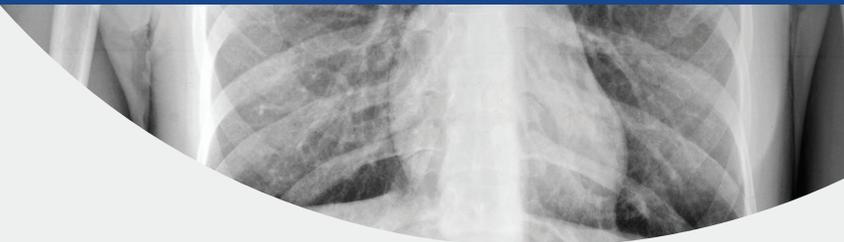


TB in the United States, 2021*



Tuberculosis (TB) is preventable and curable but remains one of the world's leading infectious disease killers. The United States has one of the lowest TB disease case rates in the world, thanks to investments in domestic TB programs. Health departments and CDC TB control efforts prevented as many as 300,000 people from developing TB disease and averted up to \$14.5 billion in costs over a 20-year period. However, preliminary CDC data suggests that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a substantial effect on TB disease.

CDC data show that reported TB disease diagnoses fell 20% in 2020 and remained 13% lower in 2021 than pre-pandemic levels. These declines may be related to factors associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, including a true reduction in TB incidence as well as missed or delayed TB disease diagnoses. For example, efforts to prevent COVID-19 may also reduce TB. Other factors include widespread disruptions to health care and similarities in symptoms between COVID-19 and TB disease.

Health care and public health systems must be restored and strengthened to address TB disease in the wake of COVID-19. We must continue to ensure correct and timely diagnoses, focus on essential TB prevention and control activities, and expand services equitably to address persistent disparities in TB. With better diagnostic tests, shorter treatments, and updated guidelines to assist healthcare providers, the nation has a greater opportunity than ever before to eliminate TB.

TB BY THE NUMBERS

7,860*
CASES



In 2021, a total of **7,860 CASES** of TB disease were reported.

526
DEATHS



In 2019, **526 DEATHS** were attributed to TB.

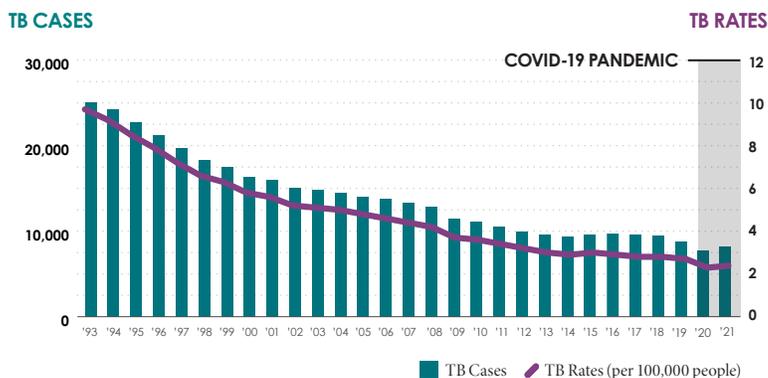
1 IN 10
PEOPLE



Without treatment, **1 IN 10 PEOPLE** with latent TB infection will develop TB disease.

COVID-19 HAS LIKELY HAD A SUBSTANTIAL EFFECT ON U.S. TB TRENDS

REPORTED TB CASES AND TB RATES IN THE U.S., 1993–2021*



LATENT TB INFECTION (LTBI)

TB bacteria can live in the body without making a person sick. People with latent TB infection cannot spread TB to others. Without treatment, people with latent TB infection can develop TB disease.

TB DISEASE

When TB bacteria multiply in the body, this is called TB disease. People with TB disease become sick and can spread TB bacteria to others.

DRUG RESISTANCE THREATENS OUR ABILITY TO PREVENT AND TREAT TB

In 2020, a total of **56 CASES** of multidrug-resistant TB cases were reported in the U.S.

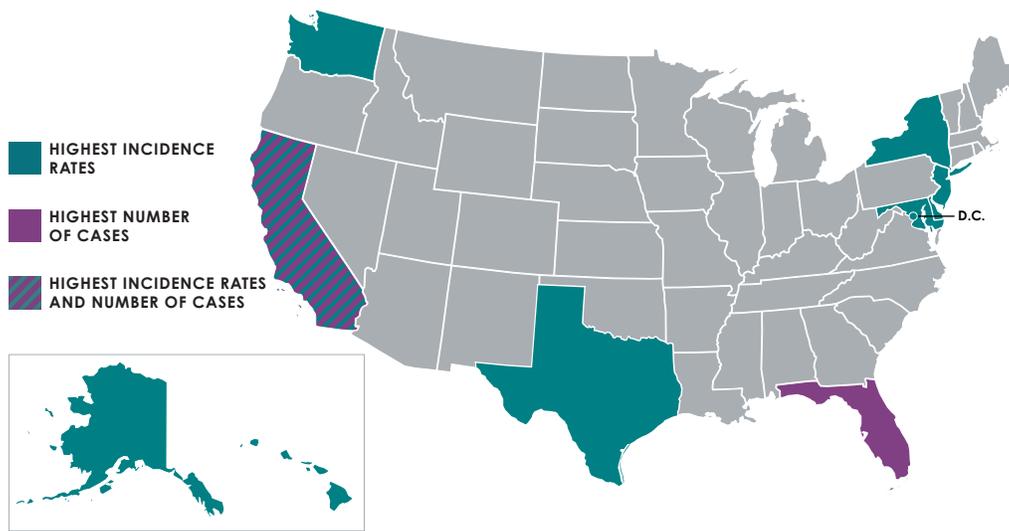
Drug-resistant TB is complex and costly. Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR TB) is resistant to two of the primary anti-TB drugs, while extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR TB) is a rare type of MDR TB resistant to the most potent TB drugs.

*Preliminary 2021 data. Supplemental analyses are ongoing to examine the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on TB cases.



TO ELIMINATE TB, WE MUST PRIORITIZE GROUPS AT INCREASED RISK OF TB

U.S. STATES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CASES AND INCIDENCE RATES†



U.S. TB CASES AND RATES BY RACE/ETHNICITY, 2021*

RACE/ETHNICITY	RATE PER 100,000 PEOPLE	PERCENTAGE OF REPORTED TB CASES
American Indian/Alaska Native	3.5	1.1%
Asian	14.4	36.1%
Black/African American	3.4	18.0%
Hispanic/Latino	3.9	30.9%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	19.0	1.5%
White	0.4	11.3%
Multiple races	1.0	1.0%

TESTING IS CRITICAL for populations at higher risk of TB infection and LTBI progression to TB disease, including people:



With weak immune systems due to HIV, renal failure, or other conditions



Born in or who frequently travel to places where TB disease is more common



Who have lived in group settings, such as long-term care, homeless, or correctional facilities

THE PATH TO ELIMINATION

CDC IS COMMITTED TO MAKING TB A DISEASE OF THE PAST. Eliminating TB would protect the health of Americans and reduce costs to the health care system. Reaching the goal of elimination in the United States, defined as less than one case per one million people, requires a dual approach of maintaining and strengthening current TB control priorities while increasing efforts to test and treat latent TB infection among populations at risk.

TB elimination requires engaging additional partners who can identify people at risk for latent TB infection in their states and communities—and can test, diagnose, and treat them before they develop TB disease. Health care providers serving communities with populations at risk, and leaders in these communities, are crucial to the successful expansion of testing and treatment initiatives for people with latent TB infection.

*Preliminary 2021 data. Supplemental analyses are ongoing to examine the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on TB cases.



For more information visit www.cdc.gov/nchhstp/newsroom