



Tuberculosis

Why is tuberculosis important to Iowans?

TB remains a public health problem in Iowa, with an average of 46 cases reported each year. To ensure all patients are treated properly and take medications as prescribed, local health departments provide directly observed therapy to all patients diagnosed with TB disease. In 2018, 98% of eligible patients with TB disease completed treatment.

Over 1,000 Iowans are diagnosed with latent TB infection each year. Latent TB infection (LTBI) can lead to future cases of TB disease.

Infectious cases of TB must be treated to prevent others from becoming infected. IDPH and local public health staff work to evaluate the contacts of those infected. On average, over 400 contacts to infectious cases of TB are evaluated each year.

Early treatment saves money! Treating someone with a latent TB infection costs approximately \$500. Treating someone who has developed TB disease costs approximately \$18,000; multidrug-resistant TB, \$160,000; and extensively drug-resistant TB, \$513,000.

Did you know?

Patients who do not take their medications correctly or are improperly treated can develop a virtually untreatable form of Tuberculosis (TB).

A focus on health equity

The [TB Program](#) provides medications free of charge for the treatment of patients with Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI) and TB disease, regardless of insurance coverage.

What does the department do?

- Provide funding for local health departments to give TB tests, treatment and chest x-rays for TB patients.
- Provide funding for the University of Iowa Hygienic Lab to perform state-of-the-art TB laboratory testing.
- IDPH conducts surveillance and disease investigation for all TB cases reported to IDPH.
- Provide consultation to clinicians who evaluate and treat Iowans with LTBI and TB disease.
- Provides medication and case management for more than 1,200 Iowans with LTBI and 46 cases of TB disease each year on average.
- Ensure medications for active and suspected cases of TB are shipped within 24 hours of the prescription being written.
- Ensure medications for LTBI are sent within three working days of the prescription being issued.

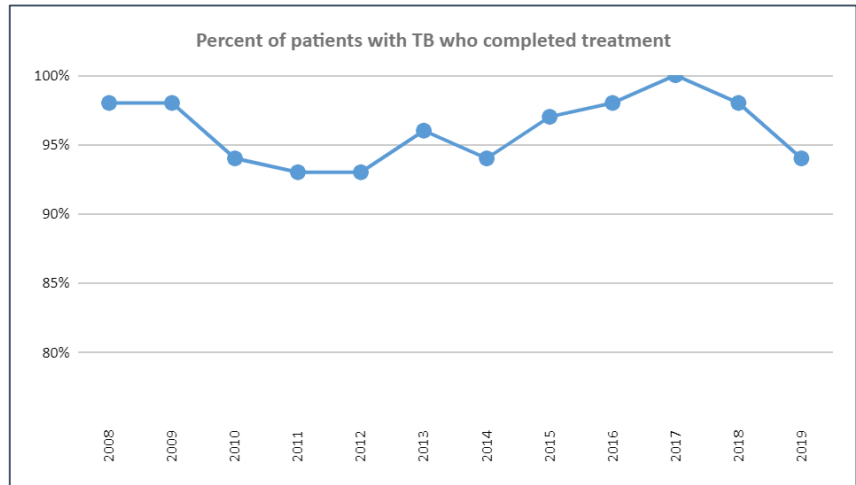
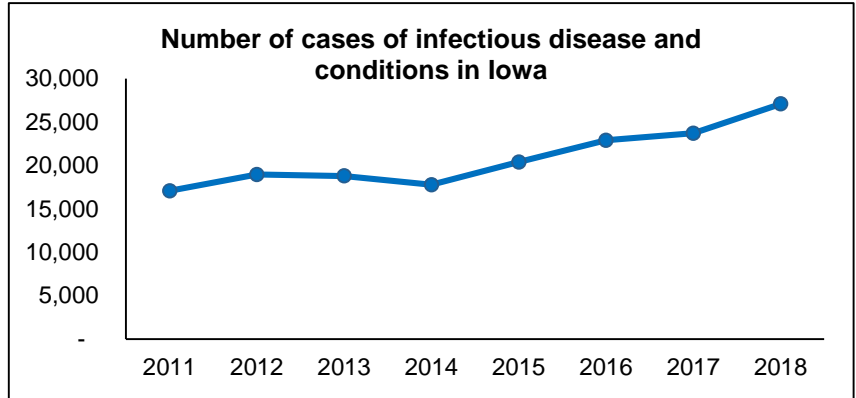


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What can Iowans do to help?

- Maintain a healthy lifestyle, especially when visiting countries where TB is common. For more information, go to wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/yellowBookCh4-TB.aspx.
- Local public health should follow recognized standards when caring for TB patients. For more information, go to <https://idph.iowa.gov/immtd/tb/local-public-health>.
- Clinicians should be vigilant about the early diagnosis of TB and ensure proper treatment. For more information, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/guidelines/default.htm>.

How do we measure our progress?



Resources

	SFY 2019 Actual	SFY 2020 Actual	SFY 2021 Estimate
State Funds	\$98,639	\$118,214	\$118,214
Federal Funds	\$320,793	\$311,958	\$371,707
Total Funds	\$419,432	\$430,172	\$489,921
FTEs	1.85	1.76	1.65