

Nebraska 2024 Tuberculosis Annual Report

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Tuberculosis (TB) Program has released its 2024 surveillance data. A total of 41 TB cases were reported in Nebraska in 2024, an increase of seven cases compared to the 34 cases reported in 2023. The 41 reported cases mark the highest annual case count in the past 20 years. Nebraska TB case rate in 2024 was 2.0 cases per 100,000 population, up from 1.7 per 100,000 people in 2023. Nationally, the TB case rate also increased slightly, rising from 2.9 to 3.0 cases per 100,000 people during the same period.

DHHS continues to partner with local health departments, federal agencies, prisons, infectious disease specialists, and the international communities to prevent and manage TB in Nebraska. The program continues to monitor elevated risk populations affected by drug resistance, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and other comorbid conditions.

Directly observed therapy (DOT) is the standard of care for all active disease patients. DOT includes a healthcare worker observing the patient ingest his or her prescribed TB medication regimen to ensure treatment compliance. Local health departments, with Nebraska DHHS support, oversee DOT and provide case management services across Nebraska. Residents of Nebraska who meet income and resource guidelines may qualify for financial assistance through the Nebraska DHHS TB Program. The Nebraska TB program collaborates with the Mayo TB Center of Excellence for educational needs and expert medical consultation.

Tuberculosis Cases in Nebraska by Year and Local Health Department, 2020-2024

| Health Department or District Name | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Central District HD | * | * | * | * | * | 11 |
| Dakota County HD | * | 0 | * | * | * | 9 |
| Douglas County HD | 16 | 10 | 15 | 18 | 22 | 81 |
| East Central HD | * | 0 | 0 | * | * | * |
| Elkhorn Logan Valley HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | * |
| Four Corners HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lancaster County HD | 8 | * | * | * | 7 | 27 |
| Loup Basin Public HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| North Central District HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Northeast Nebraska Public HD | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |
| Panhandle Public HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Public Health Solutions | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | * |
| Sarpy Cass Counties HD | * | 0 | * | 0 | * | * |
| South Heartland District HD | 0 | * | 0 | * | * | * |
| Southeast District HD | 0 | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | * |
| Southwest Nebraska Public HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | * | * |
| Three Rivers Public HD | 0 | 0 | * | 0 | * | * |
| Two Rivers Public HD | * | * | * | * | * | 10 |
| West Central District HD | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 33 | 22 | 29 | 34 | 41 | 159 |

Footnote: * Indicates that cells with counts between 1 and 5 have been suppressed to protect privacy.
Data obtained from National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS)

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