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# TUBERCULOSIS IN CANADA

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# 2001

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**TUBERCULOSIS**

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## INTRODUCTION

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To facilitate an earlier release of key national tuberculosis (TB) data, the following tables have been extracted from the Canadian Tuberculosis Reporting System (CTBRS) for the year 2001. Data included in this pre-release report should be considered provisional until publication of the full report *Tuberculosis in Canada 2001*.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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In 2001, 1,703 cases (5.5 per 100,000) of new active and relapsed TB were reported to the CTBRS. The highest rate, of 46.5 per 100,000, was reported in the North region (Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut). TB incidence was lowest in the Atlantic region (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador: 1.7 per 100,000). The three most populous provinces (Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia), which collectively make up 75% of Canada's population, accounted for 75% of the total number of reported cases (Table 1).

By age group, individuals between the ages of 25 and 34 years made up the largest number of reported cases, accounting for 18% of the total (Table 2).

Accurate information on country of origin of TB cases in Canada has been available since 1970. In 2001, TB among foreign-born individuals accounted for 62% of all reported cases in Canada. Furthermore, 2001 marked the first time that the proportion of Canadian-born Aboriginal cases surpassed the proportion of cases reported among Canadian-born non-Aboriginal individuals (18% and 16% respectively). Birthplace was unknown for 4% of cases (Table 3).

Respiratory TB was the most frequently reported main diagnostic site, representing 67% of reported cases in 2000 (Table 4). Diagnostic site varied by birthplace. TB of the peripheral lymph nodes was the second most commonly reported diagnostic site (15%), 38% of these cases occurring in foreign-born individuals who originated in the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region. Primary TB accounted for 6% of reported cases and was most common among Canadian-born Aboriginals (Table 5).

**Table 1**

**Reported new active and relapsed tuberculosis cases and incidence rate per 100,000 – Canada and provinces/territories: 1991-2001**

Year of diagnosis	CANADA	Province/territory									
		Atlantic	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	North		
1991	Cases	81	400	769	101	184	173	280	30		
	Rate	3.4	5.6	7.3	9.1	18.3	6.7	8.3	33.2		
1992	Cases	68	424	822	86	133	222	323	30		
	Rate	2.8	5.9	7.7	7.7	13.2	8.4	9.3	32.3		
1993	Cases	99	352	769	108	153	156	337	38		
	Rate	4.1	4.9	7.1	9.6	15.1	5.8	9.4	40.4		
1994	Cases	42	361	831	116	147	178	324	75		
	Rate	1.7	5.0	7.6	10.3	14.5	6.6	8.8	79.4		
1995	Cases	34	380	766	108	155	126	308	54		
	Rate	1.4	5.2	6.9	9.5	15.3	4.6	8.2	56.2		
1996	Cases	57	332	771	97	113	140	316	42		
	Rate	2.4	4.6	6.9	8.6	11.1	5.0	8.1	42.2		
1997	Cases	34	360	761	96	121	166	405	33		
	Rate	1.4	4.9	6.8	8.4	11.8	5.8	10.2	33.0		
1998	Cases	37	289	724	116	98	158	329	40		
	Rate	1.6	3.9	6.3	10.1	9.5	5.4	8.2	39.9		
1999	Cases	44	314	684	132	116	149	328	39		
	Rate	1.9	4.3	5.9	11.5	11.3	5.0	8.1	39.2		
2000	Cases	25	318	670	98	104	133	285	61		
	Rate	1.0	4.3	5.7	8.5	10.1	4.4	7.0	61.1		
2001	Cases	40	259	634	115	114	116	379	46		
	Rate	1.7	3.5	5.3	10.0	11.2	3.8	9.3	46.5		

Data for 2001 are provisional until publication of the 'Tuberculosis in Canada - 2001' Annual Report.

**Table 2**

**Reported new active and relapsed tuberculosis cases and incidence rate per 100,000 by age group – Canada: 1991-2001**

Year of diagnosis	TOTAL	Age group											Age unk.
		< 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 - 74	75 +		
1991	Cases	48	71	60	227	399	282	188	223	279	240	1	
	Rate	11.9	4.6	1.6	5.6	7.8	6.3	6.2	9.2	14.5	18.6	-	
1992	Cases	25	83	85	242	405	286	191	224	276	290	1	
	Rate	6.2	5.3	2.2	6.0	7.9	6.2	6.0	9.2	14.0	21.8	-	
1993	Cases	26	69	108	234	386	270	210	214	257	237	1	
	Rate	6.6	4.3	2.7	5.8	7.6	5.7	6.2	8.7	12.7	17.3	-	
1994	Cases	20	72	98	274	411	261	224	212	271	231	-	
	Rate	5.2	4.5	2.5	6.8	8.2	5.4	6.4	8.5	13.2	16.4	-	
1995	Cases	27	64	85	229	325	314	201	209	251	225	1	
	Rate	7.1	4.0	2.1	5.7	6.6	6.4	5.5	8.3	12.0	15.3	-	
1996	Cases	11	68	63	214	356	304	191	193	250	218	-	
	Rate	2.9	4.3	1.6	5.3	7.5	6.1	5.0	7.6	12.0	14.6	-	
1997	Cases	9	50	58	214	385	292	216	227	246	279	-	
	Rate	2.5	3.2	1.4	5.3	8.2	5.7	5.5	8.8	11.7	18.0	-	
1998	Cases	19	61	71	186	307	302	180	171	235	259	-	
	Rate	3.6	4.0	1.7	4.5	6.7	5.8	4.4	6.4	11.0	16.1	-	
1999	Cases	27	59	63	200	329	260	187	181	236	264	-	
	Rate	7.9	4.0	1.5	4.8	7.4	4.9	4.4	6.6	11.1	15.9	-	
2000	Cases	10	56	42	206	308	277	203	150	199	243	-	
	Rate	2.9	3.5	1.0	5.0	7.0	5.2	4.7	5.3	9.3	14.2	-	
2001	Cases	7	34	70	164	315	274	202	175	213	249	-	
	Rate	5.5	2.4	1.7	3.9	7.2	5.2	4.5	6.0	9.9	14.1	-	

Data for 2001 are provisional until publication of the 'Tuberculosis in Canada - 2001' Annual Report.

**Table 3**  
**Reported new active and relapsed tuberculosis cases by birthplace - Canada and provinces/territories: 2001**

Birthplace	CANADA	Province/territory											
		Atlantic	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	North				
Aboriginal													
Status Indian	198	-	-	19	61	53	22	35	8				
Non-Status Indian/Métis	60	-	-	1	3	44	4	8	-				
Inuit	51	7	6	-	-	-	1	-	37				
<b>Total</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>45</b>				
Non-zAboriginal	272	21	86	74	18	8	16	48	1				
<b>Total</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>46</b>				
Africa	85	4	21	40	6	2	3	9	-				
Americas	62	-	29	29	-	-	2	2	-				
East Mediterranean	101	1	19	64	1	1	10	5	-				
Europe	99	4	17	59	4	-	5	10	-				
South East Asia	216	-	16	109	3	-	11	77	-				
Western Pacific	443	1	30	189	19	6	42	156	-				
Unknown region	56	-	4	26	-	-	-	26	-				
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>-</b>				
Unknown birthplace	60	2	31	24	-	-	-	3	-				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>46</b>				

Population data unavailable at time of reporting.

Data for 2001 are provisional until publication of the 'Tuberculosis in Canada - 2001' Annual Report.



**Table 4**

**Reported new active and relapsed tuberculosis cases and incidence rate per 100,000 by main diagnostic site – Canada: 1991-2001**

Main diagnostic site	Year of diagnosis											
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Primary	Cases	206	193	189	152	163	120	131	130	155	101	114
	Rate	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4
Miliary/disseminated	Cases	43	60	58	65	48	57	73	41	38	40	42
	Rate	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Respiratory (pulm/other resp)*	Cases	1,217	1,351	1,260	1,325	1,244	1,155	1,230	1,150	1,171	1,138	1,124
	Rate	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.5	4.2	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6
Meninges and CNS	Cases	15	17	19	18	22	19	25	24	15	15	14
	Rate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-
Peripheral lymph node	Cases	223	259	281	301	249	242	266	271	239	254	222
	Rate	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Other sites*	Cases	242	220	202	206	199	263	248	165	180	144	186
	Rate	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6
Unknown	Cases	72	8	3	7	6	12	3	10	8	2	1
	Rate	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>2,018</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>2,012</b>	<b>2,074</b>	<b>1,931</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>1,791</b>	<b>1,806</b>	<b>1,694</b>	<b>1,703</b>
	<b>Rate</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.5</b>

\* Respiratory includes pulmonary (with or without silicosis), pleurisy and other respiratory.

Other sites includes abdominal, bones and joints, genitourinary and other non-respiratory.

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Table 5

## Reported new active and relapsed tuberculosis cases by birthplace and main diagnostic site – Canada: 2001

Birthplace	TOTAL	Main diagnostic site							
		Primary	Miliary/ dissemi- nated	Respiratory (pulm/ other resp)*	Meninges and CNS	Peripheral lymph node	Other sites*	Unknown	
Aboriginal									
Status Indian	198	34	3	132	1	18	10	-	
Non-Status Indian/Métis	60	13	4	38	1	2	2	-	
Inuit	51	10	-	40	1	-	-	-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	
Non-Aboriginal	272	27	8	191	3	15	27	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>1</b>	
Africa	85	5	5	49		12	14	-	
Americas	62	-	2	42	1	8	9	-	
East Mediterranean	101	3	1	62	-	20	15	-	
Europe	99	4	-	77	1	9	8	-	
South East Asia	216	6	2	132	2	46	28	-	
Western Pacific	443	6	8	309	2	78	40	-	
Unknown region	56	3	7	32	2	7	5	-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>-</b>	
Unknown birthplace	60	3	2	20		7	28	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>1,124</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>1</b>	

\* Respiratory includes pulmonary (with or without silicosis), pleurisy and other respiratory.

Other sites includes abdominal, bones and joints, genitourinary and other non-respiratory.

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