



Monthly publication of National Statistics on the Incidence of Tuberculosis (TB) in Cattle to end September 2013 for Great Britain

These statistics were released today, Wednesday 11 December 2013 at 09:30, with the next notice to be updated on Wednesday 15 January 2014 at 09:30.

Presentational changes to this Statistics Notice and accompanying datasets.

Please note that some data headings and footnotes have been changed in this month's publications. This has been done to add clarity and ease comparison between datasets. An Annex has also been added where additional information on data sources, methodologies and revisions can be found. See link on page 3. There is no change in how the figures have been calculated.

These statistics are obtained from the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) 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 2009 onwards will be subject to further revision as test and incident records are completed.

The key points relating to September 2013 are :-

- Short term changes in these statistics should be considered in the context of long term trends. The charts and tables in this statistical notice illustrate how the trend in bovine TB incidence has changed since 1996.
- The provisional incidence rate for January to September 2013 is 4.4% compared to 4.6% for January to September 2012. However, care needs to be taken not to read too much into short term figures, especially as this figure includes a number of unclassified incidents. As such, the incidence rates are subject to further revisions as more tests and their results for the period are input.
- The number of new herd incidents during the period January to September 2013 was 3,556 compared to 3,777 for January to September 2012. The number of tests on officially TB free herds was 52,082 during January to September 2013, compared to 54,531 during January to September 2012.
- The number of cattle compulsorily slaughtered as reactors or direct contacts was 24,618 during January to September 2013, compared to 27,208 during January to September 2012.

Enquiries to :- tbstatistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk
Media Enquiries to :- 0207 238 6007 (Press Office)

Figure 1: Number of officially TB free herd status being withdrawn incidents, as a percentage of tests on officially TB free herds :-

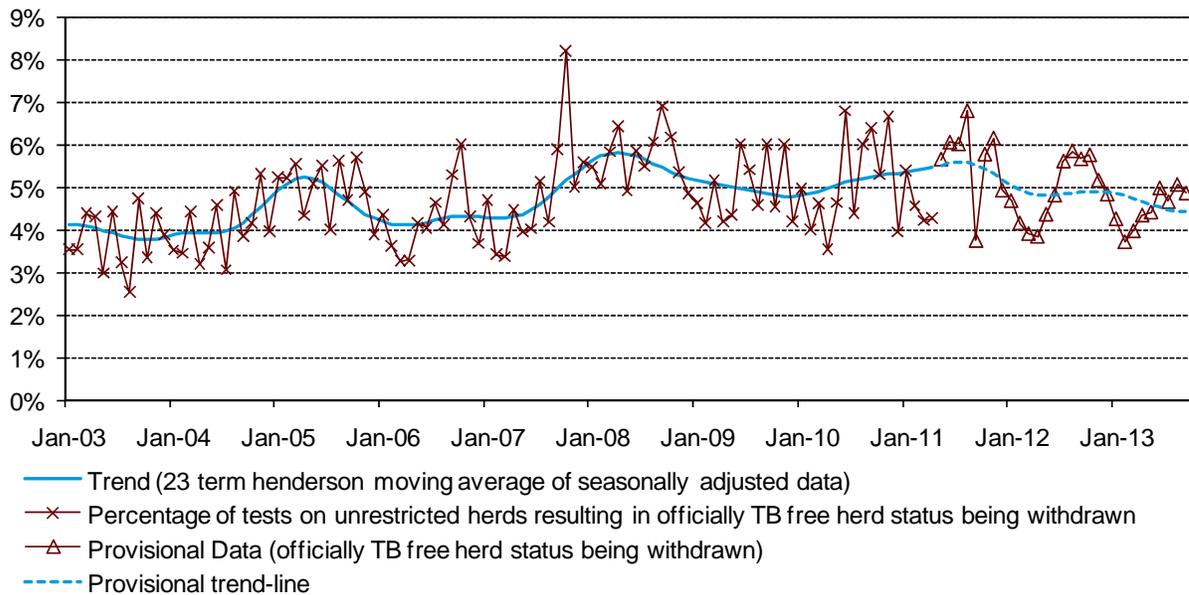
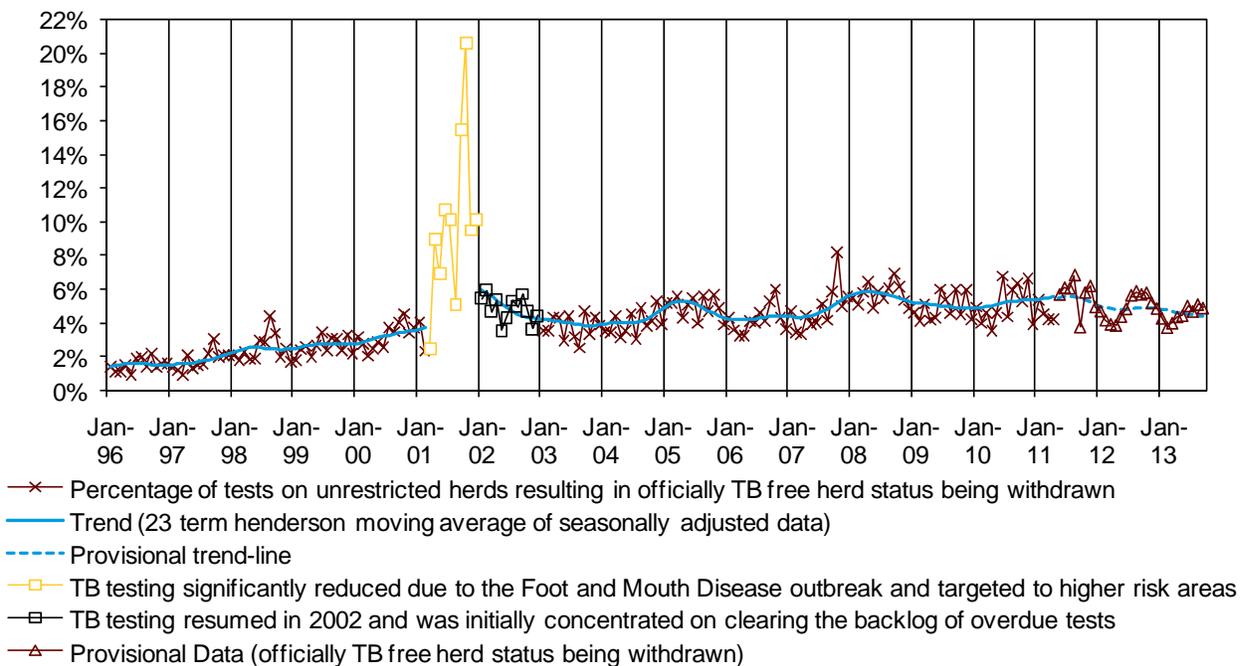


Figure 2: Number of officially TB free herd status being withdrawn incidents, as a percentage of tests on officially TB free herds :-



The charts published in this statistical notice, together with the equivalent figures from January 1996 onwards, are also available in spreadsheet format on the Defra web site at :- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/incidence-of-tuberculosis-tb-in-cattle-in-great-britain>. Visit the second link (MS Excel spreadsheet) entitled "Incidence of TB in cattle in Great Britain - GB dataset".

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. Refer to the Annex 1 document at :- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/264371/bovinetb-annex-11dec13.pdf

Further Information

1. This statistical notice and a wide range of other statistics are available on the internet at - <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs/about/statistics>

TABLE 1: TB INCIDENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN - HERDS

		Total tests on herds (1)	Herds not Officially TB free due to a bovine TB incident (non-OTF Herds) (2)	Tests on officially TB free herds (OTF) (3)	New herd incidents (NHI) (4)	NHI of which: officially TB free herd status withdrawn (OTFW) (5)	Number of OTFW incidents as a percentage of tests on officially TB free herds (6)
1996		36,314	1,589	34,812	1,075	490	1.4%
1997		34,065	1,632	32,295	1,195	540	1.7%
1998		37,046	2,077	34,502	1,514	787	2.3%
1999		41,365	2,374	38,338	1,661	967	2.5%
2000		40,669	2,482	37,184	1,738	1,135	3.1%
2001	*	13,187	1,697	11,118	802	571	5.2%
2002	**	49,709	4,167	43,641	3,323	2,042	4.7%
2003		56,208	5,460	47,568	3,214	1,789	3.8%
2004		56,836	5,220	49,027	3,341	1,934	4.0%
2005		55,887	5,669	46,725	3,665	2,308	4.9%
2006		64,457	5,859	56,051	3,530	2,303	4.1%
2007		64,145	6,582	54,856	4,188	2,546	4.7%
2008		66,432	7,935	54,854	5,011	3,093	5.6%
2009	(prov)	72,205	8,386	58,894	4,599	2,847	4.9%
2010	(prov)	74,474	7,964	61,587	4,723	3,013	4.9%
2011	(prov)	76,660	8,256	62,490	4,913	3,111	5.2%
2012	(prov)	88,570	9,088	73,654	5,201	3,474	4.8%
2013	(prov)	64,113	8,872	52,082	3,556	2,260	4.4%
2011	Jan	(prov) 7,830	3,881	6,531	538	350	5.4%
	Feb	(prov) 7,910	4,025	6,653	464	302	4.6%
	Mar	(prov) 8,615	4,166	7,486	510	312	4.2%
	Apr	(prov) 7,035	4,145	5,694	397	241	4.3%
	May	(prov) 6,142	4,201	4,898	467	270 - 285	5.5% - 5.8%
	Jun	(prov) 4,675	4,123	3,415	347	202 - 212	5.9% - 6.2%
	Jul	(prov) 4,656	4,011	3,388	300	183 - 225	5.4% - 6.6%
	Aug	(prov) 4,231	3,866	3,209	292	188 - 248	5.9% - 7.7%
	Sep	(prov) 5,900	3,692	4,660	253	167 - 184	3.6% - 3.9%
	Oct	(prov) 6,009	3,791	5,025	422	282 - 299	5.6% - 6.0%
	Nov	(prov) 6,564	4,019	5,571	489	331 - 355	5.9% - 6.4%
	Dec	(prov) 7,093	4,145	5,960	434	283 - 306	4.7% - 5.1%
2012	Jan	(prov) 8,194	4,372	6,995	485	325 - 332	4.6% - 4.7%
	Feb	(prov) 9,061	4,511	7,701	465	316 - 327	4.1% - 4.2%
	Mar	(prov) 11,718	4,778	10,283	593	400 - 408	3.9% - 4.0%
	Apr	(prov) 7,891	4,900	6,535	410	250 - 255	3.8% - 3.9%
	May	(prov) 7,306	4,999	5,994	448	259 - 266	4.3% - 4.4%
	Jun	(prov) 5,425	4,961	4,176	326	200 - 203	4.8% - 4.9%
	Jul	(prov) 5,064	4,943	3,862	316	216 - 218	5.6% - 5.6%
	Aug	(prov) 5,421	4,995	4,243	358	246 - 251	5.8% - 5.9%
	Sep	(prov) 5,881	5,050	4,742	376	265 - 273	5.6% - 5.8%
	Oct	(prov) 6,817	5,237	5,749	453	329 - 334	5.7% - 5.8%
	Nov	(prov) 9,062	5,476	7,681	573	393 - 402	5.1% - 5.2%
	Dec	(prov) 6,730	5,570	5,693	398	275 - 277	4.8% - 4.9%
2013	Jan	(prov) 8,749	5,824	7,337	508	309 - 318	4.2% - 4.3%
	Feb	(prov) 9,003	5,937	7,558	409	280 - 285	3.7% - 3.8%
	Mar	(prov) 9,256	6,058	7,989	494	316 - 322	4.0% - 4.0%
	Apr	(prov) 8,079	6,132	6,548	429	282 - 289	4.3% - 4.4%
	May	(prov) 7,354	6,079	5,903	411	259 - 264	4.4% - 4.5%
	Jun	(prov) 5,082	5,997	3,865	339	190 - 196	4.9% - 5.1%
	Jul	(prov) 5,076	5,952	3,744	284	173 - 177	4.6% - 4.7%
	Aug	(prov) 5,541	5,912	4,335	333	218 - 222	5.0% - 5.1%
	Sep	(prov) 5,973	5,961	4,803	349	233 - 235	4.9% - 4.9%

Notes:- The data are a snapshot extracted from Sam. Data for 2009 onwards will remain provisional and subject to revision until all culture results are available and final data validation has been carried out. The herd incidence rates for the latest months are given as a range because a number of incidents are still unclassified, so data for these months should be treated as provisional results.

- (1) Herds for which tuberculin skin testing is carried out on at least one animal during the period shown. Does not include gamma tests.
 - (2) Herds that had lost their OTF status at some time during the period shown due to a TB incident.
 - (3) Any test carried out in an OTF herd during the period shown. Does not include gamma tests.
 - (4) 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, during the period shown.
 - (5) New herd incidents (column 4) where OTF status was withdrawn from the herd.
 - (6) Column 5 as a percentage of column 3.
- * Data for 2001 are not comparable with other years. During the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, TB testing was significantly reduced and necessarily targeted to areas of higher risk.
- ** Data for 2002 are not comparable with other years. Testing resources were concentrated on herds overdue their tests (because of the backlog caused by the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak).

TABLE 2: TB INCIDENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN - ANIMALS

		Total tests on herds	Total cattle tests	Cattle compulsorily slaughtered as reactors or contacts:		
				Total	Reactors	Direct contacts
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1996		36,314	2,249,891	3,776	3,151	625
1997		34,065	2,170,630	3,384	3,017	367
1998		37,046	2,447,848	5,685	4,782	903
1999		41,365	2,825,177	6,754	5,794	960
2000		40,669	2,931,658	8,123	6,877	1,246
2001	*	13,187	1,181,861	6,156	5,200	956
2002	**	49,709	3,961,145	22,072	19,191	2,881
2003		56,208	4,474,526	23,972	20,798	3,174
2004		56,836	4,604,721	22,214	19,636	2,578
2005		55,887	4,811,699	29,231	25,627	3,604
2006		64,457	5,417,573	22,062	20,090	1,972
2007		64,145	5,753,244	26,882	25,330	1,552
2008		66,432	6,178,789	39,007	36,968	2,039
2009	(prov)	72,205	6,840,568	37,979	36,739	1,240
2010	(prov)	74,474	7,447,653	31,949	31,277	672
2011	(prov)	76,660	7,587,874	34,238	33,453	785
2012	(prov)	88,570	8,025,323	37,734	37,049	685
2013	(prov)	64,113	6,028,049	24,618	23,845	773
2011	Jan	(prov) 7,830	789,054	2,656	2,591	65
	Feb	(prov) 7,910	783,669	3,582	3,535	47
	Mar	(prov) 8,615	847,824	3,154	3,116	38
	Apr	(prov) 7,035	752,330	2,604	2,562	42
	May	(prov) 6,142	559,750	2,881	2,836	45
	Jun	(prov) 4,675	458,101	3,180	2,939	241
	Jul	(prov) 4,656	489,866	2,454	2,417	37
	Aug	(prov) 4,231	402,353	2,619	2,573	46
	Sep	(prov) 5,900	581,651	2,520	2,467	53
	Oct	(prov) 6,009	559,254	2,129	2,050	79
	Nov	(prov) 6,564	680,094	3,164	3,108	56
	Dec	(prov) 7,093	683,928	3,295	3,259	36
2012	Jan	(prov) 8,194	720,196	2,580	2,537	43
	Feb	(prov) 9,061	782,134	3,769	3,714	55
	Mar	(prov) 11,718	990,541	3,124	3,090	34
	Apr	(prov) 7,891	721,749	2,805	2,774	31
	May	(prov) 7,306	579,835	3,467	3,414	53
	Jun	(prov) 5,425	489,401	2,526	2,460	66
	Jul	(prov) 5,064	477,334	3,311	3,244	67
	Aug	(prov) 5,421	486,976	2,989	2,864	125
	Sep	(prov) 5,881	547,191	2,637	2,619	18
	Oct	(prov) 6,817	655,740	3,935	3,874	61
	Nov	(prov) 9,062	931,789	3,753	3,681	72
	Dec	(prov) 6,730	642,437	2,838	2,778	60
2013	Jan	(prov) 8,749	771,146	3,202	3,143	59
	Feb	(prov) 9,003	813,932	3,104	2,997	107
	Mar	(prov) 9,256	851,861	2,973	2,860	113
	Apr	(prov) 8,079	825,073	2,726	2,690	36
	May	(prov) 7,354	664,231	3,244	2,963	281
	Jun	(prov) 5,082	480,713	2,035	2,004	31
	Jul	(prov) 5,076	511,221	2,706	2,651	55
	Aug	(prov) 5,541	534,570	2,523	2,470	53
	Sep	(prov) 5,973	575,302	2,105	2,067	38

Notes: The data are a snapshot extracted from Sam. Data for 2009 onwards will remain provisional and subject to revision each month until all culture results are available and final data validation has been carried out.

- (1) Herds in which tuberculin skin testing was carried out in at least one animal during the period shown. Does not include gamma tests. (same as column 1 in Table 1).
- (2) Count of the number of tests on cattle. An individual animal could be tested more than once in each time period.
- (3) Animals compulsorily slaughtered because they reacted to the tuberculin skin test or because they were considered to be direct contacts (see below). Not all of these animals showed evidence of *Mycobacterium bovis* infection at post-mortem examination.
- (4) An animal which was compulsorily slaughtered because it responded to the tuberculin skin test in a way that was consistent with it being infected with *Mycobacterium bovis*.
- (5) An animal in an OTFW incident that, although not a test reactor, was considered to have been exposed to *Mycobacterium bovis* and compulsorily slaughtered.
- * Data for 2001 are not comparable with other years. During the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, TB testing was significantly reduced and necessarily targeted to areas of higher risk.
- ** Data for 2002 are not comparable with other years. Testing resources were concentrated on herds overdue their tests (because of the backlog caused by the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak).