

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

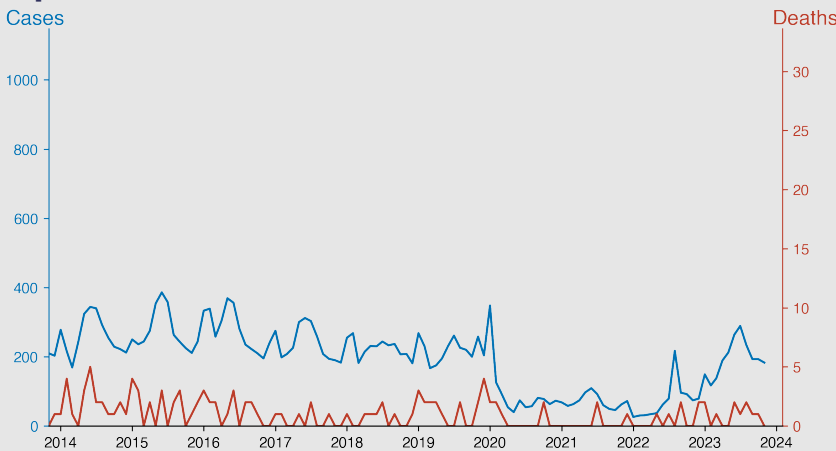
Malaria

November 2023

Introduction

Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female *Anopheles* mosquitoes. This disease is most commonly widespread in subtropical and tropical countries. Four types of malaria parasites infect humans: *Plasmodium falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale*, and *P. malariae*; with *P. falciparum* being the most dangerous. Malaria symptoms occur 10-15 days after the infective bite and include fever, fatigue, vomiting, headaches, and in severe cases, can lead to seizures, mental confusion, kidney failure, or death.

Temporal Trend



Highlights

- Malaria cases in mainland China have shown a remarkable decline from a peak in 2010, with fluctuations in case numbers but a general decreasing trend over the years.
- The death toll associated with malaria has also decreased significantly, with many months reporting zero deaths, particularly noticeable from 2020 onwards.
- A notable surge in cases occurred in August 2022, but this did not result in any reported deaths, indicating possible improvements in detection and treatment efficacy.
- As of November 2023, the number of malaria cases (183) and deaths (0) indicate a well-controlled situation, suggesting effective public health measures and interventions are in place.

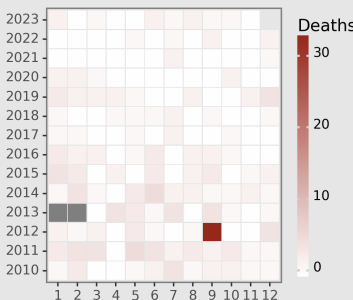
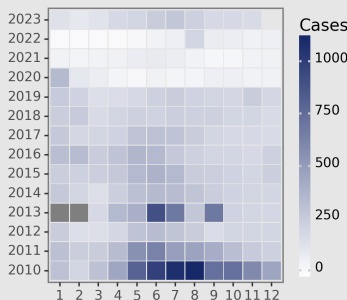
Cases Analysis

The malaria case count in the Chinese mainland shows a transitional pattern with an overall decline from 2010 to 2023. The peak in 2010 with 1,094 cases in August reflects a high transmission period, which gradually reduces over the years. Notable is the dramatic drop in 2020, coinciding with the COVID-19 outbreak, which may have impacted malaria reporting or transmission dynamics. The modest upsurge in 2022, with 217 cases in August, indicates periodic fluctuations, while overall, the data suggests effective control measures decreasing transmission over the studied period.

Deaths Analysis

Malaria-associated mortality in the Chinese mainland appears low and sporadic from 2010 to 2023. Annual death tolls remained in single digits, with an unexpected jump to 32 deaths in September 2012. Thereafter, deaths returned to previously observed levels. The zero-death streaks in the years following 2020 suggest possible improved healthcare interventions or underreporting during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the occasional upswing, like the 2 deaths in December 2022, the data indicates a successful reduction in malaria-related fatalities over the years.

Distribution



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Version: 2024-01-04 (UTC+)

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