



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

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Diagnoses in the fourth quarter

1 October – 31 December 2008

a total of 234 diagnoses of HIV infection, 25 diagnoses of AIDS and 8 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 31 March 2009, to have occurred in the fourth quarter of 2008

in comparison, 254 diagnoses of HIV infection, 36 diagnoses of AIDS and 13 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2009, to have occurred in the fourth quarter of 2007

New HIV infection

During the fourth quarter of 2008, 73 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 67 (91.8%) cases.

Diagnoses in the year to 31 December 2008

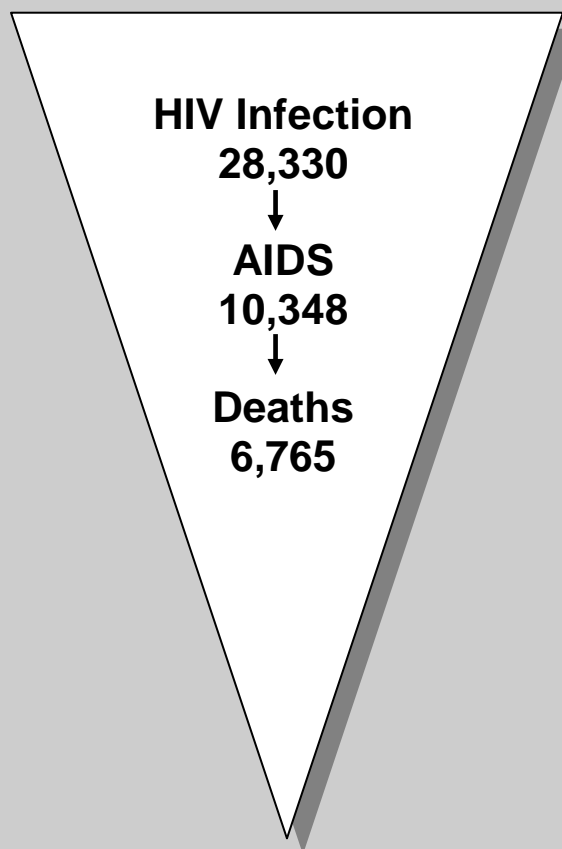
995 diagnoses of HIV infection

99 diagnoses of AIDS

24 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2009

The HIV Epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 31 December 2008



Announcements

The **22nd annual ASHM Conference** will be held in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, on 20 – 22 October 2010. The conference will be held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney. Further information may be obtained through the website <http://www.hivaidconference.com.au>.

The **2010 Australasian Sexual Health Conference** will also be held in Sydney, New South Wales, on 18 – 20 October 2010. Further information may be obtained through the website <http://www.hivaidconference.com.au>

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HIV diagnoses

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 December 2008 had an average age of 37 years and 1.3% was in the age group 13 – 19 years

86.3% were male and 13.7% were female

of 820 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 31 December 2008 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 654 (79.8%) were attributed to male homosexual/bisexual contact, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

Total diagnoses to 31 December 2008

28,330 diagnoses of HIV infection

10,348 diagnoses of AIDS

6,765 deaths following AIDS were reported by 31 March 2009

HIV testing in sexual health clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 5,699 people in the quarter 1 October – 31 December 2008 who were not previously known to have HIV infection

of 1,143 men reported as having been tested for the first time, 4 (0.3%) was found to have HIV infection

of 2,625 men, reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 18 (0.7%) were found to have HIV infection

of 1,520 homosexually active men who were retested following a previous negative test, 16 (1.1%) 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 December 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases

State/Territory	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	1	0	1	0	94	10	104	1.0
NSW ¹	64	10	--	--	5 513	265	5 796	56.0
NT	2	0	2	0	47	4	51	0.5
QLD	21	1	21	0	1 080	73	1 155	11.2
SA	3	0	6	0	418	32	451	4.4
TAS	2	0	0	0	55	4	59	0.6
VIC	44	5	48	5	2 103	121	2 237	21.6
WA	7	0	13	3	448	45	495	4.8
Total	144	16	91	8	9 758	554	10 348	100.0

Deaths

State/Territory	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	0	0	0	0	73	7	80	1.2
NSW ¹	15	2	--	--	3 598	138	3 747	55.4
NT	3	0	2	0	32	1	33	0.5
QLD	11	0	3	0	679	43	724	10.7
SA	1	0	0	0	280	20	300	4.4
TAS	0	0	1	0	34	2	36	0.5
VIC	10	3	17	0	1 443	64	1 516	22.4
WA	5	3	0	0	299	29	329	4.9
Total	45	8	23	0	6 438	304	6 765	100.0

[†] Totals include 36 AIDS cases and 23 deaths following AIDS in people whose sex was reported as transgender.
 1 AIDS diagnoses and death following AIDS occurring in NSW in 2008 not included.

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 07 – 31 Dec 07			1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT	5.9	0.0	2.9	5.8	0.0	2.9
NSW ²	18.7	2.9	10.7	--	--	--
NT	18.0	0.0	9.3	17.5	0.0	9.1
QLD	10.0	0.5	5.2	9.8	0.0	4.9
SA	3.8	0.0	1.9	7.6	0.0	3.7
TAS	8.2	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
VIC	17.0	1.9	9.4	18.2	1.9	10.0
WA	6.6	0.0	3.3	11.8	2.8	7.4
Total	13.7	1.5	7.6	8.5	0.7	4.6

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

2 AIDS diagnoses in NSW in 2008 not included.

Table 1.3 Cases of AIDS¹ and deaths following AIDS¹ by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 December 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases²

Age group (years)	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
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	7	3	6	0	1 459	127	1 601	15.5
30–39	37	2	28	5	3 962	203	4 177	40.4
40–49	56	6	27	1	2 837	107	2 949	28.5
50–59	28	3	15	1	1 054	49	1 107	10.7
60+	16	2	13	0	386	41	427	4.1
Total	144	16	91	8	9 758	554	10 348	100.0

Deaths³

Age group (years)	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
0–2	0	0	1	0	6	6	12	0.2
2–12	0	0	0	0	17	6	23	0.3
0–12	0	0	1	0	23	12	35	0.5
13–19	0	0	0	0	15	3	18	0.3
20–29	4	0	0	0	695	50	756	11.2
30–39	4	4	6	0	2 488	108	2 605	38.5
40–49	13	1	8	0	2 080	60	2 142	31.7
50–59	14	2	3	0	824	34	859	12.7
60+	10	1	5	0	313	37	350	5.2
Total	45	8	23	0	6 438	304	6 765	100.0

1 AIDS diagnoses and death following AIDS occurring in NSW in 2008 not included.

2 Cases are classified by age at diagnosis.

3 Deaths are classified by age at death.

Table 1.4 Cases of AIDS¹ by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 December 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	98	–	55	–	7 904	–	7 904	79.6
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	10	–	1	–	500	–	500	5.0
Injecting drug use	1	1	1	0	236	104	340	3.4
<i>Heterosexual</i>	0	0	1	0	144	78	222	
<i>Not further specified</i>	1	1	0	0	92	26	118	
Heterosexual contact	18	15	23	7	522	333	855	8.6
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	0	0	0	9	31	40	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	–	0	–	0	–	50	50	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	6	5	7	1	104	96	200	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	6	1	3	0	88	25	113	
<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>	0	4	0	2	34	39	73	
<i>Not further specified</i>	6	5	13	4	285	82	367	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	1	0	1	0	123	3	126	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	129	16	81	7	9 370	509	9 879	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AIDS 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	0.1
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	11	3	14	0.1
Total children	0	0	2	1	33	22	55	0.6
Sub-total	129	16	83	8	9 403	531	9 934	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	15	0	8	0	355	23	414	
Total	144	16	91	8	9 758	554	10 348	

1 AIDS cases newly diagnosed in New South Wales in 2008 not included.

2 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 December 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	20	–	18	–	5 378	–	5 378	82.3
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	5	–	1	–	315	–	315	4.8
Injecting drug use	2	2	1	0	140	64	204	3.1
<i>Heterosexual</i>	0	2	1	0	87	52	139	
<i>Not further specified</i>	2	0	0	0	53	12	65	
Heterosexual contact	8	5	0	0	210	150	360	5.5
<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>	1	1	0	0	21	21	42	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	1	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	1	0	0	21	16	37	
<i>Not further specified</i>	6	3	0	0	134	45	179	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	3	0	1	0	100	3	103	1.6
Receipt of blood/tissue	2	1	0	0	75	58	133	2.0
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	40	8	21	0	6 219	277	6 496	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	40	8	21	0	6 245	290	6 535	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	5	0	2	0	193	14	230	
Total	45	8	23	0	6 438	304	6 765	

1 AIDS cases newly diagnosed in New South Wales in 2008 not included.

2 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 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

State/Territory	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			Rate ²
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
ACT	8	1	5	2	273	35	308	89.5
NSW ³	368	46	322	42	14 148	965	15 371	220.6
NT	5	0	9	2	146	25	171	77.7
QLD	168	27	171	30	3 069	329	3 407	79.6
SA	45	11	42	5	1 021	116	1 138	71.0
TAS	3	2	3	1	115	13	128	25.7
VIC ⁴	253	32	250	35	5 749	435	6 228	117.6
WA	59	16	57	19	1 332	240	1 579	73.0
Total⁵	909	135	859	136	25 853	2 158	28 330	132.5

- 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 December 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	669	–	624	–	18 445	–	18 445	75.7
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	27	–	30	–	1 040	–	1 040	4.3
Injecting drug use	20	8	23	6	739	238	983	4.0
<i>Heterosexual</i>	6	5	16	4	319	173	492	
<i>Not further specified</i>	14	3	7	2	420	65	491	
Heterosexual contact	128	114	138	118	1 712	1 559	3 274	13.4
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	2	6	3	3	41	122	163	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	–	5	–	9	–	169	169	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	34	56	47	62	416	569	986	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	48	6	26	8	383	159	542	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	0	0	0	1	6	21	27	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified</i>	8	12	9	4	106	196	303	
<i>Not further specified</i>	36	29	53	31	760	323	1 084	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	0.9
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	1	0	1	109	104	213	0.9
Health care setting ²	0	0	0	0	3	9	12	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents¹	844	123	815	125	22 267	1 914	24 190	99.2
Children (under 13 years at HIV diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection ³	4	5	4	2	53	47	100	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	4	5	4	2	131	56	187	0.8
Sub-total	848	128	819	127	22 398	1 970	24 377	100.0
Other/undetermined ⁴	61	7	40	9	3 455	188	3 953	
Total¹	909	135	859	136	25 853	2 158	28 330	

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

4 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 31 December 2008, and for two previous yearly intervals

Age group (years)	1 Jan 07 – 31 Dec 07		1 Jan 08 – 31 Dec 08		Cumulative to 31 Dec 08			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
0 – 2	1	1	3	1	56	38	95	0.3
3 – 12	4	5	2	1	94	24	118	0.4
0 – 12	5	6	5	2	150	62	213	0.8
13 – 19	8	2	7	6	480	118	606	2.1
20 – 29	195	39	212	47	8 040	831	8 994	31.7
30 – 39	308	53	275	53	9 589	669	10 363	36.6
40 – 49	250	19	233	20	4 976	261	5 282	18.6
50 – 59	96	12	88	6	1 835	103	1 950	6.9
60+	46	4	39	2	645	82	731	2.6
Not reported	1	0	0	0	138	32	191	0.7
Total¹	909	135	859	136	25 853	2 158	28 330	100.0

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January 2008 to 31 December 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 Jan 08 – 30 Jun 08		1 Jul 08 – 31 Dec 08		1 Jan 08 to 31 Dec 08		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	68	4	52	2	120	6	126
NT	1	0	1	0	2	0	2
QLD	28	1	15	1	43	2	45
SA	4	1	2	0	6	1	7
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	36	4	45	1	81	5	86
WA	10	0	5	0	15	0	15
Total	147	10	120	4	267	14	281

Table 2.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January 2008 to 31 December 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 Jan 08 – 30 Jun 08		1 Jul 08 – 31 Dec 08		1 Jan 08 to 31 Dec 08		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Male homosexual/bisexual contact	129	–	104	–	233	–	233
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	5	–	5	–	10	–	10
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	0	1	0	1	0	2	2
Heterosexual contact	10	9	8	3	18	12	30
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined	3	0	3	0	6	0	6
Total	147	10	120	4	267	14	281

Table 2.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 January 2008 to 31 December 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 Jan 08 – 30 Jun 08		1 Jul 08 – 31 Dec 08		1 Jan 08 to 31 Dec 08		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
13 – 19	3	0	0	0	3	0	3
20 – 29	44	5	39	1	83	6	89
30 – 39	48	2	38	3	86	5	91
40 – 49	39	3	30	0	69	3	72
50 – 59	9	0	8	0	17	0	17
60+	4	0	5	0	9	0	9
Total	147	10	120	4	267	14	281

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 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	1 506	976	687	356	6	0	6
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	475	200	224	65	1	0	1
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 267	851	454	183	0	0	0
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	634	488	167	106	2	0	2
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 297	697	1 061	529	2	0	2
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	2 209	1 708	1 210	735	10	1	11
Total	7 388	4 920	3 803	1 974	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 October to 31 December 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	2 052	--	74.9	--	14	--	14	0.9
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	92	--	68.5	--	2	--	2	3.2
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	106	96	61.3	47.9	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	2 082	1 668	46.7	39.9	0	0	0	0.0
<i>outside Australia</i>	526	335	56.8	47.8	0	0	0	0.0
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 556	1 333	43.3	38.0	0	0	0	0.0
Sex worker	--	859	--	55.2	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	60	--	66.7	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	28	80	46.4	46.3	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4 360	2 763	60.8	45.7	16	0	16	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 October to 31 December 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	608	--	48.5	--	2	--	2	0.7
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	25	--	44.0	--	0	--	0	0.0
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	38	27	52.6	55.6	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	1 782	1 622	45.2	34.6	2	1	3	0.2
<i>outside Australia</i>	481	377	52.0	38.7	2	0	2	0.5
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 301	1 245	42.7	33.4	0	1	1	0.1
Sex worker	--	273	--	38.1	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	13	--	7.7	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	196	194	10.7	14.9	1	0	1	2.0
Total	2 649	2 129	43.5	33.3	5	1	6	0.3

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 October to 31 December 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	284	460	166	149	0	0	0
20 – 29	3 343	2 555	1 788	1 013	9	0	9
30 – 39	1 930	1 246	1 010	555	3	0	3
40 – 49	1 086	485	496	203	8	0	8
50 – 59	481	139	219	46	1	1	2
60+	264	35	124	8	0	0	0
Total	7 388	4 920	3 803	1 974	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
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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