

# HIV in Queensland

2013

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Published by the State of Queensland (Queensland Health), July 2014



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An electronic version of this document is available at

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/sexhealth/hp/data.asp>

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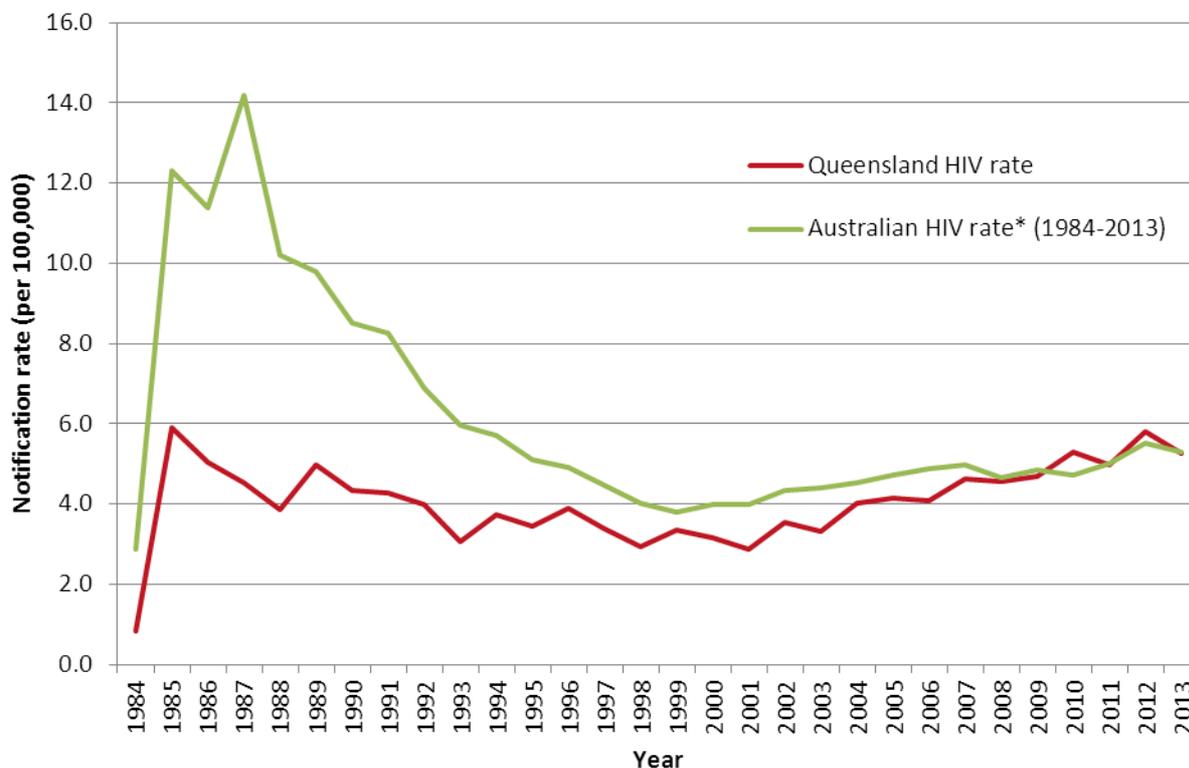
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# HIV in Queensland

The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) have been notifiable in Queensland, and Australia, since 1984. The statistics presented in this report are for the period 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013. The notification data were extracted from the Notifiable Conditions System (NOCS) of the Communicable Disease Unit, Department of Health on 02 July 2014.

**Please note that all numbers are provisional and subject to change as a result of ongoing case investigations.**

In 2013, there were 307 new notifications of HIV in Queensland with 181 being new diagnoses. The remaining 126 were previously diagnosed either overseas or in another Australian state or territory.



**Figure 1: Annual notification rates (per 100,000 population) for newly diagnosed HIV (includes those first diagnosed overseas) in Queensland and Australia, 01 January 1984 to 31 December 2013**

*\*Source: "HIV, Viral Hepatitis and Sexually Transmissible Infections in Australia: Annual Surveillance Report", Kirby Institute, University of NSW. 2013*

*Rates calculated using Population by Age and Sex, Regions of Australia [Released Aug 31, 2012] (Australian Bureau of Statistics cat. no. 3235.0)*

## New diagnoses of HIV

**Table 1: Number and rate per 100,000 population of new diagnoses of HIV in Queensland, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013\***

		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
New diagnoses in Queensland	rate	182 4.1	204 4.5	194 4.3	206 4.5	181 4.0
First diagnosed overseas	rate	26 0.6	36 0.8	29 0.7	55 1.2	59 1.3

\*Excluding those first diagnosed in another Australian state or territory

- There were 181 new diagnoses of HIV in Queensland in 2013, a 12 per cent decrease on the previous year, an eight per cent decrease on the previous four-year average.
- In 2013 there was a 62 per cent increase in the number of notifications of HIV initially diagnosed overseas and now resident in Queensland compared with the previous four-year average.

## HIV by sex, age-group and Indigenous status

**Table 2: Number and percentage of new HIV diagnoses in Queensland by sex, age-group and Indigenous status, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013.**

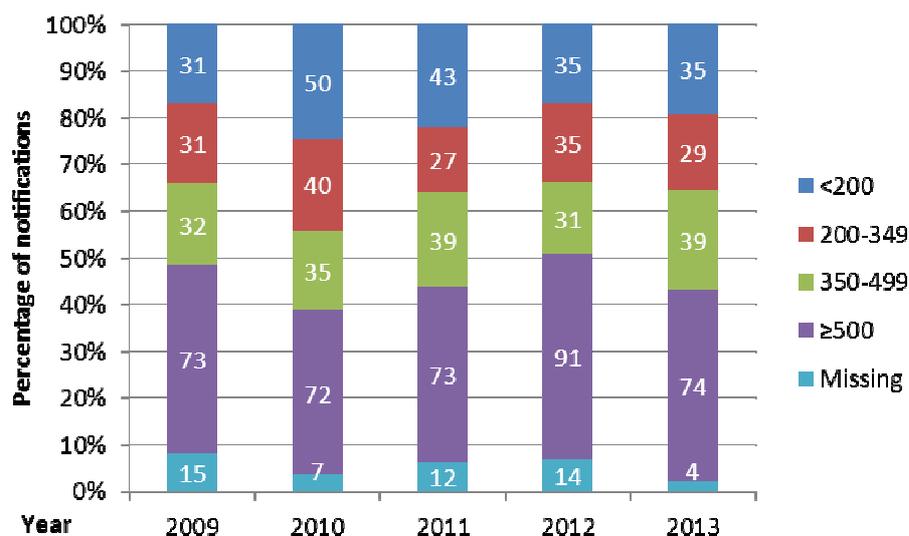
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2009-2012 <sup>^</sup>	2013
<b>Sex</b>							
Male	%	160 87.9	174 85.3	173 89.2	189 91.7	174 88.5	164 90.6
Female	%	22 12.1	30 14.7	21 10.8	17 8.3	22.5 11.5	17 9.4
<b>Age-group</b>							
00-09	%	1 0.5	0 0	1 0.5	0 0	0.5 0.3	2 1.1
10-19	%	3 1.6	7 3.4	7 3.6	1 0.5	4.5 2.3	5 2.8
20-29	%	45 24.7	51 25	46 23.7	66 32	52 26.5	43 23.8
30-39	%	58 31.9	62 30.4	52 26.8	55 26.7	56.8 28.9	45 24.9
40-49	%	41 22.5	54 26.5	52 26.8	37 18	46 23.4	44 24.3
50-59	%	29 15.9	19 9.3	26 13.4	28 13.6	25.5 13	23 12.7
60+	%	5 2.7	11 5.4	10 5.2	19 9.2	11.25 5.7	19 10.5
<b>Indigenous Status</b>							
Indigenous	%	7 3.8	7 3.4	8 4.1	15 7.3	9.25 4.7	9 5
Non-Indigenous	%	175 96.2	197 96.6	185 95.4	191 92.7	187 95.2	172 95
<b>Total</b>	%	<b>182</b> <b>100</b>	<b>204</b> <b>100</b>	<b>194</b> <b>100</b>	<b>206</b> <b>100</b>	<b>196.5</b> <b>100</b>	<b>181</b> <b>100</b>

\* Total includes one Indigenous status not-reported

<sup>^</sup> Four-year average 2009-2012

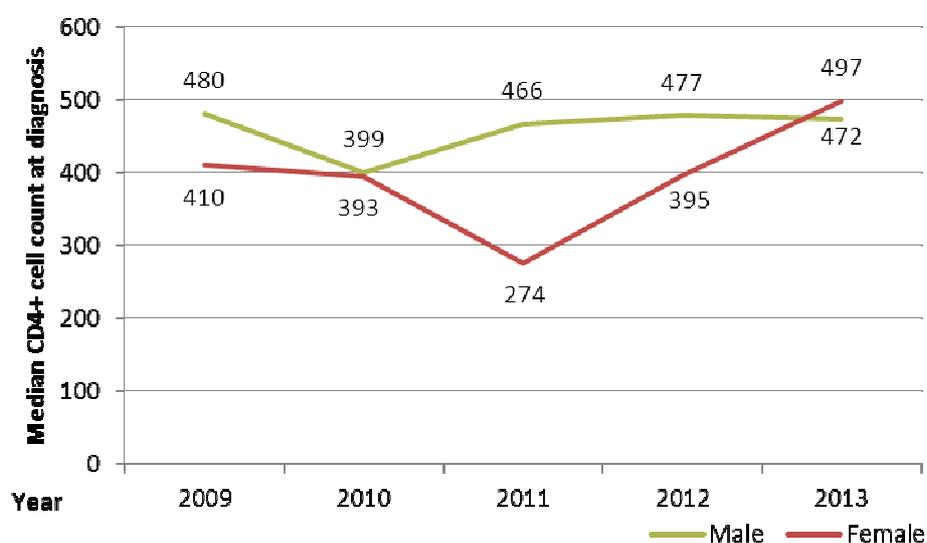
- Of the 181 new HIV diagnoses in 2013, 164 were men. Over 60 per cent of individuals with newly diagnosed HIV were aged 20 to 50 years.
- There was a decrease in the number of Indigenous notifications in 2013 (9) compared with 2012 (15).

## CD4+ cell count at diagnosis



**Figure 2: Percentage of new HIV notifications in Queensland by CD4+ cell count category at diagnosis, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013**

- There has been no change in the proportion of late diagnoses with one third of new Queensland HIV diagnoses in 2013 having a CD4+ count less than 350 cell/ $\mu$ L at diagnosis.



**Figure 3: Median CD4+ cell count at new diagnosis of HIV in Queensland, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013**

- There was a 21 per cent increase in the median CD4+ cell count in females in 2013 compared with 2009, while males have remained relatively stable in this reporting period.

## HIV by sex and risk exposure

**Table 3: Number and percentage of new HIV diagnoses in Queensland by sex and risk exposure, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013.**

		2009	2010	2011	2012	2009-2012 <sup>^</sup>	2013
<b>Males</b>	%	<b>160</b> <b>87.9</b>	<b>174</b> <b>85.3</b>	<b>173</b> <b>89.2</b>	<b>189</b> <b>91.7</b>	<b>174</b> <b>88.5</b>	<b>164</b> <b>90.6</b>
Men who have sex with men/bisexual	%	120 65.9	126 61.8	123 63.4	138 67	126.8 64.5	112 61.9
Men who have sex with men/bisexual and injecting drug use	%	7 3.8	6 2.9	15 7.7	13 6.3	10.25 5.2	13 7.2
Heterosexual	%	17 9.3	24 11.8	23 11.9	21 10.2	21.25 10.8	23 12.7
<i>Person/partner with origin from a high prevalence country<sup>#</sup></i>	%	15 8.2	22 10.8	15 7.7	16 7.8	17 8.7	18 9.9
<i>Partner with/at risk of infection<sup>‡</sup></i>	%	2 1.1	2 1	8 4.1	5 2.4	4.25 2.2	5 2.8
Injecting drug use <sup>*</sup>	%	7 3.8	5 2.5	3 1.5	4 1.9	4.75 2.4	1 0.6
Maternal	%	1 0.5	1 0.5	0 0	0 0	0.5 0.3	1 0.6
Not reported/unknown	%	8 4.4	12 5.9	9 4.6	13 6.3	10.5 5.3	14 7.7
<b>Females</b>	%	<b>22</b> <b>12.1</b>	<b>30</b> <b>14.7</b>	<b>21</b> <b>10.8</b>	<b>17</b> <b>8.3</b>	<b>22.5</b> <b>11.5</b>	<b>17</b> <b>9.4</b>
Heterosexual	%	19 10.4	26 12.7	18 9.3	15 7.3	19.5 9.9	14 7.7
<i>Partner with/at risk of infection<sup>‡</sup></i>	%	7 3.8	4 2	10 5.2	10 4.9	7.8 3.9	6 3.3
<i>Person/partner with origin from a high prevalence country<sup>#</sup></i>	%	12 6.6	22 10.8	8 4.1	5 2.4	11.8 6	8 4.4
Injecting drug use	%	1 0.5	2 1	1 0.5	0 0	1 0.5	0 0
Maternal	%	1 0.5	0 0	1 0.5	0 0	0.5 0.3	1 0.6
Not reported/unknown	%	1 0.5	2 1	1 0.5	2 1	1.5 0.8	2 1.1
<b>Total</b>	%	<b>182</b> <b>100</b>	<b>204</b> <b>100</b>	<b>194</b> <b>100</b>	<b>206</b> <b>100</b>	<b>196.5</b> <b>100</b>	<b>181</b> <b>100</b>

<sup>^</sup> Four-year average

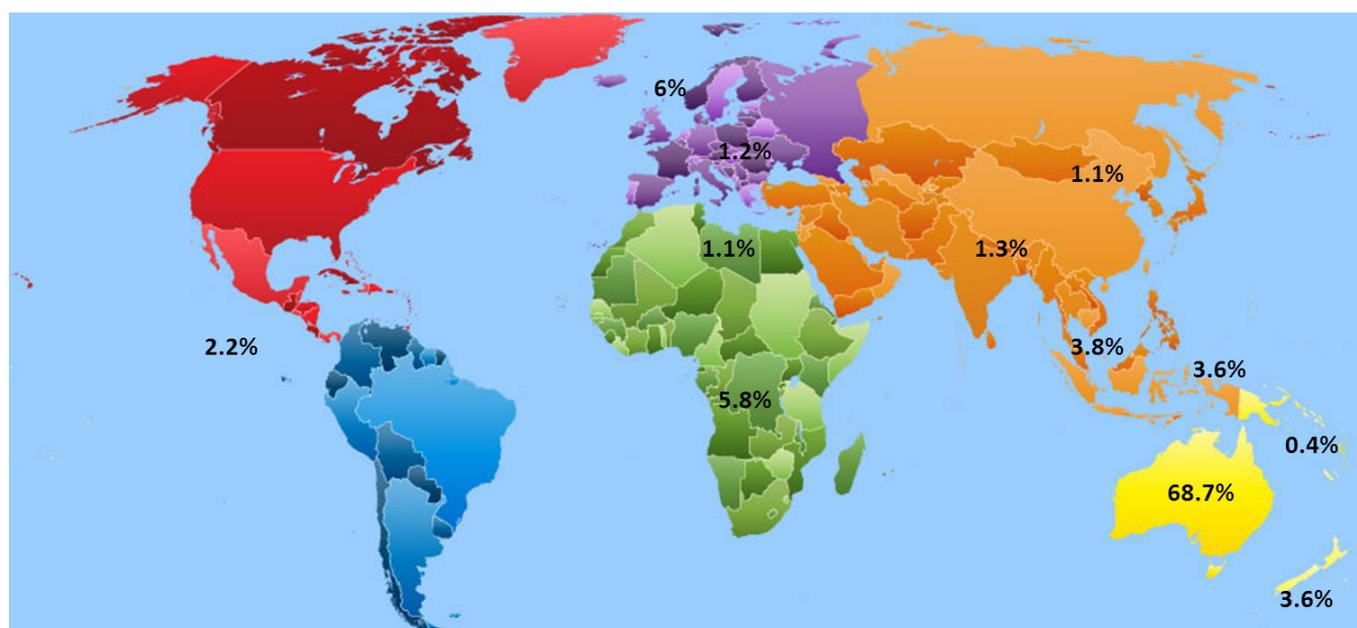
<sup>\*</sup> Excludes men who have sex with men

<sup>#</sup> High prevalence countries defined as those with an estimated number of adults aged 15 to 24 years living with HIV greater than 1 per cent. UNAIDS website <http://www.unaids.org/en/>

<sup>‡</sup> Partner with/at risk of infection includes; bisexual, injecting drug use, other not determined

- There was a 19 per cent decrease in the number of men who have sex with men/bisexual acquired infections notified in 2013 compared with 2012, representing a 12 per cent decrease on the previous four-year average. New diagnoses of HIV in females remained steady. However more reported being from, or having a partner from, a country of high HIV prevalence. This trend is similar to previous years.

## Region of Birth

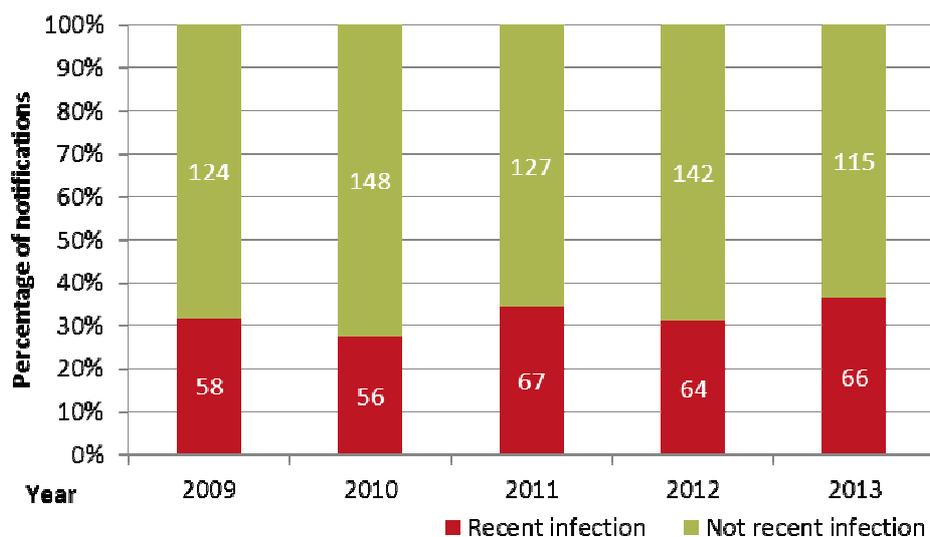


**Figure 4: Percentage of new Queensland HIV diagnoses by region of birth in the period 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013.** (Excludes 0.2% where country of birth was not stated, map accessed 15 July 2014, [www.tx.english-ch.com](http://www.tx.english-ch.com) )

- The majority of people diagnosed with HIV in Queensland from 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013 were born in Australia, with 6 per cent born in North-West Europe (eg., United Kingdom, France, Germany, Netherlands) and 5.8 per cent born in Sub-Saharan Africa (eg., Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe).

## Recently acquired infection

A recently acquired HIV infection is defined as having either a negative or indeterminate HIV antibody test in the previous 12 months or a clinically diagnosed primary HIV illness.



**Figure 5: Percentage of new HIV notifications in Queensland by recently acquired infection status, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013**

- In 2013, 66 (37 per cent) of all new HIV diagnoses were recently acquired infections, representing a slight increase on the 2012, in which 64 (31 per cent) of all new diagnoses were recently acquired infection.

**Table 4: Number and percentage of recently acquired HIV infection diagnoses in Queensland, by sex and risk factor, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013**

		2009	2010	2011	2012	2009-2012 <sup>^</sup>	2013
<b>Males</b>		<b>55</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>57.25</b>	<b>59</b>
	%	<b>94.8</b>	<b>92.9</b>	<b>92.5</b>	<b>93.8</b>	<b>93.5</b>	<b>89.4</b>
Men who have sex with men/bisexual	%	50	49	47	50	49	50
		86.2	87.5	70.1	78.1	80	75.8
Men who have sex with men/bisexual and injecting drug use	%	3	1	4	4	3	5
		5.2	1.8	6	6.3	4.9	7.6
Heterosexual	%	2	2	9	3	4	3
		3.4	3.6	13.4	4.7	6.5	4.5
<i>Partner from high prevalence country<sup>#</sup></i>	%	1	2	4	3	2.5	3
		1.7	3.6	6	4.7	4.1	4.5
<i>Partner with/at risk of infection<sup>‡</sup></i>	%	1	0	5	0	1.5	0
		1.7	0	7.5	0	2.4	0
Injecting drug use <sup>*</sup>	%	0	0	0	1	0.25	0
		0	0	0	1.6	0.4	0
Not reported/unknown	%	0	0	2	2	1	1
		0	0	3	3.1	1.6	1.5
<b>Females</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
	%	<b>5.2</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>10.6</b>
Heterosexual	%	3	3	5	4	3.8	6
		5.2	5.4	7.5	6.3	6.1	9.1
<i>Partner from high prevalence country<sup>#</sup></i>	%	1	3	0	1	1.25	2
		1.7	5.4	0	1.6	2	3
<i>Partner with/at risk of infection<sup>‡</sup></i>	%	2	0	5	3	2.5	4
		3.4	0	7.5	4.7	4.1	6.1
Injecting drug use	%	0	1	0	0	0.25	0
		0	1.8	0	0	0.4	0
Maternal	%	0	0	0	0	0	1
		0	0	0	0	0	1.5
<b>Total recently acquired infection</b>		<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>61.25</b>	<b>66</b>
	%	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>^</sup> Four-year average  
<sup>\*</sup> Excludes men who have sex with men  
<sup>#</sup> High prevalence countries defined as those with an estimated number of adults aged 15 to 24 years living with HIV greater than 1 per cent. UNAIDS website <http://www.unaids.org/en/>  
<sup>‡</sup>Partner with/at risk of infection includes; bisexual, injecting drug use, other not determined

- The overall proportion of recently acquired infections decreased in males in 2013 compared with 2012 (89.4 versus 93.8 per cent), while that of females increased (10.6 versus 6.3 per cent).
- Approximately three-quarters of the recently acquired infections in 2013 were in men who have sex with men or bisexual men.

## Hospital and health service at time of diagnosis

**Table 5: Number and rate (per 100,000 population) of new HIV diagnoses in Queensland by Hospital and Health Service (HHS) at diagnosis, 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2013**

		2009	2010	2011	2012	2009-2012 <sup>^</sup>	2013
Torres and Cape	Rate	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
North West	Rate	1 3.2	0 0	2 6.2	2 6.2	1.25 3.9	1 3.1
Cairns and Hinterland	Rate	16 6.6	18 7.3	12 5	20 8.3	16.5 6.8	15 6.2
Townsville	Rate	6 2.6	4 1.7	6 2.6	5 2.1	5.25 2.3	7 3
Mackay	Rate	3 1.7	1 0.6	3 1.8	4 2.3	2.75 1.6	3 1.7
Central West	Rate	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Central Queensland	Rate	5 2.3	8 3.7	3 1.4	2 0.9	4.5 2.1	6 2.8
Wide Bay	Rate	1 0.5	3 1.4	2 1	10 4.8	4 1.9	4 1.9
South West	Rate	3 11.4	0 0	1 3.8	0 0	1 3.8	0 0
Darling Downs	Rate	1 0.4	5 1.8	8 3	7 2.6	5.25 1.9	3 1.1
West Moreton	Rate	4 1.7	7 2.9	9 3.7	5 2	6.25 2.6	12 4.8
Sunshine Coast	Rate	7 1.9	13 3.4	6 1.7	8 2.2	8.5 2.3	3 0.8
Metro North	Rate	59 6.9	58 6.7	73 8.2	68 7.5	64.5 7.3	61 6.7
Metro South	Rate	59 5.9	65 6.4	43 4.2	51 4.8	54.5 5.3	47 4.5
Gold Coast	Rate	17 3.2	22 4.1	26 4.9	24 4.4	22.25 4.2	19 3.5
<b>Queensland</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>182 4.1</b>	<b>204 4.5</b>	<b>194 4.3</b>	<b>206 4.5</b>	<b>196.5 4.4</b>	<b>181 4</b>

<sup>^</sup> Four-year average

- Although there was a 25 per cent decrease in new HIV notifications in Cairns and Hinterland HHS in 2013 compared with 2012, this was a small decrease (nine per cent) compared with the previous four-year average.
- After a sharp increase in notifications of new HIV diagnoses in Wide Bay HHS in 2012, 2013 notifications have declined to the previous four-year average.
- Notifications in both Metro North HHS and Metro South HHS declined by 10 and 8 per cent respectively in 2013 compared with 2012. This was consistent with the overall decline in Queensland in 2013.

