



TUBERCULOSIS PROFILE



Tuberculosis (TB) is a public health problem in Mexico and remains of great interest to the United States, given the shared borders and immigration flow between the two countries. According to the World Health Organization's (WHO's) Global TB Report 2009, Mexico had an estimated 21,283 TB cases in 2007, with an estimated incidence rate of 20 cases per 100,000 population. The National TB Control Program (NTCP) began implementing DOTS (the internationally recommended strategy for TB control) in selected demonstration areas in 1996, and, according to WHO estimates, DOTS population coverage reached 100 percent in 2005, but declined slightly in 2007. Multidrug-resistant (MDR) TB is a concern, with 2.4 percent of new cases being drug resistant. Mexico received approval from the Green Light Committee (GLC) to expand access to second-line TB drugs. Extensively drug-resistant TB also was confirmed in Mexico in February 2007.

USAID Approach and Key Activities

More than 25 percent of TB patients reported in the United States originate from Mexico, which make the control, prevention, and treatment of this highly infectious disease a question of important to U.S. national interest and policy. In 2000, USAID and the Mexican Secretariat of Health signed a \$16 million bilateral grant agreement to strengthen TB prevention efforts. In fiscal year (FY) 2008, USAID provided \$496,000 for TB programming in Mexico. USAID has a solid relationship with its NTCP counterparts, and all technical areas and projects are coordinated closely. Together, USAID and the NTCP have developed a plan, focusing on 13 target states (Baja California, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Guerrero, Jalisco, Michoacán, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Zacatecas, Sonora, Tamaulipas, and Veracruz). These states include those along the U.S.-Mexico border and those with the highest TB rates and largest concentrations of migrants. More recently, USAID has begun working with local and binational nongovernmental organizations to further support control efforts and to mitigate the effects of TB in vulnerable populations.

USAID's TB strategy is to collaborate with public and private entities in priority regions in Mexico, where 70 percent of the country's reported TB cases occur. USAID focuses on the following objectives: expanded and strengthened quality DOTS activities at the national and state levels; expanded TB research; and improved advocacy, communication, and social mobilization. USAID's strategy includes the following:

- Promoting collaboration and augmenting capacity and coordination among governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders
- Promoting TB health education as part of a national awareness campaign and emphasizing community-based social mobilization
- Strengthening TB diagnostic and treatment practices among health workers through training and capacity building
- Strengthening the national network of TB laboratories by building a systematic quality assurance program to improve capabilities in smear microscopy and drug resistance testing, and purchasing laboratory equipment
- Improving DOTS services for migrants by strengthening national and international referral systems and organizing community activities
- Expanding DOTS coverage and treatment success rates by augmenting community health worker networks and capacities
- Supporting operations research projects as well as a national TB drug resistance survey

Country Population	106,535,000
Est. number of new TB cases	21,283
Est. TB incidence (all cases per 100,000 pop)	20
DOTS population coverage (%)	96
Rate of new SS+ cases (per 100,000 pop)	11
DOTS case detection rate (new SS+) (%)	99
DOTS treatment success rate, 2006 (new SS+) (%)	80
Est. new adult TB cases (HIV) + (%)	4.8
MDR-TB among all new TB cases (%)	2.4
All data are for 2007, except where otherwise noted. WHO Global TB Report 2009	

- Developing performance indicators for project monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and developing information management systems for program evaluation, data management, and analysis
- Enhancing public-private mix (PPM) coordination through training on the *International Standards for Tuberculosis Care* and establishment of a PPM Work Group under the STOP TB Partnership initiative
- Strengthening, reorganizing, and updating the programmatic and clinical management of MDR-TB and supporting the GLC application and operation

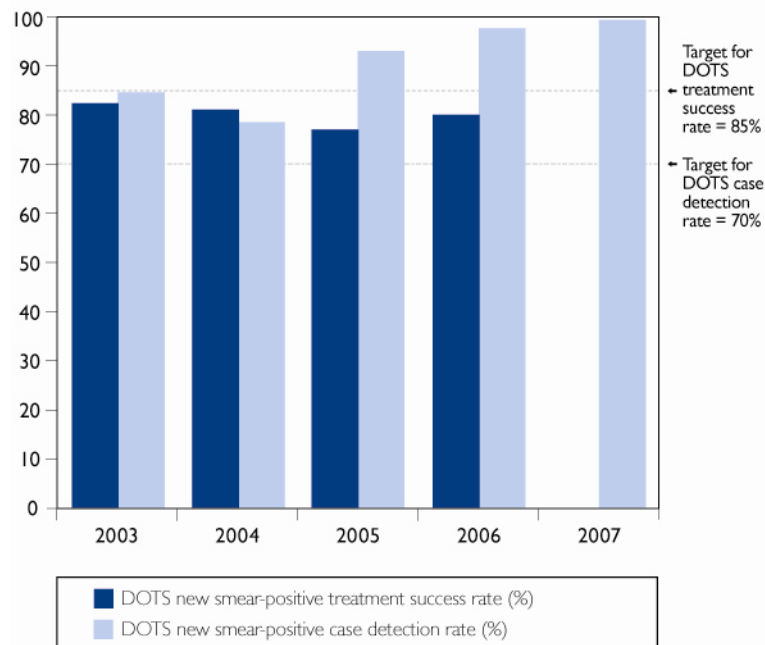
USAID Program Achievements

Although implementation of many aspects of the USAID TB program were initially delayed, full implementation of a wide variety of technical components are now contributing to substantial improvements in TB control and prevention in Mexico.

Achievements to date include the following:

- Implemented a model community-based TB program through Project Concern International
- Trained more than 5,500 health professionals in DOTS in 2008
- Supported seven small grants that demonstrated important results in TB control in high-risk populations in the border area, which include community awareness programs and a model program for treatment of drug-resistant patients
- Assisted two university partnerships in TB research and control – the first between the University of Texas, El Paso and the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez and the second between the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas
- Distributed country-crucial laboratory equipment for diagnostics throughout the country, as well as computers and equipment for management and training, and vehicles to support TB supervision and M&E activities
- Adapted, printed, and distributed the *International Standards for Tuberculosis Care* throughout the country
- Revised and updated the clinical guidelines for case management of drug-resistant TB and supported Mexico in the approval and preparations for GLC access to second-line drugs
- Created an information, education, communication strategy and public awareness campaign with printed and multimedia materials, including brochures, radio spots, and public service announcements for television

Case Detection and Treatment Success Rates Under DOTS



Note: DOTS treatment success rate for 2007 will be reported in the WHO Report 2010.
 Source: Global Tuberculosis Control WHO Report 2009

Partnerships

Within the Mexican Secretariat of Health, USAID collaborates with the Division of Prevention and Control of Microbacteria, the National Center for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, the National Institute of Epidemiological Diagnosis and Reference, and the National Institute of Respiratory Diseases. USAID also collaborates with state health secretariats, the U.S. CDC on cross-border migration issues, the Pan American Health Organization on TB research, and Project Concern International on community-based TB activities. Other technical partners and consultants include members of the Tuberculosis Control Assistance Program coalition.

June 2009