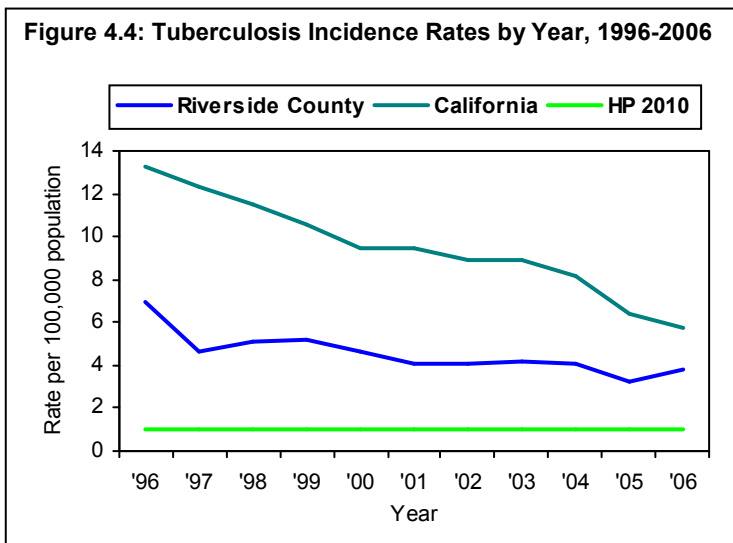


TUBERCULOSIS

DISEASE ABSTRACT

- In 2006, there were 74 reported cases of tuberculosis, with an incidence rate of 3.8 cases per 100,000 population.
- Every case of tuberculosis reported in Riverside County requires case management that may include at least six months of treatment, directly-observed therapy, contact investigation, and treatment of infected contacts.
- Six cases of multi-drug resistant (MDR) tuberculosis were reported in 2006. MDR requires 18-24 months of treatment and intensive case management.

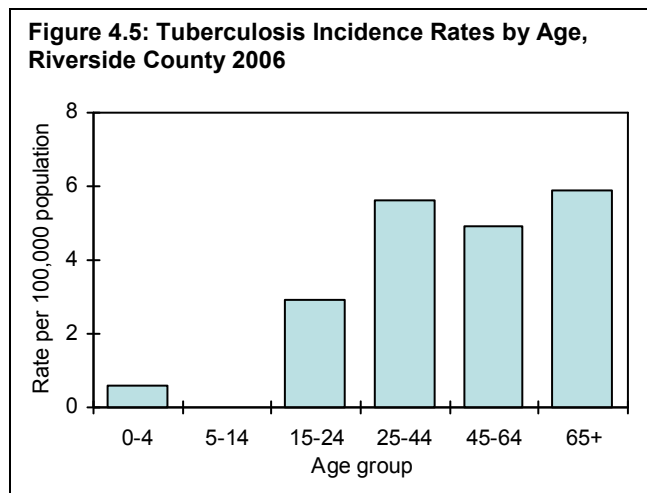
Figure 4.4: Tuberculosis Incidence Rates by Year, 1996-2006



AGE

In 2006, the rate of tuberculosis was highest in those aged 65 years and older (5.9 per 100,000 population). These elevated rates in older populations may be due to reactivation of latent infection related to decreased immune system function as age progresses. It is important to note that cases still occur in children aged 4 years and younger. This is an indication of recent disease transmission. In the case of a child 4 years or younger, a source-case investigation is initiated to attempt to locate the person who infected the child.

Figure 4.5: Tuberculosis Incidence Rates by Age, Riverside County 2006

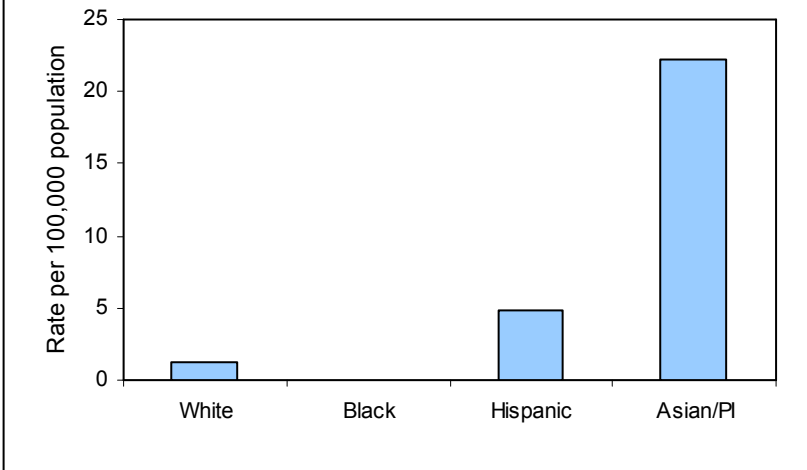


TRENDS

In the early part of the 20th century, tuberculosis was the leading cause of death and a significant cause of morbidity in the United States. With the discovery of an effective antibiotic treatment against the disease, rates dramatically decreased until the mid-1980s. At that time, national rates of tuberculosis began to increase, peaking in the early 1990s. The resurgence of tuberculosis was due to the increase of an immunocompromised population due to HIV/AIDS, inadequate treatment, and insufficient funding for tuberculosis control programs. Since the late 1990s, tuberculosis rates have declined due to extensive public health interventions.

Reported tuberculosis rates in California and Riverside County have generally mirrored national trends. In Riverside County, incidence of tuberculosis cases peaked in 1993 with 121 cases. Since then, the number of reported cases has decreased to 74 cases (3.8 cases per 100,000 population) in 2006. This is still above the Healthy People 2010 objective of one case per 100,000 population, but below the California 2006 incidence rate of 5.7 cases per 100,000 population.

Figure 4.6: Tuberculosis Incidence Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Riverside County 2006



RACE/ETHNICITY

In Riverside County, tuberculosis disproportionately affects minorities, with the highest incidence occurring in Asian/Pacific Islanders (22.3 cases per 100,000 population) followed by Hispanics (4.8 cases per 100,000 population). Only non-Hispanic White and Black case rates are approaching the Healthy People 2010 overall goal of one case per 100,000 population.

FOREIGN BORN

Immigration of persons from countries with high rates of tuberculosis continues to be a major issue in the control of tuberculosis. In 2006, more than seventy percent of reported tuberculosis cases were among immigrants. The median time between the arrival in the United States and diagnosis of disease was 10.0 years for cases reported in 2006. Most of the foreign-born cases originated in Mexico (33.8 percent), followed by the Philippines (9.5 percent) and Vietnam (6.8 percent).

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The incidence rates for tuberculosis were distributed throughout Riverside County in 2006 with the West region having the highest rate at 4.7 cases per 100,000 followed by the East region with 4.3 cases per 100,000 population and the South and Mid/Pass regions at 1.8 and 1.7 cases per 100,000 population.