

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

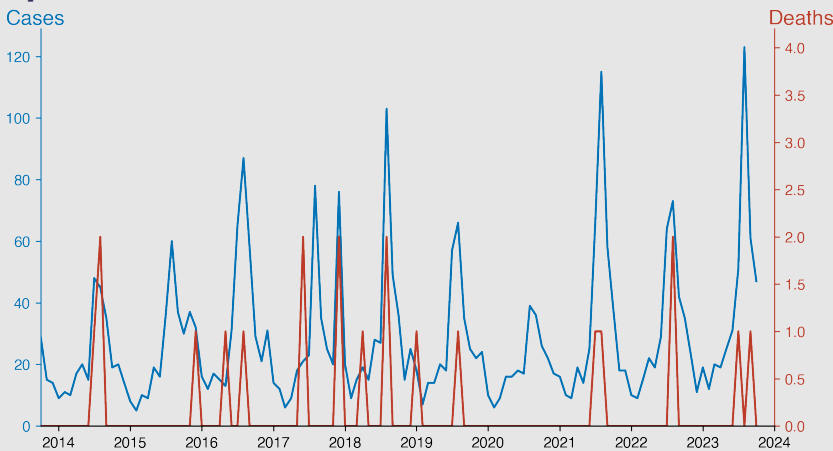
Anthrax

October 2023

Introduction

Anthrax is a serious infectious disease caused by the spore-forming bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*. It primarily affects livestock and wild game, but can also infect humans when they are exposed to the bacteria through direct contact with infected animals or contaminated animal products, inhalation of spores, or ingestion. In humans, anthrax presents in various forms: cutaneous, inhalation, gastrointestinal, and injectional, each with different symptoms. This disease is not contagious person-to-person. Effective vaccines and antibiotics are available for treatment and prevention. If left untreated, anthrax can be fatal.

Temporal Trend



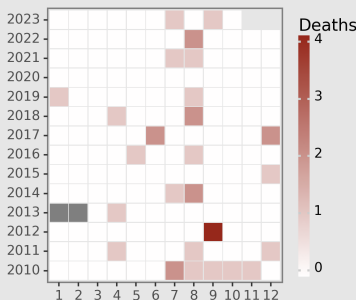
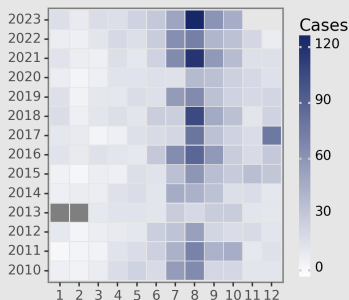
Cases Analysis

The anthrax case data from mainland China between January 2010 and October 2023 shows seasonal variation with a higher incidence in the summer months, especially from June to August. The year 2018 had the highest reported cases with 103 in August, suggesting possible outbreaks. Over the years, there is a slight increasing trend in case numbers, indicating either improved surveillance and reporting, or environmental factors contributing to more frequent transmission from animal to human hosts, pointing to potential occupational or agricultural exposure risks that require ongoing monitoring and intervention.

Deaths Analysis

The death count from anthrax from 2010 to 2023 indicates low fatality rates with 0 to 4 deaths reported per occurrence, the higher mortality observed in September 2012. Despite an upward trend in cases in some years, deaths have remained relatively stable. This stability suggests effective clinical interventions and timely treatment for infected individuals. Seasonal spikes in mortality align with higher case reports, underscoring the importance of heightened vigilance and rapid response during peak transmission periods. Continued efforts in prevention, early detection, and treatment are essential to maintain or reduce these mortality rates.

Distribution



CNIDs

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