

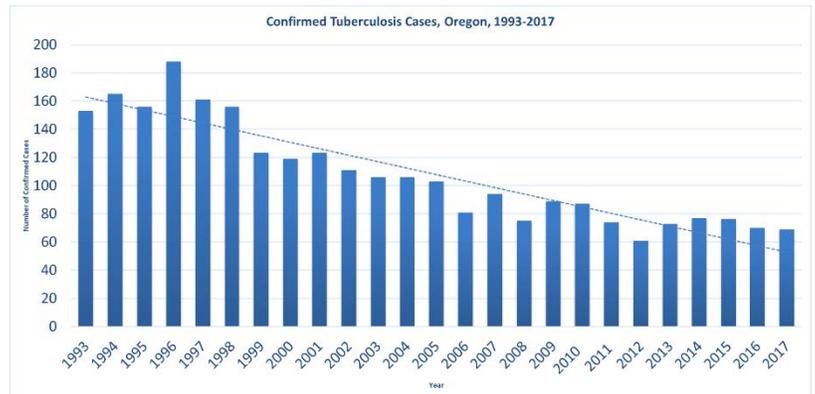


Tuberculosis (TB) Program Services

Although TB disease is curable, treating TB disease and ensuring friends, families and co-workers are not infected is complicated. Treatment requires 6 months of medication or more. A healthcare worker must watch the patient take each dose of treatment (directly observed therapy). While infectious, TB patients are required to stay home and cannot work or meet other obligations. Contact investigations can be very large involving schools or workplaces. To ensure success, the TB program provides technical assistance, critical medication, financial support for patients and funding to local public health authorities. Additionally, the Program writes and maintains Oregon Administrative Rules to decrease the spread of TB in settings such as correctional facilities and hospitals; analyze genotype results to detect outbreaks and provides training statewide. www.healthoregon.org/tb

Data Summary

Confirmed cases of TB disease continue to decline in Oregon. In 2017, 69 cases were reported, compared to 70 cases in 2016, and 76 cases in 2015. Persons who are foreign born continue to be at the highest risk for developing TB disease.



State & Local Roles

The State is responsible for:

- Monitoring the incidence of TB disease and co-morbidity through surveillance. Uses genotyping results to detect outbreaks.
- Funding services to support TB testing, treatment, case management and adherence related wrap-around support.
- Providing training, consultation and technical assistance. Establishing Oregon Administrative Rules for testing in correctional facilities and hospitals. Evaluating systems and monitoring contracts.

Local partners are responsible for:

- TB disease investigation and contact services.
- TB testing and treatment.
- Provision of TB case management and adherence supports such as directly observed therapy.

Challenges & Opportunities

- Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that is spread from person to person through the air and usually affects the lungs. If not treated TB can be deadly. Approximately 1 person dies of TB disease in Oregon every year.
- Treatment takes 6-9 months to complete.
- TB case investigations can be complex, expensive and difficult.
- Oregon sees at least one case of multi-drug resistant TB per year. The medications are costly and the treatment is very difficult for the patient to endure.
- A renewed focus on treating latent TB infection, rapid implementation of new diagnostic tests and shorter treatments will help Oregon reach TB elimination quicker.
- Opportunities exist to expand billing for TB care and treatment.