

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

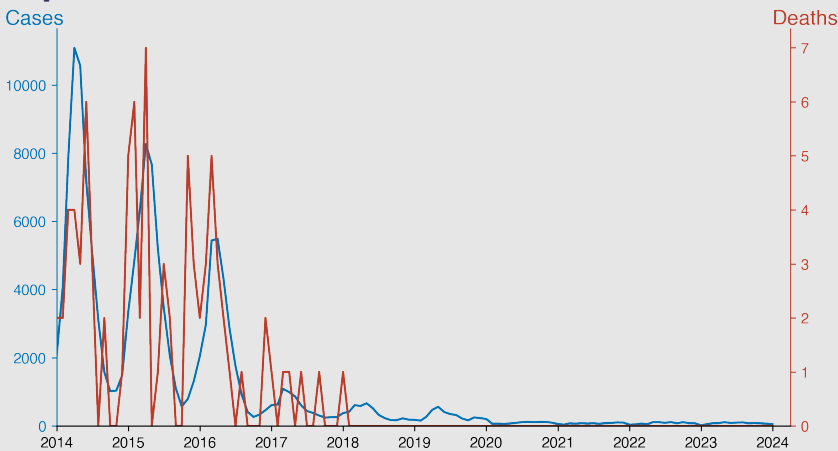
Measles

January 2024

Introduction

Measles is a highly contagious viral infection, marked by symptoms that include high fever, cough, runny nose, red eyes, and a distinctive rash. The virus spreads through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Measles can lead to serious complications, especially in children under 5 and adults over 20, such as pneumonia, encephalitis, and blindness. Vaccination is highly effective in preventing measles. Despite global vaccination efforts, measles remains a significant public health challenge, particularly in areas with low vaccination coverage.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Significant decline in measles cases from a peak in 2014 to a consistent low by January 2024, illustrating effective control measures.
- The mortality rate dropped to zero from 2020 onwards, indicating improved clinical management and possibly higher vaccination coverage.
- A noticeable trend towards stabilization of cases in the low double digits in recent years, suggesting sustained transmission at lower levels.
- Despite fluctuations, the general trajectory shows successful measles suppression, highlighting the effectiveness of public health interventions in China.

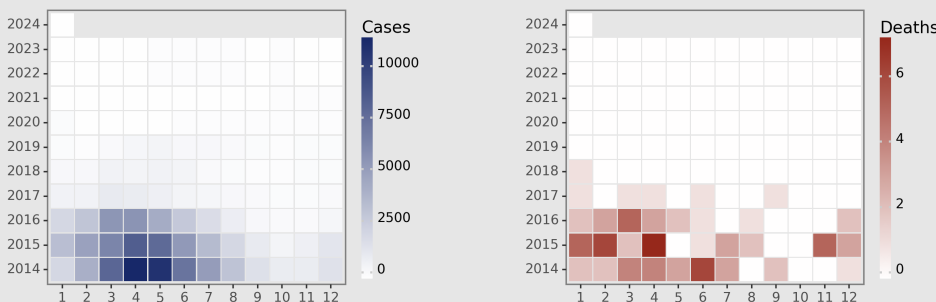
Cases Analysis

The data indicates a significant decline in measles cases in the Chinese mainland from a peak of 11,089 in April 2014 to just 51 cases by January 2024. This dramatic decrease can be attributed to effective vaccination programs and public health initiatives. Initially, cases fluctuated, reflecting outbreaks and subsequent control measures. However, from 2020 onwards, there's a consistent low level of reported cases, likely due to enhanced vaccination coverage and possibly the impact of broader infectious disease control measures implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Deaths Analysis

The reported deaths due to measles saw a reduction to zero from August 2014 onwards, with occasional fluctuations in the earlier years. Notably, deaths were only recorded until February 2016, after which no deaths were reported. The initial period (2014-2016) showed a correlation between the number of cases and deaths, albeit the fatality rate was low. The complete cessation of reported deaths from March 2016 onwards highlights the effectiveness of the healthcare response in managing and preventing complications arising from measles, likely reflecting advancements in medical treatment, increased immunization rates, and stronger surveillance systems.

Distribution



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