

Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

Dengue

March 2024

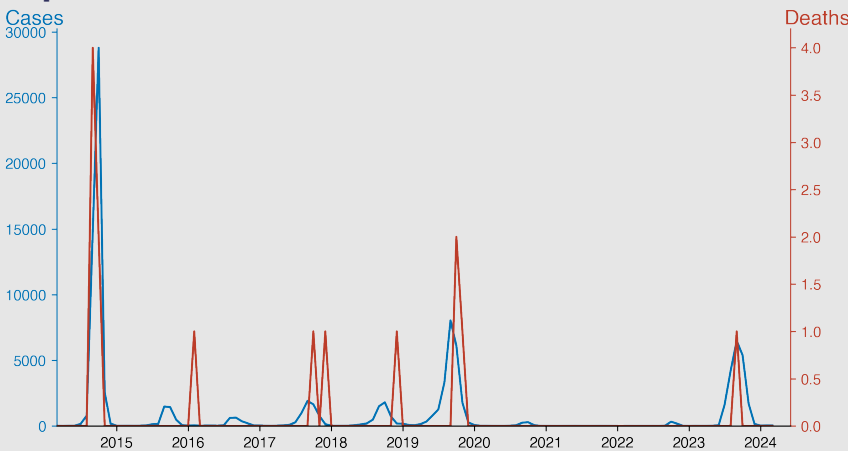
Introduction

Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral disease widely spread in tropical and subtropical regions. It is caused by the dengue virus, which is transmitted to humans by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Common symptoms include high fever, severe headache, joint and muscle pain, rash, and mild bleeding. Severe dengue, also known as dengue hemorrhagic fever, may lead to shock, organ failure, and death if not promptly treated. There is no specific treatment but early detection and access to proper medical care can reduce fatality rates.

Highlights

- There are clear seasonal trends in Dengue cases, cases tend to peak around September/October and plummet during the winter months.
- A drastic reduction of Dengue cases was notable from 2020 until 2022, however, a resurgence in 2023 with a peak higher than previous years indicates Dengue is still a potential health threat.
- The fatality rate is extremely low and sporadic, indicating successful management of severe cases.
- As of March 2024, there are 38 confirmed cases and no deaths, a situation significantly better than September 2023, which saw the peak number of cases.

Temporal Trend



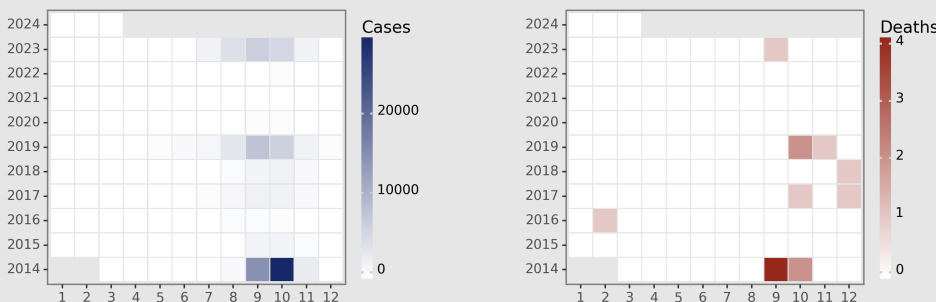
Cases Analysis

Dengue cases in the Chinese mainland followed a recognizable pattern across the observed years. Case numbers were relatively low from January to June, usually in the double digits. However, a surge occurred from July to October, indicating a seasonal pattern. The peak of the surge varied between years, with the highest seen in October 2014 at 28,796 cases. After this peak, case numbers reduced significantly in the colder months. From 2020 onwards, the seasonal surge diminished drastically, with case numbers remaining under 300, even at the height of the surge.

Deaths Analysis

Despite the high number of cases, Dengue in the Chinese Mainland had a relatively low mortality rate from 2014 to 2024. Deaths remained at zero in nearly all reported months, with maximum monthly fatalities never surpassing 4, as depicted in September 2014. Nonetheless, sporadic deaths were reported in October 2014, February 2016, October and December 2017, and December 2018, indicating marginal lethality. Interestingly, no fatality was reported throughout the significant decrease in cases from 2020 to early 2022. From 2022 onwards, the pattern of scarce fatalities persisted, though the lethal incidence in September 2023 requires attention.

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