



Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Tuberculosis Control Program

2006 Epidemiology Fact Sheet Asian/Pacific Islander Tuberculosis Cases

1. In the United States, 3,298 TB cases were reported in Asians and 56 cases were reported in Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders in 2006. Thus, a total of 3,354 TB cases were reported in Asian and Pacific Islanders, representing 24.3% of the total 13,779 TB cases in the nation. The incidence rate of tuberculosis in Asians was higher than in any other racial/ethnic group (25.6 cases per 100,000). Incidence of TB was 13.6 cases per 100,000 in Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders, 10.2 cases per 100,000 in African Americans, 9.2 cases per 100,000 in Hispanics, and 1.2 cases per 100,000 in non-Hispanic Whites.¹
2. In California, in the year 2006, 1,223 cases were reported in Asian/Pacific Islanders, representing 44% of the total 2,779 cases in the state. The incidence of TB in Asian/Pacific Islanders was 25.6 cases per 100,000.²
3. In 2006, there were 885 TB cases in Los Angeles County (LAC). Of these, 329 cases were in Asian/Pacific Islanders, representing 37.2% of the total TB cases in LAC, and the incidence was 25.9 cases per 100,000. Among the TB cases in LAC, Asian/Pacific Islanders were the second leading racial/ethnic group after Hispanics (394 cases, 44.5%). The proportion of Asian/Pacific Islander TB cases increased slightly since 2005 (323 cases, 35.7%).³
4. In 2006, of the 329 Asian/Pacific Islander TB cases, 181 (55%) were male and 148 (45%) were female.
5. The largest number of Asian/Pacific Islander TB cases was found in the 65 years and older age group with 102 cases (31%), followed by the 15-34 year age group with 69 cases (21%), then the 55-64, 45-54, and the 35-44 year age group with 55 cases (16.7%) , 54 cases (16.4%) and 41 cases (12.5%) respectively, and the 0-4 year age group with 5 (1.5%) cases.
6. Of 329 Asian/Pacific Islander TB cases, the majority were foreign-born 315 (95.7%). Of these 315, most (127, 40.3%), were born in the Philippines, followed by 43 (13.6%) in China, 37 (11.8%) in Vietnam, 26 (8.3%) in Republic of Korea, 21 (6.7%) in Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 11 (3.5%) in India, 9 each (2.9%) from Indonesia and China (Taiwan), 7 each (2.2%) from Cambodia and Thailand, 6 (1.9%) in Burma, 5 (1.6%) in Japan, 3 (0.9%) in Hong Kong, and one each (0.3%) from Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, and Tonga.
7. In 2006, 6 (1.8%) TB cases were co-infected with HIV among the 329 Asian/Pacific Islander TB cases.
8. In 2006, there was 1 (0.3%) homeless TB case among the 329 Asian/Pacific Islander TB cases. This case was a foreign-born male.
9. Two hundred sixty-three cases (79.9%) were diagnosed as pulmonary TB, and 66 (20.1%) as extra-pulmonary TB only.

1. CDC. Reported Tuberculosis in the United States, 2006. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; September 2007.

Note: CDC classifies Asian/Pacific Islanders into two separate groups: (1) Asians or (2) Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders. In California and Los Angeles County, Asians and Pacific Islanders are classified into one group, Asian/Pacific Islanders.

TB cases in Pasadena and Long Beach are not included in the report because these two cities have their own TB Control Programs.

2. California Department of Public Health. Report on Tuberculosis in California, 2006. August 2007.
3. Epidemiology Services, TB Control Program, Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County. Tuberculosis Epidemiology Assessment (TEAM) Report 2006.