

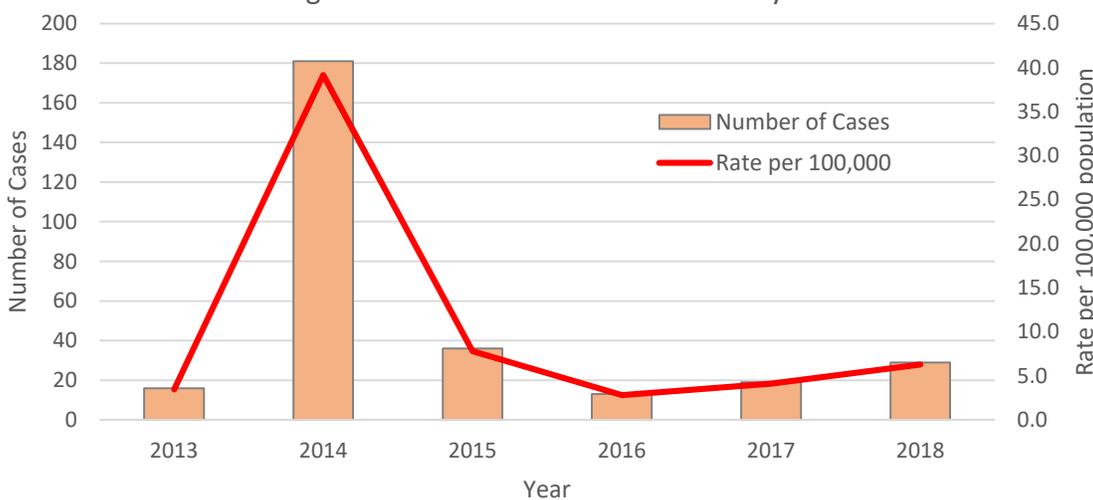
# City of Long Beach Pertussis Report, 2014-2018

## Description and Overview

Pertussis, also known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by the bacteria *Bordetella pertussis*. Pertussis causes uncontrollable, violent coughing which makes it hard to breathe. It can affect people of all ages but can be very serious for babies less than a year old. Best way to prevent pertussis is by getting vaccinated. Pregnant women should get a Tdap booster during each pregnancy to protect newborns from pertussis.

The 5 year average case count in Long Beach from 2014-2018 was approximately 56 cases per year. In 2014, there was an epidemic of pertussis throughout California, and Long Beach had 181 cases. The incidence of pertussis is cyclical with peaks every 3 to 5 years as the number of susceptible persons in the population increases.<sup>1</sup> This report includes suspect, probable, and confirmed cases of pertussis.

Long Beach Pertussis Cases and Rate\* by Year



### 2014-2018 STATS

**N=278**

**56%**  
HISPANIC/LATINO

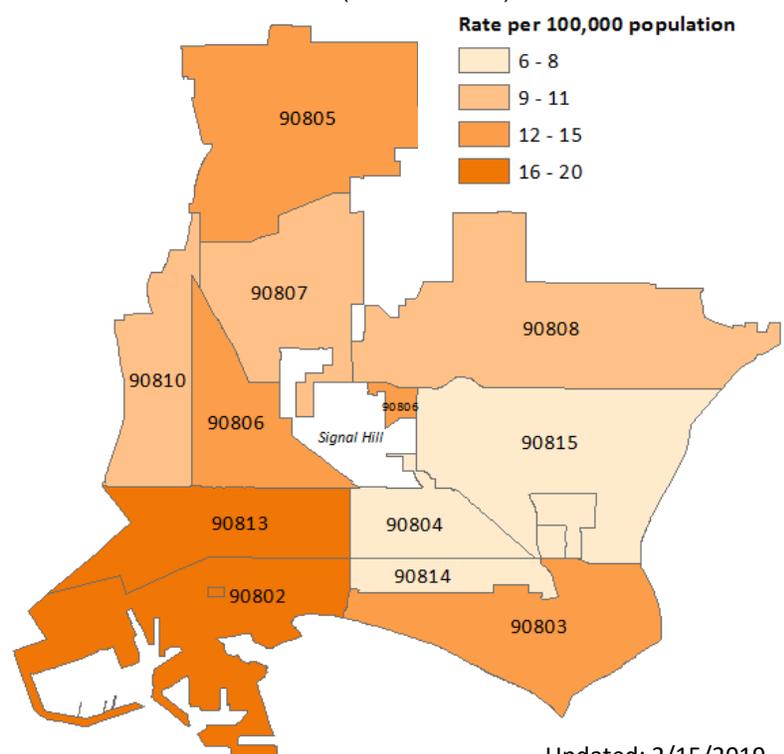
**10.1%**  
HOSPITALIZED

**59%**  
HISTORY OF  
VACCINATION

### Percentage of pediatric (<18 years old) and infant (<12 months) cases per year

Year	<18 years	<12 months
2014 (N=181)	89.0%	11.0%
2015 (N=36)	80.6%	22.2%
2016 (N=13)	69.2%	23.1%
2017 (N=19)	84.2%	21.1%
2018 (N=29)	69.2%	7.7%

Five-Year Average Rate by Zip (2014-2018)



1. Pertussis Epidemic – California, 2014. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR).

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6348a2.htm>

\*Due to small numbers, rates may not be stable and should be interpreted with caution