



## Monthly publication of Official Statistics on the incidence and prevalence of tuberculosis (TB) in Cattle in Great Britain – to end January 2018

These statistics and accompanying datasets were released on Wednesday 18 April 2018 at 9:30. The next monthly notice will be published on Wednesday 17 May 2018.

The next quarterly statistical notice which includes headline measures and charts will be published on Wednesday 13 June 2018.

**Short term changes in TB statistics should be considered in the context of long term trends in incidence and prevalence, presented in the December 2017 quarterly statistical notice published in March 2018.**

### Changes to Edge Area statistics in January 2018

Five counties that formerly straddled the High Risk and Edge Areas of England have been reallocated to the Edge Area following a bovine TB surveillance policy change adopted on 1 January 2018. They are Cheshire, Derbyshire, East Sussex, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. In the summary tables, data for the High Risk and Edge Areas are now presented as per the redefined boundaries for the complete time series. Therefore, the Edge and High Risk Area data published today are not comparable with the previous monthly releases. The detailed county datasets continue to be published with the former High and Edge Areas side-by-side for comparison for at least 12 months. Users can interrogate the data to identify trends on the pre-Jan 2018 basis.

### Key tables summarising data to January 2018

**Table 1: New herd incidents<sup>1</sup> and incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn<sup>2</sup>**

	New herd incidents			New herd incidents where OTF status is withdrawn (OTFW)		
	12 months to end January 17	12 months to end January 18	Year-on-year change	12 months to end January 17	12 months to end January 18	Year-on-year change
England	3,744	3,790	1%	2,553	2,551	0%
High risk area	3,020	3,011	0%	2,182	2,110	-3%
Edge area	596	663	11%	328	402	23%
Low risk area	128	116	-9%	43	39	-9%
Scotland	34	44	29%	8	16	100%
Wales	699	794	14%	397	420	6%
High West	317	336	6%	171	169	-1%
High East	256	299	17%	170	184	8%
Intermediate North	39	60	54%	25	31	24%
Intermediate Mid	54	68	26%	23	23	0%
Low	33	31	-6%	8	13	63%

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1. Herds which were previously Officially TB free (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. This is the preferred figure to measure the number of new breakdowns. Figures for Wales include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only.
2. New herd incidents where OTF status was withdrawn from the herd due to the detection of typical lesions of TB during post-mortem examination of one or more test reactors or inconclusive reactors, or where samples from one or more reactor, inconclusive reactor or a slaughterhouse case produce positive culture results for *Mycobacterium bovis* (the causative bacterium of bovine TB). Figures for Wales do not include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only, in the absence of post-mortem confirmation.

**Table 2: Herds not officially TB free at the end of the period due to a bovine TB incident (non-OTF herds)<sup>3</sup>**

	12 months to end January 17	12 months to end January 18	Year-on-year change
England	3,073	3,294	7%
High risk area	2,605	2,716	4%
Edge area	414	519	25%
Low risk area	54	59	9%
Scotland	24	31	29%
Wales	553	663	20%
High West	299	330	10%
High East	178	232	30%
Intermediate North	30	42	40%
Intermediate Mid	34	41	21%
Low	12	18	50%

3. Herds which were not officially TB-free (i.e. herds with an open breakdown with OTF status suspended or withdrawn) due to a TB incident, at the end of the period shown.

**Table 3: Total animals slaughtered<sup>4</sup>**

	12 months to end January 17	12 months to end January 18	Year-on-year change
England	29,605	33,683	14%
High risk area	24,420	26,345	8%
Edge area	4,634	6,418	38%
Low risk area	551	920	67%
Scotland	183	312	70%
Wales	9,953	10,108	2%
High West	6,553	6,368	-3%
High East	1,878	2,484	32%
Intermediate North	521	723	39%
Intermediate Mid	711	428	-40%
Low	290	105	-64%

4. Reactors slaughtered + Inconclusive reactors slaughtered (Wales only since April 2017) + Direct contacts Slaughtered.

### Further information

The publication 'Quarterly TB in cattle in Great Britain statistical notice' contains charts on trends in TB as well as data tables, detailed commentary and background information. This and the related datasets can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bovine-tb>

A wide range of other statistics is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/statistics>

### **Data**

These statistics are obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) 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 2016 onwards will be subject to further revision as test and incident records are completed.

### **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, please refer to the 'Background and Methodology' annex document at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/data-and-methodology>

### **Additional information on bovine TB**

More information on bovine TB in Great Britain can be found at:

England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/bovine-tuberculosis-bovine-tb>

Wales:

<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/disease/bovinetuberculosis/?lang=en>

Scotland:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare/Diseases/disease/tuberculosis>