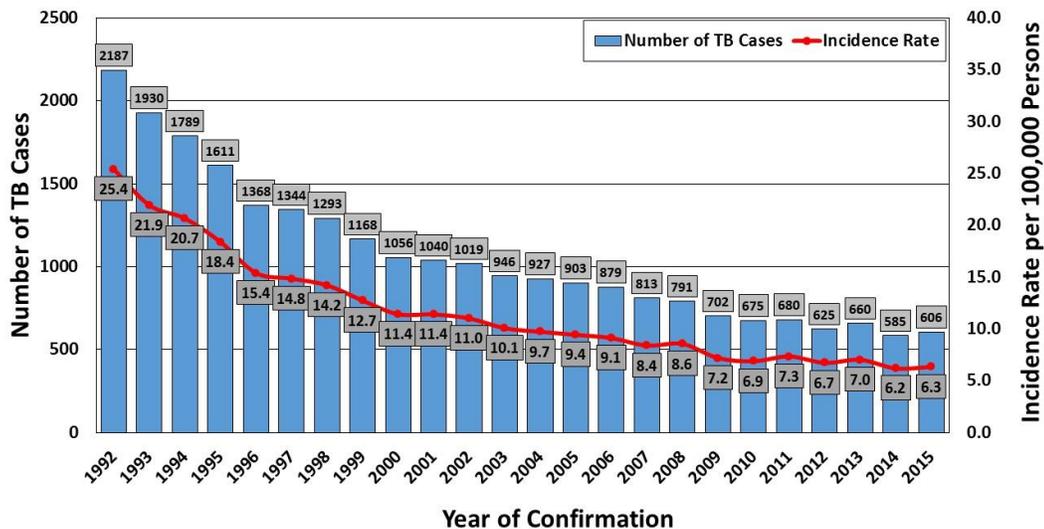




Overview of Tuberculosis in Los Angeles County

- In 2015, a total of 606 new tuberculosis (TB) cases were reported in Los Angeles County (LAC), a 3.6% increase from 585 cases in 2014 (Figure 1). The latest state surveillance data show that LAC accounts for 28% of TB cases (n=2,137) in the state of California.¹
- In 2015, the incidence rate of TB in LAC was 6.3 per 100,000 persons. This incidence rate is the 10th highest rate among California's local health jurisdictions, higher than the overall state incidence rate (5.5/100,000),¹ and twice the national incidence rate (3.0/100,000).²

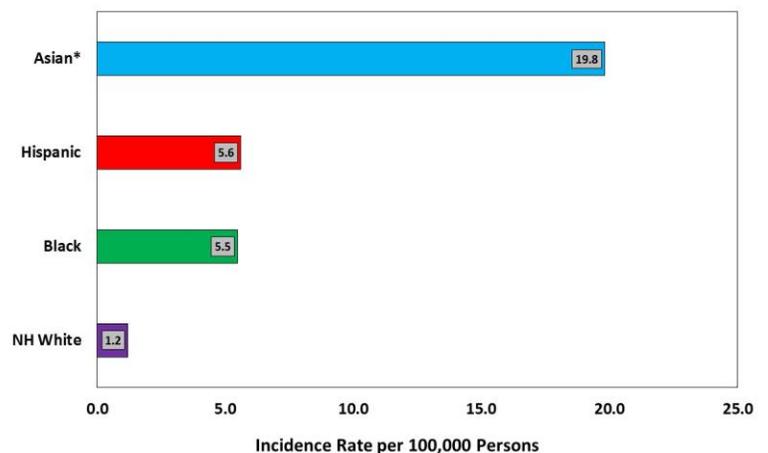
Figure 1. TB Cases and Incidence Rates: Los Angeles County, 1992-2015



Racial/Ethnic Group

- The TB incidence rate was highest among Asians, followed by Hispanics, Blacks, and non-Hispanic (NH) Whites (Figure 2).
- In 2015, TB cases were comprised of 45% Asians (n=273), 43% (n=258) Hispanics, 7% (n=43) Blacks, and 5% (n=32) non-Hispanic Whites.
- From 2014 to 2015, the number of Hispanic and Asian TB cases increased by 4.9% and 5.4%, respectively.

Figure 2. TB Incidence Rate by Racial/Ethnic Group, Los Angeles County 2015



*Race/ethnicity category 'Asian' also includes patients who self-reported being Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

Persons Born Outside the U.S.

- Among TB cases with a known place of birth, there were four times as many cases born outside the U.S. (n=493, 82%) than there were cases born in the U.S. (n=110, 18%). Among TB cases born outside the U.S., 48% (n=238) originated from the following five countries: Mexico, Philippines, China, Vietnam, and Korea. Also, 87% (n=426) of TB cases born outside the U.S. reported having spent 5 or more years in the U.S. at the time of TB diagnosis.

Pasadena and Long Beach TB cases are excluded because these two cities have their own TB Control Programs. LAC TB data last updated 2/8/16. Population estimates source: Internal Services Department, Los Angeles County.

Suggested Citation: Tuberculosis in Los Angeles County: A Snapshot: Fact Sheet 2015. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Tuberculosis Control Program, Los Angeles, CA. June 2016.



Young Children and Older Adults

- There were 5 cases (1%) of TB among children ages 0 to 4 years, a decrease from 15 patients reported in 2014. Young children had one of the lowest rates of TB (0.8/100,000; Figure 3).
- Older adults continue to represent a large majority of TB cases (Figure 3). In 2015, persons 65+ years of age represented 32% (n=194) of TB cases. This age group had the highest rate of TB (16.3/100,000).

HIV and Other Medical Comorbidities

- In 2015, 39% (n=234) of adult (18+ years of age) TB cases had one or more medical comorbidities, such as diabetes mellitus, end-stage renal disease, or another immunosuppressive condition (not HIV). These comorbidities increase a person's likelihood to progress from TB infection without symptoms to active TB disease. The most common comorbidity was diabetes mellitus (n=177 or 29% of adult TB cases).
- Among all TB cases with known HIV status, 3% (n=16) were co-infected with HIV; similar to HIV co-infection (4.4%) in 2014. People living with HIV are at high risk for rapid progression to TB disease.³

Homelessness

- Persons experiencing homelessness are particularly vulnerable to TB. Factors such as crowded living situations, lack of access to health care, and delayed diagnosis increase the risk of transmission in this population. In 2015, 7% (n=45) of TB cases in LAC reported experiencing homelessness within the past year, similar to homelessness (6%) in 2014.

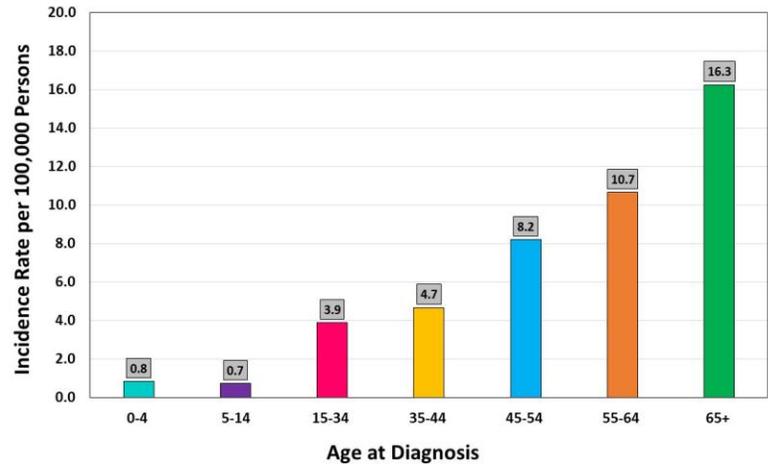
Multidrug-Resistant (MDR) TB

- In 2015, there were 6 (1%) new MDR-TB cases in LAC.
- Despite the significant increase of MDR-TB in some global regions³, in LAC, the proportion of MDR-TB cases has remained relatively constant, averaging between 1% and 2% of TB cases during 2010-2015.
- Treatment of MDR-TB is more complex, lengthy (1 ½ to 2 years), and costly than treatment of drug-susceptible TB.⁴

Deaths among Persons with TB

- Among 3,156 TB cases confirmed between 2011 and 2015, there were 350 (11%) deaths, including deaths due to TB and deaths unrelated to TB disease. Of these, 77% (n=271) died while receiving TB treatment.

Figure 3. TB Incidence Rate by Age Group, Los Angeles County 2015



References

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4. Marks, S., et al. *Treatment Practices, Outcomes, and Costs of Multidrug Resistant and Extensively Drug Resistant Tuberculosis in the United States, 2005-2007*. *Emerging Infectious Disease*, 2014. 20(5): p. 812-821.