

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

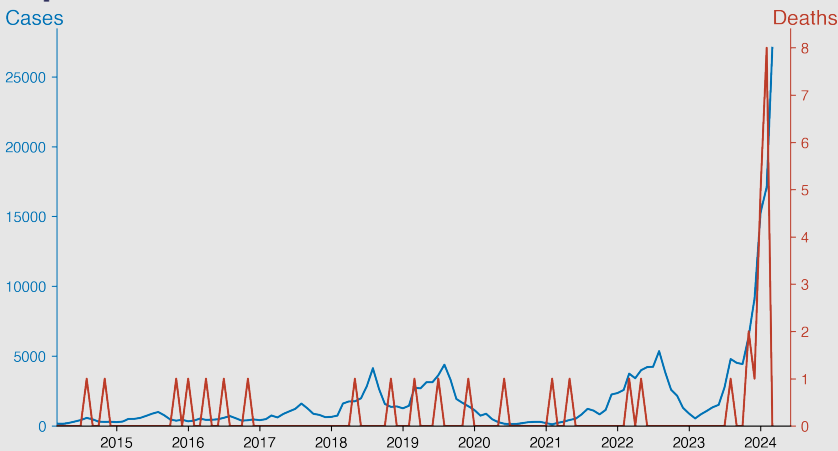
## Pertussis

March 2024

### Introduction

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. It is characterized by severe coughing spells that end in a "whooping" sound when the person breathes in. Infants and young children are most at risk. Transmission occurs through respiratory droplets from close contact with an infected person. Vaccination, typically via the DTaP or Tdap vaccines, is the primary preventative measure. Despite a reduction in pertussis cases following vaccine introduction, outbreaks continue to occur.

### Temporal Trend



### Highlights

- An increasing trend in the number of Pertussis cases in the Chinese mainland is evident, with peaks observed in 2024, specifically in February and March with 17105 and 27078 cases respectively.
- Fatality remains low despite the rising incidence, but increased to 5 and 8 deaths in January and February 2024, suggesting a slight increase in disease severity.
- Significant drop in cases was observed in 2020 with a slow increase in cases beginning from July 2021, which suggests a potential cyclic nature of this disease.
- Overall, pertussis seems to be highly endemic, and the recent surge in 2024 warrants immediate intervention.

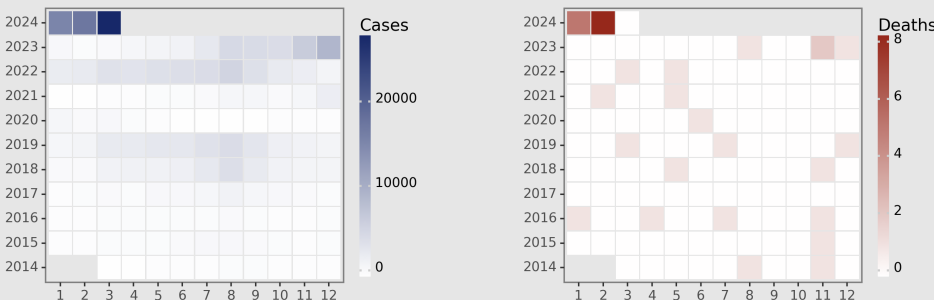
### Cases Analysis

Pertussis cases in the Chinese mainland displayed an increasing trend from 2014 to 2024. Cases started with a slight uptick between 164 to 298 in 2014. Then, a substantial surge was recorded from 2015 to 2018. Yet, the largest jumps occurred from 2018 to 2024, with cases exceeding 10,000 from December 2023 and reaching its peak at 27,078 on March 2024. The rising number suggests a serious outbreak.

### Deaths Analysis

Death count due to Pertussis in China's mainland over this period was remarkably low given the large number of cases. The data suggests a noteworthy predominance of cases over deaths, indicating effective management and treatment for the majority of those affected. It is vital to highlight that the highest mortality, 8 deaths, corresponded with the significant increase in cases in February 2024. However, for a majority of the months within this ten-year period, the death count remained at 0 or 1. The low mortality rate demonstrates a robust medical response in treating this disease.

### Distribution



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