

# 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 2010

a total of 251 diagnoses of HIV infection, 16 diagnoses of AIDS and 5 deaths following AIDS were reported, by 30 June 2010, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2010

in comparison, 252 diagnoses of HIV infection, 27 diagnoses of AIDS and 3 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2010, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2009

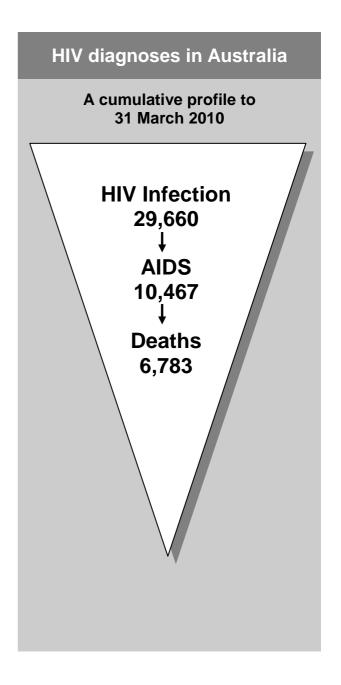
#### **New HIV infection**

During the first quarter of 2010, 64 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. Men who had sex with men, with or without a history of injecting drug use, accounted for 90.6% (58) of cases.

## Diagnoses in the year to 31 March 2010

1 058 diagnoses of HIV infection

81 diagnoses of AIDS12 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2010



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. Its work is overseen by the Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS, Sexual Health and Hepatitis. The NCHECR Surveillance and Evaluation Program for Public Health is a research associate of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

### **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 <a href="http://www.hivaidsconference.com.au">http://www.hivaidsconference.com.au</a>.

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.hivaidsconference.com.au

#### **HIV diagnoses**

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 2010 had an average age of 37 years and 1.0% was in the age group 13 – 19 years 86.5% were male and 12.9% were female of 834 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 31 March 2010 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 631 (75.7%) were attributed to men who had sex with men, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

#### Total diagnoses to 31 March 2010

29 660 diagnoses of HIV infection10 467 diagnoses of AIDS6 783 deaths following AIDS were reported by 30 June 2010

#### HIV testing in sexual health clinics

Six sexual health clinics in Adelaide, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney tested 6 733 people in the quarter 1 January – 31 March 2010 who were not previously known to have HIV infection.

- of 1 323 men reported as having been tested for the first time, 4 (0.3%) were found to have HIV infection
- of 3 109 men, reported as having been retested following a previous negative test, 22 (0.7%) were found to have HIV infection
- of 2 021 men who have sex with men, who were retested following a previous negative test, 21 (1.0%) 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 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

#### Cases

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	to 31 Mar 10	
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
ACT	0	0	1	0	95	10	105	1.0
NSW <sup>1</sup>					5 513	265	5 796	55.4
NT	1	1	3	1	50	6	56	0.5
QLD	21	3	13	2	1 101	78	1 181	11.3
SA	6	0	8	0	427	32	460	4.4
TAS	0	0	0	0	55	4	59	0.6
VIC	46	6	40	4	2 162	127	2 302	22.0
WA	14	4	7	2	458	48	508	4.9
Total	88	14	72	9	9 861	570	10 467	100.0

#### Deaths

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	to 31 Mar 10	
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
ACT	0	0	0	0	73	7	80	1.2
NSW <sup>1</sup>					3 597	138	3 746	55.2
NT	2	0	1	0	33	1	34	0.5
QLD	2	0	2	0	682	43	727	10.7
SA	0	0	1	0	281	20	301	4.4
TAS	1	0	0	0	34	2	36	0.5
VIC	17	1	6	1	1 452	66	1 527	22.5
WA	2	0	0	1	301	30	332	4.9
Total	24	1	10	2	6 453	307	6 783	100.0

<sup>†</sup> Totals include 36 AIDS cases and 23 deaths following AIDS in people whose sex was reported as transgender.
AIDS diagnoses and death following AIDS occurring in NSW not included from 1 January 2008.

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 Apr	08 – 31 Mar 09		1 Apr	09 – 31 Mar 10	
State/Territory	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ACT	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	2.8
NSW <sup>2</sup>						
NT	8.7	9.3	9.0	25.4	9.1	17.6
QLD	9.6	1.4	5.5	5.8	0.9	3.4
SA	7.5	0.0	3.7	9.9	0.0	4.9
TAS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
VIC	17.2	2.2	9.7	14.7	1.4	8.0
WA	12.5	3.7	8.1	6.1	1.8	4.0
Total	8.1	1.3	4.7	6.5	0.8	3.7

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

<sup>2</sup> AIDS diagnoses occurring in NSW from 1 January 2008 not included.

Table 1.3 Cases of AIDS<sup>1</sup> and deaths following AIDS<sup>1</sup> by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 March 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

#### Cases<sup>2</sup>

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	to 31 Mar 10	0
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
0-2	0	1	0	2	10	12	22	0.2
2 – 12	0	0	0	0	22	12	34	0.3
0 – 12	0	1	0	2	32	24	56	0.5
13 – 19	0	1	0	0	28	6	34	0.3
20 – 29	5	0	6	1	1 468	128	1 611	15.4
30 – 39	29	5	21	5	3 991	209	4 212	40.2
40 – 49	24	4	21	0	2 866	110	2 981	28.5
50 – 59	21	3	19	1	1 082	52	1 138	10.9
60+	9	0	5	0	394	41	435	4.2
Total	88	14	72	9	9 861	570	10 467	100.0

#### Deaths<sup>3</sup>

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	to 31 Mar 10	·
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>†</sup>	%
0-2	1	0	0	0	6	6	12	0.2
2 – 12	0	0	0	0	17	6	23	0.3
0 – 12	1	0	0	0	23	12	35	0.5
13 – 19	0	0	0	0	15	3	18	0.3
20 – 29	0	0	1	0	696	50	757	11.2
30 – 39	5	0	0	2	2 489	110	2 608	38.4
40 – 49	8	1	2	0	2 083	61	2 146	31.6
50 – 59	6	0	6	0	833	34	868	12.8
60+	4	0	1	0	314	37	351	5.2
Total	24	1	10	2	6 453	307	6 783	100.0

<sup>1</sup> AIDS diagnoses and death following AIDS occurring in NSW from 1 January 2008 not included.

<sup>2</sup> Cases are classified by age at diagnosis.

<sup>3</sup> Deaths are classified by age at death.

Table 1.4 Cases of AIDS¹ by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 March 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Apr 08	– 31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09	– 31 Mar 10		Cumulat	ive to 31 Mar 10	
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Men who had sex with men	51		40		7 964		7 964	79.3
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	4		5		509		509	5.1
Injecting drug use	1	0	6	0	242	104	346	3.4
Heterosexual	1	0	3	0	147	78	225	
Not further specified	0	0	3	0	95	26	121	
Heterosexual contact	22	13	12	6	537	346	883	8.8
Sex with injecting drug user	0	0	0	0	9	31	40	
Sex with bisexual male		0		0		50	50	
From a high prevalence country	6	2	1	3	105	100	205	
Sex with person from a high prevalence country	3	0	3	1	92	26	118	
Sex with person with medically acquired HIV	0	0	0	0	2	10	12	
Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified	0	3	1	0	35	40	75	
Not further specified	13	8	7	2	294	89	383	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	1	0	0	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	79	13	63	6	9 460	522	9 982	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AID	S diagnos	is)						
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	0	1	0	2	17	21	38	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	1	0	2	33	24	57	0.6
Sub-total	79	14	63	8	9 493	546	10 039	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>2</sup>	9	0	9	1	368	24	428	
Total	88	14	72	9	9 861	570	10 467	

<sup>1</sup> AIDS diagnoses occurring in NSW from 1 January 2008 not included.

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 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	ive to 31 Mar 10	
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Men who had sex with men	17		6		5 386		5 386	82.2
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	0		1		316		316	4.8
Injecting drug use	1	1	0	0	140	65	205	3.1
Heterosexual	1	0	0	0	87	52	139	
Not further specified	0	1	0	0	53	13	66	
Heterosexual contact	1	0	0	2	211	152	363	5.5
Sex with injecting drug user	0	0	0	0	5	14	19	
Sex with bisexual male		0		0		36	36	
From a high prevalence country	0	0	0	1	21	22	43	
Sex with person from a high prevalence country	0	0	0	0	27	11	38	
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	0	21	16	37	
Not further specified	1	0	0	1	135	46	181	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	2	0	0	0	101	3	104	1.6
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	0	75	58	133	2.0
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0.0
Total Adults/ Adolescents	21	1	7	2	6 230	280	6 510	99.4
Children (under 13 years at AID	S diagnosis)							
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection	1	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	1	0	0	0	26	13	39	0.6
Sub-total	22	1	7	2	6 256	293	6 549	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>1</sup>	2	0	3	0	197	14	234	
Total	24	1	10	2	6 453	307	6 783	

<sup>1</sup> Deaths following AIDS occurring in NSW from 1 January 2008 not included.

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 31 March 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10	•	Cumulative	to 31 Mar 10	)
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	Rate <sup>2</sup>
ACT	2	2	9	2	283	37	320	92.6
NSW <sup>3</sup>	321	38	331	43	14 573	1 018	15 853	227.0
NT	9	4	13	3	162	30	192	87.3
QLD	160	34	198	36	3 299	374	3 682	85.7
SA	43	6	44	9	1 078	127	1 206	75.2
TAS	1	0	11	4	127	17	144	28.9
VIC <sup>4</sup>	243	42	254	24	6 067	472	6 585	123.9
WA	59	24	55	16	1 405	266	1 678	77.3
Total⁵	838	150	915	137	26 994	2 341	29 660	138.4

<sup>1</sup> Seventy four people (33 NSW, 9 QLD, 1 SA, 24 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 229 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 251 people whose sex was not reported.

Table 2.2 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 March 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	e to 31 Mar	10
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>	%
Men who had sex with men	599		640		19 258		19 258	75.2
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	33		27		1 080		1 080	4.2
Injecting drug use	20	7	25	4	767	240	1 007	3.9
Heterosexual	15	5	12	3	335	178	513	
Not further specified	5	2	13	1	432	62	494	
Heterosexual contact	141	134	152	121	1 897	1 726	3 623	14.1
Sex with injecting drug user	2	6	1	0	42	136	178	
Sex with bisexual male		10		3		164	164	
From a high prevalence country	49	72	68	56	496	651	1 147	
Sex with person from a high prevalence country	23	6	30	13	416	174	590	
Sex with person with medically acquired HIV	0	0	0	2	6	23	29	
Sex with HIV infected person, exposure not specified	9	9	7	10	114	211	325	
Not further specified	58	31	46	37	823	367	1 190	
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	0.9
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	1	0	0	108	104	212	0.8
Health care setting <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	4	9	13	0.1
Total Adults/ Adolescents <sup>1</sup>	793	142	844	125	23 333	2 083	25 416	99.2
Children (under 13 years at HIV d	iagnosis)							
Mother with/at risk for HIV		=						
infection <sup>3</sup>	1	2	2	6	56	53	109	0.4
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	65	0	65	0.3
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	0	1	13	10	23	0.1
Total children	1	2	2	7	134	63	197	8.0
Sub-total	794	144	846	132	23 467	2 146	25 613	100.0
Other/undetermined <sup>4</sup>	44	6	69	5	3 527	195	4 047	
Total <sup>1</sup>	838	150	915	137	26 994	2 341	29 660	

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

<sup>2 &#</sup>x27;Health care setting' includes 5 cases of occupationally acquired HIV infection and 4 cases of HIV transmission in surgical

A total of 536 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 31 March 2010.

The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 4 020 adults/adolescents and 27 children. Seventy 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.

Table 2.3 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 March 2010, and for two previous yearly intervals

	1 Apr 08 –	31 Mar 09	1 Apr 09 –	31 Mar 10		Cumulative	to 31 Mar 10	)
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>	%
0-2	0	1	0	4	56	42	99	0.3
3 – 12	2	1	3	4	97	28	125	0.4
0 – 12	2	2	3	8	153	70	224	0.8
13 – 19	7	5	8	3	489	122	619	2.1
20 – 29	209	49	215	45	8 318	890	9 332	31.5
30 – 39	271	61	296	53	9 960	743	10 811	36.4
40 – 49	221	22	246	19	5 274	286	5 605	18.9
50 – 59	92	7	115	8	1 977	113	2 104	7.1
60+	36	4	32	1	685	85	774	2.6
Not reported	0	0	0	0	138	32	191	0.6
Total <sup>1</sup>	838	150	915	137	26 994	2 341	29 660	100.0

See footnotes Table 2.1

Table 2.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 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 Apr 09 –	30 Sep 09	1 Oct 09 -	31 Mar 10	1 Apr 09 – 31 Mar 10		
State/Territory	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
ACT	3	0	0	0	3	0	3
NSW <sup>1</sup>	53	3	57	2	110	5	116
NT	4	2	2	0	6	2	8
QLD	37	2	31	2	68	4	72
SA	4	0	1	0	5	0	5
TAS	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
VIC	42	2	40	1	82	3	85
WA	2	0	4	0	6	0	6
Total	147	9	135	5	282	14	297

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1 person whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 2.5 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 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 Apr 09 –	30 Sep 09	1 Oct 09 -	31 Mar 10	1 Apr 09 - 31 Mar 10		
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>
Men who had sex with men	124		120		244		244
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	5		4		9		9
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Heterosexual contact	12	9	6	4	18	13	31
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined	5	0	5	1	10	1	12
Total <sup>1</sup>	147	9	135	5	282	14	297

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1 person whose sex was reported as transgender.

Table 2.6 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 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 Apr 09 –	- 30 Sep 09 1 Oct 09 – 31 Mar 10		· 31 Mar 10	1 Apr 09 - 31 Mar 10		
Age Group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	1	1	2	0	3	1	4
20 – 29	43	4	34	2	77	6	84
30 – 39	45	3	48	2	93	5	98
40 – 49	36	0	34	0	70	0	70
50 – 59	21	1	12	1	33	2	35
60+	1	0	5	0	6	0	6
Total <sup>1</sup>	147	9	135	5	282	14	297

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1 person whose sex was reported as transgender.

### 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 2010

	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	2 032	1 202	985	447	11	0	11
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	596	228	289	110	1	0	1
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 289	762	399	158	2	0	2
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	806	562	186	117	0	0	0
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 373	580	1 145	445	2	0	2
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	2 377	2 097	1 428	1 024	10	0	10
Total	8 473	5 431	4 432	2 301	26	0	26

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 2010

	neg	revious pative HIV body test	% retested for Newly diagno HIV antibody with HIV infe					
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Men who have sex with men	2 545		76.5		21		21	1.1
Men who have sex with men and injecting drug use	93		80.6		0		0	0.0
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	101	83	53.5	49.4	1	0	1	1.1
Heterosexual contact	2 140	1 695	47.6	40.8	0	0	0	0.0
outside Australia	620	412	58.1	49.8	0	0	0	0.0
within Australia only	1 520	1 283	43.4	37.9	0	0	0	0.0
Sex worker		1 270		52.2		0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use		60		68.3		0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	38	77	39.5	39.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	4 917	3 185	63.2	46.0	22	0	22	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 2010

	No previous HIV antibody test		% tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection			
Exposure category	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	%
Men who have sex with men	682		56.6		2		2	0.5
Men who have sex with men and injecting drug use	26		30.8		1		1	12.5
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	52	25	46.2	48.0	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	1 918	1 786	46.5	37.8	1	0	1	0.1
outside Australia	512	440	55.5	48.4	0	0	0	0.0
within Australia only	1 406	1 346	43.2	34.4	1	0	1	0.1
Sex worker		144		86.8		0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use		4		75.0		0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	357	251	3.9	7.6	0	0	0	0.0
Total	3 035	2 210	43.6	37.8	4	0	4	0.2

Table 3.4 Number of people seen, number tested for HIV antibody and number newly diagnosed with HIV infection, by sex and age group, during the quarter 1 January to 31 March 2010

	Seen	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
Age group (years)	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
13 – 19	293	426	165	147	0	0	0	
20 – 29	3 751	2 860	2 057	1 163	8	0	8	
30 – 39	2 265	1 449	1 189	680	12	0	12	
40 – 49	1 353	519	654	236	4	0	4	
50 – 59	548	149	257	67	2	0	2	
60+	263	28	110	8	0	0	0	
Total	8 473	5 431	4 432	2 301	26	0	26	

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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/publichealth/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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