

# Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly  
Report



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

Public Health Service

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

Three of the 7 cases of psittacosis reported this week occurred in California. Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania reported 1 case each for the current week. This is the first week since October 23 in which more than 1 case was reported in the country as a whole. The cumulative total cases for the year to date is now 423. Except for Texas, where an outbreak with 149 cases occurred among employees in poultry processing plants, California with 50 cases and Pennsylvania with 27, have reported the largest numbers of cases.

### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

#### Psittacosis

Dr. A. J. Chesley, Minnesota Department of Health, reports that psittacosis virus has been isolated from a parakeet. The original source of the bird was Chicago, which has been the source of 5 other infected parakeets in Minnesota. About 2 weeks after the parakeet was given to a man, his wife became ill with chills, fever, and a slight cough. The first blood specimen collected was negative for psittacosis. This is probably because she had been treated with achromycin. Three weeks later a blood specimen was positive for psittacosis in a dilution of 1:8. A diagnosis of psittacosis has been made, but further specimens will be studied. Three other persons who were exposed to the bird did not have any symptoms.

#### Epidemic diarrhea of the newborn

The Indiana State Board of Health reports an outbreak of diarrhea of the newborn involving 28 infants in 2 hospitals—12 cases with 5 deaths in one, and 16 cases with 2 deaths in the other. *E. coli*, "O," groups 126 and 127 were isolated from specimens collected. The mode of spread was not determined. There is a possibility that overcrowding may have been a contributing factor.

The California Department of Public Health reports an outbreak of 12 cases of diarrhea in the nursery of a hospital. The nursery was closed and a new one was opened, and one of the cases developed in the new nursery. There was no evidence of illness in either the mothers or the infants prior to the first case in this outbreak. An investigation revealed that the hospital needed funds to bring it up to acceptable standards. Recommendations were made to correct conditions necessary to prevent a recurrence of such an outbreak.

#### Infectious encephalitis

Dr. H. A. Holle, Texas Department of Health, has supplied supplemental epidemiological information on the outbreak of infectious encephalitis which occurred in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas during August and September 1954. In Hidalgo and Cameron Counties there were 120 officially reported cases between the week ended August 21 and the present time. Epidemiologic evidence and case findings suggest that there were actually 4 or 5 times as many cases as were officially reported. Three deaths have been registered officially as infectious encephalitis from these counties during the involved period, and on 8 death certificates, encephalitis was listed as a possible, probable, or contributory cause of death. There is reason to believe these deaths were caused by the outbreak.

The clinical findings of the affected patients were severe headache, high fever, stiff neck, general malaise, some gastro-

intestinal disturbance, and varying amounts of drowsiness and apathy.

The St. Louis encephalitis virus has been isolated from autopsy material of a fatal case, and there is significant serological evidence to support this virus as the cause of the outbreak.

The mosquito population for this area at this particular time of the year was low, and was composed predominantly of *Culex quinquefasciatus*. The St. Louis virus has been recovered from a pool of this species of mosquito. It is expected that further investigation will be forthcoming regarding possible avian vectors.

#### Suspect smallpox

Dr. H. A. Holle, Texas Department of Health, reports that a case suspected to be smallpox has occurred in Cherokee County. The patient was a 32-year-old married Negro man who developed symptoms on or about November 2. He developed vesicular lesions over his whole body and had a fever of 103°. The patient was placed in quarantine and recovered. One hundred and fifty individuals in the community received vaccination as a result of this case. No laboratory specimens were obtained for virus study, nor was the source of the infection determined. There have been no secondary cases to date.

#### Salmonellosis

Dr. Thomas R. Hood, Executive Secretary, Kansas State Board of Health, reports an outbreak of salmonellosis due to *Salmonella muenchen*. The outbreak followed a recent church supper at which approximately 900 persons were served. Of these, about 350 became ill with fever, vomiting, severe diarrhea, and marked prostration from 24 to 72 hours later. Turkey, which had been prepared 24 hours before the dinner, was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. The turkeys were roasted and allowed to cool at room temperature. All the drippings were collected and allowed to stand at room temperature in an open crock. The following day the birds were sliced and the dressing, basted with the turkey drippings, was made. After the dressing had been baked for several hours, it was placed in a warming pan with slices of turkey which were basted with the drippings. Eleven of 25 food handlers who prepared the meal were found to harbor the epidemic strain of salmonella organism. Epidemiological investigation pointed to 2 of the group as the most probable source of the infection. These persons had been well both before and after the outbreak. One of them worked as a cook elsewhere for a family whose members had diarrhea 2 weeks earlier.

Dr. A. L. Marshall, Indiana State Board of Health, reports 26 cases of salmonellosis among 32 women who had eaten pie and coffee in a restaurant. One of these had a piece of cherry pie and did not become ill. The others ate coconut cream pie—4 of these ate only small amounts and were not ill. The remainder became ill with extreme abdominal pain, severe vomiting, and diarrhea from 8 to 48 hours later. Laboratory examination of 10 stool specimens showed 7 were positive for *Salmonella*. The coconut cream pies were also positive for *Salmonella*. Both are now being typed. *Shigella* was also isolated from one stool specimen.

Shigellosis

Dr. A. L. Marshall reports 2 outbreaks of shigellosis in different schools in Indiana. In one school, 61 children out of 310 became ill with nausea, vomiting, abdominal distress, and severe diarrhea. An investigation revealed a defect in the water supply, and corrections have been made to provide better water. It was also found that a student assistant, found positive for *Shigella flexner*, was using a very bad technique of inserting straws into milk. This could have easily contaminated the milk supply. Positive stools were obtained from a small number (15) due to the fact that private physicians had instituted antibiotic therapy. Other cases of diarrhea were reported among adults as well as children in the area. Stool specimens were not collected from these and no specific diagnosis was given.

In the other school there were 137 cases among 450 persons. This outbreak followed another (see Gastro-enteritis below) by 2 days. As a result of overlapping of symptoms, epidemiological study was difficult. Organisms were not isolated from food

samples available, but *S. flexner* was found in stools of 10 students. The source of this outbreak was not found.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. A. L. Marshall reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 450 students in a school in Indiana. This outbreak occurred 2 days prior to an outbreak of shigellosis (see paragraph above). Of the students, 213 became ill with vomiting, nausea, and abdominal pains from 3½ hours upward. None of the cases were confirmed by laboratory examination. Potato salad, suspected to be the vehicle of infection, yielded *Proteus rettgeri* and *Proteus morgani*.

The North Carolina State Board of Health has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among participants of a community barbecue. The local health officer estimated that 200 of the 2,500 persons who ate barbecues, slaw, potatoes, corn bread, various pastries, and other desserts became ill. The symptoms included.

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	47th week			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Nov. 27, 1954	Ended Nov. 28, 1953	Median 1949-53	First 47 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1954	1953	Median 1949-53	1953-54	1952-53	Median 1948-49 to 1952-53	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	19	31	42	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	13	19	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	18	27	---	1,534	1,644	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Diphtheria-----055	49	49	86	1,828	2,126	3,713	956	1,074	1,743	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	34	12	12	1,795	1,044	940	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092, N998.5 pt.	566	634	---	45,888	29,277	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Malaria-----110-117	15	20	---	682	1,389	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Measles-----085	3,350	2,573	2,206	651,575	427,530	489,091	23,747	16,852	14,670	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	68	70	70	3,745	4,649	3,705	729	884	786	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	397	396	506	237,311	34,467	34,467	235,758	32,886	32,886	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	37	-	---	423	51	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	6	13	10	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	-	-	2	283	290	329	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050, 051	2,180	1,995	1,183	133,069	121,423	67,715	25,328	21,816	10,535	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	4	15	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Trichiniasis-----128	4	3	---	4228	347	---	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Tularemia-----059	11	12	9	535	488	580	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Typhoid fever-----040	29	25	33	52,134	2,129	2,279	51,724	1,824	1,876	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	2	1	---	170	219	---	136	179	---	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	1,505	597	1,179	54,197	33,114	59,303	10,436	5,895	8,479	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	109	139	---	6,230	6,748	---	( <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: Arkansas, week ended November 20, 1 case.

<sup>3</sup>Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania, 1 case each; California, 3 cases.

<sup>4</sup>Addition: Washington, week ended November 20, 1 case.

<sup>5</sup>Addition: Nebraska, week ended November 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.

# 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 NOVEMBER 28, 1953, AND NOVEMBER 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 <sup>1</sup>		Military	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	18	27	49	49	34	12	566	634	9	12	6	8
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	-	1	-	1	-	64	37	1	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	25	19	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	1	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	2	2	-	-	6	6	101	143	-	-	-	-
New York-----	2	2	-	-	5	6	69	131	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	11	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	6	7	5	2	2	4	69	98	-	2	1	-
Ohio-----	-	1	-	-	2	-	12	12	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	1	2	-	1	12	30	-	1	-	-
Illinois-----	4	4	-	-	-	2	7	21	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	-	2	4	-	-	-	24	19	-	-	1	-
Wisconsin-----	2	-	-	-	-	1	14	16	-	1	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3	10	-	3	6	1	91	101	1	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	-	1	-	1	-	-	56	23	1	-	-	-
Iowa-----	1	5	-	1	-	-	27	62	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	-	2	-	1	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	2	-	-	-	6	1	2	2	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	1	3	20	24	-	-	43	111	-	-	2	4
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	2	1	-	-	-	2	8	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	1	2	-	-	-	19	52	-	-	1	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	12	3	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	2	3	-	-	4	40	-	-	-	3
South Carolina-----	-	-	6	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	-	-	5	14	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	1
Florida-----	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2	1	10	4	2	-	31	45	1	3	-	1
Kentucky-----	-	-	2	-	-	-	5	8	-	-	-	1
Tennessee-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	7	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	1	6	3	1	-	1	11	1	3	-	-
Mississippi-----	2	-	2	1	-	-	11	19	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1	3	11	12	4	1	14	16	4	5	-	-
Arkansas-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-
Louisiana-----	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Texas-----	-	3	8	7	4	1	12	14	4	3	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1	-	-	1	2	-	49	15	-	1	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	8	-	1	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	10	5	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	-	2	-	17	-	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1	1	2	3	11	-	104	68	2	1	3	3
Washington-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	17	17	-	-	3	-
Oregon-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	33	28	-	-	-	-
California-----	1	1	2	-	11	-	54	23	2	1	-	3
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	3
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	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 NOVEMBER 28, 1953, AND NOVEMBER 27, 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-----	3,350	2,573	68	70	397	396	165	159	92	89	-	-
NEW ENGLAND-----	999	66	5	6	31	32	10	12	11	4	-	-
Maine-----	77	42	1	-	3	3	3	3	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	17	-	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	105	16	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	638	5	1	4	16	14	4	5	8	2	-	-
Rhode Island-----	25	1	2	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	137	2	1	1	8	5	3	1	3	2	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	530	319	12	19	66	60	15	19	14	6	-	-
New York-----	294	186	3	8	42	53	9	17	12	6	-	-
New Jersey-----	212	24	3	4	9	3	6	2	2	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	24	109	6	7	15	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	659	745	8	12	105	70	40	23	13	13	-	-
Ohio-----	54	97	3	5	39	18	6	7	3	3	-	-
Indiana-----	28	120	1	2	<sup>94</sup> 5	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	31	94	1	3	12	14	8	7	1	-	-	-
Michigan-----	416	411	-	1	32	27	19	9	6	10	-	-
Wisconsin-----	130	23	3	1	18	6	6	-	3	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	356	180	5	3	27	37	6	9	9	5	-	-
Minnesota-----	168	3	2	-	3	15	-	3	1	2	-	-
Iowa-----	81	141	1	1	11	9	2	3	2	3	-	-
Missouri-----	12	1	-	1	7	6	3	3	4	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	83	19	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	5	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	5	3	1	-	2	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
Kansas-----	2	12	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	125	252	12	5	29	31	18	14	7	12	-	-
Delaware-----	2	-	1	1	3	1	3	-	-	1	-	-
Maryland-----	9	39	1	1	1	6	1	2	-	4	-	-
District of Columbia-----	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Virginia-----	14	25	2	1	4	4	4	4	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	81	94	-	-	3	2	2	1	1	1	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	36	2	1	3	6	2	2	1	3	-	-
South Carolina-----	8	8	4	1	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	6	17	2	-	6	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
Florida-----	3	33	-	-	6	9	3	3	2	3	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	81	153	6	6	14	10	4	1	4	2	-	-
Kentucky-----	3	42	1	4	4	4	2	-	2	1	-	-
Tennessee-----	56	24	2	-	5	4	2	1	1	1	-	-
Alabama-----	10	82	2	2	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	12	5	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	173	166	7	5	21	33	12	12	6	9	-	-
Arkansas-----	4	-	1	-	4	5	4	2	-	2	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	12	3	-	4	6	2	5	2	1	-	-
Oklahoma-----	4	1	-	1	1	6	-	1	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	165	153	3	4	12	16	6	4	4	6	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	116	255	-	4	21	18	3	7	4	1	-	-
Montana-----	1	13	-	-	4	3	1	2	1	1	-	-
Idaho-----	3	76	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	27	-	-	6	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	10	24	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	44	34	-	3	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Arizona-----	50	-	-	2	5	-	-	3	2	-	-	-
Utah-----	8	81	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	311	437	13	10	83	105	57	62	24	37	-	-
Washington-----	52	118	3	2	13	5	7	-	4	-	-	-
Oregon-----	74	57	1	1	6	12	5	6	1	6	-	-
California-----	185	262	9	7	64	88	45	56	19	31	-	-
Alaska-----	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	37	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	90	22	2	2	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	-

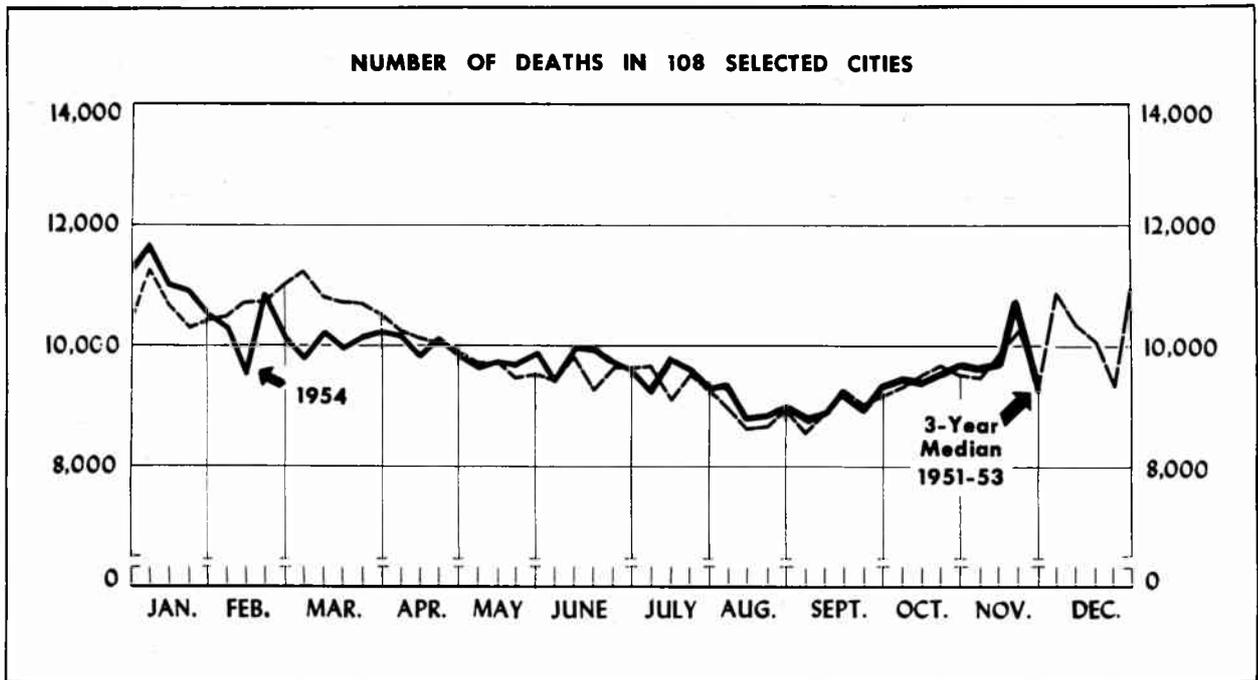
<sup>2</sup>Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).<sup>3</sup>Delayed cases.

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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 NOVEMBER 28, 1953, AND NOVEMBER 27, 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-----	2,180	1,995	4	11	12	29	25	2	1,505	597	109	139
NEW ENGLAND-----	77	140	-	-	-	-	1	-	289	64	-	-
Maine-----	7	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	1	-	-
New Hampshire-----	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Vermont-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	18	-	-
Massachusetts-----	43	68	-	-	-	-	1	-	99	33	-	-
Rhode Island-----	3	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	2	-	-
Connecticut-----	16	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	10	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	113	153	2	-	-	4	2	-	225	165	19	9
New York-----	72	83	1	-	-	1	1	-	67	77	19	8
New Jersey-----	13	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	42	35	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	28	51	-	-	-	3	1	-	116	53	-	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	299	371	-	-	5	3	2	-	307	186	12	28
Ohio-----	65	104	-	-	-	2	-	-	42	40	-	3
Indiana-----	87	84	-	-	1	-	1	-	24	15	8	9
Illinois-----	37	61	-	-	3	1	1	-	21	14	1	14
Michigan-----	63	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	131	76	1	2
Wisconsin-----	47	44	-	-	1	-	-	-	89	41	2	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	70	89	-	-	-	1	-	-	100	10	20	6
Minnesota-----	19	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	1	8	1
Iowa-----	13	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	8	6	2
Missouri-----	6	17	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	6	2
North Dakota-----	17	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1
South Dakota-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	13	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	235	245	-	5	4	3	4	1	95	46	19	40
Delaware-----	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Maryland-----	7	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	13	-	2
District of Columbia-----	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
Virginia-----	79	106	-	1	3	2	-	-	16	4	6	13
West Virginia-----	21	43	-	1	1	-	-	-	14	16	1	9
North Carolina-----	54	42	-	2	-	-	2	-	17	5	2	4
South Carolina-----	9	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	14	2	7	9
Georgia-----	30	14	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	3	3
Florida-----	28	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	63	109	-	3	2	4	4	-	189	37	17	31
Kentucky-----	15	35	-	1	2	1	1	-	121	26	5	14
Tennessee-----	15	53	-	1	-	-	-	-	43	7	3	7
Alabama-----	19	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	12	1	8	6
Mississippi-----	14	15	-	1	-	2	3	-	13	3	1	4
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	592	619	-	2	-	7	9	1	115	24	21	23
Arkansas-----	43	46	-	-	-	1	5	-	5	-	6	8
Louisiana-----	5	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	9	1	-	-
Oklahoma-----	17	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	1	-
Texas-----	527	558	-	1	-	5	4	1	95	18	14	15
MOUNTAIN-----	514	100	-	1	1	2	1	-	51	20	1	-
Montana-----	14	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	3	-	-
Idaho-----	17	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	283	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	10	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	-
New Mexico-----	35	29	-	-	-	1	1	-	4	2	1	-
Arizona-----	136	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	14	-	-
Utah-----	19	12	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	217	169	2	-	-	5	2	-	134	45	-	2
Washington-----	70	35	2	-	-	-	-	-	32	26	-	-
Oregon-----	32	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-
California-----	115	117	-	-	-	5	2	-	97	15	-	2
Alaska-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	67	21	-	-



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	47th week ended Nov. 27, 1954	46th week ended Nov. 20, 1954	47th week median 1951-53	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 47 WEEKS		
					1954	1953	Percent change
TOTAL: 103 REPORTING CITIES-----	8,981	10,444	9,064	-0.9	446,101	459,364	-2.9
New England----- (14 cities)	625	742	619	+1.0	30,568	31,151	-1.9
Middle Atlantic----- (16 cities)	2,786	3,123	2,844	-2.0	133,362	139,302	-4.3
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,049	2,343	2,009	+2.0	100,334	103,953	-3.5
West North Central----- (8 cities)	665	755	611	+8.8	32,937	34,124	-3.5
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	757	797	697	+8.6	34,928	36,049	-3.1
East South Central----- (7 cities)	343	495	355	-3.4	19,765	20,471	-3.4
West South Central----- (12 cities)	528	652	543	-2.8	29,077	28,604	+1.7
Mountain----- (8 cities)	212	253	227	-6.6	10,593	11,259	-5.9
Pacific----- (11 cities)	1,016	1,284	1,041	-2.4	54,537	54,451	+0.2

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

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

CITY	47th week ended Nov. 27, 1954	46th week ended Nov. 20, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 47 WEEKS		CITY	47th week ended Nov. 27, 1954	46th week ended Nov. 20, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 47 WEEKS	
			1954	1953				1954	1953
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston-----	227	240	10,284	10,531	St. Louis-----	227	293	10,827	11,259
Bridgeport-----	28	43	1,626	1,575	St. Paul-----	69	55	3,001	2,976
Cambridge-----	20	29	1,257	1,290	Wichita-----	44	32	1,951	1,859
Fall River-----	18	29	1,248	1,314	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	46	64	2,148	2,120	Atlanta-----	101	125	4,853	4,825
Lowell-----	24	31	1,257	1,180	Baltimore-----	246	236	9,990	10,462
Lynn-----	20	28	1,003	1,040	Charlotte-----	19	30	1,383	1,343
New Bedford-----	22	25	1,054	1,072	Jacksonville-----	(38)	(51)	(2,244)	---
New Haven-----	35	48	1,977	2,037	Miami-----	39	57	2,819	2,728
Providence-----	59	68	2,817	2,810	Norfolk-----	31	28	1,327	1,480
Somerville-----	15	12	670	693	Richmond-----	48	60	2,925	2,996
Springfield, Mass.-----	36	44	1,816	1,819	Savannah-----	(28)	(31)	(1,291)	---
Waterbury-----	22	24	1,091	1,205	Tampa-----	70	46	2,422	2,447
Worcester-----	53	57	2,320	2,465	Washington, D. C.-----	175	180	7,708	8,227
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Albany-----	51	53	2,122	2,115	Birmingham-----	53	83	3,408	3,371
Allentown-----	(34)	(35)	(1,558)	---	Chattanooga-----	36	38	1,978	2,109
Buffalo-----	140	148	6,293	6,645	Knoxville-----	(63)	---	---	(1,537)
Camden-----	35	30	1,714	1,682	Louisville-----	91	121	4,923	4,939
Elizabeth-----	37	36	1,329	1,277	Memphis-----	73	129	4,462	4,920
Erie-----	28	35	1,543	1,597	Mobile-----	27	39	1,490	1,469
Jersey City-----	71	79	3,188	3,241	Montgomery-----	23	31	1,216	1,254
Newark, N. J.-----	90	109	4,505	4,835	Nashville-----	40	54	2,288	2,409
New York City-----	1,485	1,536	70,640	73,756	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Paterson-----	30	46	1,750	1,806	Austin-----	26	25	1,176	1,167
Philadelphia-----	483	501	21,330	22,617	Baton Rouge-----	32	22	1,011	765
Pittsburgh-----	145	253	7,440	7,939	Corpus Christi-----	11	19	803	773
Reading-----	(19)	(21)	(948)	---	Dallas-----	71	91	4,620	4,425
Rochester, N. Y.-----	79	98	4,229	4,379	El Paso-----	25	27	1,230	1,337
Schenectady-----	---	(29)	---	(1,097)	Fort Worth-----	44	45	2,596	2,616
Scranton-----	(27)	(43)	(1,573)	---	Houston-----	109	138	5,585	5,686
Syracuse-----	47	60	2,541	2,534	Little Rock-----	43	49	1,893	1,985
Trenton-----	20	63	2,074	2,177	New Orleans-----	---	(163)	---	(7,318)
Utica-----	22	44	1,399	1,457	Oklahoma City-----	49	58	2,714	2,487
Yonkers-----	23	32	1,265	1,245	San Antonio-----	47	94	3,592	3,749
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					MOUNTAIN				
Akron-----	51	53	2,511	2,621	Albuquerque-----	27	37	1,234	1,248
Canton-----	21	31	1,306	1,322	Colorado Springs-----	10	15	554	611
Chicago-----	656	754	33,261	34,421	Denver-----	89	115	4,687	4,983
Cincinnati-----	109	163	6,435	6,955	Ogden-----	13	12	522	579
Cleveland-----	191	234	9,209	9,589	Phoenix-----	27	21	961	1,037
Columbus-----	93	125	4,685	4,852	Pueblo-----	8	11	618	636
Dayton-----	59	62	2,895	2,880	Salt Lake City-----	33	40	1,825	1,922
Detroit-----	298	320	14,337	14,686	Tucson-----	5	2	192	243
Evansville-----	43	32	1,377	1,513	PACIFIC				
Flint-----	38	40	1,732	1,690	Berkeley-----	15	19	817	793
Fort Wayne-----	31	30	1,189	1,443	Long Beach-----	46	64	2,255	2,136
Gary-----	(28)	(20)	(1,194)	---	Los Angeles-----	370	475	20,166	20,283
Grand Rapids-----	55	51	1,840	1,810	Oakland-----	82	88	4,247	4,330
Indianapolis-----	106	112	5,112	5,230	Pasadena-----	37	34	1,533	1,592
Milwaukee-----	113	128	5,597	5,654	Portland, Oreg.-----	83	106	4,497	4,546
Peoria-----	29	27	1,382	1,079	Sacramento-----	---	(52)	---	(2,162)
South Bend-----	23	25	1,078	1,079	San Diego-----	68	79	3,340	3,263
Toledo-----	93	97	4,130	4,287	San Francisco-----	142	202	8,491	8,686
Youngstown-----	40	59	2,258	2,499	Seattle-----	101	145	5,577	5,365
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					HONOLULU				
Des Moines-----	51	55	2,332	2,303	Honolulu-----	(28)	(35)	(1,567)	(1,487)
Duluth-----	13	36	1,227	1,237					
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	(33)	---	(1,561)					
Kansas City, Mo.-----	112	102	5,467	5,642					
Minneapolis-----	99	126	5,314	5,866					
Omaha-----	50	56	2,818	2,982					

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

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## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

nausea, vomiting, and prostration, which began from 4 to 6 hours after the food was served. None of the food was available for bacteriological examination. The investigation is, however, continuing.

Dr. Thomas R. Hood reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis which occurred following a recent luncheon for a group of social workers in Kansas. Eighty-five persons were served and approximately 51 became ill on an average of 12 to 14 hours later. Stool cultures of the patients failed to reveal any pathogenic organisms. No food was available for examination. Turkey and/or the dressing was believed to be the vehicle of infection. The turkeys had been cooked the preceding evening and allowed to cool at room temperature. The turkeys were sliced and placed in warming pans

with dressing several hours prior to serving.

Dr. Thomas R. Hood reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis which was traced to turkey served at a recent banquet in Kansas. The fowl were roasted at a hotel and served to 102 persons. Of these, 57 became ill with severe cramps, vomiting, diarrhea, and occasional fever from 2 to 6 hours later. The turkeys were thawed at room temperature for 24 hours preceding their preparation. On the morning of the banquet, the birds were roasted and cooled at room temperature. The meat was sliced and placed on pans of dressing and kept warm until served. A coagulase positive hemolytic *Staphylococcus aureus* was recovered from scraps of the turkey which were obtained 24 hours after the outbreak. Two persons who ate similar scraps on the following day became violently ill within 3 hours after ingestion of the food.

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