

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

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### **14-14. Reduce the average time for a laboratory to confirm and report tuberculosis cases.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	Survey of State Public Health Laboratories, CDC, NCHHSTP.
<b>State Data Source</b>	Survey of State Public Health Laboratories, CDC, NCHHSTP.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	None.
<b>Measure</b>	Mean number of days per case for the most rapidly confirmed 75 percent of cases detected in State health laboratories.
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	21 (1996)
<b>Target</b>	2
<b>Target-Setting Method</b>	90 percent improvement.  For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
<b>Numerator</b>	Sum of the number of days (from receipt of an initial diagnostic specimen from a suspected case to confirming it as coming from a case of tuberculosis among the most rapidly confirmed 75 percent of laboratory-confirmed tuberculosis cases), as reported by all participating State health laboratories.
<b>Denominator</b>	Sum of the number of all the cases of tuberculosis confirmed by each State health laboratory, as reported by all participating State health laboratories, multiplied by a factor of 0.75.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	From the 1996 National Survey of State Public Health Laboratories:

[NUMERATOR:]

- For the most rapidly confirmed 75% of the laboratory- confirmed tuberculosis cases, what was the mean number of days or hours from receipt of an initial diagnostic specimen from a suspected case to confirming it as coming from a case of tuberculosis?
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean number of days (hours) to confirm 75% of tuberculosis cases.

[DENOMINATOR:]

- How many cases of tuberculosis were confirmed by your laboratory?
- \_\_\_\_\_ number of laboratory-confirmed tuberculosis cases

**Expected Periodicity**      Periodic.

**Comments**                      The mean number of days was calculated by summing the number of days it takes each State health laboratory to confirm 75 percent of the most rapidly confirmed cases out of all its laboratory-confirmed cases of tuberculosis and dividing by the total number of cases confirmed in all participating State health laboratories that constituted the 75 percent most rapidly confirmed cases..<sup>1,2</sup>

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.

## References

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1. Denniston, M.M.; Bird, B.R.; Kelley, K.A. Contrast of survey results between State and a cohort of non-State mycobacteriology laboratories: Changes in laboratory practices. *Journal of Clinical Microbiology* 35(2):422-426, 1997.
2. Bird, B.R.; Denniston, M.M.; Huebner, R.E.; et al. Changing practices in mycobacteriology: A follow-up survey of State and Territorial public health laboratories. *Journal of Clinical Microbiology* 34(3): 554-559, 1996.