Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

Measles

March 2024

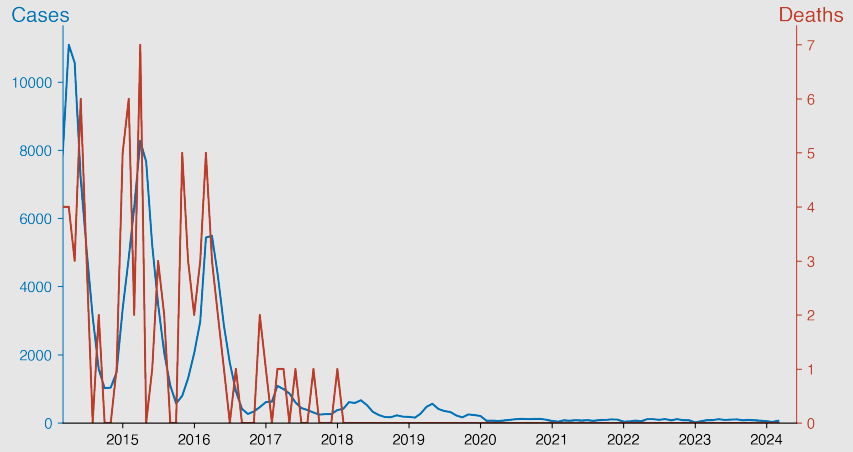
Introduction

Measles is a highly contagious viral disease, primarily affecting children. It is transmitted through droplets from the nose, mouth or throat of infected persons. Initial symptoms include high fever, runny nose, bloodshot eyes, and tiny white spots in the mouth. A rash then develops, spreading from the face to the whole body. Complications can include blindness, encephalitis, pneumonia, and death. Despite availability of a safe and cost-effective vaccine, it remains a significant cause of mortality globally, particularly in developing regions.

Highlights

- Significant decline in Measles cases in the Chinese mainland from 7864 in March 2014 to 66 in March 2024.
- Deaths are extremely low compared to cases, with a peak of 7 in April 2015 and zero deaths from 2020 onwards.
- Data indicates a seasonal trend with higher case counts in the first half of the year.
- Overall, the data suggests a successful reduction in Measles prevalence and mortality in the Chinese mainland over a decade.

Temporal Trend



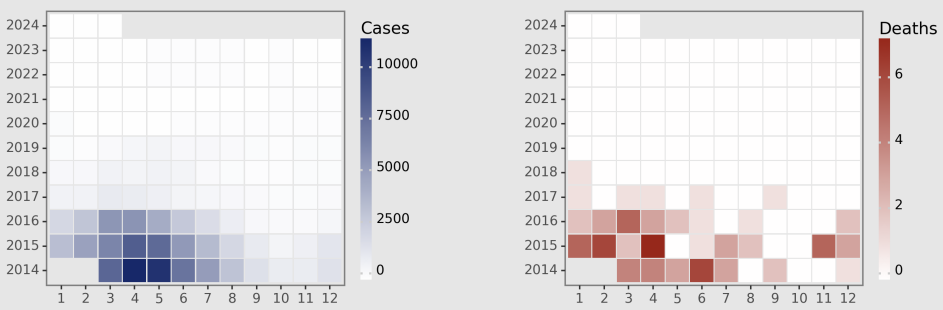
Cases Analysis

The data depicts a steady and significant decline in measles case prevalence from 2014 to 2024 in mainland China. A peak of 11,089 cases was reported in April 2014, swiftly decreasing to lower four-figure values by the end of 2015. After 2016, cases fell into the three figures, and since 2020, two-figure monthly totals have become the norm. This could be attributed to successful immunization programs, increased public awareness, and overall improvement in healthcare infrastructure.

Deaths Analysis

Relative to the number of reported cases, the death count oscillates on a low scale between 0 and 7 throughout the given period with no clear trend indicating an increase or decrease in deaths. However, it's worth noting that from August 2016 through to the end of the data in March 2024, the number of deaths is predominantly nil despite the oscillating case numbers, which is a positive indicator of improved treatment and management of the disease. The highest number of deaths occurred in April 2015 with a data point of 7 deaths.

Distribution



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Version: 2024-04-24 (UTC+)

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