

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly
Report



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

Public Health Service

NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

December 10, 1954

Washington 25, D. C.

Vol. 3, No. 48

Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended December 4, 1954

For the current week 902 cases of infectious hepatitis were reported. Of these, 361 were in the New England and Middle Atlantic States. The New England States reported 146 cases as compared with 43 for the same week of 1953. In the South Atlantic States, where large numbers of cases have been reported, there were 66 cases for the current week as compared with 135 for the corresponding week of last year.

During the past 2 weeks, 26 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported in Puerto Rico as compared with only 5 for the preceding 6 weeks. Twenty-one of these were in Bayamon and Toa Baja Municipalities. Since the first of the year a total of 47 cases has been reported on the Island. For the corresponding period of 1953, the cumulative total was 31.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Leptospirosis

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, reports a case of leptospirosis in a man who lived with 6 other persons, none of whom have reported any illness. The patient complained of anorexia, slight fever, muscle ache, severe frontal headache, nausea, and vomiting. The physical findings on admission to a hospital were small numbers of enlarged lymph nodes in the cervical, inguinal, and axillary regions, and flank tenderness. He later developed a chest pain and a nonproductive cough. About 7 days after the onset of symptoms he developed minimal jaundice, and the neuromuscular signs and the symptoms diminished rapidly. The white blood count was 18,000 with a leucocytosis of 85 percent. An investigation revealed that a house and yard used by a plumbing supply company a few doors down the street from his residence was a potential breeding and nesting site for rodents. Prior to his illness he had worked or visited several places reported to be infested with rodents. Laboratory examination of a convalescent blood specimen showed an agglutination titer of 1:1600 with Leptospira icterohemorrhagiae. Other specimens have been collected for laboratory tests but the results are not yet available.

Anthrax

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports a human case of anthrax. The patient had worked in a packing plant a few days before the onset of a lesion on his thumb. The diagnosis was confirmed by microscopic examination.

Tularemia

Dr. W. R. Giedt reports 2 cases of tularemia in persons who had been hunting rabbits in the State of Washington. One patient gave a history of having injured his hand with a rabbit bone while cleaning the 22 rabbits they had killed. Agglutination titers were significant for Bacterium tularense.

Trichiniasis

Dr. W. R. Giedt reports that 7 cases of trichiniasis have been reported in one county of Washington State. The local health officer stated that both confirmed and suspected cases have been occurring in the community. Either locally made Polish sausage, prepared and processed by a hit and miss procedure, or a dried salami from another area, was suspected

to be the vehicle of infection. Three of the cases were traced to the consumption of the locally made Polish sausage which was eaten raw. Pork intake of the other patients is as yet unknown. Laboratory examination showed a high eosinophile count on blood specimens of all 7 patients. Trichinella was found by muscle biopsy in 2 patients. Laboratory examination of the Polish sausage revealed live Trichinella.

Psittacosis

Dr. Jacob Koomen, Jr., and Dr. M. P. Hines, North Carolina State Board of Health, have reported the occurrence of a case of psittacosis in a sales clerk of a store. The duties of the clerk involved the handling and sale of parakeets. Symptoms consisted of fever, chills, generalized aching, and slight cough. X-ray examination showed a lesion in the right upper lobe. The complement fixation test was positive in titers of 1:64, 1:128, and 1:64. A shipment of birds prior to the onset of the case was traced to Texas, although supplied by a dealer in New York City. Of the 24 birds in the shipment only 17 remained at the time of the investigation. A small number had died after arrival at the store. Ten of the 17 remaining birds were submitted to a laboratory. All of the first 5 birds examined were found to be harboring psittacosis virus.

Rabies in man

Dr. M. H. Merrill, California Department of Public Health, gives preliminary information on a clinical case of human rabies. The patient was bitten twice (finger and elbow) by a skunk while on a hunting trip. Eight days later she developed symptoms and died in a few days. Laboratory examination of saliva and autopsy material are not yet complete. The skunk was positive for rabies by animal inoculation.

Infectious hepatitis

Dr. R. F. McAteer, Rhode Island Department of Health, reports an outbreak of 21 cases of infectious hepatitis in an institution. The first case evidently was brought to the institution by a youth who had been on leave in an epidemic area. The entire staff and inmates have been inoculated with gamma globulin.

Botulism

The California Department of Public Health gives additional information on the 2 cases of botulism reported for the week ended October 23. The vehicle of infection was home-canned okra. Both cases were in women who had tasted okra from a jar with a peculiar odor. One of the women swallowed some okra and is still ill. The other woman has completely recovered. Laboratory examination of a specimen of the okra revealed C. botulinus, type A toxin.

Poisoning from noxious plants

The California Department of Public Health reports that 2 persons became ill 10 minutes after eating Nicotiana glauca (tree tobacco), which was mistaken for Lambs Quarter. The illness was characterized by double vision and loss of muscular coordination. One person said her arm felt as if it were going to sleep. After 3 days there was a marked weakness of the eye muscles and general aches and pains.

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Fish poisoning

The Los Angeles City Health Department reports an outbreak of fish poisoning among 9 persons who had eaten smoked bonito. Of these, 8 developed headache, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, from 15 minutes to 2 hours after ingestion of the food. A red rash appeared on one of the patients. The fish had been caught off the coast of California and was smoked by a smoking and curing plant. Chemical tests on a portion of smoked bonito showed nothing significant except high content of organic nitrogen. No bacteriological tests were done.

Shigellosis

Dr. R. H. Hutcheson, Tennessee Department of Public Health, reports an outbreak of shigellosis among 500 persons in a grammar school. Of these, 230 became ill. Histories taken of food eaten in the lunchroom for 2 successive days prior to the outbreak failed to indicate specifically contaminated food. It is possible that more than one item of food was contaminated. One

of 4 cooks working in the kitchen was found to have positive stool specimens for *Shigella flexneri*, type VI. The same organism was found in stool specimens collected from some of the patients.

Salmonellosis

Dr. G. D. Carlyle Thompson, Montana State Board of Health, reports an outbreak of salmonellosis following a dinner attended by 200 persons. Of these, 15 became ill with mild nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and occasional fever from 24 to 48 hours later. An investigation revealed that the food was prepared by individuals in their homes and assembled for the dinner. Only those persons eating at one table became ill. Pumpkin pie baked the same day was found to be common to those who became ill. A laboratory examination of the pie showed *Salmonella typhimurium*. How the infectious agent was transmitted to a pumpkin pie has not been determined. The person who baked the pie had not been ill prior to its preparation.

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	48th week			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Dec. 4, 1954	Ended Dec. 5, 1953	Median 1949-53	First 48 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1954	1953	Median 1949-53	1953-54	1952-53	Median 1948-49 to 1952-53	
Anthrax-----062	-	1	1	19	32	42	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	13	19	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	31	37	---	1,565	1,681	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Diphtheria-----055	97	72	115	1,925	2,198	3,828	1,053	1,146	1,858	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	24	15	15	1,819	1,059	973	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	902	784	---	46,790	30,061	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Malaria-----110-117	10	17	---	692	1,406	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Measles-----085	5,258	3,216	2,977	656,910	430,746	494,229	29,082	20,068	17,647	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	77	104	84	3,822	4,753	3,789	806	988	870	Sept. 1
Polioyelitis-----080	462	452	452	37,771	34,919	34,919	36,218	33,338	33,338	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	2	-	---	425	51	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	6	13	10	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	1	3	-	284	293	329	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	2,574	2,477	1,340	155,663	123,900	69,055	27,922	24,293	11,875	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	4	15	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Trichiniasis-----128	5	4	---	233	351	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Tularemia-----059	13	13	13	548	501	593	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Typhoid fever-----040	33	41	34	2,167	2,170	2,304	1,757	1,865	1,901	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	7	5	---	177	224	---	143	184	---	Apr. 1
Whooping cough-----056	1,776	846	1,307	55,980	33,960	61,329	12,219	6,741	8,786	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	96	140	---	76,334	6,888	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

¹Information not available or frequencies are too small.

²Addition: Oregon, week ended November 20, 77 cases.

³Deductions: Indiana, week ended September 18, 1 case; South Carolina, week ended November 20, 1 case.

⁴Reported in California.

⁵Addition: Alabama, week ended November 20, 20 cases.

⁶Addition: Nebraska, week ended November 27, 7 cases.

⁷Addition: Ohio, week ended November 27, 8 cases.

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 DECEMBER 5, 1953, AND DECEMBER 4, 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-----	31	37	97	72	24	15	902	784	6	11	4	6
NEW ENGLAND-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	146	43	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	8	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	28	26	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	1	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	4	4	5	9	5	215	156	-	-	-	-
New York-----	-	4	2	1	8	4	104	129	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	2	3	1	-	15	8	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	1	-	1	96	19	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	12	15	6	5	1	-	111	130	-	-	-	1
Ohio-----	-	-	3	4	-	-	17	29	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	8	1	1	-	-	12	18	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	4	5	1	-	-	-	60	21	-	-	-	1
Michigan-----	6	-	1	-	-	-	18	53	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	2	2	-	-	1	-	4	9	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	11	9	8	3	2	2	103	121	-	-	-	1
Minnesota-----	5	3	2	-	-	2	43	59	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	4	4	3	-	-	-	42	38	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	-	-	2	3	-	-	3	10	-	-	-	1
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	1	2	1	-	2	-	5	4	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	-	1	32	27	5	3	66	135	-	-	2	-
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	1	-	-	1	5	12	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	-	-	3	-	-	26	82	-	-	1	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	8	7	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	1	3	1	1	6	27	-	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Georgia-----	-	-	26	17	3	1	15	2	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	-	1	2	2	1	-	2	3	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2	2	13	16	1	-	48	53	1	-	2	1
Kentucky-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	4	17	-	-	2	1
Tennessee-----	-	-	-	5	1	-	23	20	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	1	5	7	-	-	11	5	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	2	1	8	2	-	-	10	11	1	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	4	4	26	11	2	5	50	24	1	7	-	-
Arkansas-----	1	1	-	1	-	-	5	5	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	2	-	8	5	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	1	3	1	-	-	-	7	5	1	-	-	-
Texas-----	-	-	17	5	2	5	30	14	-	7	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1	-	4	-	-	-	76	24	1	1	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	3	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	7	-	1	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	7	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	2	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	12	1	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1	2	2	4	4	-	87	98	3	3	-	3
Washington-----	-	1	1	2	-	-	11	19	-	-	-	1
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	21	-	-	-	-
California-----	1	1	1	2	4	-	56	58	3	3	-	2
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	4	6	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-

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 DECEMBER 5, 1953, AND DECEMBER 4, 1954—Continued

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

AREA	MEASLES		MENINGO-COCCAL INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
	(085)		1954	1953	Total ²		Paralytic (080.0, 080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		1954	1953
	1954	1953			1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953		
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	5,258	3,216	77	104	462	452	222	186	99	86	1	3
NEW ENGLAND-----	1,700	84	5	4	24	20	8	7	10	4	-	-
Maine-----	136	58	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
New Hampshire-----	119	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	60	8	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	1,054	14	3	2	11	13	5	4	6	3	-	-
Rhode Island-----	36	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	295	3	1	1	12	3	2	2	4	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	1,704	439	13	14	125	69	44	15	18	14	-	-
New York-----	672	258	6	8	74	40	26	11	11	7	-	-
New Jersey-----	446	34	3	2	27	12	18	4	7	7	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	586	147	4	4	24	17	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	710	636	11	31	93	85	43	23	22	9	-	-
Ohio-----	108	65	3	16	17	39	-	6	3	-	-	-
Indiana-----	28	168	3	2	37	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Illinois-----	119	177	2	9	23	16	12	4	8	1	-	-
Michigan-----	421	196	2	2	32	23	15	13	8	8	-	-
Wisconsin-----	34	30	1	2	14	7	7	-	2	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	221	159	6	6	26	39	10	13	5	6	-	-
Minnesota-----	101	-	1	-	2	14	2	7	-	3	-	-
Iowa-----	49	18	1	2	10	1	4	1	3	-	-	-
Missouri-----	12	2	1	2	3	9	3	2	-	1	-	-
North Dakota-----	38	60	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	2	71	-	-	2	5	-	-	2	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	7	3	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Kansas-----	12	5	1	-	8	6	1	2	-	1	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	162	239	21	16	53	39	32	17	13	8	1	3
Delaware-----	-	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Maryland-----	8	41	4	-	4	6	2	5	2	1	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
Virginia-----	61	18	5	2	11	4	8	2	2	2	-	-
West Virginia-----	49	50	-	-	2	3	1	-	-	1	-	-
North Carolina-----	9	16	5	3	7	5	4	2	1	2	1	2
South Carolina-----	1	7	1	2	3	5	2	4	-	-	-	1
Georgia-----	18	63	2	5	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Florida-----	16	41	3	3	22	13	14	4	6	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	104	348	7	9	24	13	13	6	4	1	-	-
Kentucky-----	26	184	4	-	6	9	4	5	2	1	-	-
Tennessee-----	48	39	2	4	8	2	3	1	2	-	-	-
Alabama-----	23	122	1	5	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	7	3	-	-	8	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	210	376	5	8	33	36	23	19	5	5	-	-
Arkansas-----	25	37	-	-	7	8	7	5	-	1	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	40	1	-	6	1	4	1	2	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	6	2	1	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	179	297	3	8	20	24	12	12	3	4	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	144	481	4	1	21	41	10	18	2	6	-	-
Montana-----	2	178	3	-	5	16	4	10	-	4	-	-
Idaho-----	8	111	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	12	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Colorado-----	4	46	-	1	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	72	21	-	-	4	-	3	-	1	-	-	-
Arizona-----	43	2	-	-	1	7	-	6	1	1	-	-
Utah-----	15	111	-	-	5	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	303	454	5	15	63	110	39	68	20	33	-	-
Washingt-----	74	147	-	1	6	6	1	-	3	-	-	-
Oregon-----	39	37	2	1	7	7	6	6	-	-	-	-
California-----	190	270	3	13	50	97	32	62	17	33	-	-
Alaska-----	4	39	2	-	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	29	1	-	-	1	3	1	2	-	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	78	14	1	1	15	-	15	-	-	-	-	-

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

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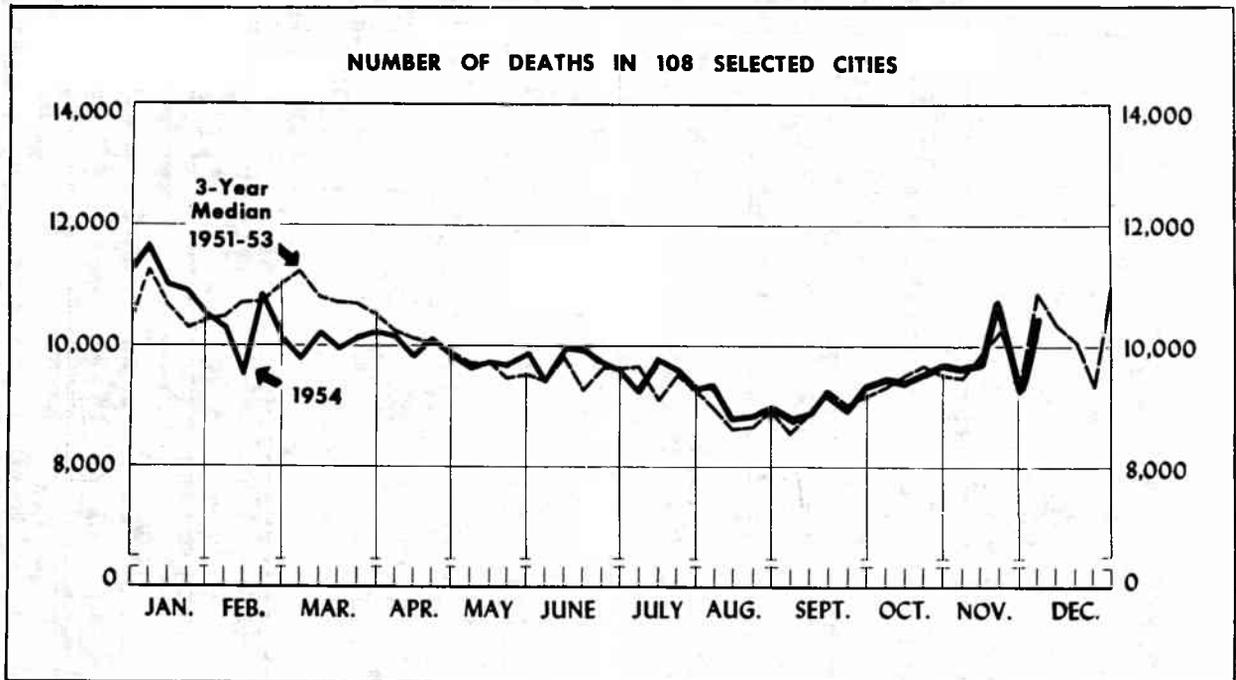
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED DECEMBER 5, 1953, AND DECEMBER 4, 1954—Continued

(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-----	2,574	2,477	5	13	13	33	41	7	1,776	846	96	140
NEW ENGLAND-----	147	151	-	-	-	-	2	-	359	116	-	-
Maine-----	15	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	4	-	-
New Hampshire-----	2	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	4	-	-
Vermont-----	1	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	15	24	-	-
Massachusetts-----	70	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	51	-	-
Rhode Island-----	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	18	-	-
Connecticut-----	52	33	-	-	-	-	1	-	100	15	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	139	259	3	-	-	7	5	-	318	275	11	3
New York-----	72	149	3	-	-	5	3	-	94	141	11	3
New Jersey-----	28	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	52	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	39	68	-	-	-	2	2	-	130	82	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	303	380	-	2	3	6	3	-	374	179	10	13
Ohio-----	63	141	-	-	-	4	1	-	66	19	7	2
Indiana-----	64	41	-	-	2	-	1	-	24	24	1	-
Illinois-----	65	63	-	2	-	2	-	-	38	13	-	9
Michigan-----	65	85	-	-	-	-	1	-	183	85	-	1
Wisconsin-----	46	50	-	-	1	-	-	-	63	38	2	1
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	103	97	-	2	2	1	3	-	96	8	18	16
Minnesota-----	30	45	-	-	1	-	-	-	40	4	6	1
Iowa-----	4	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	6	2
Missouri-----	6	8	-	2	1	1	3	-	13	-	6	12
North Dakota-----	28	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	1
South Dakota-----	10	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Kansas-----	23	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	3	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	289	244	-	3	2	3	4	6	180	50	21	36
Delaware-----	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Maryland-----	28	21	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	20	-	1
District of Columbia-----	3	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	-	-
Virginia-----	130	106	-	-	1	1	-	-	69	6	8	12
West Virginia-----	12	30	-	1	-	-	-	-	64	10	4	8
North Carolina-----	30	37	-	1	-	-	1	-	12	2	-	1
South Carolina-----	4	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	5	4	3
Georgia-----	58	17	-	1	-	-	3	6	5	1	4	5
Florida-----	21	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	3	1	6
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	81	235	-	4	1	5	-	-	133	47	13	29
Kentucky-----	24	40	-	2	-	-	-	-	52	31	4	14
Tennessee-----	29	147	-	1	1	-	-	-	34	4	-	8
Alabama-----	20	26	-	-	-	2	-	-	45	9	8	4
Mississippi-----	8	22	-	1	-	3	-	-	2	3	1	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	837	801	-	-	3	5	20	1	94	92	21	37
Arkansas-----	47	29	-	-	1	1	2	-	1	9	1	5
Louisiana-----	8	16	-	-	-	2	10	-	4	1	-	4
Oklahoma-----	14	13	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-
Texas-----	768	743	-	-	2	1	8	1	85	82	20	28
MOUNTAIN-----	375	69	1	2	2	5	1	-	38	20	2	-
Montana-----	7	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Idaho-----	26	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Wyoming-----	109	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Colorado-----	73	8	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	11	-	-
New Mexico-----	5	11	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	4	-	-
Arizona-----	104	12	1	-	-	1	-	-	27	3	2	-
Utah-----	51	15	-	2	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-
Nevada-----	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	300	241	1	-	-	1	3	-	184	59	-	6
Washington-----	93	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	23	-	-
Oregon-----	33	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	5	-	-
California-----	174	200	1	-	-	1	3	-	131	31	-	6
Alaska-----	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	71	2	-	1

*Report for October.



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	48th week ended Dec. 4, 1954	47th week ended Nov. 27, 1954	48th week median 1951-53	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 48 WEEKS		
					1954	1953	Percent change
TOTAL: 106 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,404	9,174	10,777	-3.5	465,740	479,634	-2.9
New England----- (14 cities)	704	625	697	+1.0	31,272	31,861	-1.8
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,038	2,808	3,137	-3.2	137,527	143,536	-4.2
East North Central----- (17 cities)	2,169	1,998	2,367	-8.4	99,992	103,724	-3.6
West North Central----- (8 cities)	737	665	793	-7.1	33,674	34,917	-3.6
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	823	757	816	+0.9	35,751	36,866	-3.0
East South Central----- (8 cities)	510	406	536	-4.9	21,868	22,559	-3.1
West South Central----- (13 cities)	925	648	844	+9.6	36,907	36,766	+0.4
Mountain----- (8 cities)	267	212	233	+14.6	10,860	11,492	-5.5
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,231	1,055	1,352	-8.9	57,889	57,913	-0.0

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

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

CITY	48th week ended Dec. 4, 1954	47th week ended Nov. 27, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 48 WEEKS		CITY	48th week ended Dec. 4, 1954	47th week ended Nov. 27, 1954	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 48 WEEKS	
			1954	1953				1954	1953
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston-----	228	227	10,512	10,746	St. Louis-----	262	227	11,089	11,526
Bridgeport-----	31	28	1,657	1,604	St. Paul-----	53	69	3,054	3,039
Cambridge-----	33	20	1,290	1,315	Wichita-----	57	44	2,008	1,911
Fall River-----	25	18	1,273	1,350	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	60	46	2,208	2,168	Atlanta-----	109	101	4,962	4,938
Lowell-----	27	24	1,284	1,209	Baltimore-----	255	246	10,245	10,708
Lynn-----	16	20	1,019	1,062	Charlotte-----	34	19	1,417	1,366
New Bedford-----	17	22	1,071	1,101	Jacksonville-----	(65)	(38)	(2,309)	---
New Haven-----	51	35	2,028	2,088	Miami-----	52	39	2,871	2,787
Providence-----	66	59	2,883	2,891	Norfolk-----	38	31	1,365	1,519
Somerville-----	17	15	687	706	Richmond-----	63	48	2,988	3,056
Springfield, Mass.-----	41	36	1,857	1,856	Savannah-----	(32)	(28)	(1,323)	---
Waterbury-----	31	22	1,122	1,227	Tampa-----	69	70	2,491	2,497
Worcester-----	61	53	2,381	2,538	Washington, D. C.-----	169	175	7,877	8,424
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmington, Del.-----	34	28	1,535	1,571
Albany-----	35	51	2,157	2,169	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown-----	(38)	(34)	(1,596)	---	Birmingham-----	97	53	3,505	3,462
Buffalo-----	125	140	6,418	6,794	Chattanooga-----	43	36	2,021	2,157
Camden-----	34	35	1,748	1,728	Knorrville-----	31	63	1,624	1,558
Elizabeth-----	13	37	1,342	1,324	Louisville-----	97	91	5,020	5,065
Eric-----	34	28	1,577	1,636	Memphis-----	114	73	4,576	5,072
Jersey City-----	72	71	3,260	3,322	Mobile-----	41	27	1,531	1,501
Newark, N. J.-----	94	90	4,599	4,951	Montgomery-----	31	23	1,247	1,276
New York City-----	1,610	1,485	72,250	75,389	Nashville-----	56	40	2,344	2,468
Paterston-----	37	30	1,787	1,841	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia-----	506	483	21,836	23,100	Austin-----	33	26	1,209	1,194
Pittsburgh-----	178	145	7,618	8,120	Baton Rouge-----	34	32	1,045	786
Reading-----	---	(19)	---	---	Corpus Christi-----	20	11	823	798
Rochester, N. Y.-----	89	79	4,318	4,459	Dallas-----	98	71	4,718	4,503
Schenectady-----	26	22	1,153	1,116	El Paso-----	20	25	1,250	1,371
Scranton-----	(37)	(27)	(1,610)	---	Fort Worth-----	69	44	2,665	2,670
Syracuse-----	54	47	2,595	2,596	Houston-----	140	109	5,725	5,838
Trenton-----	70	20	2,144	2,238	Little Rock-----	59	43	1,952	2,037
Utica-----	41	22	1,440	1,489	New Orleans-----	159	120	7,064	7,472
Yonkers-----	20	23	1,285	1,264	Oklahoma City-----	64	49	2,778	2,545
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio-----	117	47	3,709	3,851
Akron-----	---	(51)	---	(2,680)	Shreveport-----	55	23	1,859	1,875
Canton-----	28	21	1,334	1,355	Tulsa-----	57	48	2,110	1,826
Chicago-----	727	656	33,988	35,178	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati-----	157	109	6,592	7,122	Albuquerque-----	35	27	1,269	1,284
Cleveland-----	173	191	9,382	9,813	Colorado Springs-----	19	10	573	618
Columbus-----	99	93	4,784	4,937	Denver-----	113	89	4,800	5,067
Dayton-----	66	59	2,961	2,942	Ogden-----	9	13	531	595
Detroit-----	315	298	14,652	15,071	Phoenix-----	29	27	990	1,066
Evansville-----	20	43	1,397	1,556	Pueblo-----	14	8	632	655
Flint-----	40	38	1,772	1,745	Salt Lake City-----	45	33	1,870	1,960
Fort Wayne-----	37	31	1,226	1,474	Tucson-----	3	5	195	247
Gary-----	(38)	(28)	(1,232)	---	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids-----	30	55	1,870	1,842	Berkeley-----	16	15	833	820
Indianapolis-----	117	106	5,229	5,364	Long Beach-----	45	46	2,300	2,191
Milwaukee-----	160	113	5,757	5,798	Los Angeles-----	449	370	20,615	20,784
Peoria-----	25	29	1,407	1,471	Oakland-----	75	82	4,322	4,407
South Bend-----	28	23	1,106	1,107	Pasadena-----	35	37	1,568	1,619
Toledo-----	94	93	4,224	4,400	Portland, Oreg.-----	66	83	4,563	4,650
Youngstown-----	53	40	2,311	2,549	Sacramento-----	62	39	2,183	2,219
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego-----	86	68	3,426	3,364
Des Moines-----	61	51	2,333	2,353	San Francisco-----	201	142	8,692	8,833
Duluth-----	19	13	1,246	1,274	Seattle-----	125	101	5,702	5,484
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	---	---	(1,591)	Spokane-----	49	44	2,098	1,991
Kansas City, Mo.-----	108	112	5,575	5,733	Tacoma-----	22	28	1,587	1,551
Minneapolis-----	117	99	5,431	6,011	Honolulu-----	(39)	(28)	(1,606)	(1,519)
Omaha-----	60	50	2,878	3,050					

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

Gastro-enteritis

The New York Department of Health gives preliminary information on an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among a group of 125 persons who ate turkey dinners. Of these, about 75 became ill with nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, intestinal cramps, and some fever from 6 to 8 hours after the dinner. Seven frozen turkeys were used which had been cooked by various people. No history of improper handling could be obtained. Samples of turkey and

stool specimens were obtained but the results of the laboratory test have not as yet been received.

The California Department of Public Health reports 2 outbreaks of gastro-enteritis involving 7 persons in 2 households. In 1 household, chocolate fudge cake with custard filling was suspected to be the vehicle of infection. None of the cake was available for bacteriological examination. In the other household, smoked tongue was suspected but no incriminating organisms were found.

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