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# Tuberculosis: Monitoring

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## Number of cases of tuberculosis in Canada

In 2017 there were 1,796 cases of active tuberculosis reported in Canada. Two populations — foreign-born individuals and Indigenous Peoples — accounted for the majority of cases. In 2017, there were 1,290 cases of active tuberculosis disease reported among foreign-born individuals and 313 cases reported among Canadian-born Indigenous Peoples. Canadian-born, non-Indigenous people accounted for 125 cases. In terms of percentages, in 2017:

- 71.8% were foreign-born cases
- 17.4% were Canadian-born, Indigenous cases
- 7.0% were Canadian-born, non-Indigenous cases

## Rate of tuberculosis in Canada

The rate of active tuberculosis in Canada is among the lowest in the world. Canada experienced a steady decrease in the rate of tuberculosis between the 1940s and 1980s. Since then, the annual rates have remained about the same.

In 2017, the rate of active tuberculosis in Canada was 4.9 per 100,000 population. The rate was highest among Canadian-born Indigenous Peoples (21.5 per 100,000 population).

# Number of cases of tuberculosis around the world

Worldwide, an estimated 10 million people fell ill with tuberculosis in 2017. However, only 6.4 million new cases of tuberculosis were reported to the World Health Organization (WHO). This means that worldwide, 36% of new cases went undiagnosed or were not reported.

## How Canada monitors tuberculosis

Provincial and territorial public health authorities voluntarily submit data on all new and re-treatment cases of active tuberculosis disease in Canada. The federal government uses these data to report on national tuberculosis trends annually.

### For more information

- [The Time is Now – Chief Public Health Officer spotlight on eliminating tuberculosis in Canada \(2018\)](#)
- [Tuberculosis in Canada, 2017](#)
- [Tuberculosis drug resistance in Canada: 2017](#)
- [Notifiable diseases online](#)
- [Global Tuberculosis Report 2018](#)

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