



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 2009

a total of 206 diagnoses of HIV infection, 17 diagnoses of AIDS and 1 death following AIDS were reported, by 30 June 2009, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2009

in comparison, 266 diagnoses of HIV infection, 38 diagnoses of AIDS and 9 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2009, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2008

New HIV infection

During the first quarter of 2009, 50 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 42 (84.0%) cases.

Diagnoses in the year to 31 March 2009

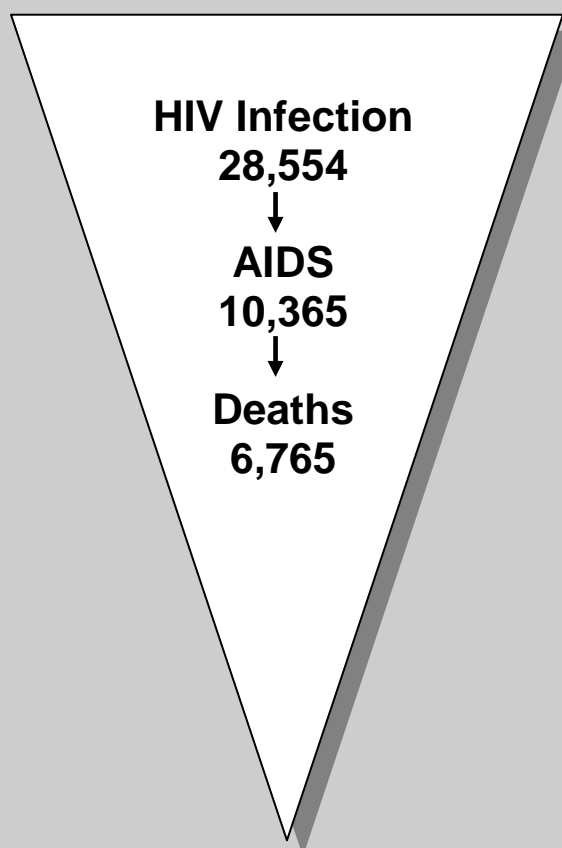
904 diagnoses of HIV infection

87 diagnoses of AIDS

20 death following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2009

The HIV Epidemic in Australia

A cumulative profile to 31 March 2009



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 March 2009 had an average age of 38 years and 1.2% was in the age group 13 – 19 years

84.5% were male and 15.4% were female

of 745 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 31 March 2009 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 588 (78.9%) were attributed to male homosexual/bisexual contact, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

Total diagnoses to 31 March 2009

28,544 diagnoses of HIV infection

10,365 diagnoses of AIDS

6,765 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 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 January – 31 March 2009 who were not previously known to have HIV infection

of 1,228 men reported as having been tested for the first time, 7 (0.6%) was found to have HIV infection

of 2,836 men, reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 23 (0.8%) were found to have HIV infection

of 1,827 homosexually active men who were retested following a previous negative test, 22 (1.2%) 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 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases

State/Territory	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	2	0	0	0	94	10	104	1.0
NSW ¹	53	9	--	--	5 513	265	5 796	55.9
NT	1	0	1	1	47	5	52	0.5
QLD	27	0	16	1	1 082	74	1 158	11.2
SA	4	0	5	0	418	32	451	4.4
TAS	2	0	0	0	55	4	59	0.6
VIC	50	6	43	6	2 114	123	2 250	21.7
WA	6	0	11	3	448	45	495	4.8
Total	145	15	76	11	9 771	558	10 365	100.0

Deaths

State/Territory	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
ACT	0	0	0	0	73	7	80	1.2
NSW ¹	14	3	--	--	3 597	138	3 746	55.4
NT	1	0	2	0	32	1	33	0.5
QLD	9	0	2	0	679	43	724	10.7
SA	0	0	0	0	280	20	300	4.4
TAS	0	0	1	0	34	2	36	0.5
VIC	10	3	15	0	1 444	64	1 517	22.4
WA	4	3	0	0	299	29	329	4.9
Total	38	9	20	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 not included from 1 January 2008.

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 07 – 31 Mar 08			1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT	11.8	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
NSW ²	20.7	3.4	12.0	--	--	--
NT	9.0	0.0	4.7	8.8	9.4	9.1
QLD	12.9	0.0	6.4	7.5	0.5	4.0
SA	5.1	0.0	2.5	6.3	0.0	3.1
TAS	8.2	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
VIC	19.3	2.3	10.7	16.3	2.2	9.2
WA	5.6	0.0	2.8	10.0	2.8	6.4
Total	13.8	1.4	7.6	7.1	1.0	4.1

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

2 AIDS diagnoses in NSW not included from 1 January 2008.

Table 1.3 Cases of AIDS¹ and deaths following AIDS¹ by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 March 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

Cases²

Age group (years)	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total [†]	
0–2	1	0	0	1	10	10	20	0.2
2–12	1	0	0	0	22	12	34	0.3
0–12	2	0	0	1	32	22	54	0.5
13–19	0	0	0	1	28	6	34	0.3
20–29	9	3	4	0	1 461	127	1 603	15.5
30–39	34	3	26	4	3 964	203	4 179	40.3
40–49	57	5	21	2	2 841	108	2 954	28.5
50–59	26	2	16	3	1 056	51	1 111	10.7
60+	17	2	9	0	389	41	430	4.1
Total	145	15	76	11	9 771	558	10 365	100.0

Deaths³

Age group (years)	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	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	3	0	0	0	695	50	756	11.2
30–39	6	4	4	0	2 488	108	2 605	38.5
40–49	11	1	8	0	2 080	60	2 142	31.7
50–59	8	2	3	0	824	34	859	12.7
60+	10	2	4	0	313	37	350	5.2
Total	38	9	20	0	6 438	304	6 765	100.0

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

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 March 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	103	--	43	--	7 912	--	7 912	79.5
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	8	--	1	--	501	--	501	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	19	14	21	10	524	337	861	8.7
<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>	7	5	6	1	104	96	200	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	5	0	3	0	89	25	114	
<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	4	0	3	34	40	74	
<i>Not further specified</i>	6	5	12	6	286	85	371	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	1	0	1	0	123	3	126	1.3
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	84	66	150	1.5
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	132	15	67	10	9 381	513	9 894	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	2	0	0	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	2	0	0	1	33	22	55	0.6
Sub-total	134	15	67	11	9 414	535	9 949	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	11	0	9	0	357	23	416	
Total	145	15	76	11	9 771	558	10 365	

3 AIDS diagnoses occurring in NSW not included from 1 January 2008.

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 March 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	21	--	15	--	5 378	--	5 378	82.3
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	5	--	0	--	315	--	315	4.8
Injecting drug use	1	2	1	0	140	64	204	3.1
<i>Heterosexual</i>	0	2	1	0	87	52	139	
<i>Not further specified</i>	1	0	0	0	53	12	65	
Heterosexual contact	4	6	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>	0	1	0	0	21	21	42	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	0	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	2	0	0	21	16	37	
<i>Not further specified</i>	4	3	0	0	134	45	179	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	3	0	0	0	100	3	103	1.6
Receipt of blood/tissue	1	1	1	0	75	58	133	2.0
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	35	9	17	0	6 219	277	6 496	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AIDS diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	0	0	1	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	1	0	26	13	39	0.6
Sub-total	35	9	18	0	6 245	290	6 535	100.0
Other/undetermined ¹	3	0	2	0	193	14	230	
Total	38	9	20	0	6 438	304	6 765	

1 Deaths following AIDS occurring in NSW not included from 1 January 2008.

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 March 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

State/Territory	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			Rate ²
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
ACT	11	1	4	2	276	35	311	90.0
NSW ³	355	51	276	33	14 192	969	15 420	220.8
NT	6	0	9	4	148	27	175	79.6
QLD	167	22	162	35	3 104	339	3 452	80.4
SA	34	11	43	6	1 033	119	1 153	71.9
TAS	5	1	2	0	116	13	129	25.9
VIC ⁴	262	30	240	42	5 809	447	6 300	118.6
WA	57	18	58	23	1 348	249	1 604	73.9
Total⁵	897	134	794	145	26 026	2 198	28 544	133.2

- 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 229 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 251 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 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

Exposure category	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact	666	--	560	--	18 572	--	18 572	75.6
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	23	--	28	--	1 047	--	1 047	4.3
Injecting drug use	17	3	20	6	741	235	976	4.0
<i>Heterosexual</i>	7	2	14	4	321	174	495	
<i>Not further specified</i>	10	1	6	2	420	61	481	
Heterosexual contact	130	118	136	126	1 739	1 599	3 335	13.5
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	3	4	2	6	41	136	177	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	--	4	--	9	--	160	160	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	35	62	49	69	427	592	1 019	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	46	7	22	6	385	158	543	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	0	1	0	0	6	21	27	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified</i>	6	9	9	8	106	200	306	
<i>Not further specified</i>	40	31	54	28	774	332	1 103	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	0.9
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	1	0	1	108	104	212	0.9
Health care setting ²	0	0	0	0	4	9	13	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents¹	836	122	744	133	22 430	1 951	24 378	99.2
Children (under 13 years at HIV diagnosis)								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection ³	7	5	2	3	55	48	103	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	7	5	2	3	133	57	190	0.8
Sub-total	843	127	746	136	22 563	2 008	24 568	100.0
Other/undetermined ⁴	54	7	48	9	3 463	190	3 976	
Total¹	897	134	794	145	26 026	2 198	28 544	

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 491 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 31 March 2009.

4 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 3 950 adults/adolescents and 26 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 March 2009, and for two previous yearly intervals

Age group (years)	1 Apr 07 – 31 Mar 08		1 Apr 08 – 31 Mar 09		Cumulative to 31 Mar 09			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total ¹	
0 – 2	4	1	0	1	56	38	95	0.3
3 – 12	4	5	2	1	94	24	118	0.4
0 – 12	8	6	2	2	150	62	213	0.7
13 – 19	8	2	7	5	481	119	608	2.1
20 – 29	196	43	199	48	8 090	843	9 056	31.7
30 – 39	304	51	257	58	9 647	686	10 439	36.6
40 – 49	241	17	209	21	5 013	267	5 325	18.7
50 – 59	97	11	87	7	1 857	105	1 974	6.9
60+	42	4	33	4	650	84	738	2.6
Not reported	1	0	0	0	138	32	191	0.7
Total¹	897	134	794	145	26 026	2 198	28 544	100.0

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 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 08 – 30 Sep 08		1 Oct 08 – 31 Mar 09		1 Apr 08 to 31 Mar 09		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	43	2	54	1	97	3	100
NT	0	0	1	1	1	1	2
QLD	18	1	18	1	36	2	38
SA	3	0	3	0	6	0	6
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	42	4	44	0	86	4	90
WA	9	0	4	0	13	0	13
Total	115	7	124	3	239	10	249

Table 2.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 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 08 – 30 Sep 08		1 Oct 08 – 31 Mar 09		1 Apr 08 to 31 Mar 09		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Male homosexual/bisexual contact	98	--	107	--	205	--	205
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	5	--	3	--	8	--	8
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	0	1	1	1	1	2	3
Heterosexual contact	11	6	6	2	17	8	25
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined	1	0	7	0	8	0	8
Total	115	7	124	3	239	10	249

Table 2.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 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 08 – 30 Sep 08		1 Oct 08 – 31 Mar 09		1 Apr 08 to 31 Mar 09		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
13 – 19	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
20 – 29	36	4	46	0	82	4	86
30 – 39	45	2	29	2	74	4	78
40 – 49	21	1	36	1	57	2	59
50 – 59	6	0	10	0	16	0	16
60+	5	0	3	0	8	0	8
Total	115	7	124	3	239	10	249

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 2009

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	1 720	1 094	881	421	9	0	9
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	510	196	264	75	3	0	3
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 319	834	428	200	1	0	1
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	629	414	113	80	1	0	1
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 294	723	1 055	559	2	0	2
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	2 243	1 759	1 323	839	14	0	14
Total	7 715	5 020	4 064	2 174	30	0	30

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 2009

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	2 263	--	76.4	--	20	--	20	1.2
Male homosexual/bisexual contact and injecting drug use	119	--	81.5	--	2	--	2	2.1
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	108	101	61.1	50.5	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	2 081	1 730	44.7	41.8	1	0	1	0.1
<i>outside Australia</i>	536	386	54.3	53.1	0	0	0	0.0
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 545	1 344	41.4	38.5	1	0	1	0.1
Sex worker	--	1 047	--	53.1	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	63	--	61.9	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	24	108	54.2	60.2	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4 595	3 049	61.7	47.0	23	0	23	0.5

Table 3.3 Number of people seen with *no previous HIV antibody test*, percent tested for HIV antibody for the first time, and number (percent) newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, during the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2009

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	620	--	57.1	--	4	--	4	1.1
Male homosexual/ bisexual contact and injecting drug use	27	--	59.3	--	1	--	1	6.2
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	36	24	55.6	37.5	1	0	1	3.4
Heterosexual contact	1 753	1 868	46.8	35.1	1	0	1	0.1
<i>outside Australia</i>	509	405	55.2	44.2	0	0	0	0.0
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 244	1 463	43.4	32.5	1	0	1	0.1
Sex worker	--	134	--	76.9	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	6	--	83.3	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	275	273	6.2	9.9	0	0	0	0.0
Total	2 711	2 305	45.3	34.7	7	0	7	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 January to 31 March 2009

Age group (years)	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	281	459	133	162	0	0	0
20 – 29	3 518	2 623	1 930	1 134	11	0	11
30 – 39	2 026	1 262	1 095	584	11	0	11
40 – 49	1 140	500	562	234	6	0	6
50 – 59	505	147	226	52	2	0	2
60+	245	29	118	8	0	0	0
Total	7 715	5 020	4 064	2 174	30	0	30

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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 Viruses 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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