

# Morbidity and Mortality



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

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**EPIDEMIOLOGIC NOTES AND REPORTS**  
**SPRAY ADHESIVES, BIRTH DEFECTS,**  
**AND CHROMOSOMAL DAMAGE**

In late August 1973, the sale of certain spray adhesives was banned in the United States because of data from the University of Oklahoma suggesting that the use of such sprays might cause both birth defects and chromosomal damage (1). To test the possible association between spray adhesive use and birth defect occurrence, data concerning sales of certain sprays have been compared to local patterns of birth defects incidence in the metropolitan areas of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Atlanta, Georgia, during the 4-year period 1970-1973. In neither area has any increase in incidence appeared either for all birth defects or for any particular birth defect category, despite 4- to 5-fold increases in spray adhesive sales (Figures 1 and 2). The figures demonstrate this lack of association both for total defects and for cases with multiple

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malformations. Incidence figures for Oklahoma City were derived from data recorded on birth certificates and for Atlanta from an ongoing hospital-based registry of newborn birth defects. The latter surveillance system has shown essentially stable malformation rates since its inception in October 1967. Through a survey of 173 women interviewed postpartum in metropolitan Atlanta, exposure to spray adhesives has been estimated to have occurred in about 5% of pregnant women. In Oklahoma City this proportion may have been

**TABLE I. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES**  
 (Cumulative totals include revised and delayed reports through previous weeks)

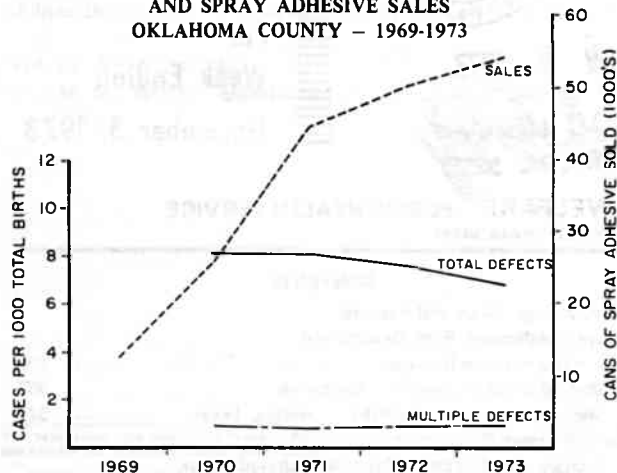
DISEASE	44th WEEK ENDING		MEDIAN 1968-1972	CUMULATIVE, FIRST 44 WEEKS		
	November 3, 1973	November 4, 1972		1973	1972	MEDIAN 1968-1972
Aseptic meningitis . . . . .	185	144	110	4,057	3,581	3,817
Brucellosis . . . . .	2	4	3	161	163	183
Chickenpox . . . . .	704	1,332	---	148,455	118,892	---
Diphtheria . . . . .	1	4	4	156	94	153
Encephalitis, primary:						
Arthropod-borne and unspecified . . . . .	40	52	37	1,305	964	1,227
Encephalitis, post-infectious . . . . .	3	2	6	244	239	300
Hepatitis, serum (Hepatitis B) . . . . .	158	151	151	6,822	7,646	6,165
Hepatitis, infectious (Hepatitis A) . . . . .	976	1,102	1,102	43,471	46,422	46,422
Malaria . . . . .	7	17	88	216	768	2,618
Measles (rubeola) . . . . .	191	207	207	24,960	28,037	28,037
Meningococcal infections, total . . . . .	16	28	28	1,178	1,146	2,093
Civilian . . . . .	16	28	28	1,153	1,102	1,879
Military . . . . .	---	---	---	25	44	207
Mumps . . . . .	750	958	1,580	59,562	60,989	84,175
Rubella (German measles) . . . . .	103	251	317	26,757	22,613	45,769
Tetanus . . . . .	2	---	2	79	98	109
Tuberculosis, new active . . . . .	444	612	---	26,448	28,878	---
Tularemia . . . . .	1	3	4	140	116	133
Typhoid fever . . . . .	7	7	8	576	310	310
Typhus, tick-borne (Rky. Mt. spotted fever) . . . . .	1	5	5	614	508	392
Venereal Diseases:						
Gonorrhea . . . . .	14,971	16,031	---	696,916	636,565	---
Syphilis, primary and secondary . . . . .	366	580	---	21,640	21,357	---
Rabies in animals . . . . .	40	80	56	2,947	3,546	2,937

**TABLE II. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OF LOW FREQUENCY**

	Cum.		Cum.
Anthrax: . . . . .	1	Poliomyelitis, total: . . . . .	6
Botulism: Ky.-1 . . . . .	17	Paralytic: . . . . .	4
Congenital rubella syndrome: Ky.-1, N.H.-1 . . . . .	30	Psittacosis: Calif.-1, N.Y., Ups.-1 . . . . .	22
Leprosy: Ohio-1, Tex.-1 . . . . .	105	Rabies in man: . . . . .	1
Leptospirosis: Md.-1, Mo.-1 . . . . .	30	Trichinosis: La.-1 . . . . .	73
Plague: . . . . .	2	Typhus, murine: . . . . .	29

## SPRAY ADHESIVES — Continued

Figure 1  
TRENDS IN BIRTH DEFECT INCIDENCE  
AND SPRAY ADHESIVE SALES  
OKLAHOMA COUNTY — 1969-1973



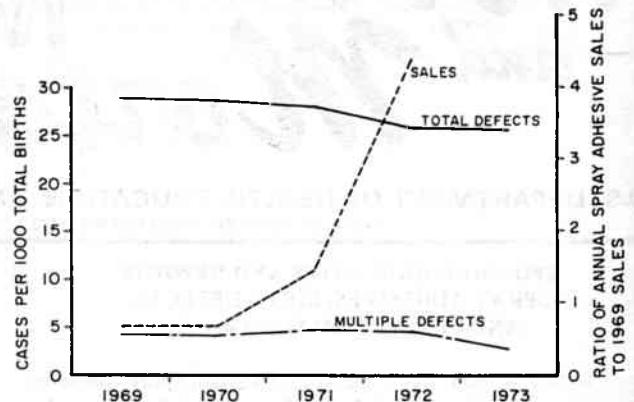
considerably higher because of recent television promotion of foil art, a hobby entailing use of spray adhesives. Under either set of exposure conditions, one would expect a distinct increase in birth defect incidence. If, for example, exposure to spray adhesives occurs in 5% of pregnant women, and if among exposed pregnancies 5% result in some common defect syndrome which normally appears at a rate of 1 case per 1,000 total births, then, during a year's time in Atlanta where approximately 30,000 births occur each year, instead of 30 such cases, 105 would be observed. In the unlikely event that spray adhesives produced all types of defects indiscriminately, comparable figures would be 775 cases observed instead of 700, or 850 observed if one assumes a 10% attack rate.

(Reported by Stanley W. Ferguson, Ph.D., State Epidemiologist, Mark Roberts, Staff Epidemiologist, Oklahoma State Department of Health; the Birth Defects Section, Cancer and Birth Defects Branch, Bureau of Epidemiology, CDC; and a team of EIS Officers.)

## Editorial Note

The above observations do not rule out the possibility that spray adhesives may bear some relation to birth defects etiology, but they do indicate that if such an effect exists, the risk involved is small. The data upon which the spray adhesive

Figure 2  
TRENDS IN BIRTH DEFECT INCIDENCE  
AND SPRAY ADHESIVE SALES  
METROPOLITAN ATLANTA — 1969-1973



ban was based consisted of 1) 2 infants with differing multiple malformations whose parents used sprays prior to their child's birth and 2) an apparent increase in frequency of chromosomal damage in peripheral blood lymphocytes cultured from these infants, their parents, and 4 other exposed persons (2). While birth defects and chromosomal damage may seem at first glance to be intrinsically related, the 2 phenomena are not necessarily interconnected. Most defects occur in the absence of visible chromosomal damage while chromosomal damage occurs often in the absence of structural malformation. The epidemiologic data presented for Oklahoma City and Atlanta concern only the issue of spray usage in relation to birth defects, and they provide no support for the concept that an etiologic link exists, at least a link of major proportions. To our knowledge no further epidemiologic evidence supporting a relationship has yet been advanced. Likewise the suggested association between spray adhesives and chromosomal damage has yet to be confirmed (3). In view of the limited nature of the original data, together with subsequent negative epidemiologic findings, it seems reasonable for the present to discount the hypothesis that use of spray adhesives represents any substantial risk for pregnant women.

## References

1. Federal Register 38:22569, 23355-23356, 1973
2. Possible link to chromosomal gaps leads to ban on spray adhesives. JAMA 225(13):1581-1582, 1973
3. Product Safety Letter Vol. 2, No. 42, October 15, 1973

## SHIGA BACILLUS DYSENTERY — California

On August 18, 1973, a 16-year-old boy living in El Monte, California, had onset of vomiting and diarrhea. He was seen by a physician 2 days later and was treated with an unspecified medication; however, he did not improve and was admitted to a hospital on August 22 with gross rectal bleeding and evidence of significant dehydration. Stool and blood specimens obtained on admission grew *Shigella dysenteriae* type 1. Between August 22 and 25 he developed severe electrolyte and acid-base derangements, disseminated intravascular coagulation, acute renal failure, jaundice, ascites, and persistent gastrointestinal bleeding. The patient was begun on intravenous ampicillin on August 25. Therapy also included repeated blood transfusion, hemodialysis, and other supportive measures aimed at correcting the patient's meta-

bolic and coagulation disorders. He slowly recovered and by September 14 had nearly normal renal and hepatic functions and no longer required transfusions.

Epidemiologic history revealed that the patient had lived in Zamora, Mexico, until entering the United States on August 18. He had traveled from Mexico with a cousin who did not become ill. In the United States, he had stayed with the cousin and a brother and his family; all have remained asymptomatic. Stool and serum specimens have been obtained from the patient's family and contacts.

(Reported by Victor Levine, M.D., Resident Supervisor, Allen Mathies, M.D., Head Physician, Communicable Disease Service, Los Angeles County-University of Southern California  
(Continued on page 371)

TABLE III. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES  
FOR WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 1973 AND NOVEMBER 4, 1972 (44th WEEK)

AREA	ASEPTIC MENIN- GITIS	BRUCEL- LOSIS	CHICKEN- POX	DIPHTHERIA		ENCEPHALITIS			HEPATITIS		
						Primary including unspec. cases		Post In- fectious	Serum (Hepatitis B)	Infectious (Hepatitis A)	
						1973	1972	1973	1973	1973	1972
UNITED STATES	185	2	704	1	156	40	52	3	158	976	1,102
NEW ENGLAND	11	-	107	-	3	2	1	-	5	68	94
Maine*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
New Hampshire	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
Vermont	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	13
Massachusetts	4	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	2	31	34
Rhode Island	4	-	24	-	2	-	-	-	2	12	-
Connecticut	3	-	44	-	-	-	-	-	1	17	29
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	1	-	-	-	-	3	11	-	8	40	134
Upstate New York	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	8	40	32
New York City	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	31
New Jersey	---	---	NN	---	---	---	5	---	---	---	47
Pennsylvania	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	---	---	---	24
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	39	1	337	-	-	11	12	-	20	171	190
Ohio	14	-	30	-	-	7	7	-	4	50	32
Indiana	-	-	58	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	18
Illinois	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	12	58	57
Michigan	23	-	70	-	-	2	2	-	4	45	75
Wisconsin	2	1	179	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	8
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	72	-	142	-	7	10	5	-	7	49	50
Minnesota	7	-	16	-	-	4	4	-	2	5	4
Iowa	1	-	97	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	4
Missouri	64	-	18	-	-	4	1	-	-	9	19
North Dakota*	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	22	6
Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kansas	-	-	5	-	-	2	-	-	2	9	16
SOUTH ATLANTIC	17	-	30	-	1	3	5	-	17	194	135
Delaware	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Maryland	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	5	19
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Virginia	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	6	8
West Virginia	1	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	19
North Carolina	5	-	NN	-	-	2	-	-	-	16	26
South Carolina	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25	13
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	14
Florida	9	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	12	114	34
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	10	-	7	-	1	2	7	-	15	88	56
Kentucky	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	28	24
Tennessee	2	-	NN	-	-	-	5	-	-	34	24
Alabama*	1	-	3	-	1	1	2	-	12	21	5
Mississippi	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	5	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	10	-	32	1	16	5	5	-	17	156	128
Arkansas*	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	15
Louisiana	1	-	NN	1	1	-	1	-	7	18	13
Oklahoma*	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	2	8	21
Texas*	8	-	31	-	15	4	1	-	8	127	79
MOUNTAIN	1	-	36	-	44	1	-	-	4	41	99
Montana	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	14
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Colorado	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	32
New Mexico	1	-	13	-	25	1	-	-	1	16	16
Arizona*	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	24
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	3
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	24	1	13	-	84	3	6	3	65	169	216
Washington*	---	---	---	---	75	---	6	---	---	---	18
Oregon	1	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	7	17	33
California	23	1	-	-	4	3	6	3	55	150	144
Alaska	-	-	6	-	2	-	-	-	3	1	17
Hawaii	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Guam*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	15
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

\* Delayed Reports: Brucellosis: Ark. 1, Guam 1  
 Chickenpox: Me. 4, Guam 2  
 Diphtheria: Ariz. 2  
 Encephalitis, primary: N.Dak. 1

Encephalitis, post infectious: Ala. 1  
 Hepatitis B: Okla. 37, Ariz. 4, Guam 2  
 Hepatitis A: Me. 5, Ala. 1, Okla. 48, Tex. 81  
 Ariz. 7, Wash. 1, Guam 2

TABLE III. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES  
FOR WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 1973 AND NOVEMBER 4, 1972 (44th WEEK) - Continued

AREA	MALARIA		MEASLES (Rubella)			MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS, TOTAL			MUMPS		RUBELLA	
	1973	Cum. 1973	1973	Cumulative		1973	Cumulative		1973	Cum. 1973	1973	Cum. 1973
				1973	1972		1973	1972				
UNITED STATES	7	216	191	24,960	28,037	16	1,178	1,146	750	59,562	103	26,757
NEW ENGLAND	-	17	21	7,490	3,357	-	48	49	120	3,332	4	3,666
Maine*	-	-	-	68	249	-	1	4	11	376	-	70
New Hampshire	-	-	8	900	372	-	7	3	1	198	2	379
Vermont	-	2	1	120	128	-	3	-	-	273	-	47
Massachusetts	-	7	11	3,972	781	-	13	21	30	960	1	2,056
Rhode Island	-	1	1	620	524	-	3	12	60	494	1	220
Connecticut	-	7	-	1,810	1,303	-	21	9	18	1,031	-	894
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	-	31	-	2,539	1,074	-	161	139	-	7,471	5	4,226
Upstate New York	-	17	-	811	130	-	58	32	NN	NN	5	438
New York City	---	2	---	922	383	---	31	42	---	4,622	---	476
New Jersey	---	5	---	442	498	---	39	26	---	1,527	---	3,014
Pennsylvania	---	7	---	364	63	---	33	39	---	1,322	---	298
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	1	30	40	8,729	11,367	2	158	171	193	15,175	47	6,205
Ohio	1	5	-	290	265	1	68	66	17	2,762	3	697
Indiana	-	3	11	672	1,290	-	4	12	26	1,409	11	969
Illinois	-	16	6	2,101	4,193	1	26	37	19	2,533	14	1,023
Michigan	-	6	12	4,425	2,061	-	44	48	62	4,169	9	1,888
Wisconsin	-	-	11	1,241	3,558	-	16	8	69	4,302	10	1,628
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	-	8	1	451	1,000	2	91	81	102	5,046	5	1,234
Minnesota	-	2	-	21	22	2	10	24	7	95	-	321
Iowa	-	1	-	279	694	-	21	5	87	3,107	1	204
Missouri	-	1	-	53	164	-	34	25	-	726	3	273
North Dakota	-	1	1	65	53	-	3	-	-	69	1	277
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	7	-	4	2	-	19	-	23
Nebraska	-	1	-	6	23	-	10	9	-	161	-	141
Kansas	-	2	-	27	37	-	9	16	8	869	-	95
SOUTH ATLANTIC	-	33	2	1,260	2,245	-	197	255	79	6,948	9	2,210
Delaware	-	-	-	9	52	-	1	1	-	274	-	14
Maryland	-	5	-	13	15	-	27	38	1	643	-	10
District of Columbia	-	1	-	8	2	-	4	11	2	139	-	3
Virginia	-	8	1	422	67	-	38	56	4	719	-	627
West Virginia	-	-	-	218	296	-	5	8	32	2,388	3	333
North Carolina	-	7	-	4	37	-	42	30	NN	NN	-	202
South Carolina	-	1	1	65	216	-	13	20	2	359	-	86
Georgia	-	3	-	152	183	-	22	19	-	32	-	12
Florida	-	8	-	369	1,377	-	45	72	38	2,394	6	923
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	1	14	2	617	1,067	2	108	90	55	4,959	12	1,379
Kentucky	1	9	2	382	535	1	38	28	4	1,478	1	402
Tennessee	-	-	-	165	193	-	42	28	32	2,313	7	565
Alabama	-	5	-	12	154	-	15	20	19	699	1	197
Mississippi	-	-	-	58	185	1	13	14	-	469	3	215
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	-	12	5	712	1,577	7	184	138	66	4,128	4	1,488
Arkansas	-	-	-	70	13	-	13	11	4	391	-	112
Louisiana	-	2	-	87	99	5	47	42	8	93	-	99
Oklahoma	-	2	1	56	10	1	32	9	1	453	-	179
Texas	-	8	4	499	1,455	1	92	76	53	3,191	4	1,098
MOUNTAIN	1	11	107	843	1,923	-	34	29	23	2,567	4	2,416
Montana	-	1	106	123	16	-	7	5	4	252	-	507
Idaho	1	1	-	256	150	-	4	8	-	114	-	42
Wyoming	-	-	-	81	51	-	-	1	-	427	-	7
Colorado	-	2	1	107	534	-	11	5	18	508	2	1,553
New Mexico	-	2	-	126	127	-	3	3	1	983	2	205
Arizona*	-	4	-	21	886	-	5	1	-	140	-	19
Utah	-	1	-	128	158	-	2	5	-	134	-	79
Nevada	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	-	9	-	4
PACIFIC	4	60	13	2,319	4,427	3	197	194	112	9,936	13	3,933
Washington	---	3	---	1,027	982	---	20	17	---	1,578	---	700
Oregon	-	4	-	461	135	-	16	14	19	1,868	3	797
California	4	50	12	746	3,199	3	154	152	56	5,405	10	2,401
Alaska	-	2	-	65	13	-	7	8	37	809	-	9
Hawaii	-	1	1	20	98	-	-	3	-	276	-	26
Guam*	-	-	-	52	16	-	-	13	-	28	-	14
Puerto Rico	-	-	10	1,919	808	-	8	4	17	800	3	36
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	7	3	-	-	2	1	25	-	2

\*Delayed reports: Measles: Me. 1, Guam 2  
Meningococcal infections: Ariz. 1

Mumps: Me. 4, Guam 3  
Rubella: Guam 1

TABLE III. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES  
FOR WEEKS ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 1973 AND NOVEMBER 4, 1972 (44th WEEK) - Continued

AREA	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS (New Active)		TULA- REMI	TYPHOID FEVER		TYPHUS-FEVER TICK-BORNE (Rky. Mt. spotted fever)		VENEREAL DISEASES		RABIES IN ANIMALS	
	Cumulative 1973	1973	Cum. 1973	Cumulative 1973	1973	Cum. 1973	1973	Cum. 1973	GONOR- RHEA	SYPHILIS (Pri. & Sec.)	1973	Cum. 1973
									1973	1973		
UNITED STATES .....	79	444	26,448	140	7	576	1	614	14,971	366	40	2,947
NEW ENGLAND .....	2	26	980	-	1	17	-	3	495	12	2	113
Maine .....	-	3	91	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	2	60
New Hampshire .....	-	1	48	-	-	-	-	-	32	3	-	37
Vermont .....	-	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	3
Massachusetts .....	-	12	516	-	-	14	-	2	237	3	-	6
Rhode Island .....	1	2	83	-	-	-	-	-	35	1	-	1
Connecticut .....	1	8	215	-	1	3	-	1	145	5	-	6
MIDDLE ATLANTIC .....	7	12	5,120	-	-	56	-	34	649	20	1	48
Upstate New York .....	1	12	911	-	-	10	-	13	649	20	1	24
New York City .....	3	---	1,896	-	---	21	---	4	---	---	---	-
New Jersey .....	2	---	904	-	---	15	---	5	---	---	---	-
Pennsylvania .....	1	---	1,409	-	---	10	---	12	---	---	---	24
EAST NORTH CENTRAL .....	13	82	3,925	3	1	46	-	19	2,358	27	3	279
Ohio * .....	3	20	1,171	-	-	18	-	14	879	4	-	32
Indiana .....	4	10	502	-	1	1	-	-	154	5	-	52
Illinois .....	3	35	1,188	1	-	10	-	5	374	4	-	69
Michigan .....	1	17	987	2	-	13	-	-	662	13	-	7
Wisconsin * .....	2	-	77	-	-	4	-	-	289	1	3	119
WEST NORTH CENTRAL .....	6	12	1,108	17	1	25	-	24	1,033	14	16	931
Minnesota .....	-	-	135	-	1	5	-	2	217	5	9	346
Iowa .....	-	2	111	-	-	-	-	7	202	2	3	191
Missouri .....	5	7	527	16	-	12	-	8	225	7	-	89
North Dakota .....	1	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	139
South Dakota .....	-	-	77	-	-	1	-	1	48	-	-	81
Nebraska .....	-	1	72	-	-	1	-	2	145	-	-	3
Kansas .....	-	2	150	1	-	6	-	4	191	-	2	82
SOUTH ATLANTIC .....	18	123	5,287	17	-	248	-	304	3,933	141	3	263
Delaware .....	-	2	84	-	-	-	-	8	45	1	-	3
Maryland .....	-	15	581	6	-	9	-	14	476	15	1	15
District of Columbia .....	-	5	253	-	-	-	-	-	423	16	-	-
Virginia .....	3	26	714	4	-	3	-	61	360	32	-	79
West Virginia .....	1	7	254	-	-	10	-	4	49	-	-	22
North Carolina .....	-	14	853	2	-	5	-	138	307	9	-	13
South Carolina .....	2	4	413	-	-	6	-	32	349	20	-	5
Georgia .....	2	17	861	3	-	3	-	46	1,100	8	2	87
Florida .....	10	33	1,274	2	-	212	-	1	824	40	-	39
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL .....	8	48	2,389	10	1	42	1	111	1,428	27	1	375
Kentucky .....	1	7	527	1	1	11	-	-	133	12	-	198
Tennessee .....	5	21	754	7	-	14	-	52	645	15	1	134
Alabama .....	2	14	667	-	-	10	1	26	287	-	-	42
Mississippi .....	-	6	441	2	-	7	-	33	363	-	-	1
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL .....	14	66	2,739	88	-	26	-	103	2,360	29	6	516
Arkansas .....	1	8	338	60	-	5	-	20	426	1	1	109
Louisiana .....	4	-	380	1	-	6	-	-	411	11	1	43
Oklahoma .....	4	10	236	20	-	2	-	74	187	2	2	148
Texas .....	5	48	1,785	7	-	13	-	9	1,336	15	2	216
MOUNTAIN .....	-	19	897	4	-	14	-	8	633	15	-	50
Montana .....	-	3	45	-	-	-	-	1	44	-	-	10
Idaho .....	-	-	30	-	-	1	-	2	32	-	-	-
Wyoming .....	-	-	24	-	-	1	-	1	17	-	-	-
Colorado .....	-	2	173	-	-	2	-	1	193	5	-	-
New Mexico .....	-	7	190	1	-	4	-	3	97	-	-	7
Arizona * .....	-	5	345	-	-	6	-	-	163	4	-	30
Utah * .....	-	-	38	2	-	-	-	-	59	-	-	3
Nevada .....	-	2	52	1	-	-	-	-	28	6	-	-
PACIFIC .....	11	56	4,003	1	3	102	-	8	2,082	81	8	372
Washington .....	3	---	307	-	---	7	---	5	---	---	---	9
Oregon .....	-	2	211	-	-	2	-	2	273	-	-	8
California .....	8	52	3,161	1	3	88	-	1	1,638	80	8	347
Alaska .....	-	-	44	-	-	4	-	-	123	-	-	8
Hawaii .....	-	2	280	-	-	1	-	-	48	1	-	-
Guam * .....	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico .....	8	10	427	-	-	9	-	-	127	25	-	46
Virgin Islands .....	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-

\* Delayed Reports: TB: Wis. delete 1, Guam 1  
Typhoid: Wis. 1  
Gonorrhoea: Guam 29

Syphilia: Ohio delete 1, Tex. 1, Guam 1  
Rabies: N.H. 1, Ariz. 1, Utah delete 1

TABLE IV. DEATHS IN 122 UNITED STATES CITIES FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 3, 1973

Week No.

44

(By place of occurrence and week of filing certificate. Excludes fetal deaths)

Area	All Causes			Pneumonia and Influenza All Ages	Area	All Causes			Pneumonia and Influenza All Ages
	All Ages	65 years and over	Under 1 year			All Ages	65 years and over	Under 1 year	
<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>	734	450	30	47	<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>	1,290	712	44	37
Boston, Mass.	183	90	10	16	Atlanta, Ga.	172	83	6	4
Bridgeport, Conn.	50	35	3	2	Baltimore, Md.	324	180	6	3
Cambridge, Mass.	26	19	—	4	Charlotte, N. C.	63	28	3	—
Fall River, Mass.	21	13	—	—	Jacksonville, Fla.	107	58	6	—
Hartford, Conn.	68	41	4	3	Miami, Fla.	117	58	5	3
Lowell, Mass.	38	22	1	1	Norfolk, Va.	71	41	4	6
Lynn, Mass.	27	24	—	1	Richmond, Va.	85	39	5	7
New Bedford, Mass.	35	25	—	6	Savannah, Ga.	26	13	—	—
New Haven, Conn.	55	34	4	2	St. Petersburg, Fla.	102	84	3	3
Providence, R. I.	69	48	3	5	Tampa, Fla.	58	36	1	4
Somerville, Mass.	8	4	—	1	Washington, D. C.	117	62	2	5
Springfield, Mass.	55	30	2	2	Wilmington, Del.	48	30	3	2
Waterbury, Conn.	34	21	1	1	<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	728	418	28	25
Worcester, Mass.	65	44	2	3	Birmingham, Ala.	129	72	3	1
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</b>	3,325	2,027	83	191	Chattanooga, Tenn.	56	30	5	5
Albany, N. Y.	52	27	2	2	Knoxville, Tenn.	45	30	—	2
Allentown, Pa.	21	16	—	2	Louisville, Ky.	126	77	5	6
Buffalo, N. Y.	164	97	5	15	Memphis, Tenn.	157	92	4	2
Camden, N. J.	36	23	—	—	Mobile, Ala.	64	34	4	2
Elizabeth, N. J.	37	20	—	1	Montgomery, Ala.	35	26	1	3
Erie, Pa.	42	27	1	7	Nashville, Tenn.	116	57	6	4
Jersey City, N. J.	61	39	1	4	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	1,225	658	56	34
Newark, N. J.	65	41	—	3	Austin, Tex.	44	23	2	1
New York City, N. Y.*	1,669	1,022	36	87	Baton Rouge, La.	11	7	—	1
Paterson, N. J.*	47	28	1	5	Corpus Christi, Tex.	44	20	2	—
Philadelphia, Pa.	496	282	17	33	Dallas, Tex.	154	71	2	2
Pittsburgh, Pa.	194	116	7	14	El Paso, Tex.	50	31	6	3
Reading, Pa.	44	32	2	2	Fort Worth, Tex.	89	57	2	—
Rochester, N. Y.	143	87	6	8	Houston, Tex.	227	112	9	10
Schenectady, N. Y.	34	21	—	—	Little Rock, Ark.	77	39	12	2
Scranton, Pa.	35	30	—	1	New Orleans, La.	171	91	2	2
Syracuse, N. Y.	72	41	4	1	Oklahoma City, Okla.*	86	49	4	2
Trenton, N. J.	57	37	—	1	San Antonio, Tex.	151	90	10	2
Utica, N. Y.	24	15	—	1	Shreveport, La.	62	34	3	3
Yonkers, N. Y.	32	26	1	4	Tulsa, Okla.	59	34	2	6
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</b>	2,669	1,550	125	67	<b>MOUNTAIN</b>	460	279	16	19
Akron, Ohio	68	46	1	—	Albuquerque, N. Mex.	54	27	3	7
Canton, Ohio	51	36	2	—	Colorado Springs, Colo.	33	19	1	4
Chicago, Ill.	658	385	19	18	Denver, Colo.	107	66	3	2
Cincinnati, Ohio	179	108	5	3	Las Vegas, Nev.	17	10	—	1
Cleveland, Ohio	221	121	8	2	Ogden, Utah	18	12	—	2
Columbus, Ohio	182	106	16	3	Phoenix, Ariz.	104	65	3	—
Dayton, Ohio	95	55	2	1	Pueblo, Colo.	19	10	1	2
Detroit, Mich.	380	189	39	4	Salt Lake City, Utah	49	32	2	—
Evansville, Ind.	55	35	2	3	Tucson, Ariz.	59	38	3	1
Fort Wayne, Ind.	52	30	4	3	<b>PACIFIC</b>	1,803	1,144	59	43
Gary, Ind.	38	17	—	1	Berkeley, Calif.	17	11	—	—
Grand Rapids, Mich.	53	35	1	6	Fresno, Calif.	39	26	—	2
Indianapolis, Ind.	166	89	7	1	Glendale, Calif.	25	19	1	—
Madison, Wis.	46	24	3	2	Honolulu, Hawaii*	58	33	4	1
Milwaukee, Wis.	138	93	1	3	Long Beach, Calif.	96	65	2	4
Peoria, Ill.	44	25	3	—	Los Angeles, Calif.	645	411	23	17
Rockford, Ill.	48	32	4	6	Oakland, Calif.	70	47	2	1
South Bend, Ind.	35	18	5	6	Pasadena, Calif.	34	26	1	1
Toledo, Ohio	95	63	2	1	Portland, Oreg.	143	100	2	3
Youngstown, Ohio	65	43	1	4	Sacramento, Calif.	54	31	2	—
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL</b>	813	512	24	30	San Diego, Calif.	132	65	9	4
Des Moines, Iowa	71	43	2	1	San Francisco, Calif.	165	91	7	5
Duluth, Minn.	24	18	—	2	San Jose, Calif.	53	31	1	1
Kansas City, Kans.	37	21	2	2	Seattle, Wash.	168	118	3	3
Kansas City, Mo.	153	93	7	3	Spokane, Wash.	61	37	2	1
Lincoln, Nebr.	34	24	1	6	Tacoma, Wash.	43	33	—	—
Minneapolis, Minn.	116	80	1	1	<b>Total</b>	13,047	7,750	465	493
Omaha, Nebr.	82	55	4	—	<b>Expected Number</b>	12,482	7,159	542	416
St. Louis, Mo.	175	104	5	12	<b>Cumulative Total (includes reported corrections for previous weeks)</b>	564,288	331,727	21,158	22,674
St. Paul, Minn.	72	47	1	1					
Wichita, Kans.	49	27	1	2					

\* Estimate based on average percent of divisional total



**DYSENTERY – Continued**

Medical Center; Ichiro Kamei, M.D., Chief, Ralph R. Sachs, M.D., Deputy Director, Division of Acute Communicable Disease Control, Los Angeles County-Community Health Services; James Chin, M.D., State Epidemiologist, California State Department of Health; and 2 EIS Officers.)

**Editorial Note**

In this country, Shiga bacillus dysentery has occurred during the past several years in an epidemiologically distinct group: travelers from Mexico, primarily, and Central America and their contacts. Of 70 cases reported in 1972, 58 (83%) occurred in the 4 states bordering Mexico, and most were in persons who had recently been in Mexico or who had close contact with a traveler from Mexico (1).

Unlike other forms of shigellosis, Shiga bacillus dysentery

is a serious intestinal infection that may be responsible for substantial morbidity and which may result in death if diagnosis and treatment are delayed or the patient treated inappropriately. The case described here illustrates many of the associated medical problems which may complicate this illness. The diagnosis of Shiga bacillus dysentery should be considered in patients with dysentery who have recently traveled or had contact with travelers to Mexico or Central America. Appropriate stool and blood specimens should be obtained and the patient started promptly on ampicillin therapy. To date, these organisms have been uniformly sensitive to ampicillin, the drug of choice.

**Reference**

1. Weissman JB, Rice PA, Krogstad DJ, Baine WB, Gangarosa EJ: Risk of severe intestinal infection to the traveler in Mexico. *J Infect Dis* 128:574-578, 1973

**CURRENT TRENDS**

**PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SYPHILIS – United States, September 1973**

In September 1973, State Health Departments provisionally reported 2,055 cases of syphilis in the primary and secondary stages, a decrease of 5.8% compared with the number reported in September 1972. Reported cases of primary and secondary syphilis for the United States increased each year in the period 1969 through 1972, the overall increase measuring 28%. Increases of similar magnitude were reported in the early part of 1973, but since April, cases have

increased at a slower rate. For the period April-September 1973, reported cases numbered 12,580, an increase of only 0.1% over the number reported in the same 6-month period in 1972. The data for the past 6 months suggests a definite leveling of the national trend after 4 consecutive years of an increase in infectious syphilis.

(Reported by the Venereal Disease Branch, Bureau of State Services, CDC.)

**SUMMARY OF REPORTED CASES OF INFECTIOUS SYPHILIS**

CASES OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SYPHILIS: BY REPORTING AREAS – SEPTEMBER, 1973 AND SEPTEMBER, 1972 – PROVISIONAL DATA

Reporting Area	September		Cumulative January – September		Reporting Area	September		Cumulative January – September	
	1973	1972	1973	1972		1973	1972	1973	1972
	<b>NEW ENGLAND</b>	63	60	820		637	<b>EAST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	111	163
Maine	1	—	21	21	Kentucky	18	49	265	263
New Hampshire	1	—	7	6	Tennessee	54	55	340	386
Vermont	3	1	16	12	Alabama	13	17	137	161
Massachusetts	35	37	565	360	Mississippi	26	42	264	302
Rhode Island	4	4	18	31	<b>WEST SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	262	210	2,056	2,237
Connecticut	19	18	193	207	Arkansas	5	8	106	150
<b>MIDDLE ATLANTIC</b>	409	489	4,245	4,384	Louisiana	78	83	626	684
Upstate New York	29	26	300	316	Oklahoma	15	6	134	71
New York City	239	345	2,612	3,029	Texas	164	113	1,190	1,332
Pa. (Excl. Phila.)	16	16	196	141	<b>MOUNTAIN</b>	44	38	428	381
Philadelphia	53	28	382	237	Montana	—	2	2	7
New Jersey	72	74	755	661	Idaho	1	1	10	4
<b>EAST NORTH CENTRAL</b>	194	213	1,714	1,964	Wyoming	—	—	—	3
Ohio	26	25	212	242	Colorado	9	5	153	58
Indiana	22	22	220	186	New Mexico	1	9	55	79
Downstate Illinois	17	3	149	103	Arizona	23	11	135	149
Chicago	82	93	692	805	Utah	1	2	12	17
Michigan	43	57	380	586	Nevada	9	8	58	58
Wisconsin	4	13	61	42	<b>PACIFIC</b>	297	301	3,195	2,702
<b>WEST NORTH CENTRAL</b>	55	24	268	225	Washington	19	14	121	96
Minnesota	3	3	75	40	Oregon	2	1	34	33
Iowa	8	5	42	42	California	269	285	2,984	2,543
Missouri	39	11	118	91	Alaska	3	—	14	13
North Dakota	1	2	2	2	Hawaii	4	1	42	17
South Dakota	1	—	5	2	<b>U.S. TOTAL</b>	2,055	2,181	19,070	18,528
Nebraska	1	—	10	16	<b>TERRITORIES</b>	67	60	607	658
Kansas	2	3	16	32	Puerto Rico	63	52	582	593
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC</b>	620	683	5,338	4,886	Virgin Islands	4	8	25	65
Delaware	6	4	72	47					
Maryland	60	86	640	722					
District of Columbia	74	81	599	628					
Virginia	83	79	581	392					
West Virginia	1	7	14	23					
North Carolina	54	60	467	406					
South Carolina	78	45	559	353					
Georgia	103	125	958	1,065					
Florida	161	196	1,448	1,250					

Note: Cumulative Totals include revised and delayed reports through previous months.

EPIDEMIOLOGIC NOTES AND REPORTS  
SHELLFISH-ASSOCIATED HEPATITIS — Georgia, Texas

**Georgia**

Between October 16 and 25, 1973, 14 cases of hepatitis-A were reported from the northwest Georgia town of Calhoun. Thirteen of the 14 ill persons gave a history of attending a seafood dinner at the local Elk's Lodge 4 weeks earlier on September 21 and 22. The fourteenth person, a 14-year-old girl, did not attend the dinner but ate raw oysters brought home from the dinner by her parents. Subsequent food histories obtained from 140 persons who attended the dinner implicated raw oysters as the vehicle of infection ( $p < .01$ ). (Reported by William R. Thompson, M.D., private physician, Calhoun; Jackie Tyner, Public Health Nurse, Gordon County Health Department; John E. McCroan, Ph.D., Supervisor, Thomas McKinley, John D. Smith, Epidemiology Section, Georgia Department of Human Resources; Billy Riddle, Consumer Protection Division, Georgia Department of Agriculture.)

**Texas**

On October 31, 1973, the Houston City Health Department began receiving reports of cases of hepatitis-A among out-of-state employees of several Houston-based industrial firms who consumed meals at a Houston restaurant during the period September 20-29. Since a local restaurant was implicated as the source of disease, hepatitis surveillance in the

Houston area was initiated and thus far has uncovered 65 cases of hepatitis-A in persons who ate meals at the restaurant during this same period. Food histories from 61 cases and controls have implicated the consumption of raw oysters on the half-shell.

A total of 17 additional ill persons who reside in 13 states have been identified to date as having eaten at the Houston restaurant. The appropriate state epidemiologists have been notified.

(Reported by Robert MacLean, M.D., Communicable Disease Director, Albert Randall, M.D., Director, Houston City Health Department; M. S. Dickerson, M.D., State Epidemiologist, Texas State Department of Health, and 1 EIS Officer.)

Evidence indicates that the oysters responsible for the disease in Georgia and Texas originated from a single supplier in Louisiana. The Food and Drug Administration and the State of Louisiana are investigating the oyster beds fished by this supplier and are trying to trace the shipments of his oysters to various Gulf Coast distributors. Viral hepatitis surveillance is being established in those areas of the Gulf that have received oyster shipments from the suspect supplier.

(Reported by Charles T. Caraway, D.V.M., State Epidemiologist, Louisiana Department of Health; Viral Diseases Branch, Bureau of Epidemiology, CDC.)

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Director, Center for Disease Control  
Director, Bureau of Epidemiology, CDC  
Editor, MMWR  
Managing Editor, MMWR

David J. Sencer, M.D.  
Philip S. Brachman, M.D.  
Michael B. Gregg, M.D.  
Deborah L. Jones, B.S.

The data in this report are provisional, based on weekly telegraphs to CDC by state health departments. The reporting week concludes at close of business on Friday; compiled data on a national basis are officially released to the public on the succeeding Friday.

In addition to the established procedures for reporting morbidity and mortality, the editor welcomes accounts of interesting outbreaks or case investigations of current interest to health officials.

Address all correspondence to: Center for Disease Control  
Attn: Editor  
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
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