

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

## Hepatitis

March 2024

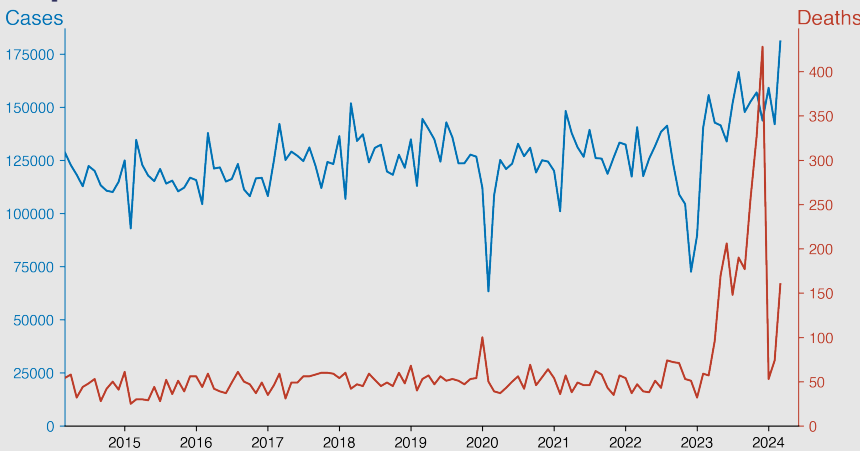
### Introduction

Hepatitis refers to an inflammatory condition of the liver, primarily caused by viral infections but may also result from toxins, drugs, alcohol, or certain non-viral infections. There are five main types of viral hepatitis: A, B, C, D, and E, each caused by a different virus. The most concerning are Hepatitis B and C, leading to chronic diseases in hundreds of millions of people and, together, responsible for most of the liver cancer cases worldwide. Vaccinations are available for Hepatitis A and B while treatments for Hepatitis C can cure most cases.

### Highlights

- There's an increasing trend of Hepatitis cases in the Chinese mainland, with a noticeable peak of 181,006 cases occurring in March 2024.
- The number of deaths also shows a significant rise, reaching an unprecedented high of 428 deaths in December 2023.
- The year 2023 and early 2024 present a worrying trend with both higher case numbers and death rates compared to previous years.
- The data suggests a resurgence of the disease in recent times, warranting the attention of health authorities.

### Temporal Trend



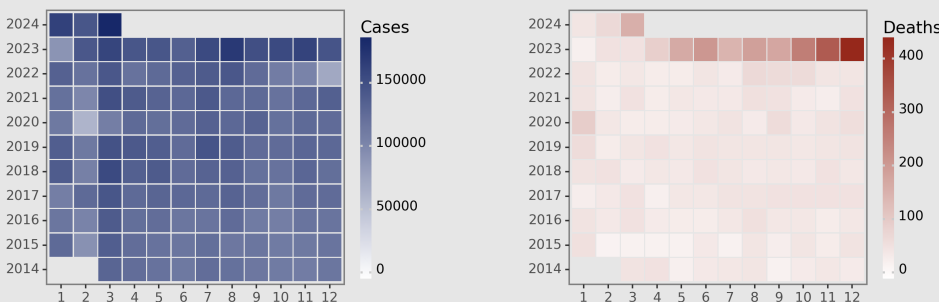
### Cases Analysis

The data clearly indicates an increasing trend in the Hepatitis cases in mainland China over the ten year period from 2014 to 2024. Despite some months showing a decrease, the year-on-year progression is quite distinct. The cases rose from an average of 120,000 cases per month in 2014 to over an average of 150,000 cases per month in 2023. It is also noticeable that peak counts are observed in the months of March and August, suggesting a possible seasonal pattern or an artifact of reporting.

### Deaths Analysis

The reported deaths due to Hepatitis remained relatively low and stable from 2014 to 2019 but started to increase in early 2020, with peaks noted in January and September of the same year. From 2023 onwards, a sharp upward trend in fatalities became apparent, reaching an alarming figure in December 2023. Despite the downtrend in early 2024, the number of deaths remains significantly higher compared to the previous years. This data suggests a growing severity in the outcomes of Hepatitis infection during this period, which warrants an intensified approach for prevention and control.

### Distribution



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