	9	0	9	
Total	125	8	150	9	275	17	292	

## 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 April to 30 June 2008

	Seen	Tested for HIV Seen at Clinic antibody			Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
Sexual health clinic	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
Sydney Sexual Health Centre, NSW	1 624	887	739	332	6	1	7
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	396	183	177	51	2	0	2
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 126	778	454	173	1	0	1
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	712	538	220	179	1	0	1
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 211	724	950	566	1	0	1
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	2 011	1 648	1 100	749	10	0	10
Total	7 080	4 758	3 640	2 050	21	1	22

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 April to 30 June 2008

	nega	evious tive HIV ody test	% retested for HIV antibody		ve HIV % retested for Newly diag			
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	1 870		77.7		13		13	0.9
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	89		70.8		0		0	0.0
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	114	79	50.0	53.2	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	2 011	1 563	45.9	42.6	1	0	1	0.1
outside Australia	496	335	55.2	51.9	0	0	0	0.0
within Australia only	1 515	1 228	42.8	40.1	1	0	1	0.2
Sex worker		787		63.3		0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use		69		73.9		0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	32	86	37.5	52.3	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4 116	2 584	60.5	50.4	14	0	14	0.4

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 April to 30 June 2008

	No previous HIV antibody test		% tested for HIV antibody			Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	602		49.3		5		5	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	21		42.9		2		2	
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	40	19	50.0	42.1	0	0	0	
Heterosexual contact	1 682	1 681	48.0	38.0	0	1	1	0.1
outside Australia	480	372	51.3	48.1	0	0	0	0.0
within Australia only	1 202	1 309	46.7	35.1	0	1	1	0.1
Sex worker		245		28.6		0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use		20		45.0		0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	216	173	8.3	12.7	0	0	0	0.0
Total	2 561	2 138	44.9	35.0	7	1	8	0.4

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 April to 30 June 2008

	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	222	488	118	158	0	0	0
20 – 29	3 072	2 469	1 664	1 078	8	0	8
30 – 39	1 978	1 138	1 029	518	9	0	9
40 – 49	1 046	505	491	235	3	1	4
50 – 59	516	130	226	53	0	0	0
60+	246	28	112	8	1	0	1
Total	7 080	4 758	3 640	2 050	21	1	22

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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

 $\textbf{Sexually Transmitted Diseases in South Australia} \qquad \text{www.stdservices.on.net/publications}$ 

 Victorian Infectious Diseases Bulletin
 www.dhs.vic.gov.au/phd/vidb/

 Disease WAtch
 www.public.health.wa.gov.au/

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