



NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

"Together, striving to control and prevent HIV/AIDS in Papua New Guinea"

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Department Of Health

HIV/AIDS Quarterly Report

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Case reporting system for HIV/AIDS cases in Papua New Guinea

1. Introduction

National AIDS Council Secretariat and Department of Health produce this report each quarter summarising HIV/AIDS surveillance data. It provides vital information on the number of infections detected since the first detection of HIV case in 1987.

This report is the 2005 first quarterly review of the available surveillance data pertaining to the occurrence of HIV/AIDS in Papua New Guinea. The report is intended to be a reference document for organizations and individuals interested in the occurrence of HIV infections in PNG, drawing together data from Laboratories, Medical notification and the Sentinel surveillance into one single report.

This report will be made available in all 20 Provincial AIDS Committee's Office and Provincial Health Offices.

The main findings of the report are presented as text and supported by tables and graphs.

Both organizations have been taking major step forward in conducting more active surveillance in sentinel sites to collect both behavioural and Sero data for assessment of situations especially within low and high risk populations. Prevalence results of some of the surveillance conducted reveals that Antenatal mothers in Port Moresby, Goroka, Mt Hagen and Daru have all gone over 1% prevalence rate and prevalence in STI patients in Port Moresby with 8%, Goroka 2%, Mt Hagen 6%. (refer to table 1.12 for updated surveillance results.)

Screening and testing for HIV/AIDS varies from province to province. Some Provinces testing more than others. The notable Provinces reporting high number of cases are National Capital District, Western Highlands, Morobe, Eastern Highland and Enga provinces

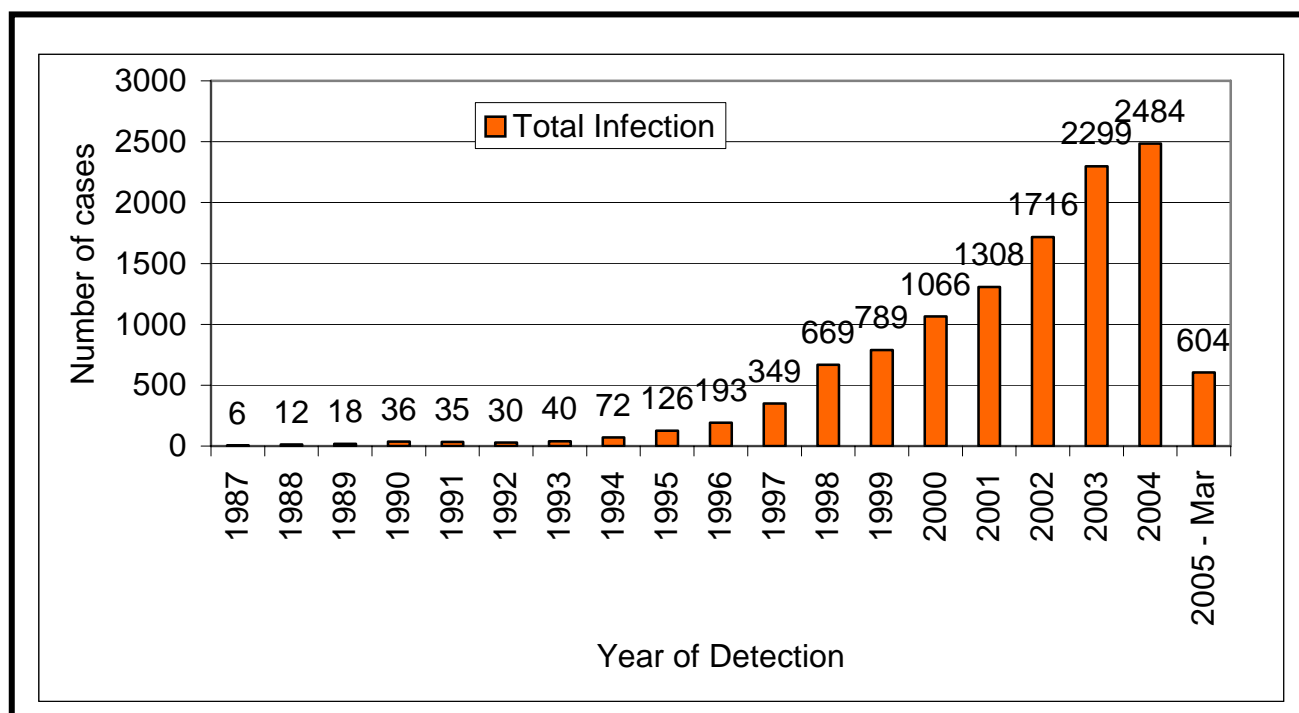
Though the cumulative data still exhibits an exponential growth pattern of HIV/AIDS epidemic in PNG, there is slight decrease on the reported cases especially for 2004. One of the reasons to this decrease is due to delay in submitting reports to our office by the two newly established confirmatory laboratories at Mt. Hagen and Lae (Angau) hospitals.

2. Cumulative Data

Table 1.1 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005.
Year of diagnosis and sex.

Year of Diagnosis	Male	Female	Not stated	Total
1987	2	4	0	6
1988	7	5	0	12
1989	11	7	0	18
1990	24	12	0	36
1991	17	16	2	35
1992	12	18	0	30
1993	19	21	0	40
1994	40	31	1	72
1995	68	57	1	126
1996	95	96	2	193
1997	174	174	1	349
1998	336	310	23	669
1999	422	332	35	789
2000	586	453	27	1066
2001	635	621	52	1308
2002	853	792	71	1716
2003	1037	1134	128	2299
2004	1090	1115	279	2484
2005 - Mar	257	327	20	604
Total	5685 48%	5525 47%	642 5%	11852

Figure 1.1 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005.
Year of diagnosis and sex.



* HIV/AIDS cases notified up to 31/03/2005

Up to the end of March 2005, there have been a cumulative total of 11852 people diagnosed with HIV infection, 5685 (48%) males and 5525 (47%) in females; and 642 (5%) individuals whose sex not recorded.

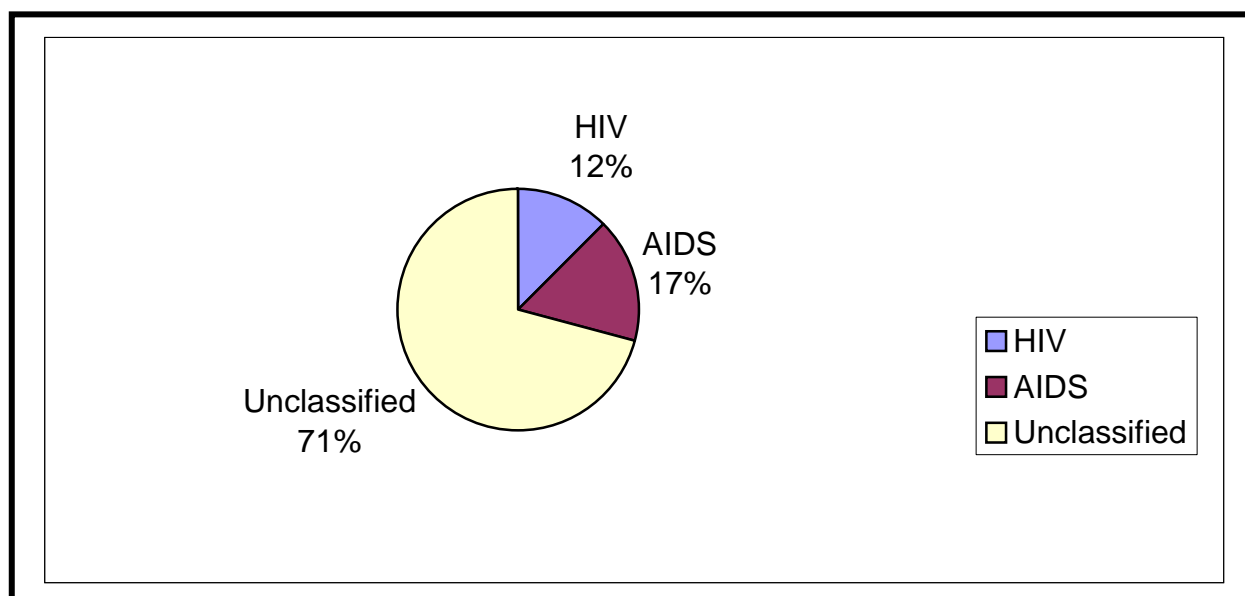
3. Classification of Cases

Table 1.2 HIV/AIDS Cases detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005. Classification of case reports by year of diagnosis.

Classification of case reports	87-91	92-96	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Mar 2005	Total
HIV	0	7	29	71	153	297	364	220	115	142	71	1469
AIDS	68	200	147	219	258	349	365	133	90	114	43	1986
Unclassified	39	254	173	379	378	420	579	1363	2094	2228	490	8397
Deaths ²	32	78	44	43	45	36	20	17	14	0	0	329
Total	107	461	349	669	789	1066	1308	1716	2299	2484	604	11852

- * 1. HIV/AIDS cases notified up to 31/03/2005
- 2. Deaths reported at the time of HIV/AIDS case reports
- 3. Note that death figures are excluded in the totals

Fig 1.2 HIV/AIDS Cases detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005. Classification of case reports by year of diagnosis.



*** 8397 (71%) cases unclassified**

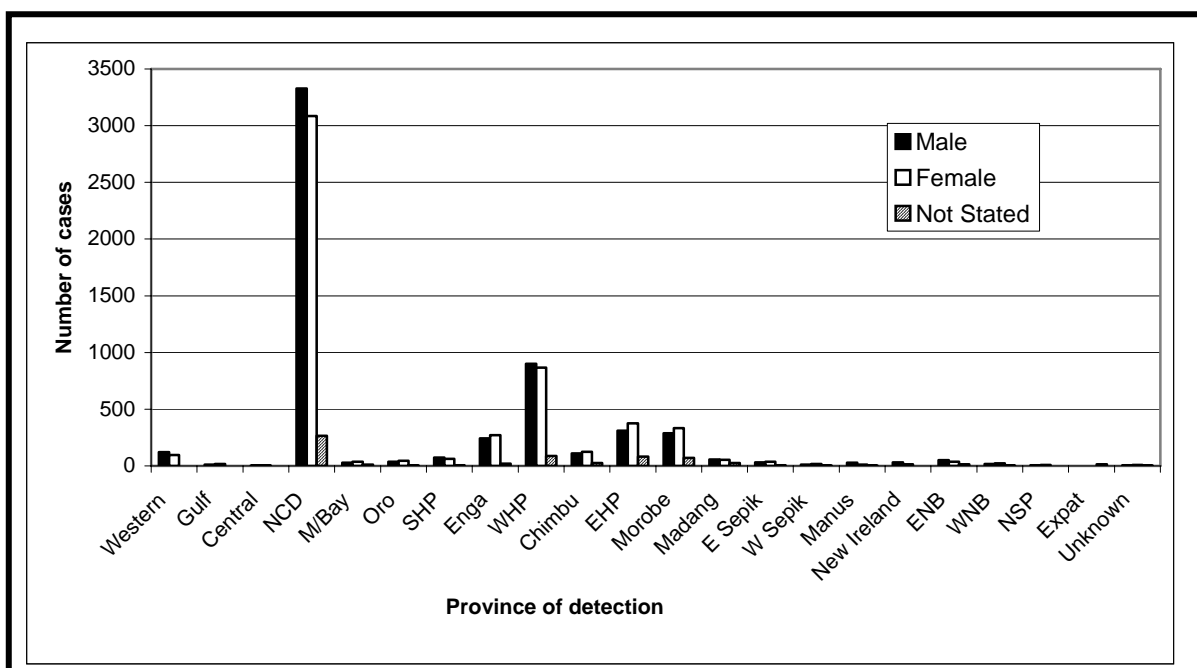
From the available data on the classification of HIV, 1986 cases (17%) were AIDS defining illness, 1469 cases (12%) with HIV infection. A total of 8397 (70 %) individuals remain unclassified and 353 (3%) deaths had been reported. Death notification and case classification are major problems.

4. Province of Detection

**Table 1.3 HIV/AIDS Infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Province of Detection and Sex**

Province of detection	Male		Female		Not stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Western	121	2	96	2	1	0	218	2
Gulf	10	0	18	0	1	0	29	0
Central	2	0	2	0	0	0	4	0
NCD	3327	59	3086	56	265	41	6678	56
M/Bay	28	0	38	1	11	2	77	1
Oro	36	1	44	1	2	0	82	1
SHP	72	1	63	1	6	1	141	1
Enga	244	4	271	5	21	3	536	5
WHP	900	16	867	16	87	14	1854	16
Chimbu	111	2	124	2	25	4	260	2
EHP	311	5	376	7	83	13	770	6
Morobe	287	5	332	6	71	11	690	6
Madang	57	1	54	1	25	4	136	1
E Sepik	32	1	37	1	5	1	74	1
W Sepik	11	0	16	0	4	1	31	0
Manus	27	0	10	0	2	0	39	0
NIP	31	1	14	0	0	0	45	0
ENB	50	1	38	1	13	2	101	1
WNB	16	0	22	0	4	1	42	0
NSP	5	0	9	0	1	0	15	0
Expat	0	0	0	0	13	2	13	0
Unknown	7	0	8	0	2	0	17	0
Total	5685		5525		642		11852	

**Figure 1.3 HIV/AIDS Infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Province of Detection and Sex**



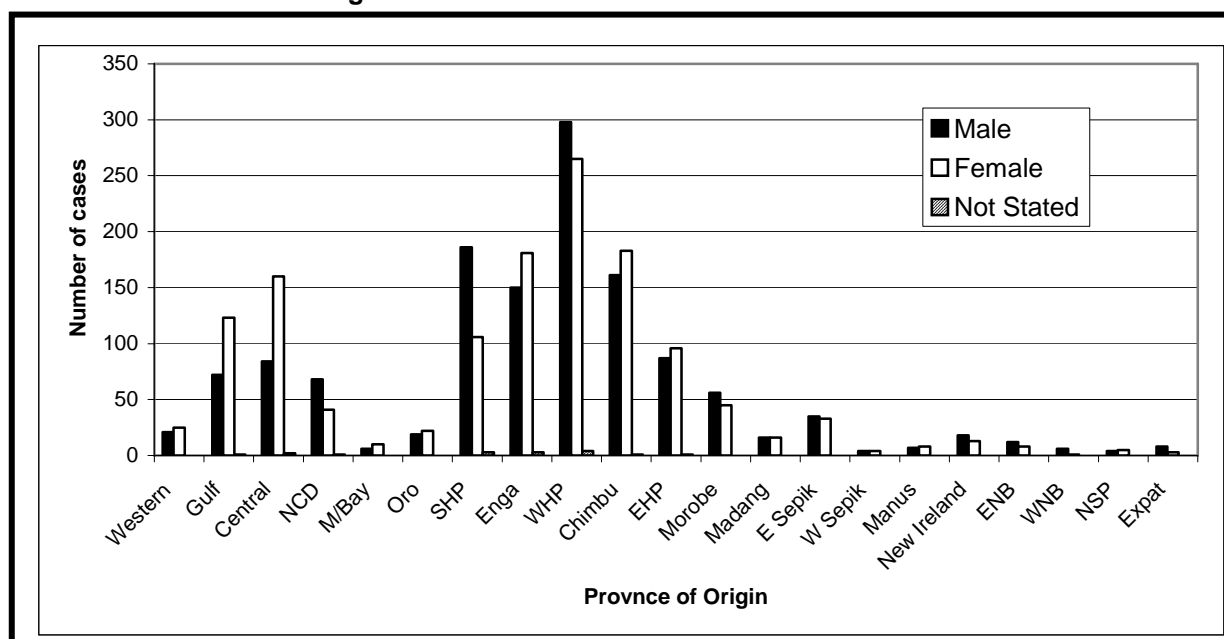
Since the detection of the first case in 1987 to March 2005 the rate of notification of diagnosis of HIV is increasing in the country's 20 provinces. Beside economical and social factors in the Highlands region contributing to high increases of HIV infection in the region, one major and obvious contributing factor to the high number of detected cases is due to improve testing,

5. Province of Origin

Table 1.4 HIV/AIDS Infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Province of origin and Sex

Province of Origin	Male		Female		Not stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Western	21	0	25	0	0	0	46	0
Gulf	72	1	123	2	1	0	196	2
Central	84	1	160	3	2	0	246	2
NCD	68	1	41	1	1	0	110	1
Milne Bay	6	0	10	0	0	0	16	0
Oro	19	0	22	0	0	0	41	0
SHP	186	3	106	2	3	0	295	2
Enga	150	3	181	3	3	0	334	3
WHP	298	5	265	5	4	1	567	5
Chimbu	161	3	183	3	1	0	345	3
EHP	87	2	96	2	1	0	184	2
Morobe	56	1	45	1	0	0	101	1
Madang	16	0	16	0	0	0	32	0
E Sepik	35	1	33	1	0	0	68	1
W Sepik	4	0	4	0	0	0	8	0
Manus	7	0	8	0	0	0	15	0
NIP	18	0	13	0	0	0	31	0
ENB	12	0	8	0	0	0	20	0
WNB	6	0	1	0	0	0	7	0
NSP	4	0	5	0	0	0	9	0
Expat	8	0	3	0	0	0	11	0
Unknown	4367	77	4177	76	626	98	9170	77
Total	5685		5525		642		11852	

Figure 1.4 HIV/AIDS Infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Province of origin and Sex



* 9170 (77%) unknown cases with province of origin excluded on the graph

Province of Origin is only reported in 23 percent of HIV case reports. However, of the 23% of the cases reported, it is important to note that among patients diagnosed at PMGH, 30 % are from Central Province and 23 percent are from Gulf Province while Simbu and SHP show 18% and 17% respectively.

6. Mode of Transmission

**Table 1.5 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Exposure category and Sex**

Table 1.5a Exposure category including unknown cases

Exposure category	Male		Female		Not stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Blood Transfusion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heterosexual	1169	21	1324	26	12	2	2505	21
Homosexual	10	0	1	0	0	0	11	0
Perinatal	78	1	70	1	3	0	151	1
Unknown	4428	78	4130	81	627	98	9185	77
Totals	5685		5525		642		11852	

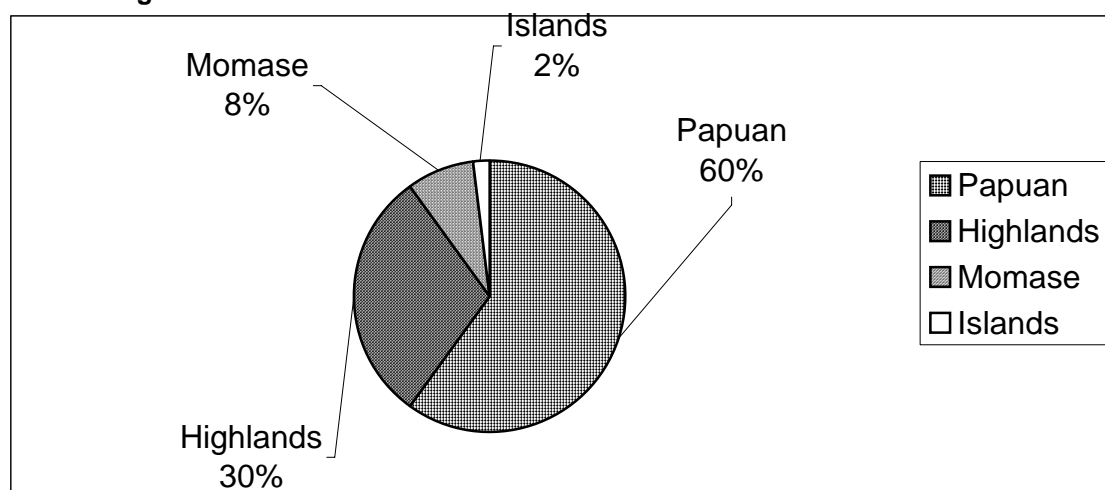
Table 1.5b Exposure category excluding unknown cases

Exposure category	Male		Female		Not stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Blood Transfusion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heterosexual	1169	93	1324	95	12	80	2505	94
Homosexual	10	1	1	0	0	0	11	0
Perinatal	78	6	70	5	3	20	151	6
Totals	1257		1395		15		2667	

The heterosexual transmission remains the main mode, however increases were noted in mother to child transmission. From the available data 94% of the cases reported stated the mode of transmission, as heterosexual while 6 % was from perinatal otherwise 77% of the overall reported cases remains unknown.

7. Region of detection

Fig 1.5 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005 by region of detection



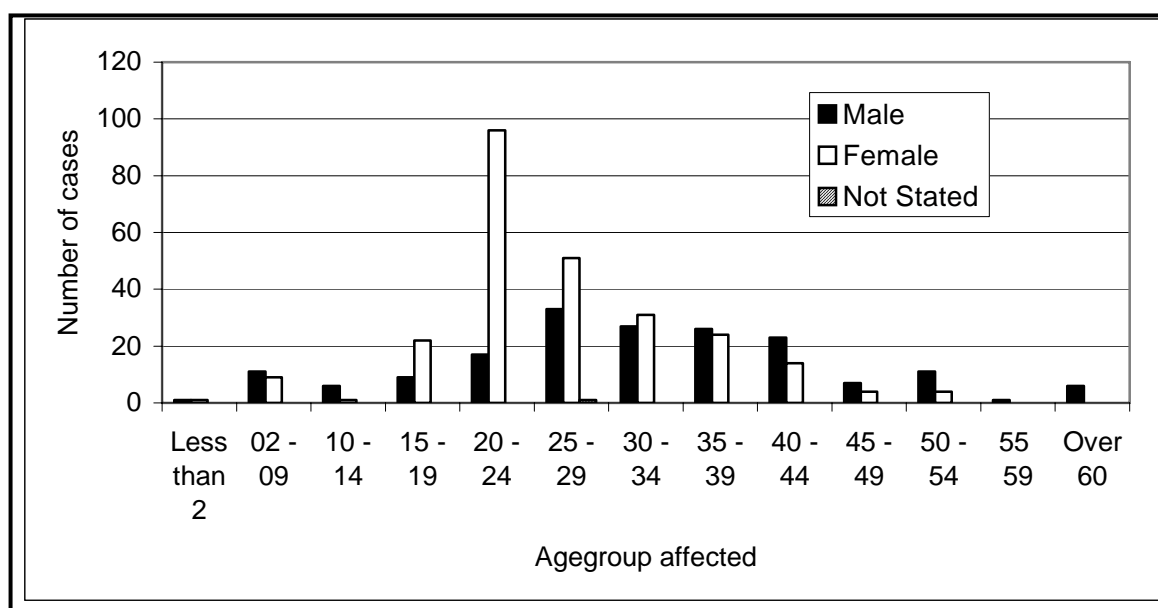
HIV cases detected by regions shows that Papuan or Southern Region has very high rate of detection with 60% while Highlands, Momase and Islands have 30%, 8% and 2% respectively. NCD, which reported 56% of the cases, is within Papuan Regions.

8. Gender and Age Affected

Table 1.6 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Age group and Sex

Age group	Male		Female		Not stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Less than 2	71	1	51	1	1	0	123	1
2 - 9	148	3	155	3	5	1	308	3
10 - 14	25	0	43	1	0	0	68	1
15 - 19	118	2	379	7	1	0	498	4
20 - 24	412	7	981	18	5	1	1398	12
25 - 29	638	11	815	15	6	1	1459	12
30 - 34	668	12	630	11	10	2	1308	11
35 - 39	481	8	357	6	8	1	846	7
40 - 44	376	7	203	4	3	0	582	5
45 - 49	217	4	85	2	2	0	304	3
50 - 54	163	3	53	1	2	0	218	2
55 - 59	58	1	7	0	0	0	65	1
60 & Over	76	1	9	0	0	0	85	1
Unknown	2234	39	1757	32	599	93	4590	39
Total	5685		5525		642		11852	

Figure 1.6 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 1987 - 31/03/2005
Age group and Sex



* 4590 (39%) cases excluded as age/sex unknown

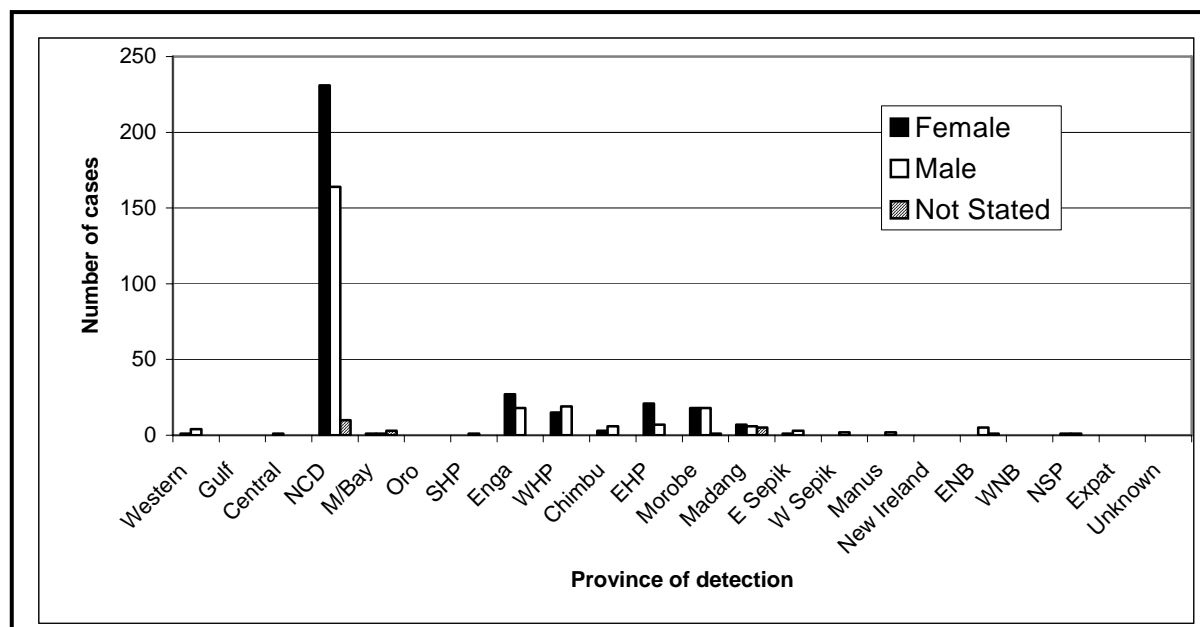
The age distribution is alarming and of concern in that economically productive and sexually active Papua New Guineans in age range 15 – 44 years are infected most: females predominate 15 – 29 years (40%) while male (20%). It is important to note that there is a high increase in the 2 – 9 years age group.

9. Newly detected cases as of 01/01/2005 – 31/03/2005

Table 1.7 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 01/01/2005 - 31/03/2005
Province of detection and sex.

Province of detection	Male		Female		Unknown		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Western	4	2	1	0	0	0	5	1
Gulf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
NCD	164	64	231	71	10	50	405	67
M/Bay	1	0	1	0	3	15	5	1
Oro	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHP	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Enga	18	7	27	8	0	0	45	7
WHP	19	7	15	5	0	0	34	6
Chimbu	6	2	3	1	0	0	9	1
EHP	7	3	21	6	0	0	28	5
Morobe	18	7	18	6	1	5	37	6
Madang	6	2	7	2	5	25	18	3
E Sepik	3	1	1	0	0	0	4	1
W Sepik	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Manus	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
NIP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ENB	5	2	0	0	1	5	6	1
WNB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSP	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Expat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	257		327		20		604	

Figure 1.7 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 01/01/2004 - 31/03/2004
Province of detection and sex.



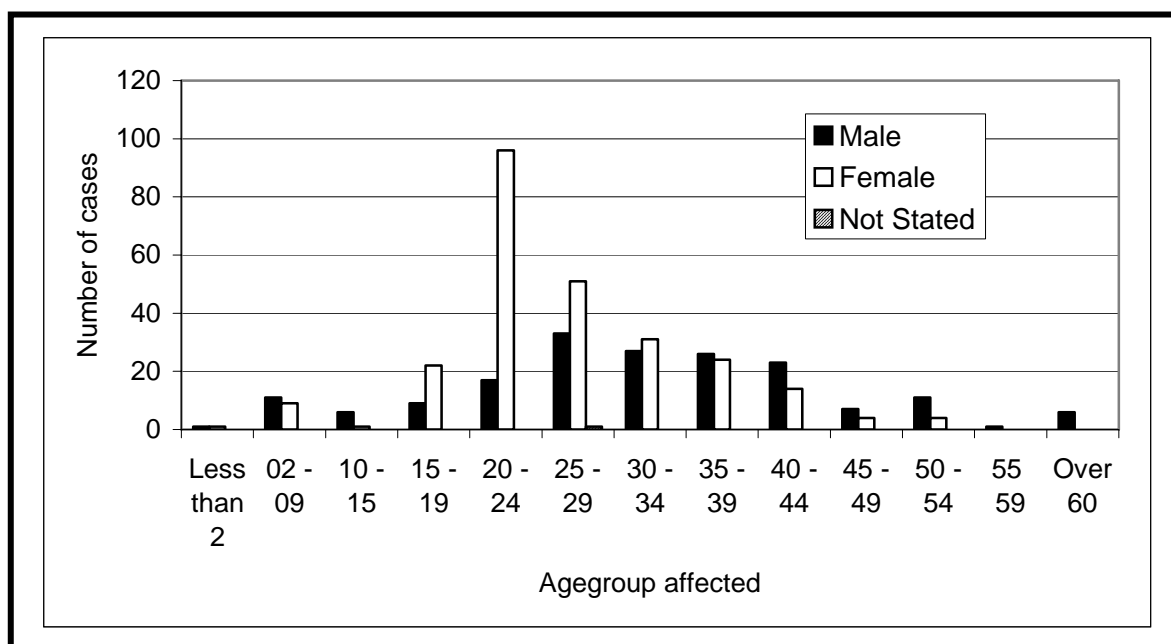
Figures in the year to date shows that NCD reported 67% of the newly detected cases while Enga reported 7 %; EHP, Morobe and WHP reported 6% and 5 % respectively.

9.1 Gender and Age affected

Table1.8 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 01/01/2005 - 31/03/2005
Age group and Sex

Age group	Male		Female		Not stated		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Less than 2	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
2 - 9	11	4	9	3	0	0	20	3
10 - 14	6	2	1	0	0	0	7	1
15 - 19	9	4	22	7	0	0	31	5
20 - 24	17	7	96	29	0	0	113	19
25 - 29	33	13	51	16	1	5	85	14
30 - 34	27	11	31	9	0	0	58	10
35 - 39	26	10	24	7	0	0	50	8
40 - 44	23	9	14	4	0	0	37	6
45 - 49	7	3	4	1	0	0	11	2
50 - 54	11	4	4	1	0	0	15	2
55 - 59	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
60 & Over	6	2	0	0	0	0	6	1
Unknown	79	31	70	21	19	95	168	28
Total	257		327		20		604	

Figure1.8 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 01/01/2005 - 31/03/2005
Age group and Sex



* 168 (28%) cases excluded as age/sex unknown

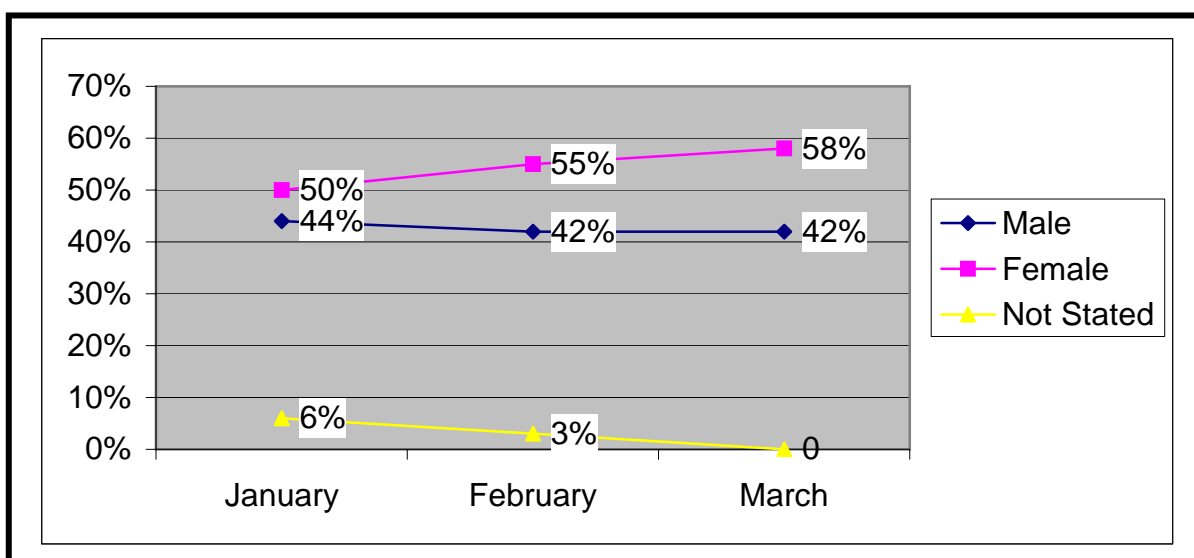
Most HIV cases detected in the first quarter of 2005 were in the 20 – 24 and 25 – 29 year age groups. More females (52%) in the age of 15 – 29 were reported than male (24%). Higher rates if infections are detected in the older man.

9.2 Monthly detection

**Table 1.9 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 01/01/2005 - 31/03/2005.
Quarter of detection and sex.**

Months	Male	%	Female	%	Not Stated	%	Total	%
January	86	33	97	30	12	60	195	32
February	88	34	116	35	7	35	211	35
March	83	32	114	35	1	5	198	33
Total	257		327		20		604	

**Figure 1.9 HIV/AIDS infection detected in Papua New Guinea, 01/01/2005 - 31/03/2005
By months and sex**



An average monthly rate of 201 cases is detected very month. The rate of reported cases is higher in females than males.

HIV/AIDS Sero Surveillance

Introduction

Due to the pressing need for ongoing surveillance system the National AIDS Council Secretariat in collaboration with the Department of Health and with the support of the National HIV/AIDS Support Project has began Sero Surveillance for HIV/AIDS in NCD, Eastern Highlands, WHP, Western and Morobe to ascertain the prevalence of HIV/AIDS within Antenatal, STI and TB patients. This activity is important because it gives us the necessary information to monitor the epidemic as well as make appropriate decisions and interventions relating to testing, diagnosis and treatment of persons with HIV/AIDS infection in PNG.

Sero-surveillance is done to monitor the epidemic in the low risk population (antenatal mothers) and also in the high risk group (people who attend the sexually transmitted infection clinic). The results from this surveillance program will give the planners a more accurate information they require to make informed decisions regarding the HIV/AIDS prevention and control programs.

These data will be managed by NACS/NDOH. Provincial Disease Control Officers are the key persons in the provinces on the site for this activity. Data collected is compiled, analysed and will be disseminated through our normal HIV/AIDS and STI Quarterly Surveillance Report. The figures published are the results of the Sero Surveillance activities carried out in this year 2003. In the next quarters update we should be able to see the results of Sero surveillance result carried out in Western, WHP and Morobe provinces respectively.

Sero Surveillance Results from PMGH and Goroka

Eight percent (8 % of the 335 patients tested for HIV in the STI clinic of PMGH (NCD) have been detected infected with HIV. Where as Goroka Base hospital tested 315 STI patients and detected about 1.6% infected people.

Antenatal cases tested in Goroka (EHP) shows that 1% of the 451 tests is positive with HIV infection.

Table 1.10 Shows the number of test performed at each site and the number of positive cases detected.

Site	Number of Patients screened	Number of sero conversion	Prevalence Rate (%) Outcome/Comments
Port Moresby			
Port Moresby Antenatal	1187	16	1.35
STI Clinic	335	27	8.06
TB Clinic	300	57	19.00
Goroka			
Goroka Antenatal	451	4	0.89
STI Clinic	315	5	1.59
Mt Hagen			
Mt Hagen STI	300	19	6.33
Lae			
Lae Antenatal	480	12	2.50
Daru			
Daru Antenatal	150	1	0.66

Note: Only one (1) confirmed HIV case from 5 initially reactive cases reported from Daru Antenatal Clinic, thus prevalence rate is adjusted to 0.66%.

Notes On The Data Presented

HIV/AIDS

The reporting quarter for each HIV Antibody positive person is the quarter when the first positive serum was drawn. Regardless of when the report is made. All data are provisional and subject to revision as late reports are received.

HIV/AIDS Sero Surveillance

The reporting quarter for Sero surveillance results is the quarter when the activity has ceased and all data are collected, analysed and ready for dissemination.

For further information contact:

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