



Total HIV diagnoses, Ireland, 2023 Data Tables

Health Protection Surveillance Centre

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Definition of total HIV diagnoses:

All HIV diagnoses in Ireland which have been notified to Public Health, regardless of previous testing status.

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Table 1: HIV diagnoses and notification rates¹ per 100,000 population, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	Number of diagnoses	Rate per 100,000 population
2012	339	7.4
2013	339	7.4
2014	377	7.9
2015	480	10.1
2016	499	10.5
2017	487	10.2
2018	518	10.9
2019	527	11.1
2020	438	8.5
2021	396	7.7
2022	879	17.1
2023	911	17.7

Table 2: HIV diagnoses and notification rates by gender², 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	Male		Female	
	N	Rate per 100,000	N	Rate per 100,000
2012	243	10.7	96	4.1
2013	255	11.2	84	3.6
2014	276	11.7	101	4.2
2015	367	15.6	113	4.7
2016	387	16.4	112	4.7
2017	372	15.8	115	4.8
2018	406	17.2	110	4.6
2019	392	16.6	134	5.6
2020	347	13.6	90	3.5
2021	307	12.1	87	3.3
2022	581	22.8	298	11.4
2023	594	23.3	317	12.2

¹ Population data were taken from: Census 2022 for the years 2020 to 2022; Census 2016 for years 2014 to 2016; and Census 2011 to years 2012 and 2013.

² Gender is based on gender identity where it is provided, otherwise sex at birth is used. Gender identity refers to a person's internal sense of themselves (how they feel inside) as being male, female, transgender, non-binary or something else. This may be different or the same as a person's assigned sex at birth. All data presented by the gender male includes cis male and trans male and data presented by the gender female includes cis female and trans female

Table 3: HIV notification rates by age group, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50+	Total
2012	6.5	18.3	19.8	16.9	11.3	8.6	2.5	7.4
2013	6.9	17.2	17.7	15.0	14.1	9.3	3.1	7.4
2014	7.6	29.6	22.4	15.7	11.2	8.6	2.2	7.9
2015	6.8	31.6	30.9	24.1	15.9	12.3	3.0	10.1
2016	6.8	29.6	29.8	27.7	16.2	15.0	3.3	10.5
2017	7.1	34.6	27.1	21.1	18.7	8.3	4.8	10.2
2018	6.6	32.6	33.2	21.1	14.8	17.5	4.8	10.9
2019	6.8	41.4	27.1	23.1	20.1	12.0	4.4	11.1
2020	4.0	24.7	32.8	20.9	11.2	9.9	3.9	8.5
2021	3.7	23.3	26.5	16.7	8.3	13.9	3.8	7.7
2022	8.2	40.6	62.6	39.2	34.7	24.1	6.4	17.1
2023	7.4	37.9	57.5	42.8	36.2	24.4	8.8	17.7

Table 4: HIV notification rates in males by age group, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50+	Total
2012	9.1	28.1	27.1	23.3	17.1	12.0	4.3	10.7
2013	9.1	28.7	26.0	21.7	21.9	14.1	5.5	11.2
2014	10.9	43.4	32.9	22.5	17.5	13.5	4.0	11.7
2015	9.6	48.9	49.7	35.1	25.9	21.5	4.9	15.6
2016	9.9	51.6	47.9	38.2	27.6	22.7	5.9	16.4
2017	11.6	60.6	42.7	28.8	24.2	13.5	8.0	15.8
2018	10.9	55.8	50.8	31.9	22.5	28.3	8.3	17.2
2019	10.6	64.7	46.2	31.9	27.6	16.6	7.0	16.6
2020	7.0	44.1	55.4	31.1	16.5	14.0	6.4	13.6
2021	7.0	41.4	43.0	24.0	12.5	19.4	6.0	12.1
2022	11.9	68.5	94.1	48.0	43.9	25.9	7.8	22.8
2023	8.8	63.8	92.2	56.2	38.4	23.2	11.7	23.3

Table 5: HIV notification rates in females by age group, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50+	Total
2012	3.9	9.2	12.7	10.5	5.5	5.3	0.8	4.1
2013	4.6	6.5	9.7	8.3	6.2	4.6	0.9	3.6
2014	4.2	16.4	12.7	9.1	5.0	3.7	0.5	4.2
2015	3.9	15.1	13.8	13.6	6.1	3.1	1.2	4.7
2016	3.5	8.5	13.2	17.6	5.0	7.3	0.9	4.7
2017	2.5	9.9	12.7	13.6	13.3	3.1	1.7	4.8
2018	1.8	10.5	16.4	10.6	7.2	6.7	1.6	4.6
2019	2.8	19.1	9.5	14.6	12.2	7.3	2.0	5.6
2020	0.9	5.4	11.6	11.5	6.2	5.3	1.5	3.5
2021	0.3	5.4	10.5	10.0	3.8	8.5	1.8	3.3
2022	4.4	12.8	33.2	31.1	26.1	22.3	5.0	11.4
2023	6.0	12.1	25.0	30.6	34.1	25.5	6.1	12.2

Table 6: HIV notification rates by HSE Health Region and year, 2019 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	HSEDNE	HSEDM	HSEDSE	HSESW	HSEMW	HSEWNW	Total
2019	16.4	15.6	6.7	5.0	5.8	5.0	11.1
2020	14.1	10.4	7.3	4.7	4.8	4.3	8.5
2021	11.0	13.4	5.8	3.6	3.6	3.0	7.7
2022	22.9	21.8	14.8	11.9	12.6	11.6	17.1
2023	23.9	22.0	14.9	13.0	14.5	11.7	17.7

Table 7: HIV diagnoses by probable route of transmission and year, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	gbMSM ³	Heterosexual males	Heterosexual females	PWID ⁴	Unk/other	Total
2012	166	85	46	17	25	339
2013	159	67	64	21	28	339
2014	184	74	54	28	37	377
2015	246	81	50	50	53	480
2016	273	83	60	20	63	499
2017	262	102	65	18	40	487
2018	294	96	70	14	44	518
2019	264	105	60	19	79	527
2020	220	62	41	11	104	438
2021	186	55	34	8	113	396
2022	362	221	95	38	163	879
2023	309	225	133	30	214	911

Table 8: HIV diagnoses by region of origin and year, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	Ireland	Sub Saharan Africa	Latin America & Caribbean	Eastern Europe	Central Europe	Western Europe	South and South East Asia	Other	Unk	Total
2012	131	90	25	10	13	21	9	5	35	339
2013	146	74	37	18	15	15	7	8	19	339
2014	140	83	45	13	23	22	14	6	31	377
2015	150	96	90	11	29	26	12	10	56	480
2016	135	112	111	11	33	33	7	12	45	499
2017	131	114	101	16	22	37	15	11	40	487
2018	116	127	137	17	20	43	17	15	26	518
2019	100	148	127	18	21	25	20	9	59	527
2020	74	81	117	11	10	31	12	10	92	438
2021	77	69	60	10	20	26	27	7	100	396
2022	94	207	226	155	32	24	18	14	109	879
2023	74	291	176	106	36	23	29	14	162	911

Table 9: HIV diagnoses by history of previous HIV diagnosis and year, 2012 to 2023 (total diagnoses)

	First-time diagnoses	Previously positive	Unknown	Total
2012	198	61	80	339
2013	215	54	70	339
2014	219	67	91	377
2015	252	125	103	480
2016	239	187	73	499
2017	217	198	72	487
2018	233	219	66	518
2019	190	231	106	527
2020	123	191	124	438
2021	127	137	132	396
2022	169	557	153	879
2023	173	553	185	911

³ gbMSM: Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men

⁴ PWID: People who inject drugs

Table 10: Summary of HIV diagnoses in Ireland by history of previous HIV diagnosis, 2023 (total diagnoses)

		First-time diagnoses	Previously positive	Unknown
Total number of diagnoses		173	553	185
Gender	Males	119	353	122
	Females	54	200	63
	Male to female ratio	2.2	1.8	1.9
Age	Median age of adult cases (years)	39	37	39.5
	Age range of adult cases (years)	21-80	19-66	20-68
	Young people 15-24 years	13	26	9
	Older people (50+)	37	74	38
Probable route of transmission	gbMSM	69	229	11
	Heterosexual	87	262	9
	PWID	5	22	3
	Vertical transmission	2	13	1
	Other	2	4	1
	Unknown	8	23	160
Region of birth	Ireland	42	20	12
	Sub Saharan Africa	60	221	10
	Latin America and Caribbean	21	151	4
	Eastern Europe	19	83	4
	Central Europe	13	21	2
	Western Europe	5	15	3
	South and South East Asia	5	23	1
	Other	3	11	0
HSE Health Region	Unknown	5	8	149
	HSEDNE	44	151	89
	HSEDM	52	141	44
	HSEDSE	30	87	28
	HSESW	17	72	7
	HSEMW	9	44	7
Co-infections (at time of HIV diagnosis)	HSEWNW	21	58	10
	Acute STI (%)	22	58	1
	Hepatitis B (%)	10	14	4
	Hepatitis C (%)	8	20	1
	TB (%)	3	22	0

Table 11: Completeness of HIV data, 2019 to 2023

		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage of HIV notifications with a completed enhanced surveillance form		82.4	76.5	68.9	84.0	83.2
Key variable response rate	Gender	99.8	99.8	99.5	100.0	100.0
	Age group	100.0	99.8	100.0	99.9	100.0
	Probable route of transmission	86.0	77.2	73.2	84.2	79.0
	Region of birth	88.8	79.0	74.7	87.6	82.2
	Previous history	79.9	71.7	66.7	82.6	79.7
	CD4 count	69.1	67.4	60.6	76.5	75.2

Table 12: Total number of HIV tests performed in 12 laboratories⁵ in Ireland, 2019 to 2023

	Total number of HIV tests performed	Testing rate ⁶ per 100,000 population
2019	247,490	52.0
2020	206,394	40.1
2021	224,194	43.5
2022	243,870	47.4
2023	260,355	50.6

⁵ Laboratories which provide HIV testing data: Bon Secours, Cork; Eurofins Biomnis; Galway Clinic; University Hospital Limerick; Mercy University Hospital; National Virus Reference Laboratory; Rotunda Hospital; Sligo University Hospital; St. James’s Hospital; University Hospital Galway; University Hospital Waterford; Cork University Hospital.

⁶ Population data were taken from Census 2022 for the years 2020 to 2023 and Census 2016 for 2019.

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Technical Notes

HIV notifications

- Non-identifiable HIV data were extracted from the Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system on 01.10.2024 and were correct at the time of publication.
- The HIV surveillance system captures new diagnoses of HIV which have been reported to Public Health on CIDR and therefore does not capture new infections (cannot measure incidence)
- Data in this slide set are analysed by date of notification on CIDR
- Unless otherwise stated, data are presented by gender. Gender is based on gender identity where it is provided, otherwise sex at birth is used. Gender identity refers to a person's internal sense of themselves (how they feel inside) as being male, female, transgender, non-binary or something else. This may be different or the same as a person's assigned sex at birth. All data presented by the gender male includes cis male and trans male and data presented by the gender female includes cis female and trans female

Population data and rates

- Unless otherwise stated, population data were taken from Census 2011 for 2012-2013, Census 2016 for 2014-2019 and Census 2022 for 2020 to 2023 (www.cso.ie)
- Population data on migration taken from Census from [here](#)
- When rates by gender are reported, the numerator is gender identity as recorded on CIDR and the denominator is population data from the Census by sex (at birth)

Enhanced data

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, rates of HIV dropped in 2020 and 2021. This reduction in notifications was likely attributed to a number of factors including long periods of national lockdown, social and physical distancing measures, reduced sexual health and GP services and reduced testing opportunities. The pandemic also impacted the collection and reporting of enhanced data variables (e.g. probable route of transmission, country of birth, previous testing history) for HIV notifications in 2020 and 2021.
- The collection and review of enhanced data is an ongoing process and the receipt of new information could impact the data at some point in the future. Previous testing history remains unknown for a number of people and as some of these people could be first-time diagnoses numbers could change in future reports.

The following definitions were used to classify the stage of HIV infection:

- Late-stage HIV infection: CD4 cell count <350 cells/µl or an AIDS defining illness at diagnosis, and no evidence of recent infection*
- Established HIV infection: CD4 cell count >350 cells/µl, no AIDS defining illness at diagnosis, and no evidence of recent infection*
- Recent HIV infection: Evidence of recent infection*

*P24 antigen positive at time of diagnosis; negative test in same or preceding year; evidence of seroconversion illness at time of diagnosis

Counties/districts covered by each HSE Health Region are as follows:

- HSE Dublin and Northeast (HSEDNE): Dublin North Central, North West Dublin, North Dublin, Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan; HSE Dublin and Midlands (HSEDM): Dublin South City, Dublin South West, Dublin West, Kildare, Wicklow (West), Laois, Offaly, Longford, Westmeath; HSE Dublin and Southeast (HSEDSE): Dublin (South East), Dun Laoghaire, Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow (East); HSE Southwest (HSESW): Cork, Kerry; HSE Midwest (HSEMW): Limerick, Clare, North Tipperary; HSE West and Northwest (HSEWNW): Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim

Additional Resources

The following resources are also available:

- Case definition <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/hivandaids/casedefinitions/>
- Enhanced surveillance forms <https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/hivandaids/surveillancedocuments/>
- Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthwellbeing/our-priority-programmes/sexual-health/>
- Man2Man <https://man2man.ie/>