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# Bovine Tuberculosis in Cattle

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Bovine tuberculosis is a rare disease that affects mammals, including cattle, deer, goats, dogs, and humans. *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*) is the bacteria that causes the disease. Animal health officials sporadically detect tuberculosis in livestock herds.

APHIS and State animal health agencies collaborate with U.S. livestock producers to administer the National Tuberculosis Eradication Program, which has nearly eradicated tuberculosis from the Nation's livestock population since its inception in 1917. Several factors, including the eradication program and pasteurization of milk, have reduced the number of human tuberculosis cases in the United States.

## What To Look For

Infected cattle are typically asymptomatic. Detection usually occurs during live animal skin testing or, more commonly, at slaughter through our national slaughter surveillance program. If cattle or bison show clinical signs of tuberculosis, the disease has advanced to affect multiple organ systems, which is rare.

## How To Prevent This Disease

Tuberculosis is spread mainly through nose-to-nose contact between animals or ingesting contaminated feed or water.

Herds are usually affected in one of two ways: purchasing infected animals or being exposed to infected wildlife.

Human-to-animal transmission is also possible. Although epidemiology has implicated humans as the most likely source of infection in several recent herd outbreaks, regulatory officials cannot quantify the risk of reverse zoonosis. Learn more at [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Basic TB Facts](#).

The prevalence of tuberculosis in cattle, bison, and captive cervids is extremely low in the United States, with an estimated prevalence of 7 per 1 million cattle screened.

When health officials find tuberculosis in a herd, it is managed by either depopulating the herd or by testing and removing reactor animals.

## How It Is Treated

Tuberculosis is not treated in livestock.

## Report Signs of Animal Disease

Producers or owners who suspect an animal disease should contact their veterinarian to evaluate the animal or herd. [Find an accredited veterinarian](#).

Animal health professionals (veterinarians; diagnostic laboratories; public health, zoo, or wildlife personnel; and others) report diagnosed or suspected cases of [nationally listed reportable animal diseases](#) to [APHIS Area Veterinarians in Charge](#) and to the [State animal health official](#) as applicable under State reporting regulations.

## Controlling Bovine Tuberculosis in Cattle

Current Status

### Summary Reports and Affected Herd Maps

Federal and State animal health officials jointly conduct surveillance for bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis (TB). When infected animals are identified, officials investigate these cases to determine if additional animals or herds of animals are infected.

The reports below provide updates on these investigations and summary information about brucellosis and TB-affected cattle, bison, and captive cervids herds that have been detected during the year. The summaries also include information about herds that were detected in previous years, but are being managed under a test-and-removal plan.

### FY 2024

- [Quarter 3, FY 2024 Report](#) (1.92 MB) (April-June 2024)
- [Quarter 2, FY 2024 Report](#) (3.7 MB) (January-March 2024)
- [Quarter 1, FY 2024 Report](#) (1.79 MB) (October-December 2023)

### FY 2023

- [Quarter 4, FY 2023 Report](#) (3.75 MB) (July-September 2023)
- [Quarter 3, FY 2023 Report](#) (4.38 MB) (April-June 2023)
- [Quarter 2, FY 2023 Report](#) (4.37 MB) (January-March 2023)
- [Quarter 1, FY 2023 Report](#) (599.16 KB) (October-December 2022)

Updated maps will be posted when changes regarding affected herds occur.

To request archived reports and herd maps from fiscal years 2015 to 2022, please contact [aphisweb@usda.gov](mailto:aphisweb@usda.gov).

## **Eradication Programs**

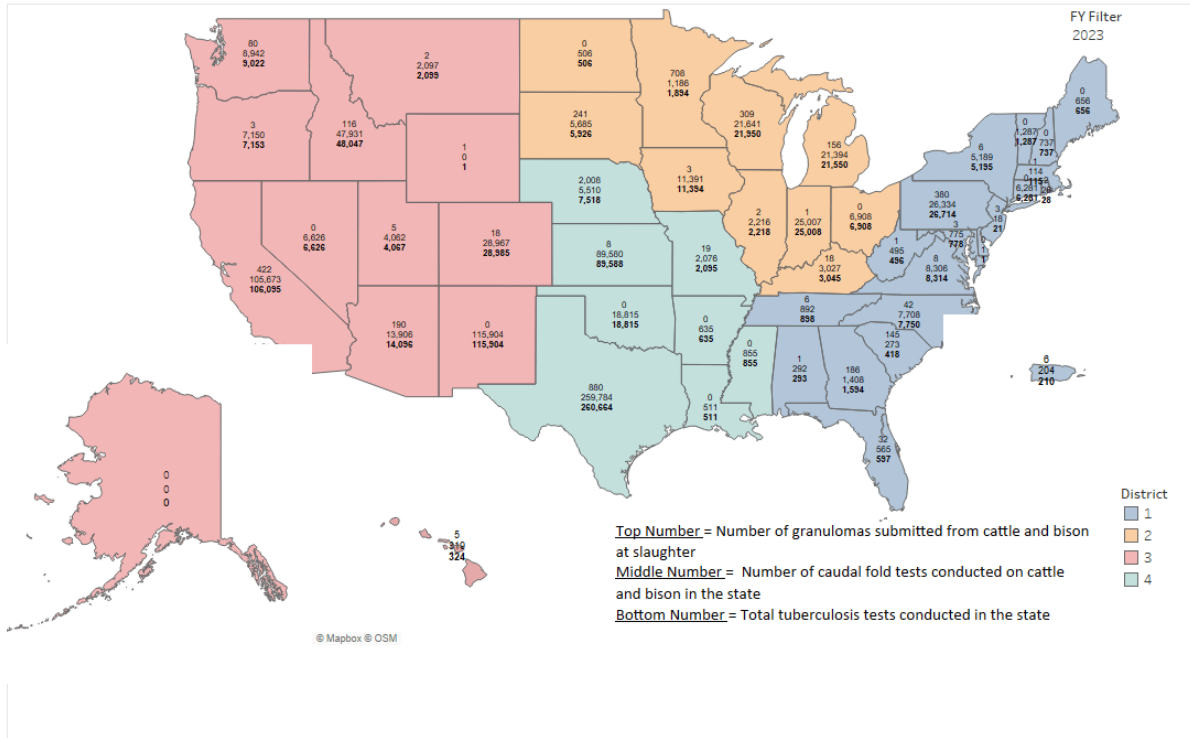
APHIS and State animal health officials also coordinate eradication programs for brucellosis and tuberculosis, among other diseases. For the latest updates by State, view our [Status of Current Eradication Programs](#).

### Surveillance

The primary source of tuberculosis surveillance is carcass inspection at all Federal and State inspected slaughter establishments. The other main sources of tuberculosis detection are testing animals before interstate movement and during disease investigations. Live animal testing is performed with a screening test. If positive, the regulatory veterinarian will conduct a confirmatory test. Contact your [local accredited veterinarian](#) for more specific information.

## **FY2023 Tuberculosis Tests on U.S. Cattle and Bison**

## FY2023 Tuberculosis Tests on U.S. Cattle and Bison



State	FY23 Slaughter Granuloma Submissions	FY23 Caudal Fold Tests	Total
AK	0	0	0
AL	1	292	293
AR	0	635	635
AZ	190	13,906	14,096
CA	422	105,673	106,095
CO	18	28,967	28,985
CT	0	6,281	6,281
DE	0	1	1
FL	32	565	597
GA	186	1,408	1,594
HI	5	319	324
IA	3	11,391	11,394
ID	116	47,931	48,047
IL	2	2,216	2,218

State		FY23 Slaughter Granuloma Submissions	FY23 Caudal Fold Tests	Total
IN	1		25,007	25,008
KS	8		89,580	89,588
KY	18		3,027	3,045
LA	0		511	511
MA	1		114	115
MD	3		775	778
ME	0		656	656
MI	156		21,394	21,550
MN	708		1,186	1,894
MO	19		2,076	2,095
MS	0		855	855
MT	2		2,097	2,099
NC	42		7,708	7,750
ND	0		506	506
NE	2,008		5,510	7,518
NH	0		737	737
NJ	3		18	21
NM	0		115,904	115,904
NV	0		6,626	6,626
NY	6		5,189	5,195
OH	0		6,908	6,908
OK	0		18,815	18,815
OR	3		7,150	7,153
PA	380		26,334	26,714
PR	6		204	210
RI	2		26	28
SC	145		273	418
SD	241		5,685	5,926
TN	6		892	898
TX	880		259,784	260,664
UT	5		4,062	4,067

State	FY23 Slaughter Granuloma Submissions	FY23 Caudal Fold Tests	Total
VA	8	8,306	8,314
VT	0	1,287	1,287
WA	80	8,942	9,022
WI	309	21,641	21,950
WV	1	495	496
WY	1	0	1

#### APHIS' Response

## History

In 1917, the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry began the National Tuberculosis Eradication Program due to human and livestock concerns regarding bovine tuberculosis. It started out as strictly an eradication program for cattle but eventually included both bison and farmed cervids. The economic benefits of decreased slaughter condemnation and human infection far outweigh the cost to administer the program. Although the program has been extremely successful in reducing livestock infection, there is still work left to do.

#### Regulatory Information

- [Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Uniform Methods and Rules](#) (148.25 KB)(2005)
- [Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 50: Animals Destroyed Because of Tuberculosis](#)
- [Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 77: Tuberculosis](#)
- [FDA "Grade A" Pasteurized Milk Ordinance \(2017 revision\)](#)

#### Information for Veterinarians

- [Tuberculosis Testing Guidance](#)

#### Reports and Assessments

The APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) Cattle Health Center periodically reviews State tuberculosis programs for States maintaining split-State status or under the conditions of a memorandum of understanding. VS posts program review reports

and the corresponding State responses below as they become available.

## **State Tuberculosis Program Reports**

- **Michigan:**

- [2022 APHIS Report](#) (745.12 KB) | [2022 State Response](#) (350.98 KB)
- [2020 APHIS Report](#) (426.99 KB) | [2020 State Response](#) (193.22 KB)
- [2019 APHIS Report](#) (753.26 KB) | [2019 State Response](#) (122.05 KB)

- **Hawaii (HI)**

- [2023 APHIS Report](#) (288.79 KB) | [2023 State Response](#) (117.39 KB)

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