

Headline	211 new HIV cases in Sarawak for first 11 months		
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211 new HIV cases in Sarawak for first 11 months

KUCHING: The state recorded 211 new HIV cases for the first 11 months of this year, showing a gradually rising trend over the years.

Assistant Public Health Minister Datuk Dr Jerip Susil said the majority of the cases are Bumiputera Sarawak (65.88 per cent), followed by Chinese (17.53 per cent), Malay (9.95 per cent) and foreigners (6.64 per

cent). And most of them are aged between 20-49 (178 cases), above 50 years old (24 cases), 13-19 years old (eight cases) and one case for children below 12 years old.

Though the new case occurrence rate is 8.09 in every 100,000 people, is lower than the national rate of 11 people in every 100,000 people, it has been increasing over the years,

compared to 3.4 in every 100,000 people in 2003, he said.

“The main cause of infection are through sexual intercourse, 198 cases (93.8 per cent), heterosexual (male-female) intercourse or homosexual intercourse (male-male),” said Dr Jerip at the state-level World Aids Day celebration and ‘Kuching City: Getting to Zero HIV 2020’ project launching yesterday.