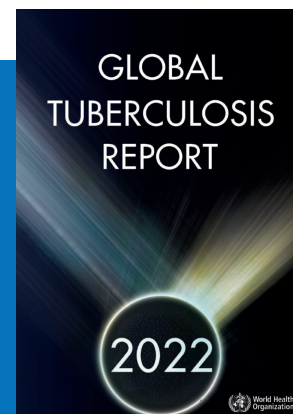


Global Tuberculosis Report 2022

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Key Points:

Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable disease that is a major cause of ill health and one of the leading causes of death worldwide. Until the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, TB was the leading cause of death from a single infectious agent, ranking above HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the report is to provide a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the status of the TB epidemic and progress in the response at global, regional and national levels, in the context of global commitments, strategies and targets.



- Reductions in the reported number of TB cases in 2020 and 2021 indicate that the prevalence of undiagnosed and untreated TB has increased, which has led to an increase in TB-related deaths and communicable infection transmission and, with some lag time, an increase in the number of TB cases.
- The net decrease from 2015 to 2021 was 10%, which is only halfway to the first End TB Strategy milestone.
- Between 2019 and 2021, the estimated number of TB deaths increased globally, reversing years of decline between 2005 and 2019. According to estimates, 1.4 million HIV-negative people died in 2021.
- There was a fall between 2019 and 2020 in the number of people provided with treatment for RR-TB and multi-drug-resistant TB (MDR-TB).

ON A POSITIVE NOTE...

- The success rate for those receiving TB treatment in 2020 was 86% globally, the same as in 2019, indicating that the standard of care was upheld during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In five high-TB burden nations—Bangladesh, the Congo, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, and Uganda—the reported number of people newly diagnosed with TB in 2021 recovered to 2019 levels (or beyond) after significant drops in 2020.
- The global target for providing treatment to people living with HIV was surpassed, and in 2021, the number of people receiving TB preventive treatment recovered to levels that were too similar to those of 2019.

GLOBAL TB COMMITMENTS, STRATEGY AND TARGETS

- Reaching the milestones and targets for reductions in TB incidence required an annual decline in the TB incidence rate of 4–5% per year by 2020, accelerating to 10% per year by 2025 and then to an average of 17% per year from 2025 to 2035. Also, reductions in the case fatality ratio to 10% by 2020.
- Efforts to step up political commitment to the fight against TB intensified in 2017 with the WHO global ministerial conference and 2018 with the UN General Assembly.

TB CASE NOTIFICATIONS

- The most obvious and immediate impact on TB of disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic was a large global fall in the number of people newly diagnosed with TB and reported in 2020, compared with 2019- some recovery in 2021 is evident in two of the six WHO regions: the Americas and South-East Asia.
- Most (90%) of the global reduction in the reported number of people newly diagnosed with TB between 2019 and 2020 was accounted for by 10 countries.

DEATHS CAUSED BY TB

- The number of people with undiagnosed and untreated TB has grown, resulting first in an increased number of TB deaths and more community transmission of infection.
- Globally, the annual estimated number of deaths from TB fell between 2005 and 2019, but the estimates for 2020 and 2021 suggest that this trend has been reversed. There were an estimated 1.4 million deaths among HIV-negative people and 187 000 deaths among HIV-positive people in 2021.
- Producing estimates of TB disease burden during the COVID-19 pandemic is difficult, therefore, is necessary to develop new methods for estimating as they rely heavily on country-specific and region-specific dynamic models.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE DEVELOPING TB

- An estimated 10.6 million people (95% UI : 9.9–11 million) fell ill with TB worldwide in 2021.
- The TB incidence rate (new cases per 100 000 population per year) is estimated to have increased by 3.6% between 2020 and 2021.
- TB can affect anyone, regardless of age or sex. The highest burden is in adult men, who accounted for 56.5% of all TB cases in 2021; by comparison, adult women accounted for 32.5% and children for 11% of cases.

MILESTONES FOR REDUCING TB DISEASE BURDEN

- The milestones were set for 2020 but have not yet been reached either globally or in most WHO regions and countries.
- Globally, the reduction in the total number of TB deaths between 2015 and 2021 was 5.9%, about one sixth of the way to the milestone of 35%.
- The estimated number of TB deaths in 2021 was higher than in 2015 in the WHO regions of the Americas (+31%).

TB TREATMENT

- TB treatment saved 74 million lives globally between 2000 and 2021.
- Most of those provided with TB preventive treatment were people living with HIV. The global sub-target of providing TB preventive treatment to 6 million people living with HIV between 2018 and 2022 was achieved well ahead of schedule.

TB PREVENTION

- The main health care intervention available to reduce the risk of TB infection progressing to active TB disease is TB preventive treatment.
- The global number of people provided with TB preventive treatment in 2021 was 3.5 million – still slightly below the level of 3.6 million that was reached in 2019.
- The combined total of 12.5 million in 2018–2021 is only 42% of the target of 30 million for the 5-year period 2018–2022.

FUNDING FOR ESSENTIAL TB SERVICES

- By 2022, US\$ 13 billion is needed annually for TB prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care to achieve the global target agreed at the UN high level-meeting on TB in 2018.
- Funding in low and middle income countries that account for 98% of reported TB cases falls far short of what is needed, and it fell between 2019 and 2021.
- **As in the previous 10 years, most of the funding used in 2021 was from domestic sources for TB diagnostic, treatment and prevention services.**

TB RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- When these targets were first established, it was highlighted that technological breakthroughs would be needed by 2025
- There is progress in the development of new TB diagnostics, drugs and vaccines. However, this is constrained by the overall level of investment.
- There were 16 vaccine candidates in clinical trials by September 2022 and there were 26 drugs for the treatment of TB disease in Phase I, Phase II or Phase III trials.

The overarching finding of this report is that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a damaging impact on access to TB diagnosis and treatment and the burden of TB disease.

The key is that greater funding and intensified efforts are urgently needed to reduce and reverse the pandemic's harmful effects on TB.

In light of the conflict in Ukraine, other ongoing conflicts around the world, the global energy crisis, and related risks to food security, which are likely to exacerbate some of the more general determinants of TB, the need for action has become even more urgent.