

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

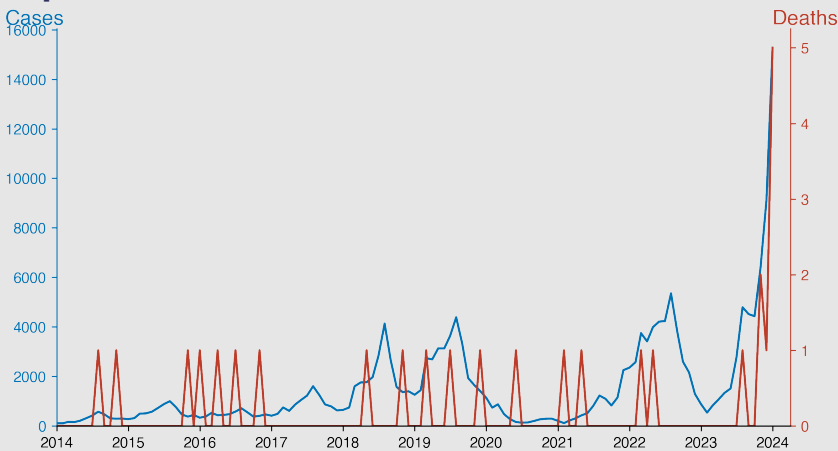
Pertussis

January 2024

Introduction

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious respiratory infection caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. It's characterized by severe coughing spells that can result in a "whooping" sound when the person breathes in. While it can affect individuals of any age, it's particularly dangerous for infants and young children. Vaccination has significantly reduced its incidence, but outbreaks still occur, mainly affecting those not fully vaccinated. Early symptoms resemble a common cold, progressing to more severe coughing episodes. Treatment often involves antibiotics to prevent the spread of the infection.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Pertussis cases in China have shown a significant upward trend, peaking at 15,275 cases with 5 deaths in January 2024.
- After a brief decline in cases during 2020, likely due to pandemic-related measures, there has been a consistent increase in cases and fatalities from 2021 onwards.
- The highest number of deaths in a single month was reported in January 2024, indicating a concerning escalation in both incidence and severity of the disease.
- This data highlights the urgent need for enhanced surveillance, vaccination, and public health interventions to address the rising trend of Pertussis in the Chinese mainland.

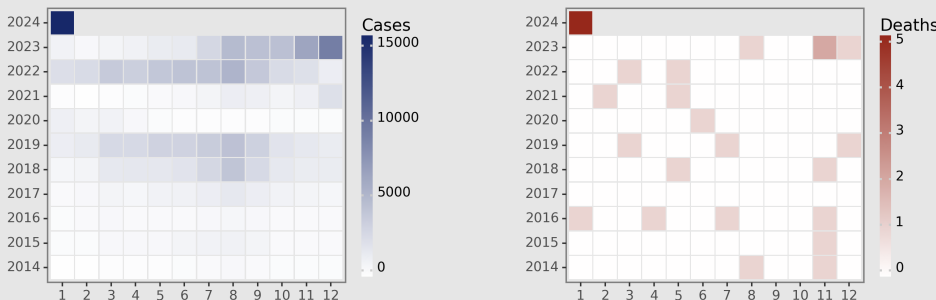
Cases Analysis

The data reveals a significant upward trend in Pertussis cases in China from 2014 to 2024, with seasonal peaks often observed in the latter half of each year. Initially, cases were relatively low, with a few hundred cases per month. However, a marked increase is noted from 2017 onwards, peaking dramatically in January 2024 with 15,275 cases. This trend suggests a worsening outbreak, potentially exacerbated by factors such as decreased herd immunity, lapses in vaccination coverage, or changes in pathogen virulence.

Deaths Analysis

The reported deaths due to Pertussis in the same period are notably low, with a total of 17 deaths over a decade, despite the substantial increase in cases. This low mortality rate could reflect improvements in healthcare access, early detection, and effective treatment of cases. However, the slight increase in deaths in recent months, especially January 2024 with five deaths, underscores the need for continued vigilance, improved vaccination efforts, and targeted public health interventions to prevent fatalities associated with Pertussis.

Distribution



CNIDs

Free, Lightweight, Open-source,
Smart Surveillance for
Chinese Infectious Diseases

Version: 2024-03-04 (UTC+)