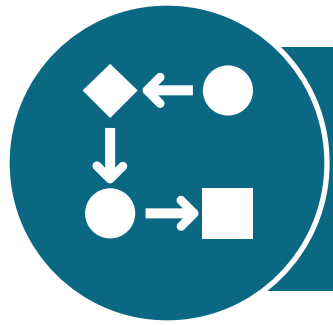


# Cost of TB Care and Management – a Public Health Department Perspective

Kate Louther, Deputy Director-Community Health  
April 22, 2025



# Overview & Process



## 2014 & 2022 Data

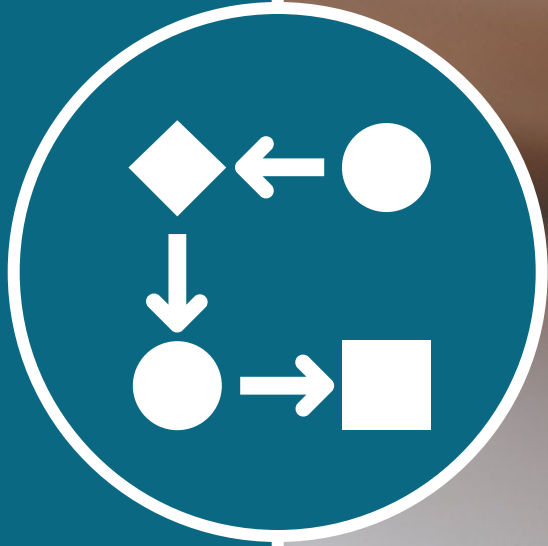


## Findings & Conclusions



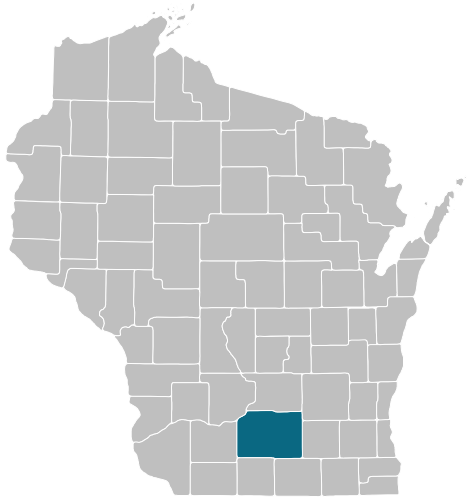
## Next Steps





# Overview & Process





# Dane County, WI

Pop. 561,000





2014

Cost analysis  
for TB case  
management



2022

Have current  
costs  
changed?

# Data Sources



## **Random sample**

Latent,  
Presumed,  
Extrapulmonary,  
Pulmonary



## **Billing reports from WEDSS**



## **Clinical & lab testing costs**



## **Public health nurse salary & benefit average**



## **Literature review**





# Literature Review

Only used articles from US for comparison

Limited studies regarding costs associated with DOT and nurse case management

Several studies on cost of TB



# Data





# Data Analysis



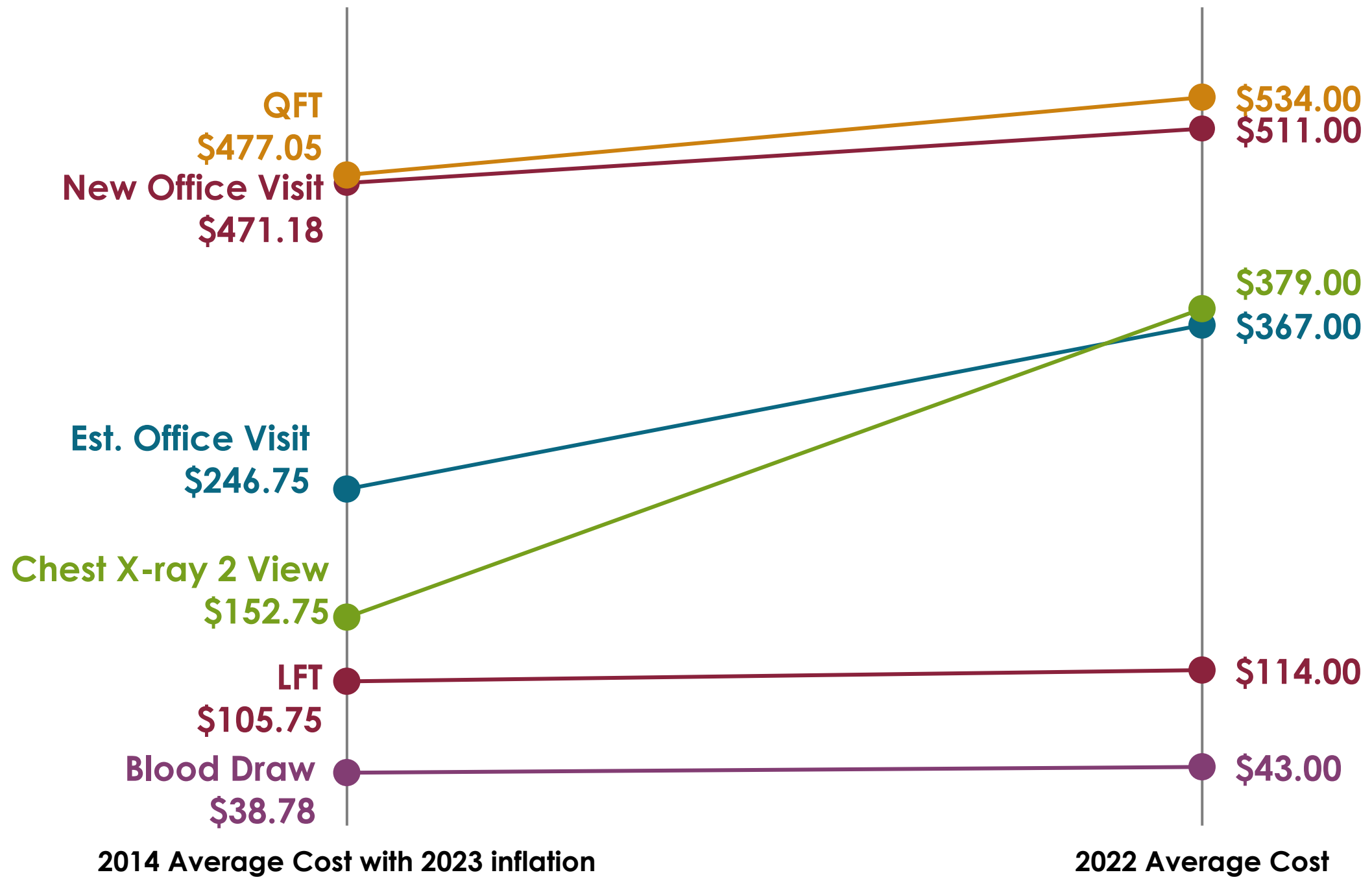
**Cost for  
TB Service**



**Actual  
Nurse Cost**



**Medical Assistance  
Reimbursement  
Cost**



|                        | Latent TB     |                | Active TB - Pulmonary        |                   | Active TB - Extrapulmonary |                | Presumed TB |          |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|
|                        | 2014          | 2022           | 2014                         | 2022              | 2014                       | 2022           | 2014        | 2022     |
| Case Mgmt              | 279           | 447            | 7294                         | 8023              | 5049                       | 4547           | 954         | 326      |
| Chest X-ray            | 130           | 379            | 130                          | 379               | 130                        | 379            | 130         | 379      |
| IGRA (incl venip)      | 406           | 577            | 406                          | 577               | 406                        | 577            | 406         | 577      |
| Hepatic function panel | 123-1103      | 114-1,025      | 123 -735                     | 114-683           | 123 -735                   | 114-683        | -           | -        |
| Clinic visit           | 305           | 439            | 1833                         | 2,636             | 1833                       | 2,636          | 305         | 439      |
| Eye Exam               | -             | -              | 620                          | 819               | 620                        | 819            | -           | -        |
| Sputum Samples         | -             | -              | Fee exempt through State Lab |                   |                            |                |             |          |
| Total Cost (Range)     | \$1,243-2,223 | \$ 1,956-2,867 | \$10,406-11,018              | \$ 12,548 -13,117 | \$8,160-8,773              | \$ 9,072-9,641 | \$1,795     | \$ 1,721 |



**Total  
Cost  
Range**

**Latent TB**

**2014**

**\$1,243**

**\$2,223**

**2022**

**\$1,956**

**\$2,867**

**Active TB – Pulmonary**

**2014**

**\$10,406**

**\$11,018**

**2022**

**\$12,548**

**\$13,117**

**Active TB -  
Extrapulmonary**

**2014**

**\$8,160**

**\$8,773**

**2022**

**\$9,072**

**\$9,641**

**Presumed TB**

**2014**

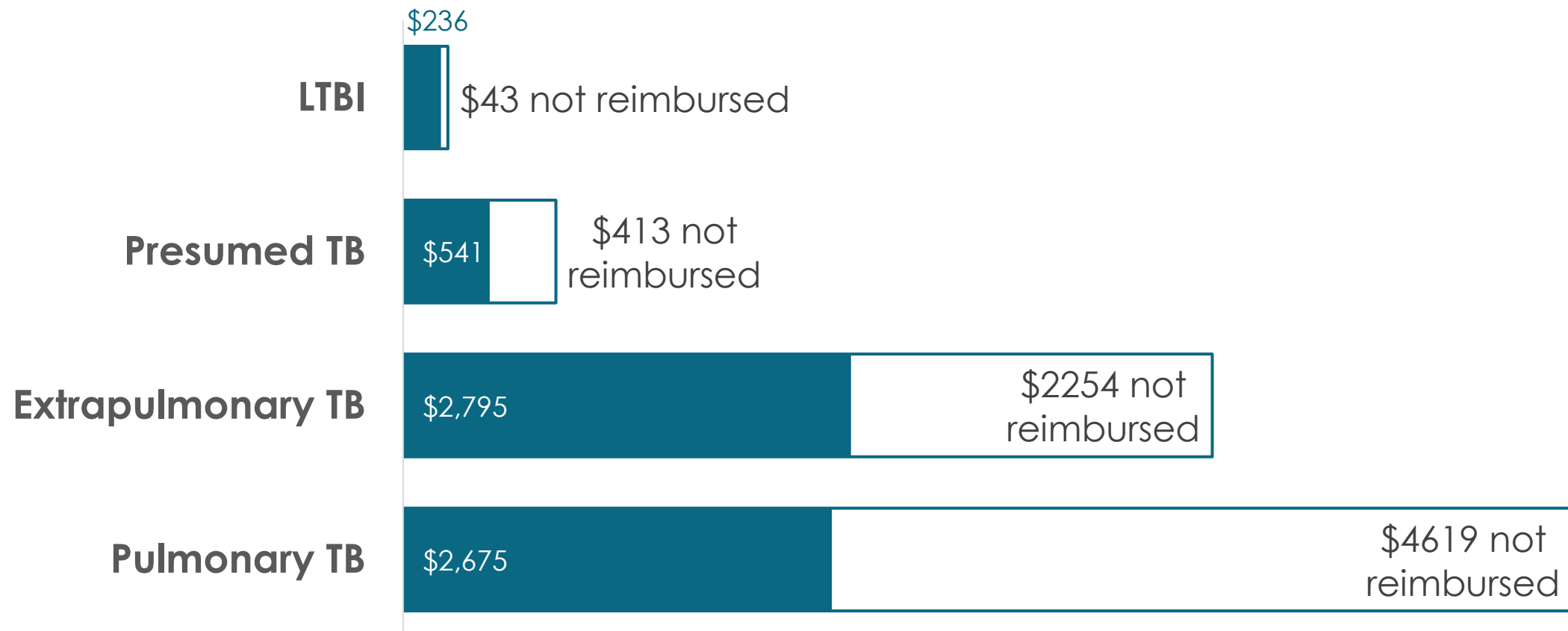
**\$1,795**

**2022**

**\$1,721**

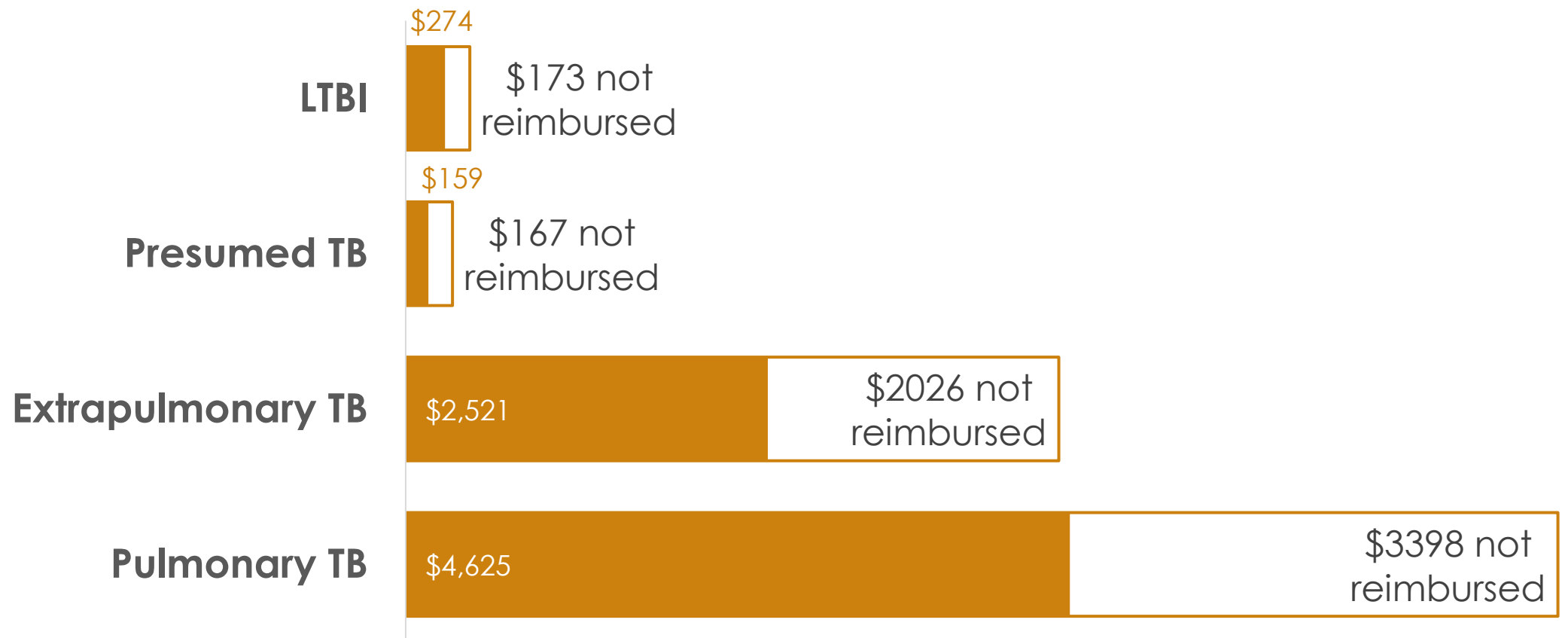
# Average nursing cost of case management exceeded average cost of Medicaid reimbursement for case management.

2014



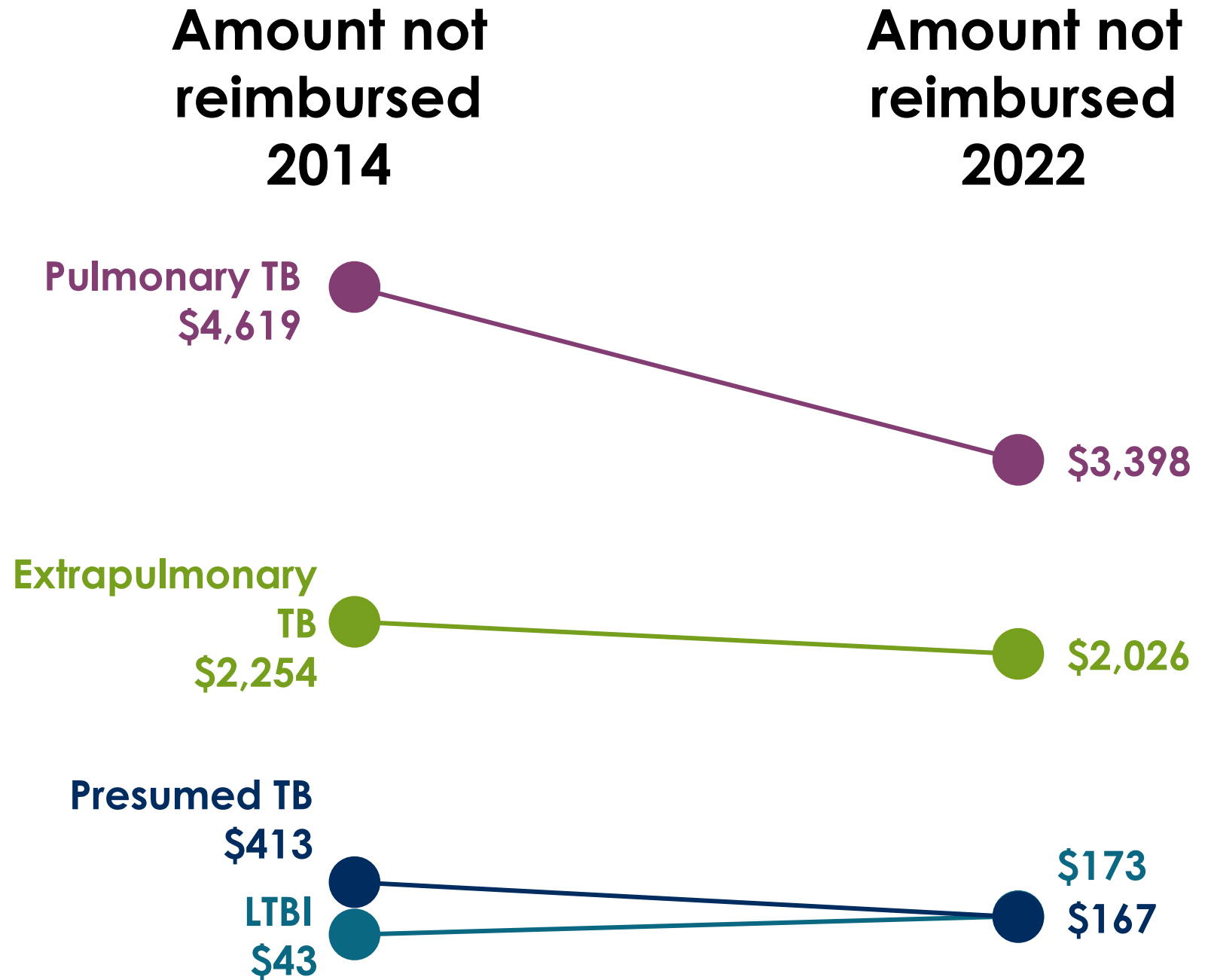
# Average nursing cost of case management exceeded average cost of Medicaid reimbursement for case management.

2022





While there is still a gap between what case management costs and what's reimbursed, the gap has lessened since 2014 for all but LTBI.



# Findings & Conclusions



# Limitations



**Hepatic  
function  
panel vs LFT  
cost**



**Travel  
time**



**Meds**

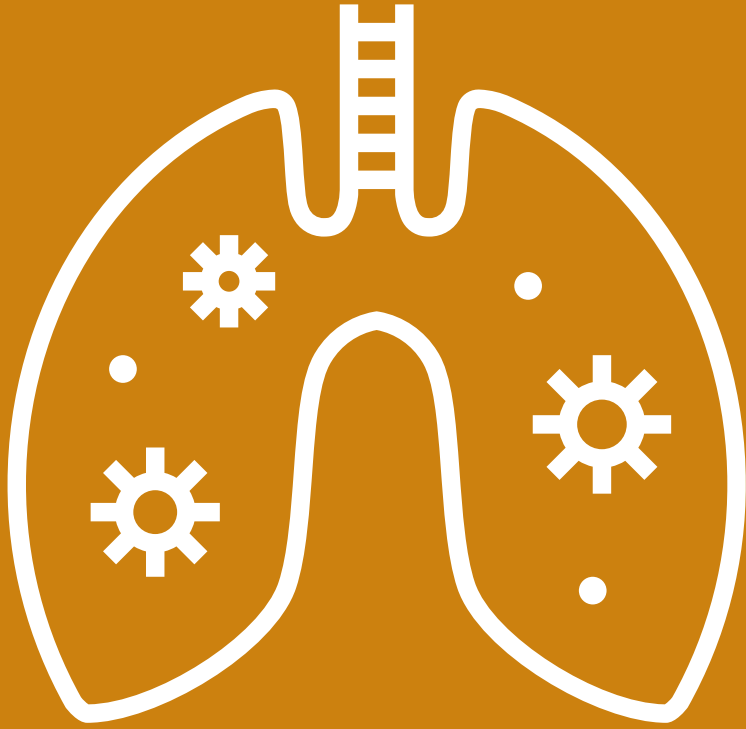


**Sample size  
& severity of  
disease**



**Inflation**





The cost of case management for TB has increased over the last decade, with active pulmonary TB costing the most.



The reimbursement for active TB cases does not adequately cover the cost that local health departments are pouring into case management services.



Public Health Nurses  
spend a lot of time  
case managing people  
with TB.



Lower costs are associated with LTBI treatment, which speaks to the benefits of TB prevention.





# Next Steps

# Future Needs



**Additional cost  
studies**



**Advocate for  
additional PH  
funding**



**Pair funding with targeted  
TB screening and  
treatment programs**

# THANK YOU

## Public Health Madison & Dane County

- Erin Polkinghorn
- Kat Grande
- Nicole Morales
- Rebecca LeBeau
- Christy Vogt

## CDC

- Awal Khan
- Garrett Asay



Questions?



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