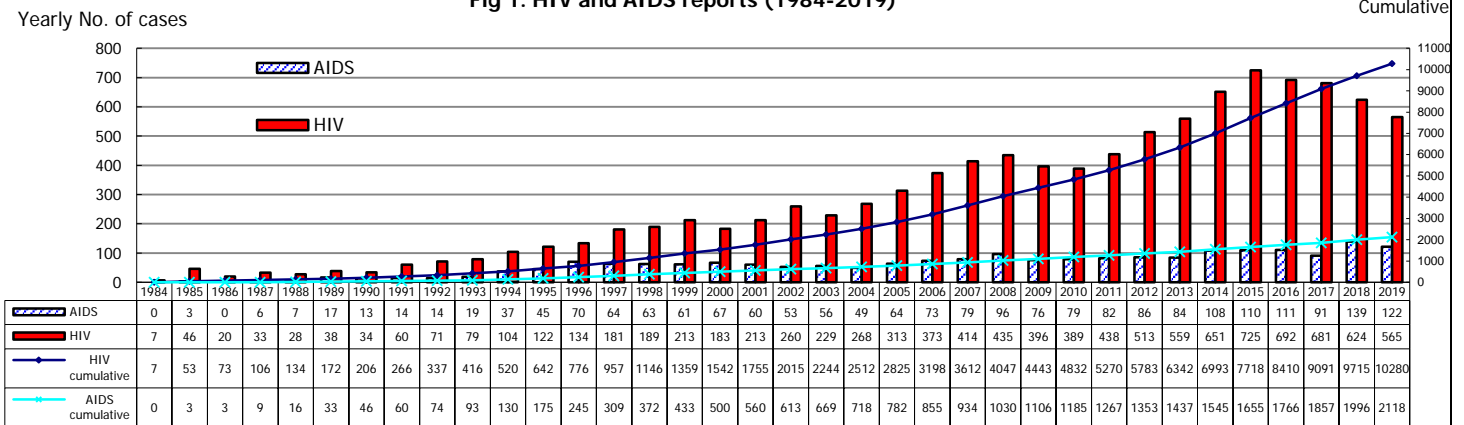


HIV/AIDS Situation in Hong Kong [2019]

Number of annual reported cases remained high in 2019

The first case of HIV infection in Hong Kong was reported in 1984. As of 2019, the Department of Health has received a cumulative total of 10,280 reports of HIV infection and 2,118 AIDS cases under the voluntary and anonymous HIV/AIDS reporting system (Fig. 1). The number of HIV reports in 2019 was 565, 9.5% decrease compared to the 624 cases in 2018. People infected with HIV progress to AIDS when they suffer from clinical complications of severe immunodeficiency due to HIV. In 2019, 122 AIDS reports were received. The most common illnesses presenting at AIDS were *Pneumocystis pneumonia* and tuberculosis.

Fig 1. HIV and AIDS reports (1984-2019)



*AIDS cases are included in the HIV cases

Most infections were in young adult, male and Chinese

A majority of the HIV reports in 2019 are male (85%) and Chinese (74%). Most (75%) infected people were diagnosed at the age between 20 and 49 (Fig.2-4).

Fig 2. HIV reports by gender (2019)

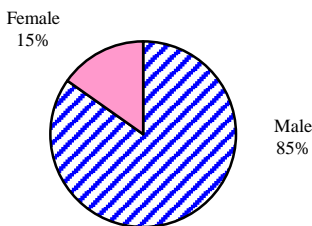


Fig 3. HIV reports by ethnicity (2019)

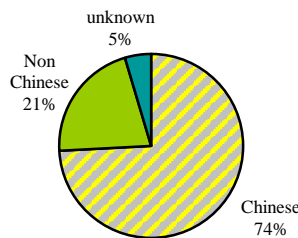
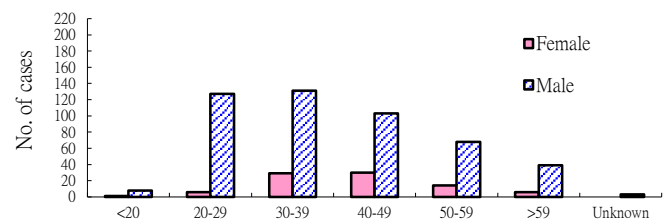


Fig 4. HIV reports by gender and age (2019)

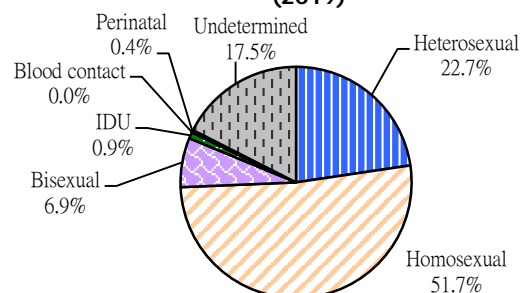


Sexual contact remained the major route of transmission for HIV

Sexual contact contributed to 81% of all reported HIV cases in 2019 (homosexual 51.7%, heterosexual 22.7%, bisexual 6.9%). (Fig 5). There were 5 cases of infection via injecting drug use (IDU) and 2 via perinatal transmission reported in 2019. 17.5% of cases in 2019 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 (2019)



Most of the cases were infected locally

In 2019, over half (60%) of reported cases were assessed to have contracted the virus in Hong Kong, 10% in Mainland China and 8% in other places respectively. 22% did not have the place of infection ascertained due to inadequate information (Figure 6). In 2019, a majority of MSM cases (79%) contracted the virus in Hong Kong (Fig 7) as compared to just half (50%) of heterosexual male cases. (Fig 8).

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

Fig 6. Suspected place of infection (2019)

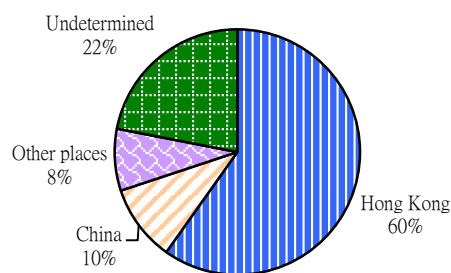


Fig 7. Suspected place of infection among MSM cases (2019)

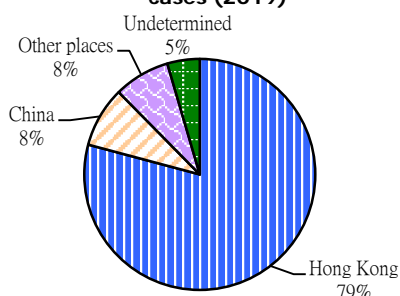
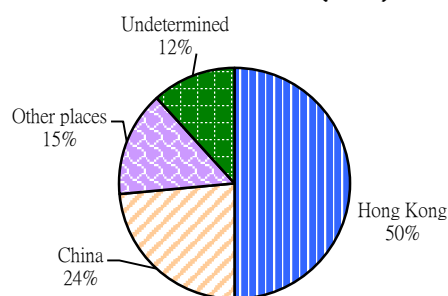


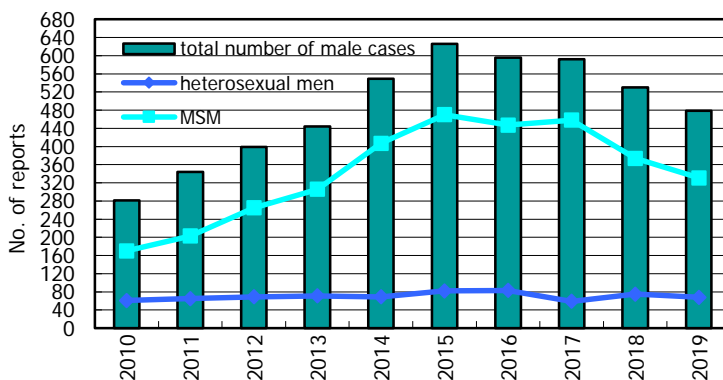
Fig 8. Suspected place of infection Heterosexual male cases (2019)



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 331 in 2019. In 2019, homosexual and bisexual contacts as route of transmission contributed to 59% of all HIV reported cases and 69% in all male cases in 2019. 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 (Fig. 9). Meanwhile, the proportion of heterosexual male cases were similar in past few years (14% of all male cases in 2019).

Fig 9. HIV reports in heterosexual men and MSM (2010-2019)



In 2019:

- One in every 29,342 new blood donors was tested HIV positive
- One in every 10,668 pregnant women attending public antenatal services was tested HIV positive
- One in every 259 attendees in STD clinics was tested HIV positive
- One in every 100 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 [2019]
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