

KEY FACTS ON HIV EPIDEMIC IN GREECE AND PROGRESS IN 2011

(pop. 11 290 067)

By the end of 2011, Greece had reported a cumulative total of 11 499 HIV cases, 3 254 AIDS cases and 1 713 deaths among AIDS cases to the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). For the year 2011, 837 new HIV cases, 83 new AIDS cases and 47 deaths among AIDS cases were reported. The rate of newly diagnosed HIV infections in 2011 was 7.4 per 100 000 population. The majority (85%) of new HIV cases were male. Among the newly diagnosed HIV infections with known transmission mode (80%), 42.3% were transmitted through sex between men, 20.5% through heterosexual contact, 36.4% through injecting drug use and 0.6% through mother-to-child transmission. The percentage of infections transmitted through injecting drug use sharply increased in 2011 due to an HIV outbreak among injecting drug users. A cumulative total of 61 mother-to-child transmission cases have been reported in Greece, including 4 in 2011.

Taking undiagnosed infections into account, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and WHO estimate that 11 000 (9 500 – 13 000) people were living with HIV in Greece in 2011 and that less than 200 people died from AIDS-related causes during 2011.

Every person in the country has access to free, anonymous/confidential voluntary testing. Pregnant women are usually tested for all STIs including HIV. HIV case reporting was implemented in Greece in 1998 and is anonymous, confidential and mandatory by law. In 2009, 2 083 HIV tests were performed in Greece.

The number of people receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) increased from 3 058 in 2004 to approximately 5 600 by December 2011.

Sources:

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