



Center for
Tuberculosis

TB Screening and the Role of Civil Surgeons

Accreditation Statement



Accreditation Statement

In support of improving patient care, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Credit Statement(s):

ANCC

Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science designates this activity for a maximum of 14.00 ANCC contact hours. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 14.0 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credit for learning and change.

For disclosure information regarding Mayo Clinic School of Continuous Professional Development accreditation review committee member(s) and staff, please go [here](#) to the course accreditation page.

Available Credit

- 14.00 ANCC
- 14.00 Attendance
- 14.00 IPCE

Melanie Swift, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine

Vice Chair, Division of Public Health, Infectious
Diseases and Occupational Medicine

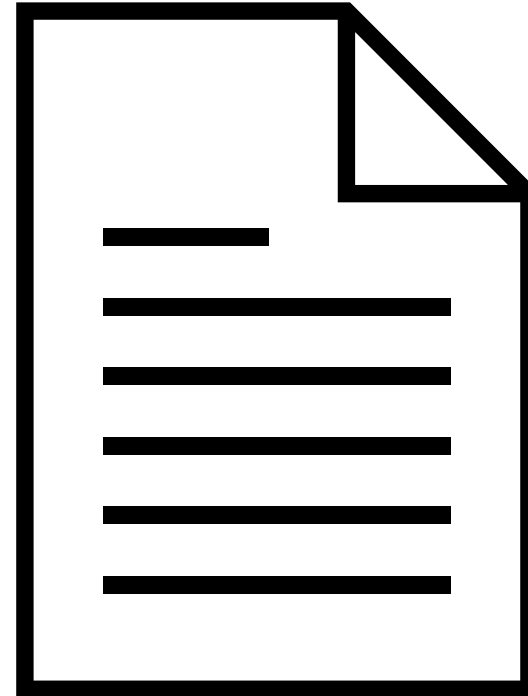
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Civil Surgeon since 2017



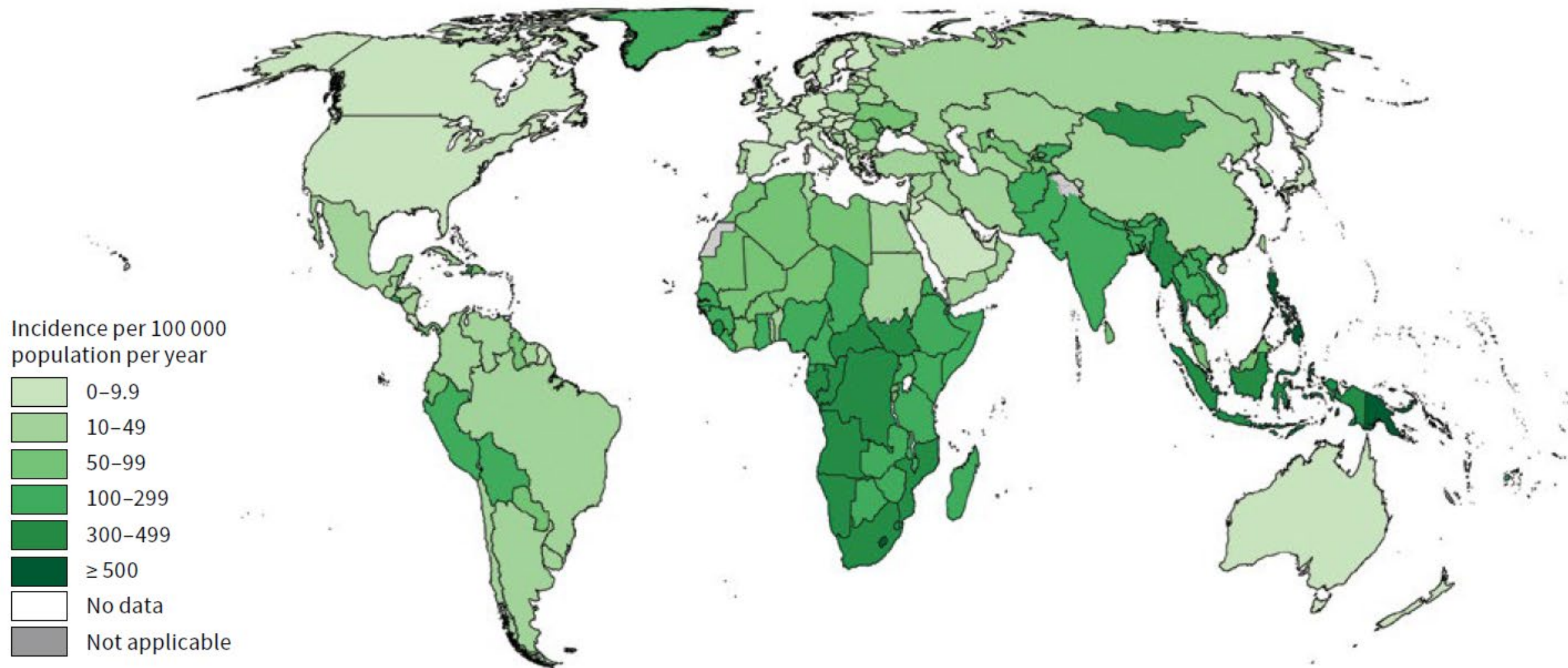
Disclosures

I have no relevant financial disclosures



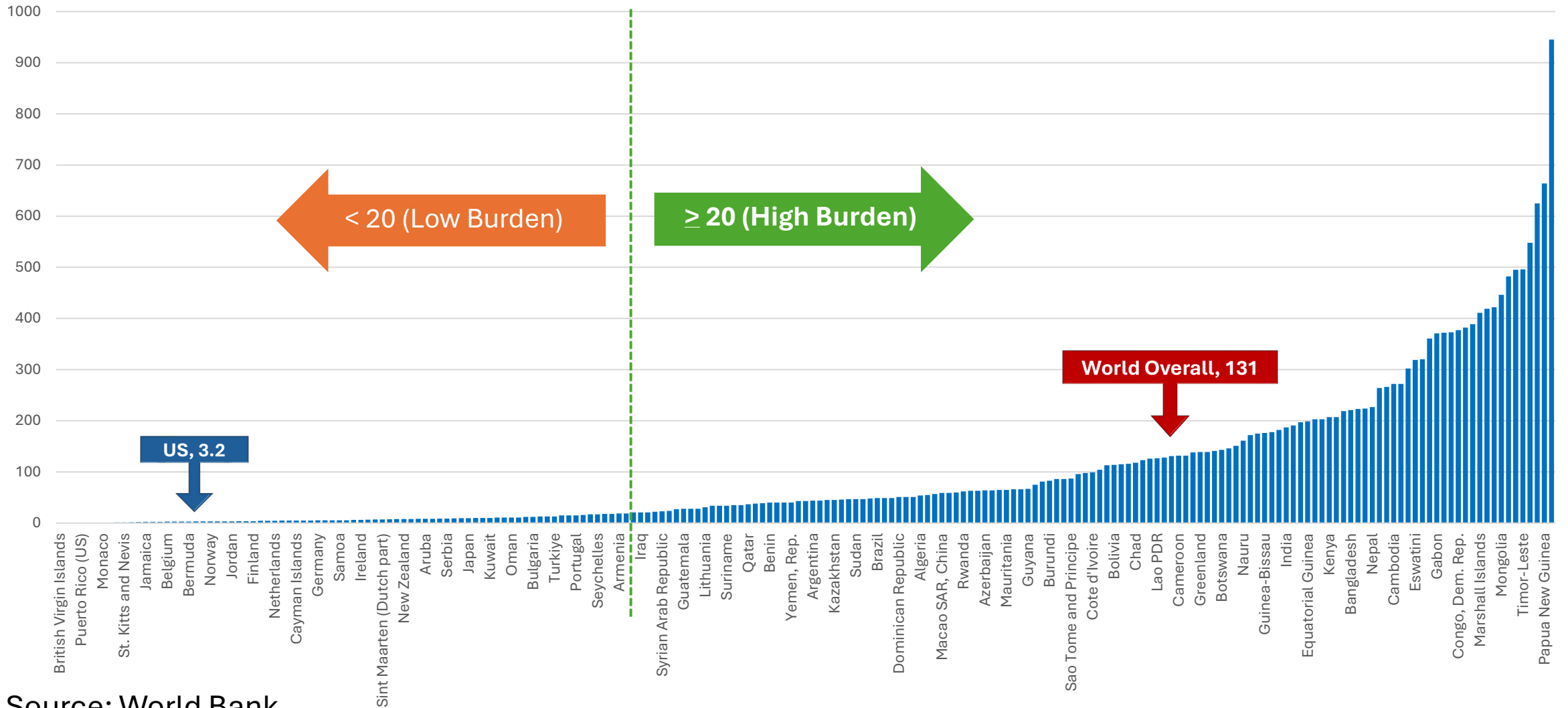
Immigration-related TB Demographics in the US

Estimated TB incidence rates at country level, 2024



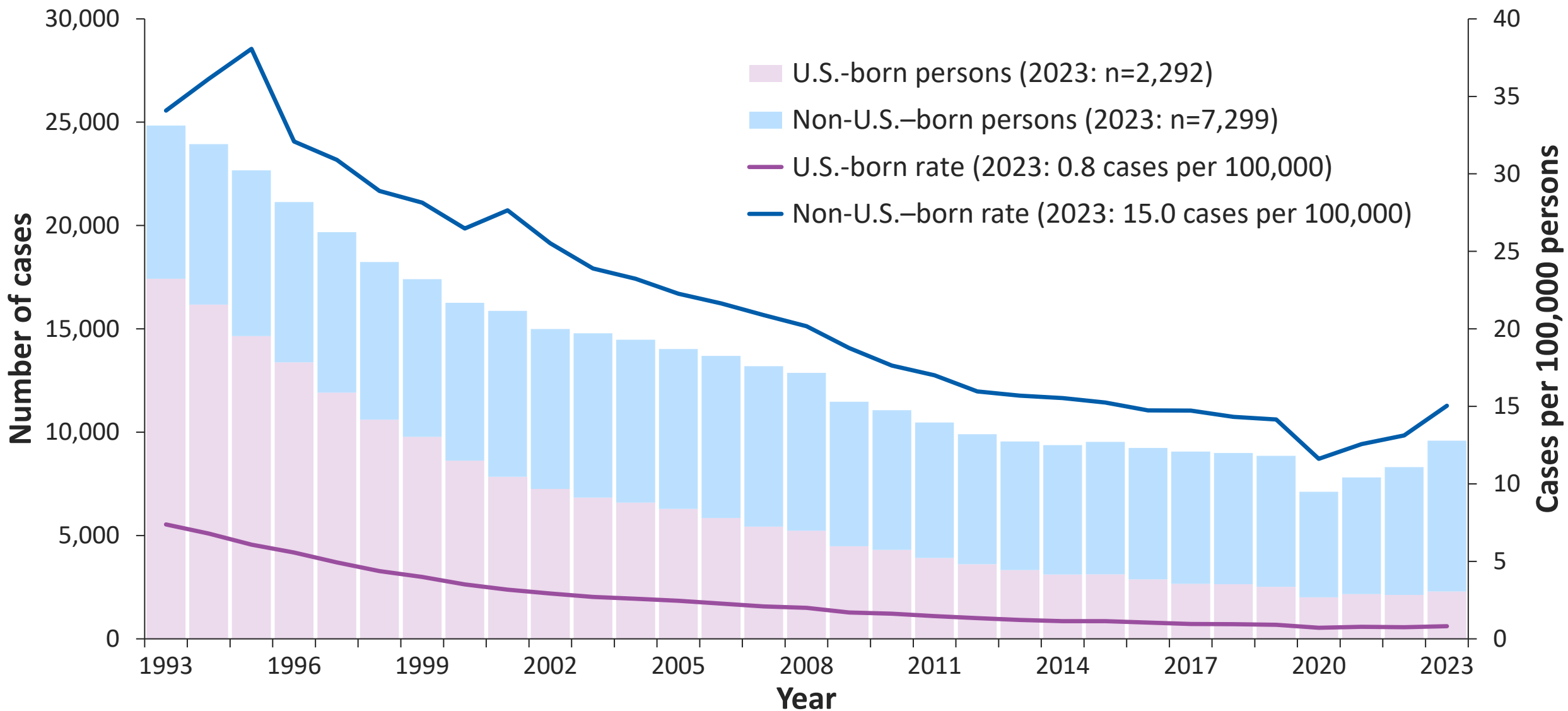
Source: WHO Global Tuberculosis Report 2025

Incidence of tuberculosis disease (cases per 100,000) 2024



Source: World Bank

TB Cases and Incidence Rates by Origin of Birth,* United States, 1993–2023

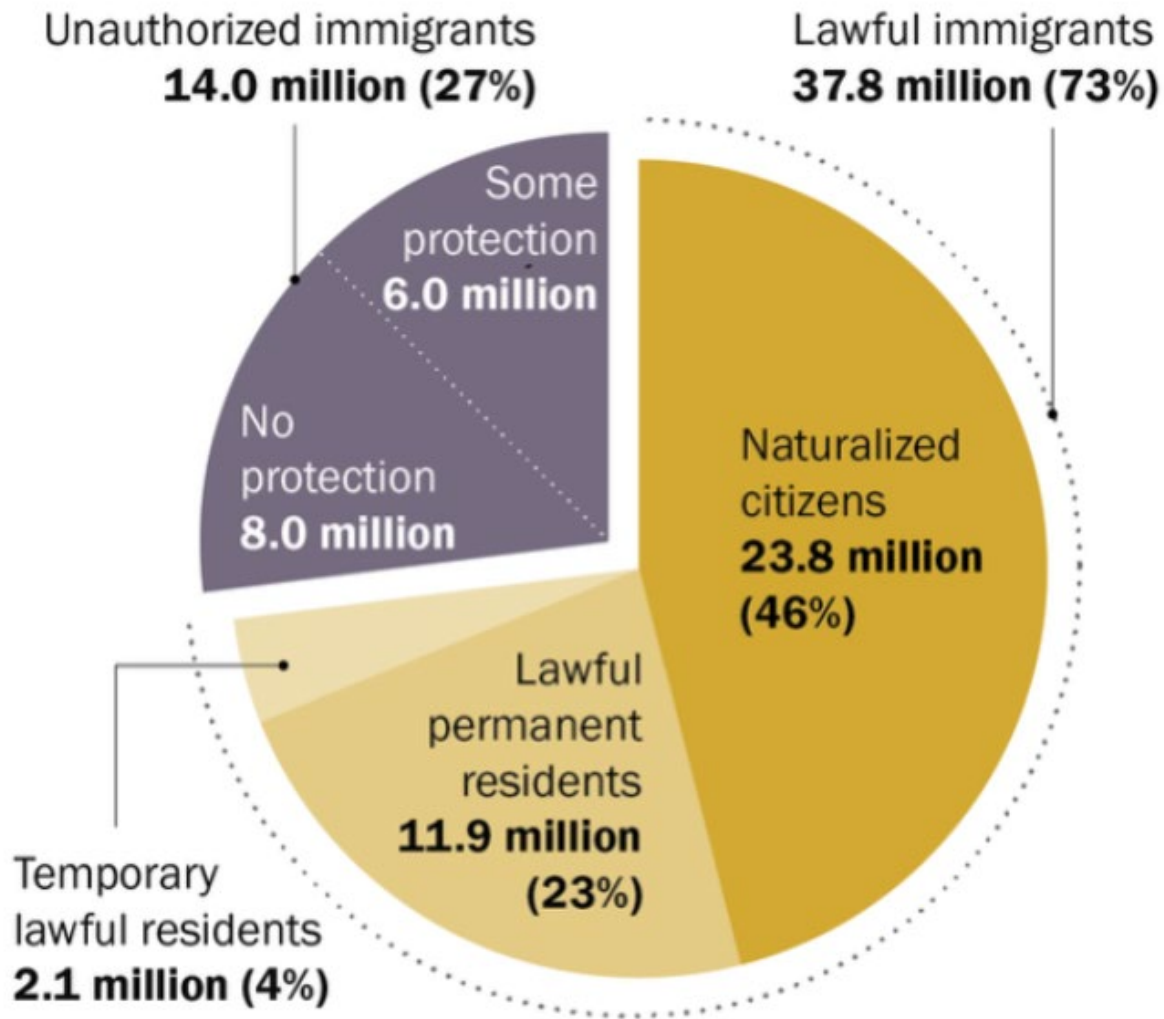


*Persons born in the United States, certain U.S. territories, or elsewhere to at least one U.S. citizen parent are categorized as U.S.-born. All other persons are categorized as non-U.S.-born.

Are immigrants screened for TB?

Terminology

- **Immigrant** – Person who comes to the US intending to remain permanently.
- **Nonimmigrant visitor** – Person visiting the US who intends to return to their home country.
- **Refugee** – (UN designation) An individual outside the US, unable to return home. Usually sheltered in refugee housing/camp until approved for placement in the US.
- **Asylee** – (US designation) Same as a refugee but applies for asylum after arriving in the US.
- **Lawful permanent resident** – Non-citizen with permission to remain in the US permanently. Aka “green card holder.”
- **Naturalized citizen** – Person who has achieved US citizenship after being an LPR for a required period and meeting additional requirements.



Total U.S. foreign-born population in 2023:
51.8 million

Source: Pew Research Center



Source: Yearbook of Immigration Statistics, 2023
Office of Homeland Security Statistics

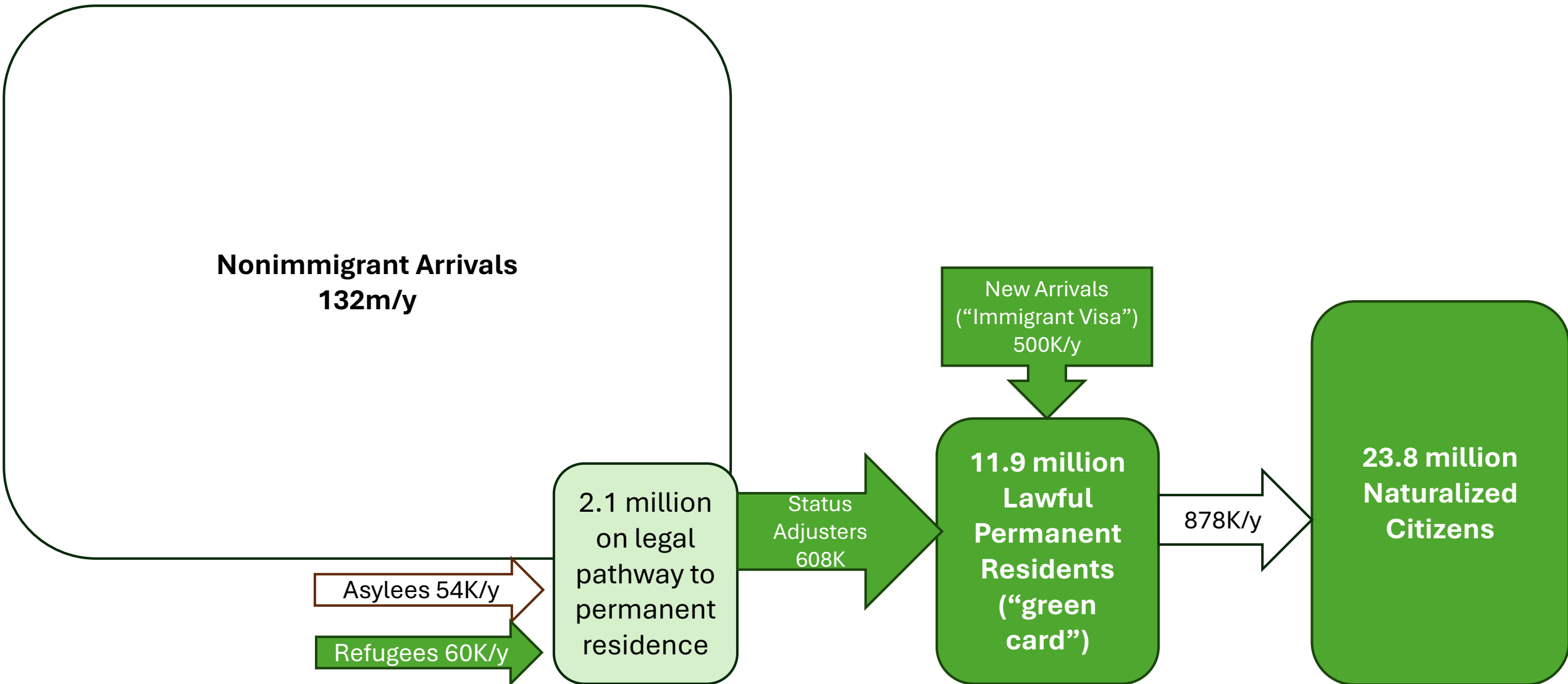
US Citizenship and Immigration Service

Department of Homeland Security

Health-Related Grounds of Inadmissibility

- **INA212(a)(1)(A) specifies medical conditions that render an applicant inadmissible on health-related grounds:**
 - Communicable diseases of public health significance
 - **Tuberculosis**
 - Hansen's disease
 - Syphilis
 - Gonorrhea
 - Failure to show proof of required vaccinations
 - Physical or mental disorder with associated harmful behavior
 - Substance abuse or addiction as set forth in HHS regulations

TB Screening in Immigration Processes



Who performs TB screening?

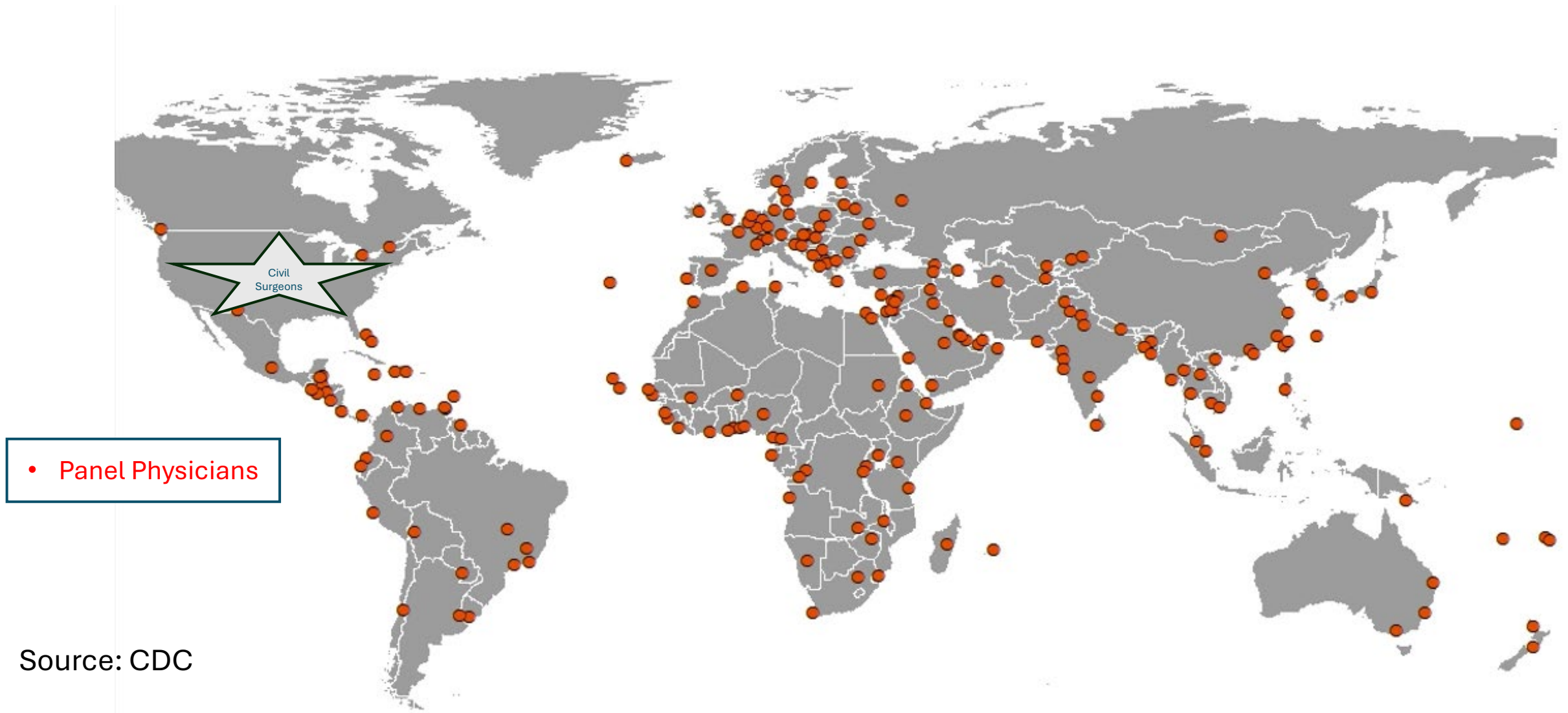
Civil Surgeons

- **Doctors in the U.S. who perform medical examinations for persons adjusting their status to permanent residency**
 - Domestic
 - Designated by DHS/USCIS
 - More than 5,000 across the U.S.
 - Physicians submit an application package to USCIS
 - Identify inadmissibility on health-related grounds

Panel Physicians

- **Medically trained, licensed, and experienced medical doctors practicing overseas who are appointed by the local U.S. Embassy or Consulate**
 - Abroad
 - More than 840
 - Embassies and consulates appoint panel physicians
 - Number of panel physicians in country is based on need
 - Annual agreement
 - Identify inadmissibility on health-related grounds

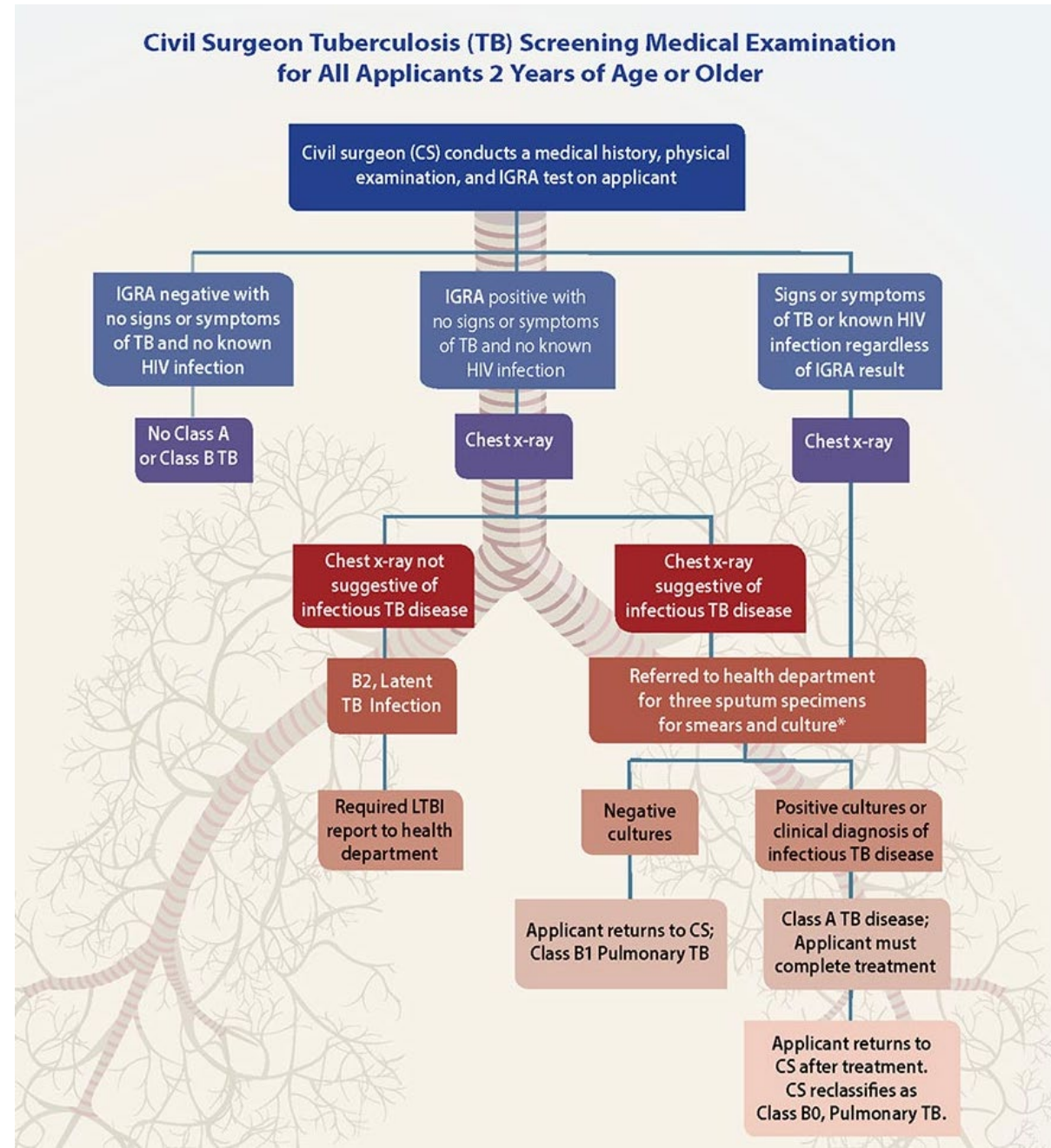
Centralized -> Decentralized



TB Screening by Pathway

New Immigrant Arrivals Examined by Panel Physician OUTSIDE the US		Status Adjusters Examined by Civil Surgeon INSIDE the US
Low Burden Country	High Burden Country	Any country of origin
≥ 15 years of age: Chest x-ray (No screening for LTBI)	≥ 2 years of age: IGRA Chest x-ray if IGRA is positive	≥ 2 years of age: IGRA Chest x-ray if IGRA is positive

Algorithm for Civil Surgeon TB Screening



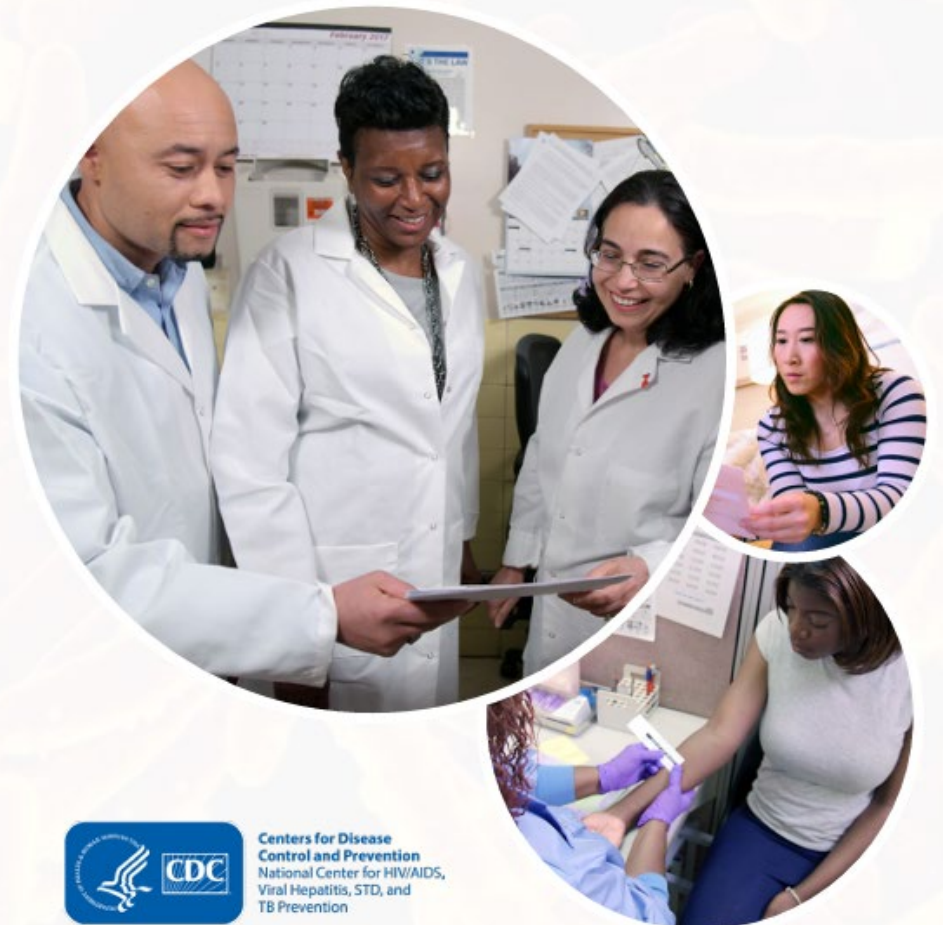
Gaps and Opportunities

- Treatment for TB infection (latent TB) is not required
- Local Health Department resources are limited
- Primary care providers encouraged to treat

<https://www.cdc.gov/tb/hcp/education/latent-tb-infection-guide-primary-care-providers.html>

LATENT TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION

A GUIDE FOR PRIMARY
HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention
National Center for HIV/AIDS,
Viral Hepatitis, STD, and
TB Prevention



Center for
Tuberculosis

Q & A

Thank you!