

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

## Cholera

March 2024

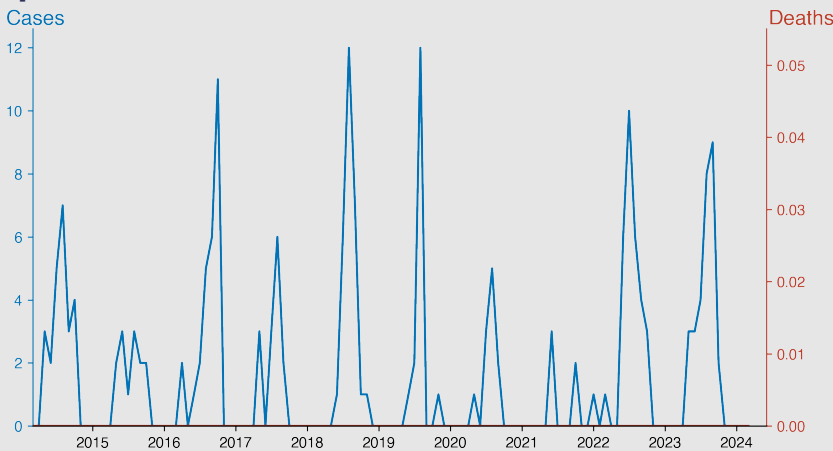
### Introduction

Cholera is an infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. It typically affects the small intestine, causing severe diarrhea and dehydration. The disease is spread primarily through contaminated water or food and is particularly prevalent in areas with poor sanitation and water treatment facilities. Symptoms generally appear between 12 hours and 5 days after exposure. Without quick treatment, cholera can be fatal. Areas with recurrent cholera outbreaks include parts of Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

### Highlights

- Cholera cases in Mainland China appear sporadically but display a yearly trend of peaking during summer months, specifically between June and August, and declining during the rest of the year.
- Despite reported cholera cases, there have been no recorded cholera-attributable deaths during the observed ten-year period. This suggests effective immediate treatment and control measures.
- The data from the last three years (2021-2023) shows a general decrease in the number of cholera cases, which may be indicative of improved sanitation, public health education, or vaccination programs.
- As of March 2024, there have been no reported cases of cholera in the Chinese mainland.

### Temporal Trend



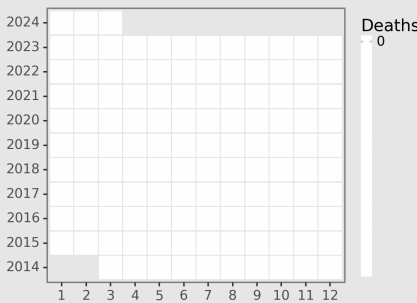
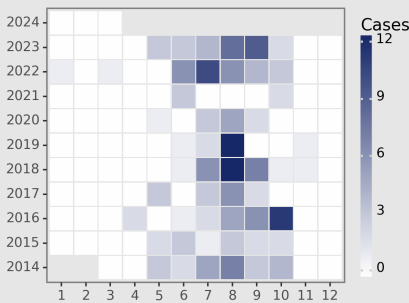
### Cases Analysis

From 2014 to 2024, Cholera cases in mainland China were sporadic, showing no clear pattern. Cases spiked in some months, for instance, August and September 2018, at 12 and 7 new cases, respectively, and July 2022, at 10 new cases. Interestingly, it can be observed that most cases tend to happen in the warmer months (between May and September), possibly due to seasonal environmental factors favoring the bacterium's growth/transmission. The overall number of annual cases seemed to remained relatively stable, with a low number of reported cases (approximately 20-50 cases per year), not suggesting significant disease outbreak.

### Deaths Analysis

Remarkably, despite the sporadic emergence of cholera instances in mainland China from 2014 to 2024, there have been no recorded deaths. This could be attributed to efficient medical management and early diagnosis, alongside access to healthcare. The zero mortality rate over this period indicates that, although cholera is present, its potential fatality is well mitigated. However, constant vigilance and continued monitoring of case management processes are required to maintain this remarkable record, considering the lethality potential of cholera if left untreated.

### Distribution



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