

UPDATE ON THE HIV/AIDS SITUATION IN SINGAPORE 2014

Characteristics of new cases of HIV infection reported in 2014

1. In 2014, 456 new cases of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections were reported among Singapore residents¹. This brings the total number of HIV infected Singapore residents to 6,685 as of end 2014, of whom 1,737 have died (Table 1).
2. Sexual transmission remains the main mode of HIV transmission among Singapore residents. Of the 456 cases reported in 2014, 440 cases (96%) acquired the infection through the sexual route. There was only one case who acquired HIV through intravenous drug use while the route of infection could not be determined for 15 cases (Table 2).
3. Almost half of the new cases reported in 2014 were between 30 and 49 years of age.
4. The majority of new cases were males (93%). Of the males, 68% were single (Table 3).
5. In 2014, 49% of the new cases already had late-stage HIV infection² when they were diagnosed, compared to 41% in 2013 and 48% in 2012.
6. About 57% of the new cases in 2014 had their HIV infection detected when testing was performed in the course of medical care provision³. Another 25% were detected during routine programmatic HIV screening⁴ while another 14% were detected during voluntary HIV screening. The rest were detected through other types of screenings. When differentiated by sexual transmission, a higher proportion of homosexuals/bisexuals (23%) had their HIV infection detected via voluntary screening compared to heterosexuals (5%). **Annex A** provides detailed data on the cases reported in 2014.

Public advisory

7. The most effective way to prevent HIV infection is to remain faithful to one's spouse/partner and to avoid casual sex, or sex with sex workers.
8. Persons engaging in high-risk sexual behaviour, such as having multiple sexual partners or engaging in casual or commercial sex, are strongly advised to use condoms to reduce their risk of HIV infection. Condoms should be used consistently and correctly during every sexual encounter.
9. We urge individuals who engage in high-risk sexual behaviour to go for early and regular HIV testing. Early and regular testing will help an HIV-infected person know about their infection earlier. With early diagnosis, an infected person can access care and treatment earlier, and also receive counseling on how to protect their partners from infection. Early treatment and care also delays the onset of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), allowing the infected individual to live a productive life.
10. The Health Promotion Board (HPB) has been working with partner organisations to conduct programmes and campaigns targeted at high-risk individuals to urge them to go for regular HIV testing. HPB's partners conduct various educational outreach programmes on HIV prevention and management using a lifestyle approach. These programmes reach out to at-risk individuals through social settings to encourage them to take protective measures and to go for early and regular HIV testing.
11. More information about HIV and AIDS can be found at the HPB website at <http://www.hpb.gov.sg>.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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Last updated on 4 Jun 2015

TABLE 1
NUMBER OF SINGAPORE RESIDENTS REPORTED WITH HIV /AIDS
(1985 – 2014)

Year	HIV/AIDS			
	Male	Female	Total	Rate*
1985	2	0	2	0.8
1986	6	1	7	2.8
1987	10	0	10	3.9
1988	15	0	15	5.8
1989	9	1	10	3.8
1990	17	0	17	6.2
1991	39	3	42	15.0
1992	49	6	55	19.3
1993	58	6	64	22.0
1994	76	10	86	29.1
1995	102	9	111	36.8
1996	123	16	139	45.3
1997	157	16	173	55.4
1998	167	32	199	62.6
1999	171	35	206	63.8
2000	193	33	226	69.0
2001	204	33	237	71.3
2002	206	28	234	69.2
2003	212	30	242	71.9
2004	290	21	311	91.1
2005	287	30	317	91.4
2006	327	32	359	101.8
2007	392	31	423	118.1
2008	426	30	456	125.2
2009	418	45	463	124.0
2010	403	38	441	116.9
2011	430	31	461	121.7
2012	437	32	469	122.8
2013	428	26	454	118.1
2014	422	34	456	117.8
Total	6076	609	6685	-

* per million resident population.

TABLE 2
DISTRIBUTION OF HIV/AIDS - INFECTED SINGAPORE RESIDENTS
BY MODES OF TRANSMISSION
(1985 – 2014)

Mode of Transmission	1985 – 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Sexual Transmission									
Heterosexual	2370	248	284	228	210	220	188	216	3952
Homosexual	645	151	139	163	195	210	210	182	1893
Bisexual	237	34	27	41	42	27	38	42	486
Intravenous drug use	74	20	7	4	4	2	4	1	116
Blood Transfusion	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Renal Transplant overseas	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Perinatal (mother to child)	29	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	31
Uncertain	122	3	6	3	10	10	14	15	199
Total	3485	456	463	441	461	469	454	456	6685

TABLE 3
HIV/AIDS - INFECTED SINGAPORE RESIDENTS
BY MARITAL STATUS AND SEX
(1985 – 2014)

Marital status	1985 – 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Male									
Single	1872	280	255	265	300	295	292	287	3846
Married	874	105	116	108	101	102	92	102	1600
Divorced/Separated	296	37	40	26	26	31	38	27	521
Widowed	70	4	7	4	3	9	6	6	109
Total	3112	426	418	403	430	437	428	422	6076
Female									
Single	77	1	8	8	8	7	8	4	121
Married	225	17	26	20	14	13	14	22	351
Divorced/Separated	45	7	9	6	6	10	3	6	92
Widowed	26	5	2	4	3	2	1	2	45
Total	373	30	45	38	31	32	26	34	609
Total									
Single	1949	281	263	273	308	302	300	291	3967
Married	1099	122	142	128	115	115	106	124	1951
Divorced/Separated	341	44	49	32	32	41	41	33	613
Widowed	96	9	9	8	6	11	7	8	154
Total	3485	456	463	441	461	469	454	456	6685

TABLE 4
HIV/AIDS - INFECTED SINGAPORE RESIDENTS BY ETHNIC GROUP
(1985 – 2014)

Ethnic Group	1985 - 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Chinese	2902	363	341	329	355	356	323	301	5270
Malay	335	71	76	69	77	80	94	90	891
Indian	146	15	28	27	24	22	22	41	326
Others	102	7	18	16	5	11	15	24	198
Total	3485	456	463	441	461	469	454	456	6685

TABLE 5
HIV/AIDS - INFECTED MALE SINGAPORE RESIDENTS BY AGE AND MODES OF
TRANSMISSION (1985 – 2014)

Age group		1985 - 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Male	Heterosexual									
	15 – 19	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	7
	20 – 29	221	11	10	16	12	15	14	15	314
	30 – 39	587	37	42	30	28	25	23	29	801
	40 – 49	597	73	72	58	48	42	36	49	975
	50 – 59	365	59	64	47	48	68	52	49	752
	60 & above	264	37	52	41	45	39	38	39	555
	Total	2037	219	241	192	181	189	163	182	3404
	Homosexual/Bisexual									
	15 – 19	18	4	2	4	3	9	1	5	46
	20 – 29	230	52	44	50	73	72	70	61	652
	30 – 39	388	73	62	77	86	81	77	75	919
	40 – 49	191	39	45	58	52	58	66	51	560
	50 – 59	41	15	11	12	18	12	31	28	168
	60 & above	7	2	2	2	5	4	3	4	29
	Total	875	185	166	203	237	236	248	224	2374
	Others									
	0 – 14	15	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	17
	15 – 19	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	8
	20 – 29	24	3	2	0	1	2	2	6	40
	30 – 39	64	10	5	2	2	2	2	4	91
40 – 49	58	4	3	3	1	3	6	1	79	
50 – 59	25	4	1	0	7	2	3	3	45	
60 & above	11	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	18	
Total	200	22	11	8	12	12	17	16	298	
Total										
0 – 14	15	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	17	
15 – 19	24	7	3	5	4	10	2	6	61	
20 – 29	475	66	56	66	86	89	86	82	1006	
30 – 39	1039	120	109	109	116	108	102	108	1811	
40 – 49	846	116	120	119	101	103	108	101	1614	
50 – 59	431	78	76	59	73	82	86	80	965	
60 & above	282	39	54	43	50	45	44	45	602	
Total	3112	426	418	403	430	437	428	422	6076	

TABLE 6
HIV/AIDS - INFECTED FEMALE SINGAPORE RESIDENTS BY AGE AND MODES
OF TRANSMISSION (1985 – 2014)

Age group		1985 - 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total	
Female	Sexual										
	15 – 19	8	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	12	
	20 – 29	115	3	8	5	6	3	5	2	147	
	30 – 39	94	10	15	7	7	4	8	8	153	
	40 – 49	64	8	8	8	4	8	5	9	114	
	50 – 59	44	4	6	9	5	12	4	9	93	
	60 & above	15	4	6	7	7	4	2	5	50	
	Total	340	29	43	37	29	32	25	34	569	
	Others										
	0 – 14	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
	15 – 19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	20 – 29	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
	30 – 39	6	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	8
	40 – 49	4	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	9
	50 – 59	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	60 & above	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Total	33	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	40
Total											
0 – 14	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	
15 – 19	8	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	12	
20 – 29	120	3	9	5	6	3	5	2	2	153	
30 – 39	100	10	16	7	8	4	8	8	8	161	
40 – 49	68	9	8	9	5	8	6	9	9	122	
50 – 59	45	4	6	9	5	12	4	9	9	94	
60 & above	17	4	6	7	7	4	2	5	5	52	
Total	373	30	45	38	31	32	26	34	34	609	