



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

These statistics and accompanying datasets were released on Wednesday 18 July 2018 at 9:30. The next monthly notice will be published on Wednesday 15 August 2018.

The next quarterly statistical notice which includes headline measures and charts will be published on Wednesday 19 September 2018.

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

Key tables summarising data to April 2018

Table 1: New herd incidents¹ and incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn²

	New herd incidents			New herd incidents where OTF status is withdrawn (OTFW)		
	12 months to end April 17	12 months to end April 18	Year-on-year change	12 months to end April 17	12 months to end April 18	Year-on-year change
England	3,802	3,661	-4%	2,574	2,421	-6%
High risk area	3,056	2,898	-5%	2,175	2,006	-8%
Edge area	630	629	0%	358	371	4%
Low risk area	116	134	16%	41	44	7%
Scotland	39	39	0%	12	15	25%
Wales	707	778	10%	396	417	5%
High West	307	337	10%	160	171	7%
High East	256	282	10%	172	174	1%
Intermediate North	51	62	22%	33	32	-3%
Intermediate Mid	64	64	0%	26	25	-4%
Low	29	33	14%	5	15	200%

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 Figures for Wales include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only.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 New herd incidents where OTF status was withdrawn from the herd due to the detection of typical lesions of TB during post-mortem examination of one or more test reactors or inconclusive reactors, or where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 Figures for Wales do not include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only, in the absence of post-mortem confirmation.

Enquiries to: tbstatistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk

General Enquiries 03459 33 55 77 (UK only) +44 20 8225 7318 (outside UK)
Media Enquiries to: 020 8225 7318 (Press Office)

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

	end April 17	end April 18	Year-on-year change
England	3,189	3,193	0%
High risk area	2,642	2,583	-2%
Edge area	487	531	9%
Low risk area	60	79	32%
Scotland	33	34	3%
Wales	598	673	13%
High West	300	330	10%
High East	201	224	11%
Intermediate North	41	52	27%
Intermediate Mid	43	44	2%
Low	13	23	77%

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 slaughtered⁴

	12 months to end April 17	12 months to end April 18	Year-on-year change
England	29,984	34,516	15%
High risk area	24,654	26,183	6%
Edge area	4,742	7,340	55%
Low risk area	588	993	69%
Scotland	179	443	147%
Wales	9,823	10,119	3%
High West	6,490	6,458	0%
High East	1,839	2,446	33%
Intermediate North	582	709	22%
Intermediate Mid	693	329	-53%
Low	219	177	-19%

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>