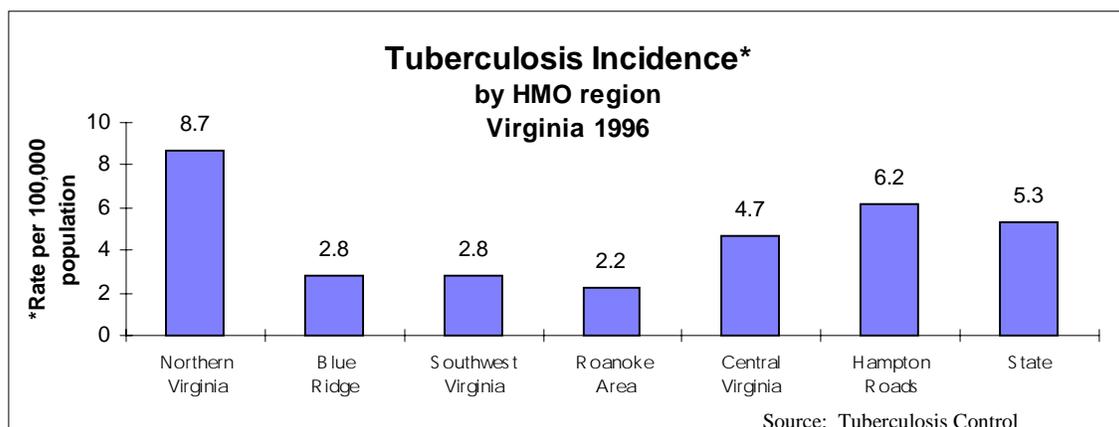
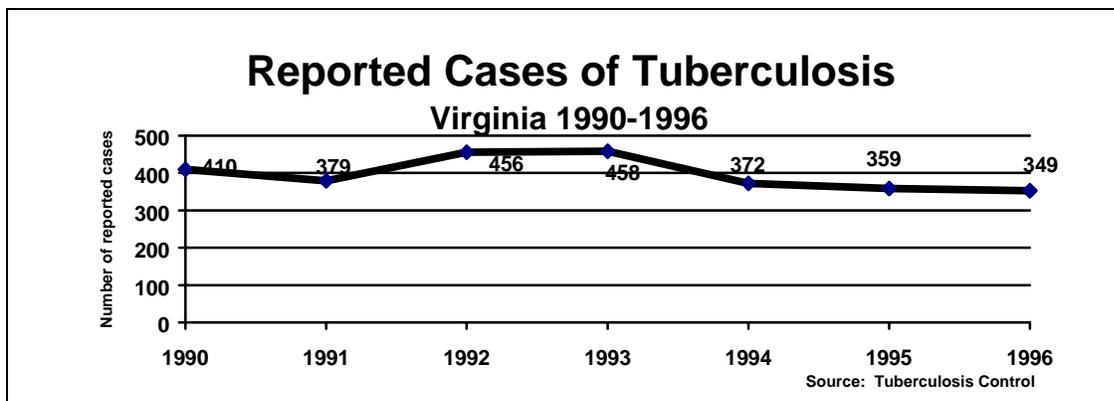


# Tuberculosis

**Objective:** *Reduce tuberculosis to an incidence of no more than 3.5 cases per 100,000 people*

Pulmonary tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease that is transmitted through the air indiscriminately. Infection occurs when a person breathes air laden with bacteria expelled by someone with the disease. Factors determining the likelihood of infection include the length of exposure, the infectiousness of the diseased person and the environment in which the exposure occurs. Once infection occurs, the disease may never develop, but the risk of acquiring it in the future always exists. The top priorities of a TB control program are the early identification of infectious TB, the initiation of effective treatment and the completion of therapy as prescribed. These activities shorten the period of infectiousness and promote cure. By interrupting transmission, new infections are prevented, reducing the number of individuals with the potential for contracting the disease. Virginia's 349 reported cases of TB in 1996 represents a 24% drop in the last three years and marks a low point for the decade of the nineties.



**Tuberculosis Incidence Rate\* by  
Health District, Virginia 1996**

<b>FIRST QUARTILE</b>	Rappahannock/Rapidan	0.0	
	West Piedmont	0.0	
	Central Virginia	0.9	
	Prince William	1.4	
	Three Rivers	1.6	
	New River	1.9	
	Loudoun	2.0	
	Mount Rogers	2.8	
	Chesterfield	3.0	
	Henrico	3.0	
<b>SECOND QUARTILE</b>	Alleghany	3.1	
	Lenowisco	3.3	
	Virginia Beach	3.4	<b>Virginia 2000 Objective  3.5 per 100,000</b>
	Lord Fairfax	3.5	
	Pittsylvania/Danville	3.7	
	Hanover	3.8	
	Portsmouth	3.9	
	Thomas Jefferson	4.0	
Chesapeake	4.1		
Peninsula	4.2		
<b>THIRD QUARTILE</b>	Roanoke	4.2	
	Alexandria	4.3	
	Central Shenandoah	4.3	<b>Virginia Rate  5.3 per 100,000</b>
	Hampton	4.3	
	Southside	4.9	
	Rappahannock	5.7	
	Crater	6.4	
	Richmond	7.6	
Norfolk	7.7		
Piedmont	8.2		
<b>FOURTH QUARTILE</b>	Cumberland Plateau	8.4	
	Western Tidewater	9.2	<b>U.S. Rate 1994  9.4 per 100,000</b>
	Fairfax	10.7	
	Eastern Shore	13.4	
	Arlington	18.2	

\*Rate per 100,000 population