

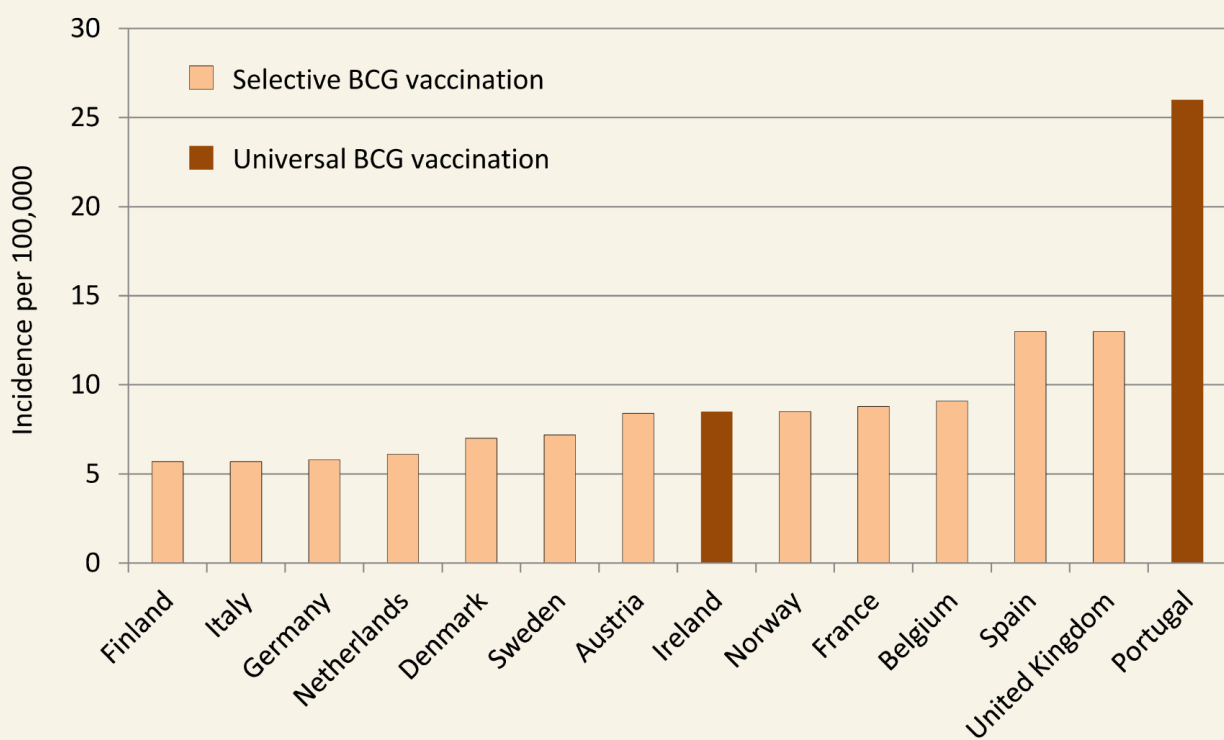
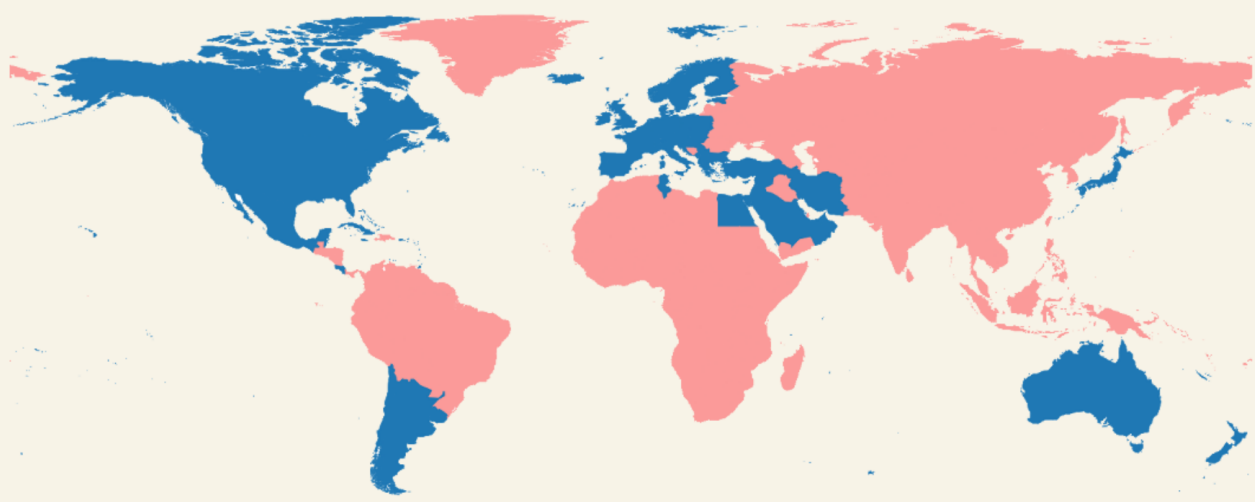
Health technology assessment of a selective BCG vaccination programme

Human tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease caused by bacteria



The BCG vaccine is made from a weakened form of a bacterium closely related to human TB. Because the bacterium is weak, the vaccine does not cause TB but it still makes the immune system produce T-cells, which makes people who receive it immune to TB.

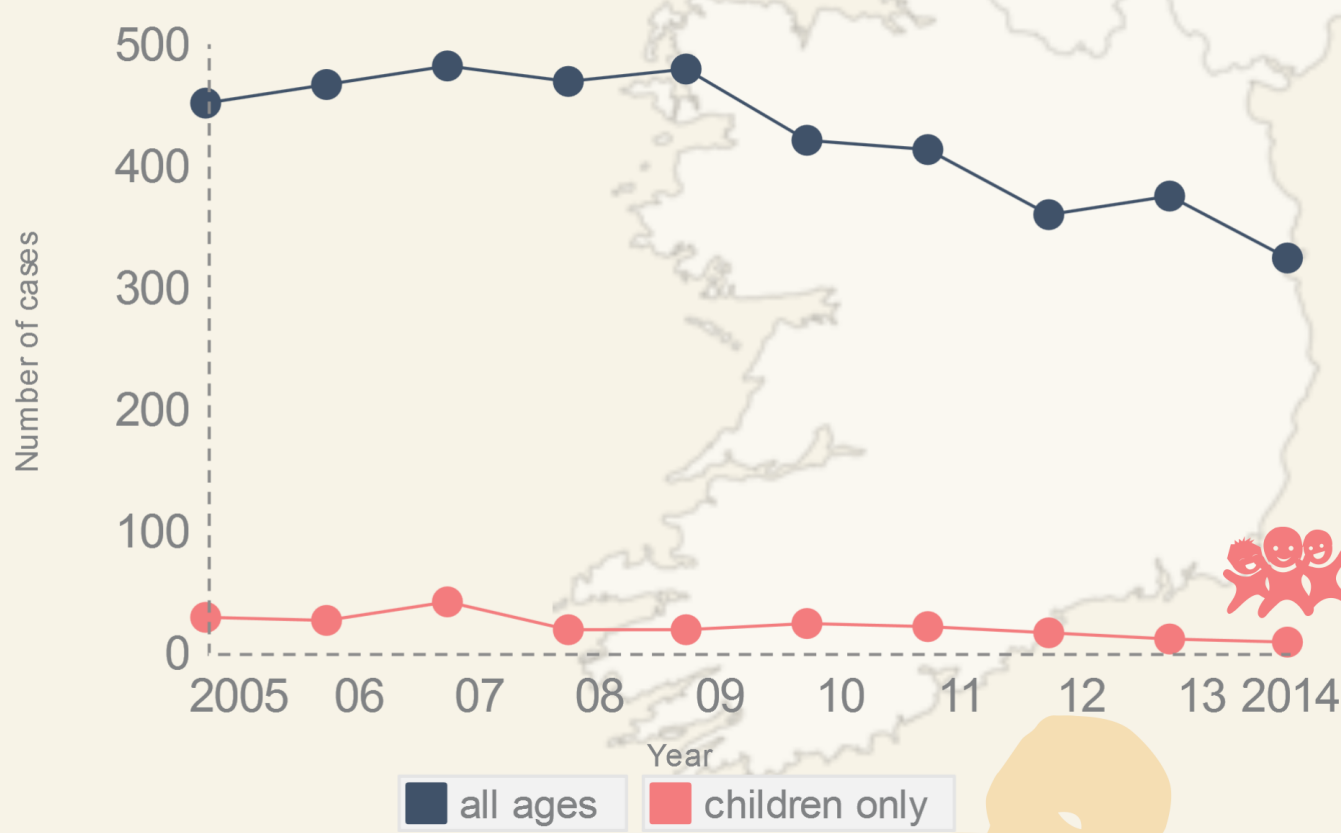
High TB incidence countries



Only Ireland and Portugal continue to have universal vaccination programmes

The key findings of this HTA

TB incidence in Ireland has been in decline over the last 25 years.



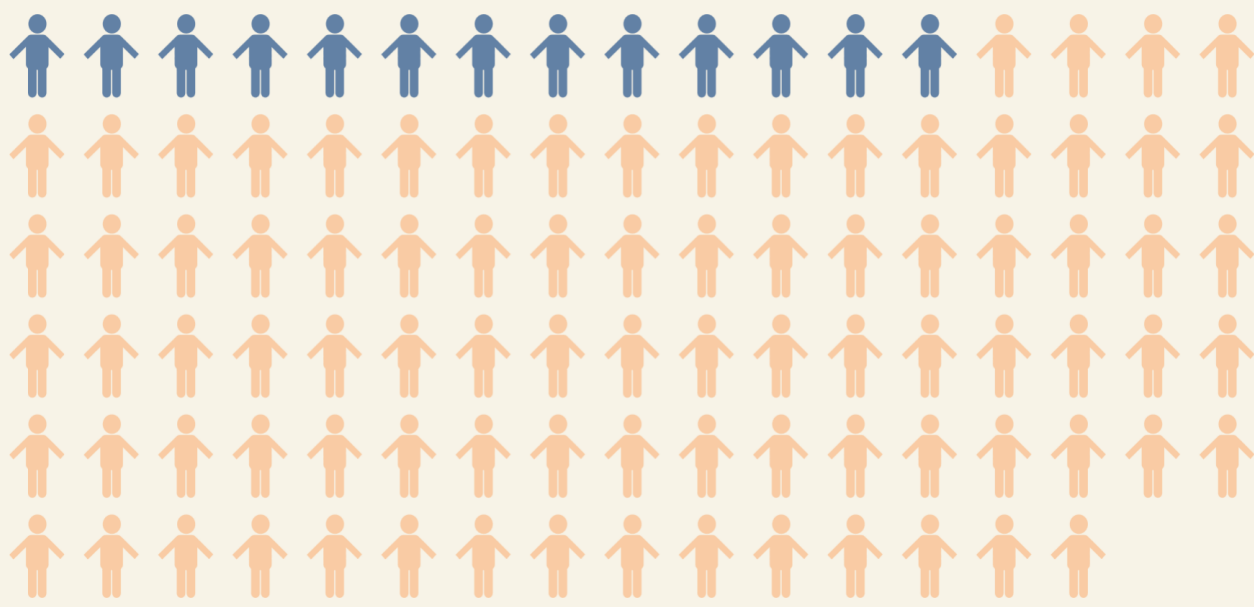
Between 2002 and 2014 there were no TB deaths in children aged less than 15 years.

Infants eligible for selective BCG vaccination



- born in a high TB incidence country
- parents from a high TB incidence country
- contact with cases with active respiratory tuberculosis
- member of an at risk group (for example, the Traveller community)

1 in 8 newborns will be eligible for vaccination



Implementation



boost TB control



public awareness campaign



non-discriminatory



staff training for health professionals