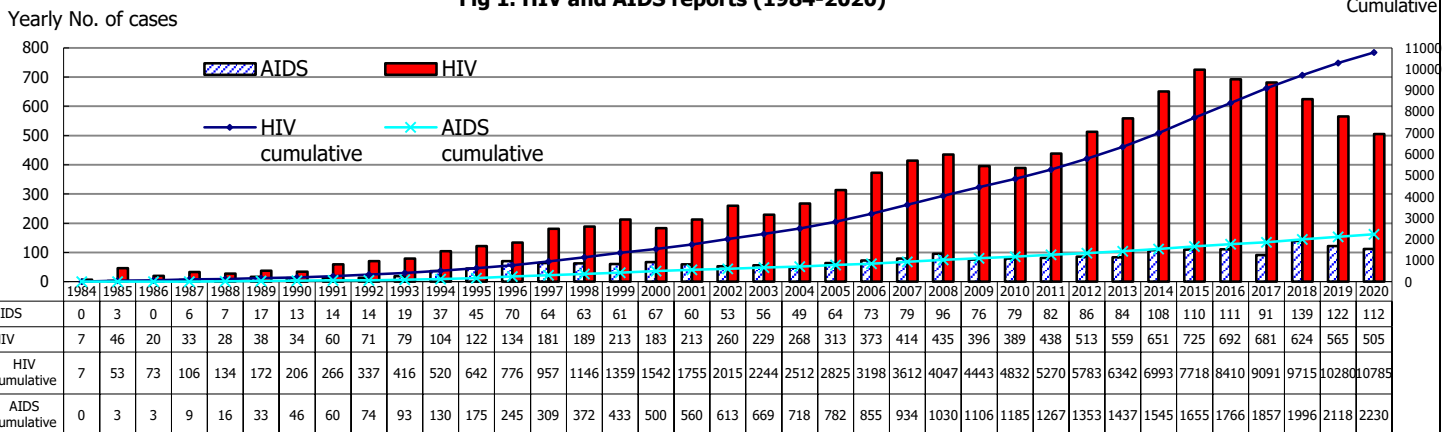


HIV/AIDS Situation in Hong Kong [2020]

Number of annual reported cases remained high in 2020

The first case of HIV infection in Hong Kong was reported in 1984. As of 2020, the Department of Health has received a cumulative total of 10,785 reports of HIV infection and 2,230 AIDS cases under the voluntary and anonymous HIV/AIDS reporting system (Fig 1). The number of HIV reports in 2020 was 505, 10.6% decrease compared to the 565 cases in 2019. People infected with HIV progress to AIDS when they suffer from clinical complications of severe immunodeficiency due to HIV. In 2020, 112 AIDS reports were received. The most common illnesses presenting at AIDS were *Pneumocystis pneumonia* and tuberculosis.

Fig 1. HIV and AIDS reports (1984-2020)



*AIDS cases are included in the HIV cases

Most infections were in young adult, male and Chinese

A majority of the HIV reports in 2020 are male (83%) and Chinese (70%). Most (76%) infected people were diagnosed at the age between 20 and 49 (Fig 2-4).

Fig 2. HIV reports by gender (2020)

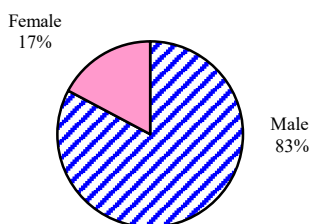


Fig 3. HIV reports by ethnicity (2020)

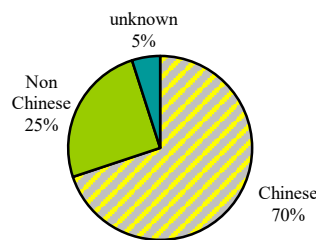
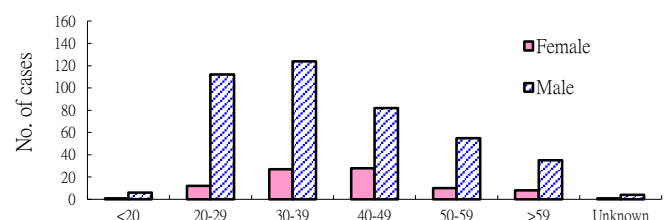


Fig 4. HIV reports by gender and age (2020)

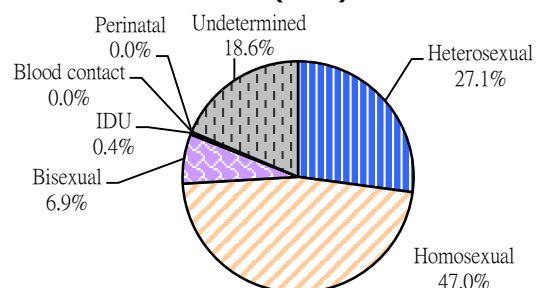


Sexual contact remained the major route of transmission for HIV

Sexual contact contributed to 81% of all reported HIV cases in 2020 (homosexual 47.0%, heterosexual 27.1%, bisexual 6.9%). (Fig 5). There were 2 cases of infection via injecting drug use (IDU) and no case was reported to have been transmitted via blood contact or perinatal route in 2020. 18.6% of cases in 2020 did not have risk factor ascertained due to inadequate information.

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

Fig 5. Suspected route of HIV transmission (2020)



Most of the cases were infected locally

In 2020, nearly half (49%) of reported cases were assessed to have contracted the virus in Hong Kong, 12% in Mainland China and 12% in other places respectively. 27% did not have the place of infection ascertained due to inadequate information (Fig 6). In 2020, a majority of MSM cases (70%) contracted the virus in Hong Kong (Fig 7) as compared to nearly half (45%) of heterosexual male cases. (Fig 8).

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

Fig 6. Suspected place of infection (2020)

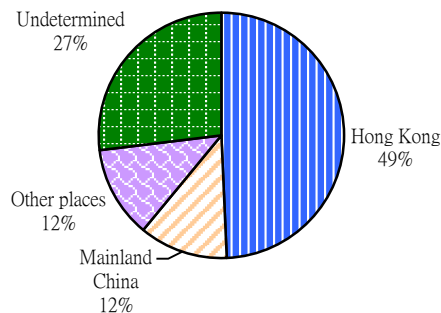


Fig 7. Suspected place of infection among MSM cases (2020)

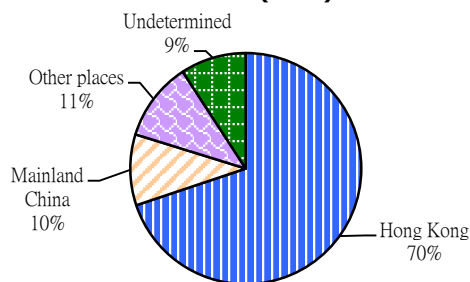
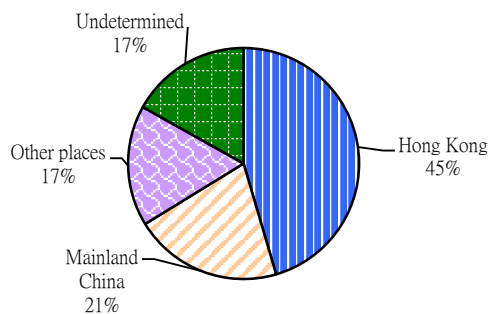


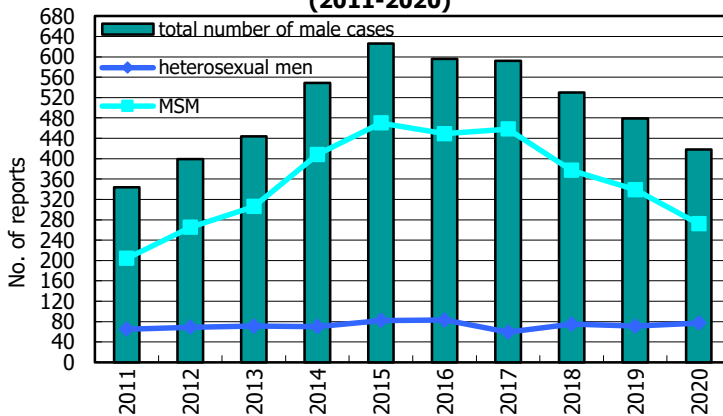
Fig 8. Suspected place of infection Heterosexual male cases (2020)



Concentrated epidemic among men who have sex with men (MSM) warrants our sustained attention

A continuously rising trend of HIV infection among MSM was observed since 2004, which then persistently predominated a high proportion of new infections. The number was 272 in 2020. In 2020, homosexual and bisexual contacts as route of transmission contributed to 54% of all HIV reported cases and 65% in all male cases in 2020. The number of HIV reports from MSM has been persistently higher than that from heterosexual men since 2005, and the trend has remained in the past few years, although the number of MSM cases also declined recently (Fig 9). Meanwhile, the number of heterosexual male cases remained stable in past few years (an average of 73 cases per year in 2016-2020).

Fig 9. HIV reports in heterosexual men and MSM (2011-2020)



In 2020:

- One in every 6,136 new blood donors was tested HIV positive
- One in every 6,810 pregnant women attending public antenatal services was tested HIV positive
- One in every 227 attendees in STD clinics was tested HIV positive
- One in every 94 users in methadone clinics was tested HIV positive

Other publications on HIV/AIDS situation in Hong Kong, such as *Annual HIV Surveillance Report*, *Quarterly STD/AIDS Update* are available at <http://www.aids.gov.hk>

FACTSHEET on HIV/AIDS Situation in Hong Kong [2020]
 Special Preventive Programme
 Centre for Health Protection, Department of Health
 Telephone: 3143 7225 Fax: 2780 9580
 Website: <http://www.aids.gov.hk> Email: aids@dh.gov.hk

June 2021