

Tuberculosis

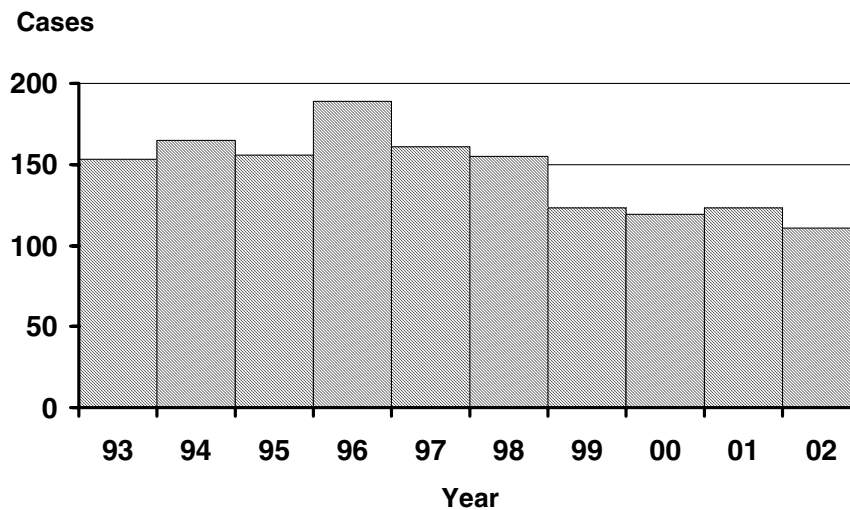
Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable disease caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The most common site for active TB disease is the lung; however, TB can occur in any organ in the body. TB is spread when a person develops active pulmonary or laryngeal TB, coughs the bacteria into the air, and another person inhales them into their lungs.

TB is preventable, treatable, and curable. TB can be prevented by diagnosing and treating persons with active TB disease; and by identifying and treating persons with “latent” TB infection, who, if untreated, are likely to develop active TB disease. Reporting of TB ensures that cases are treated and contacts are identified and offered preventive antibiotics.

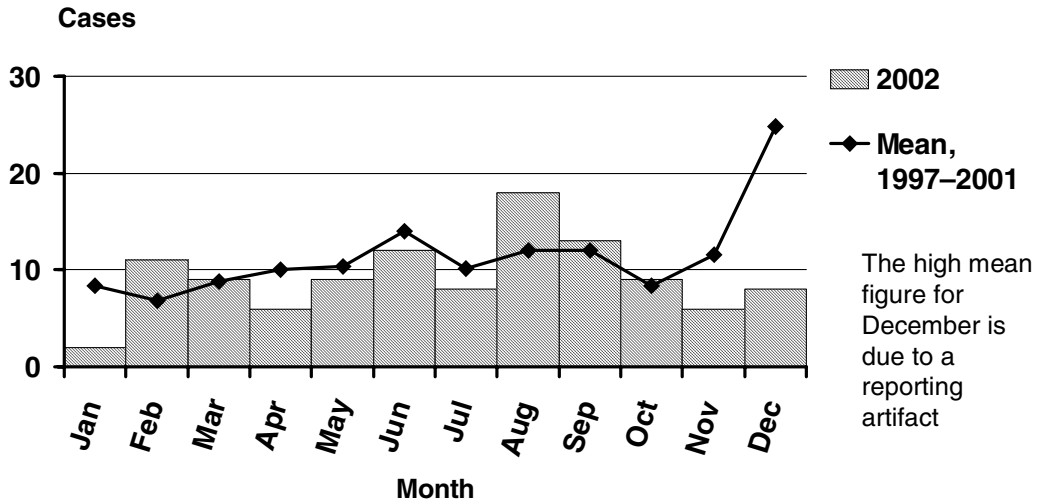
A total of 111 cases of active TB disease were verified in Oregon in 2002, for a rate of 3.5 cases per 100,000 residents. Ten percent of Oregon patients’ mycobacterial isolates were resistant to isoniazid (INH); therefore, we recommend that initial treatment for active TB in Oregon include four drugs: INH, rifampin, pyrazinamide, and ethambutol pending susceptibility testing.

The Oregon TB rate of 3.5/100,000 meets the Healthy People 2000 Goal of $\leq 3.5/100,000$; however, reduced morbidity leads to decreased awareness and delays in diagnosis and treatment.

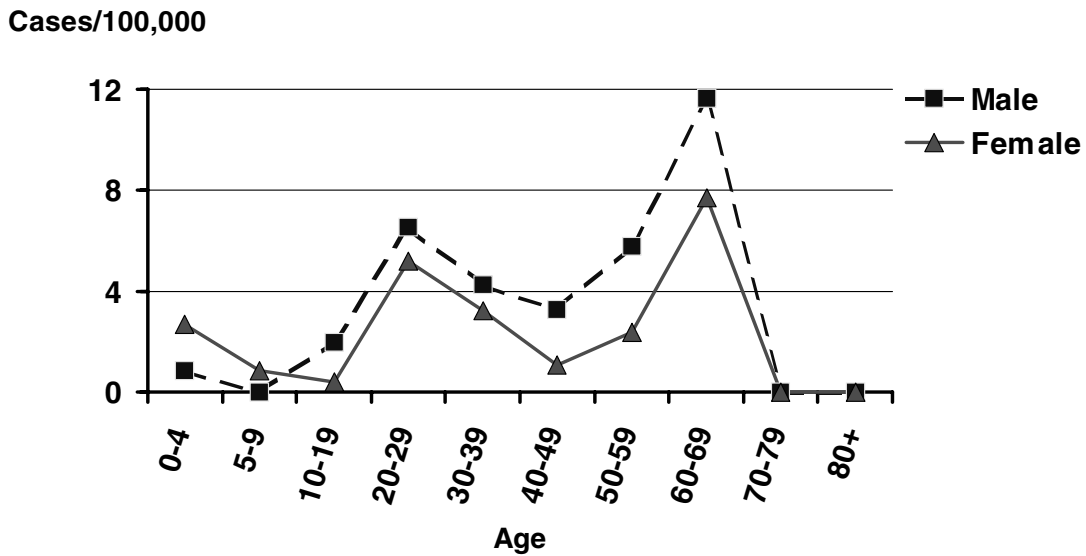
Tuberculosis by Year Oregon, 1993–2002



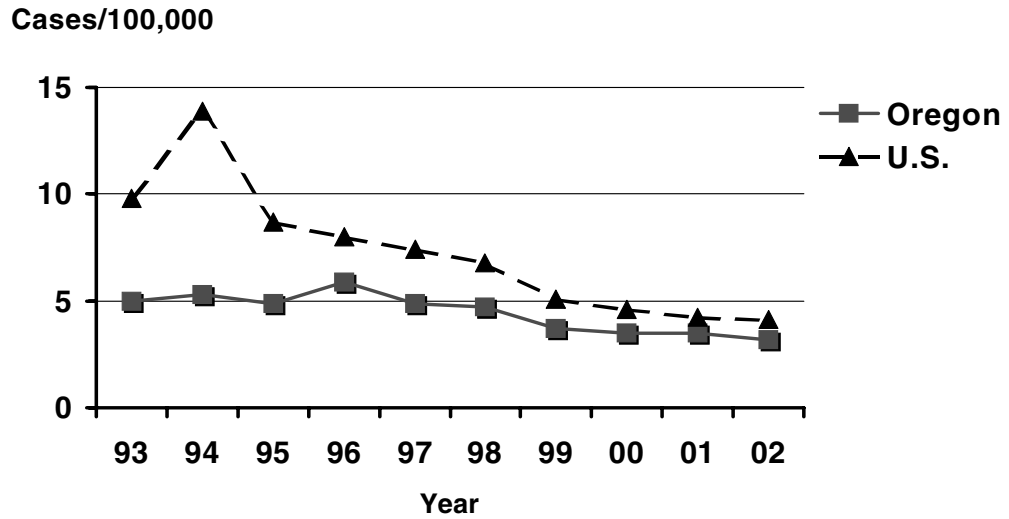
Tuberculosis by Onset Month Oregon, 2002



Incidence of Tuberculosis by Age and Sex Oregon, 2002



Incidence of Tuberculosis Oregon vs. Nationwide 1993–2002



Tuberculosis by Race/Ethnicity Oregon, 2002

