



World Health
Organization

Stop TB Partnership

2009 TUBERCULOSIS FACTS

- TB is contagious and **spreads through the air**; if not treated, each person with active TB infects on average 10 to 15 people every year
- **1 in 10 people** infected with TB bacilli will become sick with active TB in their lifetime; people with HIV are at much greater risk
- More than **2 billion people**, equal to one-third of the world's population, are infected with TB bacilli, the microbes that cause TB
- TB is a **disease of poverty**; affecting mostly young adults in their most productive years. The vast majority of TB deaths are in the developing world, with more than half of all deaths occurring in Asia
- **1.77 million** people died from TB in 2007 including 456 000 people with HIV - equal to 4500 deaths a day
- There were **9.27 million new TB cases** in 2007, including 1.37 million cases among people living with HIV
- Globally, in 2007, the estimated incidence rate fell to **139 cases per 100 000 population** after peaking in 2004 at 142 cases per 100 000. Rates are **falling very slowly** in 5 WHO regions (the rate is stabilizing in Europe). The total number of deaths and cases is still rising due to population growth
- **5.5 million TB cases were notified by DOTS** in 2007 (component 1 of the Stop TB Strategy), with the global case detection rate of TB increasing to 63% from 62%
- **TB is a leading killer of people with HIV**. People who are HIV-positive and infected with TB are 20 to 40 times more likely to develop active TB than people not infected with HIV living in the same country
- The number of **HIV-positive TB cases is estimated to have peaked in 2005**. In 2007, more accurate data were used to estimate HIV/TB resulting in an almost doubling of reported cases. This reflects improvements in testing TB patients for HIV infection
- **Multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB)** is a form of TB that is difficult and expensive to treat and fails to respond to standard first-line drugs. **Extensively drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB)** occurs when resistance to second-line drugs develops on top of MDR-TB
- **5% of all TB cases have MDR-TB**, based on data from more than 100 countries collected during the last decade
- There were an estimated **500 000 new MDR-TB cases** in 2007 but less than 1% of them were receiving treatment that was known to be based on WHO's recommended standards
- In 2008, WHO released findings from its largest MDR-TB survey and reported the **highest rates of MDR-TB ever recorded** with peaks up to 22% of new TB cases in some settings of the former Soviet Union. In the same region 1 in 10 cases of MDR-TB is XDR-TB
- **27 countries account for 85% of all MDR-TB cases**. The top five countries with the largest number of cases are India, China, the Russian Federation, South Africa and Bangladesh
- By March 2009, XDR-TB cases have been confirmed in **54 countries** plus China Hong Kong SAR, and in all regions of the world

THE TB TARGETS FOR 2015

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| UN Millennium Development Goals: | to have halted and begun to reverse incidence
Current assessment - On target in all regions except E. Europe |
| The Stop TB Partnership targets: | halving prevalence and deaths by 2015 in comparison with 1990
Current assessment - Not on target in Africa and Europe |

**If the Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015
is fully funded and implemented**

14 million lives will be saved and 50 million people treated

The **WHO Stop TB Department** together with WHO regional and country offices: develops policies, strategies and standards; supports the efforts of WHO Member States; measures progress towards TB targets and assesses national programme performance, financing and impact; promotes research; and facilitates partnerships, advocacy and communication

The **Stop TB Partnership** (with its secretariat housed by WHO) is a network of more than 1 000 stakeholders; it has a Coordinating Board and 7 working groups: DOTS Expansion; Global Laboratory Initiative; MDR-TB; TB/HIV; New Drugs; New Diagnostics; New Vaccines