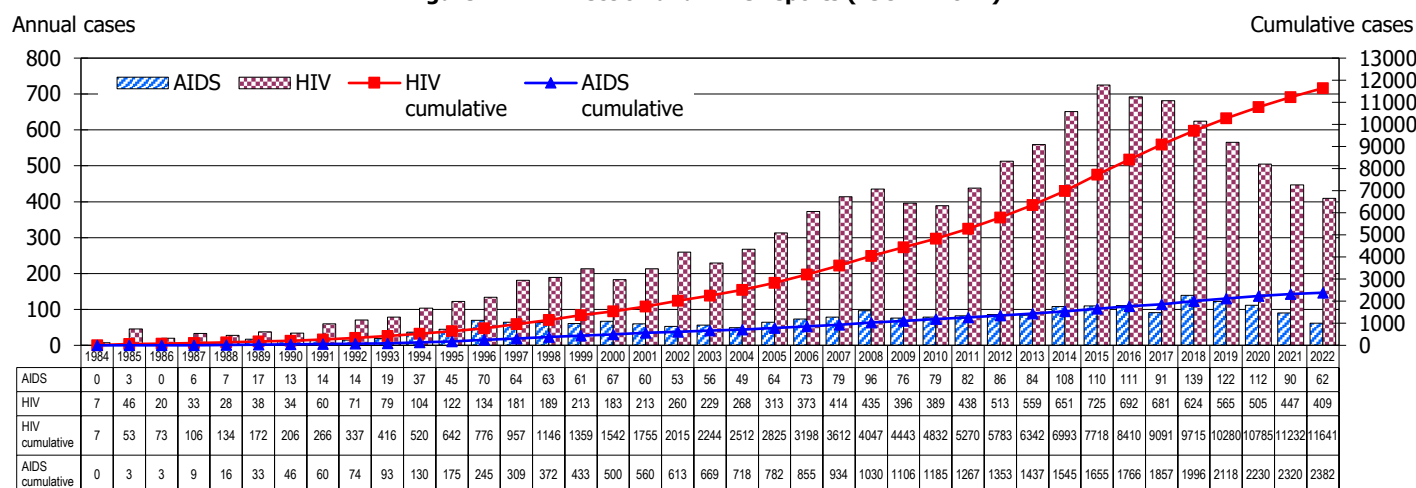


The number of annual reported cases decreased in recent years

The first case of HIV infection in Hong Kong was reported in 1984. As of 2022, the Department of Health has received a cumulative total of 11,641 reports of HIV infection and 2,382 AIDS cases under the voluntary and anonymous HIV/AIDS reporting system (Figure 1). The number of HIV reports in 2022 was 409, 8.5% decrease compared to the 447 cases in 2021. People infected with HIV progress to AIDS when they suffer from clinical complications of severe immunodeficiency due to HIV. In 2022, 62 AIDS reports were received. The most common AIDS-defining illnesses were *Pneumocystis pneumonia* and tuberculosis.

Figure 1. HIV infection and AIDS reports (1984 – 2022)



* AIDS cases are included in the HIV cases

Most infections were in male, Chinese and young adult

A majority of the HIV reports in 2022 are male (83.4%) and Chinese (65.0%). Most (75.8%) infected people were diagnosed at the age between 20 and 49 (Figures 2 to 4).

Figure 2. HIV reports by gender (2022)

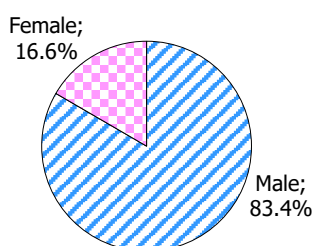


Figure 3. HIV reports by ethnicity (2022)

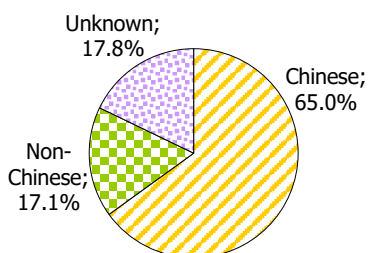
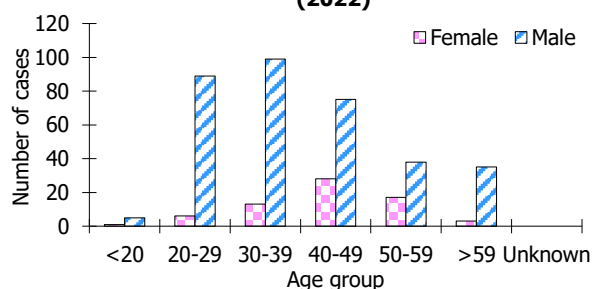


Figure 4. HIV reports by gender and age (2022)

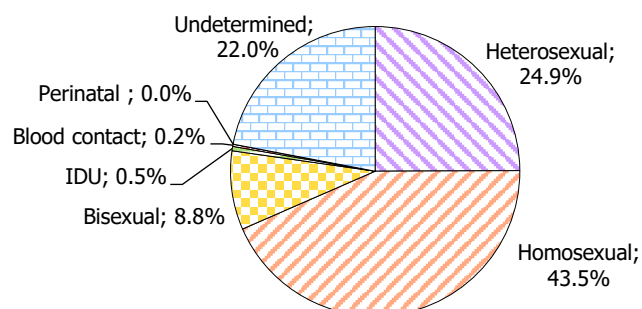


Sexual contact remained the major route of transmission for HIV

In 2022, sexual contact contributed to 77.3% of all reported HIV cases (homosexual 43.5%, heterosexual 24.9%, bisexual 8.8%). 2 cases were transmitted via injecting drug use (IDU). 1 case acquired the infection via blood or blood product transfusion outside Hong Kong. The routes of transmission of the remaining 22.0% of cases were yet to be determined due to incomplete information (Figure 5).

Note: The percentage may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 5. Suspected route of HIV transmission (2022)



Most of the cases were infected locally

In 2022, over half (58.2%) of reported cases were assessed to have contracted the virus in Hong Kong, 8.8% in Mainland China and 8.8% in other places respectively. 24.2% did not have the place of infection ascertained due to inadequate information (Figure 6). Moreover, a majority of men who have sex with men (MSM) cases (76.2%) contracted the virus in Hong Kong (Figure 7) as compared to nearly three-fourths (74.1%) of heterosexual male cases (Figure 8).

Note: The percentage may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Figure 7. Suspected place of infection among MSM cases (2022)

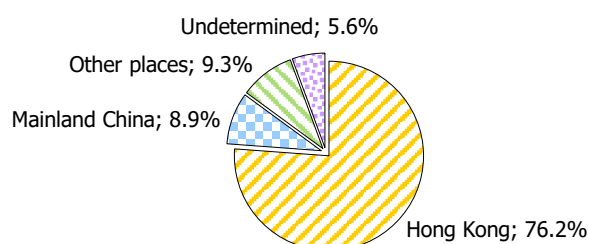


Figure 6. Suspected place of infection (2022)

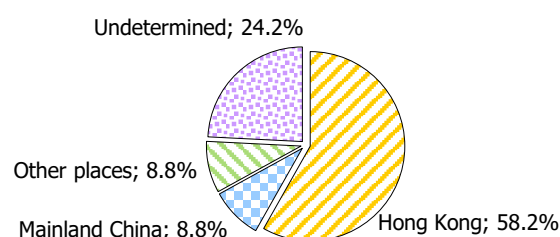
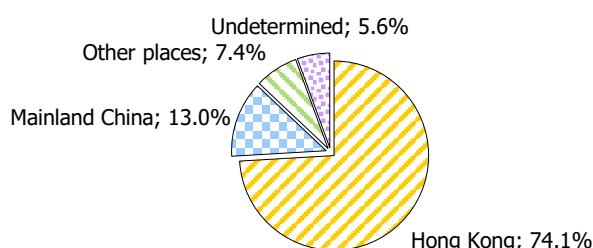


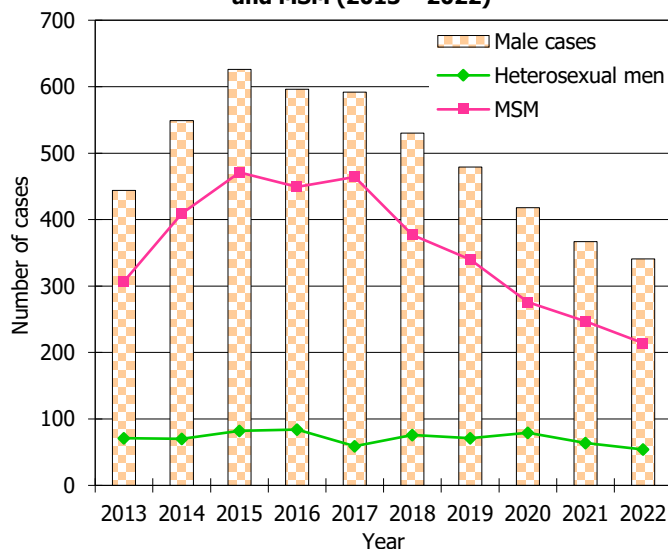
Figure 8. Suspected place of infection among heterosexual male cases (2022)



A concentrated epidemic among MSM warrants our sustained attention

HIV infection among MSM persistently predominated a high proportion of new infections. The number was 214 in 2022. MSM cases, with homosexual and bisexual contacts as the route of transmission, contributed to 52.3% of all HIV reported cases and 62.8% in all-male cases. The number of HIV reports from MSM has been persistently higher than that from heterosexual men since 2005, and the trend has continued to the present, although the number of MSM cases has decreased by 54.6% when compared to the peak in 2015 (471 cases) (Figure 9). Meanwhile, the number of heterosexual male cases remained stable in the past few years (ranging from 54 to 79 cases from 2018 to 2022).

Figure 9. HIV reports in heterosexual men and MSM (2013 – 2022)



In 2022:

- None of the 19,467 new blood donors were tested HIV positive.
- One in every 14,453 pregnant women attending public antenatal services was tested HIV positive.
- One in every 202 attendees in STD clinics was tested HIV positive.
- One in every 76 users in methadone clinics was tested HIV positive.

Figures provided are provisional and subject to change.

Finalised figures will be published in the *Annual HIV Surveillance Report*. <https://www.aids.gov.hk>.

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