

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

## Hepatitis B

January 2024

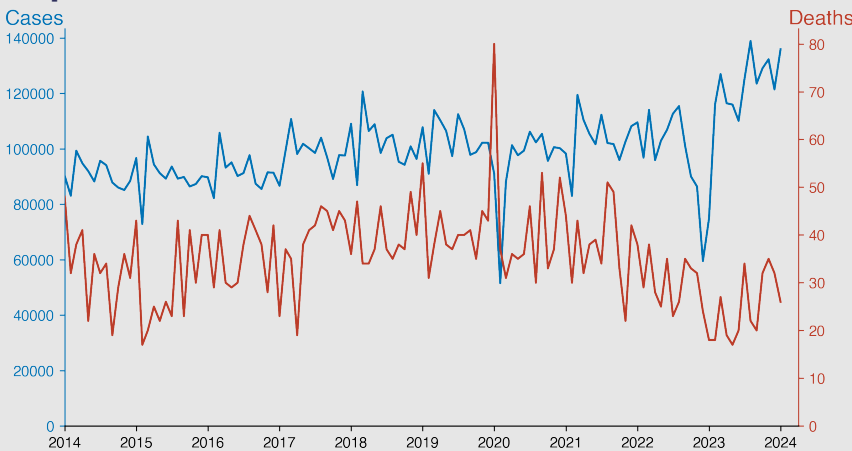
### Introduction

Hepatitis B is a viral infection that attacks the liver and can cause both acute and chronic disease. The virus is transmitted through contact with the blood or other body fluids of an infected person. It is a major global health problem, leading to chronic liver disease and is a risk factor for liver cancer. A vaccine against hepatitis B has been available since 1982. The vaccine is 95% effective in preventing infection and its chronic consequences, making it the first line of defense in controlling the spread of the disease.

### Highlights

- **\*\*Steady Increase in Cases:\*\*** From 2014 to January 2024, Hepatitis B cases in the Chinese mainland show a consistent increase, with peaks in March 2023 (126,932 cases) and January 2024 (135,873 cases), indicating an expanding spread.
- **\*\*Variable Death Rates:\*\*** Despite rising case numbers, death rates fluctuated, peaking at 80 in January 2020, suggesting variations in fatality or advances in treatment.
- **\*\*February 2020 Case Drop:\*\*** A notable decrease in cases occurred in February 2020 (51,506 cases), likely influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **\*\*Recent Highs:\*\*** 2023 data reveals record case numbers, underscoring Hepatitis B as a significant ongoing public health issue.

### Temporal Trend



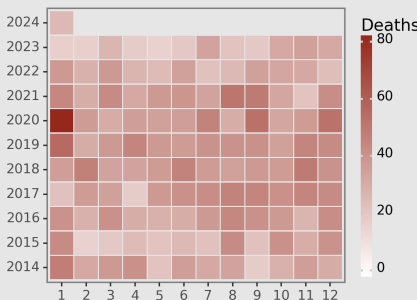
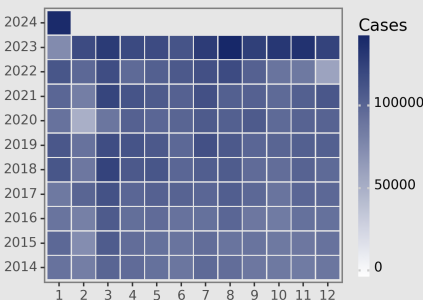
### Cases Analysis

The data shows a fluctuating trend in Hepatitis B cases in the Chinese mainland from 2014 to 2024, with an overall upward trend. Cases initially hovered around 90,000 per month in 2014, with occasional peaks. A notable increase in cases is observed from 2020 onwards, reaching over 100,000 consistently by 2021. The highest recorded cases were in August 2023, with 138,875 cases. This increase could reflect improvements in diagnostic capabilities, increased awareness, or actual increases in Hepatitis B transmission.

### Deaths Analysis

The death toll from Hepatitis B in Chinese mainland shows variability but not a clear increasing or decreasing trend over the years. Deaths per month generally range from 17 to 55, with a notable spike of 80 deaths in January 2020. This outlier aside, the mortality rate appears relatively stable despite the fluctuating case numbers, suggesting improvements in healthcare management and treatment efficacy over the years. The consistently low death rates amidst rising case numbers highlight the importance of continued public health efforts and treatment accessibility.

### Distribution



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