



Great Britain Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) Quarterly Overview

This document has been designed to complement the National Statistics release available at:

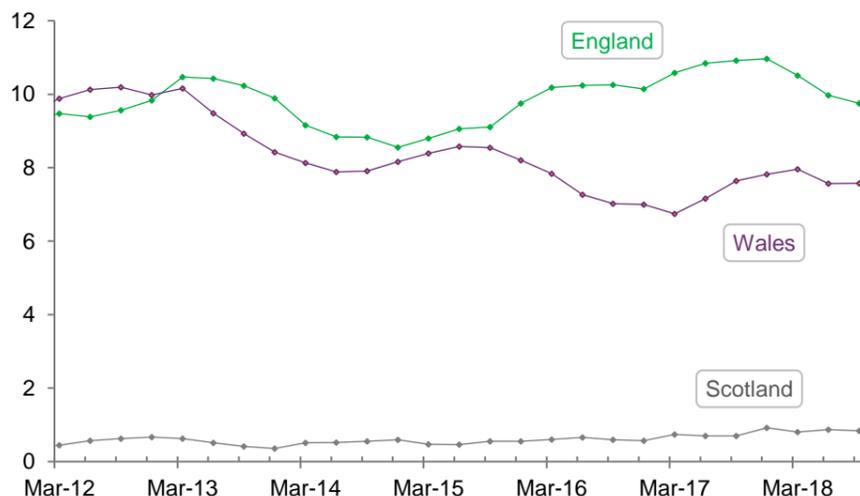
www.gov.uk/government/statistics/incidence-of-tuberculosis-tb-in-cattle-in-great-britain

Definitions of the measures are overleaf.

A further England bTB overview is available.

We encourage our users to engage with us so we can improve our National Statistics. Feedback can be sent to: tbstatistics@defra.gov.uk

A - Herd Incidence New herd incidents per 100 herd years at risk of infection

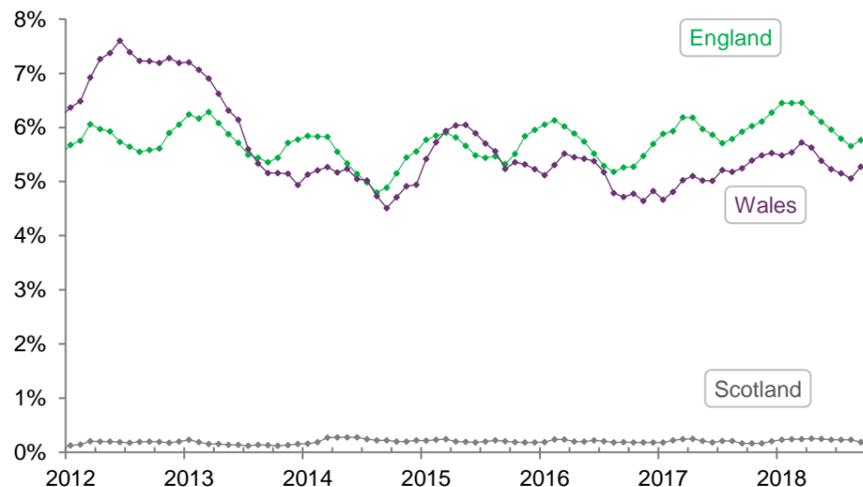


A - The headline incidence rate in England for the 12 months ending September 18 was 9.8. This means that for every 1,000 unrestricted herds in a year, we would expect a new bTB breakdown to be detected in 98 herds. The Wales equivalent was 7.6 new herd incidents per 100 herd years at risk, and Scotland was 0.8.

A2 - New Herd Incidents

	England	Scotland	Wales
Dec 15	3,973	40	839
Dec 16	3,769	36	711
Dec 17	3,825	42	789
12 Months to Sep 17	3,876	32	778
12 Months to Sep 18	3,617	44	751
% change	-6.7%	37%	-3.5%

B - Herd prevalence Disease restricted herds as a percentage of registered herds

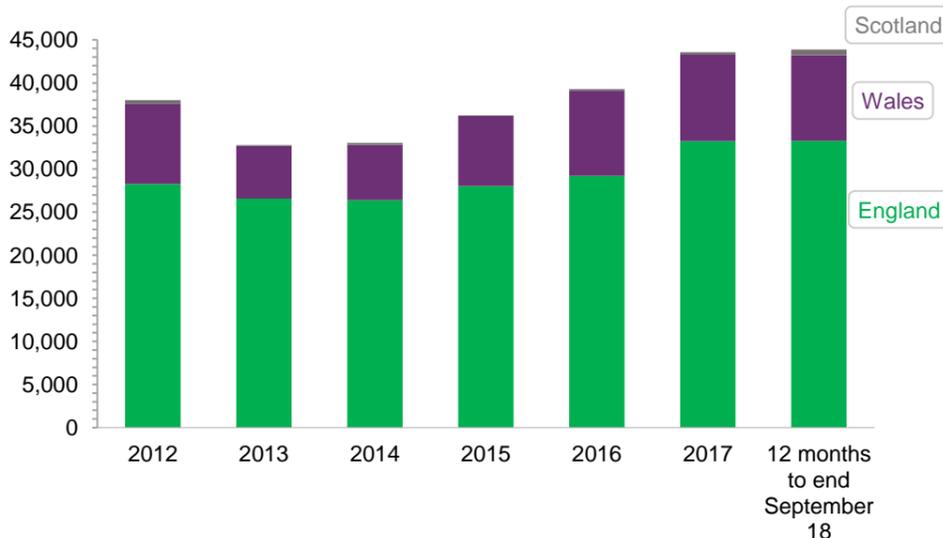


B - For the 12 months to the end of September 2018, 5.8% of herds were not officially TB-free (OTF) in England. Wales herd prevalence is 5.3% of herds, with Scotland at 0.2% of herds.

B2 - Herds not OTF at the end of the period due to a bTB incident

	England	Scotland	Wales
Dec 15	3,051	24	610
Dec 16	2,911	24	562
Dec 17	3,165	27	662
12 Months to Sep 17	3,010	22	629
12 Months to Sep 18	2,824	25	633
% change	-6.2%	14%	0.6%

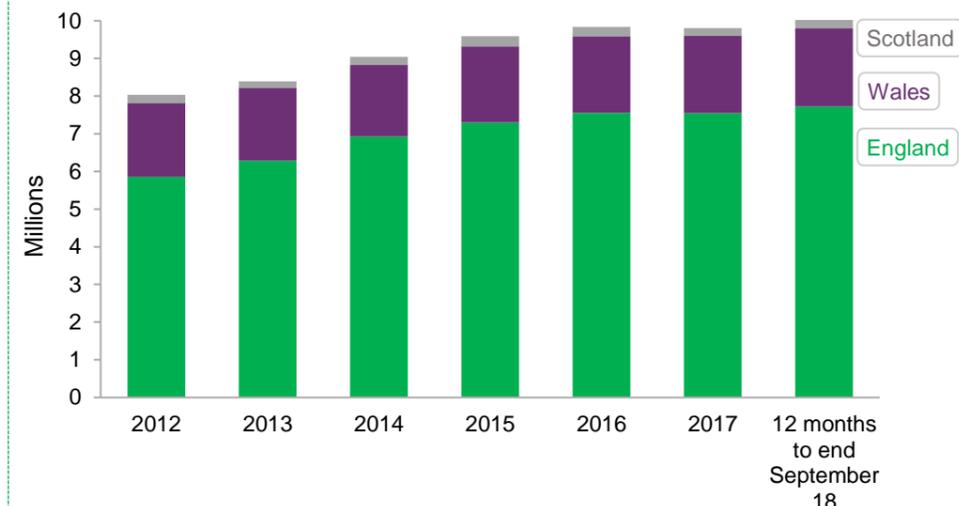
C - Total animals slaughtered



C is the sum of reactors and direct contacts and inconclusive reactors (Wales only) slaughtered. In the 12 months ending September 2018, 43,884 cattle were slaughtered in GB because of a TB incident, compared with 41,407 in 12 months to September 2017, a 6.0% increase.

D - Total cattle tests

Released: 12 December 2018
Next update: 13 March 2019



D - Total cattle tests in England 12 months to September 2018 were just over 7.7 million, slightly higher than the previous 12 months. Within Scotland and Wales testing numbers increased compared with the 12 months to September 2017. An individual animal could be tested more than once in each time period. Gamma interferon blood tests are included. As are as pre- and post- movement tests.

12 months to end	England	Scotland	Wales
A - New herd incidents per 100 herd years at risk			
Sep 17	10.9	0.7	7.6
Sep 18	9.8	0.8	7.6
B - Disease restricted herds as a percentage of registered herds			
Sep 17	5.9%	0.2%	5.2%
Sep 18	5.8%	0.2%	5.3%
C - Total animals slaughtered			
Sep 17	31,564	140	9,703
Sep 18	33,265	654	9,965
% change	5.4%	367%	2.7%
D - Total cattle tests			
Sep 17	7,606,156	206,915	2,041,429
Sep 18	7,722,517	253,108	2,073,525
% change	1.5%	22.3%	1.6%

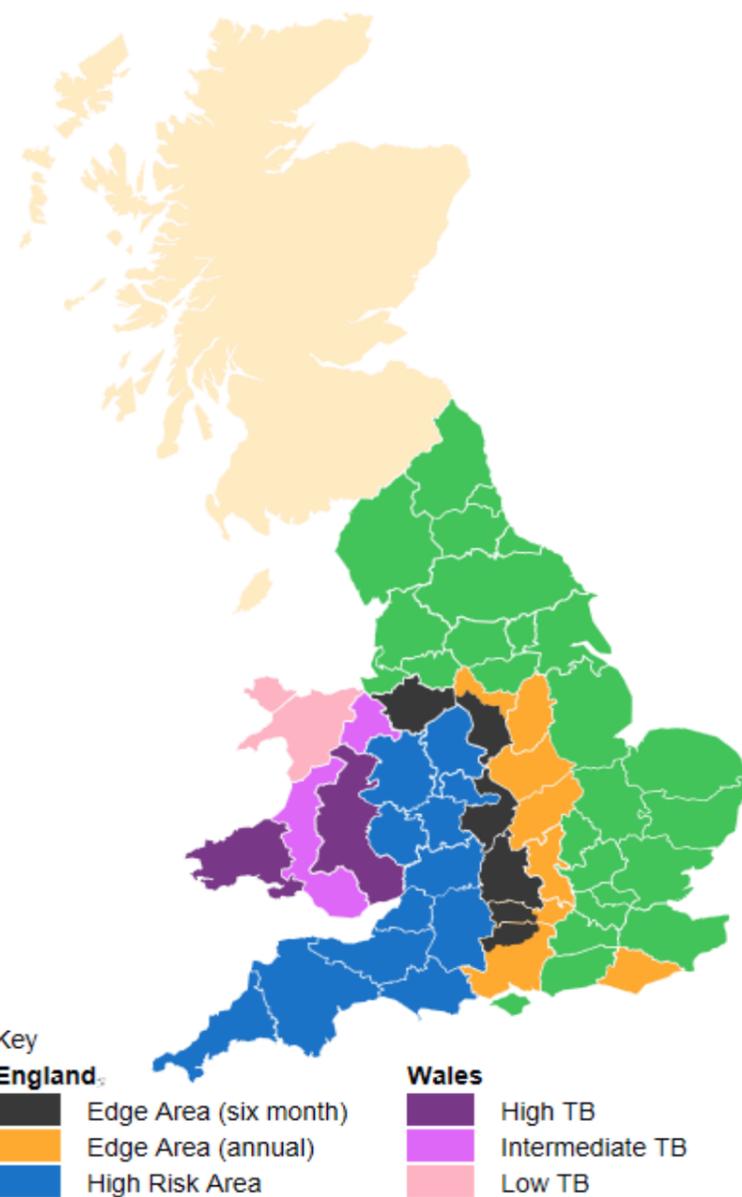
Short term changes in these statistics should be considered in the context of long term trends published at:

www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/tuberculosis-tb-in-cattle-in-great-britain

These statistics have been produced to the high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Statistics. They are obtained from the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) work management IT support system (Sam).

Enquiries to: tbstatistics@defra.gov.uk
Media Enquiries to: 020 8225 7318 (Press Office)

TB Areas of Great Britain



Source: TB Hub www.tbhub.co.uk/risk-map/
 Testing intervals for England: www.gov.uk/guidance/bovine-tb-testing-intervals-2018
 This data is based on Edge area definition since January 2018- no split counties.

Further information on bTB in
 Wales: gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/ahw/disease/bovinetuberculosis/?lang=en
 Scotland: www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/animal-welfare/Diseases/disease/tuberculosis

The table highlights the measures included in this document along with the others available in the official and national statistics releases. Almost all data is available at county level from 1996 onwards with the exception of the headline herd incidence measure.

Measure	Description	
A	<p>New herd incidents per 100 herd years at risk of infection during the year</p> <p>New herd incidents where OTF status is withdrawn (OTFW) per 100 herd years at risk of infection during the year</p>	<p>This is the headline measure of herd incidence. See "Herd incidence methodology paper" at www.gov.uk/government/statistics/data-and-methodology.</p> <p>In the LRA, Low TB Area of Wales and Scotland, there are proportionately more false positive results to the skin test than elsewhere. Consequently it is also important to consider the number of new herd TB incidents where officially TB free status is withdrawn (OTFW) following confirmation of TB.</p>
B	<p>Number of non-OTF herds at the end of the period as a percentage of registered herds</p> <p>Number of cattle herds registered on Sam</p>	<p>Herd prevalence is not published at county level but may be derived from the county number of herds and non OTF herds measures.</p> <p>By mid-2018 there were just under 50,000 registered herds in England, just over 13,000 in Scotland and close to 12,000 in Wales.</p>
B2	<p>Herds not officially TB free at the end of the period due to a bovine TB incident (non OTF herds)</p> <p>Herds not officially TB free during the period due to a bovine TB incident (non OTF herds)</p> <p>Herds under movement restrictions at the end of the period</p>	<p>Herds which were not officially TB-free (OTF) due to a TB incident, at the end of the month specified i.e. herds with an open breakdown with OTF status suspended or withdrawn.</p> <p>Herds with OTF status suspended or withdrawn due to a TB incident, during the period shown. A herd with more than one incident in the period will be counted more than once.</p> <p>Counts the number of herds that have had a restriction notice served in the period and is still in effect at the end of the period. Restrictions could be due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ TB testing or detection at slaughterhouse ➤ Overdue test ➤ Some movement restrictions on animals testing as IRs pending their next test.
	Total tests on herds	<p>Herds for which tuberculin skin testing is carried out on at least one animal. Excludes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pre- and post-movement but see www.gov.uk/government/statistics/latest-official-statistics-on-pre-movement-and-post-movement-testing-for-tuberculosis-tb-in-cattle-in-great-britain-quarterly ➤ Gamma interferon blood tests ➤ Private tests.
	Tests on officially TB free herds (OTF)	<p>Any test carried out in an OTF herd. Excludes: Pre- and post-movement, Gamma interferon blood tests, Short interval tests, Private tests, TB Unit Tests. Count of the number of tests on cattle. An individual animal could be tested more than once in each time period. Gamma interferon blood tests are included.</p>
D	Total cattle tests	
A2	New herd incidents (NHI)	<p>Herds which were previously OTF but either had cattle that reacted to a tuberculin test or had a tuberculous animal disclosed by routine meat inspection at slaughter. Wales figures include incidents where OTF status has been withdrawn for epidemiological reasons only.</p>
	NHI of which: officially TB free herd status withdrawn (OTFW)	<p>OTF is withdrawn either because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lesions typical of TB detected at post-mortem examination of test reactors or inconclusive reactors, or ➤ Samples from one or more reactor, inconclusive reactor or a slaughterhouse case produce positive culture results for <i>M bovis</i>.
	NHI of which: officially TB free herd status suspended (OTFS)	<p>OTF suspended because of reactors in the herds, but post-mortem evidence of TB is not detected. It remains suspended until further herd tests confirm no infection on the farm.</p>
	NHI of which: still unclassified TB Incidents (pending culture results)	<p>Not currently OTFW, but where testing was still underway and could become OTFW if tests revealed any reactors with post-mortem evidence of TB or a positive culture result.</p>
C	Total animals slaughtered	<p>Reactors slaughtered + Inconclusive reactors slaughtered (for Wales only and from April 2017) + Direct contacts (DC) Slaughtered.</p>
	Reactors slaughtered	<p>Count of animals compulsorily slaughtered because it responded to the tuberculin skin test or interferon-gamma test in a way that was consistent with it being infected with <i>M bovis</i>.</p>
	Inconclusive reactors slaughtered (Wales only and starts April 2017)	<p>Inconclusive reactors are animals showing positive reactions to bovine tuberculin that are not strong enough for them to be deemed reactors.</p>
	Direct contacts (DCs) slaughtered	<p>An animal in an OTFW incident that, although not a test reactor, was considered to have been exposed to <i>M bovis</i> and compulsorily slaughtered.</p>
	Slaughterhouse cases reported to animal health	<p>Non-reactor and non-direct contact animals that displayed suspect lesions of TB during post-mortem meat inspection at routine slaughter.</p>
	Confirmed slaughterhouse cases	<p>Slaughterhouse cases where laboratory culture of the suspect TB lesions has identified <i>M bovis</i>.</p>