

Tuberculosis

In 2018, TB incidence in BC decreased which has been the overall trend of the past decade. Compared to the Canadian rate, active TB incidence in BC has remained consistently higher because of the relatively high proportion of people living in BC who were born in TB endemic areas where exposure to TB is common. In BC, the vast majority of active TB cases are among people who were born outside of Canada, and are largely due to reactivation of latent TB infection (i.e. from exposures to TB earlier in their lives) and not from local transmission. For this reason, prevention of reactivation by treating latent TB infection is an important public health intervention to reduce the burden of TB in BC. TB rates are highest in the Lower Mainland which has a larger proportion of people who were born or lived in areas where TB

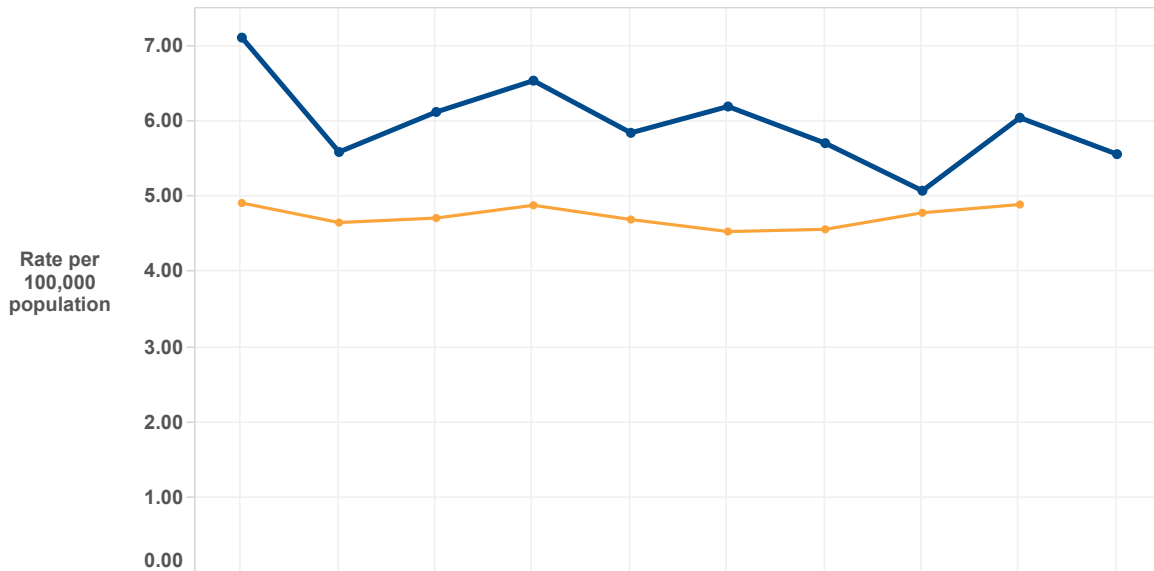
is endemic compared with the rest of BC.

TB incidence is historically greater in men than in women and this trend continued in 2018. Among men and women, the majority of people diagnosed with TB were over the age of 40. Active TB in those <5 years of age indicates recent transmission because of the low probability of historic exposure and reactivation. The occurrence of active TB in those <5 years of age remains rare in BC.

For more information, please refer to the TB Annual Report.

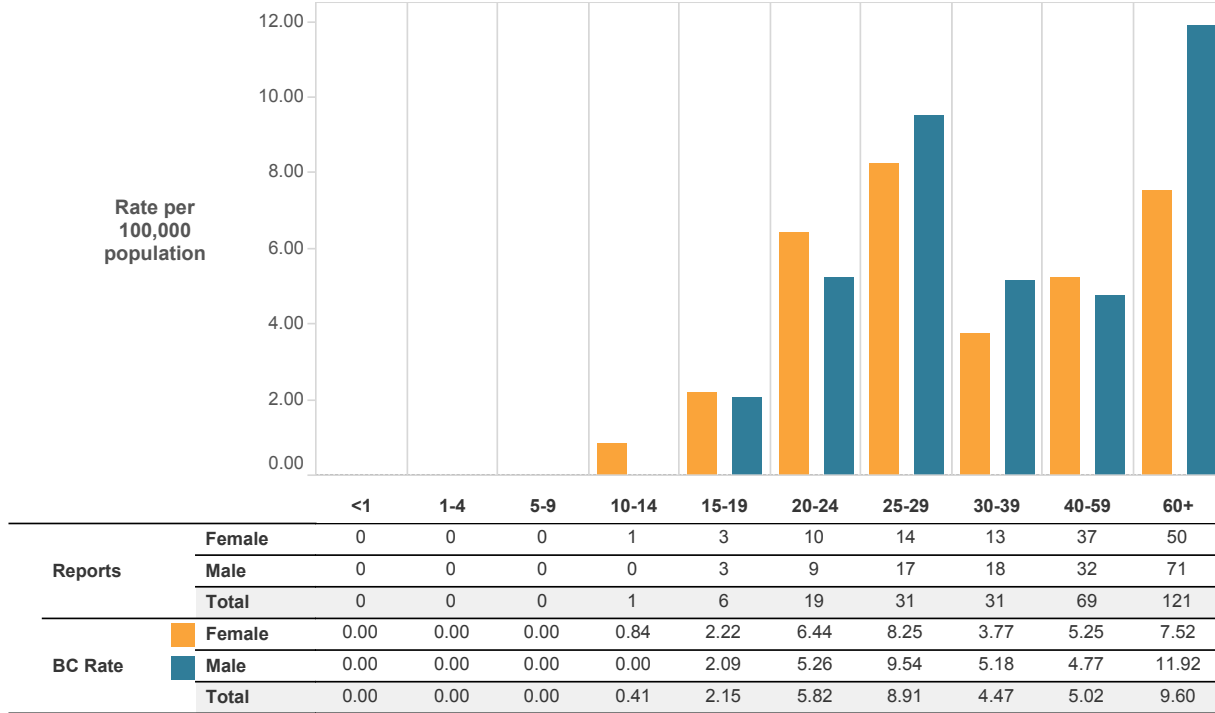


15.1 Tuberculosis Rates by Year, 2009-2018



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Reports	314	250	276	299	271	292	273	247	298	278
BC Rate	7.12	5.60	6.13	6.55	5.85	6.20	5.72	5.08	6.05	5.57
Canada Rate	4.92	4.66	4.72	4.89	4.70	4.54	4.57	4.79	4.90	

15.2 Tuberculosis Rates by Age and Sex, 2018



15.3 Tuberculosis Rates by HSDA, 2018

