

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 January 8, 1955

Of the 68 cases of diphtheria reported this week, 48 were in 7 States—Florida (10), Minnesota (9), Indiana (8), North Carolina (6), California (6), South Dakota (5), and Nebraska (4).

For the "disease year" which began about July 1, 1954, the cumulative total diphtheria cases is 1,285 compared with 1,395 for the previous year. The corresponding 5-year median is 2,247. More than half (707) of the cases for the current "disease year" were in the South Atlantic and East South Central Divisions. This is not unusual because reports for previous years show that a large proportion of the cases have occurred in these divisions.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Poisoning suspected to be botulism

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports 2 cases of poisoning which were diagnosed as botulism by a private physician. When found the husband had been dead about an hour, and the wife was unconscious and frothing at the mouth. She was hospitalized immediately, and botulism antitoxin was given the following night. The patient responded in about 3 hours and continued to improve. A history taken at the hospital differed from that obtained 5 days later on several points. Information obtained indicated that both had eaten fresh squash or pumpkin in a canned milk dish the day before they were found. They became sick within half an hour, vomited, and lay down, then felt better. About 4½ hours later, they went to a fire after eating pork steak with chili powder and tortillas. They experienced dizziness and ringing in the ears after they returned home. An investigation failed to reveal the source of the poisoning. Laboratory examination of food samples collected was negative for botulism. Police found no reason to suspect foul play.

Cryptococcus neoformans

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, gives information about a man who had been admitted to a hospital in 1952 with a diagnosis of tuberculosis. His illness apparently began in 1951 with hemoptysis, followed by fatigue, malaise, anorexia, loss of weight, cough, and hoarseness. Late in 1952, enlarged painless nodes were observed on the patient's neck. Painful swellings which were fluctuant and tender occurred on his chest and left temple. Material from these swellings was cultured, and the organism was identified as *Cryptococcus neoformans*. In March of 1953, the patient began to notice progressive loss of sensation in upper and lower extremities. Early in 1954, mood changes were apparent. Later he had pain in both ears, became totally deaf, and showed facial nerve weakness. A spinal fluid was taken and sent to the laboratory for culture. The findings were *Cryptococcus neoformans*.

Psittacosis

The California Department of Public Health reports a case of psittacosis in a florist who sells parakeets as a sideline. He became ill with fever, generalized muscle aches, a severe headache, and cough. An X-ray taken 6 days after onset was negative. Rales appeared the following day. The complement fixation test was positive for psittacosis in common.

Influenza-like disease

The New York Department of Health reports an outbreak of an influenza-like disease in a school. There were 125 absentees on December 17 and 200 on December 20. The proportion of absentees due to the syndrome is not known. The symptoms were fever, aches, pains, nausea, and vomiting. There was no indication of unusual incidence in adults or neighboring schools. No laboratory tests have been made as yet.

Gastro-enteritis

The New York State Department of Health gives preliminary information on an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among about 1,300 persons who attended a Christmas party. Of these, 308 became ill from 2 to 6 hours after ingestion of food. The vehicle of infection has not yet been identified, but the investigation is continuing.

The North Carolina State Board of Health has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in an institution. The cases were believed to have followed an evening meal. An investigation revealed that a hot water line had broken after breakfast and that dishes had been washed in cold water for 2 meals preceding the onset of the symptoms.

Dr. R. R. Cross, Illinois Department of Public Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among approximately 400 persons who attended a Christmas party. Of these, about 175 became ill with diarrhea and abdominal cramps 14 hours after eating. The meal consisted of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, kidney beans, frozen green peas, and tossed vegetable salad with an oil dressing. Small cakes were served for dessert. There was no apparent reason known for the outbreak at the time of the inspection. It was noted that hand-washing facilities were poor because employees had to bring their own towels. This obviously resulted in little or no hand washing. Steps have been taken to provide better facilities in the employees' washroom. Specimens of food were collected and sent to the laboratory for examination. Tests on the kidney beans revealed hemolytic staphylococci.

The Los Angeles City Health Department reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 15 persons who ate baked ham. Of these, 9 became ill with nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach cramps, and chills from 2 to 5½ hours later. The ham was purchased from a local market, taken home immediately, and refrigerated. It was taken from the refrigerator about noon of the next day. The meat was then roasted, taken from the oven at 6:00 p.m., and cooled for 4½ hours. At this time the ham was sliced and put on a platter which was wrapped with aluminum foil and left at room temperature for more than 12 hours before serving. None of the meat was available for bacteriological examination.

Sore mouth (contagious ecthyma) in sheep

The New York State B. A. I. Briefs reports the occurrence of sore mouth (ecthyma) in sheep which is caused by a filtrable virus. Recently it was diagnosed in approximately 350 feeder lambs shipped into New York State from the West. These are the first cases reported in New York in some time, although the disease is endemic in the West.

Information from Massachusetts indicates that the disease

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is rather widespread in that State, and the outbreaks occurred after the sheep had been shown at fairs. While the morbidity in any flock is high, the mortality is low. Anyone caring for sheep or treating them should be careful since the virus is transmissible to humans. In man, the infection is mild and causes vesicles on the mouth and hands.

Tularemia

Dr. S. H. Osborne, Connecticut Department of Health, reports

a case of tularemia in a man who went hunting, and who caught and skinned 3 rabbits. He became ill with headache, fever, chills, and generalized arthralgia 4 days later. In a few days, an ulcer appeared on the right thumb and right axillary node. Agglutinations for tularemia were negative 6 days after onset, but a specimen collected 2 weeks later showed complete agglutination in a dilution of 1:160. This is the ninth case of the disease reported to the Health Department since the disease was made reportable in 1928, and the first since 1940.

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	1st WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER SINCE SEASONAL LOW WEEK			Approximate seasonal low point
	January 8, 1955	January 9, 1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Botulism-----049.1	-	1	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	10	24	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	68	50	65	1,285	1,395	2,247	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	26	7	13	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092, N998.5 pt.	618	903	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	3	4	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Measles-----085	10,044	7,244	5,367	² 65,794	43,336	36,660	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	85	115	96	³ 1,177	1,437	1,293	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	129	190	136	⁴ 37,316	34,577	34,577	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	⁵	-	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Rabies in men-----094	-	-	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	-	-	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	2,950	3,252	1,529	40,341	37,886	18,157	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Trichiniasis-----128	-	1	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Tularemia-----059	26	14	14	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Typhoid fever-----040	16	23	23	1,889	2,014	2,021	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	-	4	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Whooping cough-----056	1,409	929	929	18,691	10,686	15,115	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	120	164	123	1,473	1,948	---	Oct. 1

¹Frequencies are too small.

²Addition: Vermont, week ended January 1, 169 cases.

³Deduction: Arkansas, week ended, December 25, 1954, 1 case.

⁴Deduction: Kentucky, week ended January 1, 1 case.

⁵California, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Oregon, 1 case each.

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 JANUARY 9, 1954, AND JANUARY 8, 1955

(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	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	10	24	68	50	26	7	618	903	3	2	-	2
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	-	2	-	2	-	50	58	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	13	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	2	-	2	-	18	39	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	1	-	3	4	-	133	184	-	-	-	1
New York-----	-	1	-	-	3	-	68	154	-	-	-	1
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	10	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	3	1	-	59	20	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	4	9	8	8	3	2	90	126	-	-	-	-
Ohio-----	1	2	-	2	-	1	14	15	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	8	-	-	-	20	21	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	2	4	-	1	2	1	19	54	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	-	3	-	4	1	-	20	31	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	1	-	-	1	-	-	17	5	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3	8	19	3	4	3	82	130	-	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	-	1	9	1	-	-	22	33	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	2	6	-	1	-	-	22	45	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	1	1	1	-	3	-	3	24	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	4	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	5	-	1	-	15	16	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	4	1	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	-	-	21	14	2	-	87	168	1	-	-	-
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	20	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	-	-	3	-	-	46	65	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	8	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	6	1	-	-	14	51	1	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	-	-	10	7	1	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	15	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	-	2	4	9	2	1	31	65	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	-	1	-	4	1	1	20	19	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	1	2	3	-	-	6	4	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	1	2	1	-	5	26	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2	2	8	10	2	1	34	37	2	1	-	-
Arkansas-----	1	-	2	2	1	-	8	7	1	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	-	2	3	5	1	1	24	29	1	1	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	-	-	-	3	-	-	52	32	-	1	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	11	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	4	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	19	6	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	-	2	6	-	7	-	59	103	-	-	-	1
Washington-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	9	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	17	23	-	-	-	-
California-----	-	-	6	-	7	-	22	71	-	-	-	1
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

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 JANUARY 9, 1954, AND JANUARY 8, 1955—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 INJECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	Total ²		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		1955	1954
					1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954		
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	10,044	7,244	85	115	129	190	57	71	26	39	-	-
NEW ENGLAND-----	3,639	184	7	4	5	4	4	1	-	1	-	-
Maine-----	397	130	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	62	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	156	2	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	2,080	27	4	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	162	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	782	21	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	2,238	1,281	11	21	18	17	2	8	1	-	-	-
New York-----	729	692	4	7	8	11	2	6	1	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	878	55	2	2	5	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	631	534	5	12	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	1,361	1,605	17	22	10	39	5	6	1	1	-	-
Ohio-----	68	204	3	14	1	30	-	2	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	42	410	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	163	413	8	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Michigan-----	824	523	2	4	4	6	2	4	-	1	-	-
Wisconsin-----	264	55	2	-	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	553	188	3	8	13	9	6	1	1	1	-	-
Minnesota-----	176	15	2	4	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	111	80	-	-	3	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	48	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	194	41	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	3	34	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Nebraska-----	3	7	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	18	9	-	1	3	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	277	925	17	20	16	19	11	7	-	3	-	-
Delaware-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	3	174	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	8	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	78	108	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	125	167	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	1	120	2	9	7	3	7	1	-	1	-	-
South Carolina-----	8	94	2	2	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
Georgia-----	48	115	2	2	3	6	3	2	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	6	139	5	3	5	8	-	3	-	1	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	218	668	13	14	5	9	1	3	2	2	-	-
Kentucky-----	15	334	4	4	3	3	1	1	2	2	-	-
Tennessee-----	117	208	2	3	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	64	87	6	3	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	22	39	1	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	755	662	8	10	10	20	5	10	2	4	-	-
Arkansas-----	57	52	2	2	2	4	1	3	1	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	26	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	13	5	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	685	579	4	7	5	16	4	7	1	4	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	365	800	1	3	16	13	3	3	3	2	-	-
Montana-----	18	224	1	-	3	5	1	3	2	2	-	-
Idaho-----	3	156	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	1	80	-	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	13	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	110	37	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Arizona-----	205	50	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	15	231	-	2	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	2	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	638	931	8	13	36	60	20	32	16	25	-	-
Washington-----	269	266	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	50	44	2	1	2	3	2	3	-	-	-	-
California-----	319	621	6	11	33	56	17	29	16	25	-	-
Alaska-----	2	14	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Hawaii-----	62	2	-	-	-	11	-	6	-	5	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	106	46	-	-	26	-	26	-	-	-	-	-

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

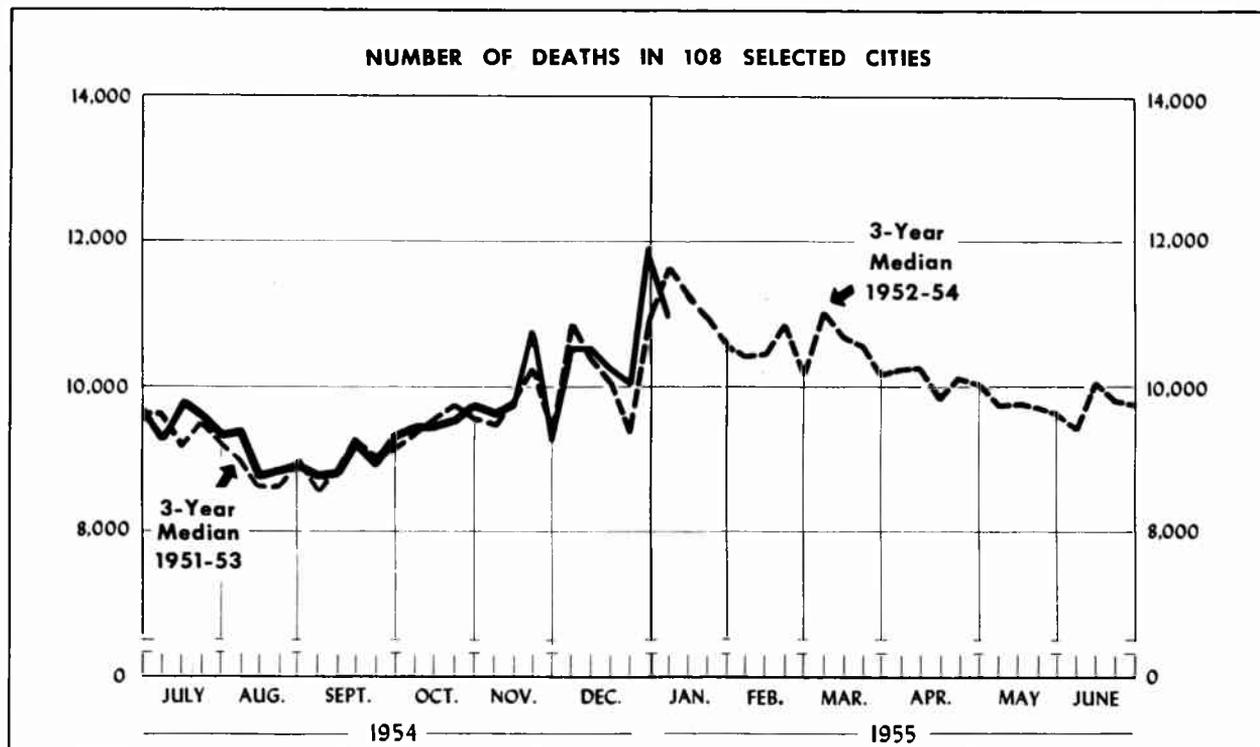
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED JANUARY 9, 1954, AND JANUARY 8, 1955—Continued

(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	
	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	2,950	3,252	-	26	14	16	23	-	1,409	929	120	164
NEW ENGLAND-----	160	221	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	137	-	-
Maine-----	18	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	8	-	-
New Hampshire-----	4	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	28	-	-
Vermont-----	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	32	-	-
Massachusetts-----	114	116	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	35	-	-
Rhode Island-----	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	16	-	-
Connecticut-----	20	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	18	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	215	306	-	-	-	3	3	-	245	245	13	8
New York-----	106	159	-	-	-	-	-	-	97	139	10	8
New Jersey-----	32	52	-	-	-	-	1	-	54	33	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	77	95	-	-	-	3	2	-	94	73	3	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	330	498	-	4	4	3	8	-	281	195	9	24
Ohio-----	70	101	-	-	-	3	5	-	23	33	3	-
Indiana-----	65	52	-	-	1	-	1	-	39	22	6	7
Illinois-----	64	139	-	3	2	-	1	-	41	27	-	16
Michigan-----	89	115	-	-	1	-	-	-	98	97	-	1
Wisconsin-----	42	91	-	1	-	-	1	-	80	16	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	82	113	-	-	1	-	2	-	50	15	21	19
Minnesota-----	25	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	5	6	2
Iowa-----	14	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	8	3
Missouri-----	9	9	-	-	1	-	2	-	5	2	5	13
North Dakota-----	26	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	1	-
South Dakota-----	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Kansas-----	8	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	361	399	-	4	5	3	2	-	177	73	36	25
Delaware-----	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Maryland-----	65	24	-	-	2	-	-	-	15	18	-	-
District of Columbia-----	8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-
Virginia-----	165	174	-	-	1	2	-	-	52	23	12	4
West Virginia-----	32	104	-	-	-	1	-	-	70	19	8	10
North Carolina-----	30	39	-	3	1	-	-	-	10	4	3	5
South Carolina-----	23	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	4	-	5	5
Georgia-----	30	36	-	1	-	-	1	-	8	-	6	1
Florida-----	8	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	6	2	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	210	151	-	17	3	-	5	-	42	65	18	45
Kentucky-----	159	80	-	4	2	-	1	-	4	32	3	15
Tennessee-----	26	43	-	13	1	-	1	-	20	4	5	14
Alabama-----	18	12	-	-	-	-	2	-	15	28	9	14
Mississippi-----	7	16	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	1	2
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	756	1,026	-	-	1	5	2	-	217	111	22	37
Arkansas-----	41	47	-	-	1	1	-	-	20	1	-	6
Louisiana-----	4	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	3	-	-
Oklahoma-----	14	20	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	1
Texas-----	697	956	-	-	-	3	1	-	189	107	22	30
MOUNTAIN-----	580	214	-	-	-	2	1	-	56	27	1	3
Montana-----	10	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	-
Idaho-----	25	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	30	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Colorado-----	25	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	-	-
New Mexico-----	153	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	9	-	2
Arizona-----	248	143	-	-	-	1	-	-	29	11	1	1
Utah-----	89	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	-	-
Nevada-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	256	324	-	1	-	-	-	-	141	61	-	3
Washington-----	60	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	16	-	-
Oregon-----	37	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	-	-
California-----	159	225	-	1	-	-	-	-	108	36	-	3
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	7	-	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 with a weekly average of 50 deaths, 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	WEEK ENDED		1st week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week
	January 8, 1955	January 1, 1955		
TOTAL: 106 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,854	11,083	11,555	-6.1
New England----- (14 cities)	778	792	724	+7.5
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,127	3,251	3,272	-4.4
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,293	2,451	2,458	-6.7
West North Central----- (8 cities)	647	719	827	-21.8
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	830	936	835	-0.6
East South Central----- (8 cities)	544	470	532	+2.3
West South Central----- (12 cities)	874	864	903	-3.2
Mountain----- (8 cities)	303	275	263	+15.2
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,458	1,325	1,422	+2.5

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 8, 1955

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

CITY	WEEK ENDED		CITY	WEEK ENDED	
	January 8, 1955	January 1, 1955		January 8, 1955	January 1, 1955
NEW ENGLAND			WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.		
Boston-----	281	279	St. Louis-----	150	222
Bridgeport-----	39	44	St. Paul-----	77	62
Cambridge-----	34	38	Wichita-----	49	61
Fall River-----	28	35	SOUTH ATLANTIC		
Hartford-----	67	51	Atlanta-----	130	119
Lowell-----	23	27	Baltimore-----	231	227
Lynn-----	30	18	Charlotte-----	38	34
New Bedford-----	27	24	Jacksonville-----	(64)	(66)
New Haven-----	47	54	Miami-----	62	40
Providence-----	66	72	Norfolk-----	36	38
Somerville-----	15	21	Richmond-----	77	79
Springfield, Mass.-----	50	39	Savannah-----	(42)	(25)
Waterbury-----	25	33	Tampa-----	60	91
Worcester-----	46	57	Washington, D. C.-----	156	259
MIDDLE ATLANTIC			Wilmington, Del.-----	40	49
Albany-----	31	54	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Allentown-----	(44)	(54)	Birmingham-----	84	71
Buffalo-----	170	137	Chattanooga-----	65	38
Camden-----	50	43	Knoxville-----	41	20
Elizabeth-----	29	65	Louisville-----	137	122
Erie-----	37	37	Memphis-----	98	128
Jersey City-----	57	70	Mobile-----	19	41
Newark, N. J.-----	159	76	Montgomery-----	35	14
New York City-----	1,710	1,752	Nashville-----	65	36
Paterson-----	43	39	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL		
Philadelphia-----	402	507	Austin-----	27	21
Pittsburgh-----	161	206	Baton Rouge-----	37	7
Reading-----	(18)	(24)	Corpus Christi-----	13	10
Rochester, N. Y.-----	87	83	Dallas-----	104	84
Schenectady-----	22	18	El Paso-----	36	35
Scranton-----	(22)	(42)	Fort Worth-----	49	87
Syracuse-----	59	65	Houston-----	163	147
Trenton-----	49	41	Little Rock-----	53	50
Utica-----	38	30	New Orleans-----	175	224
Yonkers-----	23	28	Oklahoma City-----	63	59
EAST NORTH CENTRAL			San Antonio-----	104	104
Akron-----	61	54	Shreveport-----	50	36
Canton-----	45	40	Tulsa-----	---	(25)
Chicago-----	747	781	MOUNTAIN		
Cincinnati-----	209	171	Albuquerque-----	26	23
Cleveland-----	147	197	Colorado Springs-----	18	11
Columbus-----	108	115	Denver-----	162	108
Dayton-----	64	91	Ogden-----	11	24
Detroit-----	322	369	Phoenix-----	22	30
Evansville-----	26	40	Pueblo-----	9	17
Flint-----	36	35	Salt Lake City-----	46	57
Fort Wayne-----	27	36	Tucson-----	9	5
Gary-----	(42)	(18)	PACIFIC		
Grand Rapids-----	35	45	Berkeley-----	21	18
Indianapolis-----	118	131	Long Beach-----	59	53
Milwaukee-----	116	129	Los Angeles-----	547	516
Peoria-----	33	31	Oakland-----	115	77
South Bend-----	29	32	Pasadena-----	44	37
Toledo-----	110	98	Portland, Oreg.-----	97	81
Youngstown-----	60	56	Sacramento-----	69	49
WEST NORTH CENTRAL			San Diego-----	110	60
Des Moines-----	45	43	San Francisco-----	182	209
Duluth-----	30	31	Seattle-----	146	136
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	(26)	Spokane-----	28	54
Kansas City, Mo.-----	104	135	Tacoma-----	40	35
Minneapolis-----	122	102	Honolulu-----	(35)	(48)
Omaha-----	70	63			

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

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