

Tuberculosis Cases Statewide by Year

Summary Brief 2025

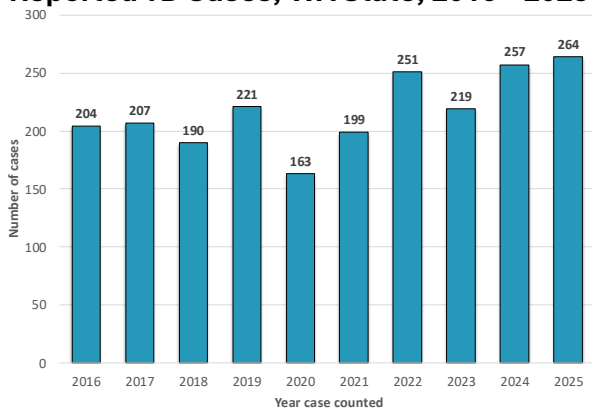
// Key Points

- > Tuberculosis (TB) disproportionately affects vulnerable populations in Washington State (WA).
- > In 2025, 5 cases of TB disease were diagnosed on average in WA each week.
- > Decades of consistent decline in TB nationally and locally has been interrupted with recent increasing TB incidence trends.

// Reported TB Cases

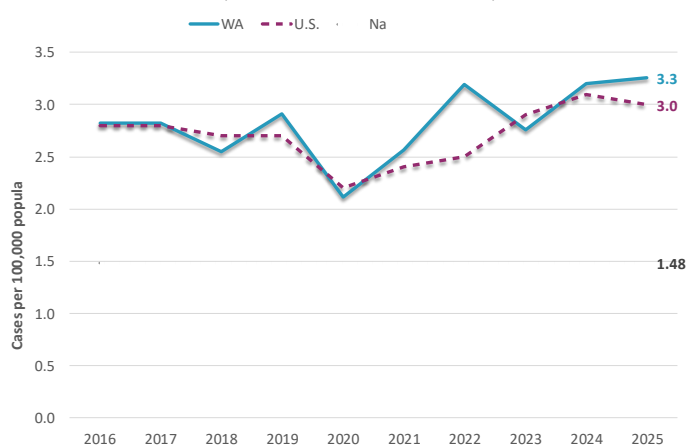
In 2025, 264 cases of TB disease were counted in WA. This represents a 2.7% increase from 2024 and the highest case count since 2007.

Reported TB Cases, WA State, 2016 – 2025



Incidence rates of TB in WA have progressed downward for decades, with increased fluctuation since 2020. This is similar to trends seen nationally. Recovery from pandemic-related health care disruptions, an outbreak within WA correctional facilities, and changes in post-pandemic travel and relocation have likely contributed to recent increasing reports of TB.

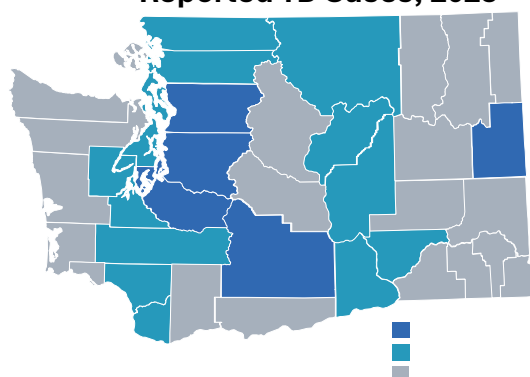
TB Case Rates, WA State and U.S., 2016 – 2025



// County-Level

TB disease incidence is concentrated in urban areas, although most WA counties report some number of cases. In 2025, King, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane, and Yakima counties accounted for 84.1% of the 264 cases counted in WA.

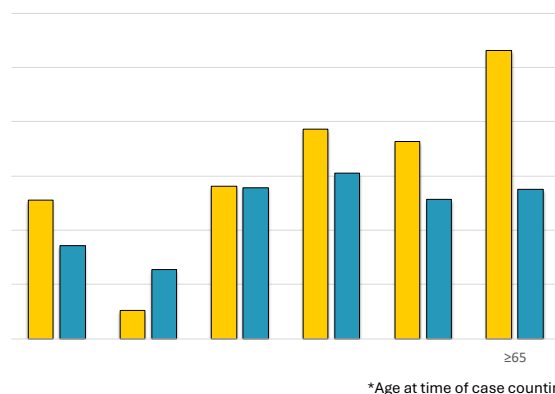
Reported TB Cases, 2025



// Age and Sex at Birth

Anyone can get TB, but TB affects some groups more than others. The risk of developing TB disease differs with age and sex. From 2021 through 2025, males aged 65 and older experienced the highest TB rate among all age-sex groups (5.3 cases per 100,000 population).

Average TB Case Rates by Age Group* and Sex WA State 2021 - 2025

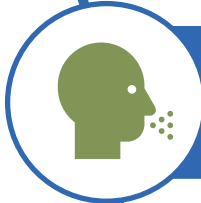


*Age at time of case counting

// Risk Factors



The greatest TB disease burden in WA continues to be among persons who have lived or spent extensive time in parts of the world where TB is more common and risk of exposure to TB is greater. From 2021-2025, non-US-born* people living in WA accounted for 80.1% of all TB cases.



Known TB exposure is a risk factor for developing TB disease. In 2025, 8.0 % of TB cases were found during contact identification for another TB case.



Congregate settings typically have shared airspace, which can increase transmission of TB. In WA from 2021-2025, 3.4% of TB cases resided in a correctional facility and 1.1% were a resident of a long-term care facility at time of TB diagnosis, while 5.3% of TB cases had experienced a history of homelessness within the year prior to their TB diagnosis.



Certain medical conditions and health behaviors lessen the ability of the immune system to keep TB infection from progressing to TB disease. Diabetes mellitus was the most frequently reported medical risk (23.0%) among all TB disease cases diagnosed from 2021-2025. Excess alcohol use was the most commonly recorded risk behavior (5.6%).

// Drug Resistance

Drug resistance is a concern for successful treatment of TB disease. There have been between 2 and 8 reported cases of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) in WA per year over the last 5 years. To date, there has been 1 reported case of extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB) in WA.

// Mortality

Although TB is preventable, treatable, and curable, it remains the deadliest infectious disease worldwide. From 2021 through 2025, there were a total of 55 TB-related deaths in WA. Most people with TB in WA survive with effective treatment.



- Learn more about TB at www.doh.wa.gov/TB
- For questions about TB, contact the Washington State Department of Health Tuberculosis Program: TBServices@doh.wa.gov, 206-418-5500

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