

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly
Report



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HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States for Week Ended October 3, 1953

A total of 1,459 cases of poliomyelitis was reported in the United States for the current week as compared with 1,853 for the previous week and 3,226 for the corresponding week of last year. The cumulative total for the "disease year," which began about April 1, is 26,411 as compared with 41,013 for last year. For the calendar year the cumulative total is 27,925 as compared with 42,206 for 1952.

The number of deaths from poliomyelitis for the current week was 23. They were distributed as follows: Vermont, 4 (which includes delayed reports); New York City, 2; Ohio, 4; Indiana, 2; Illinois, 7; Michigan, 2; Arkansas, 1; and California, 1.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Rabies in man

Dr. A. L. Gray, Mississippi State Board of Health, reports a case of rabies in a 32-year-old man. Early in June this man was bitten on the hand by one of two family dogs. The wound was minor and neither he nor his brother, who saw the incident, mentioned it to anyone at the time. The dog disappeared and was probably killed the next day about a mile from home. On July 4th a son of the victim was bitten by the other dog. This dog was confined until death. Its brain showed Negri bodies upon examination at the State laboratory. The child promptly received rabies vaccine and to date has escaped the disease. During the first week in August the victim of rabies informed his wife that his arm and hand on which he had been bitten felt like someone was driving nails in them. He rapidly became very nervous and apprehensive and complained of a choking or pressure sensation in his throat. He gradually became irrational and then completely uncontrollable because of spasmodic attacks. He pleaded for water but developed spasms when it was offered to him. He died about 48 hours after onset and the examination at a hospital revealed brain pathology consistent with rabies.

Colorado tick fever

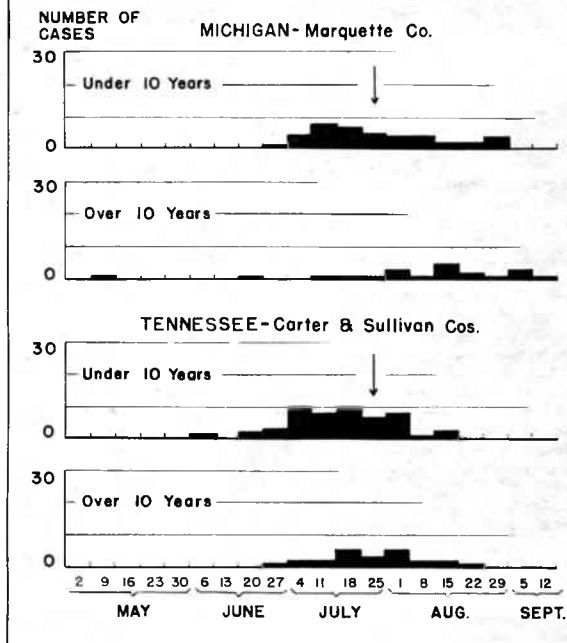
Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports a case of Colorado tick fever in a person 6 days after she had visited a summer camp. The patient developed muscle soreness, headache, burning sensation of the eyeballs, and a fever. There was no history of tick attachment but the patient had made a brief visit to a camp in an isolated mountain area where ticks have been found. This is the first case of the disease reported in the State and no other cases are known to have developed at the camp. Blood cultures were negative. However, the complement fixation test was positive for Colorado tick fever in a dilution of 1:256.

Shigellosis

Dr. W. H. Y. Smith, Alabama Department of Public Health, reports an outbreak of shigellosis in a school. The school opened the last week of August with an enrollment of 900, and among these several cases of diarrhea, some fever, occasional nausea, and drowsiness occurred 3 to 5 days later. About a week later it was estimated that 50 percent of the school personnel had developed the disease. An investigation was initiated the first of September and the water supply was found to be the possible source of infection. The water is pumped from 2 wells which are 110 feet deep. Prior to the opening of school a new septic tank was in-

stalled and there is a possibility that the old tank was contaminating the water. Plans are in progress to correct this. Installation of a chlorinator was recommended and was put into effect about the middle of September. No new cases have been reported since that date. Stool specimens collected from 4 patients were positive for *Shigella flexner*.

POLIOMYELITIS CASES BY WEEK OF ONSET FOR TWO AREAS GIVING MASS IMMUNIZATION



NOTE.—The above chart shows the number of cases of poliomyelitis in certain counties where mass immunization with gamma globulin was administered. In Sullivan County inoculations were given in Bristol City only. Arrows indicate the week when mass immunization, limited to children under 10 years of age, was given. Final conclusions regarding the efficacy of this measure cannot be drawn until additional detailed data have been collected and studied.

It is to be noted that a shift in age distribution of cases from younger to older ages has been found in the progress of other outbreaks, including an observation by Frost in 1916.

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ATLANTA 23, GEORGIA

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. F. D. Yoder, Director, Wyoming Department of Public Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis following a picnic in a park. Among a large number of persons (i.e., between 100 and 150) who attended the picnic, about 20 became ill 4 to 6 hours after eating. The food consisted of weiners, potato salad, potato chips, white cake, and coffee. Several patients became violently ill with vomiting and diarrhea and were admitted to a hospital. Laboratory examination of food, stools, and vomitus specimens revealed the presence of *pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The food was supplied by a local market which was inspected but no report was given.

Dr. Roy F. Feemster, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in a school. Fifteen of 117 children suffered nausea and diarrhea 2½ to 6 hours after eating the school lunch. The suspected vehicle of infection was cornstarch pudding but none was available for bacteriological examination. Stools were collected from the chef and several of the children. Two children had negative stools and no information was available on the other specimens.

Salmonellosis

Dr. S. H. Osborn, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Health, reports an outbreak of salmonellosis following a turkey dinner which was served to about 160 members of an association. Of these, 87 are known to have become ill from 8 to 58 hours later. Among those who attended the dinner 104 were contacted, but information is not available on the remaining 56. All who were ill ate turkey and gravy, and 22 of those who became ill did not eat the dressing. *Salmonella Oranienburg* was cultured from stool specimens of 14 persons who were ill and of 1 who was not clinically ill. The turkey, dressing, and gravy were obtained from a caterer in a nearby city. The turkeys were cooked 2 days before the dinner while the dressing and gravy were made only 1 day prior to serving. The gravy was discarded when it was removed from the refrigerator because it smelled sour and canned beef gravy was substituted. The turkey and dressing were heated before serving. No information was given as to whether or not a laboratory test was made on the turkey.

Table 1. COMPARATIVE DATA FOR CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES

(Numbers after diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

DISEASE	TOTAL FOR WEEK ENDED		5-year median 1948-52	Approximate seasonal low week ended	CUMULATIVE TOTAL SINCE SEASONAL LOW WEEK		5-year median 1947-48 through 1951-52	CUMULATIVE TOTAL FOR CALENDAR YEAR		5-year median 1948-52
	Oct. 3, 1953	Oct. 4, 1952			1952-53	1951-52		1953	1952	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	23	25	41
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	8	216	---
Brucellosis (undulant fever)----044	48	24	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,395	1,649	---
Diphtheria-----055	52	104	131	July 1	506	651	1,139	1,538	2,032	4,148
Encephalitis, acute infectious---082	35	47	32	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	865	1,598	707
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	653	223	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	24,440	11,930	---
Malaria-----110-117	22	146	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	1,201	6,964	---
Measles-----085	854	665	667	Sept. 1	3,734	3,125	3,125	414,412	644,353	554,446
Meningococcal infections-----057	74	62	54	Sept. 1	272	274	237	4,037	3,783	2,912
Poliomyelitis, acute-----080	1,459	3,226	1,851	Apr. 1	26,411	41,013	20,477	27,925	42,206	21,639
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	10	13	---
Rocky Mountain spotted fever---104A	6	4	5	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	272	297	422
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	1,140	1,105	586	Aug. 1	8,457	7,388	2,965	108,064	83,253	58,412
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	16	14	26
Trichiniasis-----128	9	18	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	311	293	---
Tularemia-----059	11	10	13	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	423	498	734
Typhoid fever-----040	51	52	71	Apr. 1	1,497	1,574	1,574	1,780	1,955	1,974
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	5	6	---	Apr. 1	162	110	---	200	137	---
Whooping cough-----056	849	670	851	Oct. 1	849	670	851	27,219	36,421	53,053
Rabies in animals-----	122	116	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	5,830	6,079	---

¹Not computed.²Corrected figure.³Deduction: Ohio, week ended September 19, 3 cases.

SOURCE AND NATURE OF DATA

These provisional data are based on reports from State and territorial health departments to the Public Health Service. They give the total number of cases of certain communicable diseases reported during the week usually ended the preceding

Saturday. When the diseases which rarely occur (cholera, dengue, plague, typhus fever—epidemic, and yellow fever) are reported, they will be noted under the table above.

Symbols.—1 dash [-]: no cases reported; asterisk [*]: disease stated not notifiable; parentheses, []: data not included in total; 3 dashes [---]: data not available.

Weekly Morbidity Report

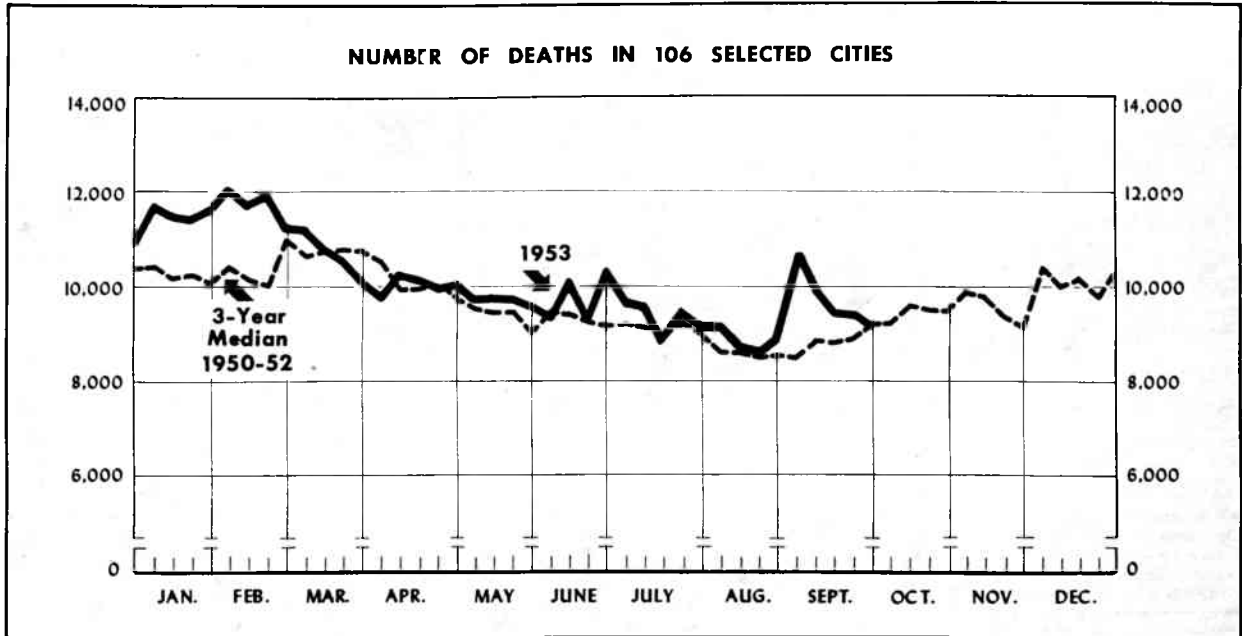
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED DISEASES WITH COMPARATIVE DATA: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 3, 1953

(Numbers under diseases are category numbers of the Sixth Revision of the International Lists, 1948)

AREA	DIPHTHERIA (055)		HEPATITIS, INFECTIOUS, AND SERUM (092, N998.5 pt.)		MEASLES (085)		MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS, ACUTE (080)		SCARLET FEVER AND STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT (050,051)	
	39th week		39th week		39th week		39th week		39th week		39th week	
	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953
UNITED STATES-----	52	104	653	223	854	665	74	62	1,459	3,226	1,140	1,105
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	-	52	13	18	35	3	3	109	74	29	56
Maine-----	-	-	20	5	7	17	-	2	19	10	7	5
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	1	3
Vermont-----	-	-	-	2	3	3	-	-	7	6	-	2
Massachusetts-----	1	-	26	6	7	11	3	1	42	25	15	20
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	18	8	2	8
Connecticut-----	-	-	6	2	2	3	-	-	20	23	4	18
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	2	7	109	37	134	99	12	7	277	304	56	89
New York-----	-	1	81	31	49	28	4	3	159	145	25	39
New Jersey-----	-	1	5	-	13	5	3	1	40	39	9	18
Pennsylvania-----	2	5	23	6	72	66	5	3	78	120	22	32
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	2	2	60	14	148	152	16	7	425	965	90	188
Ohio-----	-	2	17	6	10	23	6	1	129	195	-	80
Indiana-----	1	-	12	-	16	1	7	1	26	108	6	15
Illinois-----	1	-	17	4	28	13	1	1	88	248	31	33
Michigan-----	-	-	10	2	41	37	1	3	119	252	26	34
Wisconsin-----	-	-	4	2	53	78	1	1	63	162	27	26
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3	3	97	14	42	64	13	3	191	970	35	43
Minnesota-----	1	2	12	2	1	6	-	2	109	321	14	8
Iowa-----	-	-	37	10	12	1	-	-	14	255	5	8
Missouri-----	-	1	3	-	-	5	-	1	18	81	6	3
North Dakota-----	-	-	10	2	20	6	11	-	6	20	5	12
South Dakota-----	-	-	5	-	4	36	-	-	17	49	1	1
Nebraska-----	-	-	29	-	-	5	1	-	4	115	1	2
Kansas-----	2	-	1	-	5	5	1	-	23	129	3	9
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	26	55	129	59	50	33	10	14	120	207	164	163
Delaware-----	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	12	3	4
Maryland-----	-	1	13	3	5	7	-	2	23	26	9	8
District of Columbia-----	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	2	7	2
Virginia-----	-	13	63	16	19	7	2	3	26	35	87	77
West Virginia-----	1	-	5	13	8	5	-	2	23	42	12	16
North Carolina-----	2	13	22	10	2	1	2	3	21	15	26	31
South Carolina-----	7	14	-	2	-	5	-	-	1	13	3	5
Georgia-----	14	3	19	12	10	3	3	2	7	38	10	13
Florida-----	2	10	6	3	5	4	3	1	17	24	7	7
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	13	19	74	42	59	19	5	14	34	138	62	44
Kentucky-----	3	1	10	4	7	-	1	3	8	71	9	11
Tennessee-----	3	2	6	8	37	11	1	5	11	36	25	16
Alabama-----	6	15	17	27	12	4	3	3	11	11	15	7
Mississippi-----	1	1	41	3	3	4	-	3	4	20	13	10
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	4	16	37	15	143	62	7	8	54	155	534	264
Arkansas-----	-	4	5	-	3	-	1	-	5	16	82	21
Louisiana-----	-	1	-	4	3	1	-	-	5	26	1	4
Oklahoma-----	-	1	8	4	3	3	2	1	8	30	4	5
Texas-----	4	10	24	11	133	56	3	7	36	83	447	234
MOUNTAIN-----	1	2	26	4	89	62	1	-	56	171	37	164
Montana-----	1	2	-	-	8	3	-	-	17	13	4	11
Idaho-----	-	-	13	-	16	5	1	-	6	13	7	4
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	3	3	1	-	-	2	4	-	19
Colorado-----	-	-	5	1	34	18	-	-	3	49	12	5
New Mexico-----	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	6	22	4	4
Arizona-----	-	-	3	-	1	14	-	-	9	27	4	115
Utah-----	-	-	3	-	25	20	-	-	11	37	5	4
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	1	2
PACIFIC-----	-	-	69	25	171	139	7	6	193	242	133	94
Washington-----	-	-	16	-	64	34	1	1	24	59	21	9
Oregon-----	-	-	23	12	11	14	1	1	17	30	24	10
California-----	-	-	30	13	96	91	5	4	152	153	88	75
Alaska-----	(-)	(-)	(1)	(-)	(29)	(1)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(3)	(1)
Hawaii-----	(-)	(-)	(1)	(-)	(2)	(3)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(3)	(2)	(-)
Puerto Rico-----	(1)	(5)	(12)	(-)	(-)	(31)	(-)	(-)	(3)	(-)	(-)	(-)

Provisional Statistics for Deaths in Selected Cities for
Week Ended October 3, 1953



The chart shows the number of deaths reported for 106 major cities of the United States by week for the current year, and, for comparison, the median of the number of deaths reported for the corresponding weeks of the three previous calendar years. (The median is the central one of the three values arranged in order of magnitude.) If a report is not received from a city in time to be included in the total for the current week, an estimate is made to maintain comparability for graphic presentation.

The figures reported represent the number of death certificates received in the vital statistics offices during the week indicated, for deaths occurring in that city. Figures compiled in this way, by week of receipt, usually approximate closely the number of deaths occurring during the week. However, differences are to be expected because of variations in the interval

between death and receipt of the certificate.

While week-to-week changes in the total number of deaths reported for all major cities generally represent a change in mortality conditions, this may not be true for variations in weekly figures for each city. For example, in a city where 50 deaths are the weekly average, the number of deaths occurring in a week may be expected to vary by chance alone from 36 to 64 ($d \pm 2\sqrt{d}$, where d represents the average number of deaths per week).

The number of deaths in cities of the same size may also differ because of variations in the age, race, and sex composition of their populations, and because some cities are hospital centers serving the surrounding areas. Changes from year to year in the number of deaths may be due in part to population increases or decreases.

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION

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

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION	39th week ended Oct. 3, 1953	38th week ended Sept. 26, 1953	39th week median 1950-52	Percentage difference between current week and median	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 39 WEEKS		
					1953	1952	Percentage difference
TOTAL: 103 REPORTING CITIES-----	8,975	9,284	9,015	-0.4	387,279	375,487	+3.1
New England----- (13 cities)	594	618	602	-1.3	24,865	24,583	+1.1
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	2,672	2,798	2,742	-2.6	116,859	114,290	+2.2
East North Central----- (17 cities)	1,877	2,114	1,973	-4.9	82,247	78,951	+4.2
West North Central----- (8 cities)	691	662	631	+9.5	28,807	27,049	+6.5
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	679	662	690	-1.6	30,217	29,993	+0.7
East South Central----- (7 cities)	396	400	359	+10.3	17,394	16,516	+5.3
West South Central----- (13 cities)	745	683	641	+16.2	30,187	28,566	+5.7
Mountain----- (7 cities)	202	208	202	0	9,285	8,739	+6.2
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,119	1,139	1,107	+1.1	47,418	46,800	+1.3

Weekly Mortality Report

Table 5. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED
OCTOBER 3, 1953

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

CITY	39th week ended Oct. 3, 1953	38th week ended Sept. 26, 1953	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 39 WEEKS		CITY	39th week ended Oct. 3, 1953	38th week ended Sept. 26, 1953	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 39 WEEKS	
			1953	1952				1953	1952
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston-----	222	223	8,664	8,517	St. Paul-----	61	54	2,459	2,323
Bridgeport-----	36	34	1,310	1,335	Wichita-----	45	49	1,560	1,530
Cambridge-----	32	27	1,087	1,138	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Fall River-----	20	28	1,081	1,040	Atlanta-----	94	85	4,034	3,857
Hartford-----	45	42	1,778	1,723	Baltimore-----	204	192	8,817	9,092
Lowell-----	---	(20)	---	(947)	Charlotte-----	14	32	1,097	1,095
Lynn-----	25	19	851	829	Miami-----	42	50	2,315	2,090
New Bedford-----	19	16	893	895	Norfolk-----	27	20	1,239	1,199
New Haven-----	39	44	1,677	1,657	Richmond-----	54	46	2,487	2,615
Providence-----	50	44	2,310	2,428	Tampa-----	49	40	2,052	2,094
Somerville-----	12	12	592	615	Washington, D. C.-----	165	164	6,882	6,713
Springfield, Mass.-----	31	49	1,511	1,437	Wilmington, Del.-----	30	33	1,294	1,238
Waterbury-----	30	36	1,018	917	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Worcester-----	33	44	2,093	2,052	Birmingham-----	74	78	2,863	2,683
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Chattanooga-----	22	40	1,776	1,723
Albany-----	46	43	1,754	1,601	Knoxville-----	23	32	1,273	1,254
Buffalo-----	137	134	5,550	5,263	Louisville-----	95	97	4,095	3,848
Camden-----	43	33	1,439	1,384	Memphis-----	105	78	4,154	3,707
Elizabeth-----	14	32	1,039	1,151	Mobile-----	25	33	1,221	1,211
Erie-----	38	35	1,335	1,263	Montgomery-----	(27)	(26)	(1,068)	(1,014)
Jersey City-----	51	61	2,658	2,774	Nashville-----	52	42	2,012	2,090
Newark, N. J.-----	87	84	4,082	4,019	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
New York City-----	1,403	1,395	61,364	60,229	Austin-----	26	12	989	881
Paterson-----	35	36	1,496	1,443	Baton Rouge-----	17	16	617	613
Philadelphia-----	430	523	18,786	18,289	Corpus Christi-----	25	8	669	642
Pittsburgh-----	144	168	6,623	6,619	Dallas-----	88	80	3,667	3,417
Rochester, N. Y.-----	79	85	3,658	3,496	El Paso-----	21	34	1,066	1,044
Schenectady-----	26	26	914	877	Fort Worth-----	40	55	2,236	2,072
Syracuse-----	52	45	2,108	2,000	Houston-----	78	132	4,817	4,454
Trenton-----	35	39	1,789	1,685	Little Rock-----	50	41	1,670	1,738
Utica-----	30	36	1,223	1,099	New Orleans-----	159	130	6,166	5,825
Yonkers-----	22	23	1,041	1,098	Oklahoma City-----	73	26	2,100	2,001
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio-----	77	76	3,159	2,895
Akron-----	45	57	2,245	2,120	Shreveport-----	42	37	1,540	1,470
Canton-----	25	28	1,104	1,082	Tulsa-----	49	36	1,491	1,514
Chicago-----	664	680	28,859	27,693	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati-----	101	321	5,807	5,419	Albuquerque-----	27	17	1,022	983
Cleveland-----	198	174	7,975	7,968	Colorado Springs-----	14	15	529	503
Columbus-----	80	84	4,027	3,833	Denver-----	85	108	4,212	3,894
Dayton-----	50	45	2,374	2,290	Ogden-----	12	8	478	497
Detroit-----	300	300	12,302	11,888	Phoenix-----	25	14	886	803
Evansville-----	26	37	1,271	1,320	Pueblo-----	11	18	534	480
Flint-----	30	38	1,414	1,306	Salt Lake City-----	28	28	1,624	1,579
Fort Wayne-----	38	28	1,201	1,146	Tucson-----	(9)	(2)	(196)	(185)
Grand Rapids-----	36	34	1,512	1,409	PACIFIC				
Indianapolis-----	104	95	4,333	4,235	Berkeley-----	20	19	653	716
Milwaukee-----	---	(100)	---	(4,581)	Long Beach-----	49	37	1,807	1,762
Peoria-----	37	27	1,222	1,127	Los Angeles-----	381	419	17,080	16,729
South Bend-----	16	22	908	903	Oakland-----	87	80	3,624	3,669
Toledo-----	83	94	3,617	3,382	Pasadena-----	49	49	1,326	1,236
Youngstown-----	44	50	2,076	1,830	Portland, Oreg.-----	88	79	3,832	3,677
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					Sacramento-----	39	41	1,816	1,792
Des Moines-----	34	38	1,906	1,890	San Diego-----	75	70	2,732	2,723
Duluth-----	29	30	1,051	1,007	San Francisco-----	139	163	7,225	7,305
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	---	---	(1,341)	Seattle-----	108	96	4,444	4,274
Kansas City, Mo.-----	125	96	4,801	4,301	Spokane-----	57	48	1,605	1,612
Minneapolis-----	119	121	4,943	4,409	Tacoma-----	27	38	1,274	1,305
Omaha-----	64	52	2,537	2,436	Honolulu-----	(31)	(39)	(1,238)	(1,258)
St. Louis-----	214	222	9,550	9,153					

Symbols.—parentheses [()]: data not included in table 4; 3 dashes [---]: data not available.