1. In the United States, in the year 2006, of the 12,842 TB cases with information on homeless status, 796 (6.2%) were homeless.¹

2. In California 2006, of the 2,749 TB cases with information on homeless status, 167 (6.1%) homeless.²

**Los Angeles County 2006**³

3. A total of 885 cases were reported in Los Angeles County in 2006. Forty-nine (5.5%) were homeless. This represents a 8.9% increase in the number of homeless cases from 2005 (45 cases).

4. The majority (93.9%) of homeless TB cases was male (46 cases).

5. The highest number of homeless TB cases reported was in the 45-54 year age group (19 cases, 38.8%), followed by the age groups 35-44 (15 cases, 30.6%), 55-64 (8 cases, 16.3%) and 15-34 (7 cases, 14.3%) respectively. No cases for 0-4, 5-14 and 65+ year age groups.

6. The racial/ethnic breakdown of homeless TB cases was 44.9% Hispanics (22 cases), 34.7% Black (17 cases), 18.4% White (9 cases), and 2.0% Asian (1 case).

7. Twenty-eight (57.1%) of the homeless TB cases were born in the U.S. Twenty cases (40.8%) were foreign-born, and the country of origin was unknown for 1 case. Of the 20 foreign-born homeless TB cases, 12 cases (60%) were born in Mexico, 2 (10.0%) in El Salvador and 2 (10.0%) in Guatemala. One case each was born in Argentina, Bosnia, China and Cuba.

8. Of the 49 homeless TB cases, 81.6% (40 cases) were tested for HIV. Of these 40, 30% (12 cases) were identified with HIV co-infection. This is more than four times the percentage of HIV co-infected patients in Los Angeles County as a whole in 2006.

9. Most of the homeless cases (8 cases, 16.3%) were located in the Central Health District, a region characterized by high population density, severe poverty and large numbers of persons with other risk factors for TB such as HIV infection, injection/non-injection drug use and severe alcohol abuse. The Hollywood Health District had the second highest number of homeless TB cases (7 cases, 14.3%) followed by South (6 cases, 12.2%) and Southwest (4 cases, 8.1%).

10. Forty-four homeless TB cases (89.8%) were diagnosed as pulmonary TB and 5 cases (10.2%) as extrapulmonary TB only.

---

³ Epidemiology Services, TB Control Program, Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County. Tuberculosis Epidemiology Assessment (TEAM) Report 2006.

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