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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended October 2, 1954

Less than 2,000 cases of poliomyelitis were reported for the current week. It is the first time in 7 weeks that the total has been this low. Substantial decreases were reported in most States. Florida continues to report large numbers of cases, with 132 for the current week. For the previous 2 weeks, 56 and 86 cases, respectively, were reported in the State.

A report from Dr. L. L. Parks shows that an outbreak reported as poliomyelitis has occurred in Leon County, Florida. During the last 2 weeks of September, 70 cases were reported among persons mostly in the age group 30 to 40 and chiefly among women. The disease has been very mild and no deaths have occurred in this particular group. The symptoms were slight fever, backache, and some neck muscle rigidity, a very mild nystagmus, and occasional diplopia. Twenty-five cases have shown a slight increase in the spinal fluid cell count. There have been some muscle soreness and paralysis but the paralysis usually clears within a week. Laboratory studies are being made to determine the exact etiology of the disease.

The cumulative total cases of poliomyelitis for the year to date is now 28,294 as compared with 42,206 and 27,899 for 1952 and 1953, respectively. For the "disease year," which began about April 1, the cumulative total is 26,741 as compared with the corresponding total of 26,318 for 1953. In 1952, the corresponding total was 40,951.

Of the 69 cases of diphtheria reported for the current week, there were 14 each in Alabama, Georgia, and Louisiana. For the corresponding week of last year, a total of 52 cases was reported.

Reported cases of measles (1,227) and whooping cough (1,272) for the current week are almost 50 percent in excess of the 854 and 849 cases of these diseases, respectively, for the corresponding week of 1953. Since the first of the year, 633,209 cases of measles have been reported as compared with 414,412 cases for the same period of last year. The cumulative total cases of whooping cough is 43,761 as compared with 27,219 for the corresponding period of 1953.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Influenza

The Influenza Information Center, NIH, has received information from the Division of Preventive Medicine, U. S. Air Force, that of 20 paired sera obtained during September from a base in the Philippine Islands, 7 showed a significant rise in antibody titer to influenza A [FM1 (1947)].

Respiratory diseases including mild influenza-like illness was present on the base during August and September, which together with the serologic findings, is reminiscent of the experience in the same months 2 years ago.

Rabies in man

Dr. Henry A. Holle, Texas Department of Health, has forwarded information on 2 deaths from human rabies which occurred in Dallas recently. Dr. J. W. Bass, Dallas health officer, reported that the victims were children from different localities who had been bitten by dogs about 2 months prior to the onset of illness. The dogs were killed before observation could be made, and decomposition prevented laboratory examination of their brains. Permission was not granted for an autopsy of either child, but the signs, symptoms, and clinical courses were typical of rabies. Negri bodies were found in the brains of laboratory mice which had been injected with saliva from one of the children. Rabies vaccine was recommended for one child, and probably for the other, but the parents neglected to secure this protection.

Encephalitis

Dr. A. C. Hollister, Jr., California Department of Public Health, has a suspect case of Japanese B encephalitis. The patient was exposed to mosquitoes in Japan and developed symptoms on board ship returning from that country. Symptoms included lethargy, disturbed cranial nerve reflexes, and facial paralysis. Two blood specimens taken 2 and 3 weeks, respectively, after onset have been negative by complement fixation tests to western equine, St. Louis and Japanese B encephalitis. The patient is now in another State.

Infectious Hepatitis

Dr. L. M. Schuman, Illinois Department of Public Health, states that the outbreak of infectious hepatitis in the institution in northwestern Illinois continues to spread. The original information was given in the report for the week ended August 28, 1954. To date, 150 cases have occurred among the inmates of 30 cottages. Fifty percent of the cases are icteric and the remainder are anicteric. The diagnosis was established by liver function tests and by typical clinical syndrome. The outbreak started in a single ward or cottage and gamma globulin was given to all ward contacts. When another case occurred in a second ward, the prophylaxis was given to all inmates of that ward. No further inoculations have been given beyond these 2 wards. However, it is now planned to inoculate all inhabitants of the institution in an attempt to reduce the attack rate.

Fish poisoning

Dr. James R. Enright, Hawaii Department of Health, reports an outbreak of fish poisoning in an institution. Fish was served to approximately 600 persons for their evening meal. Of these, 57 (including 5 cafeteria workers) became ill 15 or 20 minutes later. The symptoms were a generalized flushing of the face and body, severe headache, palpitation, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. The patients stated that the fish had an unusual taste and caused their throats to itch. Many refused to eat the fish after tasting it, and others noted nothing wrong and had no symptoms. Examination showed a portion of the fish had a bluish-green discoloration in the stomach region, involving about 10 percent of the fish. Laboratory examination revealed no pathogens and tests were negative for nitrates. The volatile acid content of the discolored portions of the fish were found to be 3 times as high as the normal portions. This is probably an outbreak of scambroid poisoning, the source of which is suspected to be caused by some organic material eaten by the fish. A supply of the fish has been sent to the School of Tropical and Preventive Medicine, College of Medical Evangelists, California, for further study.

Mussel poisoning

The California Department of Health, reports that 5 of 8 persons who ate mussels became ill from 2 to 10 hours later.

The general symptoms were numbness, and a tingling sensation around the mouth. One patient who was severely ill had paralysis of the arms and legs. Laboratory examination of a vomitus specimen from one patient showed it contained a toxin. Along the ocean shore line of California mussels may be toxic during certain months, usually May through October. A quarantine has been established of all mussels along the shore prohibiting the taking of mussels from this area except for fish bait, effective from May 1 to October 31, 1954. Mussels from one county showed no toxin early in July but when tested later at the end of August, there was a high toxin content.

Typhoid fever

Dr. A. C. Hollister, Jr., California Department of Public Health, gives epidemiologic information on a case of typhoid fever. The patient became ill with fever, a stiff neck, and complained of aching all over. Six days after the onset she was admitted to a hospital where the clinical findings were fever and meningismus, and a tentative diagnosis of infectious mononucleosis was made. Laboratory tests, however, revealed that this was a case of typhoid fever. The Widal test was complete in a dilution of 1:160 and partial, 1:320. Stool specimens showed Salmonella typhosa, phage E1. An investigation of the patient's school and her social and work habits failed to reveal the source of the disease. The most probable source is her mother who told her physician that she had had typhoid fever 15 years ago. Stool specimens from all members of the household showed no typhoid bacilli. More specimens are to be collected from the mother.

Shigellosis

The New York State Health Department reports an outbreak of shigellosis in an institution. Fifty-seven cases have occurred since August 24, and cases are still occurring among the 412

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	39th week			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
				First 39 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
	Ended October 2, 1954	Ended October 3, 1953	Median 1949-53	1954	1953	Median 1949-53	1953-54	1952-53	Median 1948-49 to 1952-53	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	1	17	23	33	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	10	15	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	29	48	---	[2]1,305	1,395	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Diphtheria-----055	69	52	104	1,304	1,538	2,720	432	486	750	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	58	36	36	[3]1,454	870	796	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	675	653	---	40,518	24,440	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Malaria-----110-117	30	22	---	561	1,201	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Measles-----085	1,227	854	667	633,209	414,412	472,341	5,381	3,734	3,125	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	47	74	62	3,259	4,037	3,167	243	272	248	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	1,951	1,455	1,851	[4]28,294	27,899	27,899	[4]26,741	26,318	26,318	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	[5]3	-	---	407	43	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	5	10	8	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	7	6	6	262	272	298	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	1,297	1,140	586	119,150	108,064	60,032	11,409	8,457	2,852	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	4	14	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Trichiniasis-----128	4	9	---	197	311	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Tularemia-----059	7	11	11	459	423	512	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Typhoid fever-----040	63	50	71	1,757	1,776	1,955	1,347	1,471	1,508	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	3	5	---	155	197	---	121	157	---	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	1,272	849	987	43,761	27,219	46,602	53,518	35,076	56,635	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	115	122	---	5,387	5,630	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]

[1]Information not available or frequencies are too small.
[2]Deduction: Georgia, week ended September 18, 2 cases.
[3]Addition: Indiana, week ended September 18, 1 case.
[4]Deductions: Georgia, week ended September 18, 3 cases; Michigan, week ended September 25, 1 case.
[5]California, 2 cases; Montana, 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.

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 3, 1953, AND OCTOBER 2, 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	48	69	52	58	36	675	653	7	14	23	8
NEW ENGLAND	2	4	-	1	-	-	44	52	-	1	-	-
Maine	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	20	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	1	2	-	1	-	-	25	26	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	-	1	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	1	2	-	2	6	4	173	109	-	-	3	1
New York	1	2	-	-	6	3	104	81	-	-	2	1
New Jersey	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	5	-	-	1	-
Pennsylvania	-	-	-	2	-	-	61	23	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	10	16	2	2	3	-	75	60	-	2	1	2
Ohio	-	-	2	-	-	-	7	17	-	-	-	-
Indiana	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	12	-	1	-	-
Illinois	6	13	-	1	2	-	35	17	-	-	-	2
Michigan	1	2	-	-	1	-	14	10	-	-	1	-
Wisconsin	3	1	-	-	-	-	12	4	-	1	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	6	11	7	3	10	22	57	97	-	1	-	-
Minnesota	2	1	-	1	-	1	17	12	-	-	-	-
Iowa	2	5	1	-	-	-	25	37	-	1	-	-
Missouri	1	5	-	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	-	-
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	2	13	-	10	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	1	6	3	5	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-
Kansas	-	-	-	2	7	2	6	1	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	4	2	29	26	2	2	89	129	-	-	6	3
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	-	3	-	-	1	11	13	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia	1	1	-	-	-	-	38	63	-	-	2	1
West Virginia	-	-	1	1	-	-	10	5	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	1	-	7	2	1	-	11	22	-	-	-	-
South Carolina	-	1	3	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	1
Georgia	2	-	14	14	1	1	7	19	-	-	-	-
Florida	-	-	1	2	-	-	10	6	-	-	-	1
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	3	5	15	13	1	-	78	74	-	3	13	-
Kentucky	-	-	-	3	-	-	39	10	-	-	13	-
Tennessee	2	4	-	3	1	-	12	6	-	-	-	-
Alabama	-	-	14	6	-	-	14	17	-	3	-	-
Mississippi	1	1	1	1	-	-	13	41	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	1	5	16	4	12	6	40	37	6	2	-	-
Arkansas	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	5	4	-	-	-
Louisiana	-	1	14	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	8	-	-	-	-
Texas	1	1	1	4	12	5	27	24	2	2	-	-
MOUNTAIN	-	-	-	1	-	-	41	26	-	-	-	-
Montana	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	13	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	5	-	-	-	-
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	3	-	-	-	-
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	2	3	-	-	24	2	78	69	1	5	-	2
Washington	1	-	-	-	-	-	12	16	-	-	-	1
Oregon	-	2	-	-	-	-	15	23	-	-	-	-
California	1	1	-	-	24	2	51	30	1	5	-	1
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	1	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Puerto Rico	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	12	1	-	-	-

[1]Includes cases not specified as civilian or military.

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 3, 1953, AND OCTOBER 2, 1954—Continued

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

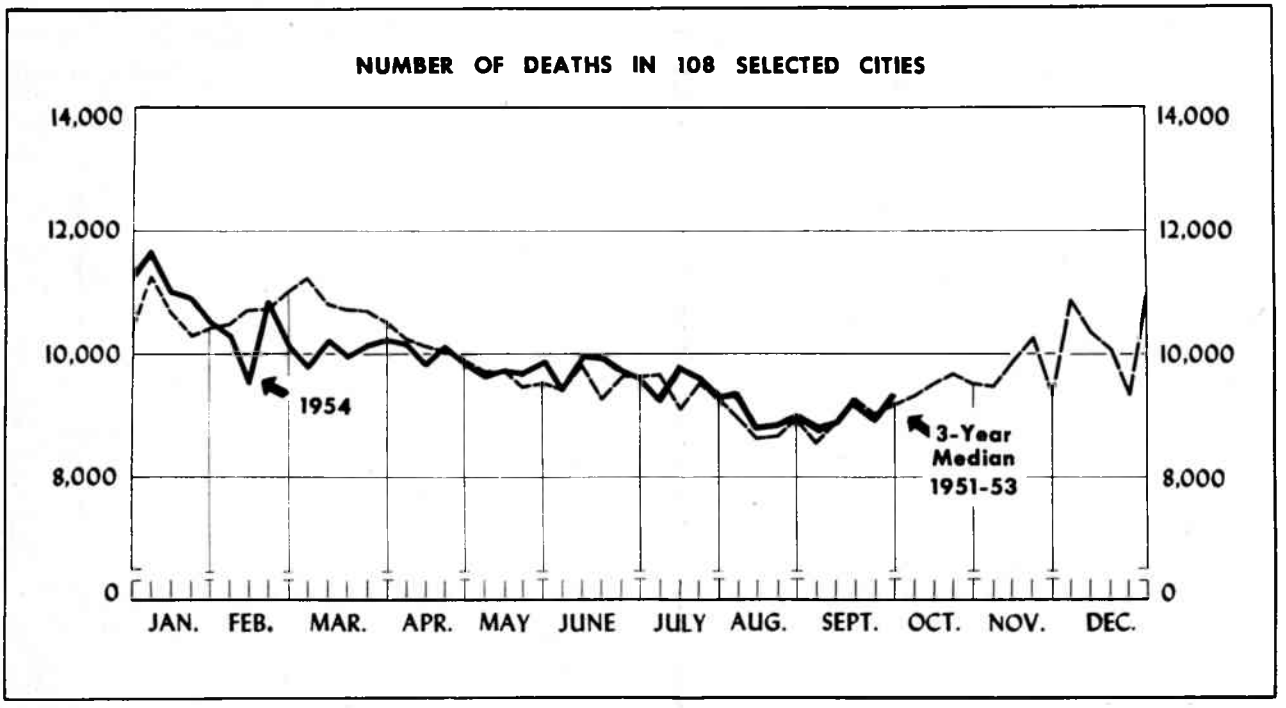
AREA	MEASLES (085)		MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
					Total[2]		Paralytic (080.0, 080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)			
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
CONT. UNITED STATES	1,227	854	47	74	1,951	1,455	750	459	519	364	7	6
NEW ENGLAND	208	18	2	3	112	109	24	47	52	27	-	-
Maine	2	7	-	-	9	19	7	11	1	4	-	-
New Hampshire	58	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	6	2	-	-	1	7	-	3	1	1	-	-
Massachusetts	118	7	2	3	75	42	15	26	43	13	-	-
Rhode Island	12	-	-	-	8	18	-	3	-	2	-	-
Connecticut	12	2	-	-	15	20	2	4	7	7	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	163	134	11	12	247	277	64	76	40	27	2	1
New York	74	49	6	4	107	159	35	58	25	10	1	1
New Jersey	63	13	1	3	49	40	29	18	15	17	-	-
Pennsylvania	26	72	4	5	91	78	-	-	-	-	1	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	231	148	9	16	512	421	178	110	97	95	-	-
Ohio	31	10	4	6	171	129	41	25	27	22	-	-
Indiana	9	16	1	7	42	22	17	-	2	-	-	-
Illinois	43	28	3	1	163	88	59	32	28	19	-	-
Michigan	108	41	-	1	90	119	39	53	33	54	-	-
Wisconsin	40	53	1	1	46	63	22	-	7	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	110	42	6	13	263	191	98	52	77	38	-	1
Minnesota	13	1	3	-	43	109	15	32	14	29	-	-
Iowa	11	12	-	-	72	14	31	9	27	3	-	1
Missouri	29	-	2	-	30	18	14	5	11	1	-	-
North Dakota	44	20	-	11	4	6	-	-	1	2	-	-
South Dakota	1	4	-	-	10	17	-	-	1	-	-	-
Nebraska	1	-	-	1	52	4	23	2	12	2	-	-
Kansas	11	5	1	1	52	23	15	4	11	1	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	71	50	6	10	286	120	172	54	61	44	2	2
Delaware	1	1	-	-	5	-	2	-	3	-	-	-
Maryland	4	5	1	-	14	23	9	12	5	11	-	-
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	5	2	4	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia	10	19	1	2	32	26	17	14	13	9	1	1
West Virginia	28	8	-	-	35	23	17	12	4	5	-	-
North Carolina	16	2	2	2	33	21	18	9	12	7	1	1
South Carolina	6	-	-	-	6	1	4	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	3	10	1	3	24	7	10	3	5	4	-	-
Florida	3	5	1	3	132	17	91	4	19	8	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	58	59	4	5	76	34	29	13	21	5	-	-
Kentucky	24	7	2	1	25	8	13	1	7	3	-	-
Tennessee	28	37	2	1	32	11	9	1	7	-	-	-
Alabama	1	12	-	3	12	11	7	11	5	-	-	-
Mississippi	5	3	-	-	7	4	-	-	2	2	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	144	143	4	7	138	54	57	22	50	22	-	2
Arkansas	1	3	-	1	10	5	6	3	4	2	-	1
Louisiana	1	4	2	1	17	5	10	2	7	3	-	1
Oklahoma	1	3	-	2	18	8	4	-	3	2	-	-
Texas	141	133	2	3	93	36	37	17	36	15	-	-
MOUNTAIN	38	89	1	1	88	56	18	14	20	12	3	-
Montana	-	8	-	-	7	17	1	7	3	6	1	-
Idaho	4	16	-	1	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	3	-	-	10	2	2	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado	5	34	1	-	18	3	9	1	7	2	-	-
New Mexico	11	2	-	-	15	6	3	-	5	-	-	-
Arizona	12	1	-	-	11	9	3	5	5	4	1	-
Utah	6	25	-	-	21	11	-	-	-	-	1	-
Nevada	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	204	171	4	7	229	193	110	71	101	94	-	-
Washington	107	64	-	1	29	24	14	-	2	-	-	-
Oregon	12	11	-	1	11	17	3	5	4	11	-	-
California	85	96	4	5	189	152	93	66	95	83	-	-
Alaska	-	29	-	-	9	-	5	-	4	-	-	-
Hawaii	19	2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	47	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	-

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

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED OCTOBER 3, 1953, AND OCTOBER 2, 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)		TRICHINIASIS (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	1,297	1,140	4	7	11	63	50	3	1,272	849	115	122
NEW ENGLAND	25	29	1	-	-	4	1	-	182	88	-	-
Maine	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-
New Hampshire	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Vermont	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	-	-
Massachusetts	15	15	1	-	-	2	1	-	56	46	-	-
Rhode Island	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	83	5	-	-
Connecticut	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	12	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	74	56	1	-	-	3	11	-	172	281	24	7
New York	46	25	-	-	-	2	7	-	70	188	23	7
New Jersey	11	9	1	-	-	-	2	-	47	39	-	-
Pennsylvania	17	22	-	-	-	1	2	-	55	54	1	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	130	90	-	-	4	4	3	-	345	224	16	13
Ohio	17	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	68	37	2	-
Indiana	42	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	15	8	7	4
Illinois	28	31	-	-	3	1	1	-	65	10	4	5
Michigan	31	26	-	-	-	1	1	-	161	127	-	4
Wisconsin	12	27	-	-	1	-	-	-	36	42	3	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	30	35	-	-	1	5	3	-	77	31	8	14
Minnesota	11	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	11	3	2
Iowa	6	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	11	9	3	7
Missouri	1	6	-	-	1	4	1	-	5	5	1	5
North Dakota	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	1	-
South Dakota	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Nebraska	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	6	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	140	164	-	-	3	13	7	-	114	43	18	24
Delaware	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland	5	9	-	-	-	2	2	-	14	2	-	-
District of Columbia	4	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	9	-	-
Virginia	48	87	-	-	-	7	-	-	15	4	3	8
West Virginia	14	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	20	8	3
North Carolina	31	26	-	-	1	1	1	-	16	3	1	1
South Carolina	4	3	-	-	2	1	-	-	3	-	2	8
Georgia	24	10	-	-	-	1	2	-	7	4	3	4
Florida	10	7	-	-	-	1	1	-	9	1	1	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	46	62	1	1	-	11	8	3	80	11	25	41
Kentucky	22	9	-	-	-	5	2	-	40	1	8	20
Tennessee	14	25	-	1	-	2	3	-	18	-	7	4
Alabama	8	15	1	-	-	3	2	3	22	6	7	13
Mississippi	2	13	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	4	3	4
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	602	534	1	3	3	13	11	-	80	96	24	19
Arkansas	56	82	-	2	2	2	2	-	6	46	3	4
Louisiana	5	1	1	-	1	5	2	-	7	-	-	-
Oklahoma	19	4	-	-	-	1	3	-	2	3	-	-
Texas	522	447	-	1	-	5	4	-	65	47	21	15
MOUNTAIN	140	37	-	3	-	5	4	-	33	23	-	2
Montana	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-
Idaho	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Wyoming	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado	18	12	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1
New Mexico	8	4	-	-	-	4	2	-	11	-	-	-
Arizona	89	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	4	-	1
Utah	22	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	11	-	-
Nevada	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
PACIFIC	110	133	-	-	-	5	2	-	189	52	-	2
Washington	26	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	8	-	-
Oregon	16	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	11	-	-
California	68	88	-	-	-	5	2	-	150	33	-	2
Alaska	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	32	4	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	39th week ended Oct. 2, 1954	38th week ended Sept. 25, 1954	39th week median 1951-53	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 39 WEEKS		
					1954	1953	Percent change
TOTAL: 106 REPORTING CITIES---------	9,259	8,864	9,124	+1.5	379,598	393,379	-3.5
New England----------(14 cities)	641	642	616	+4.1	25,241	25,845	-2.3
Middle Atlantic----------(16 cities)	2,772	2,591	2,681	+3.4	110,493	115,945	-4.7
East North Central----------(18 cities)	2,022	1,964	1,995	+1.4	83,358	87,017	-4.2
West North Central----------(8 cities)	613	615	632	-3.0	27,464	28,807	-4.7
South Atlantic----------(9 cities)	733	620	679	+8.0	29,102	30,217	-3.7
East South Central----------(8 cities)	403	401	411	-1.9	17,874	18,462	-3.2
West South Central----------(13 cities)	685	693	650	+5.4	30,047	30,187	-0.5
Mountain----------(8 cities)	218	193	214	+1.9	8,772	9,481	-7.5
Pacific----------(12 cities)	1,172	1,145	1,119	+4.7	47,247	47,418	-0.4

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 2, 1954

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

CITY	39th week ended Oct. 2, 1954	38th week ended Sept. 25, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 39 WEEKS	
			1954	1953
NEW ENGLAND				
Boston	238	231	8,492	8,664
Bridgeport	26	27	1,358	1,310
Cambridge	24	24	1,049	1,087
Fall River	23	23	1,051	1,081
Hartford	60	31	1,763	1,778
Lowell	18	28	1,041	980
Lynn	22	16	825	851
New Bedford	21	23	861	893
New Haven	32	41	1,637	1,677
Providence	65	71	2,341	2,310
Somerville	12	15	534	592
Springfield, Mass.	42	42	1,494	1,511
Waterbury	18	19	904	1,018
Worcester	40	51	1,891	2,093
MIDDLE ATLANTIC				
Albany	46	36	1,740	1,754
Allentown	(28)	(39)	(1,283)	---
Buffalo	93	164	5,167	5,550
Camden	38	38	1,429	1,439
Elizabeth	22	17	1,073	1,039
Erie	36	26	1,302	1,335
Jersey City	77	65	2,611	2,658
Newark, N. J.	110	70	3,732	4,082
New York City	1,520	1,400	58,624	61,364
Paterson	35	40	1,447	1,496
Philadelphia	400	371	17,706	18,786
Pittsburgh	151	134	6,137	6,623
Reading	(21)	(19)	(783)	---
Rochester, N. Y.	89	86	3,506	3,658
Schenectady	---	(24)	---	(914)
Scranton	(53)	(36)	(1,314)	---
Syracuse	55	60	2,099	2,108
Trenton	49	31	1,711	1,789
Utica	27	29	1,172	1,223
Yonkers	24	24	1,037	1,041
EAST NORTH CENTRAL				
Akron	52	49	2,099	2,245
Canton	14	31	1,084	1,104
Chicago	731	623	27,697	28,859
Cincinnati	101	131	5,365	5,807
Cleveland	165	194	7,619	7,975
Columbus	72	86	3,858	4,027
Dayton	69	74	2,434	2,374
Detroit	308	248	11,840	12,302
Evansville	22	30	1,159	1,271
Flint	38	30	1,458	1,414
Fort Wayne	22	26	1,003	1,201
Gary	(24)	(26)	(977)	---
Grand Rapids	37	48	1,506	1,512
Indianapolis	101	106	4,262	4,333
Milwaukee	112	106	4,686	4,770
Peoria	27	25	1,167	1,222
South Bend	25	21	874	908
Toledo	83	84	3,399	3,617
Youngstown	43	52	1,848	2,076
WEST NORTH CENTRAL				
Des Moines	42	43	1,939	1,906
Duluth	27	31	1,050	1,051
Kansas City, Kans.	---	(32)	---	(1,319)
Kansas City, Mo.	85	94	4,609	4,801
Minneapolis	126	110	4,403	4,943
Omaha	53	59	2,362	2,537
WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
St. Louis	190	206	8,984	9,550
St. Paul	56	52	2,456	2,459
Wichita	34	20	1,661	1,560
SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Atlanta	99	83	4,040	4,034
Baltimore	195	172	8,210	8,817
Charlotte	35	30	1,153	1,097
Jacksonville	(41)	(41)	(1,901)	---
Miami	38	37	2,449	2,315
Norfolk	34	25	1,110	1,239
Richmond	58	63	2,435	2,487
Savannah	---	---	---	---
Tampa	43	43	2,027	2,052
Washington, D. C.	199	145	6,427	6,882
Wilmington, Del.	32	22	1,251	1,294
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Birmingham	58	49	2,838	2,863
Chattanooga	36	33	1,680	1,776
Knoxville	36	29	1,307	1,273
Louisville	84	92	4,153	4,095
Memphis	100	105	3,738	4,154
Mobile	28	23	1,228	1,221
Montgomery	25	25	1,004	1,068
Nashville	36	45	1,926	2,012
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Austin	31	16	986	989
Baton Rouge	13	24	814	617
Corpus Christi	12	20	667	669
Dallas	79	99	3,852	3,667
El Paso	22	23	1,022	1,066
Fort Worth	52	44	2,155	2,236
Houston	110	123	4,674	4,817
Little Rock	38	36	1,580	1,670
New Orleans	129	135	5,720	6,166
Oklahoma City	48	57	2,296	2,100
San Antonio	77	66	3,005	3,159
Shreveport	44	28	1,498	1,540
Tulsa	30	22	1,778	1,491
MOUNTAIN				
Albuquerque	36	30	1,018	1,022
Colorado Springs	8	10	452	529
Denver	100	88	3,884	4,212
Ogden	17	12	431	478
Phoenix	13	13	801	886
Pueblo	10	9	508	534
Salt Lake City	31	29	1,520	1,624
Tucson	3	2	158	196
PACIFIC				
Berkeley	13	19	681	653
Long Beach	38	50	1,866	1,807
Los Angeles	417	400	16,816	17,080
Oakland	95	75	3,546	3,624
Pasadena	28	28	1,269	1,326
Portland, Oreg.	91	104	3,794	3,832
Sacramento	55	41	1,757	1,816
San Diego	71	66	2,777	2,732
San Francisco	163	193	7,044	7,225
Seattle	125	90	4,664	4,444
Spokane	44	51	1,730	1,605
Tacoma	32	28	1,303	1,274
Honolulu	(17)	(34)	(1,299)	(1,238)

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

inmates. The type of Shigella is not yet known but it is believed to be one of the more unusual types.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. Henry A. Holle reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis following a public barbecue in Texas. The exact number of cases is unknown but it is believed to be between 300 and 500. All the patients were ill with vomiting and diarrhea, and several became unconscious, with weak, fast pulses, chills, and fever. Potato salad was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. The potatoes were boiled and stored under ice overnight. The salad was mixed in a local restaurant on the morning of the feast. No bacteriological examinations were made.

The Los Angeles County Health Department reports 2 outbreaks of gastro-enteritis—1 in a private club and 1 in a private household. In the private club, 15 of 52 persons became ill with vomiting and diarrhea from 2 to 5 hours after eating baked ham. The ham was baked for 2 or 3 hours, pan cooled, sliced, and put in an insert pan of an electric cooker. The pan was placed on a grill with a pilot light, covered with a meat tray and a damp towel and was left for about 4 hours. The insert pan was then placed in the cooker and plugged in for additional cooking and heating. No meat was available for laboratory tests. In the private household, 5 of 9 persons became ill from 3 to 11 hours after eating cake at a party. Chocolate frosting was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. The ingredients were mixed and stored in a galvanized container. Samples from the container were tested for zinc but the chemical content was not considered sufficient to produce illness. No bacteriological tests were made.

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