

2017 HIV Surveillance Fact Sheet

An estimated **5,287*** persons were living with HIV (PLHIV) in The Bahamas at the end of 2017, accounting for **1.3%** of the population. Between 1985 and 2017, 5,294 people in The Bahamas also died of AIDS-related illnesses.

In 2017, 151 persons were diagnosed with HIV in The Bahamas. Twenty-two percent of these cases had progressed to AIDS by the end of 2017. Male new diagnoses exceeded female diagnoses (60% vs. 40%), and persons aged 30-39 accounted for the largest age group of new diagnoses (28%). The majority of cases resided in New Providence (81%), and 70% were Bahamian nationals. One case of mother-to-child transmission was reported in 2017 and 92 persons died of AIDS-related causes. Fifteen cases of HIV/TB co-infection were also reported in 2017.

**Surveillance methods to determine prevalence were replaced with statistical modelling for 2017.*

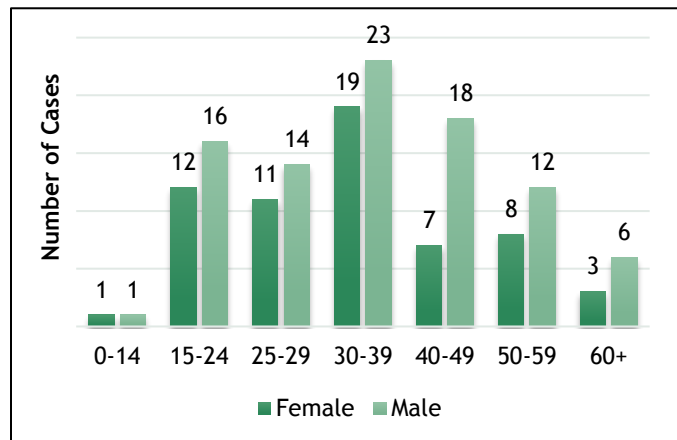
QUICK FACTS FOR 2017

- **5,287** persons estimated living with HIV in The Bahamas
 - 1.3% of total population
 - 2,894 males
 - 2,392 females
- **5,294** AIDS deaths since 1985
 - 92 AIDS deaths in 2017
- **151** new diagnoses
- **1** case of mother-to-child transmission
- **15** HIV/TB co-infections

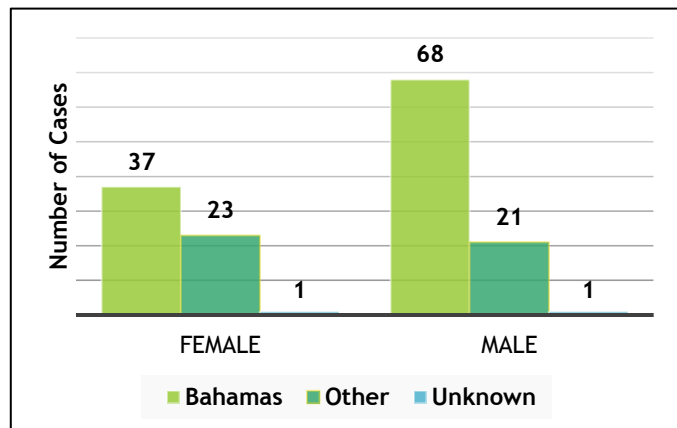
New HIV Diagnoses by Demographic Category, The Bahamas, 2017

	n	%
Sex	Male	60%
	Female	40%
Age Group	<1	<1%
	1-14	<1%
	15-24	18%
	25-29	16%
	30-39	28%
	40-49	17%
	50-59	13%
	60+	6%
Island of Residence	New Providence	81%
	Grand Bahama	15%
	Abaco	<1%
	Andros	<1%
	Eleuthera	<1%
	Exuma	<1%
	Long Island	<1%
Nationality	Bahamian	70%
	Other	29%
	Unknown	1%
AIDS Stage	HIV Only	78%
	AIDS Cases	22%
Vital Status	Alive	91%
	Deceased	9%
Total	151	100%

New HIV Diagnoses by Sex and Age Group, The Bahamas, 2017



New HIV Diagnoses by Sex and Nationality, The Bahamas, 2017



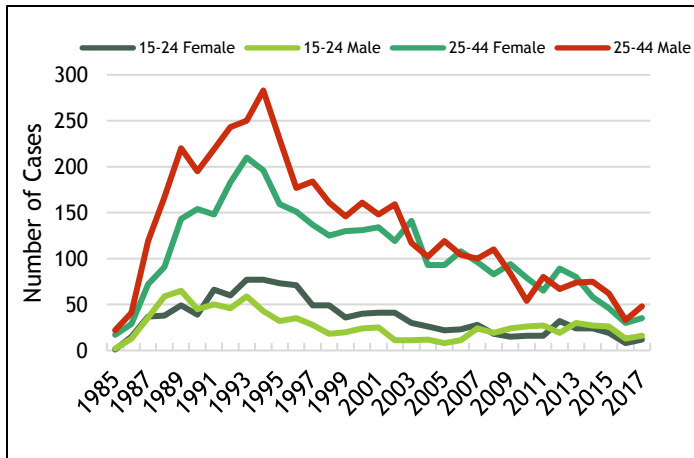
DID YOU KNOW?

- The first case of AIDS in The Bahamas was reported in 1983 and confirmed as HIV in 1985.
- Over 2,900 PLHIV received treatment through the NAC in 2017.

New Diagnoses

The annual number of newly diagnosed HIV positive cases decreased overall by 55% from 335 in 2008 to 151 in 2017, with fluctuations from year to year. A decrease of 81% was also observed between the peak of newly reported diagnoses in 1994 (n=792) and 2017. New HIV diagnoses decreased among all demographic groups between 2008 and 2017.

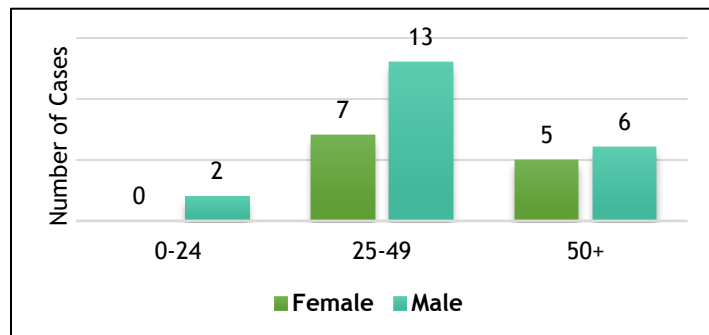
New Diagnoses by Sex and Age Group, The Bahamas, 2000-2017



Late Testers

Twenty-two percent of persons who tested positive for HIV in 2017 received a diagnosis of AIDS by the end of 2017 (n=33). The majority of these "late testers" were male (64%), 25-49 years old (61%), and Bahamian nationals (67%). Eight late testing AIDS cases also died in 2017.

Late HIV Diagnoses by Gender and Age Group, The Bahamas, 2017 (n=33)



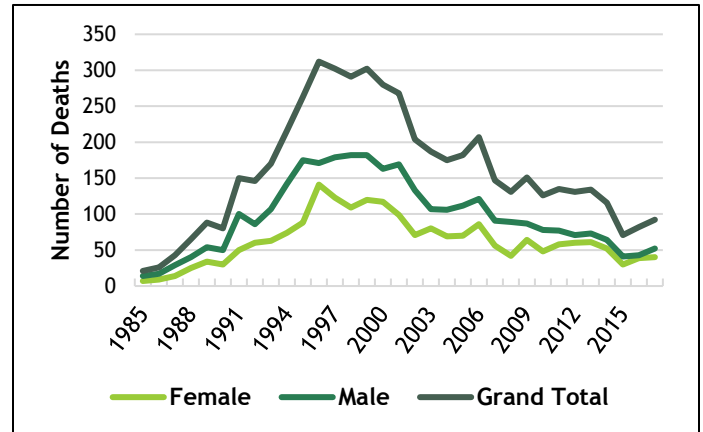
For more information on HIV and AIDS in The Bahamas, contact...

- The National HIV/AIDS Programme, Bahamas Ministry of Health (323-5968)
- Health Information and Research Unit, Bahamas Ministry of Health (502-4700)

AIDS Deaths

Between 1985 and 2017, 5,264 persons died of AIDS-related causes in The Bahamas, with 1,169 dying between 2008 and 2017. There was an average of 117 deaths per year between 2008 and 2017. The age-adjusted death rate decreased from 43 to 23 deaths per 100,000 persons in this time period. The number of AIDS deaths decreased by 52% since the peak of 312 in 1985 and by 31% since 2008. The majority of the 92 identified AIDS deaths in 2017 occurred in males (57%) and 40-49 year olds (30%).

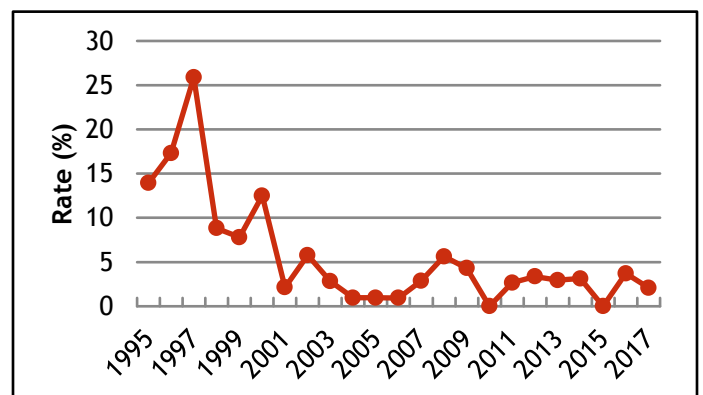
AIDS Deaths by Sex, The Bahamas, 2000-2017



Mother-to-Child Transmission

No cases of mother-to-child transmission were reported among women who received antenatal care in 2017. There was one case of mother-to-child transmission which occurred among the 51 infants born to HIV positive mothers in 2017. The rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission in The Bahamas decreased from 5.6% in 2008 to 2.0% in 2017.

Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission Rates, The Bahamas, 1995-2017



Did you know?

HIV testing, treatment and pre-exposure prophylaxis is free of cost to all PLHIV or persons at risk of HIV through the National HIV/AIDS Centre.