

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

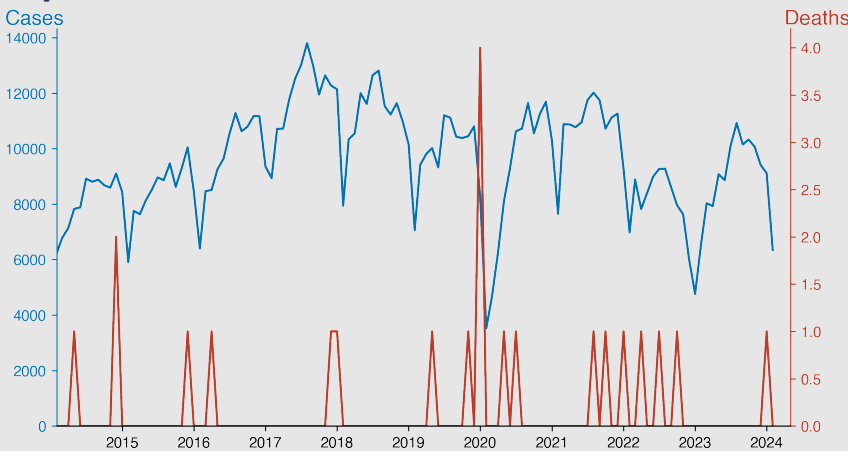
## Gonorrhea

February 2024

### Introduction

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection caused by the bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. It can affect both men and women, targeting moist and warm areas of the body including the urethra, throat, anus, and female reproductive tract. The infection is typically transmitted through sexual contact with an infected individual. Gonorrhea is characterized by symptoms such as painful urination, and abnormal genital discharge, though some infected individuals may remain asymptomatic. If left untreated, gonorrhea can lead to serious health complications, including infertility. It is usually treatable with antibiotics, though antibiotic resistance is a growing concern.

### Temporal Trend



### Highlights

- Gonorrhea cases fluctuated from 2014 to 2024 in the Chinese mainland, with the highest in August 2017 (13,803 cases).
- A general decline is observed post-2017, with the lowest in February 2024 (6,350 cases).
- Sporadic deaths occurred, peaking in January 2020 (four deaths), however, overall death rate is low.
- Despite the decline since 2017, Gonorrhea remains a significant public health issue in the Chinese mainland as of February 2024.

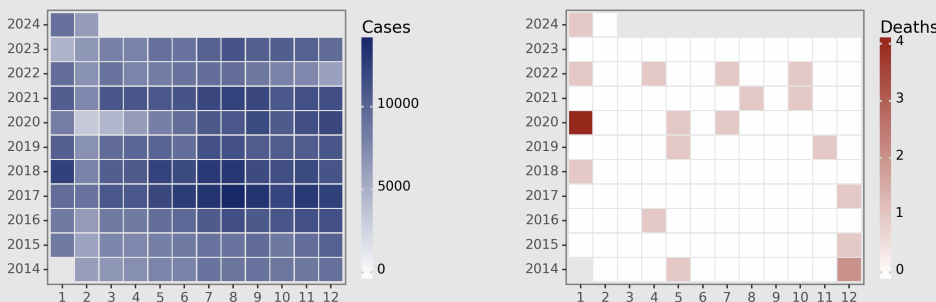
### Cases Analysis

Over a decade (2014-2024), cases of gonorrhea in mainland China displayed a general upward trend, with a notable drop in 2020. The reported cases started at 6238 in February 2014 and peaked at 13803 in August 2017. After a gradual decrease in the following years, there was a significant plunge in cases in early 2020, possibly due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and related social distancing measures. Post-2020, the numbers started to rise again, reaching levels comparable to the pre-2020 years by the end of 2024. Monthly fluctuations, potentially related seasonal variations, were also observed.

### Deaths Analysis

Deaths from gonorrhea in Chinese mainland are extremely rare throughout the observed period, with only 14 deaths reported over ten years. The sporadic nature of these fatalities, with occasional occurrences in May 2014, December 2014, April 2016, December 2017, January and May 2018, November 2019, January 2020, May and July 2020, August and October 2021, January, April, and July 2022, and January 2024, suggests no clear temporal trend. The data indicate that while gonorrhea cases are relatively common, associated mortality is exceptionally infrequent.

### Distribution



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