



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



TB Cases Notified in Ireland in 2009,
Provisional Data (as of 31st August 2010)

A Report by the
Health Protection Surveillance Centre

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There were 472 cases of TB provisionally notified in 2009. It is important to note that these data are provisional and **may change significantly following validation**.

A summary of the data is shown in table A1.

Table A1: Provisional summary of the epidemiology of TB in Ireland, 2009

Parameter	2009
Total number of cases	472
Crude notification rate per 100,000	11.1
Cases in indigenous population [*]	267 (56.6%)
Cases in foreign-born persons	191 (40.5%)
Culture positive cases	242 (51.3%)
Pulmonary cases [†]	311 (65.9%)
Of which sputum smear positive	136 (43.7%)
Resistant cases	12 (2.5%)
Multi-drug resistant cases	0 (0.0%)
TB meningitis cases	7 (1.5%)

Crude incidence rates by HSE area

The total number of TB cases in each HSE area is shown in table A2 with crude incidence rates and 95% confidence intervals included.

Table A2: Provisional TB cases in each HSE area, 2009

HSE Area	Number of cases	Crude rate per 100,000	95% CI for rate
HSE-E	219	14.6	12.7 - 16.5
HSE-M	25	9.9	6.0 - 13.8
HSE-MW	27	7.5	4.7 – 10.3
HSE-NE	26	6.6	4.1 – 9.1
HSE-NW	25	10.5	6.4 – 14.7
HSE-SE	39	8.5	5.8 – 11.1
HSE-S	85	13.7	10.8 – 16.6
HSE-W	26	6.3	3.9 – 8.7
Ireland	472	11.1	10.1 - 12.1

^{*} Country of birth unknown for 14 cases

[†] Includes the cases categorised as pulmonary +extrapulmonary (P+E)

Age and Gender

There were 293 cases (62.1%) of TB notified in males and 175 cases (37.1%) in females, giving a male to female ratio of 1.7:1. The mean age of cases notified was 44 years (range 0 to 91 years).

Geographic origin

Of the 472 cases provisionally notified in 2009, 267 (56.6%) were born in Ireland and 191 (40.5%) were foreign-born. Information on country of birth was not reported for 14 cases (3.0%).

Site of disease

Of the 472 cases provisionally notified in 2009, pulmonary TB was diagnosed in 292 cases (61.9%), extrapulmonary TB in 159 cases (33.7%) and pulmonary and extrapulmonary TB in 19 cases (4.0%). The site of disease was unknown for 2 cases (0.4%).

Of the 311 cases with a pulmonary disease component, 171 (55.0%) were culture positive and 136 (43.7%) were smear positive.

TB meningitis

There were seven cases of TB meningitis provisionally notified in 2009 giving an incidence rate of 0.17 per 100,000 population (1.7 per million population). Two of the cases were in the 0-4 year age group, two were in the 25-44 year age group, two were in the 45-64 year age group and one was aged over 65 years. Five of the cases were reported as having received the BCG vaccination. Three cases were culture positive (one each in the 25-34 year, 35-44 year and 55-64 year age groups) and one was culture negative (in the 0-4 year age group).

Culture

Of the 472 cases provisionally notified in 2009, 242 (51.3%) were culture confirmed.

Species

Among the 242 culture positive cases, 221 (91.3%) were *M. tuberculosis* and four (1.7%) were *M. bovis*. The species was not provided for 17 (7.0%) of the culture positive cases.

Antibiotic resistance

Resistance was reported in 12 of the 242 culture positive cases (5.0%). Mono-resistance to isoniazid was reported in six cases. Mono-resistance to pyrazinamide, to ethambutol, and to streptomycin was recorded in one case each. Two cases were resistant to isoniazid plus streptomycin and one case was resistant to isoniazid, pyrazinamide plus streptomycin. There were no cases of MDR-TB.