

Table 1 Number of pulmonary tuberculosis laboratory tests performed and number of patients evaluated for PTB, Malatya, 2017–2021

Item/ characteristic	Pre-pandemic year			Pandemic year	P-value
	2017	2018	2019	2020–2021	
Age (years): median (min–max), IQR	54 (0–95), 51.5	56 (0–96), 52	55 (0–95), 51	52 (0–92), 51	0.262 ^a
	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)	No. (%)	
TB tests performed for PTB	1884 (27.2)	2136 (30.9)	1864 (27.0)	1031 (14.9)	0.001 ^b
Patients tested for PTB	875 (29.5)	840 (28.3)	757 (25.5)	498 (16.8)	
Sex					
Female	363 (41.5)	340 (40.4)	305 (40.3)	171 (34.3)	0.061 ^c
Male	512 (58.5)	500 (59.5)	452 (59.7)	327 (65.6)	
Patients diagnosed with PTB	67 (26.6)	62 (24.6)	71 (28.2)	52 (20.6)	0.361 ^b
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)	
TB test sets per patient ^d	1.97 (1.34)	2.32 (1.52)	2.2 (1.40)	1.73 (1.26)	0.001 ^a
	No./100 000	No./100 000	No./100 000	No./100 000	
Regional PTB case notification rate ^e	8.53	7.85	8.94	6.51	0.317 ^b

IQR = interquartile range. AFB = acid-fast bacilli. SD = standard deviation. ^aKruskal–Wallis H test. ^bOne-sample chi-square test. ^cPearson chi-square test. ^dTB test set included AFB microscopy+TB culture±TB-PCR. This parameter was calculated according to the TB test set performed for diagnostic purposes by excluding the TB tests performed after diagnosis (i.e. tests for follow up the treatment effectiveness). ^eAnnual population size in the province was obtained from the Turkish Statistics Institution.