



TB prevalence rate

Abbreviated name	TB prevalence rate
Indicator name	Tuberculosis (TB) prevalence rate (per 100 000 population)
Domain	Health status
Subdomain	Infectious disease
Associated terms	Morbidity
Definition	Number of cases of tuberculosis (all forms) in a population at a given point in time (the middle of the calendar year), expressed as a rate per 100 000 population.
Numerator	Number of TB cases.
Denominator	Number of persons/population.
Disaggregation/ additional dimension	Bacteriologically confirmed TB, all forms of TB Age, HIV status, sex
Method of measurement	Prevalence can be estimated in national population-based surveys. Where survey data are not available, estimates of prevalence are derived from estimates of incidence and the duration of disease.
Method of estimation	<p>Estimates of TB prevalence are based on a consultative and analytical process led by WHO and are published annually. Uncertainty bounds are provided in addition to best estimates.</p> <p>Where available, TB prevalence surveys are used to estimate prevalence. In most instances, survey data are not available, and country-specific estimates of prevalence are derived from estimates of incidence (for additional details, please refer to the TB incidence indicator metadata), combined with assumptions about the duration of disease. The prevalence of TB is calculated from the product of incidence and duration of disease: prevalence = incidence x duration of the condition.</p> <p>The duration of disease is very difficult to measure directly. It is assumed to vary according to whether the individual receives treatment in a programme following the internationally recommended TB strategy or not, and whether the individual is infected with HIV. Further, durations are assumed to follow distributions with a large variance to account for differences between countries.</p> <p>Further details are available from <i>Tuberculosis prevalence surveys handbook</i> (2nd edition), <i>TB impact measurement: policy and recommendations for how to assess the epidemiological burden of TB and the impact of TB control</i> and in the online technical appendix to the <i>WHO global tuberculosis report</i>.</p>
Measurement frequency	Annual
Monitoring and evaluation framework	Impact
Preferred data sources	Population-based TB prevalence surveys/specific population surveys, TB surveillance routine facility information systems
Other possible data sources	Special studies
Further information and related links	<p>Definitions and reporting framework for tuberculosis – 2013 revision (WHO/HTM/TB/2013.2). Geneva: World Health Organization; 2013 (http://www.who.int/tb/publications/definitions/en/, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Global tuberculosis report 2014. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2014 (http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/en/, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>Indicators for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals: definitions, rationale, concepts and sources. New York (NY): United Nations; 2012 (http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mi/wiki/MainPage.aspx, accessed 29 March 2015).</p> <p>World Health Assembly governing body documentation: official records. Geneva: World Health Organization (http://apps.who.int/gb/or/, accessed 29 March 2015).</p>