

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly
Report



U. S. Department of
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended February 27, 1954

The incidence of measles continues to increase. For the current week, a total of 19,714 cases was reported, or about 11 percent over the number 17,164 for last week. The cumulative total for the year to date in the United States is 96,359 as compared with 164,838 and 58,393, respectively, for the corresponding periods of 1952 and 1953.

The 5 cases of psittacosis reported this week were: Ohio, 2; and California, Illinois, and Iowa, 1 each. Three delayed cases have been reported from Washington State. The total reported cases to date is now 23.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Smallpox

Dr. Geo. W. Cox, Health Officer, Texas Department of Health, reports that a case suspected of being smallpox occurred in a 27-year-old woman early in February. The physician who had seen many cases of smallpox, but none for several years, believed this to be a case of smallpox. The patient was vaccinated early during the illness. All known contacts were also successfully vaccinated. The source of infection was not found and secondary cases have not occurred. An agent was recovered from the patient which was identified as the virus of variola or vaccinia. The patient had already been vaccinated when the specimens were collected. While the behavior of the virus was at first suggestive of variola, the subsequent behavior on passage in a rabbit, and the chorioallantoic membrane of chick embryos show the characteristics of vaccinia virus.

Encephalitis

Following the report of meningo-encephalitis in Oregon recently, the California Department of Public Health has found 3 cases in Siskiyou County. The first case occurred in a 4-year-old male, followed by 2 cases in 7-year-old girls. The girls were in the same 2d grade classroom at school. Symptoms were fever, headache, vomiting, prostration, lethargy, and questionable transient weakness of extremities in one case. Symptoms subsided after 2 or 3 days, except for persistence of low fever. The 2 school girls were exposed to known cases of mumps, which has been prevalent throughout the community for the past 2 months. Contacts of the first case are unknown. Spinal fluid of all 3 patients showed cell counts of 200 to 300, 90 percent lymphocytes. Paired blood specimens and throat washings have been collected for laboratory examination. Pending results of serology and virus isolation studies, a tentative diagnosis of mumps encephalitis has been made. Two other children from the school, who apparently had mumps, also developed similar symptoms of a mild encephalitis several days after onset of parotitis.

A total of 349 cases of encephalitis was reported in California for 1953. Preliminary information on these cases was given in the "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report" for the week ended January 9. The total for the year was classified by type as follows: Western equine, 14; St. Louis, 22; mumps, 153; miscellaneous post infections, 41; and undetermined, 119.

Dr. H. M. Erickson, Oregon State Health Officer, has supplied a summary of meningo-encephalitis in Oregon as of February 22. Of 25 cases, 5 are probably mumps meningo-encephalitis; 4, probably lymphocytic choriomeningitis; 4, poliomyelitis; 3 had

mumps orchitis without encephalitis; 1 presumably has a brain tumor or septic meningitis; and in 7, the diagnoses are still unknown. It was stated that there appears to be no reason for assuming that a real epidemic of encephalitis has occurred.

Psittacosis

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, reports that an elderly woman, who was exposed to parakeets in the home of her daughter, developed psittacosis. Investigation reveals that the birds were kept in an upstairs room where sanitation was not particularly good. Some of the birds had been ill and 2 died, but no attempt was made to determine the cause of the illness. Parakeets were being bred and some were purchased for resale.

Dr. Stanley Osborn, Connecticut Health Commissioner, reports that 4 more parakeets from 4 different stores have been found to be infected with psittacosis. All had been purchased from a firm in New York City. Birds from this source of supply have been found infected in several other States.

Dr. U. P. Kokko, Kentucky Department of Health, reports that psittacosis virus has been isolated from 3 psittacine birds. The first was isolated from a Mexican parrot which died 2 weeks after purchase from a local pet shop. The pet shop received the bird from a breeder in Missouri 2 days before the sale. Stimulated by a newspaper column concerning the above incident, various parakeet owners brought 8 parakeets to the laboratory for examination during the following 2 weeks. The psittacosis virus was isolated from 2 of them, 4 were negative, and the report on 2 is still pending. The 2 positive birds were purchased locally. No human cases have been reported and no clinical symptoms were found in any of the persons who had been in contact with the 3 positive birds.

Influenza

The California Department of Public Health has supplied additional information on the outbreak of an influenza-like disease which occurred in Santa Clara County late in January. Complement fixing and hemagglutination inhibition antibody levels have been determined in the acute and convalescent serum specimens obtained from 24 individuals. Sixteen of these persons developed fourfold or greater rise in antibody titer of influenza B antigen during convalescence. No rise in antibody level to influenza A antigen was demonstrated. From these findings, it is felt that the outbreak of illness in several Santa Clara schools previously described, was due, at least in part, to influenza. This was the first influenza observed in the State this winter.

Typhoid fever

Dr. U. P. Kokko has reported on certain epidemiologic and laboratory findings concerning the outbreak of typhoid fever, which occurred in the south western part of Kentucky during the latter half of December. A total of 13 cases was reported, with onsets between December 17 and 27. The first 3 cases were in the son of the owner of a restaurant and 2 of his employees. The remaining cases were among military personnel (from a nearby camp) and their dependents. Twelve of the 13 cases were confirmed by positive blood cultures, and 11 of these were shown to belong to phage type C. None of the restaurant employees has

been found to be a chronic carrier.

The restaurant where the patients had worked or had eaten is reported to be the most modern and best equipped of those in the area. Sewage disposal at the restaurant is by septic tank to a drain field. Water is obtained from 2 wells which are a few hundred feet from the sewage disposal fields. There was a chlorinator attached to the water system, but it was not working properly as indicated by several specimens from the restaurant's faucets which showed contamination. The region is a limestone area with numerous caverns, and direct underground connection between the sewage field and wells was considered possible. A more effective chlorinator has been installed and the water no longer shows evidence of contamination.

The restaurant is located on a highway over which there is a large amount of tourist traffic, and it is patronized by military personnel and their dependents, visitors to the camp, and by tourists.

Investigation of the outbreak is still underway, particularly,

certain laboratory tests, but it is considered possible that the source of infection of the 13 cases may be a carrier who traveled through the area and caused contamination of the restaurant water supply through the sewage field.

Infectious hepatitis

Dr. J. D. Purvis, Pennsylvania Department of Public Health, has supplied information on an outbreak of infectious hepatitis. In the community where 25 cases occurred, water from a spring was used when the usual source of supply failed, due to a drought. Later, some of the families continued to use the spring water because the usual supply was heavily chlorinated after the first rain. The spring was condemned as a source of drinking water several years ago, but later, it was declared to be satisfactory. However, no tests had been made for "a long time" prior to outbreak. A hill above the spring has several houses with outdoor privies. An outbreak of diarrhea occurred in the commu-

Continued on page 8

Table 1. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

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

DISEASE	8th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Feb. 27, 1954	Ended Feb. 28, 1953	Median 1949-53	First 8 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1954	1953	Median 1949-53	1953-54	1952-53	Median 1948-49 to 1952-53	
Anthrax-----062	-	2	2	2	5	7	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	-	6	4	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	29	24	-	208	203	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Diphtheria-----055	34	54	96	320	390	777	1,685	2,061	3,803	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	20	21	16	136	132	89	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	1,707	596	-	² 9,963	5,259	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Malaria-----110-117	4	5	-	57	80	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Measles-----085	19,714	10,333	14,918	96,359	58,393	85,397	132,451	89,827	114,787	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	129	154	115	⁵ 908	1,192	860	³ 2,230	2,467	1,939	Sept. 1
Polio myelitis-----080	101	106	90	⁴ 1,123	1,218	916	⁴ 35,577	57,513	33,154	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	⁵ 5	-	-	² 23	2	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rabies in man-----094	71	-	-	² 2	-	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	1	1	1	4	2	5	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	4,824	4,180	3,116	⁸ 34,219	33,661	22,009	⁸ 68,853	70,249	41,611	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	7	-	-	-	-	4	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Trichiniasis-----128	-	2	-	40	29	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Tularemia-----059	9	6	12	118	89	136	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Typhoid fever-----040	28	24	31	251	191	260	2,265	2,203	2,350	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	4	4	-	20	25	-	210	181	-	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	991	544	1,082	8,356	5,133	9,605	18,113	12,990	23,869	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	196	174	-	1,424	1,313	-	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

¹Information not available or frequencies are too small.

²Additions: Georgia and Louisiana, week ended February 20, 1 case each. Deduction: Georgia, week ended February 13, 6 cases.

³Deductions: Georgia, weeks ended February 13 and 20, 1 case each. Addition: Iowa, week ended February 6, 2 cases.

⁴Deduction: Michigan, week ended February 20, 1 case.

⁵Ohio, 2 cases; Illinois, Iowa, and California, 1 case each.

⁶Additions: Washington, weeks ended February 13 and 20, 2 and 1 cases, respectively.

⁷Reported in Missouri.

⁸Addition: Illinois, week ended February 6, 1 case.

⁹Additions: Arizona, weeks ended February 13 and 20, 29 and 14 cases, respectively. Deduction: Louisiana, week ended February 20, 1 case.

SOURCE AND NATURE OF MORBIDITY DATA

These provisional data are based on reports to the Public Health Service from health departments of each State and Territory and of one possession. They give the total number of cases of certain communicable diseases reported during the week usually ended the preceding Saturday. Cases of anthrax, botulism, psittacosis, rabies in man, and smallpox are not shown

in table 2, but a footnote to table 1 shows the States making the reports. In addition, when diseases of rare occurrence (cholera, dengue, plague, relapsing fever—louse borne, typhus fever—epidemic, and yellow fever) are reported, they will be noted at the end of table 1.

Symbols.—1 dash [-]: no cases reported; 3 dashes [---]: data not available.

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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 1953, AND FEBRUARY 27, 1954

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

AREA	BRUCELLOSIS (UNDULANT FEVER) (044)		DIPHTHERIA (055)		ENCEPHALITIS, INFECTIOUS (082)		HEPATITIS, INFECTIOUS, AND SERUM (092,N998.5 pt.)		MALARIA (110-117)			
									Civilian ¹		Military	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	29	24	34	54	20	21	1,707	596	3	1	1	4
NEW ENGLAND-----	5	1	-	-	2	-	63	50	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	27	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	1	-	-	2	-	25	13	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	8	7	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	3	2	3	10	6	291	90	-	-	-	-
New York-----	-	2	1	-	10	6	206	75	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	3	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	67	15	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3	2	-	2	2	8	215	72	-	-	-	-
Ohio-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	38	19	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	45	17	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	3	1	-	-	-	3	35	10	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	-	1	-	-	1	4	73	14	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	24	12	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	11	11	2	3	1	-	412	82	-	-	1	1
Minnesota-----	4	2	1	-	1	-	59	16	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	3	9	-	1	-	-	268	32	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	1	-	-	1	-	-	20	9	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	1	-	-	1	-	-	28	3	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	1	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	1	1
Kansas-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	3	2	14	13	2	2	261	124	-	-	-	1
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	4	-	-	33	11	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	3	-	-	1	-	2	146	71	-	-	-	1
West Virginia-----	-	-	1	2	-	-	31	22	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	5	1	-	-	29	9	-	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	1	6	-	-	-	10	1	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	-	1	2	3	-	-	2	9	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	-	-	-	2	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	-	-	11	5	1	-	146	91	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	35	5	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	-	-	3	3	-	-	62	23	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	5	2	-	-	4	32	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	2	-	1	-	45	31	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	5	3	4	12	-	4	96	17	2	1	-	-
Arkansas-----	-	1	-	4	-	2	7	4	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	2	1	-	1	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	2	-	-	-	-	2	25	2	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	1	1	4	7	-	-	44	11	2	1	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	2	1	1	14	1	1	68	15	1	-	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	12	-	-	21	1	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	1	-	-	1	-	-	28	7	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	1	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	-	1	-	2	1	-	155	55	-	-	-	2
Washington-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	30	6	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	48	20	-	-	-	-
California-----	-	1	-	-	1	-	77	29	-	-	-	2
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹Includes cases not specified as civilian or military.

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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 1953, AND FEBRUARY 27, 1954—Con.

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

AREA	MEASLES (085)		MENINGO- COCCAL INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
					Total ²		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)			
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	19,714	10,333	129	154	101	106	30	---	30	---	1	1
NEW ENGLAND-----	371	211	3	6	2	-	1	---	-	---	-	-
Maine-----	250	95	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
New Hampshire-----	1	11	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Vermont-----	36	5	-	1	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Massachusetts-----	83	51	2	3	2	-	1	---	-	---	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	6	-	2	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Connecticut-----	21	43	1	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	3,191	623	14	23	9	6	1	---	1	---	-	-
New York-----	2,242	147	6	10	6	3	1	---	-	---	-	-
New Jersey-----	72	71	6	3	1	-	-	---	1	---	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	877	405	2	10	2	3	-	---	-	---	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	4,116	3,153	19	25	11	15	3	---	3	---	-	-
Ohio-----	1,120	1,197	6	13	1	3	-	---	-	---	-	-
Indiana-----	959	47	2	2	1	3	-	---	1	---	-	-
Illinois-----	750	384	5	8	4	3	1	---	-	---	-	-
Michigan-----	995	310	4	2	5	5	2	---	2	---	-	-
Wisconsin-----	292	1,215	2	-	-	1	-	---	-	---	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	559	937	9	13	12	6	4	---	8	---	-	-
Minnesota-----	17	225	2	6	4	1	1	---	3	---	-	-
Iowa-----	118	136	1	2	2	1	-	---	2	---	-	-
Missouri-----	87	201	2	1	1	2	-	---	1	---	-	-
North Dakota-----	38	31	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
South Dakota-----	11	1	-	3	2	1	-	---	2	---	-	-
Nebraska-----	187	26	3	1	1	1	1	---	-	---	-	-
Kansas-----	101	317	1	-	2	-	2	---	-	---	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	2,809	580	30	27	12	14	3	---	1	---	1	1
Delaware-----	13	46	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Maryland-----	483	13	1	4	1	-	1	---	-	---	-	-
District of Columbia-----	73	4	1	2	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Virginia-----	592	89	5	10	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
West Virginia-----	129	169	1	4	2	2	-	---	-	---	-	-
North Carolina-----	395	98	11	1	2	5	1	---	-	---	-	1
South Carolina-----	595	63	5	1	2	-	-	---	1	---	-	-
Georgia-----	220	72	4	5	1	4	1	---	-	---	1	-
Florida-----	309	26	2	-	4	3	-	---	-	---	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2,807	295	23	22	7	7	-	---	1	---	-	-
Kentucky-----	1,402	20	11	4	3	1	-	---	-	---	-	-
Tennessee-----	814	91	1	3	1	1	-	---	-	---	-	-
Alabama-----	510	149	7	10	1	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Mississippi-----	81	35	4	5	2	5	-	---	1	---	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2,598	2,458	18	16	16	9	4	---	3	---	-	-
Arkansas-----	124	187	-	1	2	2	1	---	-	---	-	-
Louisiana-----	272	29	10	9	2	1	-	---	2	---	-	-
Oklahoma-----	118	44	3	-	6	1	2	---	-	---	-	-
Texas-----	2,084	2,198	5	6	6	5	1	---	1	---	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	940	661	2	1	8	3	2	---	1	---	-	-
Montana-----	129	103	-	-	2	1	2	---	-	---	-	-
Idaho-----	184	29	1	-	3	1	-	---	-	---	-	-
Wyoming-----	37	2	-	1	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Colorado-----	98	239	1	-	1	-	-	---	1	---	-	-
New Mexico-----	115	17	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Arizona-----	109	101	-	-	-	1	-	---	-	---	-	-
Utah-----	264	169	-	-	2	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Nevada-----	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
PACIFIC-----	2,323	1,415	11	21	24	46	12	---	12	---	-	-
Washington-----	675	153	4	-	-	1	-	---	-	---	-	-
Oregon-----	79	220	1	1	1	-	-	---	1	---	-	-
California-----	1,569	1,042	6	20	23	45	12	---	11	---	-	-
Alaska-----	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	---	-	---	-	-
Hawaii-----	10	-	-	-	6	-	5	---	1	---	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	131	13	-	-	4	2	4	---	-	---	-	-

²Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).

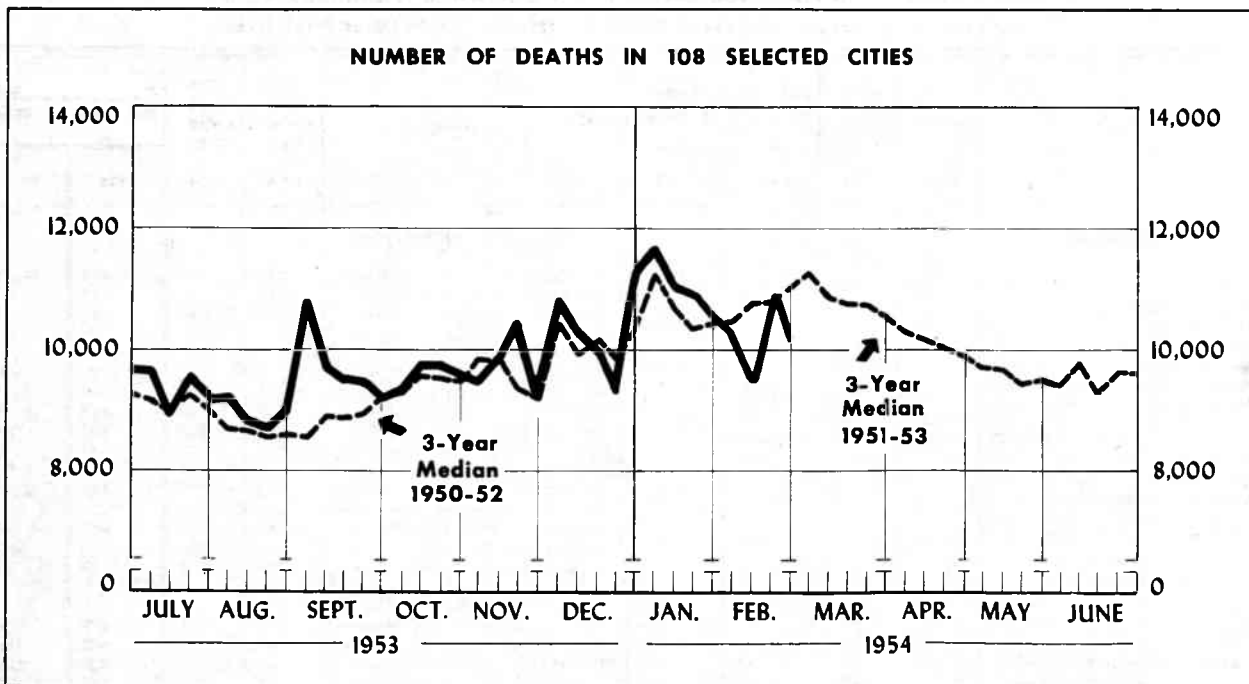
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 1953, AND FEBRUARY 27, 1954--Con.

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

AREA	SCARLET FEVER AND STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT (050,051)		TRICHI- NIASIS (128)	TULAREMIA (059)		TYPHOID FEVER (040)		TYPHUS FEVER, ENDEMIC (101)	WHOOPING COUGH (056)		RABIES IN ANIMALS	
	1954	1953	1954	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1954	1953	1954	1953
	CONT. UNITED STATES-----	4,824	4,180	7	9	6	28	24	4	991	544	196
NEW ENGLAND-----	396	437	1	-	-	-	-	-	95	46	-	-
Maine-----	105	119	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	14	-	-
New Hampshire-----	29	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Vermont-----	3	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	4	-	-
Massachusetts-----	155	127	1	-	-	-	-	-	52	18	-	-
Rhode Island-----	22	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	-
Connecticut-----	82	128	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	9	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	798	803	-	-	-	3	4	-	238	155	2	9
New York-----	376	455	-	-	-	2	-	-	116	65	1	8
New Jersey-----	111	145	-	-	-	1	1	-	29	31	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	311	203	-	-	-	-	3	-	93	61	1	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	943	840	-	-	1	3	6	-	202	80	27	6
Ohio-----	236	249	-	-	-	1	2	-	30	20	3	-
Indiana-----	97	75	-	-	-	1	-	-	21	2	9	1
Illinois-----	187	181	-	-	1	-	3	-	15	3	11	2
Michigan-----	182	218	-	-	-	1	1	-	108	35	4	2
Wisconsin-----	241	117	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	20	-	1
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	248	257	-	1	-	-	4	-	66	7	23	14
Minnesota-----	79	80	-	-	-	-	1	-	10	1	1	1
Iowa-----	63	35	-	-	-	-	2	-	13	1	8	6
Missouri-----	20	37	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	12	3
North Dakota-----	11	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	4
South Dakota-----	16	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	20	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Kansas-----	39	33	-	1	-	-	-	-	23	2	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	465	454	-	2	1	9	2	1	82	38	45	44
Delaware-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Maryland-----	71	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	10	-	1
District of Columbia-----	10	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Virginia-----	143	279	-	1	-	1	-	1	11	3	13	15
West Virginia-----	76	16	-	-	-	6	2	-	22	19	16	1
North Carolina-----	106	37	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	1	4	3
South Carolina-----	5	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	-	4	4
Georgia-----	31	29	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	2	8	20
Florida-----	22	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	11	2	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	347	132	-	4	1	7	2	2	80	32	41	61
Kentucky-----	163	85	-	1	-	2	1	-	48	18	11	7
Tennessee-----	148	40	-	3	-	3	-	-	9	3	8	21
Alabama-----	21	7	-	-	1	1	-	2	11	9	9	30
Mississippi-----	15	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	12	2	13	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	875	535	-	2	3	3	3	1	120	102	58	37
Arkansas-----	88	45	-	-	2	-	-	-	12	10	12	4
Louisiana-----	6	12	-	2	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	-
Oklahoma-----	38	29	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	7	2	-
Texas-----	743	449	-	-	1	1	2	1	105	84	44	33
MOUNTAIN-----	314	257	6	-	-	2	1	-	29	10	-	1
Montana-----	9	42	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Idaho-----	17	114	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	49	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	-
New Mexico-----	53	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-
Arizona-----	149	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	2	-	1
Utah-----	26	65	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Nevada-----	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	438	465	-	-	-	1	2	-	79	74	-	2
Washington-----	129	180	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	1	-	-
Oregon-----	76	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	18	-	-
California-----	233	219	-	-	-	1	2	-	38	55	-	2
Alaska-----	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	-	14	19	1	2



The chart shows the number of deaths reported for 108 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 3 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 3. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES BY GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION

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

AREA	8th week ended Feb. 27, 1954	7th week ended Feb. 20, 1954	8th week median 1951-53	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 8 WEEKS		
					1954	1953	Percent change
TOTAL: 107 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,129	10,854	10,949	-7.5	84,760	93,155	-9.0
New England----- (14 cities)	701	731	786	-10.8	5,781	6,030	-4.1
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,025	3,329	3,365	-10.1	25,130	27,209	-7.6
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,155	2,280	2,340	-7.9	18,300	20,560	-11.0
West North Central----- (9 cities)	707	814	800	-11.6	6,096	7,329	-16.8
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	790	818	852	-7.3	6,429	7,524	-14.6
East South Central----- (8 cities)	482	478	461	+4.6	4,048	4,417	-8.4
West South Central----- (13 cities)	790	734	826	-4.4	6,683	7,095	-5.8
Mountain----- (7 cities)	190	223	195	-2.6	1,606	1,963	-18.2
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,289	1,447	1,276	+1.0	10,687	11,028	-3.1

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 27, 1954

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

CITY	8th week ended Feb. 27, 1954	7th week ended Feb. 20, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 8 WEEKS		CITY	8th week ended Feb. 27, 1954	7th week ended Feb. 20, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 8 WEEKS	
			1954	1953				1954	1953
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston	226	225	1,851	2,012	St. Louis	225	299	1,922	2,292
Bridgeport	31	30	292	285	St. Paul	69	72	577	603
Cambridge	30	30	240	235	Wichita	33	44	348	379
Fall River	35	28	243	248	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford	40	60	398	442	Atlanta	104	111	887	952
Lowell	34	27	253	236	Baltimore	216	236	1,925	2,251
Lynn	25	38	205	184	Charlotte	29	22	242	240
New Bedford	33	25	204	224	Jacksonville	(51)	(39)	(427)	---
New Haven	58	56	407	414	Miami	66	73	506	589
Providence	54	74	548	559	Norfolk	19	36	251	317
Somerville	19	12	127	141	Richmond	63	81	540	635
Springfield, Mass.	46	39	355	316	Savannah	---	(24)	---	---
Waterbury	23	27	216	234	Tampa	67	51	480	568
Worcester	47	60	442	500	Washington, D. C.	192	169	1,328	1,695
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmington, Del.	34	39	270	277
Albany	54	54	384	396	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown	(30)	(41)	(284)	---	Birmingham	80	83	686	661
Buffalo	173	178	1,270	1,200	Chattanooga	47	40	425	380
Camden	29	48	326	312	Knoxville	29	26	303	307
Elizabeth	23	32	252	267	Louisville	123	120	889	986
Erie	30	24	262	286	Memphis	106	99	828	1,024
Jersey City	59	115	649	619	Mobile	26	36	268	300
Newark, N. J.	97	131	873	950	Montgomery	28	27	240	272
New York City	1,578	1,660	13,255	14,709	Nashville	43	47	409	487
Paterson	38	38	331	341	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia	493	577	3,782	4,160	Austin	35	23	207	246
Pittsburgh	170	157	1,369	1,489	Baton Rouge	19	31	205	111
Reading	(16)	(22)	(173)	---	Corpus Christi	20	14	123	171
Rochester, N. Y.	109	115	804	880	Dallas	97	86	848	856
Schenectady	28	19	224	216	El Paso	29	17	232	281
Scranton	(33)	(33)	(291)	---	Fort Worth	57	46	450	536
Syracuse	51	57	475	480	Houston	118	126	1,104	1,119
Trenton	46	56	400	417	Little Rock	47	35	356	388
Utica	25	38	242	253	New Orleans	138	163	1,294	1,463
Yonkers	22	30	232	234	Oklahoma City	56	55	501	513
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio	64	79	653	759
Akron	52	61	456	544	Shreveport	42	36	312	386
Canton	35	31	272	247	Tulsa	68	23	398	266
Chicago	663	706	5,878	7,009	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati	131	163	1,148	1,341	Albuquerque	30	31	235	259
Cleveland	200	203	1,719	1,820	Colorado Springs	11	11	101	122
Columbus	97	118	890	1,020	Denver	94	120	833	1,071
Dayton	61	69	541	526	Ogden	7	12	79	108
Detroit	339	328	2,655	2,855	Phoenix	26	31	209	219
Evansville	26	26	259	305	Pueblo	18	13	118	135
Flint	38	34	308	301	Salt Lake City	---	(24)	---	(422)
Fort Wayne	17	27	202	294	Tucson	4	5	31	49
Gary	(23)	(33)	(201)	---	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids	46	38	341	365	Berkeley	23	30	167	159
Indianapolis	154	112	998	1,030	Long Beach	45	54	401	412
Milwaukee	112	130	1,029	1,170	Los Angeles	460	532	3,899	3,954
Peoria	34	36	269	269	Oakland	115	115	822	856
South Bend	19	24	180	197	Pasadena	37	24	259	311
Toledo	85	102	746	772	Portland, Oreg.	97	114	807	861
Youngstown	46	72	409	495	Sacramento	35	52	413	424
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego	79	75	606	622
Des Moines	32	53	375	458	San Francisco	172	233	1,610	1,798
Duluth	28	30	211	240	Seattle	152	156	1,039	971
Kansas City, Kans.	30	31	248	320	Spokane	43	50	385	362
Kansas City, Mo.	114	90	915	1,227	Tacoma	31	32	279	298
Minneapolis	113	131	982	1,188	Honolulu	(29)	(24)	(268)	(274)
Omaha	63	64	518	622					

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

nity late in September and early in October 1953, and 1 case of paratyphoid fever occurred in a person who had used the spring water. The first cases of hepatitis occurred in October, and continued through December. In addition to the possibility that infection was transmitted by water from the spring, person to person contact was also demonstrated between some early and late cases.

Gastro-enteritis

The San Francisco Department of Public Health reports a small outbreak of gastro-enteritis in a hotel. Five persons became ill with nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and chills 2 to 3 hours after eating meals of various foods at different times. Ice cream, a common food, was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. The

ice cream was made by the pastry cook who prepared the basic ice cream mix at intervals of 1 or more days. As the need arose for a particular flavor, he would combine this basic mix with the required flavor. The mix consisted of eggs, sugar, table cream and "pastry cream." The ice cream machine was found to have a leak in the rear packing. This probably allowed foreign matter to enter and contaminate the cream in the machine. According to a statement by the chef, it is possible that the temperature of the machine varied. The chef who made the ice cream was examined and his pharynx was found to harbor a coagulase positive Staphylococcus aureus. In addition, it was found that he had tinea and chronic paronychia on all fingers of both hands. Bacteriological examination of the ice cream also revealed hemolytic Staphylococcus aureus.

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