

## KEY FACTS ON HIV EPIDEMIC IN FINLAND AND PROGRESS IN 2011

(pop. 5 401 267)

By the end of 2011, Finland had reported a cumulative total of 2 951 HIV cases, 583 AIDS cases and 303 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, 178 new HIV cases, 25 new AIDS cases and 5 deaths among AIDS cases were reported. The rate of newly diagnosed HIV infections in 2011 was 3.3 per 100 000 population. Of the newly reported infections with information about transmission mode in 2011 (78%), 64.7% were infected through heterosexual contact, 26.6% through sex between men, 5.8% through injecting drug use and 0.7% through mother-to-child transmission. The majority (66%) of newly diagnosed cases were male. In total, 19 mother-to-child transmission cases have been reported in Finland, including 1 in 2011.

Taking undiagnosed infections into account, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and WHO estimate that 2 900 (2 500 – 3 500) people were living with HIV in Finland in 2011 and that less than 100 people died from AIDS-related causes during 2011.

More than 300 facilities in Finland provide HIV testing and counselling free of charge. In 2010 185 114 HIV tests were performed in the country. According to national HIV testing policies, testing of pregnant women is done systematically as a screening programme but on an opt-out basis. Additionally, all blood and organ donors are required to be tested for HIV at every donation. Voluntary HIV testing is recommended for refugees and asylum seekers. The proportion of late diagnosis is high. In recent years around half of the infections were diagnosed with CD4 < 350.

HIV treatment and care is provided by regional health districts as part of specialised medical care in central hospitals and university hospitals. The most recent reported number of people on antiretroviral therapy (ART) is 450 in 2006.

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