




WORLD TB DAY

— MARCH 24 —

1.5 MILES FOR 
1.5 MILLION
 VIRTUAL TUBERCULOSIS AWARENESS WALK 



Answers to Common Questions about Tuberculosis

TB? What is it?

“TB” means tuberculosis. It is caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium Tuberculosis*.

TB is still around?

Yes! TB is the world’s second-leading infectious disease killer, killing 1.5 million worldwide in 2020. In the US, we saw around 7,882 cases in 2021. Kentucky had 57 cases of TB in 2021.

Who can get TB?

Anyone can get TB. Those most at risk are people who have been in close contact with someone with TB disease; immigrated from or spent a lot of time in another country where TB is common; are homeless; are living with HIV infection; live or work in congregate settings; and/or have a condition which weakens the immune system.

To learn about TB in the United States visit [cdc.gov/tb](https://www.cdc.gov/tb)

To learn about TB globally visit [who.int/health-topics/tuberculosis](https://www.who.int/health-topics/tuberculosis)

Is it curable?

Yes! Thanks to great therapeutic drugs, most TB case in the US are curable. Curing TB involves taking multiple drugs daily for 6 to 12 months.

What are the symptoms of TB?

Generally, they are weakness, weight loss, fever, night sweats. People also experience coughing, chest pain, and sometimes cough up blood.

TB is only in the lungs, right?

TB certainly does affect the lungs; however, TB can also affect any other part of the body including the brain, bones, or internal organs.

How worried should I be about TB?

Luckily, your public health and health care workers fight hard daily against TB. TB is curable and something you should be aware of, but it’s no reason to panic.