

# The Kirby Institute Australian HIV Surveillance Report

Vol 29 No 3 July 2013

## Diagnoses in the first quarter

### 1 January – 31 March 2013

a total of 227 diagnoses of HIV infection and 8 deaths following HIV diagnosis were reported by 30 June 2013, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2013

in comparison, 340 diagnoses of HIV infection and 13 deaths following HIV diagnosis were reported by 30 June 2013, to have occurred in the first quarter of 2012

### New HIV infection

During the first quarter of 2013, 56 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 96% (54) of cases.

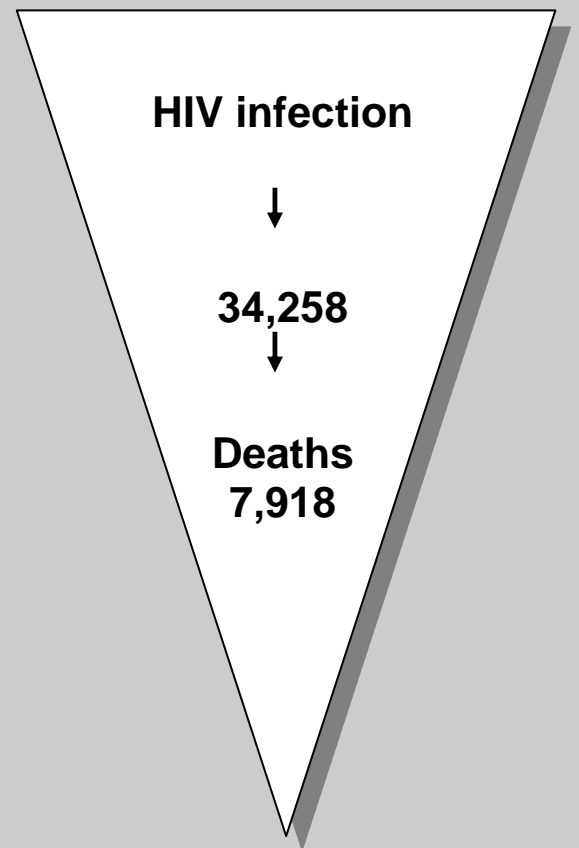
### Diagnoses in the year to 31 March 2013

1 140 diagnoses of HIV infection

42 deaths following HIV diagnosis occurred in the year to 31 March 2013

## HIV diagnoses in Australia

A cumulative profile to  
31 March 2013



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## Announcements

The **2013 Australasian HIV & AIDS Conference** will be held in Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia, on 21 – 23 October 2013. Further information may be obtained through the website [www.hivaidsconference.com.au](http://www.hivaidsconference.com.au)

The **20<sup>th</sup> International AIDS Conference** will be held in Melbourne on 20 – 25 July 2014. Further information can be obtained from the local secretariat: AIDS 2014 Secretariat, Alfred Health, Old Baker Building  
PO Box 25143, 55 Commercial Road,  
Melbourne, Victoria 3004 Australia  
Telephone: 61 (0) 2852 79301  
Website [www.AIDS2014.ORG](http://www.AIDS2014.ORG)  
Email: [infor@AIDS2014.org](mailto:infor@AIDS2014.org)

The **2014 Australian Sexual Health Conference** will be held at the Sydney Masonic Centre, Sydney, on 9 - 11 October 2014. Further information may be obtained through the website [www.sexualhealthconference.com.au](http://www.sexualhealthconference.com.au)

The **National AIDS Registry** tables, summarising the pattern of AIDS diagnosis in Australia by year, State/Territory, sex, age group and exposure category, will no longer be published in the *Australian HIV Surveillance Report*. Following the introduction of effective antiretroviral treatment for HIV infection in mid-1996, an AIDS diagnosis in Australia has become an infrequent and reversible event and is no longer a marker of HIV disease progression (Kaldor *et al* 2009).

Tables summarising the pattern of newly diagnosed HIV infection in Australia, broken down by year, state/territory, sex, age group and exposure category will continue to be published in the *Australian HIV Surveillance Report*. Detailed analyses and interpretation of national HIV surveillance data are also published annually in *HIV, viral hepatitis and sexually transmissible infections in Australia Annual Surveillance Report*. Both the quarterly *Australian HIV Surveillance Report* and the *Annual Surveillance Report* are available at [www.kirby.unsw.edu.au](http://www.kirby.unsw.edu.au)

Reference:

Kaldor JM, Delpuch V and Guy RJ. AIDS case reporting: do we still need it? *Lancet* 2009; 373: 181-183

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...continued from page 1

## **HIV diagnoses**

People diagnosed with HIV infection in the year to 31 March 2013 had an average age of 37 years and 1.6% were in the age group 13 – 19 years

87.3% were male, 12.5% were female and 0.2% were transgender.

of 937 cases of HIV infection, newly diagnosed among adult/adolescent males in the year to 31 March 2013 for which an exposure to HIV was reported, 782 (83.5%) were attributed to men who had sex with men, with or without a history of injecting drug use.

## **Total diagnoses to 31 March 2013**

34 258 diagnoses of HIV infection

7 918 deaths following HIV diagnosis were reported by 30 June 2013

# National HIV Registry

**Table 1.1** Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex<sup>1</sup> and State/Territory, cumulative to 31 March 2013, and for two previous yearly intervals

State/Territory	1 Apr 11 - 31 Mar 12		1 Apr 12 - 31 Mar 13		Cumulative to 31 Mar 13			Rate <sup>2</sup>
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
ACT	13	1	11	2	333	42	375	99.9
NSW <sup>3</sup>	371	33	364	47	16 494	1 136	17 898	245.0
NT	9	4	17	5	195	41	236	100.3
QLD	194	33	189	24	3 925	460	4 394	96.2
SA	47	18	36	11	1 223	162	1 386	83.7
TAS	13	3	10	0	171	26	197	38.5
VIC <sup>4</sup>	301	33	279	33	7 085	578	7 713	137.0
WA	82	37	89	21	1 687	365	2 059	84.5
<b>Total<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>1 030</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>31 113</b>	<b>2 810</b>	<b>34 258</b>	<b>150.7</b>

1 Eighty six people (41 NSW, 9 QLD, 1 SA, 28 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 227 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 249 people whose sex was not reported.

**Table 1.2 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection, by sex and exposure category, cumulative to 31 March 2013, and for two previous yearly intervals**

Exposure category	1 Apr 11 - 31 Mar 12		1 Apr 12 - 31 Mar 13		Cumulative to 31 Mar 13			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>	
Men who had sex with men	795	--	753	--	22 538	--	22 538	75.0
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	35	--	29	--	1 227	--	1 227	4.1
Injecting drug use	16	9	18	3	835	263	1 104	3.7
<i>Heterosexual</i>	10	9	7	3	383	194	577	
<i>Not further specified</i>	6	0	11	0	452	69	527	
Heterosexual contact	133	142	131	124	2 334	2 138	4 475	14.8
<i>Sex with injecting drug user</i>	0	3	2	4	45	139	184	
<i>Sex with bisexual male</i>	--	6	--	4	--	190	190	
<i>From a high prevalence country</i>	27	70	35	56	589	842	1 432	
<i>Sex with person from a high prevalence country</i>	44	12	43	16	547	213	760	
<i>Sex with person with medically acquired HIV</i>	0	0	0	1	7	26	33	
<i>Sex with HIV infected person, other exposure</i>	10	20	4	11	135	257	393	
<i>Not further specified</i>	52	31	47	32	1 011	471	1 483	
Haemophilia/coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	219	4	223	0.7
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	1	3	1	129	106	235	0.8
Health care setting <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	5	9	14	0.0
<b>Total Adults/Adolescents<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>979</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>934</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>27 287</b>	<b>2 520</b>	<b>29 816</b>	<b>99.2</b>
<b>Children (under 13 years at HIV diagnosis)</b>								
Mother with/at risk for HIV infection <sup>3</sup>	5	4	2	5	68	68	136	0.5
Haemophilia/ coagulation disorder	0	0	0	0	65	0	65	0.2
Receipt of blood/tissue	0	0	1	0	14	10	24	0.1
<b>Total children<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>0.8</b>
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>27 451</b>	<b>2 601</b>	<b>30 062</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Other/undetermined <sup>5</sup>	46	15	61	10	3 462	180	4 196	
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1 030</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>30 913</b>	<b>2 781</b>	<b>34 258</b>	

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 688 children were notified as having been born to women with HIV infection, cumulative to 31 March 2013.

4 The 'Other/undetermined' exposure category includes 4 171 adults/adolescents and 28 children. Eighty six 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 1.3 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection by sex and age group, cumulative to 31 March 2013, and for two previous yearly intervals**

Age group (years)	1 Apr 11 - 31 Mar 12		1 Apr 12 - 31 Mar 13		Cumulative to 31 Mar 13			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>	
0 – 1	1	1	0	0	50	33	84	0.2
2 – 12	3	3	1	2	112	50	162	0.5
0 – 12	4	4	1	2	162	83	246	0.7
13 – 19	14	8	12	6	535	138	681	2.0
20 – 29	287	42	273	47	9 289	1 037	10 456	30.5
30 – 39	320	66	302	54	11 365	918	12 393	36.2
40 – 49	227	33	227	19	6 311	366	6 724	19.6
50 – 59	130	8	112	11	2 432	143	2 589	7.6
60+	48	1	67	4	882	93	979	2.8
Not reported	0	0	1	0	137	32	190	0.6
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1 030</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>31 113</b>	<b>2 810</b>	<b>34 258</b>	<b>100.0</b>

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

**Table 1.4 Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 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 12 - 30 Sep 12		1 Oct 12 - 31 Mar 13		1 Apr 12 - 31 Mar 13		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total <sup>1</sup>
ACT	8	0	1	0	9	0	9
NSW <sup>1</sup>	84	5	72	3	156	8	165
NT	1	0	1	0	2	0	2
QLD	25	0	25	1	50	1	51
SA	3	0	3	0	6	0	6
TAS	3	0	1	0	4	0	4
VIC	39	1	35	0	74	1	75
WA	12	1	14	1	26	2	28
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>175</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>340</b>

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

**Table 1.5** Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 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 12 - 30 Sep 12		1 Oct 12 - 31 Mar 13		1 Apr 12 - 31 Mar 13		Total <sup>1</sup>
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Men who had sex with men	161	--	136	--	297	--	297
Men who had sex with men and injecting drug use	4	--	8	--	12	--	12
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Heterosexual contact	8	7	6	5	14	12	26
Health care setting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other/undetermined <sup>1</sup>	1	0	2	0	3	0	4
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>175</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>340</b>

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

**Table 1.6** Number of new diagnoses of HIV infection in the year 1 April to 31 March 2013 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 12 - 30 Sep 12		1 Oct 12 - 31 Mar 12		1 Apr 12 - 31 Mar 13		Total <sup>1</sup>
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
13 – 19	3	1	2	0	5	1	6
20 – 29	63	5	48	2	111	7	119
30 – 39	48	0	50	0	98	0	98
40 – 49	37	1	31	3	68	4	72
50 – 59	17	0	11	0	28	0	28
60+	7	0	10	0	17	0	17
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>175</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>340</b>

1 See footnotes Table 2.1

## Sentinel surveillance of HIV infection in sexual health clinics

**Table 2.1** 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 2013

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	2 419	1 212	810	325	10	1	11
RPA Sexual Health Centre, NSW	599	177	292	83	5	1	6
Brisbane Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	1 008	644	338	117	1	0	1
Gold Coast Sexual Health Clinic, QLD	761	457	204	109	2	0	2
Clinic 275, Adelaide, SA	1 372	609	1 144	489	6	1	7
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, VIC	3 957	2 114	2 529	1 151	8	0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 116</b>	<b>5 213</b>	<b>5 317</b>	<b>2 274</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>35</b>

**Table 2.2** 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 2013

Exposure category	Previous negative HIV antibody test		% retested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Men who have sex with men	3 604	--	73.3	--	18	--	18	0.7
Men who have sex with men and injecting drug use	147	--	76.2	--	5	--	5	4.5
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	114	61	62.3	58.0	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	2 454	1 848	45.4	42.8	2	1	3	0.2
<i>outside Australia</i>	789	577	57.7	48.5	1	0	1	0.1
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 665	1 271	39.6	40.2	1	1	2	0.2
Sex worker	--	899	--	68.1	--	0	0	0.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	28	--	71.4	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	27	65	48.1	63.1	0	0	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 346</b>	<b>2 901</b>	<b>62.2</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0.5</b>



**Table 2.3** 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 2013

Exposure category	No previous HIV antibody test		% tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection			%
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total	
Men who have sex with men	738	--	53.9	--	5	--	5	1.3
Men who have sex with men and injecting drug use	39	--	43.6	--	2	--	2	11.8
Injecting drug use (female and heterosexual male)	50	24	54.0	54.2	0	0	0	0.0
Heterosexual contact	1 957	1 700	46.7	37.1	0	1	1	0.1
<i>outside Australia</i>	561	424	54.4	48.6	0	0	0	0.0
<i>within Australia only</i>	1 396	1 276	43.6	33.2	0	0	0	0.1
Sex worker	--	145	--	70.3	--	1	1	1.0
Sex worker and injecting drug use	--	10	--	60.0	--	0	0	0.0
Other/undetermined	499	403	2.2	6.7	0	0	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 283</b>	<b>2 282</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0.4</b>

**Table 2.4** 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 2013

Age group (years)	Seen at Clinic		Tested for HIV antibody		Newly diagnosed with HIV infection		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
13 – 19	406	434	211	129	0	0	0
20 – 29	4 540	2 937	2 434	1 171	12	1	13
30 – 39	2 671	1 221	1 425	629	14	1	15
40 – 49	1 445	447	700	266	3	1	4
50 – 59	681	149	345	73	3	0	3
60+	373	25	202	6	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 116</b>	<b>5 213</b>	<b>5 317</b>	<b>2 274</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>35</b>

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## Australian HIV Surveillance Report

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## Notes

**The National HIV Registry** is maintained by the Kirby Institute 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 a combination of Reference Laboratory and diagnosing doctors (ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC and 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 seven sexual health clinics in six Australian cities, which send quarterly reports on HIV antibody testing to the Kirby Institute. Tabulations from 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).

### All data in this report are provisional and subject to future revision.

The Australian HIV Surveillance Report is produced by the Kirby Institute on a quarterly basis, issued in January, April, July and October. Subscription is free, and can be obtained by writing to the Editor or by calling the Surveillance and Evaluation Program for Public Health of the Kirby Institute:

Australian HIV Surveillance Report  
The Kirby Institute  
The University of New South Wales  
Sydney NSW 2052  
Australia

Tel: (02) 9385 0900  
Fax: (02) 9385 0920 International prefix: (612)  
Email: [recept@kirby.unsw.edu.au](mailto:recept@kirby.unsw.edu.au)  
Internet: [www.kirby.unsw.edu.au](http://www.kirby.unsw.edu.au)

State/Territory publications of surveillance data, available through the Internet, are listed below:

<b>NSW Public Health Bulletin</b>	<a href="http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/phb/phb.html">www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/phb/phb.html</a>
<b>The Northern Territory Disease Control Bulletin</b>	<a href="http://www.nt.gov.au/health/cdc/aids_std/report/index.shtml">www.nt.gov.au/health/cdc/aids_std/report/index.shtml</a>
<b>Sexually Transmitted Diseases in South Australia</b>	<a href="http://www.stdservices.on.net/publications">www.stdservices.on.net/publications</a>
<b>Victorian Infectious Diseases Bulletin</b>	<a href="http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/phd/vidb/">www.dhs.vic.gov.au/phd/vidb/</a>
<b>Disease WATch</b>	<a href="http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/">www.public.health.wa.gov.au/</a>

### For further information at a State/Territory level, contact:

<b>ACT</b>	Ms Rebecca Hundy, ACT Health	(02)	6205 2052
<b>NSW</b>	Ms Vicky Bowden, NSW Health Department	(02)	9391 9675
<b>NT</b>	Ms Wendy Armstrong, Department of Health and Community Services	(08)	8922 8606
<b>QLD</b>	Ms Jo Murray, Queensland Department of Health	(07)	3224 5526
<b>SA</b>	Ms Ingrid Tribe, SA Health	(08)	8226 6025
<b>TAS</b>	Mr David Coleman, Department of Health	(03)	6233 3203
<b>VIC</b>	Ms Carol El-Hayek, Burnet Institute	(03)	9282 2290
<b>WA</b>	Ms Carolien Giele, WA Department of Health	(08)	9388 4817