

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

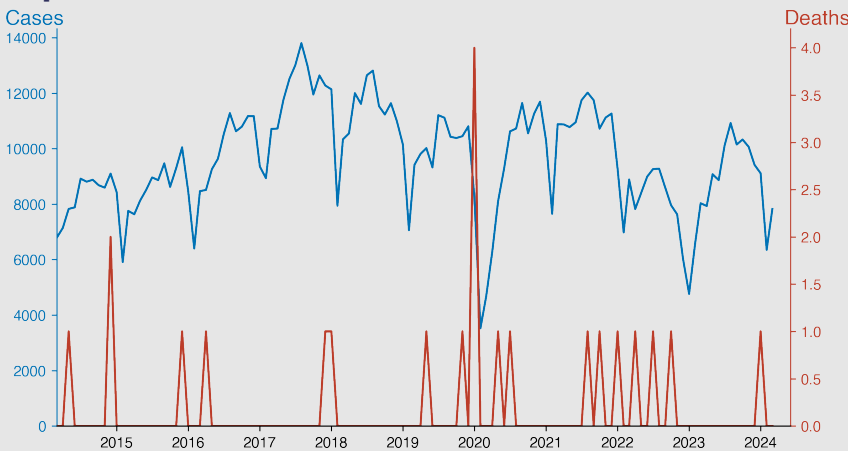
## Gonorrhea

March 2024

### Introduction

Gonorrhea is a sexually transmitted infection caused by the bacterium *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. It can affect both men and women, particularly infecting warm, moist areas of the body such as the urethra, eyes, throat, vagina, anus, and female reproductive tract. The infection often has no symptoms, making it difficult to detect without testing. However, untreated gonorrhea can lead to serious health complications including Pelvic Inflammatory Disease in women and epididymitis in men, both potentially leading to infertility. The disease is preventable and typically treatable with antibiotics.

### Temporal Trend



### Highlights

- An annual pattern is observed in Gonorrhea cases in mainland China, with peaks in summer and troughs in February, from 2014-2024.
- A significant dip in cases in 2020 might be due to lower clinic attendance during the COVID-19 pandemic. Numbers bounced back in 2021.
- Mortality rates remain very low, signaling effective treatments, with monthly numbers varying between 0 and 4 deaths.
- The high case numbers suggest inadequate prevention strategies, possibly due to insufficient sex education and protective measures.

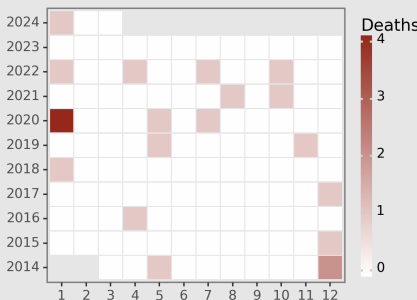
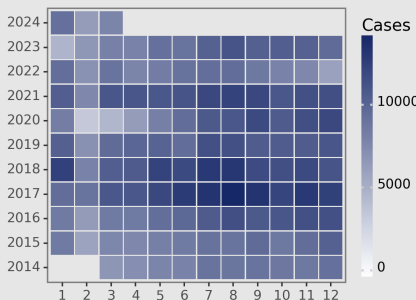
### Cases Analysis

Over the course of the past decade, there has been a consistent rise in Gonorrhea cases across mainland China. The highest increase was observed between July 2016 and August 2016 with a surge from 10,530 to 11,280. However, compared to 2014, there was a general rise from an average of 8,157 cases per month (2014) to 9,414 cases per month (2023). Overall, while there are fluctuations, the data reveals a long-term upward trend in the number of diagnosed Gonorrhea cases.

### Deaths Analysis

Gonorrhea-related deaths in the mainland China are sporadic and rare, despite the large number of cases. Between 2014 and 2024, there were only 12 months wherein fatalities occurred. The highest fatality number in a month happened in January 2020 with four reported deaths. A majority of the deaths occurred in winter months (December, January), with February seemingly safer with no reported deaths. Overall, Gonorrhea has a low fatality rate in China, possibly due to effective interventions like early detection and treatment or limited severe complications.

### Distribution



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