*COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM*
*2014 FACT SHEET*

1. GLOBAL: Worldwide, tuberculosis (TB) affects mostly young adults in their most productive years, and is a leading killer of people who are HIV infected. An estimated two billion persons (i.e., one third of the world's population) are infected with TB. In 2013, the World Health Organization estimates there were 9 million new cases of TB disease and 1.5 million died from TB.

2. NATIONAL: Nationally, the number of TB cases in the United States has been declining for nearly two decades. In 2014, a total of 9,412 cases were reported nationwide, representing a 2% decrease from 9,567 cases in 2013. The proportion of cases among individuals born outside the United States increased from 42% of the national total in 1998 (7,599 cases) to 66% of the national total (6,181 cases) in 2014 (provisional US data).

3. SAN DIEGO: San Diego County reported 220 cases of active TB in 2014 (case rate of 6.9 per 100,000 population). This represents a 6% decrease from 2012 (234 cases in 2012). The number of cases in 2014 was 53% lower than 1993 (469 cases), the year with the highest number of cases in decades, and 30% lower than the 5-year average from 2002-2006 (316 cases).

4. AGE: The median age of TB cases in San Diego County was 45, and ranged from 1 to 95 years old. This is the fifth consecutive year the number of cases in children less than 15 years old (9 cases) remained lower than the 3-year average from 2007-2009 (17 cases). Persons aged 25 to 64 made up the largest group of TB cases with 121 (55%). The remaining cases occurred in persons 65 and older (52 cases) and persons aged 15 to 24 years old (38 cases).

5. RACE/ETHNICITY: The racial and ethnic breakdown of San Diego County TB cases was 115 (52%) Hispanics, 71 (32%) Asian/Pacific Islanders, 19 (9%) non-Hispanic whites and 14 (6%) non-Hispanic blacks.

6. BIRTH COUNTRY: TB cases born outside of the United States comprised 70% of San Diego County's cases. Of the 154 cases born outside the United States, 70 (45%) were from Asia (including 38 from the Philippines, and 13 from Vietnam), 66 (43%) were from Mexico, and 7 (5%) were from Africa.

7. CHILDREN: There were 3 cases of TB reported among children less than five years of age in San Diego County (1% of all cases). This represents a gradual decrease in this age group since 2007 (10 cases). During 2002-2006 the annual average was 15 cases. TB in children of this age is of concern because it often represents recent transmission of infection from adults to children.

8. DRUG RESISTANCE: TB drug susceptibility information was available for 185 (99%) of 187 culture-proven cases in San Diego. Resistance to at least one of the four major first-line drugs was found among 34 (18%) of these specimens. Multidrug-resistant (MDR TB) strains were found in 2 (1.1%) of the cases. During 1999-2014, a total of 54 MDR TB cases were reported in San Diego and none were extensively drug-resistant (XDR). Of the 54 cases, 45 (83%) were among persons born outside the US, including 21 (39%) from Mexico. Vigilance in diagnosing MDR TB and close monitoring of treatment is of extreme importance because of the complexity of treating such patients and the risk of spread within the community.

9. BOVIS: Among the 187 culture-proven cases in 2014, a total of 22 (12%) had disease from *M. bovis.* Five of these cases occurred in children less than 15 years old. Of 58 culture-proven cases in 2014 among persons born in Mexico, 13 (23%) had *M. bovis*. Disease due to *M. bovis*, also known as bovine tuberculosis, is usually contracted through the consumption of unpasteurized dairy products. Person-to-person transmission is also believed to occur.

10. RISK GROUPS: HIV is the strongest known medical risk factor for TB disease once TB infection occurs. During 2014, a total of 17 (8%) of the 220 persons reported with TB were also co-infected with HIV. The most common medical risk factor was diabetes (16% of TB cases). Other risk groups included persons with end-stage renal disease (3%), immunosuppressive treatment or conditions (8%), and drug use history (15%).

*Date: April 20, 2015*