Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended January 29, 1955

For the current week 42 cases of poliomyelitis were reported in Puerto Rico as compared with 32 for the previous week. The number reported this week is almost half of that reported in the United States. A total of 195 cases has been reported on the island since November 20, 1954, when the incidence began increasing. For the corresponding period of 1953-54, the total was only 8 cases.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Anthrax

Dr. S. H. Osborn, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Health, reports a case of anthrax in a 65-year-old man who was employed by a rug firm. He first noticed a papule on the inner surface of his right forearm. It gradually increased in size and 5 days later the patient was admitted to the infirmary because of fever and general malaise. Laboratory tests indicated the infection to be anthrax. Wool used at this firm was a blend of wools from various parts of the world and the actual source was not determined.

The Veterinary Public Health Section of the Philadelphia Department of Health reports a case of anthrax in a man employed in a plant which processes goat hair and manufactures interlinings for clothing. He has worked in the plant for only 1 month, and he has never been employed before in any plant processing hair, wool, or hides. The patient received a wound while cleaning some of the machinery and was treated by the plant physician. Six days later his arm became very swollen and a large carbuncle appeared on the site of the original lesion. The source of hair processed at the time of injury was Pakistan.

Influenza

The National Microbiological Institute, NIH, reports the isolation of 3 strains of influenza virus from 3 individuals residing in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., having onsets of illness during the third week of January. Preliminary hemagglutination inhibition tests with specific rooster antiserum showed them to be similar to influenza virus B/GL/1/54 (GL 1760 - 54B) which was recovered in March 1954 at Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Illinois. The hemagglutination was strongly inhibited by B/GL/1/54 antiserum, less so by B/VA/1/50 antiserum, and only slightly by B/Lee antiserum. Serologic studies on the patients from whom these strains of virus were isolated are being carried out to confirm the cause of the illnesses.

Dr. Henry Bauer, Minnesota Department of Health, has reported the serologic diagnosis of influenza B in a university student who was ill during the middle of January. It was also reported that there has been no unusual incidence of influenza-like illness in Minnesota.

The World Health Organization states that reports received up to January 27 show no evidence of influenza epidemics in Western Europe, with the exception of the localized outbreak in the Netherlands which was reported last week. A localized outbreak of influenza-like disease has been reported in the Calgary area of Alberta, Canada, commencing early in January. Influenza B virus was recovered in this outbreak.

Although respiratory disease outbreaks have been reported in some parts of the United States, including Arkansas, California, New Jersey, and New York State, there have been no reports of laboratory tests from these areas indicating a specific etiology. North Carolina also reports localized outbreaks.

Typhus fever, endemic (murine)

The Communicable Disease Center, PHS, Atlanta, Georgia, has supplied information on epidemiologic investigations by State and CDC personnel of murine typhus fever cases. Of the 183 cases reported by States in 1954, 88 were appraised; and of these, 26 were confirmed and in 7, there was presumptive evidence of the disease. In 1953, 175 of the 221 cases reported were appraised and of these, 35 were considered as confirmed and 11 presumptive. The similarity of clinical symptoms in murine typhus fever and Rocky Mountain spotted fever was reported to indicate a need for more intensive epidemiologic and laboratory study. In some States, it was found upon investigation that a number of cases reported as murine typhus fever were proved to be Rocky Mountain spotted fever, following complement fixation tests.

The total, 183 cases, reported in 1954 is the lowest number reported in many years. Sixty-three cases were reported in Texas, 45 in Georgia, 22 in Alabama, and 17 in South Carolina. Fifteen other States reported 1 to 10 cases each, which included Montana with 7 laboratory infections. The seasonal peak of cases occurred in July when 33 cases were reported, followed by 25 in August and 19 in September.

Tularemia

Dr. E. A. Rogers, Nebraska Department of Health, reports a case of tularemia in a 28-year-old man. The patient became ill with fever and neuralgic pains 10 days after he skinned a wild rabbit which he had shot. However, he did not consult a physician until about 3 weeks later. At this time the clinical picture included enlarged lymph nodes. An agglutination test was performed and it was positive for the disease in a dilution of 1:640.

Trichiniasis

Dr. E. J. Witte, Veterinarian, Pennsylvania Department of Health, reports a case of trichiniasis in a 32-year-old man who ingested bear meat. Nausea and symptoms of parotitis occurred 18 days later, and in a few days his white blood count was 12,000 with 49 percent eosinophils. No biopsy was performed on the patient, although the pathologist reported finding trichina in the bear meat. Other individuals who partook of the same meat on different occasions developed no symptoms of any kind. The bear had been shot in a State park located in Pennsylvania.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. A. C. Hollister, Jr., California Department of Public Health, gives supplemental information on 2 outbreaks of food poisoning with a suspected source being fish (smoked bonito). Preliminary information was given on these outbreaks for weeks ended December 4, 1954, and January 1, 1955.

The first outbreak involved 9 persons in a group of 14 who became ill on September 29. The fish were caught off the coast of Ensenada 4 days earlier by one individual. They were put on ice and on September 27 they were taken to a smoking and curing company. They were picked up from the company at 7:00 on the morning of the outbreak. Two of the fish were wrapped in alu-

minum foil and taken to the individual's place of employment where 1 was eaten by the men and the other by the women. Those taken ill represented both men and women. The onsets ranged from 15 minutes to 1½ hours, with 7 having onsets from 1 to 1½ hours. The most common symptoms in order of their prevalence were flushed face, diarrhea, headache, pain in neck, chills, cramps, and unusual sensation of upper lip.

On October 18, 1954, another group of cases occurred with 8 of 9 persons ill. Eight days earlier, 13 bonito fish were caught by an individual off the coast of San Diego. They were kept unrefrigerated for about 7 hours before the boat docked. At this time the fish were put on ice and 6 hours later they were refrigerated. On October 11 they were taken to the same company that had smoked the fish associated with the previous outbreak. They were picked up on October 18 by the woman who caught them; they were given to friends and were eaten in different homes. Illnesses occurred from 15 minutes to 2 hours later. Four had onsets in 20 minutes or less. The symptoms were diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, headache, and red rash. The most prevalent symptom was diarrhea which occurred in 6 of the 8 patients. Rash appeared in only 1 person.

Information from the Los Angeles City Health Department indicates that no preservatives were used in the smoking process of these fish. A salt brine was used and the fish were smoked with standard hardwood, such as hickory, gumwood, or oak. It was further reported that the establishment was in a clean and sanitary condition.

The laboratory report shows the presence of a relatively large amount of soluble organic nitrogen compounds. This may have resulted from enzymatic putrefaction in the fish prior to being smoked. If enzymatic putrefaction had set in prior to the

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	4th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
				First 4 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
	Ended Jan. 29, 1955	Ended Jan. 30, 1954	Median 1950-54	1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	[1]1	-	-	2	1	2	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Botulism-----049.1	[3]4	-	---	4	5	---	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	34	21	---	78	84	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	35	35	82	195	166	320	1,412	1,511	2,502	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	17	17	17	79	53	53	1,431	780	780	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	927	1,306	---	[4]3,556	4,282	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	4	6	---	14	28	---	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Measles-----085	13,837	10,289	9,830	48,624	33,740	31,407	104,374	69,832	60,797	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	92	100	100	[5]406	445	445	[5]1,498	1,767	1,663	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	89	139	139	[6]485	636	594	[6]37,672	35,023	35,023	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	[7]10	1	---	[8]29	2	---	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	-	-	-	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	3	-	-	5	-	1	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	4,238	4,048	2,887	[9]13,655	14,956	8,807	[9]51,046	49,590	25,129	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	2	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Trichiniasis-----128	-	11	---	7	16	---	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Tularemia-----059	15	8	18	69	56	64	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Typhoid fever-----040	27	35	35	90	114	120	1,963	2,105	2,105	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	1	-	---	3	7	---	([2])	([2])	([2])	([2])
Whooping cough-----056	1,478	1,167	1,205	5 753	3,997	4,727	23,035	13,754	18,933	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	138	159	159	492	601	581	1,845	2,385	---	Oct. 1

[1]Reported in Connecticut.
[2]Frequencies are too small.
[3]Reported in New Mexico.
[4]Deduction: Arkansas, week ended January 15, 9 cases.
[5]Deduction: New Jersey, week ended January 22, 1 case.
[6]Deduction: New Jersey, week ended January 22, 2 cases.
[7]Maryland and Wisconsin, 1 case each; Illinois and Pennsylvania, 3 cases each; and Texas, 2.
[8]Addition: Idaho, week ended January 22, 1 case.
[9]Addition: New Mexico, week ended January 22, 12 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.

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED JANUARY 30, 1954, AND JANUARY 29, 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	34	21	35	35	17	17	927	1,306	3	3	1	3
NEW ENGLAND	-	-	-	1	-	1	97	39	-	-	-	-
Maine	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	11	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Vermont	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	-	-	-	1	-	1	29	25	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	2	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	1	-	3	-	3	4	226	225	-	-	-	-
New York	1	-	3	-	2	3	124	178	-	-	-	-
New Jersey	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	6	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	-	-	-	-	-	-	97	41	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	10	5	6	2	-	2	148	181	-	-	-	-
Ohio	-	-	-	2	-	-	29	18	-	-	-	-
Indiana	-	-	1	-	-	-	21	49	-	-	-	-
Illinois	4	3	1	-	-	-	61	53	-	-	-	-
Michigan	3	1	3	-	-	1	27	54	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	3	1	1	-	-	1	10	7	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	9	7	8	6	1	2	126	193	-	-	-	-
Minnesota	5	6	3	-	-	-	47	82	-	-	-	-
Iowa	3	1	3	-	-	-	49	52	-	-	-	-
Missouri	1	-	-	-	-	-	11	11	-	-	-	-
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	-	-	1	6	-	-	9	24	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	12	-	-	-	-
Kansas	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	6	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	5	1	5	10	4	-	90	287	-	-	-	1
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	25	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia	-	-	-	1	-	-	35	171	-	-	-	-
West Virginia	4	-	1	1	-	-	9	31	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	-	4	3	-	9	31	-	-	-	1
South Carolina	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Georgia	1	1	2	1	-	-	11	6	-	-	-	-
Florida	-	-	1	2	-	-	6	12	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	1	1	8	7	2	1	60	120	-	-	-	2
Kentucky	-	-	3	-	-	-	7	46	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	1	-	-	-	-	-	30	35	-	-	-	-
Alabama	-	1	4	4	1	-	11	10	-	-	-	2
Mississippi	-	-	1	3	1	1	12	29	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	3	3	5	3	3	-	38	73	2	1	-	-
Arkansas	1	-	-	1	-	-	10	7	-	-	-	-
Louisiana	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	11	-	-	-	-
Texas	2	3	5	1	3	-	22	55	2	1	-	-
MOUNTAIN	1	1	-	-	-	-	65	72	-	-	-	-
Montana	1	-	-	-	-	-	14	2	-	-	-	-
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	15	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado	-	1	-	-	-	-	20	29	-	-	-	-
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	4	3	-	6	4	7	77	116	1	2	1	-
Washington	1	1	-	3	-	-	19	25	-	-	1	-
Oregon	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	23	-	1	-	-
California	3	2	-	3	4	7	43	68	1	1	-	-
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	10	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-

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

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED JANUARY 30, 1954, AND JANUARY 29, 1955—Continued

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

AREA	MEASLES (085)		MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS (057)		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER (104A)	
					Total[2]		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)			
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES	13,837	10,289	92	100	89	139	45	55	21	29	3	-
NEW ENGLAND	5,863	220	3	3	-	5	-	3	-	1	-	-
Maine	342	139	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	110	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Vermont	279	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	3,613	23	2	2	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island	202	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut	1,317	33	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	2,195	1,757	11	12	12	15	4	3	-	-	-	-
New York	920	1,105	1	3	9	10	4	3	-	-	-	-
New Jersey	950	62	4	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	325	590	6	5	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	1,964	2,113	19	14	6	15	3	6	-	4	-	-
Ohio	205	168	7	-	1	5	1	3	-	1	-	-
Indiana	50	685	3	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Illinois	203	377	5	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan	702	728	3	3	5	4	2	1	-	2	-	-
Wisconsin	804	155	1	3	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	780	613	7	6	5	4	3	-	1	1	1	-
Minnesota	331	19	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa	226	432	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Missouri	64	35	1	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
North Dakota	129	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Nebraska	-	37	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas	28	21	1	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	436	1,740	11	23	21	30	15	15	4	4	1	-
Delaware	2	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland	20	208	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	5	22	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Virginia	104	413	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
West Virginia	100	121	-	1	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	-
North Carolina	22	423	3	7	2	8	2	5	-	1	-	-
South Carolina	27	164	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	148	210	1	3	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-
Florida	8	164	5	4	[3]17	16	13	7	2	3	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	215	907	7	12	10	4	5	3	1	-	-	-
Kentucky	15	556	1	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	178	121	2	2	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Alabama	4	152	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Mississippi	18	78	1	5	5	3	2	2	1	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	895	1,065	15	17	11	19	5	7	4	3	-	-
Arkansas	57	91	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Louisiana	3	88	5	2	2	3	-	-	2	3	-	-
Oklahoma	25	14	4	6	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	810	872	4	8	8	14	5	6	2	-	-	-
MOUNTAIN	389	670	1	3	5	12	1	2	1	2	1	-
Montana	4	56	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	2	-	-
Idaho	9	217	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	24	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado	-	29	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
New Mexico	147	24	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	206	69	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-
Utah	23	250	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	1,100	1,204	18	10	19	35	9	16	10	14	-	-
Washington	331	297	1	1	1	4	-	-	1	-	-	-
Oregon	96	66	2	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
California	673	841	15	9	16	31	8	16	8	14	-	-
Alaska	1	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	136	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	111	54	-	-	42	-	42	-	-	-	-	-

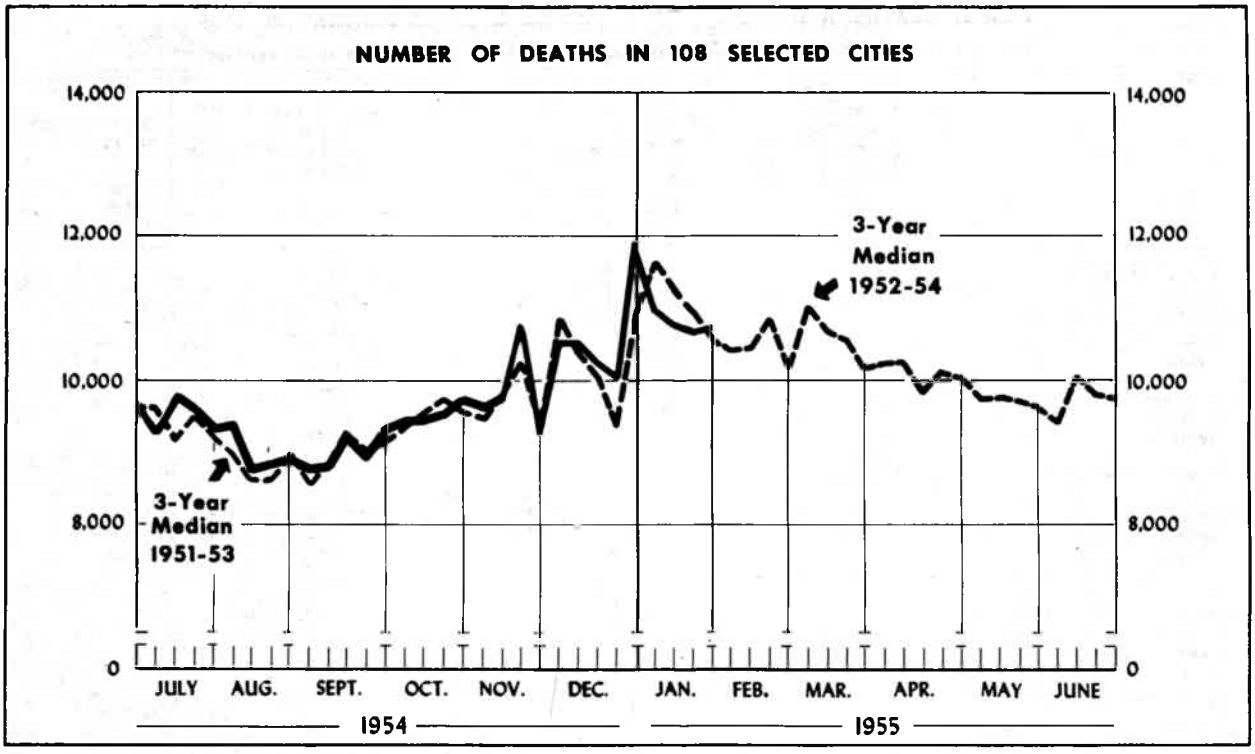
[2]Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).
[3]Includes delayed cases.

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED JANUARY 30, 1954, AND JANUARY 29, 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)		TRICHINIASIS (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	4,238	4,048	-	15	8	27	35	1	1,478	1,167	138	159
NEW ENGLAND	235	339	-	-	-	1	1	-	209	113	-	-
Maine	13	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	4	-	-
New Hampshire	9	20	-	-	-	-	1	-	18	21	-	-
Vermont	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	19	-	-
Massachusetts	166	146	-	-	-	1	-	-	90	37	-	-
Rhode Island	6	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	16	-	-
Connecticut	34	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	16	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	429	480	-	-	-	3	2	-	150	249	15	8
New York	198	267	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	115	13	7
New Jersey	29	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	48	-	-
Pennsylvania	202	142	-	-	-	3	2	-	77	86	2	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	629	752	-	-	2	5	9	-	325	252	17	22
Ohio	113	61	-	-	-	3	2	-	39	13	6	4
Indiana	186	142	-	-	-	-	6	-	52	62	3	10
Illinois	93	171	-	-	2	2	1	-	72	26	3	3
Michigan	163	216	-	-	-	-	-	-	99	113	3	3
Wisconsin	74	162	-	-	-	-	-	-	63	38	2	2
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	85	241	-	2	-	1	2	-	80	44	8	16
Minnesota	40	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	12	2	3
Iowa	14	52	-	2	-	-	-	-	26	8	2	4
Missouri	7	33	-	-	-	1	1	-	8	9	2	8
North Dakota	11	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	1	-
South Dakota	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
Nebraska	2	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1
Kansas	6	37	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	5	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	612	406	-	5	3	5	4	-	113	129	52	32
Delaware	14	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Maryland	135	29	-	1	1	-	-	-	7	29	-	-
District of Columbia	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-
Virginia	200	180	-	1	-	1	1	-	27	21	20	9
West Virginia	57	66	-	1	-	1	-	-	46	42	6	9
North Carolina	78	63	-	1	1	1	2	-	11	21	3	3
South Carolina	52	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	12	-	2	5
Georgia	54	22	-	1	1	1	-	-	2	3	6	6
Florida	15	28	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	7	[3]15	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	173	145	-	6	3	2	9	-	116	133	19	46
Kentucky	80	42	-	-	1	-	2	-	48	120	2	8
Tennessee	56	70	-	5	-	1	2	-	41	4	4	20
Alabama	24	11	-	-	-	1	2	-	21	6	12	15
Mississippi	13	22	-	1	2	-	3	-	6	3	1	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	1,032	857	-	1	-	5	4	1	239	121	26	34
Arkansas	170	48	-	-	-	3	1	-	53	28	5	7
Louisiana	11	5	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	3	-	-
Oklahoma	27	24	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	7	1	1
Texas	824	780	-	1	-	1	-	-	178	83	20	26
MOUNTAIN	515	376	-	1	-	2	2	-	71	29	-	-
Montana	11	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Idaho	25	20	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	6	-	-
Wyoming	166	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	-
Colorado	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
New Mexico	81	32	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	2	-	-
Arizona	170	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	43	18	-	-
Utah	60	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	-	-
Nevada	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
PACIFIC	528	452	-	-	-	3	2	-	175	97	1	1
Washington	151	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	30	-	-
Oregon	67	79	-	-	-	1	-	-	14	22	-	-
California	310	286	-	-	-	2	2	-	122	45	1	1
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	80	-	-

[3]Includes delayed cases.



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 Jan. 29, 1955	week ended Jan. 22, 1955	4th week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 4 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 104 REPORTING CITIES	10,092	10,049	9,969	+1.2	40,674	41,919	-3.0
New England (14 cities)	765	727	707	+8.2	3,044	2,982	+2.1
Middle Atlantic (15 cities)	2,586	2,684	2,620	-1.3	10,625	11,120	-4.5
East North Central (18 cities)	2,278	2,231	2,309	-1.3	9,146	9,519	-3.9
West North Central (8 cities)	688	749	718	-4.2	2,700	3,008	-10.2
South Atlantic (9 cities)	824	742	793	+3.9	3,182	3,257	-2.3
East South Central (8 cities)	507	544	474	+7.0	2,035	2,126	-4.3
West South Central (13 cities)	875	798	815	+7.4	3,418	3,548	-3.7
Mountain (7 cities)	236	219	212	+11.3	910	832	+9.4
Pacific (12 cities)	1,333	1,355	1,327	+0.5	5,614	5,527	+1.6

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 29, 1955

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

CITY	4th week ended Jan. 29, 1955	3d week ended Jan. 22, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 4 WEEKS	
			1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND				
Boston	266	213	1,038	941
Bridgeport	51	26	166	162
Cambridge	26	35	128	131
Fall River	41	24	119	114
Hartford	47	55	233	209
Lowell	32	36	112	132
Lynn	25	29	110	106
New Bedford	25	28	98	101
New Haven	57	43	195	197
Providence	61	65	263	286
Somerville	15	16	70	64
Springfield, Mass.	40	57	188	188
Waterbury	20	41	118	115
Worcester	59	59	206	236
MIDDLE ATLANTIC				
Albany	43	46	171	192
Allentown	(34)	(33)	(137)	(140)
Buffalo	139	191	600	645
Camden	41	35	163	174
Elizabeth	---	(34)	---	(142)
Erie	47	21	137	149
Jersey City	75	74	274	334
Newark, N. J.	101	123	481	478
New York City	1,650	1,676	6,778	6,989
Paterson	42	37	152	187
Philadelphia	---	(526)	---	(1,816)
Pittsburgh	162	186	734	711
Reading	(27)	(25)	(93)	(88)
Rochester, N. Y.	101	99	383	414
Schenectady	26	29	97	123
Scranton	(44)	(33)	(135)	(169)
Syracuse	51	56	217	255
Trenton	44	48	203	213
Utica	35	33	129	128
Yonkers	29	30	106	128
EAST NORTH CENTRAL				
Akron	64	56	232	256
Canton	35	31	130	153
Chicago	722	725	2,922	3,064
Cincinnati	151	121	652	613
Cleveland	177	193	739	902
Columbus	112	126	471	480
Dayton	77	69	272	283
Detroit	353	339	1,384	1,338
Evansville	28	23	108	138
Flint	27	37	139	151
Fort Wayne	41	34	136	108
Gary	(32)	(24)	(123)	(98)
Grand Rapids	43	40	154	171
Indianapolis	118	105	445	513
Milwaukee	122	104	477	511
Peoria	25	38	121	132
South Bend	38	27	124	101
Toledo	90	104	417	396
Youngstown	55	59	223	209
WEST NORTH CENTRAL				
Des Moines	54	44	173	185
Duluth	27	33	109	108
Kansas City, Kans.	---	---	---	(119)
Kansas City, Mo.	122	99	425	491
Minneapolis	96	124	464	522
Omaha	75	66	280	267
WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
St. Louis	216	253	796	984
St. Paul	61	87	289	286
Wichita	37	43	164	165
SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Atlanta	121	92	449	460
Baltimore	211	221	922	989
Charlotte	29	28	119	113
Jacksonville	(49)	(47)	(213)	(241)
Miami	57	57	237	257
Norfolk	35	23	137	147
Richmond	88	81	303	268
Savannah	---	(32)	---	(111)
Tampa	64	62	246	245
Washington, D. C.	191	140	623	641
Wilmington, Del.	28	38	146	137
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Birmingham	94	106	354	380
Chattanooga	38	39	180	240
Knoxville	39	61	166	141
Louisville	89	111	445	462
Memphis	128	114	430	422
Mobile	31	32	110	142
Montgomery	34	27	129	120
Nashville	54	54	221	219
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Austin	33	30	117	96
Baton Rouge	26	29	106	117
Corpus Christi	20	24	75	64
Dallas	107	89	385	479
El Paso	27	39	138	136
Fort Worth	74	54	232	239
Houston	127	113	541	609
Little Rock	42	58	190	175
New Orleans	160	148	629	657
Oklahoma City	54	44	237	259
San Antonio	104	90	382	348
Shreveport	60	28	176	161
Tulsa	41	52	210	208
MOUNTAIN				
Albuquerque	27	36	116	112
Colorado Springs	14	14	55	56
Denver	135	113	522	438
Ogden	14	7	38	45
Phoenix	30	25	106	111
Pueblo	13	19	55	56
Salt Lake City	---	(44)	---	(183)
Tucson	3	5	18	14
PACIFIC				
Berkeley	17	20	78	82
Long Beach	63	54	224	219
Los Angeles	467	504	2,094	2,028
Oakland	106	99	443	375
Pasadena	40	28	142	134
Portland, Oreg.	94	88	400	438
Sacramento	56	37	215	220
San Diego	83	79	369	313
San Francisco	203	236	810	835
Seattle	132	133	534	518
Spokane	38	46	160	220
Tacoma	34	31	145	145
Honolulu	(36)	(25)	(138)	(151)

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

fish being smoked, it would be possible for toxic amines such as putrescine, cadaverine, histamine, and histamine-like substances to be produced. These substances act as vasodilators in humans. Enzymatic decomposition also can produce solubilized protein peptides and amino acids. Since smoked fish are not cooked, these soluble proteins remain in the fish and could be responsible for the previously described illness.

Dr. A. A. Jenkins, Utah Department of Health, gives preliminary information on an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among children in a school. About 100 pupils became ill with nausea and diarrhea from 7 to 19 hours after eating lunch. Specimens of food and of stools and vomitus have been collected for laboratory examination but the results have not as yet been received.

The Los Angeles City Health Department reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 6 members of a private household. Of these, 4 became ill with vomiting and diarrhea from 2 to 3 hours after eating ham. The meat was purchased sliced on Monday and had been served on 3 days during that week prior to the outbreak on Saturday. It is believed that each time before serving it was taken out of the refrigerator, thereby providing enough incubation time to promote bacterial growth.

Communicable diseases in other areas

The Ministry of Health of France reports a total of 66 confirmed cases of smallpox with 13 deaths up to January 23 in Vannes. A press report that yellow fever is present in southern Mexico has not been substantiated. Information from official sources indicates that no evidence of the disease in this area has been uncovered.

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