

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly
Report



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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 January 15, 1955

The incidence of infectious hepatitis for the current week is about 57 percent higher than that for the previous week, when 618 cases were reported. The total of 969 cases for this week is the largest number reported since the week ended June 19, 1954, when 995 cases were reported. More than half (491 cases) of the total for the current week were in the northeastern part of the country. States reporting large numbers are New York (116 cases), Michigan (96), Pennsylvania (76), and Massachusetts (54). The total for these 4 States is almost double the number (165) reported for the previous week.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Rabies in man

Dr. Henry A. Holle, Texas Department of Health, reports 2 cases of human rabies in different counties in the southeastern part of the State. The first of these occurred in October 1954. The victim was a 3-year-old boy who had been bitten by a stray dog approximately 3 weeks previous to entry in a hospital. The child was apparently well until 5 days before admission to the hospital. His illness began with fever and a runny nose which continued for about 48 hours. He then began to have difficulty in swallowing. Later the boy's eyes had a wild expression, and although he lapsed into what appeared to be a deep sleep, he was easily aroused. Water poured into the mouth and/or stimulation of the pharynx caused a generalized spasm. Death occurred shortly and an autopsy was obtained. Laboratory examination of brain tissue revealed Negri bodies. Mice injected with brain tissue died within 8 days and showed cerebral pathological findings of rabies.

The other case of rabies was reported for the week ended January 1, 1955, and was in a 5-year-old boy. The child became ill on the 22d of December with a sore throat. He was treated for this but did not respond, and on the following day was admitted to a hospital with acute respiratory distress and convulsions. He died on December 25 and the death certificate gave spinal meningitis as the cause, but the physician was not satisfied and made further inquiries. The investigation revealed that a stray dog which roamed in the vicinity of this boy's home was killed and that the dog's brain was positive for rabies. The mother stated that this dog was seen in her yard about November 9. She consulted a physician who informed her that saliva deposited in the yard would not be dangerous. It is known that there is little likelihood of the virus remaining potent upon exposure to heat, light, etc. It was assumed, however, that this is a rare instance in which the child, with an open lesion on his toe, may have become infected while running through the yard.

Rodent plague

Information has been received by the Division of Foreign Quarantine, PHS, that laboratory data on rodent examinations for plague at Tacoma, Washington, are now available through December 29. There have been no positive findings since those of the rat fleas from a residential area on October 22. A total of 1,277 fleas have been combed from 442 rats giving the rather low flea index of 2.9 percent for the whole period. The flea index, furthermore, fell from 3.4 in November to 2.0 in December. Nearly all (1,230) were *Nosopsyllus fasciatus*, the common rat

flea of colder climates, which does not readily transmit plague to man. In a port area, a single batch of 21 *Xenopsylla cheopis* was found in December, however, indicating a possible importation from farther south. They were not infected, and this finding can have no bearing on the original positive findings. The remaining 26 fleas were mostly the mouse flea *Leptopsylla segnis*, but there were also a few fleas typical for the white-footed meadow mouse, *peromyscus*, which, although wild, may frequent barns and has therefore been suspected as a link between wild rodent and rat plague. Seventeen specimens were still under laboratory tests on January 7, at the CDC Field Station in San Francisco.

Diarrhea of the newborn

The New York State Department of Health gives preliminary information on an outbreak of diarrhea in an institution. It began in the latter part of November 1954, and to date, of 94 babies born, 5 definitely developed diarrhea and 34 were suspects. The etiology is still under investigation.

Acute respiratory disease

Absenteeism due to acute respiratory disease is reported to be as high as 20 percent in some junior high schools in the Washington, D. C. metropolitan area. Laboratory examination of specimens is under way in an attempt to identify the etiologic agent. Fever, sore throat, and headache are reported to be the most common symptoms.

Up to the present time, there have been no reports of influenza in any part of the United States which could be confirmed by isolation of virus or by increase in antibody titers.

The Preventive Medicine Division, Surgeon General's Office, Department of the Army, has reported to the WHO Influenza Information Center, NIH, that 391 paired serum samples from military personnel were tested by the influenza hemagglutination inhibition test during December. Of these, only 18 indicated a rise in antibody titer to influenza A or B, which may have been due to vaccination or possibly to sporadic infections. In general, the respiratory disease rates in military installations in the United States and overseas were not excessive.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among persons attending a family gathering. Six persons became ill from 2½ to 5 hours after eating a meal which consisted of sausage, smoked ham, scalloped oysters, fruit salad, shrimp salad, and deviled eggs. The ham had been cut at a local butcher shop and left unrefrigerated. The meat was boiled for an hour at home, then covered with the original wrapping paper from the butcher shop and again left unrefrigerated. The deviled eggs and potato salad were left on the back porch for several hours. Laboratory examination of fruit salad, oysters, and sausages revealed only a few toxigenic staphylococci but the ham yielded hemolytic *Staphylococcus aureus*, coagulase positive, in large numbers. The ham was probably contaminated in the butcher shop and the other foods were affected by the ham in the serving process or when the samples were taken. The person preparing the meal was free from any sign or history of recent upper respiratory or skin infection.

Dr. W. R. Giedt, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in an institution in Washington State. Of 45 persons interviewed, 22 became ill with diarrhea and cramps from 8 to 21 hours after eating an evening meal. The menu consisted of creamed chicken, biscuits, grapefruit and orange salad, oven browned potatoes, broccoli with bacon sauce, apple pie with cheese, and coffee. Twelve also had birthday cakes and chocolates. Cases were scattered among persons eating various food items and the vehicle of infection was not determined. Bacteriological examination of chicken revealed a coliform organism, but 5 of 7 persons not eating this food became ill. Potatoes were essentially negative and other foods were not available for laboratory tests. A paracolon organism was isolated from 1 of 3 persons submitting specimens.

The Los Angeles City Health Department reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 20 patrons of a restaurant. Of these,

12 became ill with nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea from 20 to 48 hours after eating a sour cream sauce. The ingredients of the sauce were corn starch, water, lemon juice, and sour cream flavored with chopped chives and Worcester sauce. The sauce was refrigerated until about 3 hours before being served. At this time it was placed in a container with ice around it. The waitress filled the sauce pitchers as dinner was served. None of the food was available for bacteriological examination. Six food handlers and 5 patients submitted specimens and all were negative for pathogenic organisms.

The Los Angeles County Health Department reports that 4 of 7 persons who ate custard pie in a private household became ill from 1 to 1½ hours later. The pie was manufactured by a commercial bakery and the method of preparation is unknown. It was delivered by an unrefrigerated truck and eaten within 20 minutes

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	2d WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Jan. 15, 1955	Ended Jan. 16, 1954	Median 1950-54	First 2 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	1 ¹	-	1	1	-	1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Botulism-----049.1	-	4	---	-	5	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	17	17	---	27	41	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	39	37	79	³ 106	87	144	³ 1,323	1,432	2,326	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	18	16	9	⁴ 45	23	23	⁴ 1,397	750	749	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	969	859	---	1,587	1,762	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	5	10	---	8	14	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Measles-----085	11,942	7,370	7,190	21,986	14,614	12,557	77,736	50,706	43,003	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	117	124	118	202	239	205	1,294	1,561	1,411	Sept. 1
Polioyelitis-----080	131	177	159	260	367	285	37,447	34,754	34,754	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	⁵ 8	-	---	13	-	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	2	-	-	2	-	1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	3,182	3,678	1,895	⁶ 6,135	6,930	3,424	⁶ 43,526	41,564	19,746	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	1	-	-	2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Trichiniasis-----128	4	4	---	4	5	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Tularemia-----059	15	17	17	41	31	28	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Typhoid fever-----040	24	19	33	40	42	54	1,913	2,033	2,046	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	2	-	---	2	4	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Whooping cough-----056	1,414	931	1,331	2,823	1,860	2,240	20,105	11,617	16,446	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	108	122	128	228	286	254	1,581	2,070	---	Oct. 1

¹Reported in Pennsylvania.

²Frequencies are too small.

³Addition: Vermont, week ended January 8, 1 case. Deduction: South Dakota, week ended January 8, 2 cases.

⁴Addition: Kansas, week ended January 8, 1 case.

⁵Connecticut and New Jersey, 1 case each; California, 2; and Georgia, 4.

⁶Addition: South Dakota, week ended January 8, 3 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 JANUARY 16, 1954, AND JANUARY 15, 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-----	17	17	39	37	18	16	969	859	4	4	1	6
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	-	-	2	-	-	100	39	-	-	1	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	13	-	-	1	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	54	13	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	4	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	13	1	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	-	2	1	4	-	225	206	1	-	-	-
New York-----	-	-	1	-	3	-	116	169	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	33	7	1	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	76	30	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	5	4	6	2	4	3	166	157	-	-	-	-
Ohio-----	-	1	1	2	1	-	20	34	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	1	2	-	2	-	19	23	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	2	-	1	-	-	-	20	31	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	3	2	2	-	1	3	96	57	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	12	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3	8	8	4	1	1	129	140	-	1	-	-
Minnesota-----	1	4	4	1	-	-	62	44	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	1	4	-	2	-	-	40	72	-	1	-	-
Missouri-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	9	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	13	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	1	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	5	-	12	11	2	1	85	121	-	-	-	6
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	9	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	-	1	2	-	-	38	37	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	27	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	2	-	2	1	-	1	5	32	-	-	-	4
South Carolina-----	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	3	-	5	3	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	2
Florida-----	-	-	1	3	2	-	12	8	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	-	1	2	7	1	2	46	40	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	20	10	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	-	1	1	-	-	2	18	14	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	-	3	-	-	5	6	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	-	3	1	-	3	10	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1	-	7	8	-	6	43	36	2	1	-	-
Arkansas-----	1	-	1	2	-	1	16	3	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	-	-	5	5	-	5	24	22	2	1	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1	3	-	-	1	1	87	34	1	-	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	2	-	-	-	1	6	14	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	1	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	3	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	32	15	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1	1	2	2	5	2	88	86	-	2	-	-
Washington-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	19	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	31	25	-	-	-	-
California-----	-	-	2	2	5	2	38	42	-	2	-	-
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	2	3	-	-	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 16, 1954, AND JANUARY 15, 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 INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
					Total ²		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)			
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	11,942	7,370	117	124	131	177	67	59	30	46	2	-
NEW ENGLAND-----	4,116	142	2	5	7	7	4	3	1	-	-	-
Maine-----	159	78	1	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	107	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	144	10	-	-	5	1	4	1	1	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	2,649	31	1	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	164	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	893	17	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	2,764	1,296	17	22	17	25	5	6	2	-	-	-
New York-----	1,144	819	8	9	11	13	5	5	2	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	1,078	39	3	4	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	542	438	6	9	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	1,746	2,100	19	22	13	22	6	6	1	6	-	-
Ohio-----	188	444	2	6	1	9	1	4	-	3	-	-
Indiana-----	35	425	2	3	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
Illinois-----	274	315	7	5	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	796	815	4	3	6	8	5	2	1	2	-	-
Wisconsin-----	453	101	4	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	704	329	6	7	3	8	1	3	-	1	-	-
Minnesota-----	383	3	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	134	201	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	102	20	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
North Dakota-----	65	71	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	7	15	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	14	18	1	2	1	3	-	2	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	333	709	29	21	20	26	13	9	5	8	2	-
Delaware-----	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	27	124	1	1	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	4	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	58	90	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	125	169	2	1	1	2	1	2	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	17	32	10	4	6	8	2	2	4	2	-	-
South Carolina-----	6	84	5	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	81	78	3	1	2	1	2	-	-	-	2	-
Florida-----	14	119	5	9	9	12	6	3	1	6	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	214	355	12	10	4	10	2	3	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	54	188	2	5	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	116	43	6	2	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	40	94	4	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	4	30	-	2	1	4	-	2	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	780	671	12	15	16	17	11	5	3	5	-	-
Arkansas-----	27	13	2	5	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	42	4	1	-	4	-	2	-	2	-	-
Oklahoma-----	11	10	2	-	4	2	2	-	-	1	-	-
Texas-----	742	606	4	9	10	11	7	3	3	2	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	279	665	2	4	11	11	2	3	1	1	-	-
Montana-----	31	104	1	-	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	4	142	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	1	32	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	4	37	-	2	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
New Mexico-----	52	56	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	175	93	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	10	199	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	2	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1,006	1,103	18	18	40	51	23	21	17	25	-	-
Washington-----	231	351	2	1	8	3	6	-	2	-	-	-
Oregon-----	80	67	3	2	2	3	2	2	-	-	-	-
California-----	695	685	13	15	30	45	15	19	15	25	-	-
Alaska-----	4	30	-	-	1	15	1	3	-	12	-	-
Hawaii-----	63	2	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	4	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	54	12	-	1	10	7	10	7	-	-	-	-

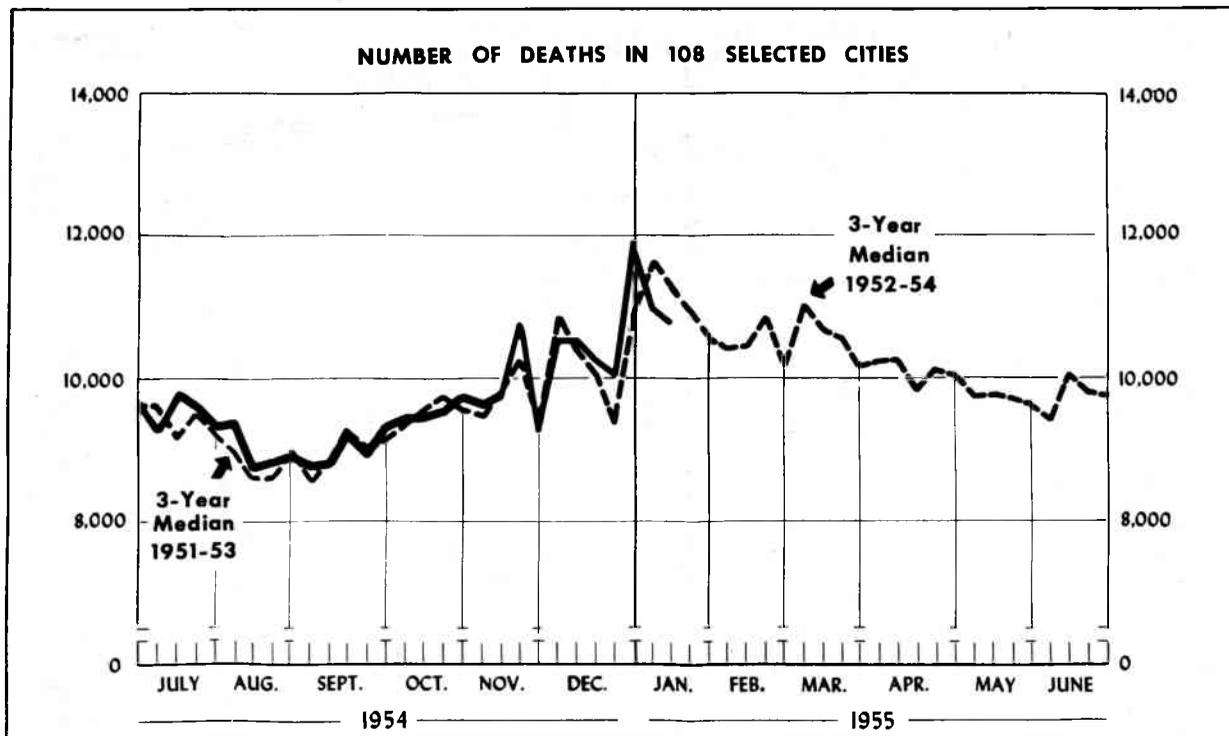
²Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).

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 JANUARY 16, 1954, AND JANUARY 15, 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-----	3,182	3,678	4	15	17	24	19	2	1,414	931	108	122
NEW ENGLAND-----	202	216	-	-	-	-	1	-	172	144	-	-
Maine-----	12	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	3	-	-
New Hampshire-----	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
Vermont-----	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	-	-
Massachusetts-----	129	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	44	-	-
Rhode Island-----	16	19	-	-	-	-	1	-	36	19	-	-
Connecticut-----	34	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	42	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	297	377	2	-	-	4	2	-	209	235	9	3
New York-----	113	177	-	-	-	1	1	-	83	141	7	2
New Jersey-----	49	51	-	-	-	1	-	-	61	36	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	135	149	2	-	-	2	1	-	65	58	2	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	393	671	-	-	1	4	1	-	351	226	10	24
Ohio-----	98	176	-	-	-	2	-	-	44	40	3	1
Indiana-----	72	70	-	-	1	-	-	-	45	32	6	9
Illinois-----	55	154	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	8
Michigan-----	94	152	-	-	-	2	1	-	129	122	-	1
Wisconsin-----	74	119	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	32	1	5
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	105	193	-	1	1	3	-	-	90	21	14	7
Minnesota-----	26	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	57	3	5	2
Iowa-----	15	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9	2	-
Missouri-----	7	28	-	1	1	3	-	-	13	3	7	4
North Dakota-----	30	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	1
South Dakota-----	3	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	23	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	460	269	-	3	9	1	4	1	116	45	33	33
Delaware-----	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Maryland-----	106	23	-	-	1	-	-	-	13	12	-	1
District of Columbia-----	10	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-
Virginia-----	155	73	-	-	6	-	-	-	33	3	14	4
West Virginia-----	31	55	-	-	-	2	-	-	42	15	2	12
North Carolina-----	81	42	-	1	1	-	1	-	4	4	3	6
South Carolina-----	15	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	9	7
Georgia-----	38	44	-	2	1	-	-	1	3	5	5	3
Florida-----	22	18	-	-	-	1	1	-	13	2	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	99	118	-	8	3	-	4	-	101	23	21	23
Kentucky-----	37	55	-	2	-	-	3	-	20	9	-	7
Tennessee-----	36	38	-	6	3	-	-	-	25	3	6	8
Alabama-----	14	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	53	10	10	4
Mississippi-----	12	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5	4
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	824	981	-	1	3	2	3	1	154	110	18	29
Arkansas-----	36	32	-	1	1	1	-	-	10	12	2	3
Louisiana-----	9	14	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Oklahoma-----	17	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	4	1	1
Texas-----	762	911	-	-	1	1	3	1	134	92	15	25
MOUNTAIN-----	433	473	2	2	-	9	2	-	50	20	2	2
Montana-----	8	15	-	2	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Idaho-----	23	16	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	64	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Colorado-----	32	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	5	-	-
New Mexico-----	62	101	-	-	-	6	1	-	9	3	2	-
Arizona-----	208	292	2	-	-	2	-	-	19	10	-	2
Utah-----	35	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	-	-
Nevada-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	369	380	-	-	-	1	2	-	171	107	1	1
Washington-----	96	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	23	-	-
Oregon-----	87	86	-	-	-	-	2	-	12	38	-	-
California-----	186	223	-	-	-	1	-	-	130	46	1	1
Alaska-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	29	37	-	-



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	2d week ended Jan. 15, 1955	1st week ended Jan. 8, 1955	2d week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 2 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 108 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,772	10,955	11,221	-4.0	21,727	22,651	-4.1
New England----- (14 cities)	774	778	742	+4.3	1,552	1,560	-0.5
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,254	3,127	3,293	-1.2	6,331	6,629	-3.7
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,344	2,293	2,434	-3.7	4,637	4,886	-5.1
West North Central----- (9 cities)	654	689	812	-19.5	1,343	1,608	-16.5
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	786	830	851	-7.6	1,616	1,645	-1.8
East South Central----- (8 cities)	440	544	563	-21.8	984	1,167	-15.7
West South Central----- (13 cities)	812	933	845	-3.9	1,745	1,844	-5.4
Mountain----- (8 cities)	240	303	254	-5.5	543	517	+5.0
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,468	1,458	1,478	-0.7	2,926	2,795	+4.7

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 15, 1955

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

CITY	2d week ended Jan. 15, 1955	1st week ended Jan. 8, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 2 WEEKS		CITY	2d week ended Jan. 15, 1955	1st week ended Jan. 8, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 2 WEEKS	
			1955	1954				1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL--Con.				
Boston-----	278	281	559	490	St. Louis-----	177	150	327	485
Bridgeport-----	50	39	89	73	St. Paul-----	64	77	141	148
Cambridge-----	33	34	67	64	Wichita-----	35	49	84	92
Fall River-----	26	28	54	61	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	64	67	131	122	Atlanta-----	106	130	236	234
Lowell-----	21	23	44	65	Baltimore-----	259	231	490	488
Lynn-----	26	30	56	59	Charlotte-----	24	38	62	59
New Bedford-----	18	27	45	50	Jacksonville-----	(53)	(64)	(117)	(134)
New Haven-----	48	47	95	106	Miami-----	61	62	123	130
Providence-----	71	66	137	142	Norfolk-----	43	36	79	82
Somerville-----	24	15	39	26	Richmond-----	57	77	134	155
Springfield, Mass.-----	41	50	91	103	Savannah-----	---	(42)	---	(53)
Waterbury-----	32	25	57	67	Tampa-----	60	60	120	127
Worcester-----	42	46	88	132	Washington, D. C.-----	136	156	292	297
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Albany-----	51	31	82	89	Birmingham-----	70	84	154	212
Allentown-----	(26)	(44)	(70)	(73)	Chattanooga-----	38	65	103	143
Buffalo-----	100	170	270	341	Knoxville-----	25	41	66	81
Camden-----	37	50	87	89	Louisville-----	108	137	245	249
Elizabeth-----	34	29	63	78	Memphis-----	90	98	188	218
Erie-----	32	37	69	72	Mobile-----	28	19	47	70
Jersey City-----	68	57	125	148	Montgomery-----	33	35	68	64
Newark, N. J.-----	98	159	257	243	Nashville-----	48	65	113	130
New York City-----	1,742	1,710	3,452	3,647	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Paterson-----	30	43	73	93	Austin-----	27	27	54	62
Philadelphia-----	561	402	963	795	Baton Rouge-----	14	37	51	60
Pittsburgh-----	225	161	386	366	Corpus Christi-----	18	13	31	32
Reading-----	(23)	(18)	(41)	(43)	Dallas-----	85	104	189	254
Rochester, N. Y.-----	96	87	183	220	El Paso-----	36	36	72	66
Schenectady-----	20	22	42	62	Fort Worth-----	55	49	104	129
Scranton-----	(36)	(22)	(58)	(82)	Houston-----	158	163	301	347
Syracuse-----	51	59	110	135	Little Rock-----	37	53	90	98
Trenton-----	62	49	111	120	New Orleans-----	146	175	321	289
Utica-----	23	38	61	63	Oklahoma City-----	76	63	139	153
Yonkers-----	24	23	47	68	San Antonio-----	84	104	188	172
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					MOUNTAIN				
Akron-----	51	61	112	149	Albuquerque-----	27	26	53	64
Canton-----	19	45	64	79	Colorado Springs-----	9	18	27	26
Chicago-----	728	747	1,475	1,502	Denver-----	112	162	274	215
Cincinnati-----	171	209	380	359	Ogden-----	6	11	17	24
Cleveland-----	222	147	369	480	Phoenix-----	29	22	51	64
Columbus-----	125	108	233	253	Pueblo-----	14	9	23	30
Dayton-----	62	64	126	138	Salt Lake City-----	42	46	88	88
Detroit-----	370	322	692	698	Tucson-----	1	9	10	6
Evansville-----	31	26	57	71	PACIFIC				
Flint-----	39	36	75	75	Berkeley-----	20	21	41	41
Fort Wayne-----	34	27	61	58	Long Beach-----	48	59	107	126
Gary-----	(25)	(42)	(67)	(50)	Los Angeles-----	576	547	1,123	1,029
Grand Rapids-----	36	35	71	83	Oakland-----	123	115	238	189
Indianapolis-----	104	118	222	226	Pasadena-----	30	44	74	80
Milwaukee-----	135	116	251	250	Portland, Oreg.-----	121	97	218	224
Peoria-----	25	33	58	61	Sacramento-----	53	69	122	122
South Bend-----	30	29	59	60	San Diego-----	97	110	207	175
Toledo-----	113	110	223	228	San Francisco-----	189	182	371	420
Youngstown-----	49	60	109	116	Seattle-----	123	146	269	236
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					TACOMA				
Des Moines-----	30	45	75	107	Spokane-----	48	28	76	99
Duluth-----	19	30	49	61	Tacoma-----	40	40	80	74
Kansas City, Kans.-----	38	42	80	49	HONOLULU				
Kansas City, Mo.-----	100	104	204	250	Honolulu-----	(42)	(35)	(77)	(73)
Minneapolis-----	122	122	244	273					
Omaha-----	69	70	139	143					

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

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued
 after purchase. Laboratory examination of a specimen of the pie revealed very few nonpigmented gram positive cocci, but no coagulating activity was isolated.

Communicable diseases in other areas

A smallpox outbreak is reported at the port city of Vannes on the south coast of Brittany, France, where 25 cases with 2 deaths have been reported up to January 8. This is the first appearance of smallpox in France since May 1952, when a series of cases due to importation of infection at Marseilles from Indo-China

came to an end. The outbreak at Vannes is evidently of the classical type. The first case appeared early in December 1954, in an unvaccinated child. Other cases occurred among contacts at the hospital who were unvaccinated and persons whose vaccinations were doubtful or too old. The onset of the first case is reported to have followed contact with the child's father, a member of the armed forces repatriated recently from Indo-China. The latter had been vaccinated and had no signs of a rash, but had been in contact with smallpox cases prior to his departure from Indo-China.

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