

Trends in Tuberculosis — United States, 2013

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World TB Day — March 24, 2014

Each year, World TB Day is observed on March 24. This annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacillus that causes tuberculosis (TB). World TB Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness about TB-related problems and solutions and to support worldwide TB control efforts. For 2014, CDC selected the theme “Find TB. Treat TB. Working together to eliminate TB.” Health officials in local and state TB programs are encouraged to reach out to their communities to raise awareness about TB and partner with others who are caring for those most at risk for TB. Everyone has a role in ensuring that one day TB will be eliminated.

In 2013, a total of 9,588 new TB cases were reported in the United States, for a rate of 3.0 cases per 100,000 (1). Although the number of TB cases continues to decline, challenges remain that slow progress toward the goal of TB elimination in the United States. TB still persists at greater incidence rates in specific populations. Foreign-born persons and racial/ethnic minorities continue to be affected disproportionately.

CDC is committed to a world free of TB. Initiatives to improve awareness, testing, and treatment of latent TB infection and TB disease among high-risk groups are critical to reaching the goal of TB elimination in the United States. Additional information about World TB Day and CDC's TB elimination activities is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/events/worldtbdays>.

Reference

1. CDC. Trends in tuberculosis—United States, 2013. MMWR 2014;63:229–33.

In 2013, a total of 9,588 new tuberculosis (TB) cases were reported in the United States, with an incidence rate of 3.0 cases per 100,000 population, a decrease of 4.2% from 2012 (1). This report summarizes provisional TB surveillance data reported to CDC in 2013. Although case counts and incidence rates continue to decline, certain populations are disproportionately affected. The TB incidence rate among foreign-born persons in 2013 was approximately 13 times greater than the incidence rate among U.S.-born persons, and the proportion of TB cases occurring in foreign-born persons continues to increase, reaching 64.6% in 2013. Racial/ethnic disparities in TB incidence persist, with TB rates among non-Hispanic Asians almost 26 times greater than among non-Hispanic whites. Four states (California, Texas, New York, and Florida), home to approximately one third of the U.S. population,

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Continuing Education examination available at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/cme/conted_info.html#weekly.

