



TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM UPDATE

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Director, TB Prevention & Control



POPULATION HEALTH DIVISION
SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Agenda

- Tuberculosis (TB) Branch:
Structure, Function, and Mission
- Epidemiologic Trends in TB in San Francisco
- Post-outbreak Surveillance, Outreach and
Prevention Monitoring
- Award Recipient Recognition

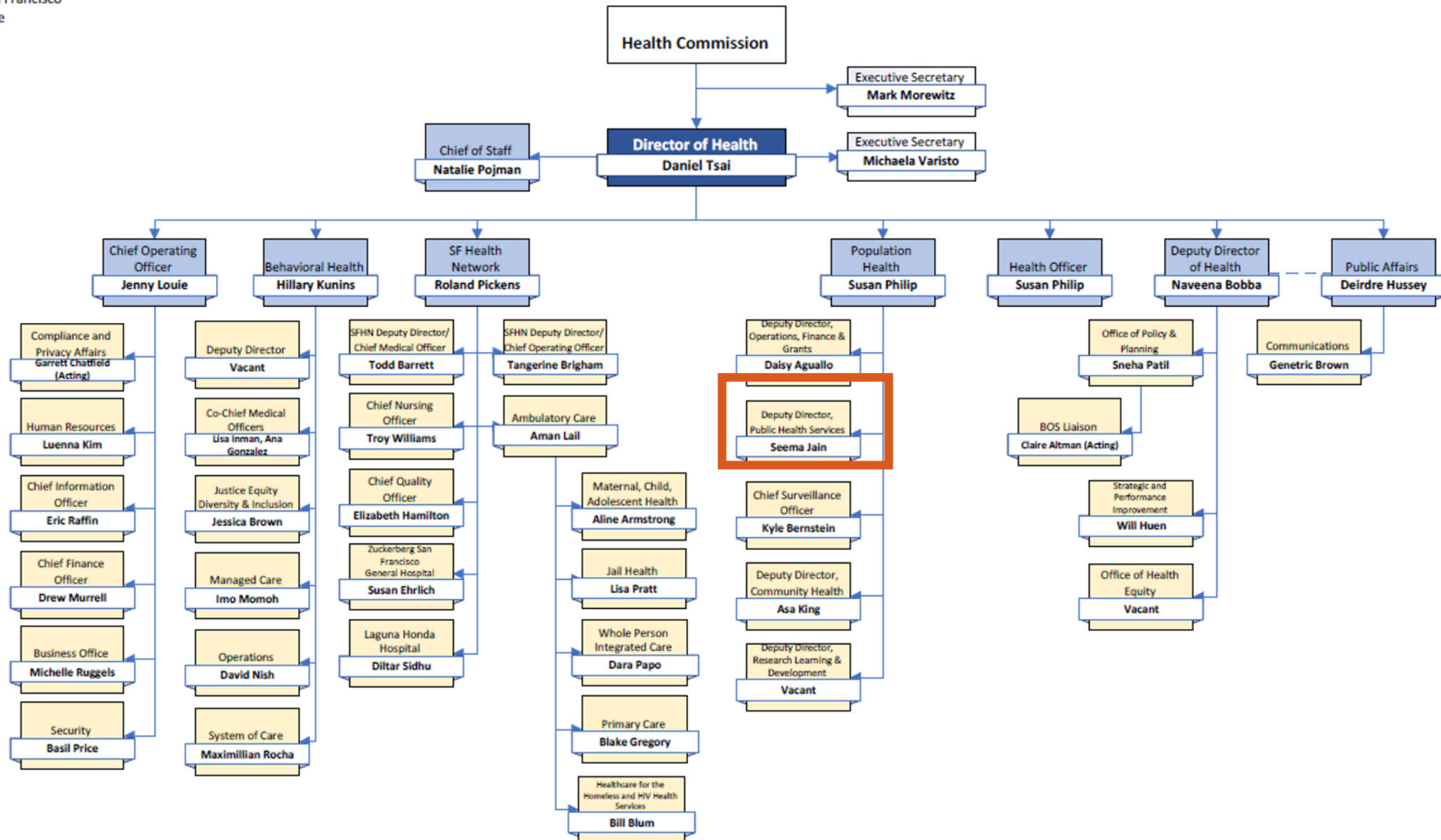


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City and County of San Francisco
Daniel L. Lurie
Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health
Daniel Tsai
Director of Health

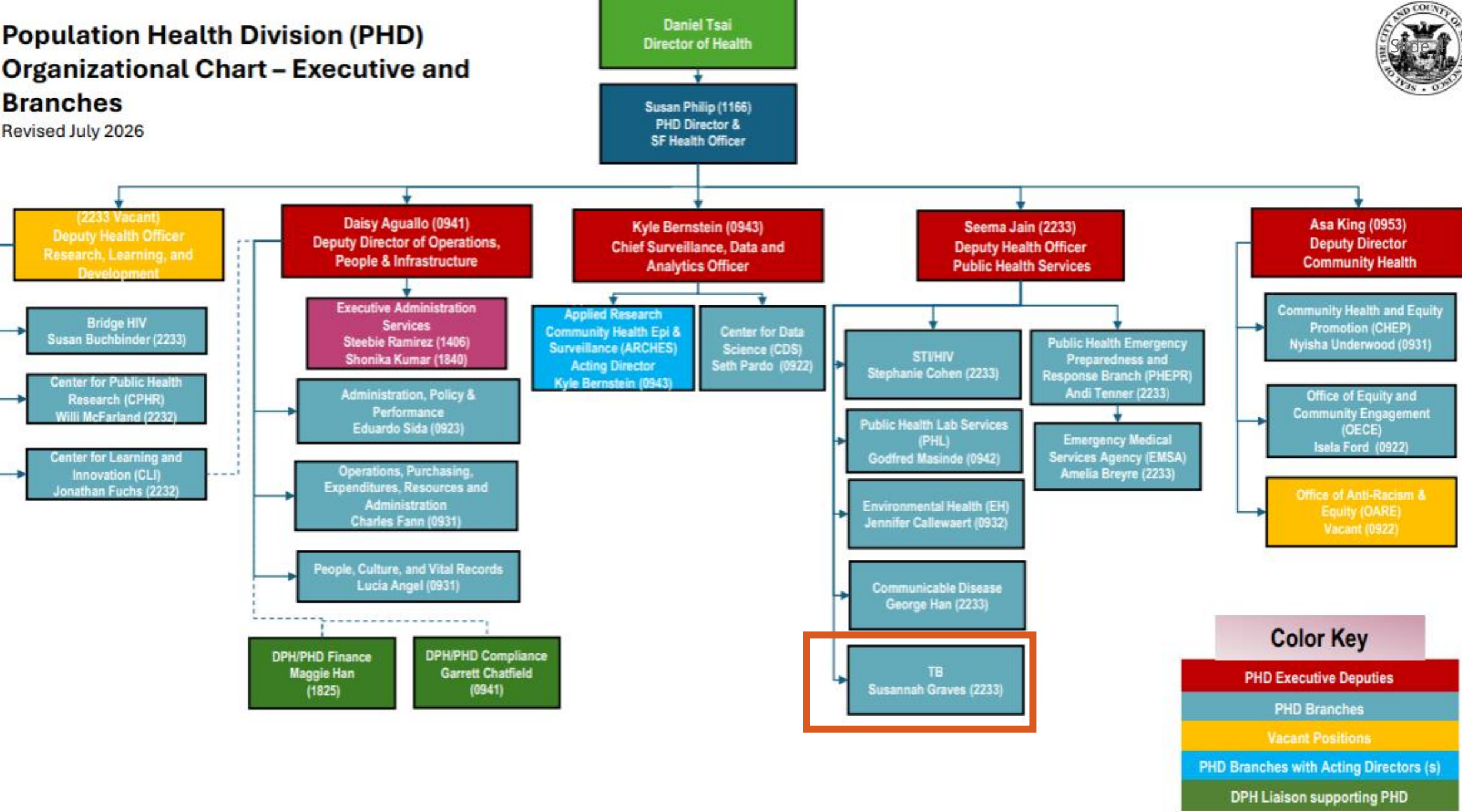




Population Health Division (PHD)

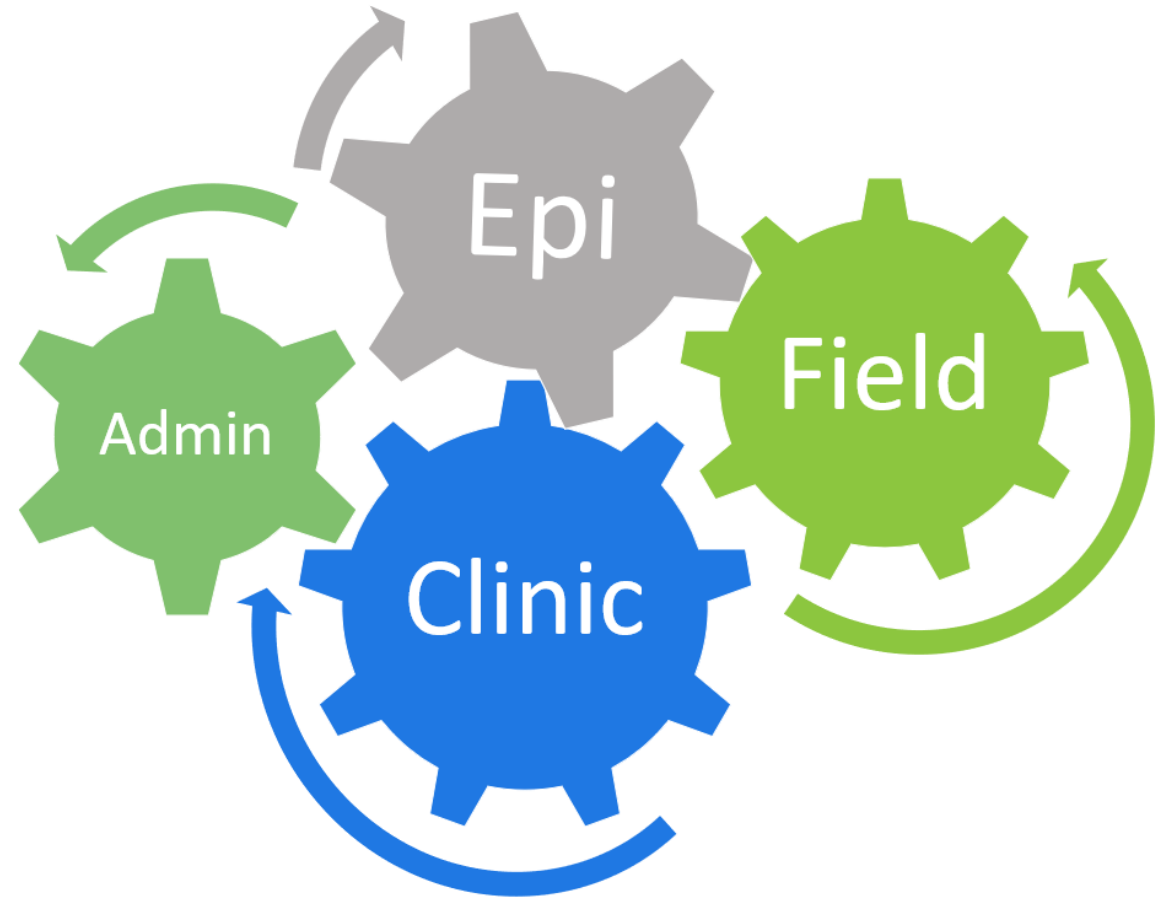
Organizational Chart – Executive and Branches

Revised July 2026



San Francisco TB Prevention and Control Mission & Function

The mission of San Francisco Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program is to control, prevent, and finally eliminate tuberculosis in San Francisco by providing compassionate, equitable, and supportive care of the highest quality to all persons affected by this disease.



What is TB?

- Caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- **Active TB disease** usually affects the lungs, can affect any organ
- Transmitted from person-to-person via aerosols in shared indoor air
- Top infectious disease killer globally with over 10% case mortality in SF



- You can harbor **latent TB infection (LTBI)** for months or years without symptoms
- TB disease is **preventable** at this stage!

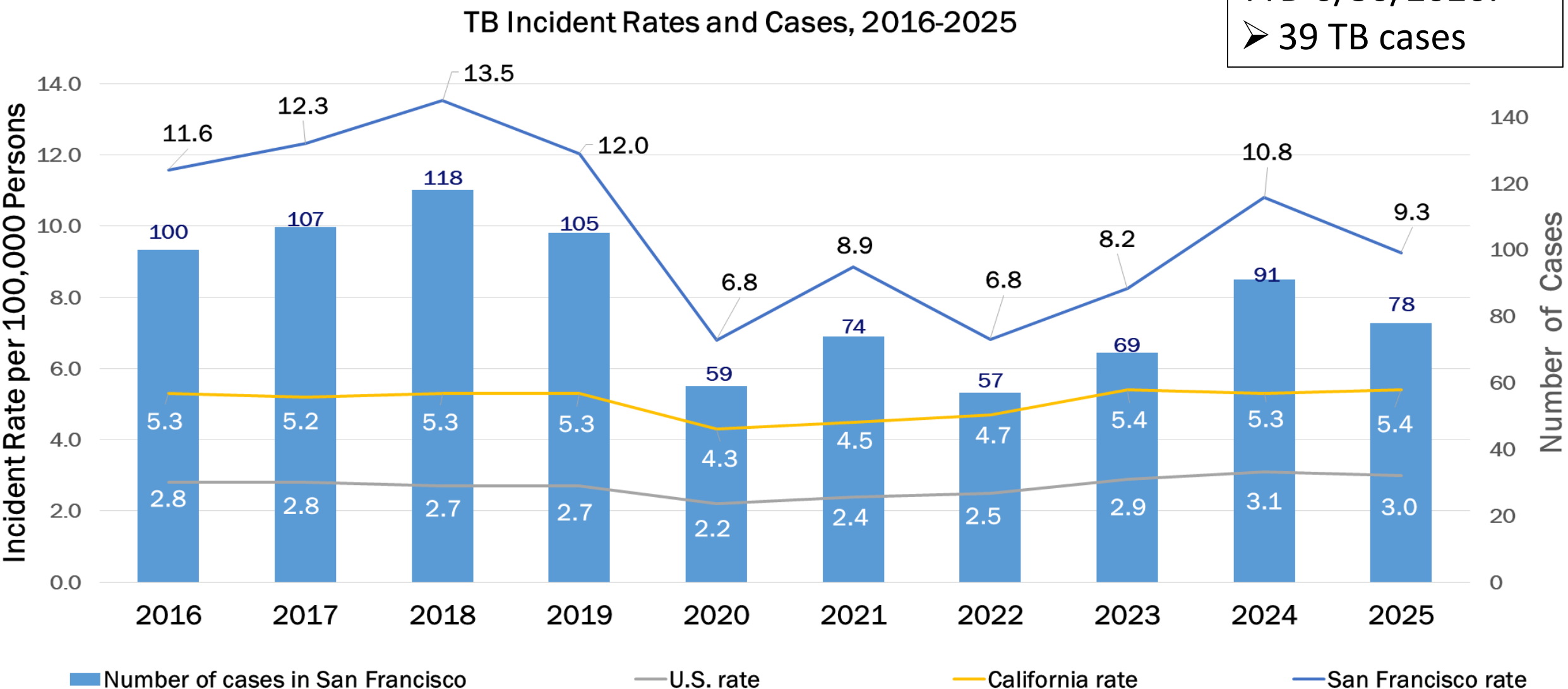


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Active TB cases and rates have increased since 2020

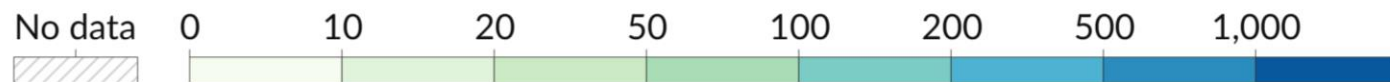
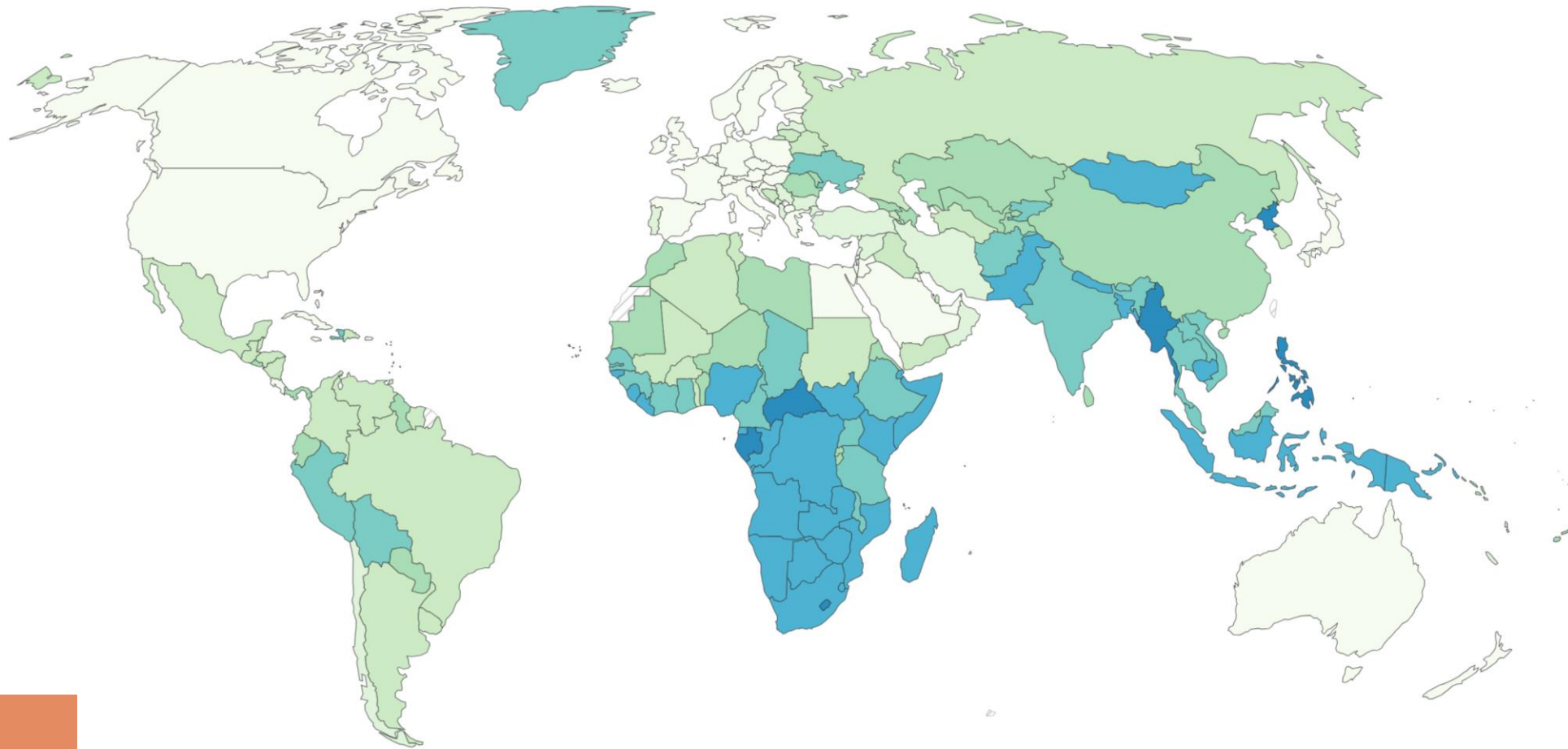
YTD 6/30/2026:

➤ 39 TB cases



Approximately 90% of people with active TB in San Francisco were born in a country where TB is common

Slide 8



Our World
in Data

Data Source: WHO

Image Source: [Our World In Data](https://ourworldindata.org/)

Birth country* of SF active TB cases 2021 - 2025

Country	N(%)
China	133 (36.0%)
Philippines	60 (16.3%)
Vietnam	25 (6.8%)
India	14 (3.8%)
Burma	6 (1.6%)
Hong Kong*	4 (1.1%)

Country	N(%)
Korea, South	4 (1.1%)
Nepal	4 (1.1%)
Indonesia	3 (0.8%)
Mongolia	3 (0.8%)
Macau*	2 (0.5%)
Malaysia	2 (0.5%)

Country	N(%)
Mexico	18 (4.9%)
Guatemala	8 (2.2%)
Nicaragua	6 (1.6%)
Peru	5 (1.4%)
El Salvador	3 (0.8%)
Venezuela	3 (0.8%)
Brazil	2 (0.5%)
Colombia	2 (0.5%)

Country	N(%)
United States	34 (9.2%)
Ukraine	3 (0.8%)
France	2 (0.5%)
United Kingdom	2 (0.5%)

Other

Asia

Latin America

*Special Administrative Regions (SAR) as noted

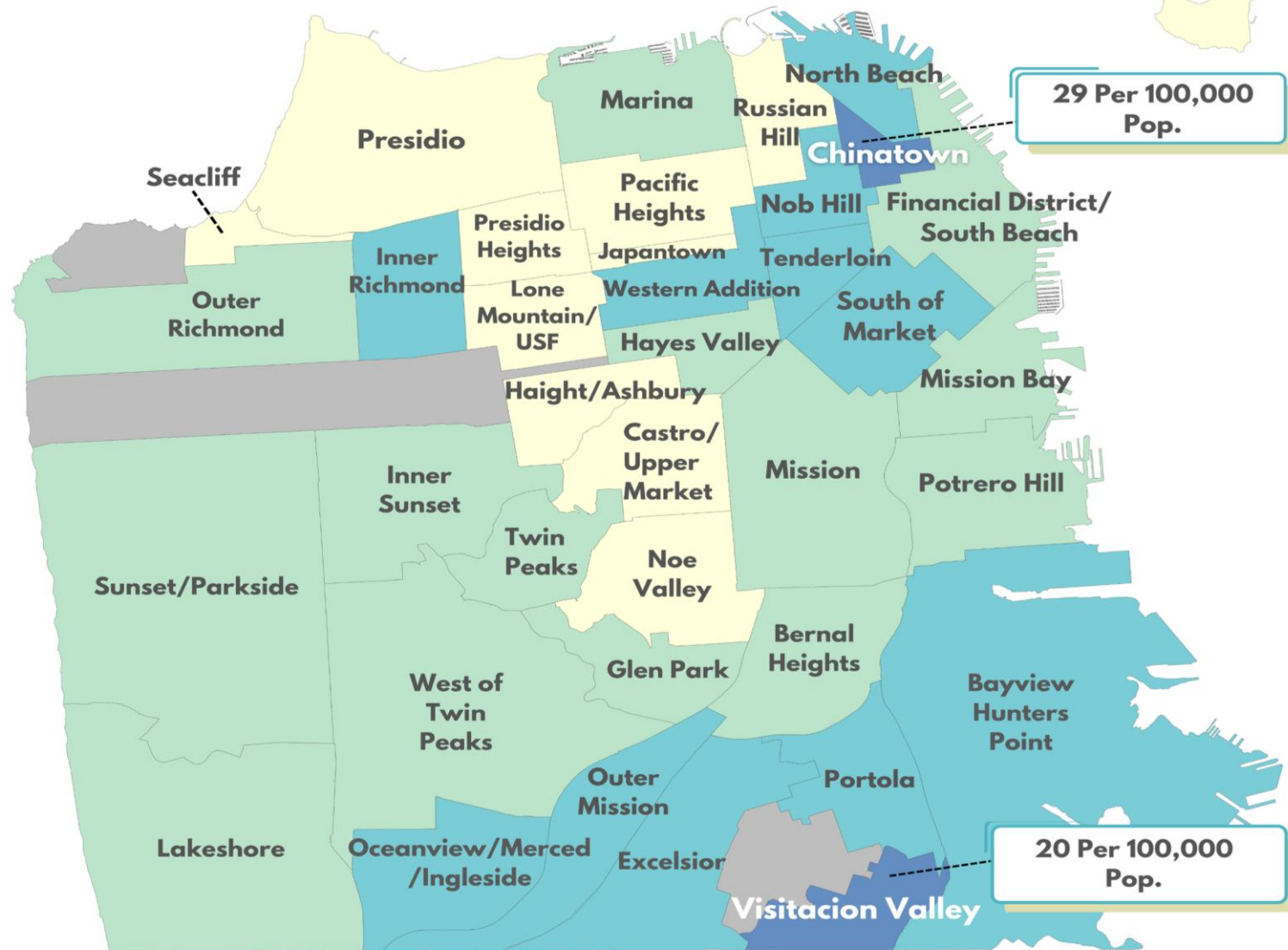
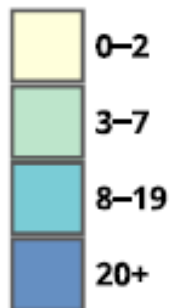
Countries-of-birth with fewer than two TB cases during 2021- 2025 not shown



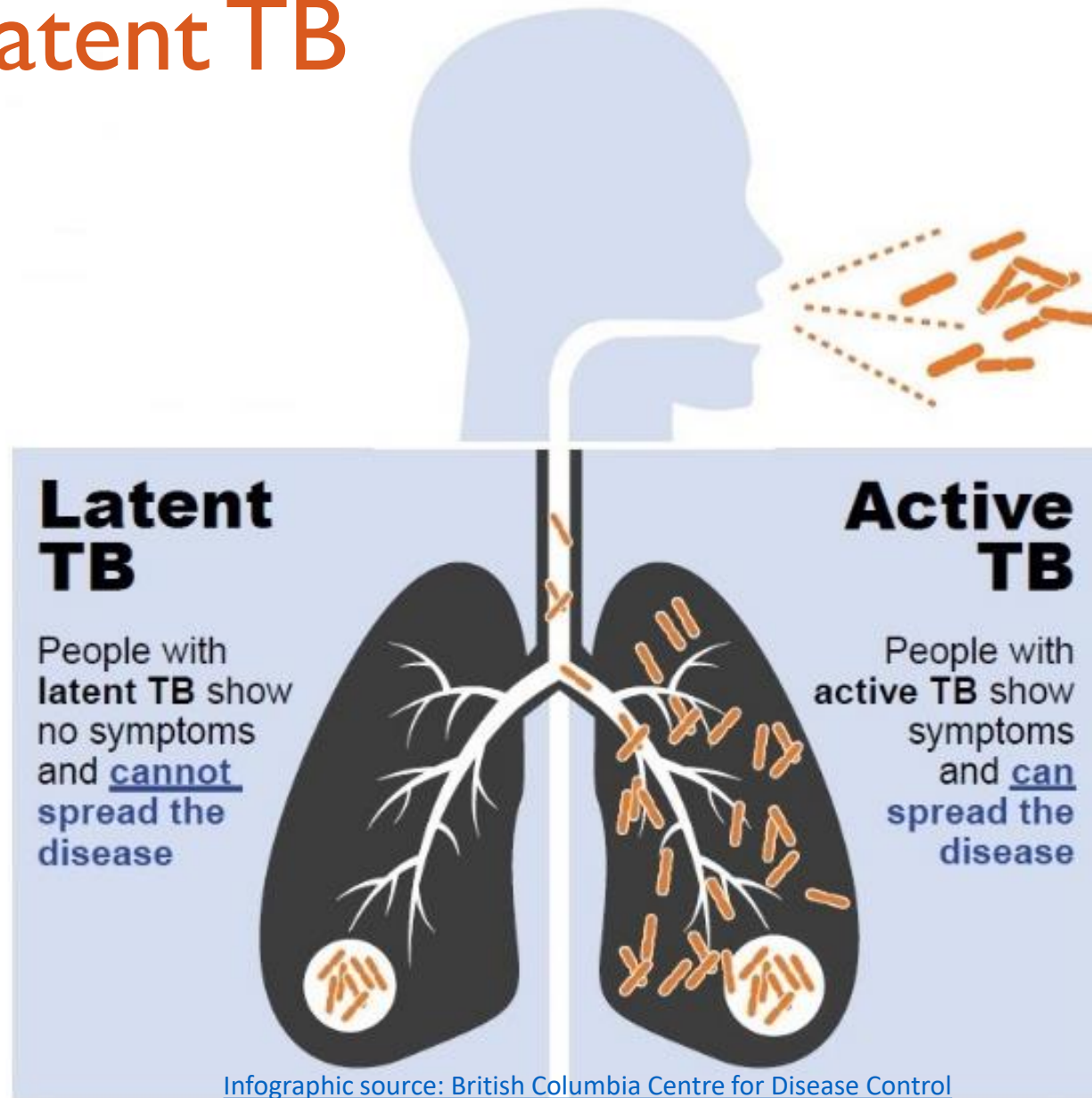
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TB Incidence by neighborhood

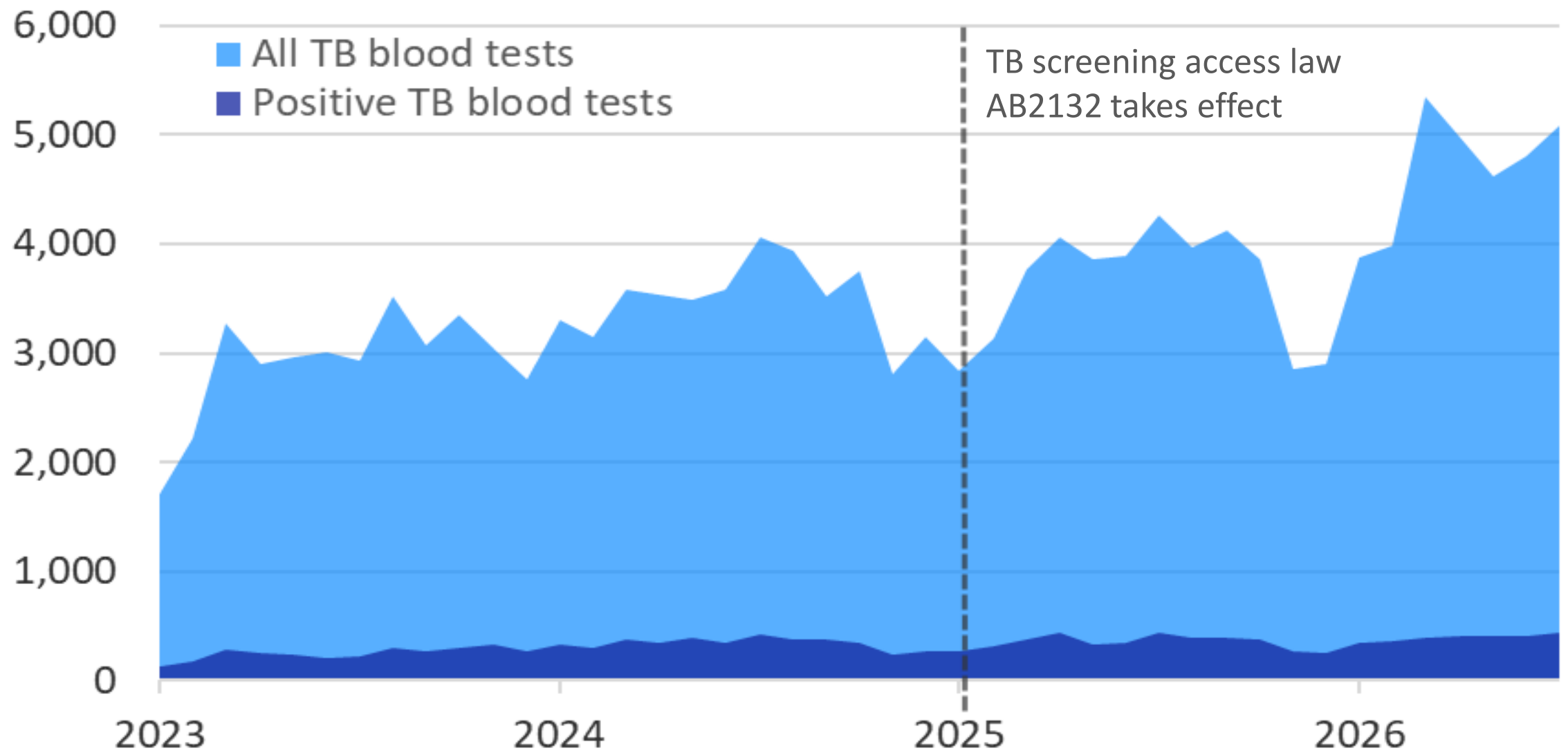
Incidence Rate per 100,000
Population: 2021–2025



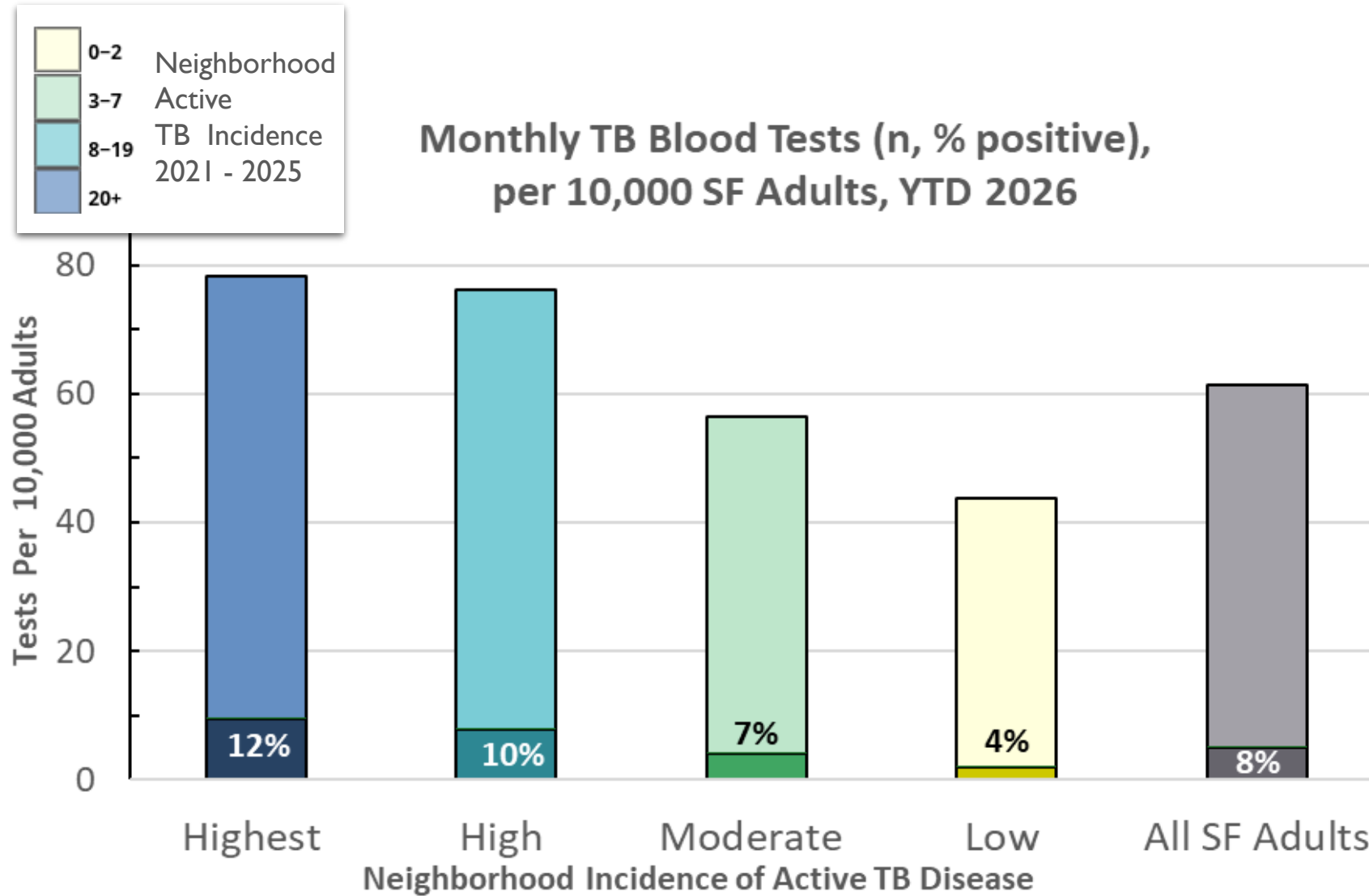
TB Prevention Strategy: Test and Treat for Latent TB



Monthly Electronically Reported TB Blood Tests (n), San Francisco Adults 2023 – 2026 YTD



TB blood test access is enhanced in neighborhoods with high TB risk



In neighborhoods with higher TB incidence:

- more TB screening tests are performed per resident
- A higher percent of TB tests are positive

Indicates appropriate focus of TB prevention in these neighborhoods

Archbishop Riordan High School TB Outbreak Response Outcomes

- Successful screening and treatment, no further cases to date
 - A total of 1407 (97%) of the total school population were evaluated
 - 8 cases of active TB disease were diagnosed, all on or completed with treatment
 - 244 cases of latent TB infection, 96% initiated treatment
- Post-outbreak monitoring of TB blood tests (for LTBI):
 - Electronic Lab Report (ELR) since 6/18/2026: at least 588/717 (82%) students with prior negative testing who plausibly may have returned to campus in the fall
 - 5 (1%) positive tests, all with a normal chest X-ray (may be LTBI or false positives)
 - No new linked cases of active TB disease
 - No definitive evidence of ongoing transmission



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*excludes seniors from 2025-2026 school year, and other students known to have left campus

Outreach to Schools and Families

- School entry TB screening and vaccination press release July 20, 2026
- School webinars planned for September 2026

Tuberculosis (TB) clearance is required for school entry in San Francisco

Tuberculosis (TB) clearance within the last year is required for entering Preschool and TK/K-12 school in San Francisco. A signature of a health examiner attesting to no risk factors for TB is acceptable as TB clearance.

[Get tuberculosis \(TB\) testing](#)



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NEWS

San Francisco Department of Public Health Encourages Families to Prioritize Vaccines and TB Screenings as New School Year Approaches

[Department of Public Health](#)

San Francisco Examiner



School set to begin in a continuously changing infectious-disease landscape

By Natalia Gurevich | Examiner staff writer
Aug 8, 2026

“Screening is an essential tool to stay healthy and prevent the potential spread of TB at schools. Along with vaccinations, families should discuss TB screening as part of back-to-school planning.”

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CTCA
CALIFORNIA TUBERCULOSIS
CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION

Andy Lopez Award Recipient 2026

Slide 16



Laura Romo-Timme, MPH
Surveillance-Epidemiology Manager
(Center)

Pictured with colleagues from SFDPH TB Branch
& CDPH TB Control Branch* (from left): Kevin Ru,
Martin Cilnis*, Camille Dollinger*, and Chris Keh*

Awarded to Ms. Laura Romo-Timme in recognition of:

- Her leadership of the epidemiology response during the recent school outbreak, coordinating epidemiologic and disease investigation with the entire outbreak team to focus an effective response and measure impact
- Ongoing leadership of San Francisco's TB epidemiology and surveillance efforts for a data-driven approach to maximize TB prevention & care impact for San Francisco



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Thank you!

Tuberculosis Branch



TB Program statistics prepared by:

- Laura Romo, MPH – Surveillance/Epidemiology Manager
- Jose Gonzalez, MPH - Epidemiologist II
- Kevin Ru, MPH – Epidemiologist I
- Camarra Valdez, BS – DIS Fellow (RADR)



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