

## Diseases and conditions reported during February 2 – 15, 2025:

This report is a bi-monthly snapshot of communicable diseases reported in El Paso County, as well as a report of disease trends and local health alerts. El Paso County Public Health's (EPCPH) Communicable Disease Program partners with the medical community and the public to limit and reduce the spread of diseases in our community.

### Reportable diseases and conditions:

- 8 Animal Bites – 4 pediatric, 4 adults; none recommended to receive rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)
- 3 Campylobacteriosis – 1 pediatric, 2 adults
- 4 Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) - adults
- 1 Carbapenem-Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa (CRPA) - adult
- 16 COVID-19-associated hospitalizations – 1 pediatric, 15 adults
- 104 Influenza-associated hospitalizations – 17 pediatric, 87 adults
- 6 Invasive pneumococcal disease – 1 pediatric, 5 adults
- 5 Pertussis – 1 pediatric, 4 adults
- 46 RSV-associated hospitalizations – 28 pediatric, 18 adults
- 1 Salmonellosis – adult

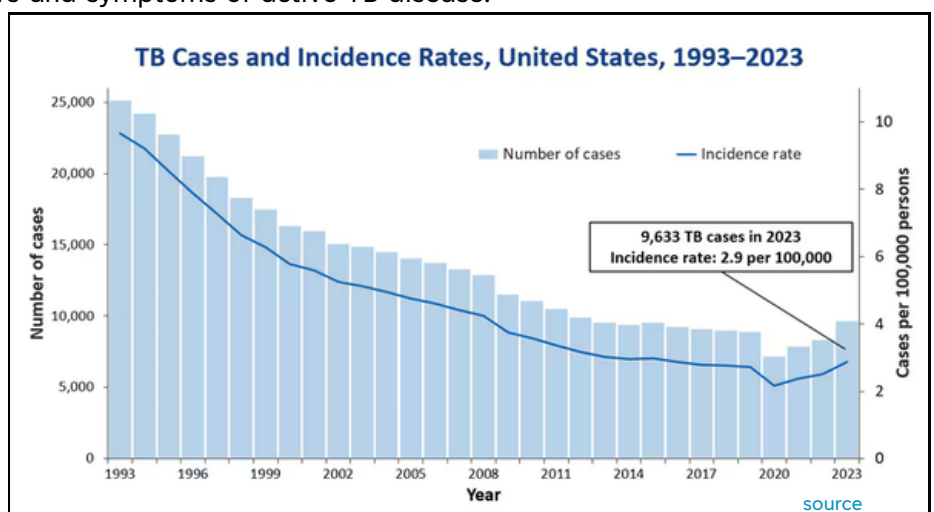
### Additional reports:

- Hospitalized Influenza since Sept. 29, 2024: 398 total (390 Influenza A, 6 Influenza B, 2 untyped)
- Outbreaks reported:
  - 35 Influenza outbreaks associated 17 childcare facilities, 14 k-12 schools, three LTCFs, one congregate facility and one hospital facility.
  - 9 RSV outbreaks associated with six childcare facilities and three k-12 schools.
  - 3 Norovirus outbreaks associated with one hospital, one LTCF and one private event.
  - 1 outbreak of Mononucleosis associated with a high school.
  - 1 COVID-19 outbreak associated with a long-term care facility.

For a list of Reportable Disease and Conditions and instructions on how to report, use the following [link](#): or visit [www.cdphe.colorado.gov/report-a-disease](http://www.cdphe.colorado.gov/report-a-disease)

## Health News: El Paso County Public Health Tuberculosis Program

- Tuberculosis (TB) is caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis. Although TB infection most commonly involves the lungs, TB can infect other parts of the body. There are two types of TB-related conditions: latent TB infection (LTBI) and active TB disease. Only people with active TB disease are symptomatic and can spread the infection to others if the disease involves the lungs or pharynx. LTBI precedes the development of active TB disease, which is why risk-based screening plays an important role in TB control.
- In 2023, the United States TB incidence rate was 2.9 cases per 100,000 persons. In Colorado, the rate was 1.3 cases per 100,000 persons. The 2023 rate for El Paso County was 0.7 cases per 100,000 persons (Source: [Colorado TB data](#)).
- Although Colorado and El Paso County have a lower incidence of TB compared with U.S. average, TB should still be considered for patients with risk factors and symptoms of active TB disease.
- Symptoms of active TB include a cough lasting three weeks or longer, coughing up blood, unexplained weight loss, night sweats, fever, chills, and chest pain. Extrapulmonary TB disease can be more complicated and difficult to recognize – disease can involve lymph nodes, bones and joints, genitourinary tract, and brain and spinal cord. Disease in these other sites may or may not accompany pulmonary disease.
- Testing for and treating latent TB infection is a critical step to reducing the spread of TB. Here are four tips for starting the conversation using the CDC's “Think. Test. Treat TB” campaign when evaluating patients who have [symptoms and risk factors](#) for TB infection and disease.



1. Introduce TB and address potential misinformation
2. Discuss your patient's TB exposure [risk](#) for persons who:
  - a. Were born in or frequently [travel to countries where TB is common](#), including countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.
  - b. Recently spent time with someone who has active TB disease.
  - c. Have a weaker immune system because of certain medications or health conditions such as [diabetes](#), cancer, and [HIV](#).
3. Explain the testing process
  - a. There are two types of [tests for latent TB infection](#): the [TB blood test](#) and the [TB skin test](#).
4. Discuss treatment options
  - a. If your patient is diagnosed with latent TB infection, consider recommending [shorter and more convenient treatments](#). While all the regimens are safe and effective, short course, rifamycin-based regimens are the preferred treatment options for latent TB infection because they have higher completion rates.
- El Paso County Public Health's (EPCPH) TB Program offers the following services:
  - Consultation and advanced testing and evaluation services for El Paso County healthcare providers.
  - Case management for all **active TB cases** in El Paso County, including diagnostics, medication management, and Directly Observed Therapy (DOT).
  - LTBI case management for certain higher risk patients and those unable to obtain services through other providers, including safety net clinics.
- EPCPH TB staff are available to assist medical providers with evaluation and treatment recommendations at 719-578-3220 during business hours or 719-235-2278 after hours.

## Questions? Please Contact:

El Paso County Public Health CD/TB Program  
Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
(719) 578-3220; after-hours emergency: (719) 235-2278  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
(303) 692-2700; after-hours emergency: (303) 370-9395  
[www.elpasocountyhealth.org](http://www.elpasocountyhealth.org)  
Reportable Diseases and Conditions List