



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

These statistics and accompanying datasets were released on Wednesday 17 October 2018 at 9:30. The next monthly notice will be published on Wednesday 14 November 2018.

The next quarterly statistical notice which includes headline measures and charts will be published on Wednesday 12 December 2018.

Short term changes in TB statistics should be considered in the context of long term trends in incidence and prevalence, [presented in the June 2018 quarterly statistical notice published in September 2018](#).

Key tables summarising data to July 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	New herd incidents			New herd incidents where OTF status is withdrawn (OTFW)		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 July 17	12 months to end July 18	Year-on-year change	12 months to end July 17	12 months to end July 18	Year-on-year change
England	3,873	3,619	-7%	2,639	2,383	-10%
High risk area	3,118	2,842	-9%	2,210	1,971	-11%
Edge area	636	641	1%	385	368	-4%
Low risk area	119	136	14%	44	44	0%
Scotland	34	46	35%	10	16	60%
Wales	746	733	-2%	420	409	-3%
High West	312	319	2%	170	167	-2%
High East	272	266	-2%	180	175	-3%
Intermediate North	64	57	-11%	37	27	-27%
Intermediate Mid	71	56	-21%	27	24	-11%
Low	27	35	30%	6	16	167%

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 Figures for Wales include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only.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 New herd incidents where OTF status was withdrawn from the herd due to the detection of typical lesions of TB during post-mortem examination of one or more test reactors or inconclusive reactors, or where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 Figures for Wales do not include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only, in the absence of post-mortem confirmation.

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

	end July 17	end July 18	Year-on-year change
England	2,941	2,883	-2%
High risk area	2,438	2,329	-4%
Edge area	444	483	9%
Low risk area	59	71	20%
Scotland	28	31	11%
Wales	619	616	0%
High West	313	322	3%
High East	209	191	-9%
Intermediate North	51	49	-4%
Intermediate Mid	39	36	-8%
Low	7	18	157%

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 July 17	12 months to end July 18	Year-on-year change
England	31,122	33,409	7%
High risk area	25,257	25,320	0%
Edge area	5,174	7,301	41%
Low risk area	691	788	14%
Scotland	149	650	336%
Wales	9,818	9,844	0%
High West	6,511	6,413	-2%
High East	1,942	2,308	19%
Intermediate North	630	664	5%
Intermediate Mid	596	270	-55%
Low	139	189	36%

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>