



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Monthly publication of National Statistics on the Incidence of Tuberculosis (TB) in Cattle to end December 2013 for Great Britain

These statistics were released today, Wednesday 12 March 2014 at 09:30, with the next notice to be updated on Wednesday 16 April 2014 at 09:30.

These statistics are obtained from the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) work management IT support system (Sam), used for the administration of TB testing in GB. They are a snapshot of the position on the date on which the data were extracted. These statistics may be subject to regular revision until all test results are available. In particular figures from 2011 onwards will be subject to further revision as test and incident records are completed.

The key points relating to December 2013 are :-

- Short term changes in these statistics should be considered in the context of long term trends. The charts and tables in this statistical notice illustrate how the trend in bovine TB incidence has changed since 1996.
- The provisional incidence rate for January to December 2013 is 4.5% compared to 4.8% for January to December 2012. However, care needs to be taken not to read too much into short term figures, especially as this figure includes a number of unclassified incidents. As such, the incidence rates are subject to further revisions as more tests and their results for the period are input.
- The number of new herd incidents during the period January to December 2013 was 4,815 compared to 5,153 for January to December 2012. The number of tests on officially TB free herds was 72,143 during January to December 2013, compared to 73,658 during January to December 2012.
- The number of cattle compulsorily slaughtered as reactors or direct contacts was 32,620 during January to December 2013, compared to 37,734 during January to December 2012.

Enquiries to :- tbstatistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk
Media Enquiries to :- 0207 238 6007 (Press Office)

A National Statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference. For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service: tel. 0845 601 3034 email info@statistics.gov.uk. You can find National Statistics on the internet at www.statistics.gov.uk.

Figure 1: Number of officially TB free herd status being withdrawn incidents, as a percentage of tests on officially TB free herds :-

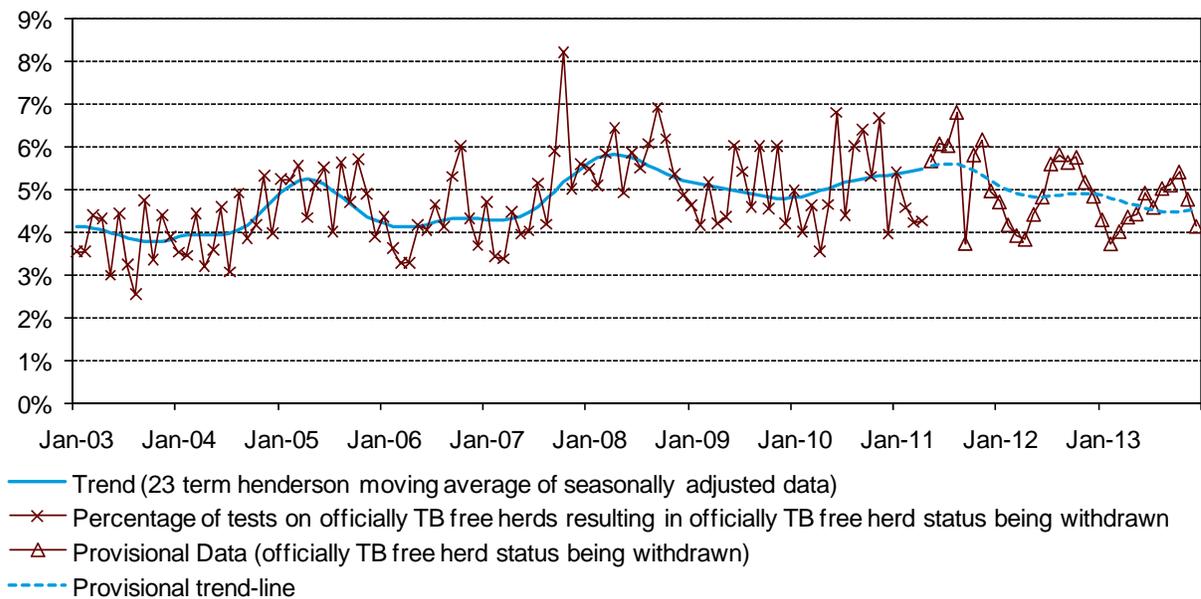
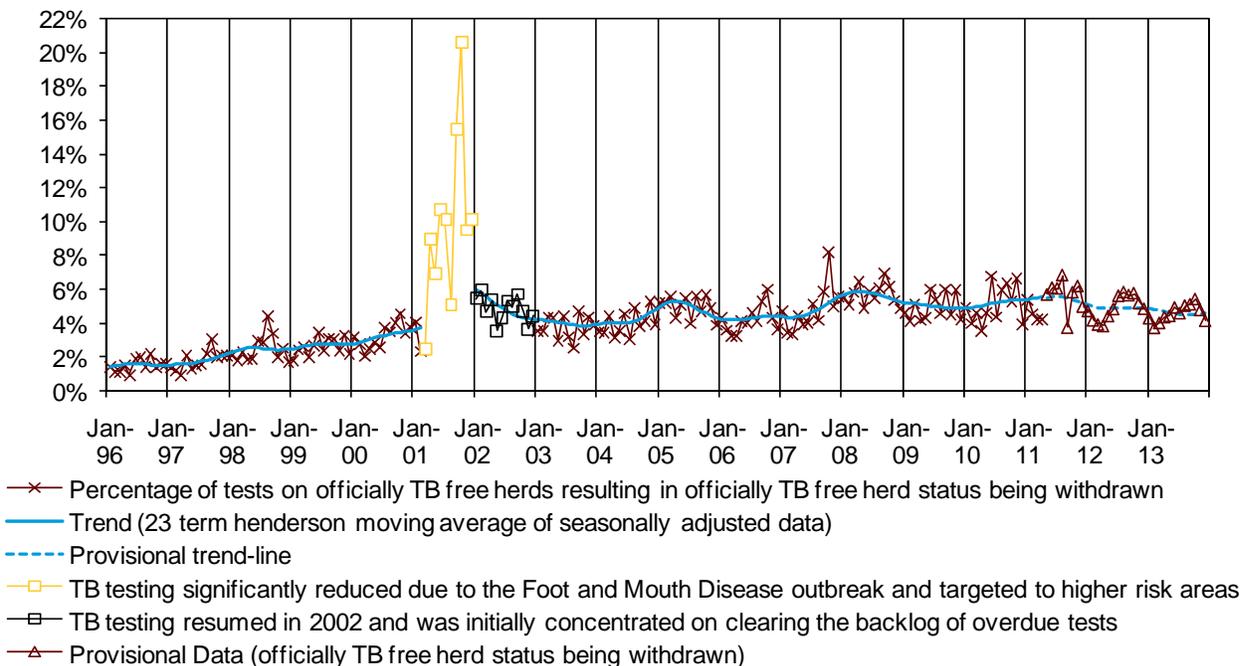


Figure 2: Number of officially TB free herd status being withdrawn incidents, as a percentage of tests on officially TB free herds :-



The charts published in this statistical notice, together with the equivalent figures from January 1996 onwards, are also available in spreadsheet format on the Defra web site at :-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/incidence-of-tuberculosis-tb-in-cattle-in-great-britain>. Visit the third link (MS Excel spreadsheet) entitled "Incidence of TB in cattle in Great Britain - GB dataset".

Methodology

For a description of the data sources and methodology used in the calculation of the TB statistics, together with notes on data revisions policy etc. Refer to the Annex document at :- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/264371/bovinetb-annex-11dec13.pdf

Further Information

1. This statistical notice and a wide range of other statistics are available on the internet at - <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/statistics>

TABLE 1: TB INCIDENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN - HERDS

		Total tests on herds	Herds not Officially TB free due to a bovine TB incident (non-OTF Herds)	Tests on officially TB free herds (OTF)	New herd incidents (NHI)	NHI of which: officially TB free herd status withdrawn (OTFW)	Number of OTFW incidents as a percentage of tests on officially TB free herds
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1996		36,314	1,589	34,812	1,075	490	1.4%
1997		34,065	1,632	32,295	1,195	540	1.7%
1998		37,046	2,077	34,502	1,514	787	2.3%
1999		41,365	2,374	38,338	1,661	967	2.5%
2000		40,669	2,482	37,184	1,738	1,135	3.1%
2001	*	13,187	1,697	11,118	802	571	5.2%
2002	**	49,709	4,167	43,641	3,323	2,042	4.7%
2003		56,208	5,460	47,568	3,214	1,789	3.8%
2004		56,836	5,220	49,027	3,341	1,934	4.0%
2005		55,887	5,669	46,725	3,665	2,308	4.9%
2006		64,457	5,859	56,051	3,530	2,303	4.1%
2007		64,145	6,582	54,856	4,188	2,546	4.7%
2008		66,432	7,935	54,854	5,011	3,093	5.6%
2009		72,205	8,386	58,894	4,599	2,847	4.9%
2010		74,474	7,964	61,587	4,723	3,013	4.9%
2011	(prov)	76,659	8,243	62,489	4,912	3,112	5.2%
2012	(prov)	88,576	8,970	73,658	5,153	3,470	4.8%
2013	(prov)	86,786	9,233	72,143	4,815	3,220	4.5%
2011	Jan	(prov) 7,830	3,869	6,531	538	350	5.4%
	Feb	(prov) 7,910	4,012	6,653	464	302	4.6%
	Mar	(prov) 8,615	4,152	7,486	510	312	4.2%
	Apr	(prov) 7,035	4,130	5,694	396	240	4.3%
	May	(prov) 6,142	4,186	4,898	467	270 - 285	5.5% - 5.8%
	Jun	(prov) 4,675	4,108	3,415	347	202 - 212	5.9% - 6.2%
	Jul	(prov) 4,656	3,994	3,388	300	183 - 225	5.4% - 6.6%
	Aug	(prov) 4,231	3,849	3,209	292	188 - 248	5.9% - 7.7%
	Sep	(prov) 5,899	3,673	4,659	252	166 - 183	3.6% - 3.9%
	Oct	(prov) 6,009	3,771	5,025	423	283 - 300	5.6% - 6.0%
	Nov	(prov) 6,564	3,990	5,571	489	331 - 355	5.9% - 6.4%
	Dec	(prov) 7,093	4,097	5,960	434	285 - 307	4.8% - 5.2%
2012	Jan	(prov) 8,194	4,302	6,995	485	326 - 333	4.7% - 4.8%
	Feb	(prov) 9,061	4,422	7,701	465	316 - 327	4.1% - 4.2%
	Mar	(prov) 11,718	4,629	10,283	592	400 - 408	3.9% - 4.0%
	Apr	(prov) 7,892	4,679	6,535	406	248 - 254	3.8% - 3.9%
	May	(prov) 7,305	4,725	5,993	448	261 - 269	4.4% - 4.5%
	Jun	(prov) 5,426	4,601	4,177	325	200 - 203	4.8% - 4.9%
	Jul	(prov) 5,064	4,531	3,862	313	215 - 217	5.6% - 5.6%
	Aug	(prov) 5,421	4,502	4,242	353	244 - 249	5.8% - 5.9%
	Sep	(prov) 5,882	4,467	4,743	367	264 - 270	5.6% - 5.7%
	Oct	(prov) 6,817	4,577	5,749	444	328 - 333	5.7% - 5.8%
	Nov	(prov) 9,061	4,716	7,680	559	393 - 401	5.1% - 5.2%
	Dec	(prov) 6,735	4,729	5,698	396	275 - 277	4.8% - 4.9%
2013	Jan	(prov) 8,759	4,916	7,347	498	311 - 320	4.2% - 4.4%
	Feb	(prov) 9,005	4,937	7,562	399	280 - 285	3.7% - 3.8%
	Mar	(prov) 9,251	4,966	8,009	491	319 - 325	4.0% - 4.1%
	Apr	(prov) 8,081	4,962	6,607	422	285 - 291	4.3% - 4.4%
	May	(prov) 7,354	4,805	5,972	402	262 - 267	4.4% - 4.5%
	Jun	(prov) 5,084	4,607	3,946	322	191 - 197	4.8% - 5.0%
	Jul	(prov) 5,080	4,470	3,860	277	175 - 179	4.5% - 4.6%
	Aug	(prov) 5,546	4,344	4,409	326	220 - 223	5.0% - 5.1%
	Sep	(prov) 5,979	4,320	4,910	350	250 - 251	5.1% - 5.1%
	Oct	(prov) 7,266	4,400	6,205	470	333 - 338	5.4% - 5.4%
	Nov	(prov) 8,560	4,495	7,427	502	353 - 356	4.8% - 4.8%
	Dec	(prov) 6,821	4,503	5,889	356	241 - 247	4.1% - 4.2%

Notes:- The data are a snapshot extracted from Sam. Data for 2011 onwards will remain provisional and subject to revision until all culture results are available and final data validation has been carried out. The herd incidence rates for the latest months are given as a range because a number of incidents are still unclassified, so data for these months should be treated as provisional results.

- (1) Herds for which tuberculin skin testing is carried out on at least one animal during the period shown. Does not include gamma tests.
- (2) Herds that had lost their OTF status at some time during the period shown due to a TB incident.
- (3) Any test carried out in an OTF herd during the period shown. Does not include gamma tests.
- (4) Herds which were previously OTF but either had cattle that reacted to a tuberculin test or had a tuberculous animal disclosed by routine meat inspection at slaughter, during the period shown.
- (5) New herd incidents (column 4) where OTF status was withdrawn from the herd.
- (6) Column 5 as a percentage of column 3.
- * Data for 2001 are not comparable with other years. During the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, TB testing was significantly reduced and necessarily targeted to areas of higher risk.
- ** Data for 2002 are not comparable with other years. Testing resources were concentrated on herds overdue their tests (because of the backlog caused by the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak).

TABLE 2: TB INCIDENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN - ANIMALS

		Total tests on herds	Total cattle tests	Cattle compulsorily slaughtered as reactors or contacts:		
				Total	Reactors	Direct contacts
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1996		36,314	2,249,891	3,776	3,151	625
1997		34,065	2,170,630	3,384	3,017	367
1998		37,046	2,447,848	5,685	4,782	903
1999		41,365	2,825,177	6,754	5,794	960
2000		40,669	2,931,658	8,123	6,877	1,246
2001	*	13,187	1,181,861	6,156	5,200	956
2002	**	49,709	3,961,145	22,072	19,191	2,881
2003		56,208	4,474,526	23,972	20,798	3,174
2004		56,836	4,604,721	22,214	19,636	2,578
2005		55,887	4,811,699	29,231	25,627	3,604
2006		64,457	5,417,573	22,062	20,090	1,972
2007		64,145	5,753,244	26,882	25,330	1,552
2008		66,432	6,178,789	39,007	36,968	2,039
2009		72,205	6,840,568	37,979	36,739	1,240
2010		74,474	7,447,653	31,949	31,277	672
2011	(prov)	76,659	7,587,837	34,238	33,453	785
2012	(prov)	88,576	8,026,300	37,734	37,049	685
2013	(prov)	86,786	8,376,822	32,620	31,724	896
2011	Jan	(prov) 7,830	789,054	2,656	2,591	65
	Feb	(prov) 7,910	783,669	3,582	3,535	47
	Mar	(prov) 8,615	847,824	3,154	3,116	38
	Apr	(prov) 7,035	752,330	2,604	2,562	42
	May	(prov) 6,142	559,750	2,881	2,836	45
	Jun	(prov) 4,675	458,101	3,180	2,939	241
	Jul	(prov) 4,656	489,866	2,454	2,417	37
	Aug	(prov) 4,231	402,353	2,619	2,573	46
	Sep	(prov) 5,899	581,614	2,520	2,467	53
	Oct	(prov) 6,009	559,254	2,129	2,050	79
	Nov	(prov) 6,564	680,094	3,164	3,108	56
	Dec	(prov) 7,093	683,928	3,295	3,259	36
2012	Jan	(prov) 8,194	720,197	2,580	2,537	43
	Feb	(prov) 9,061	782,134	3,769	3,714	55
	Mar	(prov) 11,718	990,541	3,124	3,090	34
	Apr	(prov) 7,892	722,232	2,805	2,774	31
	May	(prov) 7,305	579,719	3,467	3,414	53
	Jun	(prov) 5,426	489,516	2,526	2,460	66
	Jul	(prov) 5,064	477,333	3,311	3,244	67
	Aug	(prov) 5,421	486,935	2,989	2,864	125
	Sep	(prov) 5,882	547,314	2,637	2,619	18
	Oct	(prov) 6,817	655,882	3,935	3,874	61
	Nov	(prov) 9,061	931,608	3,753	3,681	72
	Dec	(prov) 6,735	642,889	2,838	2,778	60
2013	Jan	(prov) 8,759	771,730	3,200	3,141	59
	Feb	(prov) 9,005	814,982	3,104	2,997	107
	Mar	(prov) 9,251	851,281	2,973	2,860	113
	Apr	(prov) 8,081	825,180	2,726	2,690	36
	May	(prov) 7,354	664,231	3,243	2,962	281
	Jun	(prov) 5,084	481,223	2,035	2,004	31
	Jul	(prov) 5,080	512,474	2,706	2,651	55
	Aug	(prov) 5,546	535,764	2,523	2,470	53
	Sep	(prov) 5,979	575,181	2,105	2,067	38
	Oct	(prov) 7,266	721,514	2,855	2,811	44
	Nov	(prov) 8,560	920,859	2,750	2,715	35
	Dec	(prov) 6,821	702,403	2,400	2,356	44

Notes: The data are a snapshot extracted from Sam. Data for 2011 onwards will remain provisional and subject to revision each month until all culture results are available and final data validation has been carried out.

- (1) Herds in which tuberculin skin testing was carried out in at least one animal during the period shown. Does not include gamma tests. (same as column 1 in Table 1).
- (2) Count of the number of tests on cattle. An individual animal could be tested more than once in each time period.
- (3) Animals compulsorily slaughtered because they reacted to the tuberculin skin test or because they were considered to be direct contacts (see below). Not all of these animals showed evidence of *Mycobacterium bovis* infection at post-mortem examination.
- (4) An animal which was compulsorily slaughtered because it responded to the tuberculin skin test in a way that was consistent with it being infected with *Mycobacterium bovis*.
- (5) An animal in an OTFW incident that, although not a test reactor, was considered to have been exposed to *Mycobacterium bovis* and compulsorily slaughtered.
- * Data for 2001 are not comparable with other years. During the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, TB testing was significantly reduced and necessarily targeted to areas of higher risk.
- ** Data for 2002 are not comparable with other years. Testing resources were concentrated on herds overdue their tests (because of the backlog caused by the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak).