



## Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Tuberculosis Control Program

### 2005 Epidemiology Fact Sheet

#### Foreign-Born Tuberculosis Cases

1. In 2005, 7,693 foreign-born TB cases were reported in the United States, representing 54.6% of the total 14,097 TB cases in the nation. There has been a steady increase in the percentage of foreign-born TB cases in the United States since 1993 (7,404 cases, 29.5%). TB case rates among the foreign-born are also consistently higher than rates in US-born persons. In 2005, the foreign-born TB case rate was 21.9 cases per 100,000 population compared to 2.5 cases per 100,000 population for US-born TB cases.<sup>1</sup>
2. In 2005, 2,232 foreign-born TB cases were reported in California, representing 76.9% of the total 2,903 TB cases in the state.<sup>2</sup>
3. In the year 2005, there were 906 cases of TB reported in Los Angeles County. Of the total 906 cases, 704 (77.7%) were foreign-born. The foreign-born TB cases were reported from 49 different countries and areas.<sup>3</sup> Of the 704 foreign-born TB cases, 250 (35.5%) were from Mexico, 115 (16.3%) from the Philippines, 45 (6.4%) from Vietnam, 42 (6.0%) from China, 38 (5.4%) from Guatemala, and 29 (4.1%) from El Salvador.
4. Of the 704 foreign-born TB cases, 421 (59.8%) were male and 283 (40.2%) were female.
5. Of the 704 foreign-born TB cases, the majority of cases occurred in the 15-34 year old age group with 170 cases (24.1%), followed by the 65 years and older age group (163 cases, 23.2%), the 35-44 age group (147 cases, 20.9 %), the 45-54 age group (127 cases, 18.0%) and the 55-64 age group (91 cases, 12.9%). Among Black and Hispanic foreign-born TB cases, the highest percentages were in the 15-34 year old age group (46.2% and 31.8%, respectively). For Whites and Asians, the highest percentages were in the 65 years and older age group (33.3% and 31.4%, respectively).
6. The racial and ethnic background of the foreign-born TB cases was 349 (49.6%) Hispanic, 312 (44.3%) Asian, 30 (4.3%) White, and 13 (1.8%) Black.
7. In 2005, of the 704 foreign-born TB cases, 42 (6.0 %) were co-infected with HIV. Of these 42, thirty-eight (90.5%) cases were Hispanic, 3 (7.1%) were Asian, and 1 (2.4%) was Black.
8. In 2005, 16 (2.3 %) foreign-born TB cases were homeless. Most (14 cases, 87.5%) were Hispanic.
9. Five hundred twenty-four (74.4%) cases were diagnosed as pulmonary TB and 180 (25.6%) cases as extra-pulmonary TB only.

1. CDC. Reported Tuberculosis in the United States, 2005. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CDC, September 2006.

2. California Department of Health Services. Report on Tuberculosis in California, 2005.

3. Epidemiology Services, TB Control Program, Department of Health and Services, Los Angeles County. Tuberculosis Epidemiology Assessment (TEAM) Report 2005; Volume 2005.