WHO
Global TB Report 2021
Launched
14 October 2021
Key findings and messages
Acknowledgements

197 countries and territories that reported data
>500 people who contributed to reporting and review of data

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New report format: more web-centric

- content available in smaller (more “bite-sized”) chunks
- easier to read, digest, navigate and use

Short, slim PDF
(30 pages + annexes)
Main findings and messages

Global tuberculosis report 2021

Explore full digital report

1. COVID-19 & TB
2. TB disease burden
3. TB diagnosis & treatment
4. TB prevention
5. TB financing
6. UHC & TB determinants
7. TB research & innovation

Expanded, more detailed content on web pages

Data

Download TB data

Report purpose unchanged

The report provides a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the TB epidemic and of progress in the response at global, regional and country levels, in the context of global strategies and targets.

WHO End TB Strategy, 2016-2035
UN Sustainable Development Goals, 2016-2030
2018 UN high-level meeting on TB, targets for 2018-2022
Overarching messages

1. The COVID-19 pandemic has reversed years of progress in providing essential TB services and reducing TB disease burden.

2. Global TB targets are mostly off-track, although there are some country and regional success stories.
Most immediately obvious impact of COVID-related disruptions

Big global drop in number of people newly diagnosed with TB and reported

![Graph showing the number of people newly diagnosed and reported (millions) from 2016 to 2020. The number decreased from 7.1 million in 2019 to 5.8 million in 2020, representing an 18% drop between 2019 and 2020.](image)
16 countries accounted for 93% of global drop

- India: 41%
- Indonesia: 14%
- Philippines: 12%

% global shortfall in TB notifications in 2020 compared with 2019
Data* up to June 2021 show ongoing shortfalls

- green: monthly notifications since January 2020;
- black: average level of 2019

* Provisional data reported to WHO in August 2021

Month, January 2020 to June 2021
Global number of TB deaths increased in 2020

first year-on-year increase since 2005, back to the level of 2017

TB second only to COVID-19 as cause of death from single infectious agent

1.5 million in 2020, up from 1.4 million in 2019

9% reduction vs 2015, one quarter of the way to the 2020 milestone

214,000, small increase from 209,000 in 2019
TB more badly impacted than HIV

Deaths from TB in 2020 double those from HIV/AIDS, which continued to decline.

- TB deaths in HIV-negative people
- TB deaths in HIV-positive people
- Deaths from HIV/AIDS

Millions per year (log scale)
Global decline in TB incidence slowed in 2020

1.9% 2019-2020, down from 2.3% 2018-2019

11% since 2015, only about half-way to 2020 milestone of 20%
Much worse impacts forecast in 2021 and 2022

a) TB deaths

Impact of COVID-related disruptions on TB deaths likely to peak in 2021, could persist for much longer
Much worse impacts forecast in 2021 and 2022

b) TB incidence

Impact of COVID-related disruptions on TB incidence likely to peak in 2022, could persist for much longer
Widened gap between number of people falling ill with TB (green) in 2020 and the number diagnosed and reported (black line)

- 9.9 million people in 2020 (range, 9.9-11 million)
- 7.1 million
- 5.8 million
10 countries that account for >70% global gap

- India
- Indonesia
- Viet Nam
- Bangladesh
- Philippines
- China
- Pakistan
- Nigeria
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- South Africa

Size of gap

- 70,000
- 500,000
- 1,000,000
UN high-level meeting on TB, 2018

Global TB treatment target off-track

TB treatment (All ages)

Target: 40 million 2018–2022

19.8 million (50%) treated in 2018–2020
Other impacts:
3 major examples
Number of people with MDR/RR-TB enrolled on treatment fell in 2020

- All ages
- Adults aged ≥ 15 years
- Children < 15 years

Thousands

2015: 137,000
2016: 140,000
2017: 150,000
2018: 156,000
2019: 177,000
2020: 150,000

15% reduction in 2020 compared with 2019
UN high-level meeting on TB, 2018
Global MDR/RR-TB treatment target off-track

MDR/RR-TB treatment (All ages)

Target: 1.5 million 2018–2022

483,000 (32%) treated in 2018–2020
Number of people initiated on TB preventive treatment fell in 2020

- In 2020, 2.8 million people living with HIV were provided with TPT, a 21% reduction from 2019.
- Most people provided with TPT are people living with HIV.
- The number of people initiated on TB preventive treatment fell from 3.6 million in 2019 to 2.8 million in 2020.
UN high-level meeting on TB, 2018
Global TB preventive treatment target off-track

All ages

Target: 30 million 2018–2022

8.7 million (29%) treated in 2018–2020

People living with HIV

Target: 6 million 2018–2022

7.2 million (>100%) treated in 2018–2020
Spending on TB diagnostic, treatment and prevention services fell in 2020

UN high-level meeting target: US$ 13 billion annually by 2022

- 9% reduction in 2020 compared with 2019
Country and regional success stories
Country success stories: TB deaths

Seven high TB burden or global TB watchlist countries reached the End TB Strategy milestone (dashed line) of a 35% reduction, 2015-2020.
Country success stories: TB incidence

Nine high TB burden or global TB watchlist countries reached the End TB Strategy milestone (dashed line) of a 20% reduction, 2015-2020
Regional success stories: TB incidence

- **Americas**: Slow increase, 2015-2020.
- **South-East Asia**: 11% reduction, 2015-2020.
- **Western Pacific**: 6.7% reduction, 2015-2020.

Dashed line shows the 2020 milestone of the End TB Strategy.
Regional success stories: TB deaths

- **Africa**: 18% reduction, 2015-2020
- **Americas**: 10% increase, 2015-2020
- **South-East Asia**: 26% reduction, 2015-2020
- **Europe**: 2020 milestone: 35% reduction, 2015-2020
- **Eastern Mediterranean**: 6% reduction, 2015-2020
- **Western Pacific**: 13% reduction, 2015-2020

Dashed line shows the 2020 milestone of the End TB Strategy.
Other report findings to highlight
8 countries, two-thirds of global cases in 2020
86% in 30 high TB burden countries

8 countries:
- China
- Bangladesh
- Philippines
- Indonesia
- India
- Pakistan
- Nigeria
- South Africa

Number of incident cases:
- 2,000,000
- 1,000,000
- 500,000
- 100,000
Distribution by age and sex

5.5 million men (56%), 3.3 million women (33%), 1.1 million children (11%)

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</table>
Treatment outcomes

People newly diagnosed with TB (new and relapse cases)

- 86% in 2012
- 86% in 2019

People diagnosed with rifampicin-resistant/MDR-TB

- 50% in 2012
- 59% in 2019

Graph showing treatment success rate over years.
About half of people with TB and their households face catastrophic costs

pooled average = 47%; far from End TB Strategy target of zero by 2020

Percentage facing catastrophic costs in national surveys

14 high TB burden countries and 1 global TB watchlist country

Pooled average = 87%
Universal health coverage
status of the 2 SDG indicators for UHC (2019 WHO report*)
30 high TB burden and 3 global TB watchlist countries

Most countries far short of reaching UHC
- Thailand closest
- general tendency for service coverage index to improve with income level

*2021 report scheduled for release in December
TB determinants

Estimates of TB cases attributable to 5 risk factors in 2020

- Diabetes
- Smoking
- Alcohol use disorders
- HIV infection
- Undernourishment

Millions
TB determinants

Relationship between TB incidence, income and undernutrition

![Graphs showing the relationship between GDP per capita, tuberculosis incidence, and prevalence of undernutrition.](Image)
TB research and innovation

Funding < half global target set at UN high-level meeting on TB


Pipelines as of August 2021:
new diagnostics, drugs, vaccines
For more information

Mobile app – country-specific as well as regional and global data for all key indicators

Conclusions
Conclusions

1. Actions to mitigate and reverse the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on TB are urgently needed

2. The immediate priority is to restore access to and provision of essential TB services such that levels of TB case detection and treatment can recover to at least 2019 levels