

# 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 July 10, 1954

While the number (758, excluding the report from New Mexico) of reported cases of poliomyelitis for the current week is about 34 percent more than the 565 cases reported last week, it is about 20 percent less than the number (945) reported for the corresponding week of 1953. Of the 5 States—Texas, California, Florida, Ohio, and Michigan—which reported the largest numbers of cases for the current week, only Texas and Ohio were in the group of 5 States reporting large numbers for the corresponding week of 1953. The 3 additional States reporting large numbers in 1953 were North Carolina (73 cases), Illinois (57), and New York (53).

The cumulative total cases of poliomyelitis for the year to date is 5,458 as compared with 5,621 for the corresponding period of 1953. For the "disease year," which began with the week ended April 10, 1954, the cumulative total is 3,906 as compared with 4,040 for the corresponding period of 1953. The corresponding figure for the "disease year" in 1952 was 3,958.

### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

#### Anthrax in animals

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, has provided the information on the investigation of anthrax in animals which occurred in a city zoo. The investigation was conducted by Dr. K. L. Binkley, Zoo Veterinarian. About the middle of June a pony was found dead in the zoo. No previous signs of illness had been noted and a post mortem was performed. The area surrounding and adjacent to the junction of the aorta and the pulmonary artery and the heart was hemorrhagic, with clot-like adhesions to the pleural wall. The superficial pectoral muscles and surrounding tissues were edematous, with yellow gelatinous fluid resembling a bruise. These findings suggested that the animal died from shock caused by a severe blow in the pectoral region. As is the practice at the zoo, in accident cases, the carcass was butchered and fed to the meat eating animals, which numbered about 60. Five days later, 20 additional animals had died. A post mortem performed on most of these showed only a few hemorrhages in the adrenals and post mortem discoloration. By June 25 a total of 25 animals had died, and on this date, a diagnosis of anthrax was confirmed by laboratory examination of tissue. Six additional animals were found to be running a temperature. These were isolated and treated with terramycin. The other animals were given oral terramycin or intramuscular penicillin. Disinfectant procedures were established and carcasses were either burned or deep pit buried.

#### Psittacosis

The California Department of Public Health reports a case of psittacosis in a 47-year-old woman. The patient became ill with chills, fever, and occasional cough but no lung congestion. The complement fixation test on a blood specimen collected 2 weeks after onset was positive for psittacosis in a dilution of 1:64. The patient and her husband have 30 parakeets which they keep and sell to supplement their income. The patient cared for 3 sick baby birds which had diarrhea and died 2 or 3 weeks prior to her illness. The carcasses were burned. The birds were not registered and the owners refused to state where and from whom the

birds were purchased. No record of sales was kept and the persons who bought birds are unknown.

#### Rabies in bats

Information has been received that 2 bats picked up on a military reservation in Texas were found to be rabid. These were among a group of 72 insectivorous bats studied. Identification of rabies virus was shown by inclusion bodies in the bat brain; positive mouse inoculation tests; and by neutralization tests using immune serum prepared in rabbits against fixed rabies virus and the newly isolated bat strain.

#### Infectious encephalitis

The California Department of Public Health reports that no human cases of western equine or St. Louis types of encephalitis have been reported so far this year. To date, western equine virus has been recovered from 20 of 72 pools of mosquitoes collected in Kern County, from 4 of 29 pools in Fresno County, and from 2 of 20 pools in Sutter-Yuba Counties. Another laboratory has isolated a virus from 56 of 83 pools of *Culex tarsalis*. Twelve of the 56 have been identified as western equine type of virus, and the remaining 44 have not yet been typed. In recent weeks, a 2 to 4 fold increase in adult *C. tarsalis* has been found in various parts of the Central Valley. Encephalomyelitis in horses has been reported as follows: 4 in April, 3 in May, and 5 in June.

#### Infectious hepatitis

The California Department of Public Health reports an outbreak of infectious hepatitis in a small town of 500 inhabitants. The first case appeared in February, and was in a child whose family had recently moved from New Mexico. Since that time 23 additional cases have occurred. Most of these (16) were in an elementary school where the initial patient attended, and all cases were related directly or indirectly to this school. Other cases of a nonjaundiced illness occurred but could not be definitely diagnosed as hepatitis. The cases were spread over a 4-month period and it was felt that the outbreak was spread by contact between persons, and not from a single common source.

#### Gastro-enteritis

Dr. R. R. Cross, Illinois Department of Public Health, reports 3 outbreaks of gastro-enteritis in 2 widely separated counties. In 1 county an outbreak was confined to 10 persons who became ill after eating in a restaurant. All gave a history of having eaten custard pie in this restaurant. The pies had been prepared the preceding day and placed in an unrefrigerated cupboard. Two patients were ill enough to be hospitalized and one of these was admitted in shock, became cyanotic, and died 24 hours later. Laboratory examination of specimens of the pies revealed hemolytic *Staphylococcus aureus*. In another county 195 persons were affected in 2 schools—a public school with 300 pupils and a parochial school with 520 pupils. In both schools potato salad was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. Laboratory examination of the salad from the public school revealed the presence of hemolytic *Staphylococcus aureus*. *Staphylococci* were also found in skin fissures of a food handler

who had a neuro-dermatitis on his hands. No salad was available at the parochial school, and specimens of other foods produced negative results. Stool cultures of patients at this school were also negative.

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis following a club dinner in a hotel. The meal consisted of crab cocktail, mixed salad, roast beef, asparagus with Hollandaise sauce, sweet potato patty, and gelatin pie. The meal was served at 8:00 p.m. and by midnight many cases of nausea, vomiting, cramps, and diarrhea had developed. Other cases occurred during the early hours of the morning until a total of 66 cases were reported. Epidemiological information pointed to the Hollandaise sauce and a bacteriological examination revealed it was contaminated with staphylococci. The 7 other food items showed no significant results when examined in the laboratory. There is a possibility that the person who pre-

pared the sauce was the one reported to have a skin infection, but this was not confirmed. No nose, throat, or skin cultures were taken of the food handlers.

Dr. J. B. Baker, Sanitation Section, West Virginia Department of Health, reports that 3 persons became ill with chills, vomiting, and diarrhea about 2½ hours after eating a family lunch. Only those eating lemon cream pie became ill. This pie was purchased from a local bakery and was refrigerated until eaten. Laboratory examination showed it to be contaminated with staphylococci. The source of contamination was not determined.

The New York Department of Health reports 2 outbreaks of gastro-enteritis affecting 38 persons in one school and 70 in another. In one school food was prepared in advance for week-ends and kept in insulated containers. Cases occurred on 2 week-ends probably because of mishandling of food. No

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	27th week			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended July 10, 1954	Ended July 11, 1953	Median 1949-53	First 27 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1954	1953	Median 1949-53	1953-54	1952-53	Median 1948-49 to 1952-53	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	12	20	25	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	-	6	13	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	32	50	---	827	877	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Diphtheria-----055	38	25	37	910	1,077	2,007	38	25	37	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	34	18	17	802	538	463	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	764	571	---	31,701	17,962	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Malaria-----110-117	23	39	---	264	558	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Measles-----085	11,358	5,741	5,742	597,352	394,325	444,708	633,444	425,759	474,098	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	47	79	66	2,659	3,379	2,499	2,981	4,654	3,578	Sept. 1
Polioyelitis-----080	758	945	682	5,458	5,621	3,864	3,906	4,040	2,859	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	423	-	---	335	21	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	3	3	3	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	17	23	20	126	152	152	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	1,467	1,194	493	103,419	96,260	56,426	138,053	132,848	79,632	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	7	-	-	-	5	13	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Trichiniasis-----128	1	12	---	149	233	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Tularemia-----059	10	11	17	321	291	362	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Typhoid fever-----040	48	61	69	910	949	1,032	501	644	629	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	11	13	---	95	116	---	61	76	---	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	898	737	1,083	29,221	17,728	28,766	38,978	25,585	42,382	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	109	125	---	4,245	4,158	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )

<sup>1</sup>Information not available or frequencies are too small.

<sup>2</sup>Addition: Idaho, week ended July 3, 1 case.

<sup>3</sup>Deductions: Indiana, week ended May 8, 1 case; North Carolina, week ended June 12, 1 case; Colorado, week ended June 26, 1 case.

<sup>4</sup>Colorado, District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, New York, South Carolina, and Texas, 1 case each; Pennsylvania, 3; California, 4; and Minnesota, 7.

<sup>5</sup>Addition: Idaho, week ended June 19, 11 cases.

NOTE.—No report for the current week has been received from New Mexico.

#### 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.

# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED JULY 11, 1953 AND JULY 10, 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 <sup>1</sup>		Military	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	32	50	38	25	34	18	764	571	9	23	14	16
NEW ENGLAND-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	34	29	-	-	-	2
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	5	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	10	10	-	-	-	2
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	1	1	3	6	6	10	205	84	-	1	-	1
New York-----	1	-	2	3	5	10	104	75	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	3	1	-	18	-	-	-	-	1
Pennsylvania-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	83	9	-	1	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	6	4	2	1	4	3	99	61	-	1	2	-
Ohio-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	10	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	1	-	1	-	6	13	-	1	-	-
Illinois-----	2	1	-	-	-	1	60	19	-	-	2	-
Michigan-----	-	1	-	1	3	2	10	17	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	4	2	-	-	-	-	16	2	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	9	27	4	-	1	1	133	105	1	-	-	2
Minnesota-----	1	7	2	-	-	-	49	19	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	6	15	1	-	-	-	40	31	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	-	2	1	-	-	-	11	30	1	-	-	2
North Dakota-----	2	-	-	-	-	1	7	3	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	9	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	-	3	-	-	1	-	9	12	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	2	6	10	8	4	2	93	117	-	-	2	6
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	24	10	-	-	-	1
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	1	1	1	1	-	1	46	50	-	-	-	3
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	10	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	1	1	2	-	7	10	-	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	-	3	4	2	-	3	4	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	1	4	4	2	-	-	2	7	-	-	2	2
Florida-----	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	16	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	4	1	4	3	3	-	58	64	-	7	10	-
Kentucky-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	20	-	-	10	-
Tennessee-----	2	-	1	1	3	-	18	7	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	7	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	3	2	-	-	33	31	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	8	5	8	2	3	1	44	49	6	9	-	3
Arkansas-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
Oklahoma-----	3	1	3	-	-	-	10	2	1	-	-	-
Texas-----	3	2	5	2	3	1	29	42	5	9	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	2	3	4	4	1	1	29	16	-	1	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	1	-	-	1	-	5	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	1	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	-	2	2	1	12	-	69	46	2	4	-	2
Washington-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	12	5	-	-	-	1
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	20	-	-	-	-
California-----	-	2	1	1	12	-	38	21	2	4	-	1
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	9	8	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup>Includes 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 JULY 11, 1953, AND JULY 10, 1954--Continued

(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)	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	Total <sup>2</sup>		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		1954	1953
					1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953		
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	11,358	5,741	47	79	758	945	254	267	238	322	17	23
NEW ENGLAND-----	1,084	93	1	4	16	31	3	7	5	12	-	-
Maine-----	120	17	-	-	1	4	1	2	-	2	-	-
New Hampshire-----	18	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	73	19	1	1	3	3	1	1	-	1	-	-
Massachusetts-----	653	31	-	2	6	6	1	1	1	2	-	-
Rhode Island-----	71	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
Connecticut-----	149	24	-	1	8	14	-	2	4	6	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	3,868	467	15	17	40	82	10	16	10	13	2	1
New York-----	2,093	245	5	7	22	53	7	9	6	6	2	-
New Jersey-----	1,229	60	4	1	7	14	3	7	4	7	-	1
Pennsylvania-----	546	162	6	9	11	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	2,176	1,409	4	24	104	187	32	40	28	56	3	1
Ohio-----	496	226	-	8	35	66	10	15	10	11	1	1
Indiana-----	431	116	-	6	7	17	2	-	2	-	-	-
Illinois-----	420	346	4	9	25	57	6	16	5	30	2	-
Michigan-----	518	357	-	1	34	34	13	9	11	15	-	-
Wisconsin-----	311	364	-	-	3	13	1	-	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	424	187	2	6	77	104	18	29	31	37	-	-
Minnesota-----	72	28	-	2	12	36	4	13	7	17	-	-
Iowa-----	174	87	1	1	26	8	4	3	17	5	-	-
Missouri-----	29	15	-	1	14	24	2	9	3	4	-	-
North Dakota-----	88	23	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	5	7	-	1	1	5	-	-	-	5	-	-
Nebraska-----	42	8	-	-	9	12	5	4	4	6	-	-
Kansas-----	14	19	-	1	14	19	3	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	994	405	9	8	104	188	32	62	30	71	10	13
Delaware-----	20	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Maryland-----	110	35	1	1	2	5	2	4	-	1	2	3
District of Columbia-----	25	4	1	-	-	3	-	2	-	1	-	-
Virginia-----	353	111	3	1	10	39	4	17	6	19	4	5
West Virginia-----	144	62	-	1	4	21	1	9	-	7	-	-
North Carolina-----	75	55	2	1	11	73	3	20	7	31	2	2
South Carolina-----	21	26	2	-	11	8	4	4	3	-	-	2
Georgia-----	120	52	-	1	19	26	4	5	4	7	1	1
Florida-----	126	33	-	3	47	13	14	1	10	5	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	263	99	7	3	77	101	18	31	11	20	2	2
Kentucky-----	58	42	2	1	12	18	8	10	3	2	2	-
Tennessee-----	76	26	1	-	13	31	-	13	2	3	-	-
Alabama-----	79	4	3	2	19	23	-	8	-	15	-	2
Mississippi-----	50	27	1	-	33	29	10	-	6	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	912	1,026	4	5	193	167	75	49	70	86	-	1
Arkansas-----	52	60	-	-	15	17	7	6	7	11	-	-
Louisiana-----	11	20	-	-	7	36	3	14	4	22	-	-
Oklahoma-----	153	53	1	-	26	25	5	7	2	9	-	-
Texas-----	696	893	3	5	145	89	60	22	57	44	-	1
MOUNTAIN-----	317	378	-	1	41	29	6	8	8	6	-	5
Montana-----	165	17	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	2
Idaho-----	6	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	12	58	-	-	19	1	1	-	-	1	-	1
Colorado-----	52	117	-	-	8	3	4	-	3	-	-	1
New Mexico-----	49	49	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	40	34	-	-	7	9	1	3	4	3	-	-
Utah-----	40	62	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nevada-----	2	1	-	-	5	6	-	5	-	1	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1,320	1,677	5	11	106	56	60	25	45	21	-	-
Washington-----	193	371	2	2	5	7	5	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	90	133	-	1	9	4	3	3	6	1	-	-
California-----	1,037	1,173	3	8	92	45	52	22	39	20	-	-
Alaska-----	10	118	-	-	9	5	7	3	2	2	-	-
Hawaii-----	6	3	1	-	5	2	1	2	4	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	61	33	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-

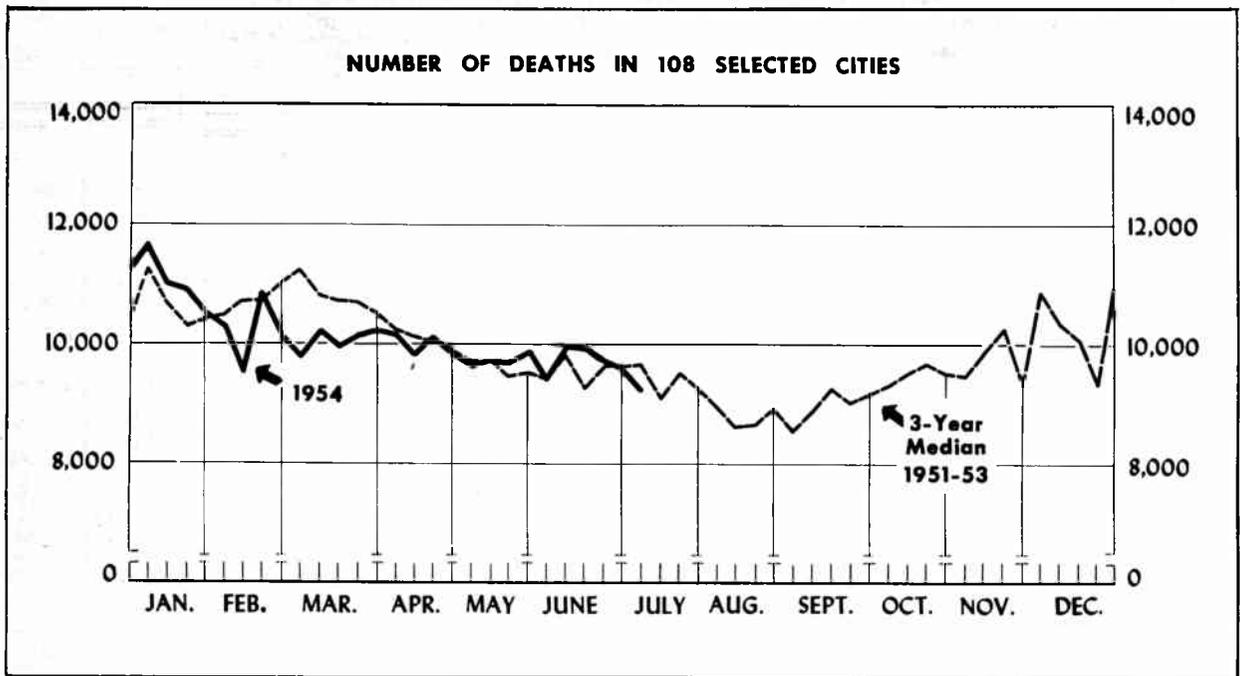
<sup>2</sup>Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).

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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 JULY 11, 1953, AND JULY 10, 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-----	1,467	1,194	1	10	11	48	61	11	898	737	109	125
NEW ENGLAND-----	64	51	-	-	-	-	1	7	38	60	-	-
Maine-----	13	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-
New Hampshire-----	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Vermont-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-
Massachusetts-----	33	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	22	-	-
Rhode Island-----	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-
Connecticut-----	10	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	21	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	109	98	1	-	-	6	8	-	108	201	11	18
New York-----	72	73	1	-	-	3	2	-	59	120	11	18
New Jersey-----	8	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	25	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	29	9	-	-	-	3	6	-	26	56	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	125	90	-	-	-	3	7	-	162	125	22	22
Ohio-----	24	18	-	-	-	2	3	-	30	33	6	3
Indiana-----	23	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	12	10	9	8
Illinois-----	29	22	-	-	-	1	-	-	27	12	2	2
Michigan-----	22	29	-	-	-	-	1	-	76	52	3	9
Wisconsin-----	27	16	-	-	-	-	1	-	17	18	2	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	42	25	-	2	-	1	4	-	32	14	18	7
Minnesota-----	15	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	8	3	1	1
Iowa-----	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	6	8	2
Missouri-----	3	4	-	1	-	-	3	-	7	2	8	3
North Dakota-----	18	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
South Dakota-----	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Kansas-----	4	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	7	2	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	141	150	-	1	3	5	9	9	89	73	28	20
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	14	10	-	-	-	-	2	-	14	14	-	-
District of Columbia-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	64	105	1	-	-	-	3	-	18	20	10	9
West Virginia-----	14	16	-	-	-	1	-	-	15	9	5	2
North Carolina-----	11	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	14	2	-
South Carolina-----	2	2	-	-	1	3	2	1	11	13	9	4
Georgia-----	34	4	-	-	2	-	2	8	14	2	1	5
Florida-----	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	1	1	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	23	42	-	2	2	13	12	-	131	16	11	35
Kentucky-----	5	31	-	-	-	2	6	-	50	2	2	7
Tennessee-----	10	7	-	1	2	3	2	-	46	8	4	12
Alabama-----	7	2	-	-	-	2	1	-	15	4	5	9
Mississippi-----	1	2	-	1	-	6	3	-	20	2	-	7
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	674	534	-	5	4	18	15	2	209	141	17	19
Arkansas-----	45	23	-	1	2	6	5	-	26	-	2	1
Louisiana-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	-	-
Oklahoma-----	14	4	-	1	2	3	3	-	6	3	2	-
Texas-----	614	507	-	3	-	9	7	2	176	127	13	18
MOUNTAIN-----	203	53	-	-	2	1	2	-	40	35	-	2
Montana-----	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	4	-	-
Idaho-----	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-
Wyoming-----	2	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Colorado-----	40	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	9	-	-
Arizona-----	120	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	10	13	-	2
Utah-----	29	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	1	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	86	151	-	-	-	1	3	-	89	72	2	2
Washington-----	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	15	-	-
Oregon-----	12	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	32	-	-
California-----	67	123	-	-	-	1	3	-	70	25	2	2
Alaska-----	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	43	4	-	1



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	27th week ended July 10, 1954	26th week ended July 3, 1954	27th week median 1951-53	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 27 WEEKS		
					1954	1953	Percent change
TOTAL: 105 REPORTING CITIES-----	8,761	9,229	9,143	-4.2	258,764	270,360	-4.3
New England----- (14 cities)	559	606	643	-13.1	18,151	18,674	-2.8
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	2,723	2,727	2,820	-3.4	80,085	83,952	-4.6
East North Central----- (18 cities)	1,874	2,067	1,992	-5.9	59,763	62,061	-3.7
West North Central----- (8 cities)	770	810	680	+13.2	19,312	20,801	-7.2
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	763	687	713	+7.0	20,756	21,821	-4.9
East South Central----- (8 cities)	410	485	420	-2.4	12,477	13,020	-4.2
West South Central----- (12 cities)	737	841	736	+0.1	20,235	21,261	-4.8
Mountain----- (8 cities)	222	228	226	-1.8	6,248	6,820	-8.4
Pacific----- (11 cities)	703	778	761	-7.6	21,737	21,950	-1.0

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED JULY 10, 1954

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

CITY	27th week ended July 10, 1954	26th week ended July 3, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 27 WEEKS		CITY	27th week ended July 10, 1954	26th week ended July 3, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 27 WEEKS	
			1954	1953				1954	1953
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston-----	203	188	6,072	6,288	St. Louis-----	260	263	6,292	6,895
Bridgeport-----	30	29	958	911	St. Paul-----	51	59	1,775	1,758
Cambridge-----	24	23	782	779	Wichita-----	42	53	1,121	1,153
Fall River-----	24	25	783	784	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	29	49	1,237	1,257	Atlanta-----	115	107	2,840	2,941
Lowell-----	20	18	764	708	Baltimore-----	227	196	5,925	6,339
Lynn-----	25	25	597	609	Charlotte-----	30	37	831	786
New Bedford-----	22	23	617	649	Jacksonville-----	(47)	(63)	(1,348)	---
New Haven-----	37	50	1,212	1,224	Miami-----	62	46	1,763	1,696
Providence-----	39	53	1,624	1,670	Norfolk-----	28	32	809	877
Somerville-----	6	10	389	425	Richmond-----	61	48	1,709	1,808
Springfield, Mass.-----	33	45	1,079	1,087	Savannah-----	(32)	(29)	(772)	---
Waterbury-----	24	16	672	723	Tampa-----	50	52	1,488	1,518
Worcester-----	43	52	1,365	1,560	Washington, D. C.-----	152	147	4,513	4,941
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Albany-----	55	27	1,217	1,232	Birmingham-----	66	90	2,063	1,964
Allentown-----	(27)	(35)	(907)	---	Chattanooga-----	36	43	1,189	1,309
Buffalo-----	155	152	3,831	3,965	Knoxville-----	18	49	916	898
Camden-----	36	31	1,002	986	Louisville-----	60	126	2,892	2,918
Elizabeth-----	28	17	731	784	Memphis-----	120	71	2,550	2,876
Erie-----	38	35	942	953	Mobile-----	31	31	839	857
Jersey City-----	62	58	1,918	1,925	Montgomery-----	34	22	689	756
Newark, N. J.-----	92	91	2,672	2,838	Nashville-----	45	53	1,339	1,442
New York City-----	1,374	1,419	42,093	44,250	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Paterson-----	36	34	1,050	1,082	Austin-----	21	36	683	701
Philadelphia-----	456	441	12,746	13,377	Baton Rouge-----	---	(31)	---	(386)
Pittsburgh-----	155	155	4,411	4,779	Corpus Christi-----	21	23	451	490
Reading-----	(15)	(25)	(560)	---	Dallas-----	122	110	2,669	2,641
Rochester, N. Y.-----	81	78	2,521	2,645	El Paso-----	22	31	749	799
Schenectady-----	22	24	652	657	Fort Worth-----	59	59	1,444	1,623
Scranton-----	(29)	(34)	(935)	---	Houston-----	96	142	3,311	3,391
Syracuse-----	53	60	1,497	1,452	Little Rock-----	40	72	1,122	1,230
Trenton-----	28	49	1,238	1,336	New Orleans-----	164	161	4,030	4,375
Utica-----	20	30	824	863	Oklahoma City-----	41	63	1,553	1,553
Yonkers-----	32	26	740	728	San Antonio-----	71	72	2,083	2,279
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					MOUNTAIN				
Akron-----	50	58	1,521	1,605	Albuquerque-----	29	21	711	739
Canton-----	27	26	785	756	Colorado Springs-----	6	11	329	368
Chicago-----	599	659	19,951	20,754	Denver-----	96	101	2,799	3,025
Cincinnati-----	123	171	3,804	4,040	Orden-----	14	4	275	333
Cleveland-----	164	206	5,497	5,691	Phoenix-----	17	23	582	650
Columbus-----	99	97	2,783	2,875	Pueblo-----	12	18	354	370
Dayton-----	53	53	1,714	1,721	Salt Lake City-----	45	48	1,093	1,192
Detroit-----	260	301	8,462	8,749	Tucson-----	3	2	105	143
Evansville-----	29	31	839	919	PACIFIC				
Flint-----	35	36	1,033	1,027	Berkeley-----	7	18	469	467
Fort Wayne-----	19	26	703	831	Long Beach-----	44	41	1,326	1,305
Gary-----	(19)	(38)	(677)	---	Los Angeles-----	(397)	<sup>1</sup> (752)	(11,962)	(12,271)
Grand Rapids-----	32	36	1,075	1,076	Oakland-----	72	75	2,534	2,649
Indianapolis-----	112	96	3,059	3,108	Pasadena-----	31	38	916	945
Milwaukee-----	114	97	3,347	3,405	Portland, Oreg.-----	96	97	2,712	2,786
Peoria-----	30	31	827	856	Sacramento-----	50	51	1,291	1,313
South Bend-----	21	18	633	659	San Diego-----	53	76	1,988	1,970
Toledo-----	69	82	2,407	2,518	San Francisco-----	141	188	5,014	5,264
Youngstown-----	38	43	1,323	1,471	Seattle-----	126	125	3,322	3,183
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					PACIFIC				
Des Moines-----	63	49	1,352	1,373	Spokane-----	44	47	1,228	1,146
Duluth-----	20	37	721	732	Tacoma-----	39	22	937	922
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	---	---	(949)	Honolulu-----	(27)	(35)	(917)	(857)
Kansas City, Mo.-----	168	164	3,228	3,451					
Minneapolis-----	101	107	3,158	3,589					
Omaha-----	65	78	1,667	1,850					

<sup>1</sup>Reported for 2 weeks ended July 3.

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

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laboratory tests were made. In the other school Shigella sonnei was isolated from stool specimens but the source of infection or mode of spread was not determined.

### Chemical food poisoning

The North Carolina State Board of Health has given information on an illness among patrons of an eating establishment, apparently resulting from the use of sodium sulphite in ham-

burger. Dr. M. B. Bethel, local health officer, reports that samples of meat from the establishment were "heavily laden with sodium sulphite." Samples of meat from the original purveyor, and from other of his customers, also contained the chemical. However, no history of illness could be obtained from patrons of the other restaurants. It was reported as unusual to find that this chemical was still in use in an area where the practice of so adulterating meat has been almost eliminated.

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