



Republic of the Marshall Islands

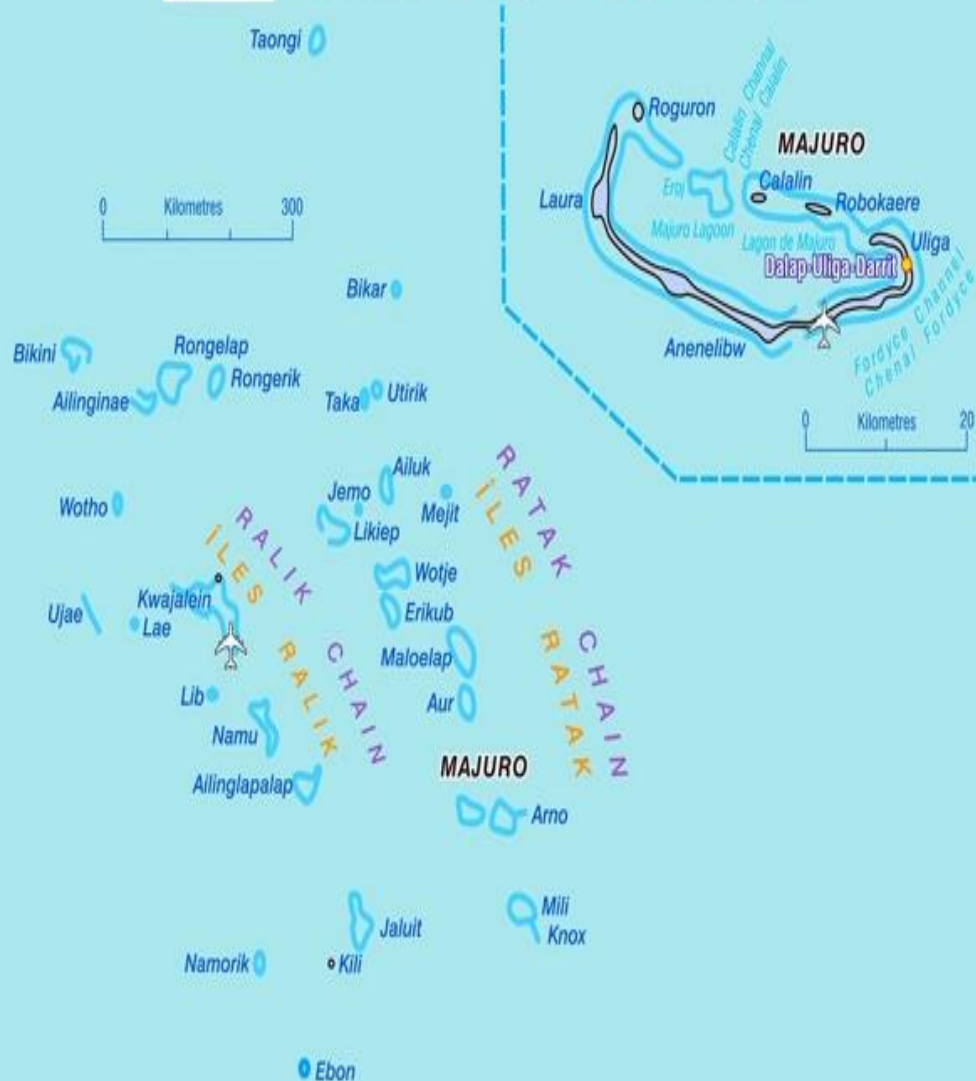
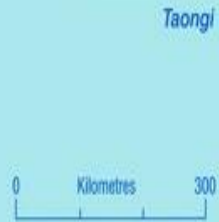
RISA J. BUKBUK

2024 Regional TB Training: Majuro

Country Overview



Marshall Islands



- RMI is an island nation composing of 24 Atoll groups dispersed over 181.43km in the central pacific ocean, located between the Hawaiian islands and the Philippines.
- This poses geographical challenge
- Limited health workforce and centralized health programs limit service delivery to the outer islands (neighboring islands).
- **Disease Burdens:** NCD among worlds highest as well as TB and Leprosy.
- 74% of all deaths attributed to NCD



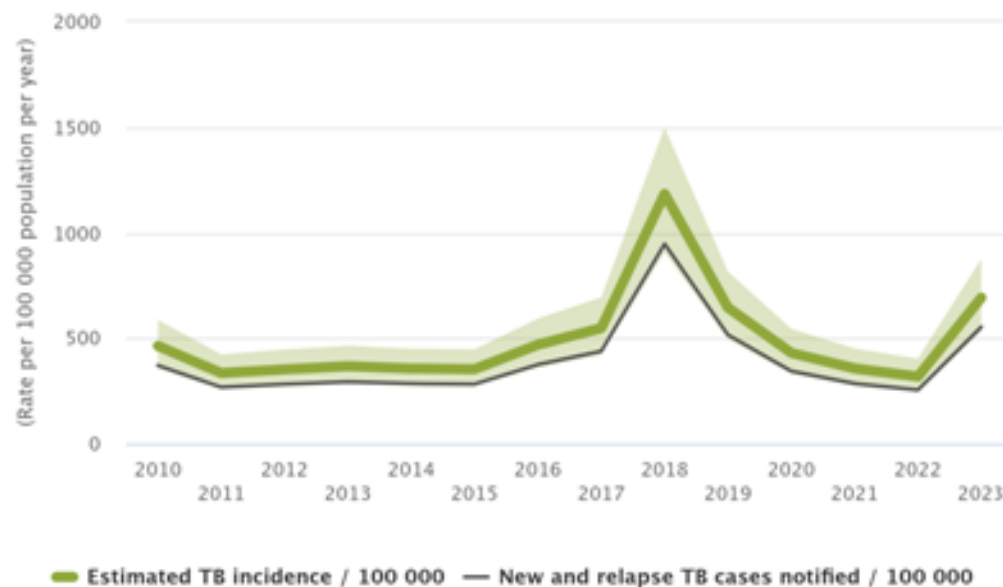
TB Cases and Incidence Rates, 2019–2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (YTD)
TB Cases	209	134	113	100	208	62
TB Incidence Rate*	400/100000pop	257	266.4	236	478	
Population	52,153	52,153	42,418	42,418	42,418	

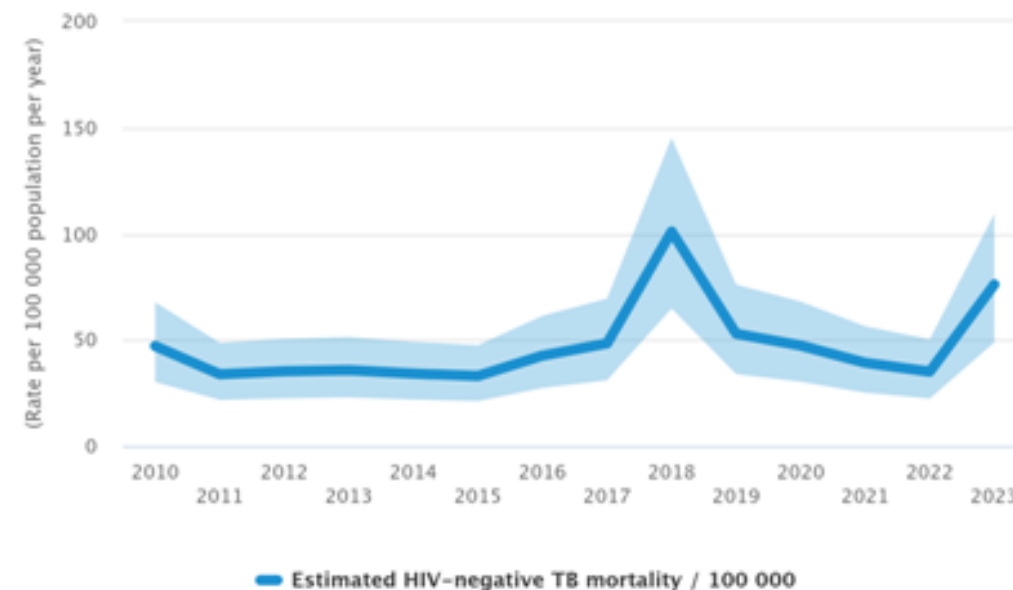


Progress Towards Meeting National TB Program Objectives

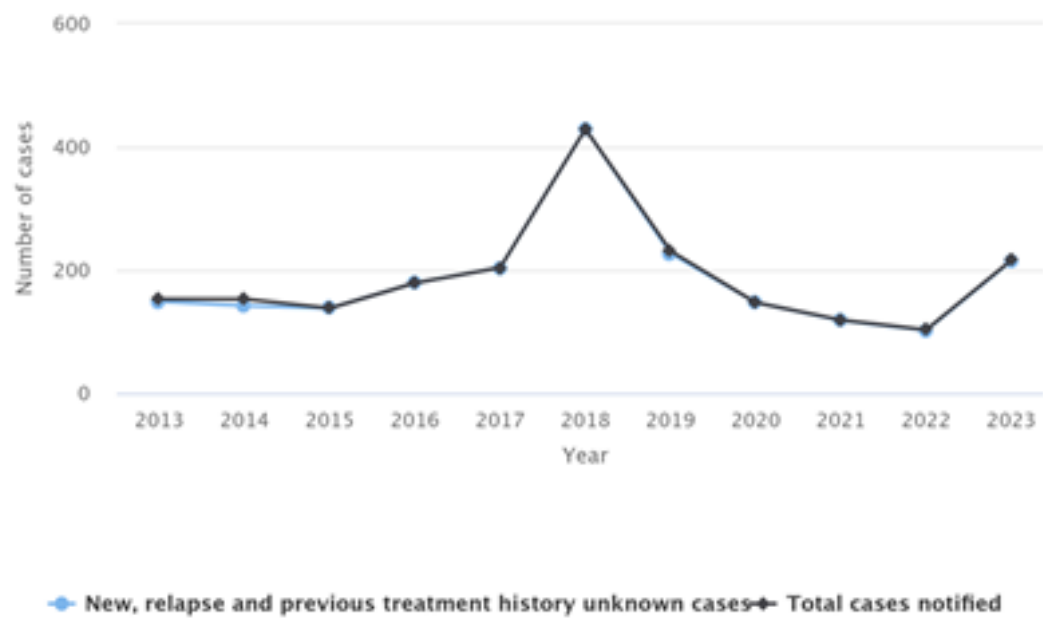
Estimated incidence (notification-all forms of TB) RMI, 2010-2023.



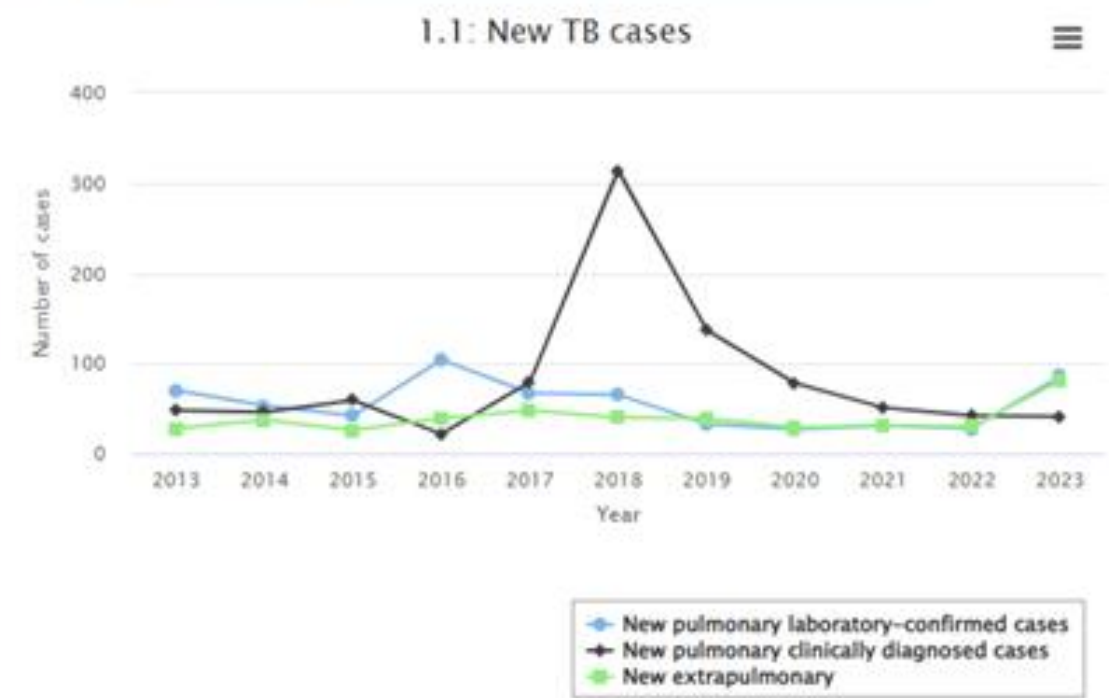
Mortality-HIV Negative, TB cases, RMI, 2010-2022.



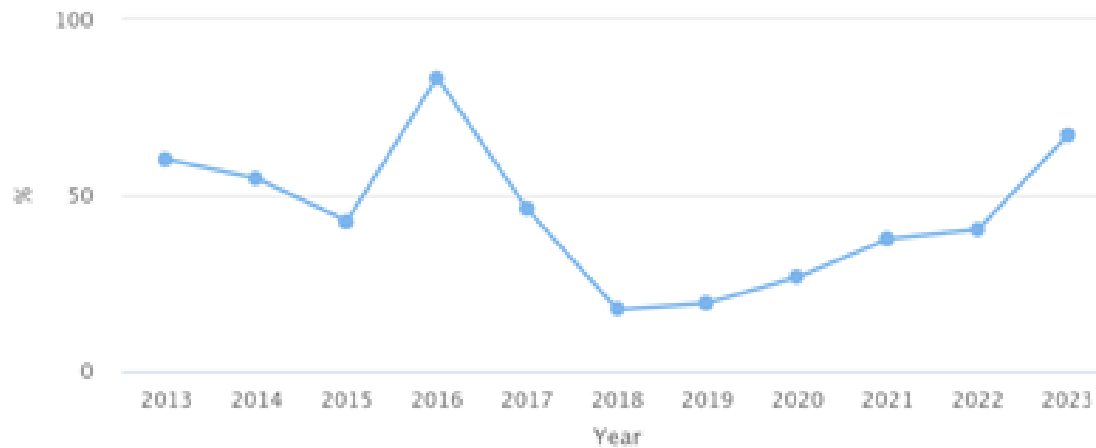
TB Case Notification (all forms) in the RMI, 2013-2023



Graphs 1: Case notifications, Marshall Islands



Proportion of bacteriologically confirmed Pulmonary TB cases notified (all forms, new and relapse) in RMI, 2013-2023



% of TB cases notified, diagnosed using WRD (all forms new and relapse cases) 2015-2023

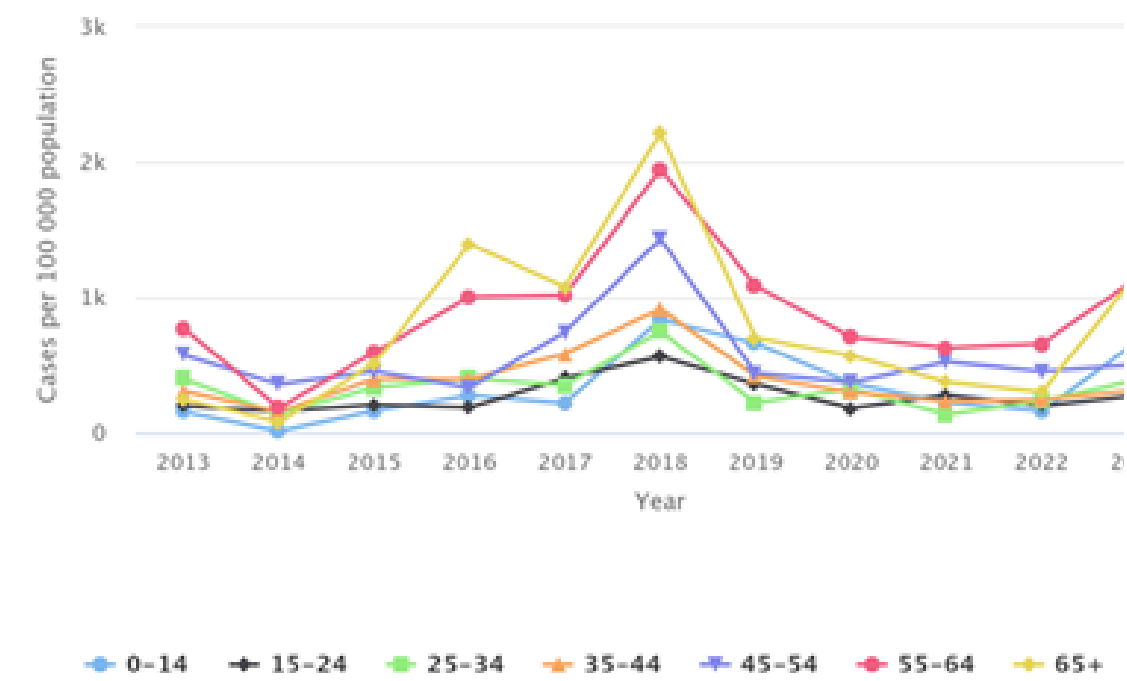


In 2023, a large proportion of cases diagnosed during mass TB screening campaigns did not utilize WRD at time of diagnosis. This will lead to a change in Mass screening Protocols.

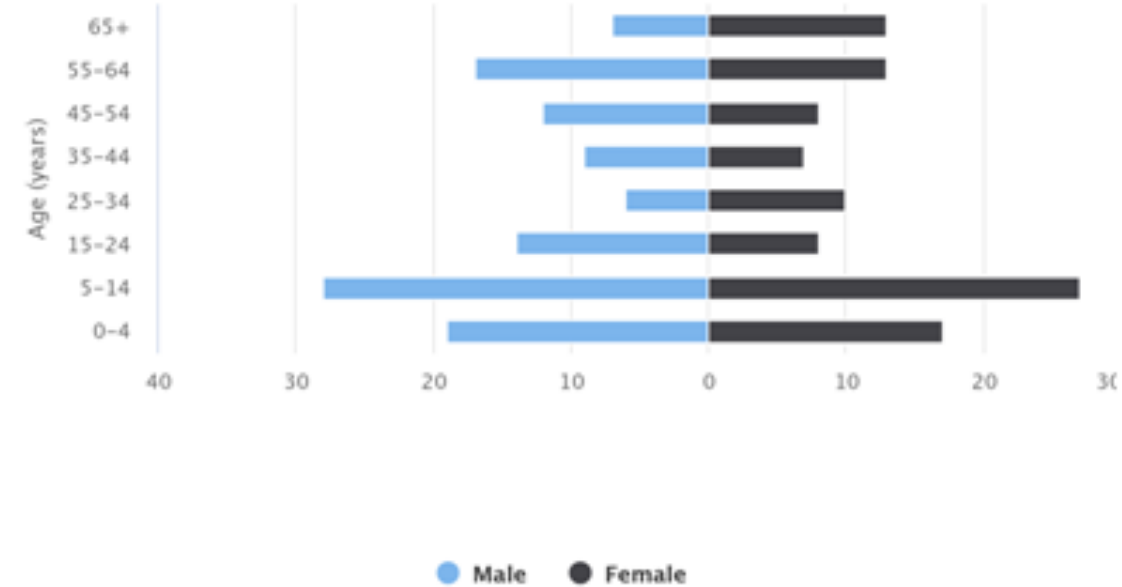


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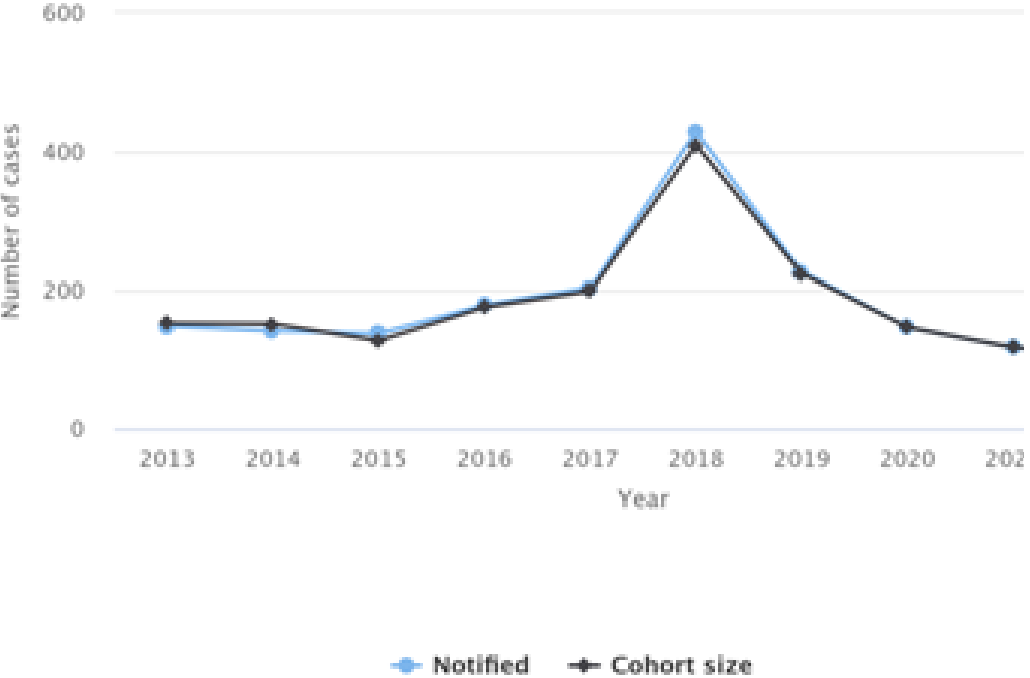
TB notifications rates (all forms new & relapse) by age groups in the RMI, 2013-2023



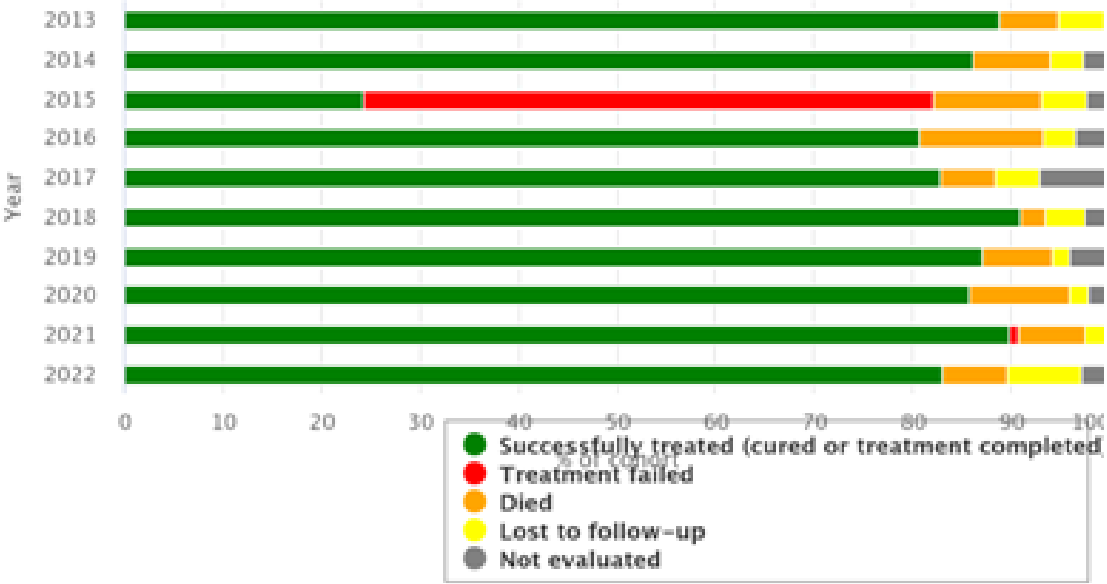
TB notifications (all forms, new & relapse) by age and sex, RMI, 2023



TB case notification (all forms, new & relapse cases) RMI, 2013-2022-For outcome and



TB Treatment outcomes (all forms, new & relapse) RMI, 2013-2022.



Successes

- Ongoing ACTIVE CASE FINDING
- -Target testing through TB Mass Screening in Neighboring Islands (TB, Leprosy, NCD component) integrated-include Immunization, dental services etc.
- -Target testing through public health clinic/TB clearance screening
- Ongoing Contact Investigation
- TB-DM collaboration and expanding NCD program in the community
- Latent TB Infection Treatment (3HP Main Regiment)
- New Fuji (backpack) digital X ray with Computer Assisted Diagnostics
- Clinic Without Walls (CWW just started this year) on Majuro
- TB-Leprosy clinic relocation (clinic and admin office) & New TB Isolation-8 beds, Negative pressure system.
- PH Ship unitized for neighboring islands outreach and TB screening.
- Expanding Internet in maritime & rural areas through Star Link will improve potential for Tele-medicine consultaions



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Challenges

- Lack of Man power (human resources for health-all cadre)
- DOT in the Neighboring Islands (28 days rotation) with 2 staff at a time)- 9 months
- Geographical challenges
- Inflation
- TB-DM burden, CKD-5 (adverse outcomes) & driver of mortality
- Some patients with Adverse Reaction (more attention to side affects management)
- Lag in adopting new guidance (WHO etc.) National Guidelines for review-TB & Leprosy





Preparing for TB Mass Screening- Outer Island



Addressing Challenges

- How have you or how will you be addressing your TB challenges?
- -Nurses Reclassification
- -More Chows will be hired
- -reducing the number of days in the NIs
- Liwetoon mour to stop on every islands and or islets
- -Strengthening community awareness
- -strengthening ACF



2024 PITCA Jurisdiction Action Plan Report Back

- Summarize your jurisdiction action plan from PITCA 2024
- Provide an update:
 - What activities were accomplished?
 - -TB Mass Screening in NIs, 6 Atoll
 - What activities are still ongoing?
 - -Active Case Findings
 - -Diagnosis of LTBI and treatment
 - -TB/NCD collaborative efforts
 - What changes (if any) were made?
 - Describe success and challenges



Neighboring Islands TB Mass Screening Outcomes: 2019 - 2024

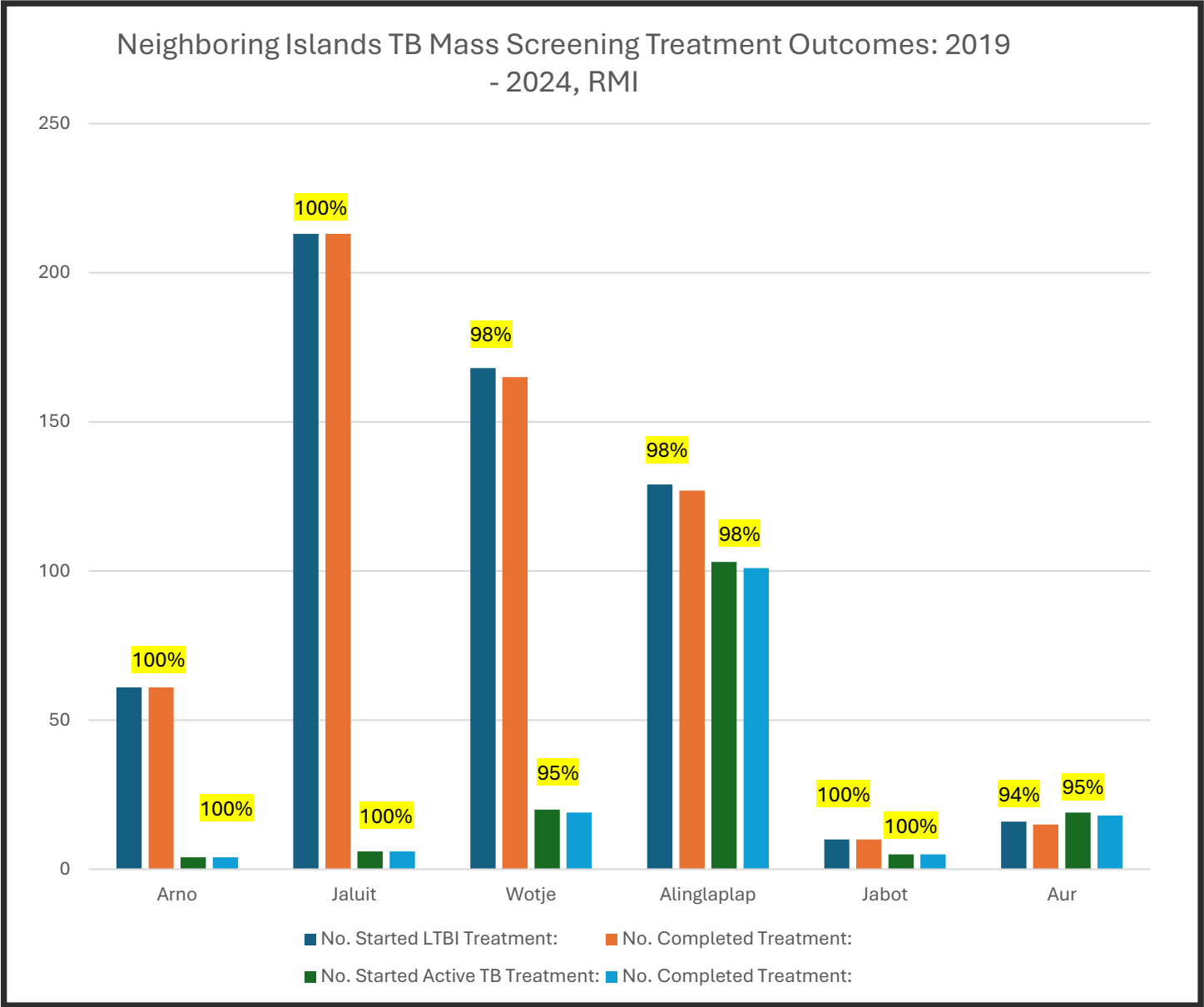
Atoll:	Target Population	Total Screened	Percentage of Target Reached	Total LTBI Diagnosed	Total LTBI on LTBI Rx.	Total Diagnosed Active TB	Total Active on Active Rx	Total Discharged
Arno	800	630	79%	88	61	61	4	477
Jaluit	1,121	1,112	99%	213	213	6	6	893
Wotje	859	699	81%	167	165	20	20	511
Alinglaplap	1,172	1,014	87%	129	129	103	103	767
Jabot	75	33	44%	10	10	5	5	17
Aur	317	271	85%	16	16	19	19	236



People moved to Majuro during the period for United Church of Christ Youth Rally

2019-2024 TB Mass Screening Treatment Outcomes by Neighboring Islands

Atoll:	No. Started LTBI Treatment:	No. Completed Treatment:	No. Started Active TB Treatment:	No. Completed Treatment:
Arno	61	61	4	4
Jaluit	213	213	6	6
Wotje	168	165	20	19
Alinglaplap	129	127	103	101
Jabot	10	10	5	5
Aur	16	15	19	18





Mass Screening Activities.





DIRECTLY OBSERVE THERAPY (DOT) ACTIVITIES: On land by motorbike, and on water



Li-Watoon Mour Medical Boat



Chow time (Kitchen Room)





Boarding time for TB screening



New Initiatives

- Clinic Without Walls (CWW in Majuro) 2024-Decentralization of PHC & NCD screening and care.



SERVICES

- DMII AND HYPERTENSION SCREENING
- HBA1C POCT
- CONSULTATION
- MEDICATION
- FOOT CARE
- LABS
- IMMUNIZATION
- RECRUITMENT FOR PREVENTION CLASSES
- Transportation
- Homebound visits
- Life style program

SCHEDULE

Morning 9am to 12 noon
CWW

MONDAY-JISAM BASKETBALL
COURT (RITA)

TUESDAY-CHIYAYA PARK
(JENROK)

WEDNESDAY-YOUTH TO
YOUTH (ULIGA)

THURSDAY-LOJKAR (RAIROK)

LAST FRIDAY OF EACH
MONTH IS AIENKAN

HOSPITAL NCD CLINIC IN
THE AFTERNOON FROM
1PM TO 5PM MONDAY TO
FRIDAY

To add on:
TB screening
(Symptomatic
screening)
LTBI
To add on Digital CXR
DM management of TB
patients.
OPD-PHC
HVP-Cervical cancer
screening



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If no questions, thank you very much!!



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