



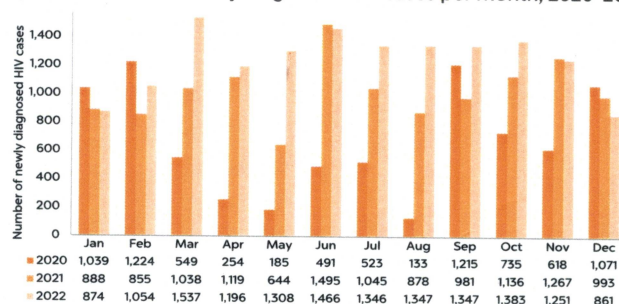
HIV/AIDS & ART REGISTRY OF THE PHILIPPINES

Average number of people newly diagnosed with HIV per day, selected years^a

NEWLY DIAGNOSED CASES

In December 2022, there were 861 confirmed HIV-positive individuals reported to the HIV/AIDS & ART Registry of the Philippines (HARP)^b [Figure 1], of which, 230 (27%) had clinical manifestations of advanced HIV infection^{c,d} at the time of diagnosis [Table 1].

Figure 1: Number of newly diagnosed HIV cases per month, 2020-2022



Majority (95%) of the total reported cases in December 2022 were male while 41 (5%) were female. The age of the reported cases ranged from 4 to 78 years old (median: 27 years). Further, among the newly diagnosed cases, 410 (48%) were 25-34 years old, 266 (31%) were 15-24 years old, 157 (18%) were 35-49 years old, 26 (3%) were 50 years and older, and two (<1%) were less than 15 years old.

Moreover, there were three HIV-positive women aged 22 to 25 years old who were pregnant at the time of diagnosis.

Table 1: Summary of HIV diagnoses and deaths, Jan 1984-Dec 2022

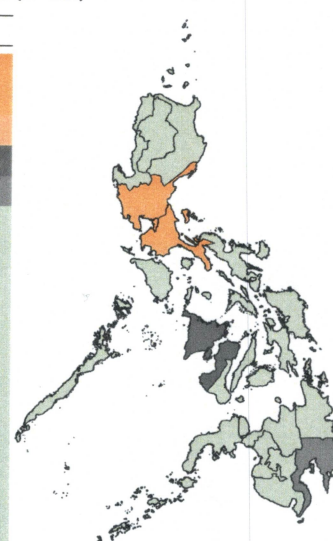
Demographic Data	Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan 2017-Dec 2022	Jan 1984-Dec 2022 ^f
Total reported cases	861	14,970	70,396	109,282
Advanced HIV infection ^c	230 ^d	4,377	23,896	33,004
Male	820	14,247	66,934	103,044
Female	41	723	3,462	6,227
Age range	4 - 78	1 - 80	1 mo - 80	1 mo - 81
Median age	27	28	28	28
Age groups:				
<15	2	46	214	325
15 - 24	266	4,501	21,172	31,750
25 - 34	410	7,461	35,317	55,315
35 - 49	157	2,579	11,887	18,966
50 & older	26	383	1,806	2,854
Reported pregnant ^h	3	108	564	718
Reported deaths ⁱ	105	982	4,433	6,351

Sexual contact remained to be the predominant mode of transmission (847, 98%) while transmission through sharing of infected needles accounted for five cases (1%), two (<1%) were children who acquired HIV through mother-to-child transmission and the remaining seven (1%) had no data on MOT this reporting period. Among the newly reported cases who acquired HIV through sexual contact, 619 (73%) males reported history of sex with another male, 133 (16%) sex with both males and females^j, while 95 (11%) through an opposite sex.

More than half (447, 52%) of the total cases reported were from the National Capital Region [NCR] and surrounding regions of CaLaBaRZon [4A] and Central Luzon [3] [Figure 2].

Figure 2: Distribution of newly diagnosed HIV cases by region of residence, Dec 2022 (N=861)

Region	No.	% ^d
NCR	162	19%
3	162	19%
4A	123	14%
6	102	12%
11	88	10%
7	53	6%
1	24	3%
2	24	3%
8	23	3%
10	18	2%
4B	18	2%
5	18	2%
12	13	2%
9	11	1%
CAR	9	1%
BARMM	7	1%
CARAGA	6	1%

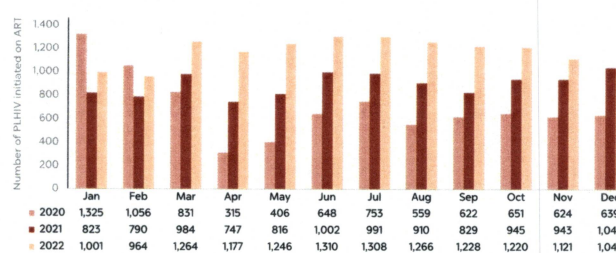


Anti-retroviral Therapy

In December 2022, there were 1,047^f people with HIV who were enrolled on treatment [Figure 3], 1,045 were on the first line regimen, one was on second line regimen, and one was on other line of regimen. Among them, 531 (51%) were 25-34 years old, 315 (30%) were 15-24 years old, 178 (17%) were 35-49 years old, 20 (2%) were 50 years old and older, and three (<1%) were less than 15 years old. The median CD4 of these patients upon enrollment was at 196 cells/mm³^k.

A total of 67,998 people living with HIV (PLHIV) were presently on ART as of December 2022, of which, 65,480 (96%) were on the first line regimen, 1,944 (3%) were on the second line, and 547 (1%) were on the third line of regimen. The age of reported cases ranged from 1 to 81 years old (median: 32 years old).

Figure 3: Number of ART initiation per month, 2020-2022



List of facilities providing HIV services may be accessed through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/HIVFacilities>

^a Computation was based on the cumulative cases (14,972) of the reporting year, December 2022.

^b The decrease in the number of diagnosed cases in December 2022 may be attributed to logistical concerns among confirmatory laboratories.

^c Classification of diagnosed cases with advanced clinical manifestations based on immunologic and clinical criteria has been newly implemented in 2022. Previously advanced HIV cases were identified based solely on available clinical criteria, thus counts presented in Table 1 may not correspond with previous reports.

^d 65 cases had non-advanced HIV infection and 556 had no data on immunologic/clinical criteria at the time of diagnosis.

^e Percentages were rounded off to the nearest whole number. Sum may not be equal to 100% due to rounding of figures.

^f No data on age for 11 cases and age for 11 cases.

^g Pregnant at the time of diagnosis.

^h Reported deaths due to any cause and not necessarily AIDS-related.

ⁱ Among males only.

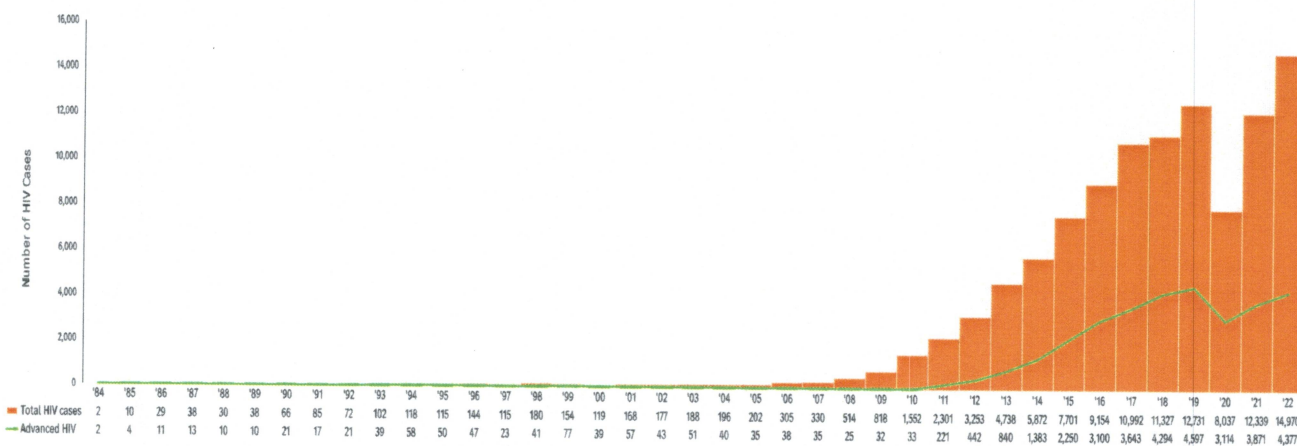
^j No data on baseline CD4 count for 489 cases who were newly enrolled to treatment in December 2022.



EPIDEMIC TRENDS OF HIV/AIDS IN THE PHILIPPINES, JAN 1984 - DEC 2022

Since the first reported HIV infection in the Philippines in 1984, there have been 109,282 confirmed HIV cases reported to the HARP [Figure 4]. One hundred three thousand forty-four (94%) of those diagnosed were male and 6,227 (6%) were female¹. At the time of diagnosis, more than half (55,315, 51%) were 25-34 years old, 31,750 (29%) were among youth (15-24 years old), 18,966 (17%) were 35-49 years old, 2,854 (3%) were 50 years old and above, and 325 (<1%) were less than 15 years of age^m. The age of diagnosed ranged from one month to 81 years old (median: 28 years). Among the reported cases, 33,004 (30%) had advanced clinical manifestation at the time of diagnosisⁿ [Figure 4]. There was a 21% increase in diagnosed cases in 2022 (14,970) compared to the reported cases in 2021 (12,339) [Figure 4].

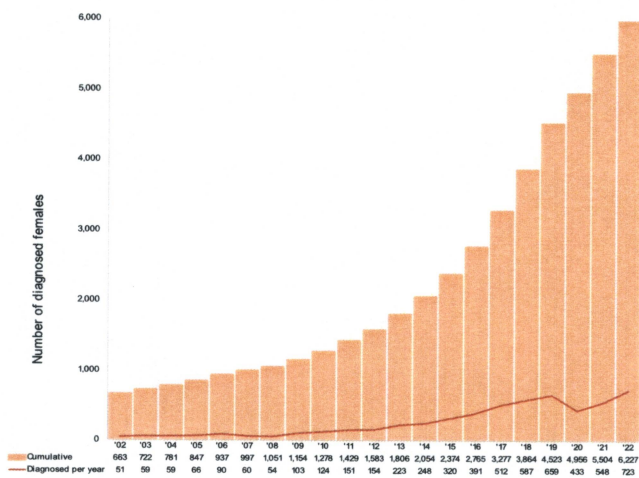
Figure 4: Number of diagnosed HIV cases and advanced infections reported in the Philippines by year, Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (N=109,282)



Sex and Age

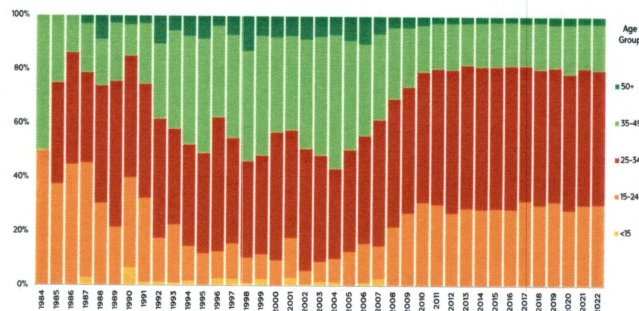
Ninety-three percent (101,114 of 109,282) of the total reported cases were reported in the past 10 years, thus showing a significant increase among reported cases when compared to the previous 10-year period (2002 - 2011). [Figure 5]. Moreover, the number of newly diagnosed female HIV cases has increased by 32% in 2022 with 723 cases compared to 548 cases reported in 2021.

Figure 5: Number of diagnosed female HIV cases by year, 2002 (n=663) - Dec 2022 (n=6,227)



Among age groups, the highest increase in the proportion of cases from 2012 - 2022 were among 15 - 24 years old followed by those aged 25-34 years old. Consequently, more than 90% of the total reported cases among these age groups - 29,857 (94%) of total cases among 15 - 24 years old and 51,595 (93%) among 25 - 34 years old were reported in the past 10 years [Figure 6].

Figure 6: Proportion of diagnosed HIV cases by age group, Jan 1984 - Dec 2022



Geographic Distribution

From January 1984 to December 2022, the regions with the most number of reported cases were NCR, followed by CaLaBaRZON [4A], Central Luzon [3], Central Visayas [7], and Western Visayas [6], altogether accounting for 82,736 (76%) of the total reported cases. Further, 25,455 (23%) were from the rest of the country while 1,091 (1%) had no data on region of residence [Table 2].

Table 2: Number of diagnosed HIV cases by region of residence, Jan 1984 - Dec 2022^a

Region	Dec 2022 (n=861)	Jan-Dec 2022 (n=14,970)	Jan 2017-Dec 2022 (n=70,396)	Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (N=109,282) ^b
NCR	162 (19%)	3,915 (26%)	21,654 (31%)	38,239 (35%)
3	162 (19%)	1,803 (12%)	8,086 (11%)	11,367 (10%)
4A	123 (14%)	2,800 (19%)	12,268 (17%)	17,730 (16%)
6	102 (12%)	1,091 (7%)	4,904 (7%)	6,474 (6%)
7	53 (6%)	1,012 (7%)	5,334 (8%)	8,926 (8%)
Rest of the country	259 (30%)	4,349 (29%)	18,150 (26%)	25,455 (23%)

^a No data on sex for 11 cases

^b No data on age for 23 cases

^c Classification or diagnosis cases with advanced clinical manifestations based on immunologic and clinical criteria has been newly implemented in 2022. Previously advanced HIV cases were identified based solely on available clinical criteria, thus counts presented in Figure 4 may not correspond with previous reports.

^d Percentage were rounded off to the nearest whole number; sum may not be equal to 100% due to rounding of figures

Mode of Transmission (MOT)

As of December 2022, sexual contact among males who have sex with males (MSM) (89,616, 82%) was the predominant MOT among the total reported cases, followed by male-female sex (15,512, 14%), and sharing of infected needles (2,496, 2%). More than half of males who acquired HIV through sex with males (46,545, 52%) were 25–34 years old. Among diagnosed females, majority (5,806, 93%) acquired HIV through sexual contact and 148 (2%) through sharing of infected needles [Table 3].

From 1984 to 2006, the predominant MOT was sexual contact between male and female, however, in 2007, the trend shifted to sexual contact among MSM and remained as such up to the present. Further, while the proportion of HIV cases acquired through sharing of needles was highest in 2010 accounting for 9% of 1,552 cases reported that year, it has been decreasing since 2011 and remained at 1% among newly diagnosed cases in the past 5 years.

MOT varies across the Regions – 33,095 (37%) of diagnosed males who have sex with males were from NCR; more than half of those who have acquired HIV through mother-to-child transmission were from NCR, Region 4A, and Region 3 (161, 57%); and almost all (2,489, >99%) reported intravenous transmission (people who inject drugs) were from Region 7.

Table 3: Number of diagnosed HIV cases by mode of transmission and sex^a, Jan 1984 – Dec 2022

Mode of Transmission	Dec 2022 (n=861)		Jan-Dec 2022 (n=14,970)		Jan 2017-Dec 2022 (n=70,396)		Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (N=109,282) ^a	
	M (820)	F (41)	M (14,247)	F (723)	M (66,934)	F (3,462)	M (103,044)	F (6,227)
Sexual Contact	808	39	13,954	683	65,259	3,279	99,322	5,806
Male-female sex	56	39	978	683	5,231	3,279	9,706	5,806
Male-male sex	619	-	10,006	-	43,114	-	61,340	-
Sex w/ males & females ^b	133	-	2,970	-	16,914	-	28,276	-
Blood /blood products	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	14
Sharing of infected needles	4	1	89	6	771	50	2,348	148
Needlestick injury	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
Mother-to-child	1	1	16	21	88	88	145	138
No data	7	0	188	13	816	45	1,222	120

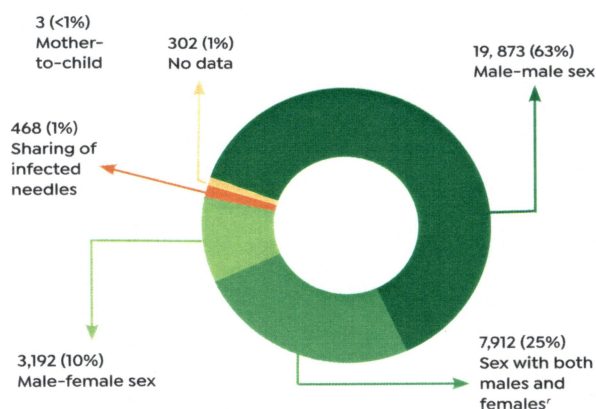
SPECIFIC POPULATION

Youth (15–24 years old)

In December 2022, 266 (31%) cases were youth aged 15-24 years old, among which 259 (97%) were male and seven (3%) were female. Two hundred sixty-four (99%) cases were infected through sexual contact (15 male-female sex, 216 male-male sex, 33 sex with both males & females³), while two cases (1%) had no data on MOT.

From January 1984 to December 2022, 31,750 (29%) of the reported cases were 15–24 years old, of which, 17,743 (56%) were reported in the past five years. Among the youth cases, 30,977 (98%) were infected through sexual contact (3,192 male-female sex, 19,873 male-male sex, 7,912 sex with both males & females^a), 468 (1%) were infected through sharing of infected needles, three (<1%) were infected through mother-to-child transmission, and 302 (1%) had no data on MOT [Figure 7]. More males were diagnosed among the youth since 2004, however, the number of diagnosed HIV cases among female youth had increased in the past five years. Compared with 163 female youth HIV cases reported in 2021, the number of newly diagnosed females aged 15–24 years old increased by 29% in 2022 (210).

Figure 7: MOT among youth, Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (n = 31,750)^t



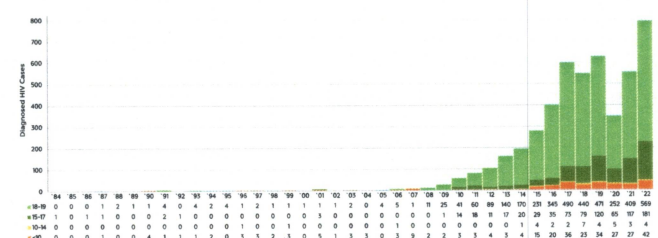
Children (<10) & Adolescents (10-19)

In December 2022, there were 42 newly reported cases aged 19 and below, of which, 40 were adolescents aged 10 - 19 years old and two were children less than 10 years old. Among the adolescents, seven were 15-17 years old, and 33 were 18-19 years old. All of the newly reported adolescents cases were infected through unprotected sexual contact (31 male-male sex, four male-female sex, and five through sex with both male and female³). On the other hand, both of the newly diagnosed children, acquired HIV through mother-to-child transmission.

Among the diagnosed cases from January 1984 to December 2022, 4,896 (4%) were 19 years old or younger at the time of diagnosis, of which, 290 (6%) were less than 10 years old, 35 (1%) were 10–14 years old, 789 (16%) were 15–17 years old, and 3,782 (77%) were 18–19 years old [Figure 8].

Following the ratification of the Philippine HIV and AIDS Policy Act (RA 11166) where the age for HIV testing without the need for consent from parent or guardian was lowered to 15 years, the number of reported cases among 15-17 years old has increased by 58% from 2019-2022 compared to 306 total cases reported aged 15 - 17 years old before the ratification in 2018. Among the 48,077 newly reported cases from 2019 - 2022 , 483 (1%) were 15 - 17 years old and 1,701 (4%) were 18 - 19 years old at the time of diagnosis.

Figure 8: Diagnosed HIV cases among children and adolescents by age group, Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (n=4,896)



^cSex at birth: M=Male, F=Female

^c Sex at birth: M=Male, F=Female

⁵ Among males only.

[†] Percentage were rounded off to the nearest whole number- sum may not be equal to 100% due to rounding of figures



Transgender Women (TGW)

Reporting of gender identity was included in the HARP starting year 2018. Of the total reported cases for December 2022, 512 (59%) were cisgender^a, 23 (3%) were transgender women, two (<1%) identified their gender neither as man nor woman, 15 (2%) comprise other gender identities, and 309 (36%) have unknown/no data on gender identity. Among the transgender women, 16 (70%) were 25 - 34 years old, five (22%) were 35-49 years old, and two (9%) were 15 - 24 years old^b. The age of diagnosis ranged from 20 to 49 years old (median: 31 years).

Among the 1,560 TGW diagnosed from January 2018 to December 2022, almost all (1,545, 99%) acquired HIV through sexual contact, four (<1%) through sharing of infected needles, and 11 had no data on MOT.

Further, half (780, 50%) of the TGW were 25-34 years old at the time of diagnosis, 433 (28%) were 15-24 years old, 308 (20%) were 35-49 years old, and 39 (3%) were 50 years and older [Figure 9]^c. The age of diagnosis ranged from 15 to 63 years old (median: 28 years).

Transactional Sex

People who engage in transactional sex are those who reported that they either pay for sex, regularly accept payment for sex, or do both. Reporting of transactional sex was included in the HARP starting December 2012.

In December 2022, 83 (10%) of the newly diagnosed engaged in transactional sex within the past 12 months [Table 4]. Eighty - two (99%) were male and one was female. Their age ranged from 15 to 55 years old (median: 29 years). Thirty - two (39%) of the males reported paying for sex only, 38 (46%) reported accepting payment for sex only, and 12 (15%) engaged in both. One female who engaged in transactional sex was reported to be accepting payment for sex.

A total of 11,748^x cases reported to HARP from December 2012 to December 2022 were people who engaged in transactional sex. Majority (11,391, 97%) were male and 357 (3%) were female. There were 6,240 (53%) who paid for sex, 3,741 (32%) who accepted payment for sex, and 1,767 (15%) who engaged in both [Table 4].

Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW)

Forty - two Filipinos who worked overseas within the past five years, whether on land or at sea, were newly reported in December 2022. They comprised 5% of the total cases for this period. Of these, 38 (90%) were male and four (10%) were female. Further, 37 (97%) of the reported male cases acquired HIV through sexual contact (3 male-female sex, 27 male-male sex, and 7 through sex with both males and females^y). The age of male OFWs ranged from 24 to 52 years old (median: 32 years). Twenty-one (55%) of the male cases were 25 - 34 years old, 14 (37%) were 35-49 years old, two (5%) were 50 years & older and one (3%) was 15-24 years old at the time of diagnosis. All of the female OFWs were infected through sexual contact. The age of the reported female OFW ranged from 28 to 54 years old.

From January 1984 to December 2022, 9,103 (8%) of the total cases were OFWs [Figure 10]. Of these, 8,013 (88%) were male and 1,090 (12%) were female. Among the male cases, 7,886 (98%) were infected through sexual contact (1,790 male-female sex, 3,688 male-male sex, and 2,408 sex with both males and females^y). The ages of male OFWs ranged from 16 to 80 years old (median: 32 years).

Figure 9: Number of diagnosed TGW by age group, Jan 2018-Dec 2022 (n=1,560)

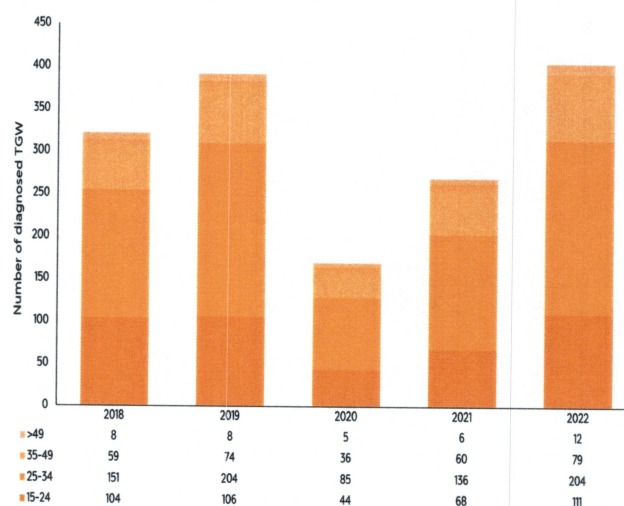
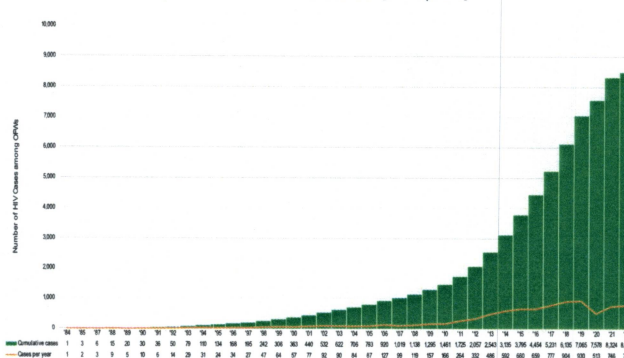


Table 4: Age and sex of people diagnosed with HIV who engaged in transactional sex, Dec 2012 - Dec 2022 (n=11,748)

Type of Transactional Sex	Dec 2022 (n=83) ^w	Jan-Dec 2022 (n=1,266) ^w	Jan 2017-Dec 2022 (n=3,110) ^w	Dec 2012-Dec 2022 (N=11,748) ^x
Accepted payment for sex only	39 (47%)	446 (35%)	1,794 (58%)	3,741 (32%)
Male	38	426	1,697	3,517
Female	1	20	97	224
Age Range (Median)	15-39 (26)	15-61 (26)	12-64 (26)	12-68 (26)
Paid for sex only	32 (39%)	634 (50%)	1,029 (33%)	6,240 (53%)
Male	32	631	1,025	6,208
Female	0	3	4	32
Age Range (Median)	22-55 (31)	16-80 (32)	16-80 (32)	13-80 (32)
Engaged in both	12 (14%)	186 (15%)	287 (9%)	1,767 (15%)
Male	12	179	272	1,666
Female	0	7	15	101
Age Range (Median)	19-47 (29)	17-56 (28)	17-63 (28)	15-63 (29)

Figure 10: Cumulative number of diagnosed cases among OFW, Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (n=9,103)



Among female OFWs, 1,062 (97%) were infected through sexual contact. The age of female OFWs ranged from 20 to 73 years old (median: 35 years).

The regions with the most number of OFW reported to HARP were NCR with 2,719 (30%) cases, Region 4A with 1,655 (18%) cases, and Region 3 with 1,153 (13%) cases. Further, 3,311 (36%) cases were from other regions and 265 (3%) had no data on region of residence.

^a Cisgender means having a self-identity that correspond to their sex assigned at birth (Male for males; woman for females)

^b Percentage were rounded off to the nearest whole number; sum may not be equal to 100% due to rounding of figures

^c Transactional sex within the past 12 months at the time of diagnosis

^x Cumulative number of cases reported regardless of the time when the person engaged in transactional sex. Reporting of specific time period when the person last engaged in transactional sex started only in 2017 (HARP version of 2017)

^y Among males only



Pregnant Women with HIV

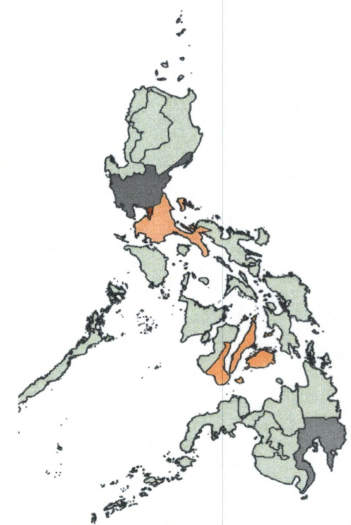
Reporting of pregnancy status at the time of diagnosis was included in HARP since 2011.

From January to December 2022, there were 108 HIV positive women who were pregnant at the time of diagnosis. This was a 37% increase compared to the same reporting period last year (79). Of the reported pregnant women with HIV from January to December 2022, 39 (36%) were from NCR, 23 (21%) were reported from CaLaBaRZon [4A], 13 (12%) were from Central Luzon [3], eight (7%) were from Central Visayas [7], four (4%) were from the Ilocos Region [1], and 21 (19%) cases from the rest of the country^z. The age of diagnosis ranged from 15 to 43 years old (median: 25 years).

Since 2011, a total of 718 diagnosed women were reported pregnant at the time of diagnosis. The regions with highest number of diagnosed pregnant cases with HIV were NCR (303, 42%), Regions 7 (113, 16%), 4A (103, 14%), 3 (73, 10%), and 11 (23, 3%).

Figure 11: Distribution of diagnosed pregnant women by region of residence, Jan 2011-Dec 2022 (n=718)

Region	No.	%
NCR	303	42%
7	113	16%
4A	103	14%
3	73	10%
11	23	3%
6	21	3%
1	15	2%
5	15	2%
12	12	2%
10	10	2%
8	8	1%
CARAGA	6	1%
4B	6	1%
CAR	6	1%
2	2	<1%
9	2	<1%

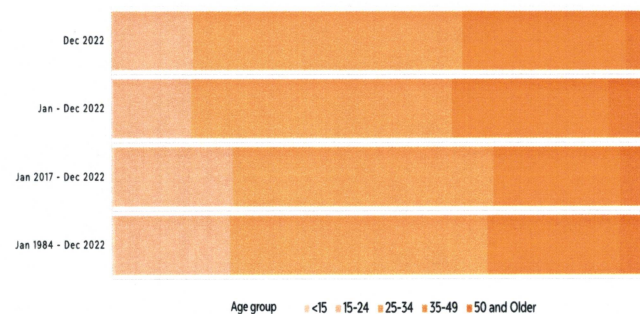


Mortality

In December 2022, there were 105^{AA AB} reported deaths due to any cause among people with HIV, of which, 96 (91%) were males. Fifty - three (50%) were 25-34 years old, 32 (30%) were 35-49 years old, 16 (15%) were 15-24 years old, and four (4%) were 50 years and older [Figure 12]. Thirty - two (30%) of the newly reported deaths were from Central Luzon [3]. Region 3, NCR and Region 4A comprised the top regions with the most number of deaths [Table 5].

A total of 6,351 deaths were reported from January 1984 to December 2022 and 5,881 (93%) were male. Among different age groups, the largest proportion of reported deaths were among the 25-34 years old accounting for 3,061 (48%) of total deaths reported [Figure 12] followed by 35-49 years old with 1,569 (25%), 15-24 years old with 1,363 (21%), 50 years old and older with 314 (5%), and <15 years old with 40 (1%). Meanwhile, the top 5 regions with the most number of reported deaths were NCR, 4A, 3, 6, and 7 [Table 5].

Figure 12: Proportion of reported deaths among people with HIV by age group, Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (N=6,351)^{AA AB}



^A Percentage were rounded off to the nearest whole number. Sum may not be equal to 100% due to rounding of figures.
^{AA} Based on reported date. Actual date of death may not necessarily fall in this reporting period. High number of newly reported deaths in December 2022 may be due to the results of continued data quality improvement efforts. Interpret with caution.
^{AB} No data available on age for four cases.

Table 5: Proportion of reported deaths by region of residence, Jan 1984 - Dec 2022 (N=6,351)

Region	Dec 2022 (n=105) ^{AC}	Jan-Dec 2022 (n=982) ^{AC}	Jan 2017-Dec 2022 (n=4,433) ^{AD}	Jan 1984-Dec 2022 (N=6,351) ^{AE}
NCR	14 (13%)	170 (17%)	1,158 (26%)	1,898 (30%)
4A	12 (11%)	109 (11%)	627 (14%)	843 (13%)
3	32 (30%)	158 (16%)	634 (14%)	782 (12%)
6	11 (10%)	82 (8%)	458 (10%)	611 (10%)
7	5 (5%)	151 (15%)	394 (9%)	508 (8%)
Rest of the country	31 (30%)	312 (32%)	1,162 (26%)	1,709 (27%)

^{AC} 1 (1%) case had no data on region of residence.
^{AD} 16 (1%) cases had no data on region of residence.
^{AE} 127 (2%) cases had no data on region of residence.

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HIV/AIDS & ART REGISTRY OF THE PHILIPPINES

The HARP is the official record of total number of diagnoses (laboratory-confirmed), ART outcome status and deaths among people with HIV in the Philippines. All individuals in the registry are confirmed by the San Lazaro Hospital STD/AIDS Cooperative Central Laboratory (SACCL) which is the HIV/AIDS National Reference Laboratory (NRL) and DOH Certified Rapid HIV Diagnostic Algorithm - HIV-1/2 Confirmatory Laboratories (CCLs). Confirmed HIV positive individuals were reported to the DOH-Epidemiology Bureau (EB) and recorded to HARP. ART figures are counts of HIV positive adult and pediatric patients currently enrolled and accessing Antiretroviral (ARV) medication during the reporting period in 170 treatment hubs and primary HIV care treatment facilities that had reported in the HARP. This report did not include patients who have previously taken ARV but have died, left the country, have been lost to follow-up and/or opted not to take ARV. Lost to follow-up is considered once a person have failed to visit a treatment facility more than 3 months after the expected date of ARV refill.

HARP is a passive surveillance system. Except for HIV confirmation by the NRL & CCLs, all other data submitted to the HARP are secondary and cannot be verified. Hence, HARP cannot determine if an individual's reported place of residence is where the person got infected, or where the person lived after being infected, or where the person is presently living. This limitation has major implications on data interpretation. Readers are advised to interpret the data with caution and consider other sources of information before arriving at conclusions.