

Washington State Annual Pertussis Summary, 2024 Preliminary Data

Washington State Department of Health

05/29/2025

This report provides a summary of all confirmed and probable pertussis cases with illness onset during calendar year 2024. The case data were received by local health jurisdictions (LHJs) and reported to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) – Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology. As 2024 data are still being finalized, this report serves as a **preliminary summary** and may be subject to change.

A total of 2,261 confirmed and probable pertussis cases were reported statewide in 2024, representing a substantial 25-fold increase compared to the 87 cases reported in 2023. The comparison between 2023 and 2024 is primarily based on symptom onset dates. For data from previous years, please refer to the DOH [Communicable Disease Annual Reports](#) or the [Annual Pertussis Reports](#).

Figure 1: Number of Pertussis Cases Reported in Washington State by Week of Symptom Onset: 2023 (blue) vs 2024 (red)

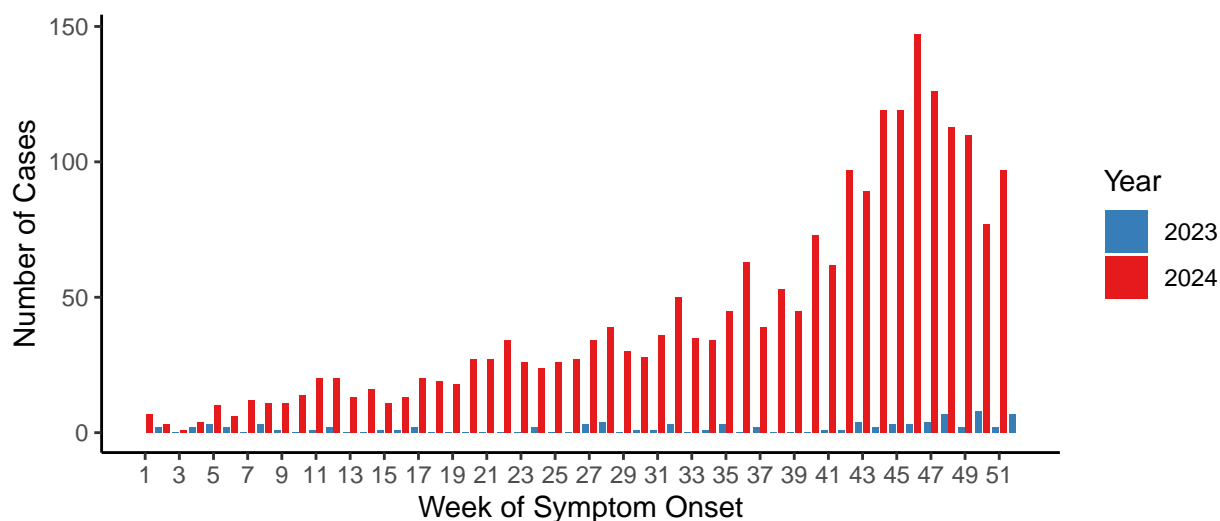


Figure 2: WA State Pertussis Cases Reported by Month and Year (black) with Projected Baseline and Epidemic Thresholds (red dashed lines), 2014 through 2024¹.

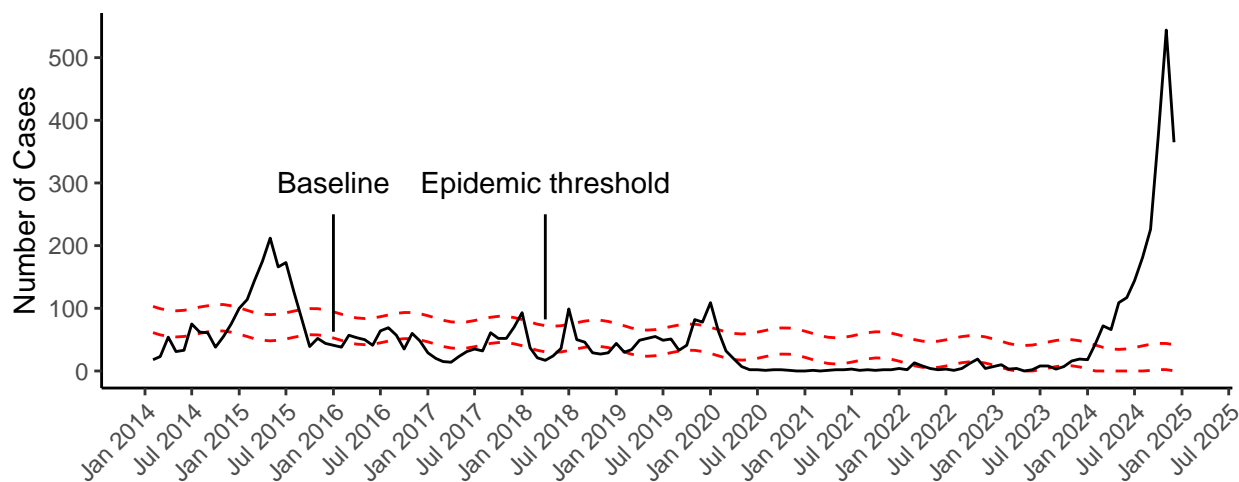


Table 1: WA State Pertussis Cases, Rates, and Percentage of Cases by Age Group, 2024 (preliminary data)

Age Group	OFM 2023 Population	Number of Cases	Rate per 100,000 persons	% of cases by age group*
< 1	82,255	191	232.2	8
1 - 4	348,258	408	117.2	18
5 - 9	466,940	373	79.9	16
10 - 13	397,192	264	66.5	12
14 - 18	497,827	597	119.9	26
19 - 24	605,359	176	29.1	8
25 - 44	2,265,779	155	6.8	7
45 - 64	1,895,532	69	3.6	3
65+	1,391,963	28	2.0	1
All ages	7,951,105	2,261	28.4	100

**Due to rounding, percentages may not always add up to 100%*

In 2024, the overall annual incidence rate of pertussis in Washington State was 28.4 cases per 100,000 population. The incidence among infants under 12 months of age was substantially higher, at 232.2 cases per 100,000 (Table 1), reflecting their increased vulnerability to severe disease outcomes.

Among the 191 infant pertussis cases reported in 2024, 165 (86%) were old enough to have received at least one dose of a pertussis-containing vaccine. Of those, 38 infants (23%) had received at least one dose prior to illness onset.

The report continues on the next page.

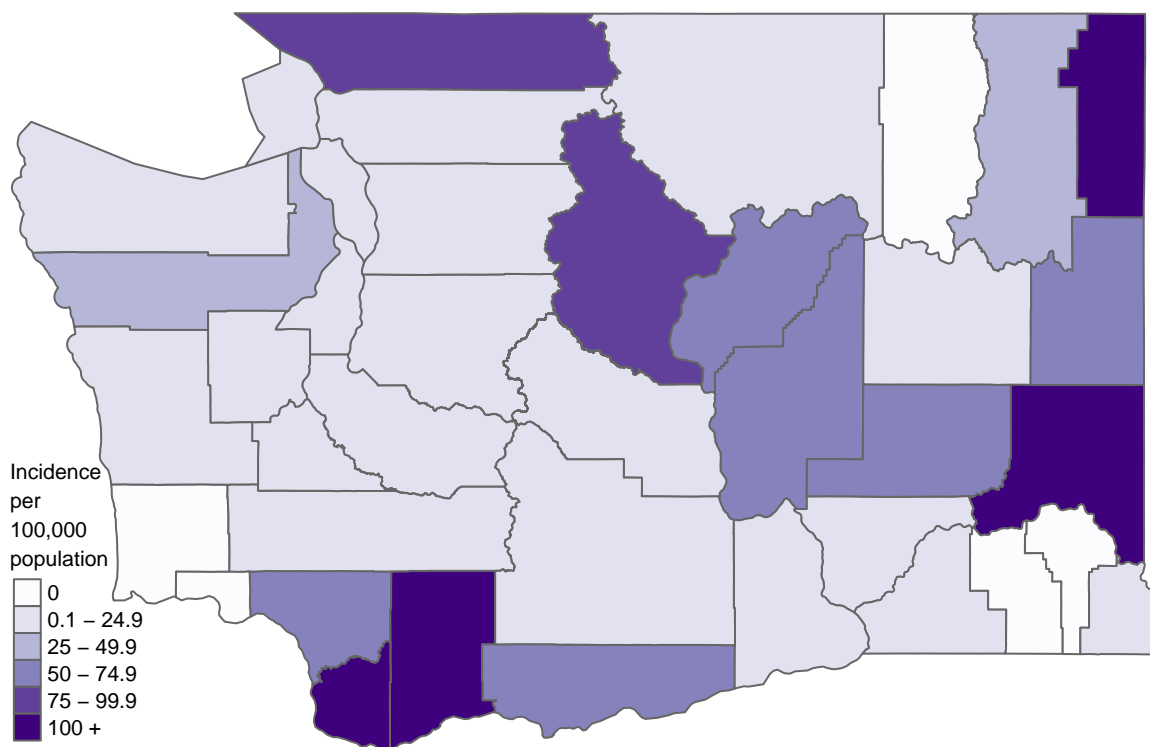
Table 2: WA State Pertussis Cases and Rate by County, 2024 (preliminary data)

County	Number of Cases	OFM 2023 Population	Rate per 100,000 persons
Clark	619	527,400	117.4
Spokane	331	554,601	59.7
King	262	2,347,799	11.2
Whatcom	188	235,800	79.7
Snohomish	164	859,802	19.1
Pierce	120	946,298	12.7
Whitman	90	48,098	187.1
Cowlitz	73	113,002	64.6
Grant	67	103,304	64.9
Chelan	63	81,498	77.3
Yakima	39	261,194	14.9
Thurston	31	303,396	10.2
Pend Oreille	25	13,720	182.2
Douglas	24	44,502	53.9
Skagit	18	131,997	13.6
Stevens	15	47,350	31.7
Kitsap	14	283,200	4.9
Adams	13	21,202	61.3
Klickitat	13	23,250	55.9
Benton	12	215,497	5.6
Lewis	12	84,075	14.3
Skamania	12	12,003	100.0
Jefferson	10	33,424	29.9
Clallam	9	78,073	11.5
Franklin	8	101,100	7.9
Island	6	88,145	6.8
Okanogan	6	42,997	14.0
Kittitas	5	47,299	10.6
Grays Harbor	4	76,997	5.2
Walla Walla	4	63,094	6.3
Asotin	1	22,651	4.4
Lincoln	1	11,126	9.0
Mason	1	66,998	1.5
San Juan	1	18,345	5.5

In 2024, pertussis cases were reported in 34 of the 39 Washington counties. County-level case counts ranged from 1 to 619, with corresponding annual incidence rates varying from 1.5 to 187.1 cases per 100,000 population (Table 2).

- The median county-level incidence rate among counties reporting pertussis activity was 14.2 cases per 100,000 persons, while the mean was 39.8 cases per 100,000 persons.
- Five counties reported no pertussis cases during 2024.

Figure 3: Cumulative Annual Pertussis Incidence Rates by County, 2024 (preliminary data)



1. Pelat C, Boëlle PY, Cowling BJ, Carrat F, Flahault A, Ansart S, Valleron AJ. Online detection and quantification of epidemics. *BMC Med Inform Decis Mak.* 2007 Oct 15 ; 729 – software available at <https://periodic.sentiweb.fr/>

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