

Public Health – Seattle & King County's Tuberculosis (TB) Program

Dr. Caitlin Reed, TB Medical Officer

Kevin M. Baker, Human Services Administrator, TB Program

Public Health – Seattle & King County

King County Board of Health, March 19, 2026

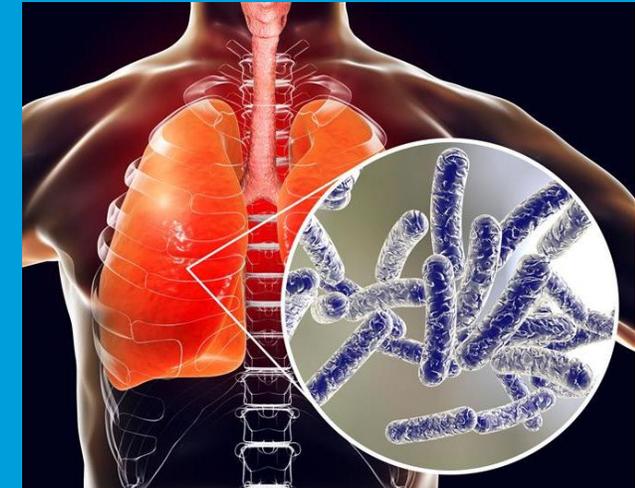
What is TB?

- TB is a bacteria that
 - Is spread through the air from a person who is sick with TB ("TB disease").
 - Can be treated and cured.
 - Can live in the body without causing illness or being contagious ("latent TB infection").
 - Mostly affects the lungs, but can affect any part of the body.



TB Program Priorities

- Ensures all patients with TB disease are treated until cured
- Identifies individuals in close, prolonged contact to someone with TB disease to offer medical evaluation and provide treatment, if necessary
- Identifies populations at increased risk of TB infection and progression to TB disease and offer education, testing and treatment proactively
- Participate in research studies to identify shorter and more effective regimens to treat and cure TB infection and TB disease.



TB Program Staff

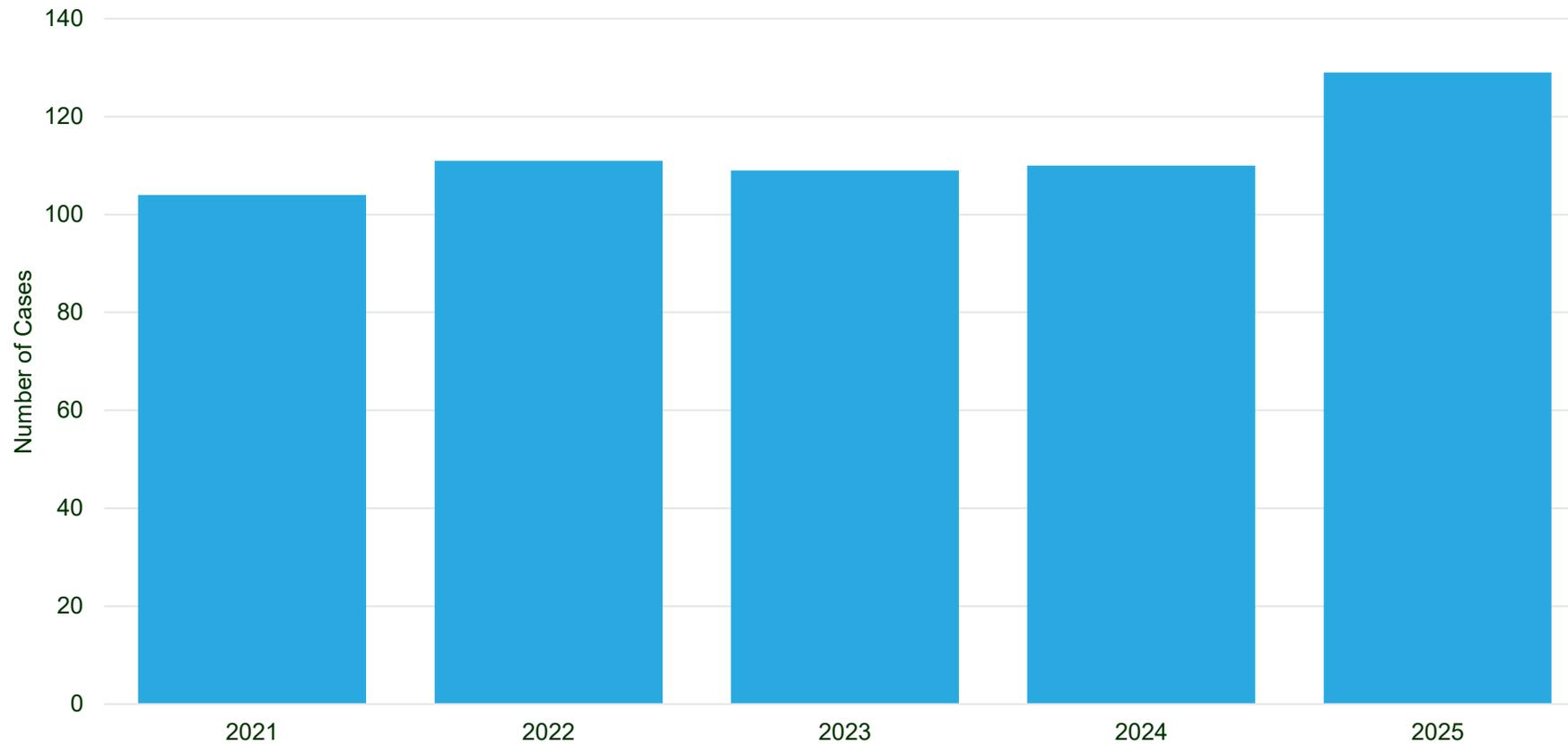
- The TB Program consists of about 35 multi-disciplinary staff



TB in King County

- Approximately 100 individuals are diagnosed with TB disease annually.
- An estimated 100,000 individuals are living with TB infection.

TB Case Counts in King County 2021–2025

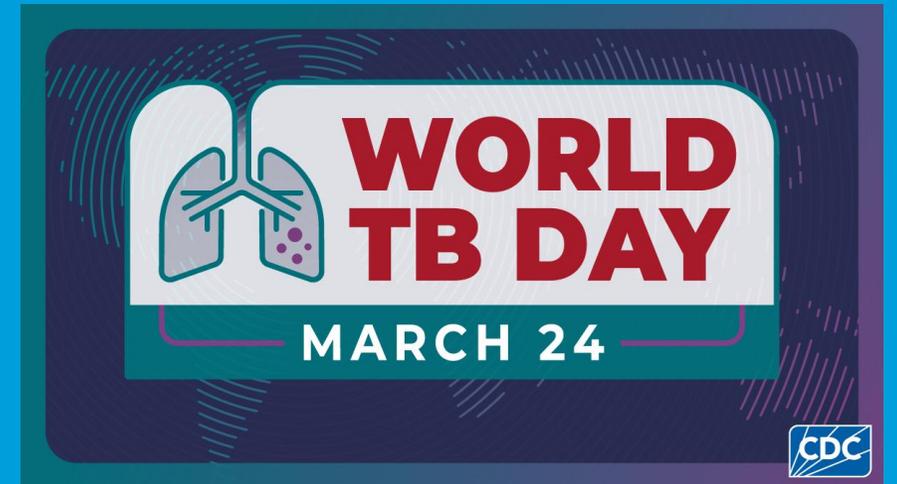


TB incidence
King County
~4.7/100,000

United States
2.9/100,000

World TB Day

- Observed annually on March 24 to commemorate the day Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of the germ that causes TB, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.
- This year's theme is "Yes! We Can End TB!"
- World TB Day is a day to educate the public about the impact of TB around the world and recognize the public health professionals working diligently to prevent and treat TB.



Questions? Contact:

KCBOHAdmin@kingcounty.gov

Tuberculosis Program

Public Health – Seattle & King County

Located at Harborview Medical Center

325 9th Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

Phone: 206-744-4579

kingcounty.gov/TB