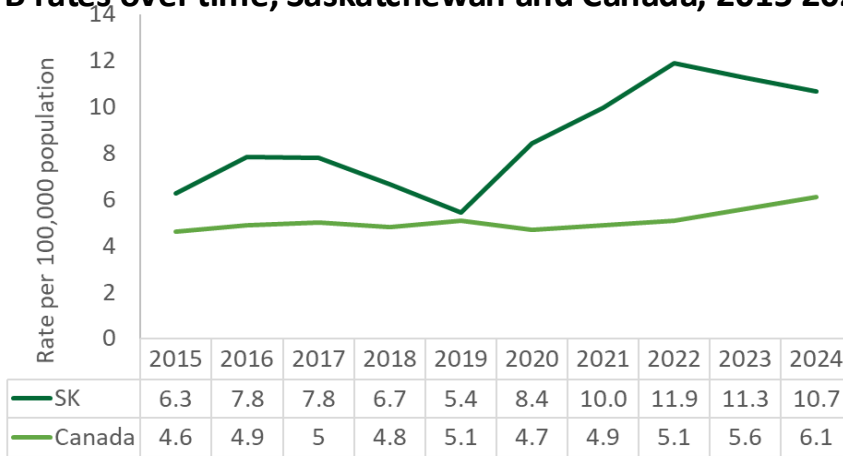


# TUBERCULOSIS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. TB usually affects the lungs, but may also affect other organs, such as the brain, spine, bones, kidneys, or lymph nodes. TB is curable through antibiotic treatment.

## Trends

### TB rates over time, Saskatchewan and Canada, 2015-2024



During the COVID-19 pandemic, the rates of TB disease increased through to 2022 (note that testing, treatment and diagnosis were affected by the pandemic).

Although rates began to decline in 2023, 2024 rates were still nearly twice the national rate.

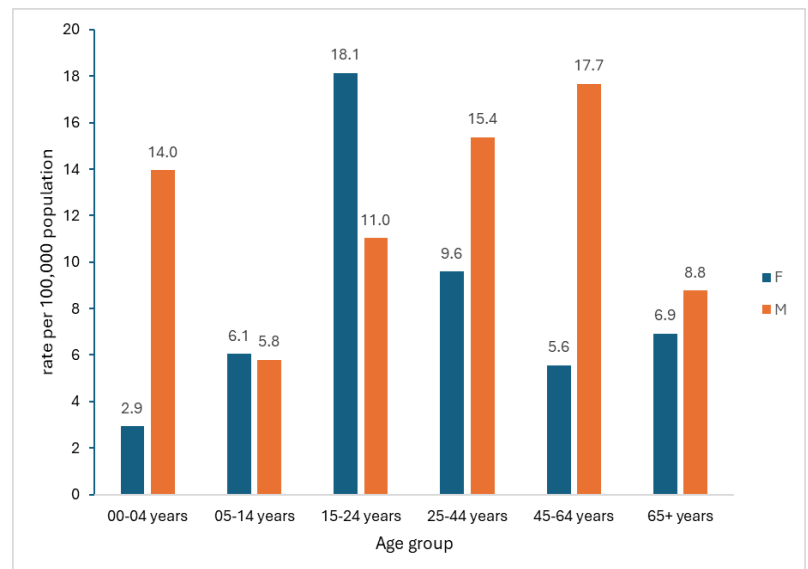
In 2024, there were 135 active TB cases in Saskatchewan (10.7 cases /100,000 population).

Source: Tuberculosis Disease Surveillance: 2015-2024 ([https://infobase-dev.com/\\_user/Joelle/TB/index-en.html](https://infobase-dev.com/_user/Joelle/TB/index-en.html)).

## Age Group

In 2024, rates were higher in the 15-24 and 25-44 years age groups. The rates of TB were lower in the 05-14 year age group. While 39 per cent of active TB cases in 2024 were in women, 61 per cent were diagnosed in men.

### TB rates by age group and sex, Saskatchewan, 2024



## Populations Affected

TB is almost eliminated for the non-Indigenous population born in Canada but continues to disproportionately affect Indigenous peoples in Saskatchewan and those born outside of Canada. Inequities in health outcomes and rates of TB are associated with the legacy of harms of colonization, ongoing systemic racism and discrimination. TB information specific to First Nations in Saskatchewan can be found at [Health Status Reports – NITHA | Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority](#).

Populations most at risk for TB include:

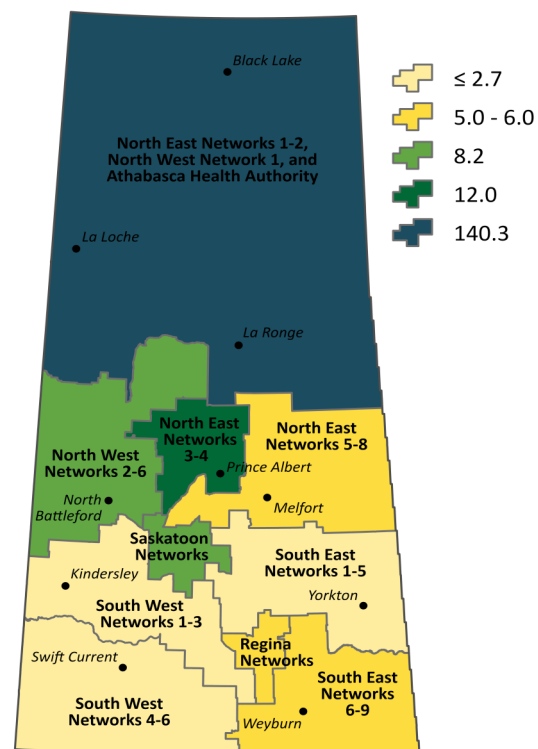
- Persons with a weakened immune system or chronic illness due to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), kidney disease or diabetes
- Persons originating from or having lived in a country or area with high rates of TB
- Persons affected by social inequity such as undernutrition, lack of adequate housing or poor access to health care

Northern Saskatchewan has consistently had higher rates compared to the southern half of the province, and in 2024 the rate was 19 times higher. Saskatoon and Regina Health Networks accounted for 30 per cent of the TB cases in 2024, predominantly in those born outside Canada.

## What is Being Done

The Saskatchewan TB Partnership was initiated in 2011 and consists of partners from across provincial, federal and First Nations who are working to reduce the burden of TB in SK. Access to rapid diagnostic testing and mobile x-ray services are currently being expanded to improve TB services especially in Northern Communities. The Saskatchewan TB Strategy renewal began in 2024 with the goal of developing a comprehensive strategy to eliminate TB.

## TB Rates (per 100,000), Public Health Reporting Areas, 2020-2024



*Note: Rates are calculated using data from the complete Saskatchewan population, including First Nations communities and jurisdictions. Data comes from the SHA TB Information System (TBIS).*

*Rates on the map are shown by groupings of Health Networks. Health Networks support SHA provincial organization to maintain local connections with the people we serve.*

### For more information:

TB Prevention and Control Saskatchewan  
1-866-780-6482

### Population Health Department:

Populationhealth@saskhealthauthority.ca