

# **Pertussis Update: Epidemic 2010**

**San Diego Immunization Branch**

*A UCSD Contract of the  
County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency  
Epidemiology & Immunization Services*



# What is Pertussis?

- A contagious disease spread by cough droplets also known as “whooping cough”
- Causes a persistent cough that can last about 3 months
- Children make a “whoop” sound as they breathe in after a cough attack
- Cough can cause vomiting, broken ribs, difficulty breathing, eating or sleeping
- Can cause death, especially in babies under 1 year

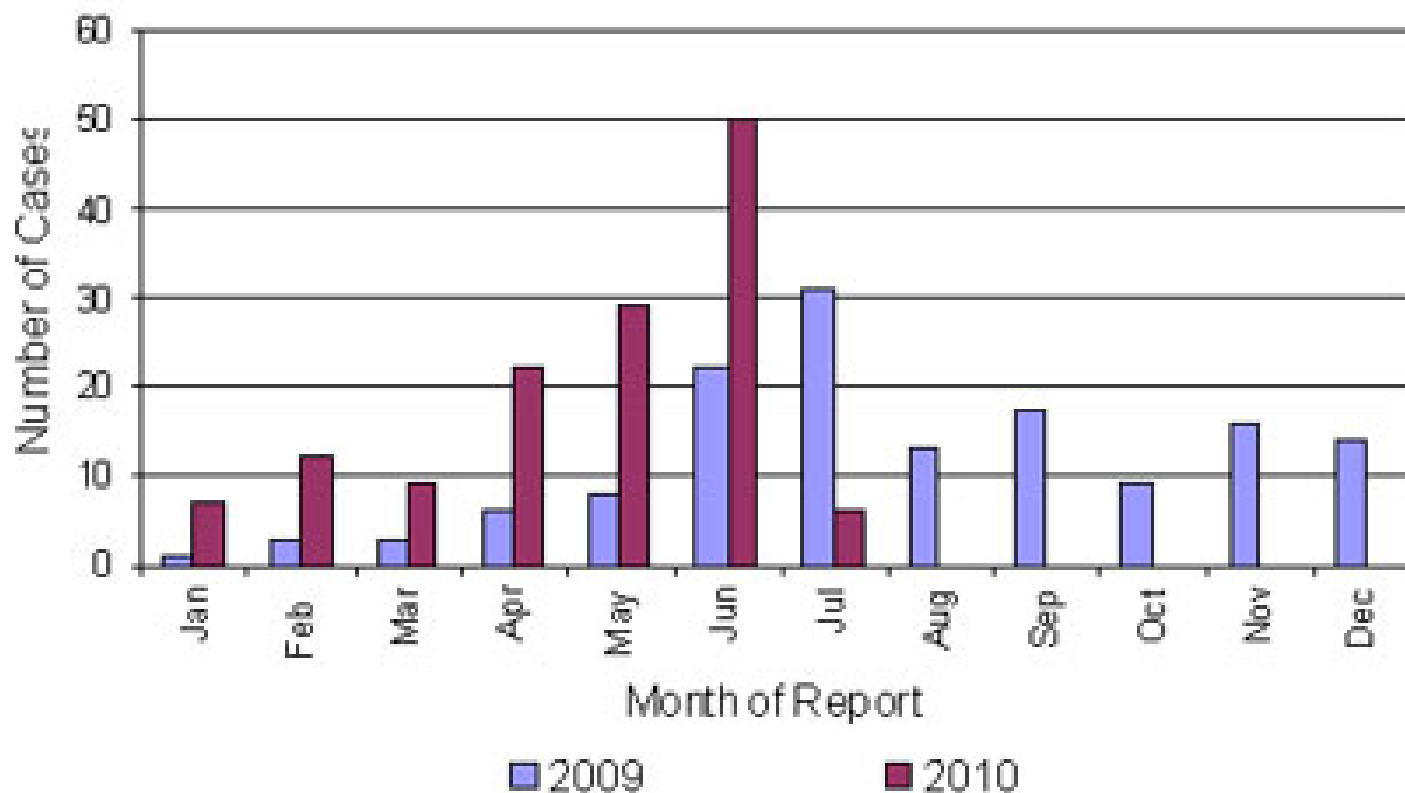


## Child with Pertussis (Whooping Cough)



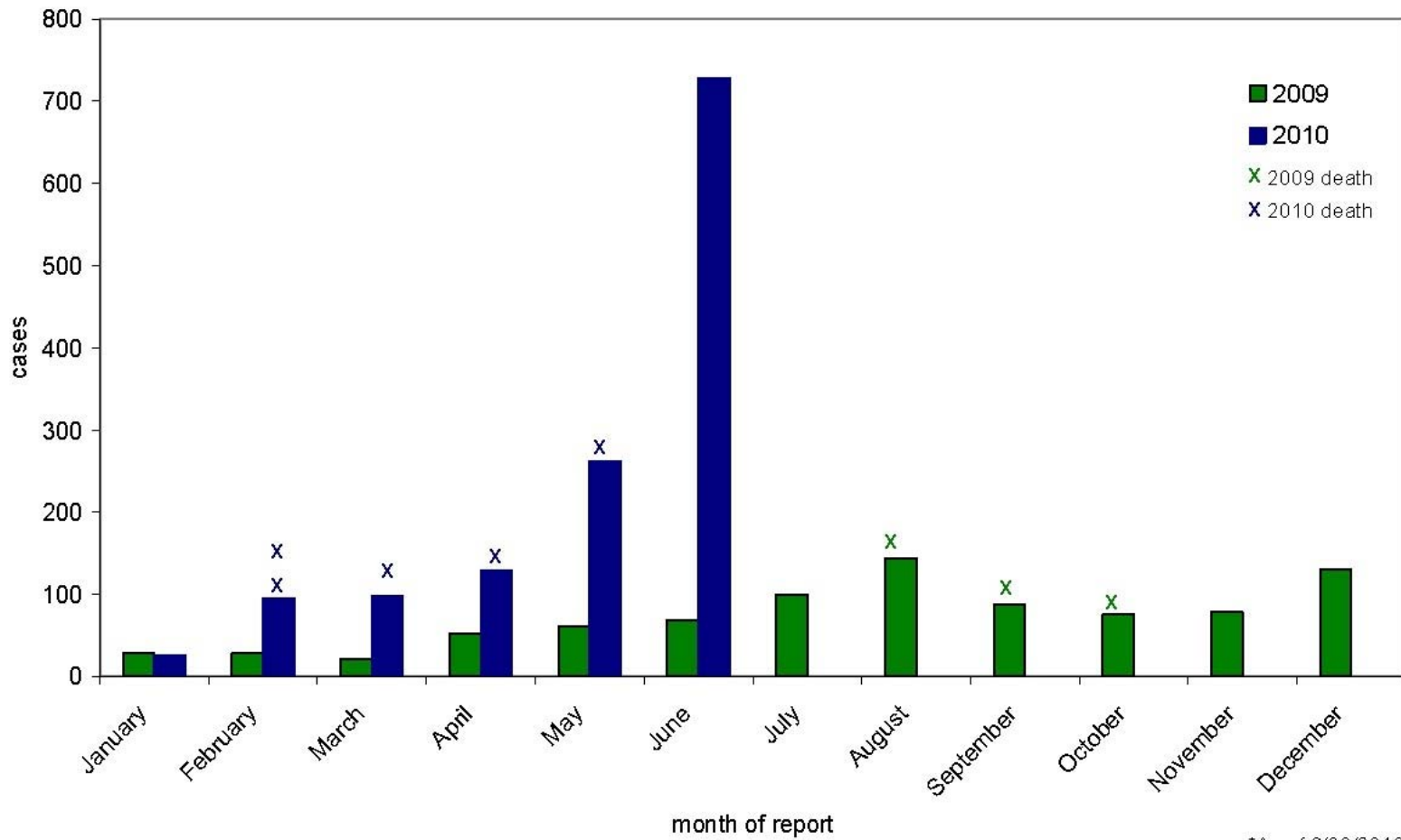
# Pertussis is Epidemic!

County of San Diego Pertussis Cases by Month Reported, 2009 and 2010 (YTD)



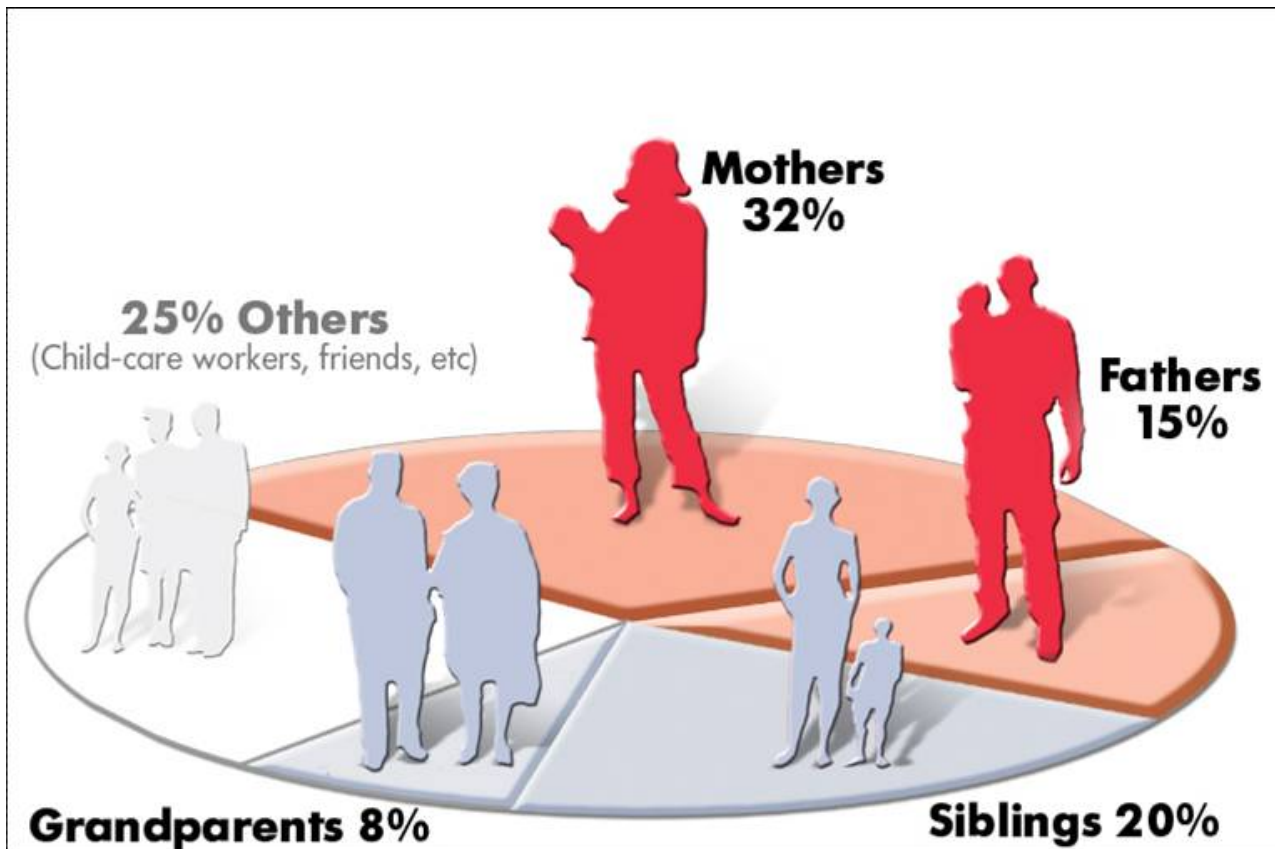
# Pertussis is Epidemic!

**Figure 1. Epidemic curve of pertussis cases by month of report and pertussis deaths by month of onset -- California, 2009-2010\***



\*As of 6/30/2010

# How Is It Spread?





## Standard Tdap/DTaP Recommendations

- DTaP for children at 2, 4, 6, & 15-18 months with a booster at 4-6 years
- Tdap for adolescents at 11-17 years
- Tdap for adults 18-64 years
- Tdap for all household contacts & caregivers of infants; especially post-partum mothers

*Tdap should replace one dose of Td (or tetanus)*



# Expanded Tdap Recommendations

*California Department of Public Health supports legal “off-label” uses of Tdap:*

- Children 7-9 years old not up-to-date with their DTap series
- Pregnant women
- Adults 65 years old and older

*No minimum interval necessary between Td and Tdap vaccines*



# Where do I get Tdap? How much does it cost?

- Private Doctors
- Pharmacies: Teens & Adults
- Community Clinics
- Public Health Centers: Children & teens  $\leq 18$  & high risk adults

*The cost of Tdap varies and many insurance plans cover the cost of the vaccine: check with your insurance & medical provider*



# Resources

- San Diego Immunization Branch:  
[www.sdiz.org](http://www.sdiz.org), 1-866-358-2966
- California Department of Public Health:  
[www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)
- California Vaccines For Children (VFC)  
Program: [www.eziz.org](http://www.eziz.org)