

# Chinese Notifiable Infectious Diseases Surveillance Report

## Hepatitis B

March 2024

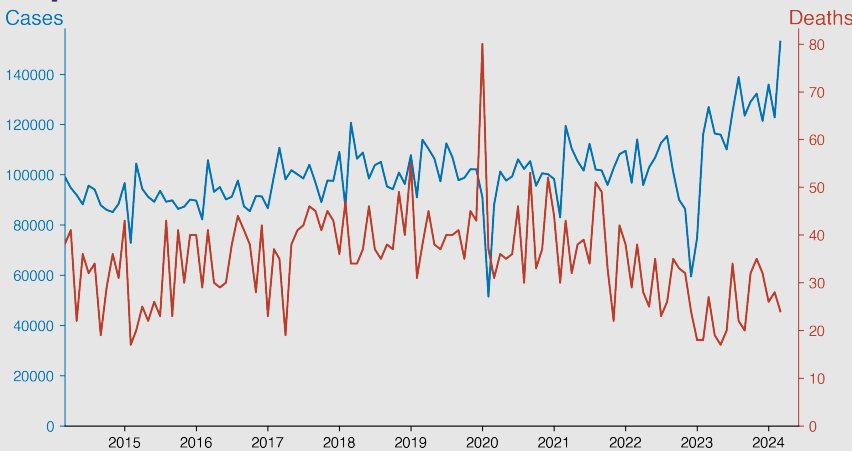
### Introduction

Hepatitis B is a severe liver infection caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV). It can be acute or chronic, varying in severity from a mild illness to a serious, lifelong condition that can lead to liver disease or cancer. Transmission commonly occurs through exposure to blood or body fluids of an infected person. It can also spread from mother to child during birth. Despite it being a major global health issue, there is an effective vaccine for prevention. Chronic cases require long-term medical management to prevent liver complications.

### Highlights

- Significant increase in Hepatitis B cases on the Chinese mainland is evident over the past decade, with monthly cases rising from below 100,000 in 2014 to consistently above 100,000 in 2024.
- March 2024 marked the peak at 152,967 cases, significantly exceeding prior year levels.
- Death rates, however, have remained stable, typically between 20-60 per month, with a slight decrease in 2024.
- Despite an increase in cases, constant death rates suggest progress in treatment and prevention.

### Temporal Trend



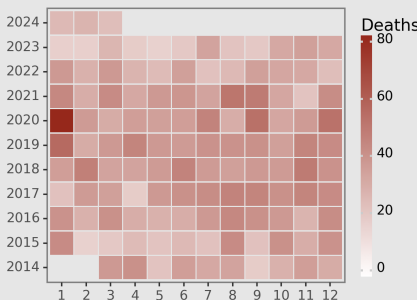
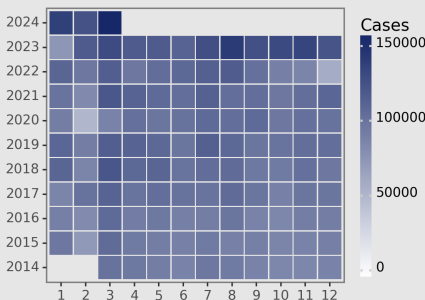
### Cases Analysis

The reported data for Hepatitis B cases in mainland China from 2014 to 2024 show considerable fluctuations with a general increasing trend annually. Case counts reached their highest in March 2024, with 152,967 reported cases, an increase from the first reported count of 99,292 in March 2014. Though inconsistencies and month-to-month variations exist, such as the dip to 51,506 cases in February 2020, over the roughly 10-year period, there seems to be an upward pattern illustrating the need for persistent surveillance and preventative measures considering this occurrence of Hepatitis B.

### Deaths Analysis

The number of deaths associated with Hepatitis B remains relatively low compared to the case numbers, indicating it might not be a highly lethal disease, perhaps due to advances in treatment and medical care. The highest death count in a month was recorded to be 80 in 2020 January. It is noteworthy that there are fluctuations in death counts throughout these years, but with no clear increasing or decreasing trend. The death count might reflect changes in case management, diagnosis capacity, and healthcare accessibility.

### Distribution



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