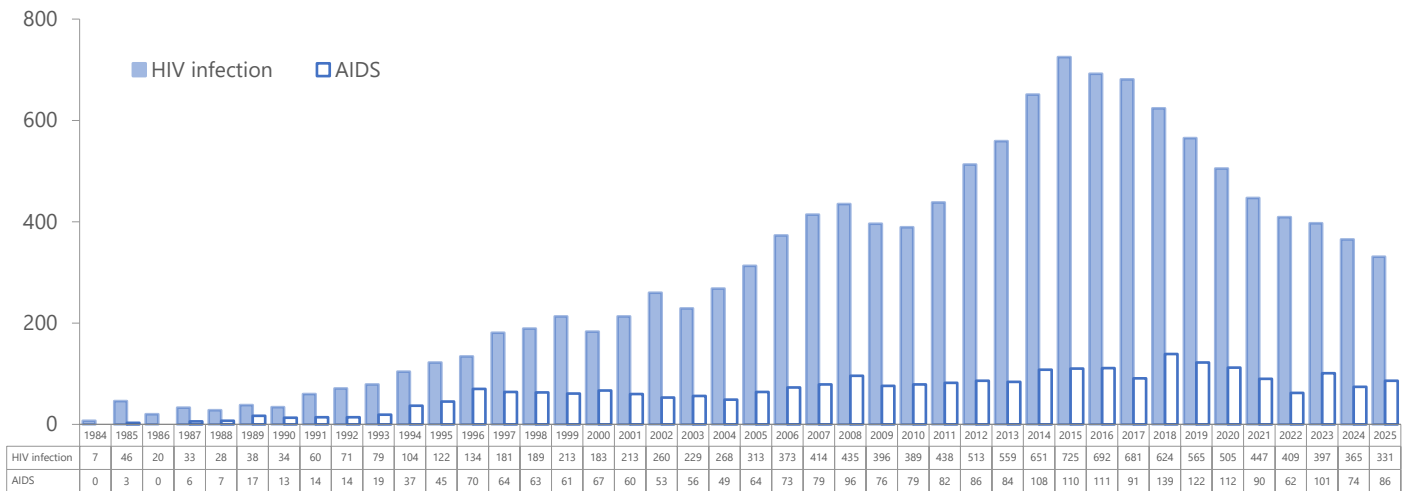


## The number of newly reported HIV infection has decreased for the tenth consecutive year

As of 2025, the Department of Health has received a cumulative total of 12,734 reports of HIV infection and 2,643 reports of AIDS (Figure 1). The number of newly reported cases of HIV infection in 2025 was 331, representing a 9.3% decrease compared to 365 in 2024. In 2025, 86 new AIDS cases were reported. The most common AIDS-defining illnesses was *Pneumocystis pneumonia*, followed by tuberculosis.

Figure 1. Newly reported cases of HIV infection and AIDS (1984–2025)



## Most newly reported HIV cases were men, Chinese and young adults

The majority of newly reported cases in 2025 were men (77.9%) and Chinese (76.5%, excluding those with unknown ethnicity). More than two-thirds (68.9%) were between 20 and 49 years old (Figures 2 to 4).

Figure 2. Gender of newly reported HIV cases (2025)

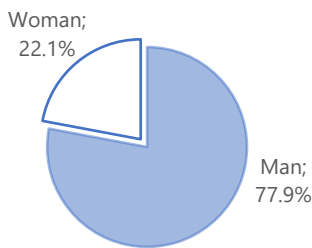


Figure 3. Ethnicity of newly reported HIV cases (2025)

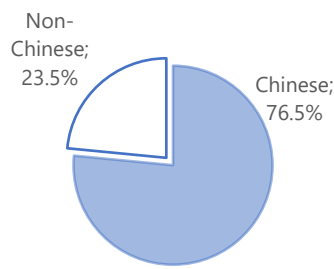
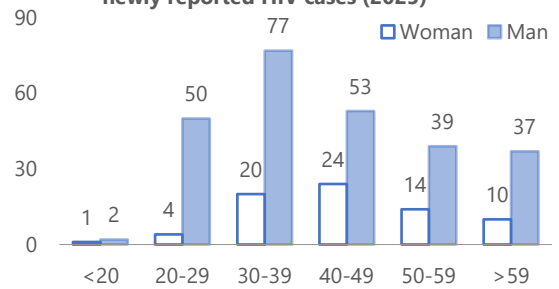


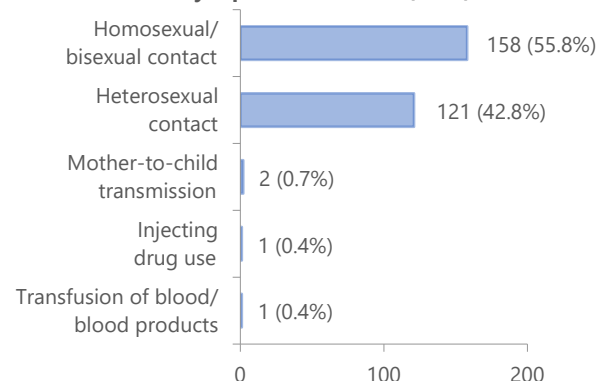
Figure 4. Age-gender distribution of newly reported HIV cases (2025)



## Sexual contact remained the major route of transmission for HIV

In 2025, sexual contact was associated with 98.6% of newly reported HIV cases with a reported route of transmission (homosexual/bisexual contact, 55.8%; heterosexual contact, 42.8%). Two cases acquired via mother-to-child transmission, one of which was outside Hong Kong. One case acquired the infection via injecting drug use, and one case acquired via receiving medical procedure outside Hong Kong (Figure 5). The routes of transmission of 48 cases were yet to be determined due to incomplete information.

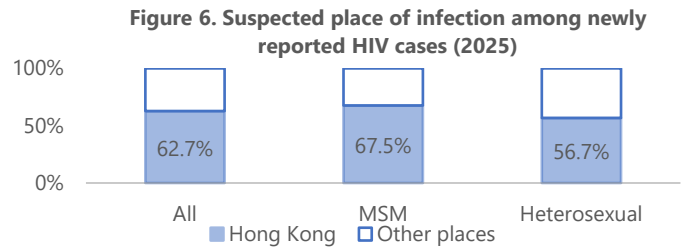
Figure 5. Route of transmission among newly reported HIV cases (2025)



Note: Cases without a known route of transmission were excluded. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

**Most newly reported HIV cases acquired the infection locally**

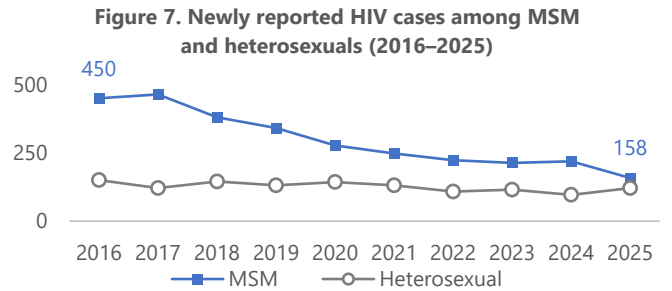
In 2025, almost two-thirds (62.7%) of newly reported HIV cases with an ascertained place of infection reported to have acquired the infection in Hong Kong. Nearly 70% of men who have sex with men (MSM) cases and nearly 60% of heterosexual cases acquired the infection in Hong Kong (Figure 6).



Note: Cases without a known place of infection were excluded.

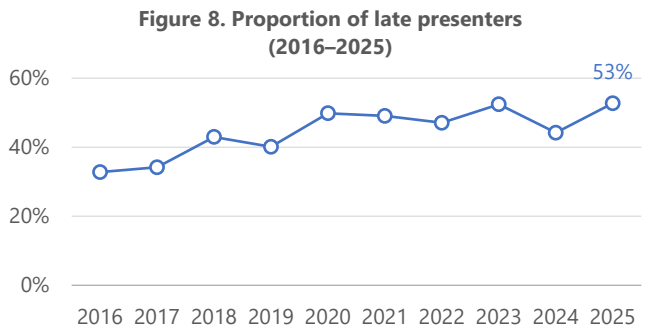
**Decreasing number of newly reported HIV cases among MSM**

The concentrated epidemic among MSM has been a main focus of HIV prevention efforts in the last decade. In 2025, the number of newly reported HIV cases among MSM has dropped to 158, representing a 66.5% reduction from the peak of 471 in 2015. Meanwhile, the number among heterosexuals has not shown any significant decline (Figure 7).



**Around half of the newly reported HIV cases were late presenters**

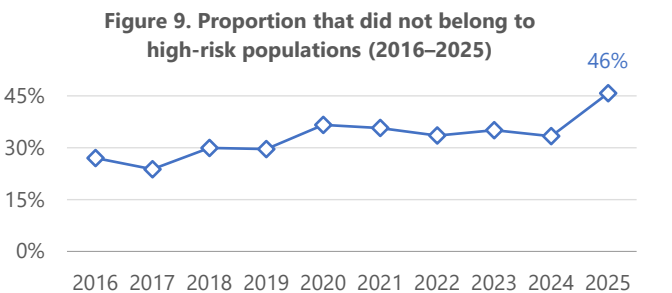
Late presenters refer to individuals whose CD4 cell count is less than 200 cells/mm<sup>3</sup> or who have progressed to AIDS at the time of HIV diagnosis. Late presentation leads to increased risk of opportunistic infections, death, and HIV transmission in the community. The proportion of late presenters has sustained at around 50% in recent years (Figure 8), indicating that many were not diagnosed and put on treatment at the early stage of infection.



Note: Cases with incomplete information were excluded.

**Nearly half of newly reported HIV cases did not belong to high-risk populations**

The proportion of newly reported HIV cases not belonging to high-risk populations (including MSM, sex workers, and people who inject drugs) has risen to 46% in 2025 (Figure 9). Among these cases, up to 60-70% were late presenters, and three fourths have never tested for HIV before the diagnosis of HIV infection, indicating that the general public may have overlooked the risk of HIV infection, leading to delayed testing and treatment.



Note: Cases with incomplete information were excluded.

- Over 98% of newly reported HIV cases acquired the infection via sexual contact.
- The latest “Recommendations on HIV Testing in Hong Kong” from the Scientific Committee on AIDS and STI advised that people who have had sex should get HIV testing at least once to keep track of their health status.

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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