

HIV quarterly surveillance report

April - June 2018

Introduction

The Burnet Institute has produced this report on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services, in cooperation with the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory. The Department funds Burnet Institute to conduct surveillance and related research into sexually transmissible infections and blood borne viruses.

Note:

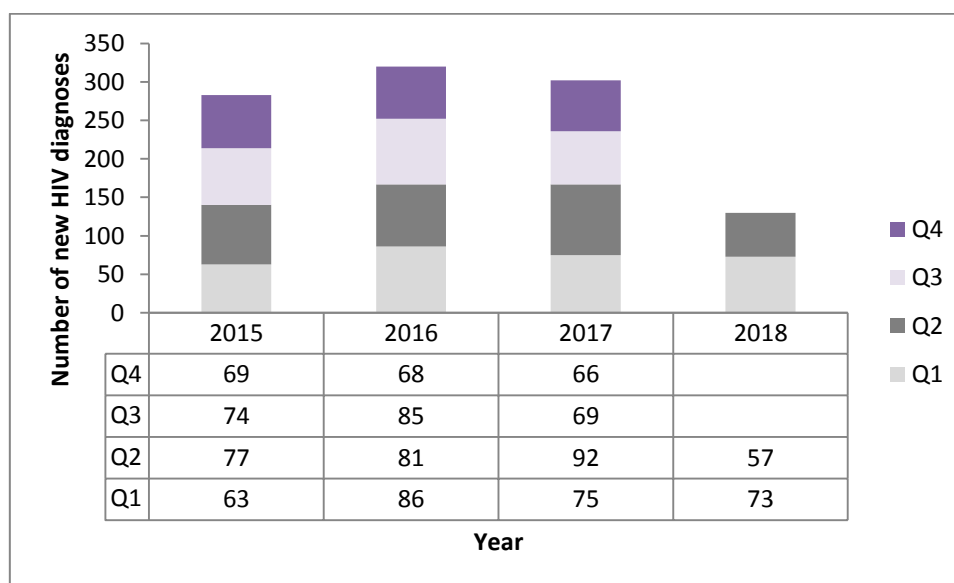
1. Numbers reported are subject to change as a result of ongoing case follow-up, data quality and auditing.
2. Numbers reported may not match those on the Department of Health and Human Services daily reports because this report is based on the date of specimen collection, whereas daily summary reports are based on the date of notification to the Department.
3. HIV reporting is quarterly and reports are produced approximately six weeks after the end of the reporting quarter. HIV quarterly and daily surveillance reports are available at www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases.

HIV cases by quarter

- Between 1 April and 30 June 2018 (quarter two 2018) there were 57 cases of HIV notified (Figure 1).

Note: The 57 cases do not include two cases that are pending follow-up, confirmation and case classification.

Figure 1: Number of notified cases of HIV by quarter, Victoria, 2015-2018



Commentary

- There were 57 confirmed cases of HIV in quarter two 2018, with an additional two cases pending confirmation and classification. This compares to 92 and 81 cases for the same period in 2017 and 2016, respectively (Figure 1). This also represents a 21% reduction on the average number of notified cases in the previous three quarters.
- In quarter two 2018, 39% of cases were classified as newly acquired (HIV acquisition in the previous 12 months). This proportion is similar compared to the same period in 2017 (39%) and 2016 (37%) (Table 1).
- Five women were diagnosed in quarter two 2018, accounting for 9% of notifications. This proportion is similar compared to the same period in 2017 (10%) and 2016 (9%) (Table 2).
- 56% of cases in quarter two 2018 were Australian-born. This proportion is similar compared to the same time period in 2017 (53%) and 2016 (57%).
- In quarter two 2018 there were two cases of HIV reported in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, compared to no cases for the same period in 2017 and two cases for the same period in 2016 (Table 4).
- HIV cases were most commonly diagnosed among individuals aged 20 to 29 years (35%) in quarter two 2018 (Table 5). This is consistent with the same period in 2017 (38%) and 2016 (35%).
- Male-to-male sex was recorded as an exposure to HIV in 61% of cases in quarter two 2018, compared to 75% for the same period in 2017 and 74% for the same period in 2016 (Table 6).
- There were 7 cases reporting male-to-male sex and injecting drug use as their exposure in quarter 2 2018, compared to one case in the same period of 2017.
- Three cases reported injecting drug use as their only exposure to HIV in quarter two 2018, compared to one case for the same period in 2017 and two cases for the same period in 2016.
- Heterosexual sex was recorded as the exposure to HIV in twelve cases (21%) in quarter two 2018 (Table 6). Of these, two cases (12%) reported sex with a person born overseas in a country not classified as having high HIV prevalence (Table 7). The risk category for cases' heterosexual sex partner was unknown or not further specified for the majority (58%) of cases in quarter two 2018.
- In quarter two 2018, the highest proportion of cases were individuals residing in the North-West Metropolitan region of Victoria (42%) followed by the Southern Metropolitan region (38%). Region of residence was unknown for one case (Table 9).

Data tables

Table 1: Number of notified cases of HIV, by disease classification

Disease Type	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
HIV	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283
• <18 months old	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
• Newly acquired*+	22	27	30	49	55	71	107	134	153
• Unspecified^	35	45	36	80	112	96	195	186	130

* Newly acquired cases are cases that have laboratory evidence, clinical evidence of seroconversion illness and/or evidence based on testing history of HIV acquisition in the previous 12 months

+ From April 2016 there has been a change in the laboratory reporting of HIV confirmatory results such that there is expected to be fewer indeterminate results requiring follow-up. This will therefore reduce the number of results which were previously used to provide evidence for newly acquired (recent) infections.

^ Unspecified cases are cases that do not have evidence of HIV acquisition in the previous 12 months.

Table 2: Number of notified cases of HIV by sex

Sex	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Male	49	64	59	113	150	154	264	292	251
Female	5	8	6	13	17	12	35	27	31
Transgender	3	1	1	4	0	1	3	1	1
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

Table 3: Number of notified cases by country of birth

Country of birth	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Australian born	32	37	37	69	98	94	174	170	152
Overseas born	23	35	29	58	67	62	126	134	120
Unknown	2	1	0	3	2	11	2	16	11
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

Table 4: Number of notified cases of HIV by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status

Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	2	0	0	2	1	4	1	5	7
Non Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	54	72	64	126	166	163	299	312	269
Unknown	1	1	2	2	0	0	2	3	7
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

Table 5: Number of notified cases of HIV by age group

Age Group	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
0 to 10	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
11 to 15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16 to 19	2	3	1	5	2	6	4	8	13
20 to 29	20	25	18	45	54	61	94	119	97
30 to 39	14	17	26	31	49	48	95	92	87
40 to 49	11	13	8	24	33	32	50	57	51
50 to 59	8	9	7	17	22	13	40	30	25
60+	2	4	6	6	7	7	19	14	9
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

Table 6: Number of notified cases of HIV by exposure category

Exposure Category	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Male-to-male sex	35	50	37	85	118	121	194	234	206
Male-to-male sex and injecting drug use	7	1	7	8	3	7	13	10	11
Injecting drug user	3	4	5	7	6	3	13	3	9
Heterosexual	12	12	16	24	32	33	68	68	50
Other	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	2	4
Unknown	0	5	1	5	8	1	12	3	3
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

Table 7: Number of notified cases of HIV exposed via heterosexual contact, by mode of transmission

Heterosexual mode of transmission	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Person is from a high prevalence country [#]	2	1	4	3	5	8	14	14	8
Sex with a person from a high prevalence country [#]	0	2	3	2	3	2	7	7	13
Sex with a person from another country, not high prevalence [#]	2	5	4	7	4	3	9	10	6
Sex with an injecting drug user	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	1	2
Sex with a bisexual male	0	1	1	1	0	1	3	2	4
Sex with a person diagnosed with HIV infection	1	0	1	1	2	4	4	8	6
Not further specified	7	3	3	10	15	15	27	26	11
Total	12	12	16	24	32	33	68	68	50

[#] High prevalence country: where the adult HIV prevalence is greater than one per cent and HIV is transmitted predominantly by heterosexual contact.

Table 8: Number of notified cases of HIV by time since last negative test or seroconversion illness

Time since last negative test or seroconversion illness	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Less than one year (incident infection)	21	21	28	42	49	57	96	116	123
One year to less than three years	7	10	7	17	24	27	40	43	41
Three or more years	6	5	6	11	21	22	33	37	27
No previous negative test or seroconversion illness	11	15	13	26	37	31	64	72	47
History unknown	12	22	12	34	36	30	69	52	45
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

Table 9: Number of notified cases of HIV by health region[†]

Region	Current Quarter	Previous Quarters		1 Jan to 30 Jun			1 Jan to 31 Dec		
	Apr-Jun 2018	Jan-Mar 2018	Oct-Dec 2017	2018	2017	2016	2017	2016	2015
Barwon-South Western	4	2	1	6	3	7	6	16	8
Eastern Metropolitan	5	5	8	10	18	14	37	30	36
Gippsland	0	2	1	2	4	3	6	5	2
Grampians	3	3	1	6	5	2	8	3	9
Hume	0	0	0	0	2	6	3	9	1
Loddon Mallee	0	2	1	2	3	4	7	8	5
North & West Metropolitan	24	25	27	49	75	76	135	142	119
Southern Metropolitan	20	24	25	44	50	46	88	91	92
Unknown	1	10	2	11	7	9	12	16	11
Total	57	73	66	130	167	167	302	320	283

[†] Reflects residential location at the time of diagnosis and does not necessarily indicate where infection acquired.

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