



## Newly Diagnosed HIV Cases in the Philippines

In May 2010, there were 153 new HIV Ab seropositive individuals confirmed by the STD/AIDS Cooperative Central Laboratory (SACCL) and reported to the HIV and AIDS Registry (Table 1). This was a 80% increase compared to the same period last year (n=85 in 2009) [Figure 1]. Of the 153 individuals reported, 30 were detected from voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) as part of ongoing community outreach activities. Most of the cases (95%) were males. The median age was 28 years (age range: 17-56 years). The 20-29 year (58%) age-group had the most number cases. Forty-six percent (71) of the reported cases were from the National Capital Region (NCR).

Reported mode of transmission was sexual contact (122) and re-using needles among injecting drug users (28), [Table 2, page 2]. Three did not mention mode of transmission. Males having sex with other Males (88%) were the predominant type of sexual transmission [Figure 2]. All of the cases were still asymptomatic at the time of reporting [Figure 3].

There were no reported AIDS cases and deaths for this month.

### Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

Twenty of the 153 (8%) reported cases were OFWs [Figure 9, page 3]. Sixteen (80%) were males. The median age was 32 years (age range: 22-49 years). All cases acquired the HIV infection through sexual contact (7 heterosexual, 7 homosexual, and 6 bisexual).

Table 1. Quick Facts

Demographic Data	May 2010	Jan-May 2010	Cumulative Data: 1984-2010
Total Reported Cases	153	700	5,124
Asymptomatic Cases	153	692	4,283
AIDS Cases	0	8	841
Males	144	637	3,869*
Females	7	61	1,242*
Youth 15-24yo	55	217	941
Children <15yo	0	1	53
Reported Deaths due to AIDS	0	1	322

\*Note: No data available on sex for eleven (11) cases.

Figure 1. Number of New HIV Cases per Month (2008-2010)

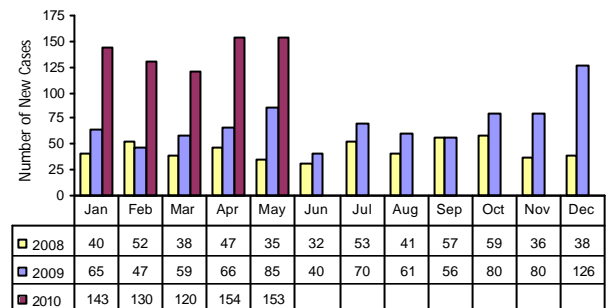


Figure 2. Comparison of the Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission in 2010, 2009 & Cumulative Data (1984-2010)

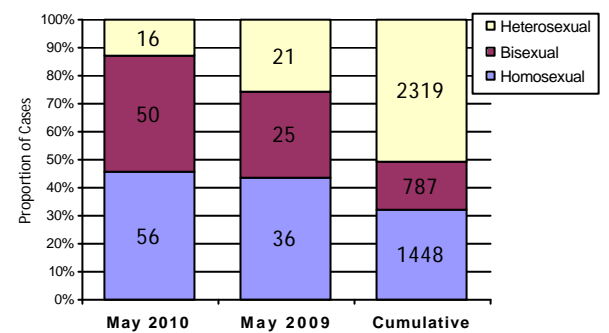
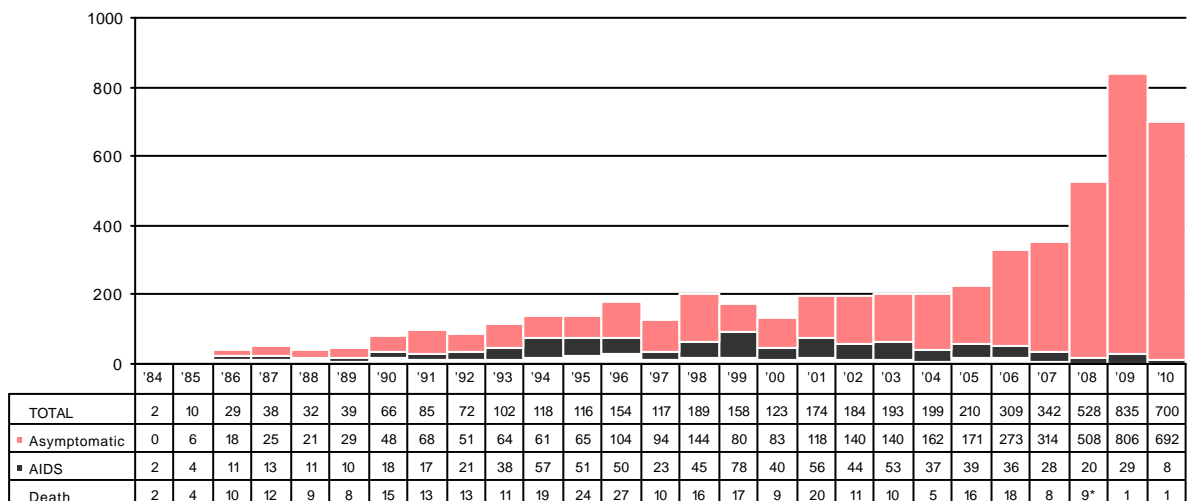


Figure 3. Number of HIV/AIDS Cases Reported in the Philippines by Year, Jan 1984 to May 2010 (N=5,124)



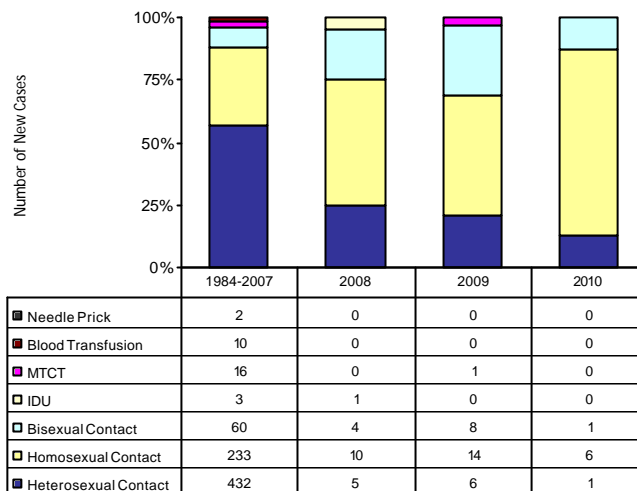
\* Five initially asymptomatic cases reported in 2008, died due to AIDS that same year.

### AIDS Cases (1984-2010)

Of the 700 HIV positive cases in 2010, eight were reported as AIDS. Eighty-seven percent were males. Ages ranged from 23-40 years. All acquired the infection through sexual contact [heterosexual (1), homosexual contact (6), and bisexual contact (1)].

From 1984 to 2010, there were 841 AIDS cases reported, 71% (595) were males. Median age was 35 years (range 1-72 years). Thirty-eight percent (318) had already died. Sexual contact was the most common mode of HIV transmission, accounting for 93% (781) of all AIDS cases. More than half (445) of sexual transmission was through heterosexual contact, followed by homosexual contact (263) then bisexual contact (73). Other modes of transmission include: mother-to-child transmission (17), blood transfusion (10), injecting drug use (4), and needle prick injuries (2) [Figure 4]. Three percent (27) of the AIDS cases did not report mode of HIV transmission.

Fig 4. Proportion of Modes of Transmission of AIDS Cases by Year, Jan 1984–May 2010



### Demographic Characteristics (1984-2010)

In 2010, there were a total of 700 cases reported. 91% of the cases reported were males (637). The 25-29 year old age group (29%) had the most number of cases for 2010. For the male age group, the most number of cases were found among the 20-24 years old (27%) and 25-34 years old (31%) [Figure 5].

From 1984 to 2010, there were 5,124 HIV Ab sero-positive cases reported (Table 1), of which 4,283 (84%) were asymptomatic and 841 (16%) were AIDS cases. As shown in Figure 6, there is a significant difference in the number of male and female cases reported. Seventy-six percent (3,869) were males. The age groups with the most number of cases were: 20-24 years (16%), 25-29 (24%) and 30-34 years (20%) [Figure 6].

Figure 5. Proportion of Sex & Age-Groups in May 2010 & Jan-May 2010

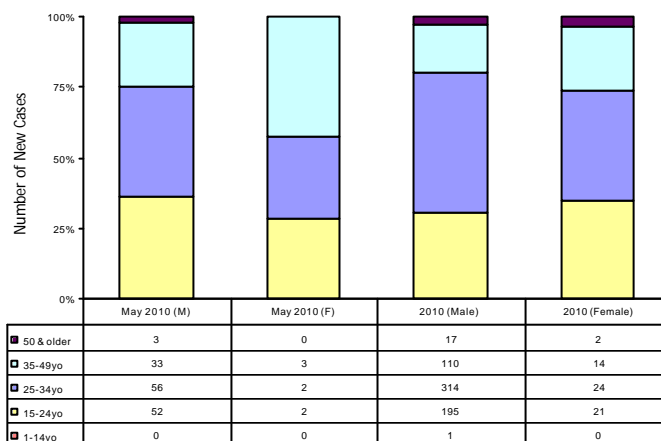
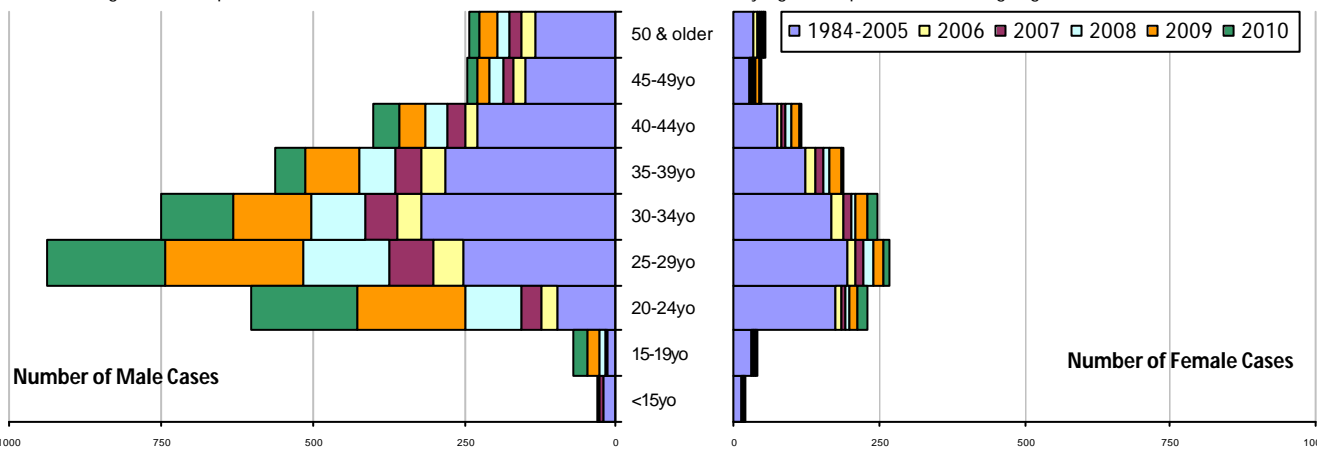


Figure 6. Comparison of the Distribution of Male and Female HIV Cases by Age-Group and Certain Highlighted Years



	<15yo	15-19yo	20-24yo	25-29yo	30-34yo	35-39yo	40-44yo	45-49yo	50 & older
2010	1	22	173	194	120	48	45	17	17
2009	1	22	179	227	124	89	41	19	28
2008	2	11	91	141	90	59	36	23	20
2007	6	1	36	74	54	43	30	15	19
2006	1	2	26	48	40	38	20	21	23
1984-2005	20	12	95	252	320	283	229	149	134

	<15yo	15-19yo	20-24yo	25-29yo	30-34yo	35-39yo	40-44yo	45-49yo	50 & older
2010	0	4	17	9	15	5	5	3	2
2009	1	4	13	19	21	20	14	6	5
2008	0	0	8	14	8	10	9	3	3
2007	3	0	4	16	12	14	6	5	3
2006	3	3	13	13	22	16	8	4	8
1984-2005	15	30	174	196	168	124	76	26	33

### Modes of Transmission (1984-2010)

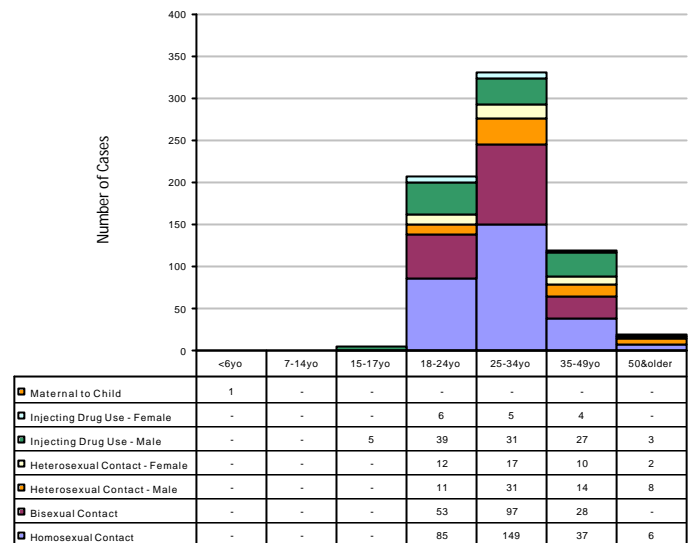
In 2010, 80% (560) were infected through sexual contact, 17% (120) through needle sharing among injecting drug users and 1% (1) was mother-to-child transmission; 3% (19) had no data on mode of transmission (Table 2). There were 517 males and 41 females infected through sexual transmission. Their ages ranged from 18-71 years old. There were 105 males and 15 females who were infected through sharing of unclean needles. Their ages ranged from 16-55 years old [Figure 7].

Of the 5,124 with HIV from 1984 to 2010, 89% (4,554) were infected through sexual contact, 1% (50) through mother-to-child transmission and 3% (128) through needle sharing among injecting drug users. Other modes of transmission are listed in Table 2. No data is available for 7% (370) of the cases. Cumulative data shows 51% (2,319) were infected through heterosexual contact, 32% (1,448) through homosexual contact, and 17% (787) through bisexual contact. From 2007 there has been a shift in the predominant trend of sexual transmission from heterosexual contact (28%) to males having sex with males (72%) [Figure 8].

Table 2. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission

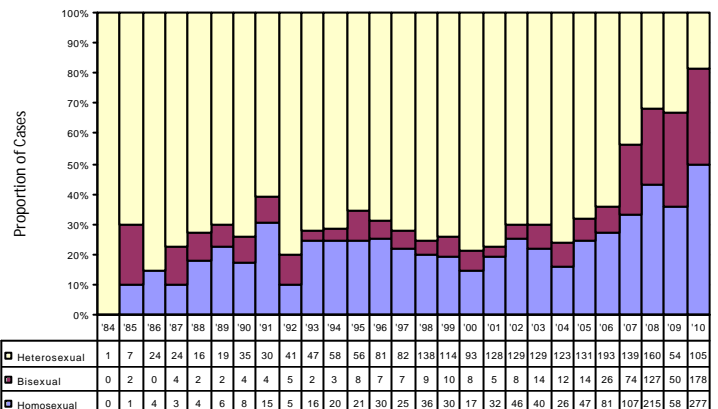
Mode of Transmission	May 2010 n=153	Jan-May 2010 n=700	Cumulative N=5,124
Sexual Contact	122	560	4,554
Heterosexual contact	16 (13%)	105 (19%)	2,319 (51%)
Homosexual contact	56 (46%)	277 (50%)	1,448 (32%)
Bisexual contact	50 (41%)	178 (32%)	787 (17%)
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	19
Injecting Drug Use	28	120	128
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
Mother-to-Child	0	1	50
No Data Available	3	19	370

Figure 7. Proportion of Modes of HIV Transmission by Age-Group, 2010 (n=700\*)



\*Note: No data available on Modes of Transmission for nineteen (19) cases.

Figure 8. Proportion of Types of Sexual Transmission, Jan 1984–May 2010



### Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

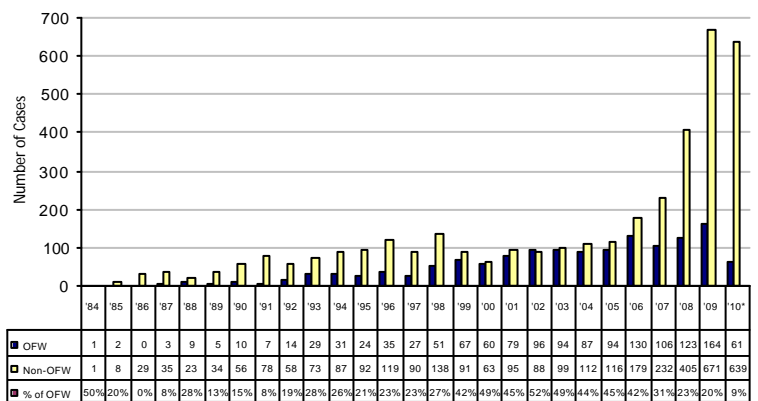
In 2010, there were 61 HIV positive OFWs, comprising 9% of cases reported for the year [Figure 9]. Of these, 50 (82%) were males and 11 (18%) females; all infected through sexual contact.

There were 1,410 HIV positive OFWs since 1984, comprising 50% of all reported cases [Figure 9]. Seventy-five percent (1,050) were males. Ages ranged from 18 to 69 years (median 36 years). Sexual contact (96%) was the predominant mode of transmission (Table 3). Eighty-one percent (1,144) were asymptomatic while 19% (266) were AIDS cases.

Table 3. Reported Mode of HIV Transmission Among OFWs

Mode of Transmission	May 2010 n=20	Jan-May 2010 n=61	Cumulative N=1,410
Sexual Transmission	20	61	1,348
Heterosexual contact	7 (35%)	26 (41%)	956 (71%)
Homosexual contact	7 (35%)	19 (31%)	244 (18%)
Bisexual contact	6 (30%)	16 (28%)	148 (11%)
Blood/Blood Products	0	0	10
Injecting Drug Use	0	0	1
Needle Prick Injury	0	0	3
No Data Available	0	0	48

Figure 9. Number of OFWs Compared to Non-OFWs by Year (1984-2010\*)



\*Data includes January to May 2010 only.

## Program Related Information

Of the 153 HIV cases reported in May 2010, all cases were asymptomatic. Fifty percent of the cases received information on HIV prevention, services available for HIV cases, implications of an HIV positive result from screening and confirmation. Their sources of information were one-on-one counseling, group counseling, pre-departure orientation seminar (PDOS), pamphlets, videos, internet and seminars.

## Blood Units Screened for HIV

**Note:** The following information is from the National Voluntary Blood Safety Program (NVBSP) which monitors blood safety of donated blood. HIV reactive blood units are referred to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) for confirmation. RITM is the National Reference Laboratory for the NVBSP.

From January to May 2010, 66 blood units were confirmed to be positive by the RITM.

For May 2010, out of the 79 blood units referred for HIV confirmation, 15 units were positive for HIV, 6 units had indeterminate result, and 57 units were negative for HIV [Table 4].

Figure 10. HIV Positive Blood Units by Month & Year (2008-2010)

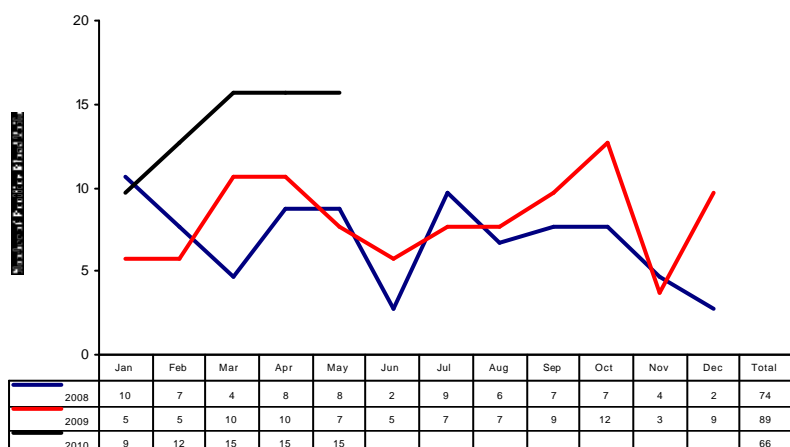


Table 4. Results of Blood Units Referred for HIV Confirmation

Monthly Report	2010		
	Blood units* referred	Positive	Indeterminate
January	52	9	1
February	89	12	3
March	72	15	1
April	79	15	5
May	79	15	6
June	-	-	-
July	-	-	-
August	-	-	-
September	-	-	-
October	-	-	-
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
Total for the year (Jan –May only)	371	66	16

\* One blood donor can donate more than one blood unit.

\*\* These are HIV positive blood units, not donors. Donors of HIV positive blood units may or may not be in the HIV & AIDS Registry.



National HIV/AIDS & STI Strategic Information and Surveillance Unit

National Epidemiology Center,  
Department of Health, Bldg. 9,  
San Lazaro Compound,  
Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003 Philippines

Tel: +632 743 8301 local 1900 to 1907  
Fax: +632 743 6076 / 743 1937  
Email: HIVEpicenter@gmail.com  
Website: <http://www.doh.gov.ph>

### Philippine HIV & AIDS Registry Report Editorial Team:

*Noel S. Pineda*  
Noel S. Pineda, RN  
HIV Surveillance Officer, HIV Unit

*Genesis May Samento*  
Genesis May Samento, MD, PHSAE  
Epidemiologist, HIV Unit

*Agnes B. Segarra*  
Agnes B. Segarra, MD, PHSAE  
Chief, SRAE, NEC

*Enrique A. Toyog*  
Enrique A. Toyog, MD, PHSAE, FPSMID  
Director IV, NEC

### Philippine HIV & AIDS Registry

The Philippine HIV & AIDS Registry is the official record of the total number of laboratory-confirmed HIV positive individuals, AIDS cases and deaths, and HIV positive blood units in the Philippines. All individuals in the registry are confirmed by the STD/AIDS Cooperative Central Laboratory (SACCL) at San Lazaro Hospital. While all blood units are confirmed by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM). Both are National Reference Laboratories (NRL) of the Department of Health (DOH).

Mandatory HIV testing is unlawful in the Philippines (RA 8504). The process of reporting to the Registry is as follows: All blood samples from accredited HIV testing facilities that are screened HIV reactive are sent to SACCL (individuals) or RITM (blood units) for confirmation. Confirmed HIV positive individuals and blood units are reported to the DOH-National Epidemiology Center (NEC), and are recorded in the Registry.

The Registry is a passive surveillance system. Except for HIV confirmation by the NRL, all other data submitted to the Registry are secondary and cannot be verified. An example would be an individual's reported place of residence. The Registry is unable to determine if this reported address is where the person got infected, or where the person lived after being infected, or where the person is presently living, or whether the address is valid. This limitation has major implications to data interpretation. Thus, readers are cautioned to carefully weigh the data and consider other sources of information prior to arriving at conclusions.