

# ***Global leprosy (Hansen disease) update, 2023: Elimination of leprosy disease is possible – Time to act!\****

## **Introduction**

In May 1991, the 44th World Health Assembly, adopted a resolution urging Member States to accelerate efforts towards elimination of leprosy as a public health problem by the year 2000.<sup>1</sup> Most countries had achieved this target by 2010. The Global leprosy strategy 2021–2030,<sup>2</sup> a constituent of the neglected tropical diseases (NTD) road map 2021–2030,<sup>3</sup> calls for accelerating action to reach the goal of zero leprosy (zero disease, zero disability and zero stigma and discrimination). This goal required a new paradigm for countries to move beyond the target of “elimination of leprosy as a public health problem” to “elimination of leprosy disease”. In 2023, WHO released Technical guidance on interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease.<sup>4</sup> At the core of this guidance is the Leprosy Elimination Framework, which provides a clear pathway through 3 phases, i.e. interruption of transmission, elimination of leprosy disease and post-elimination surveillance, defined in terms of epidemiological milestones. New tools such as the Leprosy elimination monitoring tool and the Leprosy programme and transmission assessment tool have been introduced by WHO to monitor epidemiological situations and assess criteria for verification in 3 domains: political commitment, programme implementation and surveillance. High-quality data collection and reporting are essential to monitor progress towards those milestones.

As part of its core function, WHO collects relevant epidemiological and programmatic data from countries to assess the global leprosy situation and to publish an update. Annual data on leprosy are collected by WHO through a customized application with DHIS2 software. An abridged Excel® format is used to collect data from countries with very few or no cases of leprosy. The reporting year presented here was 2023, although a few countries reported data for a different

12-month period (e.g. India reported for April 2023–March 2024 and Canada for 2022). Some countries have updated data for previous years, and these are highlighted in the text below. Updated data are available in the Global Health Observatory. Epidemiological indicators have been expressed as absolute numbers, proportions and rates. Rates were calculated per million population (total and child). Population estimates (medium variant) were provided by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Population Prospects 2022.<sup>5</sup>

Data on leprosy for 2023 were received from all 6 WHO regions from 184 countries and territories (out of 221). The number of countries providing information on leprosy has increased significantly over the years. The regional distribution of countries and territories that reported data for 2023 was: 45 in the African Region (AFR), 43 in the Region of the Americas (AMR), 22 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR), 36 in the European Region (EUR),<sup>6</sup> 11 in the South-East Asia Region (SEAR) and 27 in the Western Pacific Region (WPR). Reports were received from all 23 global priority countries for leprosy.

## **Epidemiological situation**

The numbers of new cases and the corresponding rates, disaggregated by age, cases among women and grade-2 disabilities (G2D) among new cases are presented by WHO region in *Table 1*.

During 2023, a total of 182 815 new cases were reported globally, corresponding to a new case detection rate of 22.7 per million population. The number of new cases detected globally was 5% higher than in 2022 (174 094).<sup>7</sup> New cases were reported from all 6 WHO regions (*Figure 1*), with 71.9% in SEAR, followed by AMR (13.6%), AFR (11.5%), EMR (1.5%), WPR (1.5%) and EUR (<1%). The change in rates of new case detection from the previous year differed by region. AMR and WPR reported increases of 15.8% and 9.9%, respectively, while EUR and EMR reported marked decreases: 42.2% and 25%, respectively. Trends in new case detection by WHO region between 2014 and 2023 are shown in *Figure 2*.

\* Source: *Global leprosy (Hansen disease) update, 2023: Elimination of leprosy disease is possible – Time to act!*; Geneva: World Health Organization (WHO); 2024. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO, <https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/378895/WER9937-501-521.pdf?sequence=1> (access: 24.02.2025).

<sup>1</sup> See [https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/175244/WHA44\\_R9\\_eng.pdf](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/175244/WHA44_R9_eng.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Towards zero leprosy, Global leprosy strategy 2021–2030. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021 (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789290228509>).

<sup>3</sup> Ending the neglect to attain sustainable development goals: a road map for neglected tropical diseases, 2021–2030. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021 (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240010352>).

<sup>4</sup> Technical guidance on interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2023 (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789290210467>).

<sup>5</sup> World Population Prospects 2022. New York City: United Nations Department of Economic Social Affairs; 2022 (<https://population.un.org/wpp/>, accessed 19 July 2024).

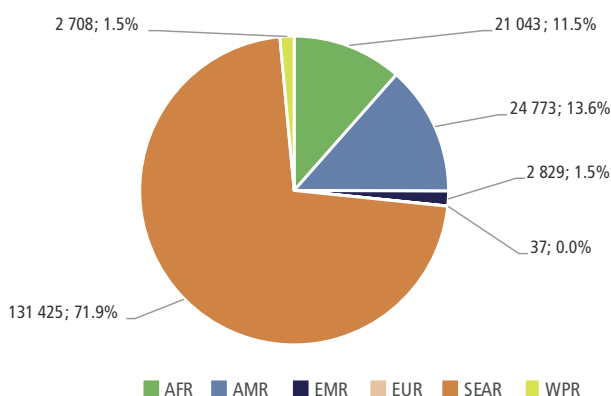
<sup>6</sup> Includes Mayotte.

<sup>7</sup> As per updated figures.

Table 1. New case detection (disaggregated for age, gender and disability), by WHO Region, 2023

WHO Region	Number of new cases detected	New case detection rate (per million population)	Number of new child cases detected	New child case detection rate (per million child population)	Number of leprosy cases among women	Proportion of women among new leprosy cases (%)	Number of new G2D cases detected	G2D rate (per million population)
African	21 043	17.2	1 633	2.6	8 138	38.7	3 026	2.5
Americas	24 773	23.7	999	3.4	10 820	43.7	2 374	2.3
Eastern Mediterranean	2 829	3.4	127	0.4	1 187	42.0	223	0.3
European <sup>a</sup>	37	0	1	0	11	29.7	10	-
South-East Asia	131 425	63	7 310	10.5	51 806	39.4	3 899	1.9
Western Pacific	2 708	1.4	252	0.5	883	32.6	197	0.1
<b>World</b>	<b>182 815</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>10 322</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>72 845</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>9 729</b>	<b>1.2</b>

G2D: grade-2 disability

<sup>a</sup> The number of cases reported by the European Region includes reporting from Mayotte.

AFR = African Region; AMR = Region of the Americas;  
 EMR = Eastern Mediterranean Region; EUR = European Region;  
 SEAR = South-East Asia Region; WPR = Western Pacific Region.

Figure 1 Detection of new leprosy cases, by WHO Region, 2023

Globally, the number of new cases decreased by 14.6% during the decade 2014–2023. The decrease in 2014–2019 was 5.3%. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic resulted in an almost one-third reduction in new case detection between 2019 and 2021. Thereafter, there has been a 30% increase in new case detection.

The global priority countries for leprosy accounted for 95.7% (174 967) of all new cases detected in 2023. During the past decade >95% of the new cases detected were clustered in these 23 countries (Table 2). As compared to the previous year, there was an increase in new case detection in 13 of the 23 global priority countries in 2023. While the overall increase in global priority countries was 5.6%, the increase varied from 1.3% in Nigeria to 47.6% in Egypt. Sudan reported a significant decrease in new case detection (60.2%), followed by Somalia (34.2%) and Ethiopia (19.3%).

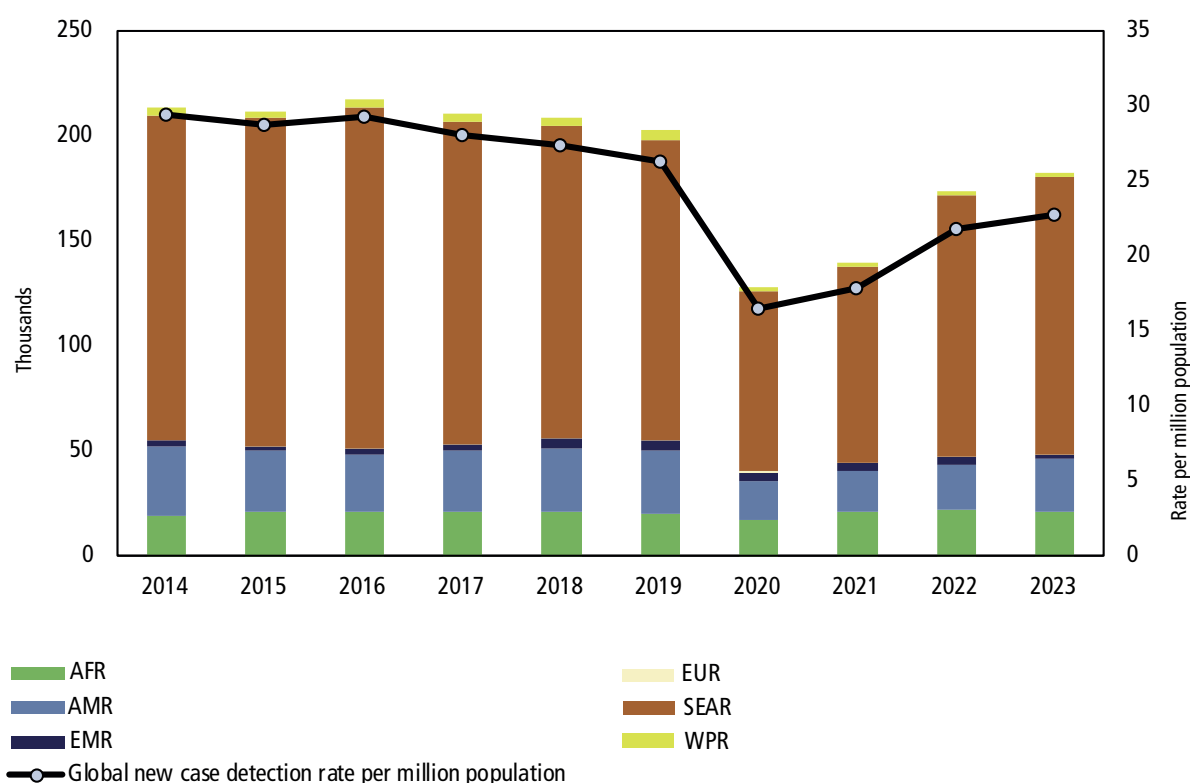
During the year, 56 countries reported 0 new case,<sup>8</sup> 47 reported 1–10 new cases, 34 reported 11–100 new cases, 31 reported 101–1000 new cases, and 12 countries reported 1001–10 000 new cases. Brazil, India and Indonesia reported more than 10 000 new cases each, together accounting for 79.3% of new cases detected globally (Map 1). These 3 countries also showed an increase in new case detection in 2023 as compared with the previous year: Brazil by 16%, Indonesia by 15.6% and India by 3.9%.

Occurrence of new leprosy cases among children (<15 years of age) is an indicator of recent transmission. A total of 10 322 new child cases (5.7% of total new cases) were reported globally, with a corresponding rate of 3.9 per million child population. Most of the child cases were reported from SEAR (70.8%) with a detection rate of 10.5 per million child population. Among the global priority countries, the proportion of new cases in children ranged from 1.6% in Sudan to 31.1% in Comoros. Zero child cases was reported by 110 countries: 13 in AFR, 29 in AMR, 4 in SEAR, 34 in EUR, 16 in EMR and 14 in WPR.

Data disaggregated by age for children were reported by 55 countries (including 12 global priority countries) for 1622 cases. Most were reported among children aged 10–14 years (78.8%), 15.5% among those aged 6–9 years of age and 5.7% among those aged <6 years.

The trend in detection of new cases in children and the corresponding rate per million child population by WHO region during 2014 and 2023 are shown in Table 3. Analysis of the trend reveals a 60% decrease in the detection rate, from 9.8 in 2014 to 3.9 per million child population in 2023.

<sup>8</sup> In addition, Switzerland reported as “no data available”.



AFR = African Region; AMR=Region of the Americas; EMR=Eastern Mediterranean Region; EUR=European Region; SEAR=South-East Asia Region; WPR=Western Pacific Region.

Figure 2 Trends in new leprosy case detection with corresponding new case detection rates, by WHO Region, 2014–2023

New cases diagnosed with G2D indicate delayed detection. Globally, 9729 new cases with G2D were detected (corresponding G2D rate, 1.2 per million population), accounting for 5.3% of all new cases detected during the year. Of the new G2D cases, 40.1% were reported from SEAR, followed by AFR (31.1%) and AMR (24.4%) and the remaining cases from other regions. The global priority countries accounted for 87% of the total new G2D cases. *Table 4* shows the trends in new cases with G2D during the past 10 years (2014–2023) by WHO region.

The number of G2D cases increased by 1.8% as compared with the previous year (9557). However, there was a more than 30% decrease in cases with G2D during 2014–2023; SEAR registered a significant decrease in new G2D cases during this period, the number of cases having decreased by more than half.

A total of 266 new child cases were diagnosed with G2D, with 131 in AFR, 88 in SEAR, 36 in AMR, 6 in WPR and 5 in EMR.

Globally, 72 845 cases of leprosy were reported among women, comprising 39.9% of all new cases detected. The proportion of new cases among women has remained <40% for the past 10 years. Among the

global priority countries, the proportion ranged from 22.4% in Angola to 53.4% in South Sudan.

Of the 182 815 new leprosy cases, 125 752 (68.8%) were reported to be multibacillary (MB). The proportion of MB cases was reported to be more than 90% in 6 global priority countries: Indonesia, Nigeria, Philippines, South Sudan, Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania.

A total of 378 non-autochthonous cases were reported by 41 countries. Non-autochthonous cases comprised 67.5% of new cases reported in EUR. All detected cases were reported as non-autochthonous in 15 countries and territories: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, France, Germany, Guam, Hong Kong (SAR), Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Qatar, Russian Federation, Spain and United Kingdom.

Data for 2023 for registered prevalence, new case detection, re-treatment, relapse and treatment completion are presented in *Table 5*.

A total of 14 908 new cases were detected through active case finding, such as contact examination, school surveys and campaigns in general and special population groups. Information on contact examination was provided by 88 countries (including 21 global priority countries). Data on provision of post-exposure

Table 2. Trends in the detection of new cases of leprosy in 23 global priority countries, 2014–2023

Country	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Angola	–	823	619	605	847	721	422	797	860	839
Bangladesh	3 622	3 976	3 000	3 754	3 729	3 638	3 766	2 872	2 988	3 639
Brazil	31 064	26 395	25 218	26 875	28 660	27 863	17 979	18 318	19 635	22 773
Comoros	324	343	310	429	275	478	236	239	263	241
Côte d'Ivoire	910	891	895	773	645	567	515	514	483	483
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3 272	4 237	3 765	3 649	3 323	3 032	3 385	4 148	3 720	3 945
Egypt	564	583	651	543	407	537	316	361	395	583
Ethiopia	3 758	3 970	3 692	3 114	3 218	3 201	2 591	2 589	2 966	2 395
India	125 785	127 326	135 485	126 164	120 334	114 451	65 147	75 394	103 819	107 851
Indonesia	17 025	17 202	16 826	15 910	17 017	17 439	11 173	10 976	12 441	14 376
Kiribati	123	180	218	187	173	136	159	154	151	140
Madagascar	1 617	1 487	1 780	1 430	1 424	1 283	1 346	1 290	1 450	1 659
Micronesia (Federated States of)	178	164	169	141	127	144	129	89	92	91
Mozambique	–	1 335	1 289	1 926	2 422	2 220	2 065	2 639a	2 608	2 752
Myanmar	2 877	2 571	2 609	2 279	2 214	2 488	1 877	595	1 234	1 338
Nepal	3 046	2 751	3 054	3 215	3 249	3 844	2 304	2 394	2 285	2 522
Nigeria	2 983	2 892	2 687	2 447	2 095	2 424	1 417	2 398	2 393	2 425
Philippines	1 655	1 617	1 721	1 908	2 176	2 122	1 150	967	1 005	1 357
Somalia	14	107	633	1 569	2 596	2 425	2 638	2 030	2 307	1 519
South Sudan	691	–	–	–	761	1 152	682	713	955	877
Sri Lanka	2 157	1 977	1 832	1 877	1 703	1 658	1 212	1 025	1 401	1 520
Sudan	684	624	624	551	509	478	526	499	472	188
United Republic of Tanzania	1 947	2 256	2 047	1 936	1 482	1 603	1 192	1 511	1 705	1 454
<b>New cases in global priority countries</b>	<b>204 296</b>	<b>203 707</b>	<b>209 124</b>	<b>201 282</b>	<b>199 386</b>	<b>193 904</b>	<b>122 227</b>	<b>132 512<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>165 628</b>	<b>174 967</b>
<b>Proportion (%) of total cases</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>96.1%</b>	<b>95.9%</b>	<b>95.3%</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>95.8%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>94.6%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>95.7%</b>
<b>World</b>	<b>214 001</b>	<b>211 973</b>	<b>217 971</b>	<b>211 170</b>	<b>208 763<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>202 485<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>128 412<sup>d</sup></b>	<b>140 114<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>174 094<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>182 815</b>

<sup>a-f</sup> Updated data based upon request from countries.

prophylaxis (PEP) was provided by 31 countries (including 6 global priority countries: Comoros, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kiribati and Nepal).

A total of 13 777 cases of re-treatment were reported; Brazil and India accounted for 77.5% of these cases. Relapse (total 3644 cases) comprised 26.5% of the total re-treatment cases. Of the 66 countries that reported relapses, Brazil, Ethiopia, India and Indonesia accounted for 75% of cases.

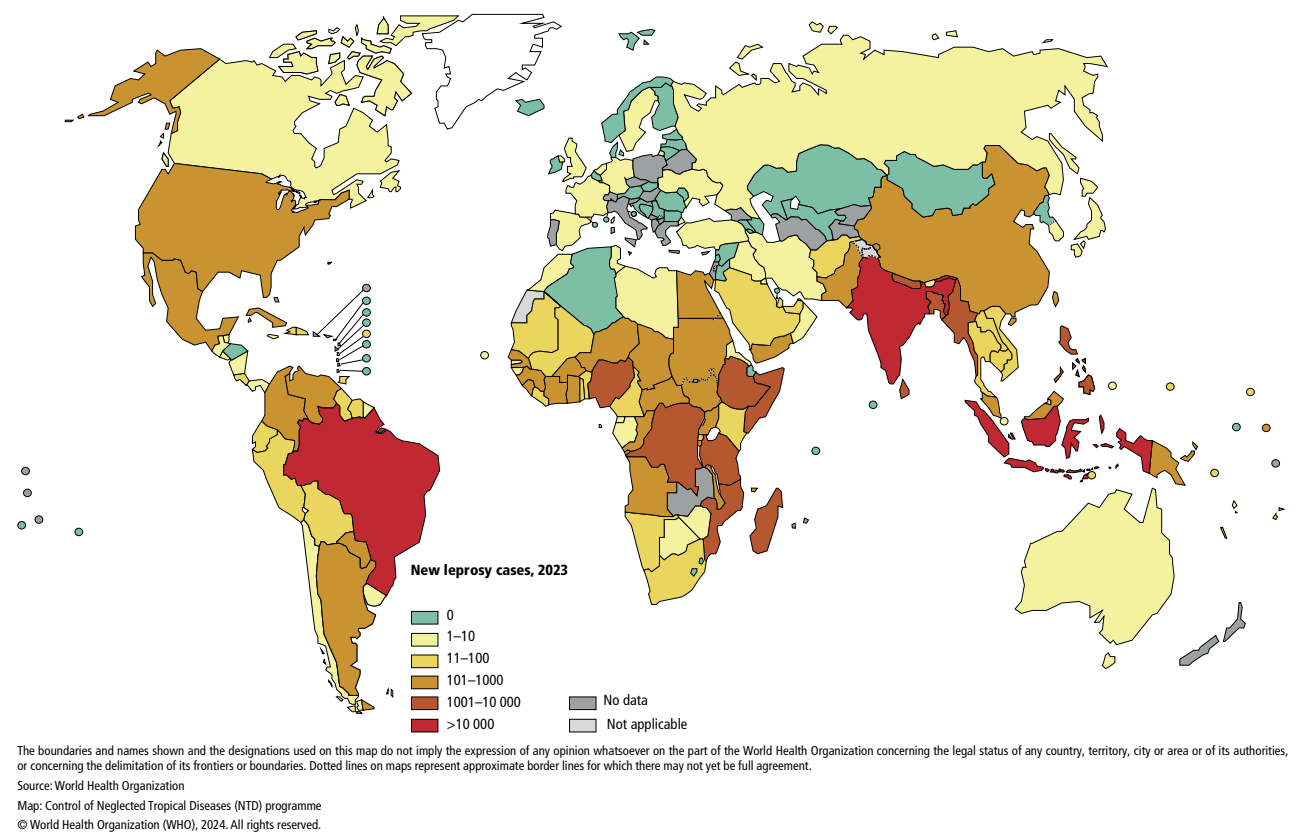
Data on treatment completion was available from 83 countries for MB and 76 countries for paucibacillary (PB), including 19 global priority countries. Treatment completion rates varied widely among the global priority countries; a sub-optimal treatment completion rate (<85%) was reported by 5 countries for MB and 8 countries for PB. A total of 4854 cases (4201 MB and 653 PB) were reported as lost-to-follow up during the reporting year. Better understand-

ing of the reasons for non-adherence to treatment will improve targeted interventions and ensure efficient MDT services.

During the year, 64 countries reported a total of 11 676 cases of diagnosed type-1 reaction and 5156 cases of type-2 reaction.

There has been an improvement in the number of countries reporting adverse drug reactions (ADRs); 18 countries reported a total of 189 ADRs (including 184 for dapsone). WHO encourages countries to strengthen the mechanism for early identification, effective management and timely reporting of ADRs.

End-of-treatment assessment was done for 30 087 cases; and worsening of disability grade was reported in 975 cases (3.2%). Data on disability care services was provided by 18 global priority countries, which included provision of 5784 assistive technology devices and 2169 reconstructive surgeries. Time-



Map 1. Geographical distribution of new leprosy cases, 2023

Table 3 Trends in new leprosy case detection among children with corresponding case detection rates (per million child population), by WHO Region, 2014–2023

WHO Region	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
African	1 920 (4.7)	2 149 (5.1)	1 776 (4.2)	1 684 (3.8)	1 726 (3.9)	2 150 (4.7)	1 867 (4.0)	2 041 (4.2)	1 812 (3.7)	1 633 (2.6)
Americas	2 441 (10.7)	2 207 <sup>a</sup> (9.7) <sup>a</sup>	1 763 (7.8)	1 792 (8.0)	1 789 (8.0)	1 613 <sup>c</sup> (7.2)	904 (4.1)	817 (3.7)	875 (4)	999 (3.4)
Eastern Mediterranean	142 (0.7)	148 (0.7)	204 (0.9)	339 <sup>b</sup> (1.5)	258 (1.1)	150 (0.6)	180 (0.8)	210 (0.8)	103 (0.4)	127 (0.4)
European	—	—	1	7	—	—	—	—	4	1
South-East Asia	13 977 (26.0)	14 180 (26.4)	14 361 (27.0)	12 786 (24.1)	11 793 (22.4)	10 661 (20.3)	5 396 (10.4)	5 664 (10.9)	7 218 (14)	7 310 (10.5)
Western Pacific	382 (1.1)	394 (1.1)	370 (1.3)	498 (1.4)	451 (1.3)	412 (1.1)	314 (0.9)	259 (0.7)	290 (0.8)	252 (0.5)
World	18 862 (9.8)	19 078 <sup>a</sup> (9.9) <sup>a</sup>	18 475 (9.5)	17 106 <sup>b</sup> (8.8)	16 017 (8.2)	14 986 <sup>c</sup> (7.6)	8 661 (4.4)	8 991 (4.5)	10 302 (5.1)	10 322 (3.9)

<sup>a</sup> Updated data based upon request from Brazil.  
<sup>b, c</sup> Updated data based upon request from other countries.

ly, appropriate intervention can help reduce disability, improve overall health outcomes and enhance the well-being of affected people.

A total of 101 laws that discriminate against people affected by leprosy were reported. Countries have been working on repealing the laws that allow discrimination on the basis of leprosy.

Data on antimicrobial resistance were received from 12 countries, including Brazil, Indonesia, Kiriba-

ti, Madagascar and Nepal among the global priority countries. Of the 2040 cases (654 new cases and 1386 re-treatment cases) tested, 2 were reported resistant to rifampicin, 20 to dapsone and 19 to ofloxacin; no resistance was reported for more than one drug. Countries are encouraged to strengthen antimicrobial resistance surveillance in leprosy, especially with scaling-up of PEP.



Table 4 Trends in new leprosy case detection with G2D and corresponding rates (per million population), by WHO region, 2014–2023

WHO Region	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
African	2 726 (2.9)	3 076 (3.1)	2 899 (2.9)	2 990 (2.9)	2 797 (2.6)	2 975 (2.7)	2 441 (2.2)	3 246 (2.8)	3 319 (2.8)	3 026 (2.5)
Americas	2 227 <sup>a</sup> (2.3) <sup>a</sup>	2 101 <sup>b</sup> (2.1) <sup>b</sup>	1 940 (2.0)	2 150 (2.2)	2 324 (2.3)	2 544 (2.5)	1 610 <sup>c</sup> (1.6)	1 862 (1.8)	2 088 (2.0)	2 374 (2.3)
Eastern Mediter- ranean	300 (0.5)	315 (0.5)	299 (0.4)	314 (0.5)	309 (0.4)	236 (0.3)	252 (0.3)	209 (0.3)	200 (0.2)	223 (0.3)
European	–	–	4	1	2	4	4	–	13 <sup>d</sup>	10
South-East Asia	8 525 (4.5)	8 572 (4.5)	7 538 (3.9)	6 513 (3.3)	5 626 (2.8)	4 817 (2.4)	2 713 (1.3)	2 953 (1.4)	3 771 (1.8)	3 899 (1.9)
Western Pacific	337 (0.2)	321 (0.2)	373 (0.2)	306 (0.2)	260 (0.1)	264 (0.1)	192 (0.1)	199 (0.1)	166 (0.1)	197 (0.1)
<b>World</b>	<b>14 115<sup>a</sup></b> <b>(1.9)<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>14 385<sup>b</sup></b> <b>(2.0)<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>13 053</b> <b>(1.8)</b>	<b>12 274</b> <b>(1.6)</b>	<b>11 318</b> <b>(1.5)</b>	<b>10 840</b> <b>(1.4)</b>	<b>7 212<sup>c</sup></b> <b>(0.9)</b>	<b>8 469</b> <b>(1.1)</b>	<b>9 557<sup>d</sup></b> <b>(1.2)</b>	<b>9 729</b> <b>(1.2)</b>

<sup>a, b</sup> Updated data based upon request from Brazil.<sup>c, d</sup> Updated data based upon request from other countries.

## Editorial

The concept of elimination of leprosy disease brings a renewed momentum towards reaching “zero leprosy” as envisioned in the Global Leprosy Strategy, 2021–2030. The Leprosy Elimination Framework clearly defines how a country or sub-national area can move towards interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease, followed by a phase of post-elimination surveillance and ultimately the achievement of non-endemic status. The process of verification of interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease starts at subnational level. The available tools provide sufficient guidance to document progress through globally standardized monitoring and verification.

In August 2024, Jordan (EMR) became the first country globally to be acknowledged by WHO for elimination of leprosy disease following the laid verification process. Earlier, in October 2023, Maldives in the SEAR became the first country to adopt these tools to undertake subnational verification of interruption of transmission.

The importance of reporting data on leprosy including “zero report” cannot be overemphasized. It is encouraging that, of the 184 countries and territories that reported data, 56 reported 0 cases.

The countries that continue to report sizeable numbers of new leprosy cases should accelerate active case finding with the provision of single-dose rifampicin (SDR) PEP to eligible contacts. SDR PEP is an effective intervention which prevents the risk of leprosy disease among eligible contacts by about 57%.

WHO recommends systematic roll-out of SDR PEP with strengthened contact examination in routine programmes.

Leprosy among children deserves special attention as it indicates continued transmission. The fact that child cases with G2D continue to be detected is a concern. Early detection and timely treatment must be improved.

An essential care package comprising treatment, care and support, provided through integrated primary health systems, ensures equity and improved well-being.

Moving beyond the target of elimination of leprosy as a public health problem to achieving the goal of elimination of leprosy disease requires new and reaffirmed commitments by countries and partners. According to their epidemiological situation and other relevant contextual factors, countries require different approaches, which can be designed by developing a “Zero leprosy road map”. The experiences of Jordan and Maldives should motivate other countries to strengthen surveillance systems and reinvestigate their efforts towards elimination of leprosy disease.

Table 5. Global leprosy situation by WHO Region and country or territory, 2023

WHO Region and country or territory	Popula- tion (in tho- usands)	Regi- stered prevalen- ce (end of year) <sup>a</sup>	No. of new cases detected	No. of new MB leprosy	No. of new cases among women	No. of new ca- ses with G2D	Child po- pulation (in tho- usands) <sup>b</sup>	No. of new child ca- ses	No. of new child ca- ses with G2D	No. of retre- atment cases	No. of relap- ses	No. of nonauto- chthonous cases	Treatment com- pletion rate (%)	
													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
African Region														
Algeria	45 606	0	0	0	0	0	17 322	0	0	0	0	0		
Angola	36 684	1 937	839	741	188	105	20 332	117	24	–	–	–		
Benin	13 713	83	75	70	32	35	7 235	7	0	10	0	1	89	100
Botswana	2 675	4	2	2	1	1	1 115	0	0	1	1	0		
Burkina Faso	23 251	219	208	187	111	65	12 662	9	3	21	0	0	64	97
Burundi	13 239	295	248	206	128	29	7 462	25	0	47	33	–	93	79
Cabo Verde	599	10	9	4	5	1	207	3	0	1	1	0		
Cameroon	28 647	139	85	83	33	10	15 100	5	0	0	0	0	63	82
Central African Republic	5 742	402	402	275	127	0	3 453	27	0	0	0	0		
Chad	18 279	312	362	310	145	61	10 648	30	1	42	0	0	77	90
Comoros	852	169	241	128	91	7	404	75	0	3	1	15	100	80
Congo	6 107	376	244	195	77	38	3 125	28	2	0	0	–	92	100
Côte d'Ivoire	28 873	396	483	391	213	106	15 096	42	6	21	0	0	89	94
Democratic Republic of the Congo	102 263	3 924	3 945	2 314	1 604	354	58 237	269	15	49	–	–	97	96
Equatorial Guinea	1 715	5	5	3	3	1	815	0	0	1	0	0		0
Eritrea	3 749	3	3	2	0	1	1 903	0	0	0	0	0		100
Eswatini	1 211	0	0	0	0	0	543	0	0	0	0	0		
Ethiopia	126 527	2 874	2 395	1 622	741	229	63 690	162	13	479	360	0	89	92
Gabon	2 437	3	2	2	1	2	1 107	0	0	1	1	0	100	
Gambia	2 773	17	3	3	2	2	1 494	0	0	2	–	0	75	
Ghana	34 122	335	234	220	116	37	15 972	7	0	6	0	0	76	86
Guinea	14 191	244	244	230	122	33	7 386	6	1	9	0	0	100	72
Guinea Bissau	2 151	79	8	8	3	0	1 091	0	0	0	0	0		
Kenya	55 101	96	74	62	26	16	26 840	4	2	22	18	0	84	91
Lesotho	2 330	0	0	0	0	0	1 020	0	0	0	0	0	100	
Liberia	5 418	54	55	51	18	15	2 789	11	0	0	0	0	79	60
Madagascar	30 326	1 853	1 659	1 492	385	310	14 988	113	8	116	47	2	88	85
Malawi	20 932	722	404	378	167	191	11 317	17	1	63	40	0	47	83
Mali	23 294	130	92	92	13	0	13 561	1	0	0	0	0	29	
Mauritania	4 863	17	17	0	6	0	2 543	0	0	–	–	–		

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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
Mauritius	1 301	–	–	–	–	–	298	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mozambique	33 897	2 465	2 752	2 190	1 268	370	18 355	289	14	3	3	–	99	99
Namibia	2 604	67	25	23	11	4	1 189	1	0	5	3	9	47	–
Niger	27 203	302	377	293	152	72	16 220	38	6	11	0	6	96	95
Nigeria	223 805	2 527	2 425	2 312	983	252	120 030	151	19	89	24	–	87	93
Rwanda	14 095	18	16	8	5	2	6 933	0	0	5	2	2	79	64
Sao Tome and Principe	232	0	10	9	7	1	117	3	0	0	0	0	–	–
Senegal	17 763	130	154	124	74	28	9 227	34	7	15	14	0	81	93
Seychelles	108	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	–
Sierra Leone	8 791	723	163	126	43	15	4 346	10	0	17	10	–	62	–
South Africa	60 414	71	17	17	11	10	22 185	2	1	2	1	–	12	100
South Sudan	11 089	2 118	877	810	468	405	6 144	52	4	128	128	0	96	66
Togo	9 054	97	86	81	37	40	4 543	3	0	6	3	0	96	67
Uganda	48 582	352	342	298	198	83	27 307	56	4	16	16	–	84	83
United Republic of Tanzania	67 438	1 353	1 454	1 364	522	88	36 521	36	0	101	60	0	96	91
Zambia	20 570	–	–	–	–	–	11 043	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Zimbabwe	16 665	7	7	2	1	7	8 533	0	0	0	0	0	67	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 221 281</b>	<b>24 928</b>	<b>21 043</b>	<b>16 728</b>	<b>8 138</b>	<b>3 026</b>	<b>632 480</b>	<b>1 633</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1 292</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>35</b>		
<b>Region of the Americas</b>														
Anguilla	16	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
Antigua and Barbuda	94	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
Argentina	45 774	284	134	120	55	25	13 907	3	0	0	0	13	–	–
Aruba	106	–	–	–	–	–	24	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Bahamas	413	0	0	0	0	0	109	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
Barbados	282	0	0	0	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
Belize	411	1	1	0	1	0	151	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
Bermuda	64	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	–	–
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	12 389	43	44	33	18	6	4 973	1	0	4	4	0	76	80
Brazil	216 422	25 720	22 773	18 768	10 155	2 173	58 818	958	35	4 006	1 385	3	78	82
British Virgin Islands	32	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	–	–



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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
Canada	38 781	0	3	0	1	0	8 060	0	0	0	0	0		
Cayman Islands	69	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0		
Chile	19 630	7	7	5	4	0	4 757	0	0	1	1	7		
Colombia	52 085	454	267	218	115	46	14 919	1	0	35	21	24	96	79
Costa Rica	5 212	38	19	16	10	1	1 400	0	0	0	0	1		
Cuba	11 194	142	123	111	47	22	2 337	2	0	1	1	–	97	100
Curacao	192	–	–	–	–	–	46	–	–	–	–	–		
Dominica	73	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0		
Dominican Republic	11 333	229	87	70	38	9	4 008	6	0	7	3	0	71	59
Ecuador	18 190	42	44	39	14	0	6 166	0	0	0	0	4	97	100
El Salvador	6 365	2	2	2	1	0	2 154	0	0	0	0	0		
French Guiana	312	0	2	1	0	0	129	0	0	0	0	0		
Grenada	126	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0		
Guadeloupe	396	–	–	–	–	–	98	–	–	–	–	–		
Guatemala	18 092	3	1	0	0	0	7 645	0	0	1	1	0	50	0
Guyana	814	34	29	27	11	7	304	2	0	6	3	1	41	100
Haiti	11 725	17	24	20	4	–	4 881	5	–	1	0	0	21	50
Honduras	10 594	2	0	0	0	0	4 207	0	0	–	–	0		
Jamaica	2 826	3	2	2	0	1	772	0	0	1	1	0		100
Martinique	367	–	–	–	–	–	81	–	–	–	–	–		
Mexico	128 456	59	121	74	51	11	41 658	3	0	26	7	7	54	58
Montserrat	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
Nicaragua	7 046	2	7	6	0	0	2 720	0	0	1	1	0	100	100
Panama	4 468	4	4	3	1	0	1 518	0	0	0	0	0	25	100
Paraguay	6 862	321	288	260	101	44	2 569	2	0	45	28	4	87	84
Peru	34 353	46	28	27	6	2	11 788	0	0	9	6	1	38	
Puerto Rico	3 260	–	–	–	–	–	615	–	–	–	–	–		
Saint Kitts and Nevis	48	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0		
Saint Lucia	180	15	15	14	4	8	44	0	0	2	2	0	100	100
Saint Martin	32	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0		
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	104	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	–		
Suriname	623	24	21	16	9	2	217	2	0	4	2	0	75	50

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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
Trinidad and Tobago	1 535	19	18	13	6	0	387	3	0	0	0	0	86	80
Turks and Caicos Islands	46	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	
United States of America	339 997	144	369	144	63	0	82 493	4	0	–	–	–	–	
United States Virgin Islands	99	–	–	–	–	–	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Uruguay	3 423	6	2	2	0	0	881	0	0	1	1	0		
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	28 838	845	338	308	105	17	10 473	7	1	125	11	0	85	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 043 753</b>	<b>28 506</b>	<b>24 773</b>	<b>20 299</b>	<b>10 820</b>	<b>2 374</b>	<b>295 583</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4 276</b>	<b>1 478</b>		<b>65</b>	
<b>Eastern Mediterranean Region</b>														
Afghanistan	42 240	17	12	12	5	2	22 968	1	0	–	–	–		
Bahrain	1 486	0	0	0	0	0	383	0	0	0	0	0		100
Djibouti	1 136	0	0	0	0	0	455	0	0	0	0	0		
Egypt	112 717	670	583	523	253	90	46 782	48	3	19	2	0	48	82
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	89 173	9	7	5	5	2	26 714	0	0	1	1	2	90	
Iraq	45 505	3	3	2	2	2	21 672	0	0	0	0	0	50	
Jordan	11 337	0	0	0	0	0	4 682	0	0	0	0	0		
Kuwait	4 310	3	6	6	2	0	1 126	0	0	0	0	6		
Lebanon	5 354	0	0	0	0	0	1 943	0	0	0	0	0		
Libya	6 888	1	1	1	0	0	2 563	0	0	–	–	1		
Morocco	37 840	31	8	6	3	1	13 019	0	0	3	3	–		
Oman	4 644	1	1	1	1	0	1 536	0	0	0	0	0		100
Pakistan	240 486	296	236	187	121	50	112 388	16	0	15	8	0	94	94
Qatar	2 716	26	33	18	1	9	529	0	0	2	2	33	27	29
Saudi Arabia	36 947	27	26	21	3	0	12 243	0	0	1	1	23	100	100
Somalia	18 143	1 408	1 519	880	679	43	10 503	47	1	0	0	0		
Sudan	48 109	324	188	181	56	24	24 450	3	1	4	0	3	21	34
Syrian Arab Republic	23 227	0	0	0	0	0	9 814	0	0	0	0	0		
Tunisia	12 458	2	2	1	2	0	3 951	0	0	0	0	0	100	
United Arab Emirates	9 517	3	57	6	2	0	1 807	0	0	–	–	51		

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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
West Bank and Gaza Strip	5 371	0	0	0	0	0	2 622	0	0	0	0	0		
Yemen	34 450	174	147	83	52	0	17 200	12	0	0	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>794 054</b>	<b>2 995</b>	<b>2 829</b>	<b>1 933</b>	<b>1 187</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>339 350</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>119</b>		
<b>European Region</b>														
Albania	2 832	–	–	–	–	–	627	–	–	–	–	–		
Andorra	80	1	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	–	–	0		
Armenia	2 778	0	0	0	0	0	731	0	0	0	0	0		
Austria	8 959	0	0	0	0	0	1 719	0	0	0	0	0		
Azerbaijan	10 413	0	0	0	0	0	3 137	0	0	0	0	0		
Belarus	9 498	–	–	–	–	–	2 078	–	–	–	–	–		
Belgium	11 686	0	0	0	0	0	2 577	0	0	0	0	0		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 211	0	0	0	0	0	639	0	0	0	0	0		
Bulgaria	6 688	0	0	0	0	0	1 258	0	0	0	0	0		
Croatia	4 009	0	0	0	0	0	757	0	0	0	0	0		
Cyprus	1 260	–	–	–	–	–	263	–	–	–	–	–		
Czechia	10 495	–	–	–	–	–	2 197	–	–	–	–	–		
Denmark	5 911	0	0	0	0	0	1 289	0	0	0	0	0		
Estonia	1 323	0	0	0	0	0	286	0	0	0	0	0		
Finland	5 545	0	0	0	0	0	1 136	0	0	0	0	0		
France	64 757	0	6	6	2	0	14 962	0	0	2	0	6		
Georgia	3 728	–	–	–	–	–	1 014	–	–	–	–	–		
Germany	83 295	0	1	1	0	0	15 457	0	0	0	0	1		
Greece	10 341	–	–	–	–	–	1 954	–	–	–	–	–		
Hungary	10 156	–	–	–	–	–	2 006	–	–	–	–	–		
Iceland	375	0	0	0	0	0	92	0	0	0	0	0		
Ireland	5 057	0	0	0	0	0	1 308	0	0	–	–	0		
Israel	9 175	–	–	–	–	–	3 282	–	–	–	–	–		
Italy	58 871	–	–	–	–	–	10 037	–	–	–	–	–		
Kazakhstan	19 607	0	0	0	0	0	7 292	0	0	0	0	0		
Kyrgyzstan	6 735	–	–	–	–	–	2 875	–	–	–	–	–		
Latvia	1 830	0	0	0	0	0	378	0	0	0	0	0		
Lithuania	2 718	0	0	0	0	0	544	0	0	0	0	0		
Luxembourg	655	–	–	–	–	–	137	–	–	–	–	–		

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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
Malta	535	0	0	0	0	0	92	0	0	0	0	0		
Monaco	36	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	–	–	–		
Montenegro	626	–	–	–	–	–	150	–	–	–	–	–		
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	17 618	0	2	1	1	1	3 687	0	0	0	0	2		
North Macedonia	2 086	–	–	–	–	–	447	–	–	–	–	–		
Norway	5 474	0	0	0	0	0	1 225	0	0	0	0	0		
Poland	41 026	–	–	–	–	–	8 315	–	–	–	–	–		
Portugal	10 248	–	–	–	–	–	1 855	–	–	–	–	–		
Republic of Moldova	3 436	0	0	0	0	0	868	0	0	0	0	0		
Romania	19 893	0	0	0	0	0	4 274	0	0	0	0	0		
Russian Federation	144 444	15	1	1	0	0	33 124	0	0	0	0	1		
San Marino	34	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0		
Serbia	7 149	0	0	0	0	0	1 382	0	0	0	0	0		
Slovakia	5 795	0	0	0	0	0	1 212	0	0	0	0	0		
Slovenia	2 120	–	–	–	–	–	419	–	–	–	–	–		
Spain	47 520	0	7	4	4	7	8 945	0	0	1	1	7		
Sweden	10 612	0	8	0	2	0	2 469	0	0	0	0	4		
Switzerland	8 797	–	–	–	–	–	1 747	–	–	–	–	–		
Tajikistan	10 144	–	–	–	–	–	4 588	–	–	–	–	–		
Turkmenistan	6 516	–	–	–	–	–	2 536	–	–	–	–	–		
Türkiye	85 816	6	2	2	1	1	26 010	0	0	4	0	0		
Ukraine	36 745	3	3	1	0	0	7 308	0	0	0	0	1		
United Kingdom	67 737	0	3	3	0	1	15 604	0	0	1	0	3		
Uzbekistan	35 164	0	0	0	0	0	13 330	0	0	0	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>931 559</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>219 645</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>		
<b>South-East Asia Region</b>														
Bangladesh	172 954	3 142	3 639	1 419	1 683	220	60 501	148	7	157	157	0	96	98
Bhutan	787	9	7	7	2	0	239	0	0	2	1	0		
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	26 161	0	0	0	0	0	6 602	0	0	0	0	0		
India	1 428 628	85 276	107 851	65 663	42 831	2 335	482 224	5 582	43	6 672	674	–		
Indonesia	277 534	17 251	14 376	13 060	5 155	826	91 824	1 179	21	830	332	–	85	86

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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
Maldives	521	0	0	0	0	0	144	0	0	0	0	0		50
Myanmar	54 578	1 391	1 338	1 199	412	207	17 835	38	8	4	4	0	91	96
Nepal	30 897	2 510	2 522	1 934	1 049	189	11 935	181	8	114	19	0	89	83
Sri Lanka	21 894	1 580	1 520	997	597	92	6 684	180	1	58	31	0	94	96
Thailand	71 801	203	82	70	54	22	15 018	0	0	6	6	21	93	100
Timor-Leste	1 361	74	90	85	23	8	623	2	0	11	0	0	81	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 087 116</b>	<b>111 436</b>	<b>131 425</b>	<b>84 434</b>	<b>51 806</b>	<b>3 899</b>	<b>693 629</b>	<b>7 310</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>7 854</b>	<b>1 224</b>	<b>21</b>		
<b>Western Pacific Region</b>														
American Samoa	44	–	–	–	–	–	16	–	–	–	–	–		
Australia	26 439	7	7	7	2	2	6 320	0	0	0	0	7		
Brunei Darussalam	453	2	1	1	0	0	131	0	0	1	1	1	100	
Cambodia	16 945	101	58	39	14	3	6 357	4	0	6	6	0	97	100
China	1 425 671	605	315	299	128	72	321 202	2	1	93	26	2		
Cook Islands	17	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0		
Fiji Fidji	936	10	15	12	3	2	347	0	0	0	0	7	100	100
French Polynesia	309	–	–	–	–	–	87	–	–	–	–	–		
Guam	173	4	4	4	1	0	58	0	0	0	0	4	42	0
Hong Kong SAR (China)	7 492	7	1	1	1	1	1 161	0	0	1	1	1	50	100
Japan	123 295	2	4	3	1	0	19 626	0	0	3	3	4		
Kiribati	134	83	140	56	61	7	60	36	3	47	4	0	84	82
Lao People's Democratic Republic	7 634	19	19	15	8	3	3 043	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Macao SAR, (China)	704	–	–	–	–	–	131	–	–	–	–	–		
Malaysia	34 309	255	239	201	67	29	10 339	15	0	16	11	85	74	84
Marshall Islands	42	32	27	27	10	0	17	6	0	5	4	0	93	78
Micronesia, Federated States of	115	57	91	69	29	0	46	18	0	9	3	0	46	84
Mongolia	3 447	0	0	0	0	0	1 357	0	0	0	0	0		
Nauru	13	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0		25
New Caledonia	293	13	11	7	5	2	86	4	1	4	1	–	0	50
New Zealand	5 228	–	–	–	–	–	1 294	–	–	–	–	–		
Niue	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–		



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													MB <sup>c</sup>	PB <sup>d</sup>
Northern Mariana Islands	50	0	2	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0		
Palau	18	5	4	3	2	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	100	
Papua New Guinea	10 330	609	299	247	105	15	4 540	57	1	10	0	0	23	27
Philippines	117 337	2 780	1 357	1 245	408	40	46 245	99	0	92	92	0		
Pitcairn Islands <sup>f</sup>	47	–	–	–	–	–	7	–	–	–	–	–		
Republic of Korea	51 784	36	3	2	1	1	8 102	0	0	1	1	2		
Samoa	226	–	–	–	–	–	107	–	–	–	–	–		
Singapore	6 015	1	1	0	1	0	955	0	0	0	0	0	100	100
Solomon Islands	740	45	45	44	15	6	363	6	0	8	3	0	52	100
Tokelau	2	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–		
Tonga	108	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	0		
Tuvalu	11	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	–		
Vanuatu	335	7	7	6	4	0	164	2	0	0	0	0	100	
Viet Nam	98 859	0	58	48	17	14	28 890	2	0	4	2	0		
Wallis and Futuna	12	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 939 522</b>	<b>4 680</b>	<b>2 708</b>	<b>2 336</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>461 133</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>113</b>		
<b>Other territories</b>														
Mayotte	336	0	4	3	1	0	183	1	0	2	0	0		
Réunion	982	–	–	–	–	–	297	–	–	–	–	–		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 318</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>		
<b>Global total</b>	<b>8 018 650</b>	<b>172 570</b>	<b>182 815</b>	<b>125 752</b>	<b>72 845</b>	<b>9 729</b>	<b>2 642 307</b>	<b>10 322</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>13 777</b>	<b>3 644</b>	<b>378</b>		

G2D: grade-2 disability

MB: multibacillary leprosy; PB: paucibacillary leprosy

<sup>a</sup> Prevalence: number of cases on treatment at the end of the reporting year.<sup>b</sup> Child aged <15 years.<sup>c</sup> MB treatment completion rate for 2021 cohort.<sup>d</sup> PB treatment completion rate for 2022 cohort.<sup>e</sup> No data available<sup>f</sup> Absolute numbers