

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly
Report



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

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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended April 24, 1954

For the current week a total of 118 cases of poliomyelitis was reported in the country as a whole. About half of the cases were in 3 States—Florida (23), Texas (21), and California (17). During the first 3 weeks of April the incidence of the disease has increased in Florida, the reported cases being 10, 12, and 23, respectively. Texas reported a small increase, 17, 18, and 21 cases during this period. The incidence in California, however, decreased during these 3 weeks, from 30 cases for the first week, to 21 and 17, respectively, for the second and third.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Suspect Smallpox

Dr. W. A. Longshore, Jr., California Department of Public Health, reports a case suspected of being smallpox. The patient was a 21-year-old Mexican, possibly an illegal entry, and it was considered advisable to eliminate the possibility of smallpox, even though the attending physician had diagnosed it as meningococcemia. On admission to a hospital, his condition was serious—high temperature, disoriented, purposeless and clonic movement, nystagmus with sluggishly reacting pupils, and petechial rash consisting of pin point to blotchy areas scattered over the entire body. The eruption appeared first on the extremities, extensor surfaces, and scapular area, without involvement of the face. A few days later some of the hemorrhagic areas faded and others, ranging in size from a half to an inch and a half, became secondarily infected and produced sero-sanguinous material, pus, and scabs. The patient responded to treatment with ACTH and intravenous injections of a sulfonamide drug.

Physical examination and observation at the height of the eruption revealed that the lesions were varied, being vesicular, pustular, hemorrhagic, superficial, deep seated, unilocular, and multilocular, some having crusts and some being ulcerated. There seemed to be no definite distribution of these lesions. A previous examination of material from a lesion demonstrated the presence of gram negative diplococci. The patient has a visible scar on his arm which he claimed was from a vaccination when he was a boy. He also stated that he was revaccinated 3 or 4 years ago in Mexico. He has been living in this country for about 2 years and had visited Mexico about a month before the onset of illness. He denied any similar illness among his friends. Because of the skin manifestations and the fact that he was a Mexican National, the local health officer requested an investigation to clarify the existing diagnosis and to rule out smallpox. It was agreed that this patient did not have smallpox but was a case of meningococcemia. Laboratory tests on vesicular fluids, crusts, smears, and convalescent blood specimens were all negative.

Influenza

Dr. J. R. Seal, Naval Medical Research Unit at Great Lakes, Illinois, has reported to the Influenza Information Center, NIH, an increase in respiratory infections in their recruit population during the period of March 21 to April 10. While most febrile patients had streptococcal infections, influenza B virus was recovered from 4 patients admitted between March 22 and April 1. These strains are serologically related to Great Lakes 704B52 and B/VA/1-50 (1210) and cannot be typed with Lée antisera.

Isolation of influenza C virus continues with mounting evidence that it may be of importance only in minor respiratory infections without fever.

Rat bite fever

Dr. G. R. Clark, New Mexico Department of Public Health, gives information on an investigation of a case of rat bite fever. The patient, a 57-year-old school teacher, was bitten on the left thumb by a white laboratory rat which was given to her as a Christmas present. Four days after being bitten, she developed chills, fever, headache, malaise, and generalized joint pain. This pain increased in intensity and she was admitted to a hospital where a rash over both feet and ankles was noted. The rash spread to the trunk, and the arthralgia continued for approximately 10 days. The primary lesion had healed spontaneously and no ulceration was observed. Laboratory tests for various diseases (syphilis, typhoid fever, typhus fever, etc.) were negative. Serum specimens, collected 1 and 2 months after onset of illness, showed a positive agglutination titer with *Streptobacillus moniliformis* with a drop in titer in a later specimen. This indicates a possible recent infection with the organism. The rat responsible for the bite and 3 others were kept under observation about a month. They showed no signs of the disease, but they were destroyed. Cultures of heart blood in different media were all negative.

Anthrax in animals

According to the monthly report from the Department of Agriculture for March, 16 outbreaks of anthrax in animals were reported in 9 States. Information from 37 States indicates that no anthrax outbreaks occurred in these States during March. As a result of the outbreaks, 19 cattle and 6 hogs were lost. In half (8) of the outbreaks, infected soil was responsible, and for the others, the source of infection was unknown. These outbreaks, except for 5 which occurred in 1 State, were confirmed by laboratory examination.

Infectious hepatitis

The California Department of Public Health reports 6 cases of infectious hepatitis in a small rural community. No previous cases were reported in this community for at least 1 year. The cases were all in members of 1 family but in 3 households. Diagnosis was established by using the criteria of a characteristic history of illness, accompanied by jaundice or by a history of dark urine (possible bilirubinuria). The first 2 cases were in persons who had visited in an adjoining county where the disease had been reported recently. Although they were not in contact with any known cases, they probably contracted the disease there. The other 4 were secondary cases. One of the patients prepared food while ill, and 2 cases were secondary in this household. One secondary case was in a son who worked for his father and had breakfast and dinner there, and 1 was in a person who visited the family during the illness of the first 2 patients. Gamma globulin has been given to household contacts in each of the 3 homes.

Salmonellosis

Dr. H. T. Fuerst, New York City Health Department, reports

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an outbreak of salmonellosis in an institution. Of 257 persons eating cheese blintzes, 42 became ill about 24 hours later. The symptoms were gastro-enteritis and fever. The temperature ranged from normal to 105°, usually about 102°. The close grouping of onsets suggested a food-borne infection and tended to incriminate a noon meal. Other epidemiological evidence, however, pointed to the evening meal, and particularly, to cheese blintzes (cheese filled pancakes) served at that time. This food was supplied by the manufacturer, and handling at the institution provided little opportunity for contamination. Investigation of the processor has not yet been completed. Salmonella typhimurium was recovered from the cheese blintzes and from stool specimens of most patients.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. F. T. Foard, North Carolina State Board of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis apparently resulting from homemade "liver pudding," and involving about 10 persons.

An investigation revealed the pudding was made up 3 days prior to its sale and was stored without refrigeration. The material was in bulk form and was dipped from a bowl in a car parked in the street. No bacteriological examination was made.

Dr. G. R. Clark, New Mexico Department of Public Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among persons eating lunch in a club restaurant. Of approximately 100 persons served this meal, about 35 became ill with malaise, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain, and prostration. The incubation period was from 45 minutes to 3 hours. It was determined that a tray of spaghetti was probably responsible for the outbreak. The spaghetti had evidently been prepared the previous day, and had not been refrigerated or sufficiently reheated before being served. Staphylococcus aureus was isolated from a sample of the spaghetti. Staphylococci were also isolated from the throats of 2 food handlers, but it was felt that this was not significant since physical examinations of the food handlers were essentially negative.

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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	16th week			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Apr. 24, 1954	Ended Apr. 25, 1953	Median 1949-53	First 16 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1954	1953	Median 1949-53	1953-54	1952-53	Median 1948-49 to 1952-53	
Anthrax-----062	-	1	1	7	15	15	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	6	12	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	21	32	---	437	467	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Diphtheria-----055	37	39	65	631	726	1,400	1,996	2,397	4,426	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	29	22	19	2357	298	240	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	1,205	803	---	20,830	10,482	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Malaria-----110-117	5	13	---	106	147	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Measles-----085	30,475	23,383	23,383	320,204	201,751	242,989	356,296	233,185	272,379	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	137	133	95	1,834	2,273	1,732	3,156	3,548	2,811	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	118	91	60	1,857	1,842	1,460	304	261	185	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	53	-	---	68	3	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	1	-	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	-	3	1	10	12	12	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	4,462	3,958	2,112	73,067	66,827	43,726	107,701	103,415	66,932	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	2	-	3	6	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Trichiniasis-----128	1	3	---	95	88	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Tularemia-----059	12	12	12	189	170	231	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Typhoid fever-----040	33	35	35	7492	385	494	783	80	87	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	2	1	---	41	51	---	7	11	---	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	877	624	1,020	17,128	9,934	17,978	26,885	17,791	32,242	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	191	172	---	2,828	2,760	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

¹Information not available for frequencies are too small.

²Addition: Iowa, week ended April 10, 1 case.

³Additions: Missouri and Idaho, week ended April 17, 43 and 229 cases, respectively.

⁴Addition: Nebraska, week ended March 27, 1 case.

⁵Connecticut, 2 cases; Pennsylvania, 1 case.

⁶Additions: Kansas, week ended April 17, 1 case; Florida, week ended April 10, 1 case.

⁷Addition: Nebraska, week ended April 17, 3 cases. Deduction: Montana, 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 APRIL 25, 1953, AND APRIL 24, 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-----	21	32	37	39	29	22	1,205	803	4	7	1	6
NEW ENGLAND-----	-	1	-	2	1	-	36	35	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	1	-	2	1	-	23	17	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	8	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	2	2	4	14	10	181	146	-	-	-	-
New York-----	-	2	2	2	11	10	117	120	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	2	3	-	22	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	26	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	11	2	2	4	6	6	173	104	-	-	-	-
Ohio-----	1	-	2	1	1	1	23	22	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	-	-	2	-	31	24	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	4	1	-	2	-	-	72	40	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	2	1	-	1	3	5	26	9	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	4	-	-	-	-	-	21	9	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	5	14	1	1	-	2	262	137	-	-	-	1
Minnesota-----	-	4	-	-	-	-	53	47	-	-	-	1
Iowa-----	2	8	-	1	-	-	170	51	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	2	-	1	-	-	-	25	14	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	12	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	1	4	12	6	1	1	136	113	-	-	-	1
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	7	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	-	1	-	1	-	58	57	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	11	19	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	5	2	-	-	25	20	-	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	1	4	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	1	2	1	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	1
Florida-----	-	1	-	3	-	1	10	4	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1	6	3	15	2	2	76	106	-	-	1	-
Kentucky-----	-	-	2	8	-	-	24	26	-	-	1	-
Tennessee-----	1	3	-	1	2	2	28	51	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	1	6	-	-	7	8	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	3	-	-	-	-	17	21	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1	-	13	5	1	1	102	51	4	4	-	-
Arkansas-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	18	14	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	1	-	2	1	-	-	11	4	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	-	-	8	3	1	1	48	33	4	4	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	2	-	1	1	-	-	102	29	-	-	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	1	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	1	-	-	1	-	-	43	21	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	-	3	3	1	4	-	137	82	-	3	-	4
Washington-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	42	23	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	37	35	-	-	-	-
California-----	-	3	-	-	4	-	58	24	-	3	-	4
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	3	16	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-

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 APRIL 25, 1953, AND APRIL 24, 1954—Continued

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

AREA	MEASLES		MENINGO-COCAL INFECTIONS		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER	
	(085)		(057)		Total ²		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		(104A)	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	30,475	23,383	137	133	118	91	41	17	38	12	-	3
NEW ENGLAND-----	721	203	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	83	17	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	147	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	432	79	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	56	91	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	6,526	1,216	17	16	2	12	-	2	-	1	-	1
New York-----	3,924	303	6	11	1	7	-	2	-	1	-	-
New Jersey-----	738	139	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	1,864	774	5	4	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	5,844	5,743	14	23	9	11	4	1	4	-	-	-
Ohio-----	598	1,760	7	9	4	1	2	-	2	-	-	-
Indiana-----	777	254	1	5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	2,170	669	1	5	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	1,918	973	3	4	4	1	2	1	2	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	381	2,087	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	952	2,680	1	5	7	13	-	6	5	3	-	-
Minnesota-----	31	253	-	2	3	5	-	4	2	1	-	-
Iowa-----	592	532	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Missouri-----	57	526	-	-	3	4	-	2	3	1	-	-
North Dakota-----	49	7	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	29	10	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	163	240	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	31	1,112	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	4,770	1,153	24	16	30	3	12	-	6	1	-	1
Delaware-----	167	15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	1,018	63	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	232	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	1,153	274	2	5	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	534	252	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	478	273	4	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	244	157	5	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Georgia-----	286	74	3	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	658	32	5	2	23	1	10	-	4	1	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2,371	658	11	41	13	6	-	2	2	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	1,078	252	3	27	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	829	130	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	346	124	3	9	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	118	152	3	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	4,744	6,522	44	13	35	21	16	6	11	7	-	-
Arkansas-----	195	1,058	2	2	5	1	3	-	1	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	77	101	8	2	8	2	7	2	1	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	140	185	1	2	1	3	-	1	-	1	-	-
Texas-----	4,332	5,178	33	7	21	15	6	3	9	6	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1,219	2,092	1	4	4	6	-	-	2	-	-	1
Montana-----	98	81	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Idaho-----	216	121	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	52	133	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Colorado-----	193	586	-	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	137	358	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	223	494	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	274	316	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	26	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	3,328	3,116	19	12	18	19	9	-	8	-	-	-
Washington-----	951	435	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	145	557	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
California-----	2,232	2,124	16	8	17	18	8	-	8	-	-	-
Alaska-----	17	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	10	4	-	-	7	2	6	-	1	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	133	28	-	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	-	-

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

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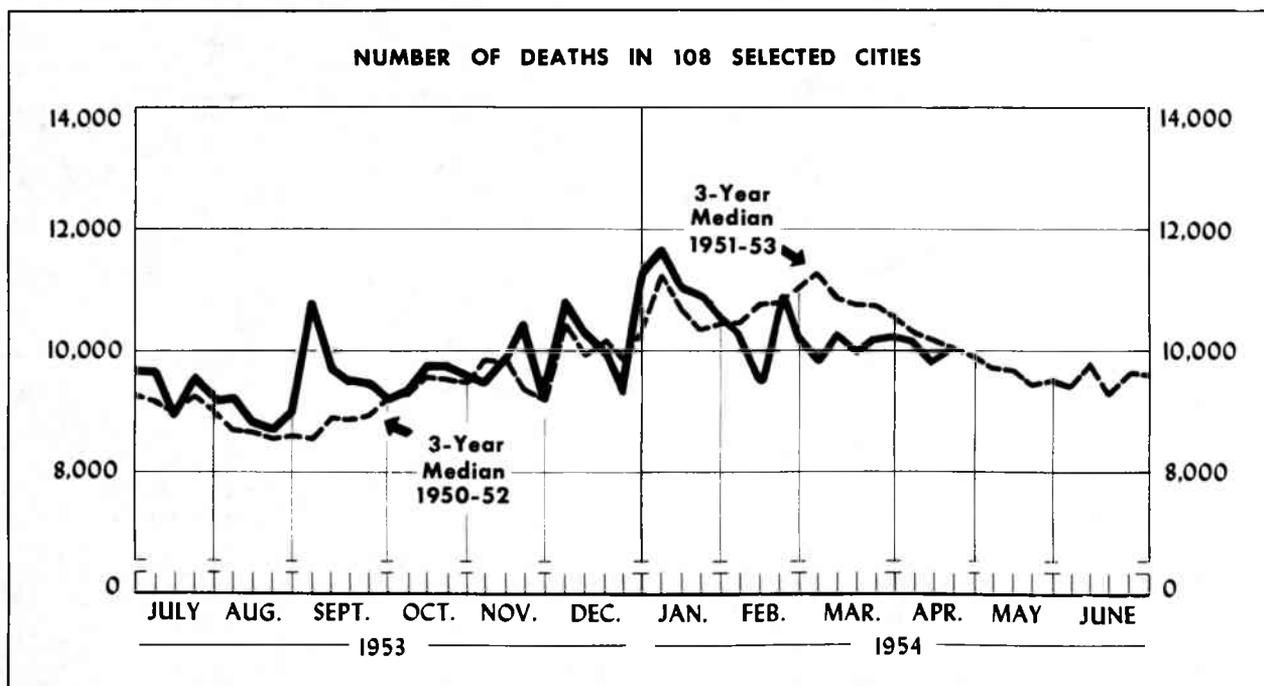
Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED APRIL 25, 1953, AND APRIL 24, 1954—Continued

(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-----	4,462	3,958	1	12	12	33	35	2	877	624	191	172
NEW ENGLAND-----	334	406	-	-	-	1	3	-	74	35	-	-
Maine-----	70	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
New Hampshire-----	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	23	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	128	138	-	-	-	-	2	-	33	16	-	-
Rhode Island-----	6	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-
Connecticut-----	96	119	-	-	-	1	1	-	34	7	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	587	680	1	-	2	7	6	-	139	136	8	6
New York-----	339	354	1	-	2	3	2	-	64	66	8	4
New Jersey-----	75	160	-	-	-	-	1	-	29	29	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	173	166	-	-	-	4	3	-	46	41	-	2
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	643	654	-	2	3	8	6	-	239	52	24	22
Ohio-----	144	151	-	-	-	1	3	-	44	6	3	5
Indiana-----	76	63	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	13	9
Illinois-----	133	142	-	2	2	4	-	-	49	6	-	3
Michigan-----	165	187	-	-	1	2	3	-	95	31	4	5
Wisconsin-----	125	111	-	-	-	1	-	-	22	9	4	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	188	245	-	-	-	3	1	-	28	15	24	15
Minnesota-----	34	42	-	-	-	-	1	-	15	8	6	1
Iowa-----	45	61	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	11	6
Missouri-----	37	37	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	4	7	6
North Dakota-----	32	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
South Dakota-----	5	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-
Nebraska-----	7	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Kansas-----	28	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	443	362	-	2	3	2	4	-	55	31	40	29
Delaware-----	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	113	127	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	2	-	-
District of Columbia-----	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-
Virginia-----	88	112	-	-	-	-	2	-	6	3	11	8
West Virginia-----	70	73	-	-	1	-	1	-	6	12	18	1
North Carolina-----	84	19	-	-	-	1	-	-	18	-	2	5
South Carolina-----	16	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	6	2
Georgia-----	53	6	-	2	2	-	1	-	4	1	1	11
Florida-----	9	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	3	2	2
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	131	88	-	-	2	-	8	-	60	23	42	43
Kentucky-----	51	26	-	-	-	-	4	-	30	2	6	11
Tennessee-----	66	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	12	16	7
Alabama-----	11	7	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	5	11	14
Mississippi-----	3	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	6	4	9	11
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1,047	790	-	6	1	7	5	1	147	211	52	52
Arkansas-----	175	84	-	2	-	-	1	-	20	9	3	3
Louisiana-----	6	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	4	-	23	19
Oklahoma-----	45	28	-	1	-	-	2	-	4	1	1	1
Texas-----	821	672	-	-	1	7	2	1	119	201	25	29
MOUNTAIN-----	742	258	-	2	1	2	-	-	42	31	1	1
Montana-----	23	19	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	17	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	-	-
Wyoming-----	23	74	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Colorado-----	345	40	-	1	-	-	-	-	10	5	-	-
New Mexico-----	52	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	17	1	-
Arizona-----	257	17	-	1	-	1	-	-	4	8	-	1
Utah-----	24	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Nevada-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	347	475	-	-	-	3	2	1	93	90	-	4
Washington-----	77	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	10	-	-
Oregon-----	90	35	-	-	-	1	2	-	15	22	-	-
California-----	180	289	-	-	-	2	-	1	47	58	-	4
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	93	30	1	-

^aReport for March.

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



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	16th week ended Apr. 24, 1954	15th week ended Apr. 17, 1954	16th week median 1951-53	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 16 WEEKS		
					1954	1953	Percent change
TOTAL: 105 REPORTING CITIES-----	9,858	9,600	9,758	+1.0	161,741	172,534	-6.3
New England----- (14 cities)	678	650	644	+5.3	11,104	11,630	-4.5
Middle Atlantic----- (16 cities)	2,947	2,679	2,880	+2.3	46,673	49,602	-5.9
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,127	2,238	2,202	-3.4	36,059	38,601	-6.6
West North Central----- (8 cities)	816	645	710	+14.9	11,459	12,864	-10.9
South Atlantic----- (8 cities)	699	733	729	-4.1	11,689	12,673	-7.8
East South Central----- (8 cities)	434	453	410	+5.9	7,695	8,206	-6.2
West South Central----- (13 cities)	710	671	694	+2.3	12,667	13,092	-3.2
Mountain----- (8 cities)	242	235	243	-0.4	3,778	4,310	-12.3
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,205	1,296	1,189	+1.3	20,617	21,556	-4.4

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 24, 1954

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

CITY	16th week ended Apr. 24, 1954	15th week ended Apr. 17, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 16 WEEKS		CITY	16th week ended Apr. 24, 1954	15th week ended Apr. 17, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 16 WEEKS	
			1954	1953				1954	1953
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston-----	215	233	3,648	4,004	St. Louis-----	263	199	3,740	4,301
Bridgeport-----	31	39	586	541	St. Paul-----	74	49	1,046	1,131
Cambridge-----	35	24	474	464	Wichita-----	43	40	672	699
Fall River-----	33	37	483	475	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	52	42	744	796	Atlanta-----	106	101	1,709	1,805
Lowell-----	22	20	466	432	Baltimore-----	212	202	3,670	4,031
Lynn-----	28	13	366	352	Charlotte-----	28	43	506	478
New Bedford-----	30	19	366	411	Jacksonville-----	(59)	(55)	(825)	---
New Haven-----	52	46	760	768	Miami-----	---	(55)	---	(1,065)
Providence-----	64	63	1,042	1,065	Norfolk-----	28	25	481	551
Somerville-----	19	15	249	266	Richmond-----	71	52	1,056	1,134
Springfield, Mass.-----	32	32	670	664	Savannah-----	(25)	---	---	---
Waterbury-----	23	28	415	455	Tampa-----	56	65	954	1,011
Worcester-----	42	39	835	937	Washington, D. C.-----	149	215	2,763	3,116
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmington, Del.-----	49	30	550	547
Albany-----	44	45	738	766	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown-----	(36)	(29)	(568)	---	Birmingham-----	68	75	1,300	1,217
Buffalo-----	(143)	---	---	(2,395)	Chattanooga-----	44	31	751	829
Camden-----	46	40	631	593	Knoxville-----	31	20	558	594
Elizabeth-----	27	22	462	505	Louisville-----	93	125	1,757	1,815
Erie-----	41	35	532	578	Memphis-----	91	105	1,514	1,800
Jersey City-----	80	69	1,185	1,180	Mobile-----	36	23	529	537
Newark, N. J.-----	140	65	1,657	1,855	Montgomery-----	14	26	437	491
New York City-----	1,587	1,551	25,888	27,491	Nashville-----	57	48	849	923
Paterson-----	49	30	646	678	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia-----	513	411	7,669	8,240	Austin-----	24	25	404	426
Pittsburgh-----	150	171	2,728	2,952	Baton Rouge-----	15	23	373	247
Reading-----	(22)	(18)	(361)	---	Corpus Christi-----	21	14	254	302
Rochester, N. Y.-----	91	81	1,529	1,669	Dallas-----	76	74	1,550	1,627
Schenectady-----	30	17	395	407	El Paso-----	29	22	425	496
Scranton-----	(24)	(43)	(551)	---	Fort Worth-----	56	39	858	995
Syracuse-----	44	49	896	898	Houston-----	117	111	2,091	2,030
Trenton-----	45	36	766	839	Little Rock-----	26	52	655	734
Utica-----	37	32	501	520	New Orleans-----	130	115	2,476	2,653
Yonkers-----	23	25	450	431	Oklahoma City-----	65	45	980	917
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio-----	81	68	1,296	1,372
Akron-----	60	43	904	1,001	Shreveport-----	40	43	609	692
Canton-----	20	27	502	501	Tulsa-----	30	40	696	601
Chicago-----	713	786	11,871	12,924	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati-----	150	139	2,273	2,526	Albuquerque-----	36	21	446	444
Cleveland-----	193	196	3,335	3,548	Colorado Springs-----	13	12	190	224
Columbus-----	86	94	1,668	1,791	Denver-----	109	108	1,676	1,941
Dayton-----	69	61	1,068	1,027	Ogden-----	14	8	157	200
Detroit-----	297	322	5,166	5,418	Phoenix-----	18	21	374	416
Evansville-----	60	21	532	575	Pueblo-----	10	12	206	234
Flint-----	34	43	611	627	Salt Lake City-----	39	48	660	758
Fort Wayne-----	30	38	421	527	Tucson-----	3	5	69	93
Gary-----	(26)	(27)	(410)	---	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids-----	38	50	678	669	Berkeley-----	14	18	297	292
Indianapolis-----	102	122	1,892	1,949	Long Beach-----	54	37	792	825
Milwaukee-----	98	124	2,002	2,139	Los Angeles-----	410	488	7,516	7,845
Peoria-----	21	29	499	497	Oakland-----	95	110	1,582	1,661
South Bend-----	33	22	369	396	Pasadena-----	34	35	532	605
Toledo-----	77	78	1,459	1,553	Portland, Oreg.-----	102	121	1,594	1,733
Youngstown-----	46	43	809	933	Sacramento-----	47	42	783	797
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego-----	67	82	1,134	1,234
Des Moines-----	51	50	764	835	San Francisco-----	171	173	3,063	3,377
Duluth-----	38	23	422	456	Seattle-----	129	108	1,988	1,911
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	(37)	---	(550)	Spokane-----	51	46	753	717
Kansas City, Mo.-----	120	108	1,859	2,180	Tacoma-----	31	36	583	559
Minneapolis-----	151	116	1,940	2,137	Honolulu-----	(40)	(29)	(584)	(541)
Omaha-----	76	60	1,016	1,125					

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

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Dr. T. E. Sullivan, Indiana State Board of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 624 persons who attended a banquet. Of these, an estimated 400 became ill from 7 to 16 hours later. The clinical symptoms were diarrhea, abdominal pain, with some nausea and vomiting. No cases of fever were reported. The common food, chicken pot pie, was prepared from canned chicken, canned chicken loaf, vacuum-packed chicken fat mix, and other ingredients. Preparation was begun 5 hours before serving time and the bulk pot pie was held at 148° to 220°F. until about a half hour before serving. The pie was made in 7 distinct batches and it was estimated that 3 or 4 of these were contaminated. Samples from an unserved batch of pie and of other foods revealed no pathogens. No samples were available from 6 batches of the chicken pie for laboratory examination.

Dr. Sullivan also reports 3 other outbreaks in Indiana—1 each in a private home, a college, and a school. In the private home, 3 members of the family became ill from 3 to 8 hours after eating a meal of baked pheasant and dressing. In the college, 70 persons became ill from 4 to 7 hours after eating in the dining

room. Potato salad was suspected and was reported to be contaminated with *E. coli* and other organisms. In the school with an enrollment of 398 students, 47 became ill from 1 to 10 hours after eating tuna fish salad, the suspected vehicle of infection.

The California Department of Public Health reports 3 small outbreaks of gastro-enteritis—2 in private homes and 1 in a special group who ate beef and ham sandwiches. In one home 4 persons who ate artichokes became ill from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 hours later. A green exudate from 2 artichokes, which were refrigerated, was noted and reported the following day. Chemical poisoning was suspected but laboratory examination failed to reveal any chemical agents. In the other home, 2 people became ill with nausea and vomiting 2 and 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours after eating a meal of canned meat and gravy, and ice cream. Laboratory tests of canned meat were negative for staphylococci and streptococci. In the special group, 5 of 50 persons became ill about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours after eating beef and ham sandwiches which had been prepared approximately 3 hours earlier. None of the sandwiches were available for laboratory examination.

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