

Tuberculosis

In 2017, TB incidence in BC showed a slight increase in an otherwise decade-long decrease. This long-term decrease in TB incidence in BC mirrors that seen for Canada as a whole. However, active TB incidence in BC remains higher than the Canadian rate 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 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

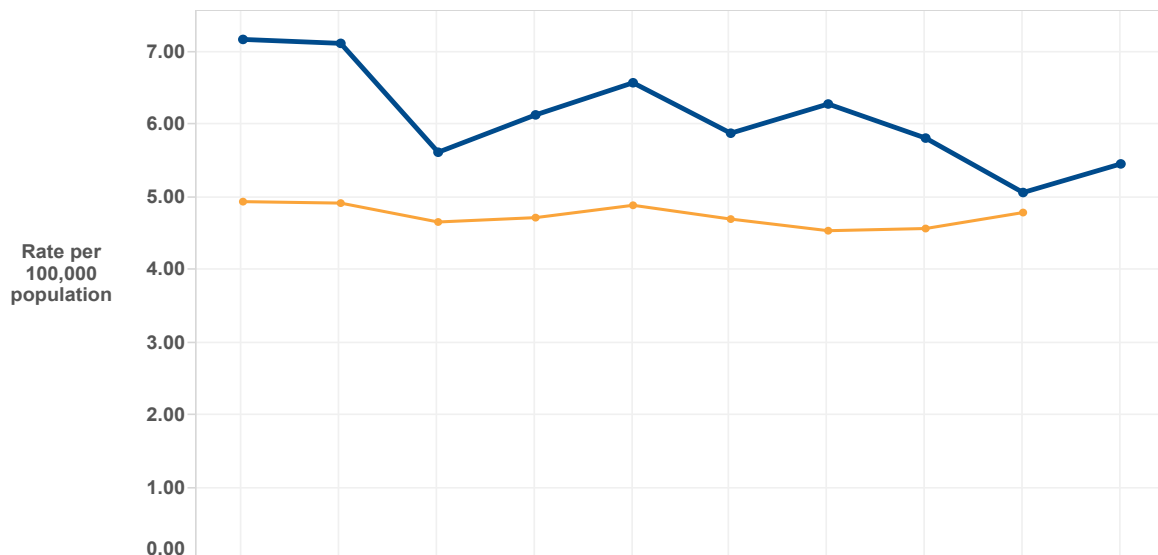
in the Lower Mainland which has a larger proportion of immigrants from TB endemic areas compared with the rest of BC.

TB incidence is historically greater in men than in women and this trend continues in 2017. The TB rate in men has generally decreased since 2012. 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 remain rare in BC, but is seen in some years.

For more information, please refer to the [TB Annual Report](#).

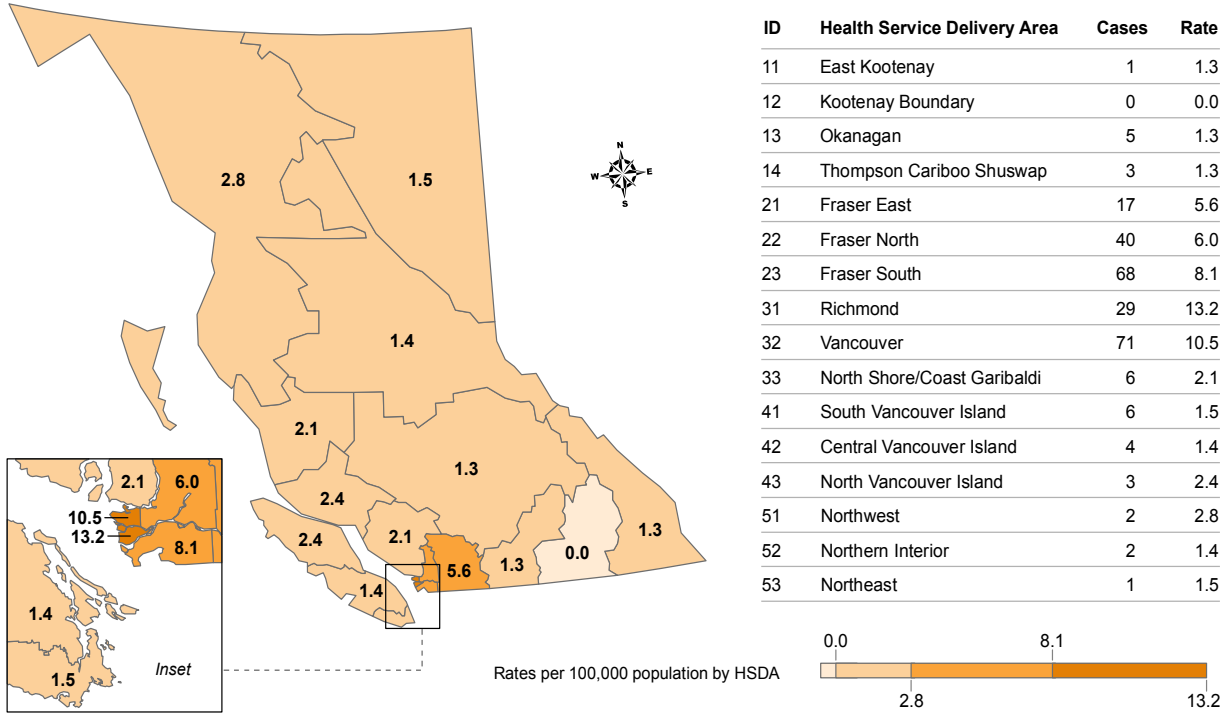


15.1 Tuberculosis Rates by Year, 2008-2017



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Reports	312	314	251	276	299	270	292	273	241	263
BC Rate	7.17	7.12	5.62	6.13	6.58	5.88	6.28	5.82	5.07	5.46
Canada Rate	4.94	4.92	4.66	4.72	4.89	4.70	4.54	4.57	4.79	4.79

15.2 Tuberculosis Rates by HSDA, 2017



15.3 Tuberculosis Rates by Age Group and Sex, 2017

