

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly
Report



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

Public Health Service

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Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended February 5, 1955

During 1954 a provisional total of 38,741 cases of poliomyelitis was reported in the United States. This gives an incidence rate of 24.0 per 100,000 estimated midyear population. Provisional rates for the States ranged from a low of 9.5 in Maryland to a high of 87.5 in Wyoming. For rates of other States, see the accompanying chart.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Influenza and other respiratory diseases

The WHO Regional Influenza Information Center, NIH, has received the following information. The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Department of the Navy, has reported the isolation of 7 strains of influenza virus from individuals at an installation in Illinois, who had acute febrile respiratory illness during January. There has been an increase in the number of illnesses resembling influenza among recruits in the last several weeks. There also has been an increase in the number of beta hemolytic streptococcal infections since January 1, but not in epidemic proportions.

The Division of Preventive Medicine, Department of the Air Force, and Dr. Gordon Meikeljohn, University of Colorado, have reported 4 cases of serologically diagnosed influenza B at an Air Force base in Colorado. There is no evidence of any unusual incidence of influenza-like illness at this base.

Dr. Thomas Frances, Jr., University of Michigan, reports the isolation of 2 strains of influenza B virus from university students during the past week. No large outbreaks of illness have been noted in this group.

The National Microbiological Institute, NIH, reports a significant rise in antibody in hemagglutination tests against influenza B (strain B/GL/1/54) in 6 of 11 paired sera from high school students in the Washington, D. C., area who had a respiratory illness during the last 2 weeks of January. Two strains of influenza B virus similar to strain B/GL/1/54 have been recovered in addition to those reported last week. The incidence of respiratory illness among high school students has declined.

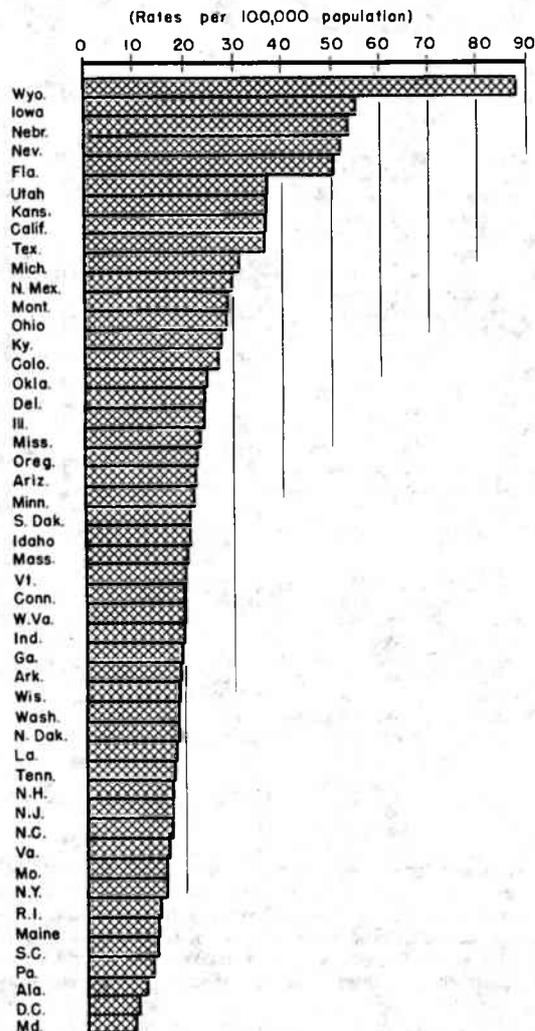
The WHO, Geneva, reports that influenza B infections have been serologically identified in the Bremen-Lubeck-Hamburg area of Germany where the incidence of respiratory disease has been increasing.

Dr. R. M. Albrecht, New York State Department of Health, has reported an outbreak of respiratory disease in Albany County which affected mostly school children. The illness was characterized by a sudden onset, fever from 102 to 104 degrees, chills, cough, headache, and generalized aching. Patients complained of sore throat but had normal appearing throats. Some had enlarged spleens and generalized lymphadenopathy. In one school the absenteeism was nearly 30 percent on 1 day, and in another, it was about 10 percent. Laboratory specimens are being studied to determine the etiologic agent.

Dr. M. D. Keller, Ohio Department of Health, has reported a respiratory disease outbreak in a college in the central part of the State, which has only male students. When they returned from Christmas vacation on January 5, there was 1 case. There were 3 cases on January 7, and thereafter there was a steady rise with a peak on January 16-17. By the 28th of the month there were 257 cases among 288 students, an attack rate of 89 percent. A number of second illnesses, relapses, or reinfections

occurred. The illnesses totaling 292 in number were distributed as follows: 135 persons had respiratory symptoms only, 41 had both respiratory and gastro-intestinal symptoms, 28 had gastroenteritis only, 59 had respiratory symptoms and conjunctivitis,

Provisional Rates for Poliomyelitis Cases Reported by Each State: 1954



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28 had respiratory and gastro-intestinal symptoms and conjunctivitis, and 1 had gastro-intestinal symptoms and conjunctivitis. Laboratory specimens, throat washings, and blood, were obtained from all 288 students to determine the etiologic agent.

Botulism

Dr. G. R. Clark, New Mexico Department of Public Health, reports 4 fatal cases of botulism in a family of 6 persons. The victims became ill from 14 to 28 hours after eating a noon meal consisting of home canned spinach, pinto beans, fried potatoes, and chicken noodle soup. Two of the children did not eat any spinach and were not affected. The signs and symptoms (malaise, weakness, diplopia, paralysis, etc.) were typical for botulism. Botulinus antitoxin was given to the mother but she was already moribund by this time and the serum had no effect. Mice inoculated with a sample of spinach fluid died with typical signs of botulism. Botulinus toxin was determined to be type A on the basis of mouse antitoxin-protection tests. Mice injected with

the stomach contents of the father died with symptoms of botulism.

Dr. D. J. Hurley, Nevada Department of Health, has reported 3 fatal cases of botulism which occurred in 1954. The vehicle of infection was thought to be home canned beets.

Psittacosis

The California Department of Public Health reports a case of psittacosis in a 45-year-old woman who had purchased a parakeet about 2 weeks earlier. The bird was from a local commercial aviary which received birds from 38 suppliers in the central and northern part of the State. No breeding is done at this aviary. Sales are wholesale, usually in large lots. The patient became ill with fever, headache, malaise, confusion, and developed a cough and chest pain after the first week. The complement fixation titer for psittacosis rose from 1:16 to 1:256 during a period of 8 days. The final report of labora-

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	5th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Feb. 5, 1955	Ended Feb. 6, 1954	Median 1950-54	First 5 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	1	-	-	3	1	2	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	4	5	---	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	24	32	---	102	16	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	45	54	88	³ 239	20	408	³ 1,456	1,565	2,590	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	24	16	16	103	69	69	1,455	796	796	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	936	1,421	---	⁴ 4,510	5,703	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	3	11	---	17	39	---	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Measles-----085	16,482	13,529	11,627	65,106	47,269	43,034	120,856	83,361	72,424	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	96	120	120	502	565	565	1,594	1,887	1,785	Sept. 1
Polio-myelitis-----080	75	132	113	560	768	707	37,747	35,155	35,155	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	⁵ 4	3	---	⁶ 35	5	---	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Rabies in man-----094	-	1	-	-	1	1	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	-	1	1	5	1	2	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	4,351	4,879	3,166	18,006	19,835	11,973	55,397	54,469	28,295	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	1	-	-	3	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Trichiniasis-----128	5	4	---	12	20	---	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Tularemia-----059	7	21	19	76	77	84	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Typhoid fever-----040	26	36	36	⁷ 118	150	156	⁷ 1,991	2,141	2,141	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	1	3	---	4	10	---	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Whooping cough-----056	1,382	1,076	1,229	7,135	5,073	5,956	24,417	14,830	20,162	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	104	191	156	596	792	781	1,949	2,576	---	Oct. 1

¹Reported in Pennsylvania.

²Frequencies are too small.

³Deduction: North Carolina, week ended January 8, 1 case.

⁴Addition: Arizona, week ended January 29, 18 cases.

⁵Minnesota, Missouri, Texas, and Washington, 1 case each.

⁶Addition: Arkansas, week ended January 29, 2 cases.

⁷Addition: Kentucky, week ended January 29, 2 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 FEBRUARY 6, 1954, AND FEBRUARY 5, 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-----	24	32	45	54	24	16	936	1,421	1	9	2	2
NEW ENGLAND-----	-	2	-	1	1	-	85	65	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	35	34	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	7	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	21	3	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	2	-	1	1	3	1	201	336	-	-	1	-
New York-----	2	-	1	1	3	-	102	268	-	-	1	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	19	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	90	49	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	10	9	13	5	2	2	143	190	-	-	-	-
Ohio-----	-	1	6	2	-	1	26	43	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	5	3	-	-	33	41	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	7	8	-	-	-	1	25	49	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	1	-	2	-	2	-	44	34	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	15	23	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	2	8	3	4	2	1	131	170	-	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	32	53	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	1	7	1	-	-	-	42	62	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	-	1	1	2	1	-	5	9	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	4	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	1	1	-	1	20	8	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	7	-	-	1	1	-	10	25	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	2	5	9	23	7	1	92	244	-	-	1	1
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	2	-	1	17	50	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	1	1	-	6	-	-	44	128	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	-	1	-	2	-	-	5	9	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	1	1	7	-	6	28	-	-	1	1
South Carolina-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	-	2	6	4	-	-	11	12	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	-	1	2	6	-	-	5	12	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2	1	9	7	3	1	37	109	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	2	-	1	-	-	-	7	41	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	-	1	-	2	1	1	14	39	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	8	4	-	-	9	12	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	-	1	2	-	7	17	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2	5	9	9	1	-	68	92	1	4	-	-
Arkansas-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	19	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	1	2	2	2	-	-	2	26	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	12	6	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	-	3	7	5	1	-	51	41	1	4	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	-	-	-	2	-	-	62	68	-	3	-	-
Montana-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	25	-	2	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	18	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	5	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	16	13	-	1	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	4	2	1	2	5	10	117	147	-	2	-	1
Washington-----	-	1	1	1	-	-	16	33	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	2	1	-	-	1	5	43	59	-	-	-	-
California-----	2	-	-	1	4	5	58	55	-	2	-	1
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	1	4	-	-	1	10	-	-	-	-

¹Includes cases not specified as civilian or military.

²Includes delayed cases.

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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED FEBRUARY 6, 1954, AND FEBRUARY 5, 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)	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	Total ^a		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		1955	1954
					1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954		
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	16,482	13,529	96	120	75	132	31	69	19	24	-	1
NEW ENGLAND-----	6,691	304	1	4	5	4	1	1	1	2	-	-
Maine-----	596	238	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	241	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Vermont-----	272	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	3,662	19	-	-	3	3	-	1	1	1	-	-
Rhode Island-----	211	8	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	1,709	15	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	3,154	2,202	13	20	10	16	3	2	-	1	-	-
New York-----	1,244	1,512	8	5	7	7	3	1	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	1,361	75	1	-	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	549	615	4	15	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	2,074	3,095	16	27	10	12	3	3	1	2	-	-
Ohio-----	315	829	5	11	4	7	-	1	-	1	-	-
Indiana-----	52	671	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	188	514	6	5	3	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Michigan-----	942	929	2	4	2	3	1	2	-	1	-	-
Wisconsin-----	577	152	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	879	407	8	5	4	9	3	1	1	4	-	-
Minnesota-----	329	11	3	-	2	3	2	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	256	213	2	2	1	2	-	-	1	2	-	-
Missouri-----	117	22	2	2	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	117	57	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	16	17	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-
Nebraska-----	6	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	38	21	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	414	1,818	13	29	8	17	2	10	2	3	-	1
Delaware-----	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	13	307	-	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	9	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	154	394	1	3	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
West Virginia-----	102	214	-	3	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	9	291	7	7	3	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	33	249	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	78	200	1	8	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	1
Florida-----	16	120	1	4	-	10	-	4	-	2	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	335	1,087	13	5	8	7	3	7	2	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	114	483	5	2	3	5	1	5	2	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	160	243	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	43	346	5	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	18	15	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1,146	1,914	16	18	11	18	7	11	3	4	-	-
Arkansas-----	106	85	1	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	518	7	8	2	1	2	-	-	1	-	-
Oklahoma-----	18	23	2	4	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	1,022	1,288	6	3	8	16	4	10	3	3	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	688	766	-	2	1	4	-	3	-	-	-	-
Montana-----	13	150	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	14	179	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	2	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	19	26	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	257	51	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	345	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	12	222	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	26	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1,101	1,936	16	10	18	45	9	31	9	8	-	-
Washington-----	214	848	2	3	2	5	2	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	84	80	-	1	1	5	-	5	1	-	-	-
California-----	803	1,008	14	6	15	35	7	26	8	8	-	-
Alaska-----	2	56	-	-	-	9	-	1	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	125	2	-	-	-	4	-	3	-	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	69	64	-	-	23	-	23	-	-	-	-	-

^aIncludes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).

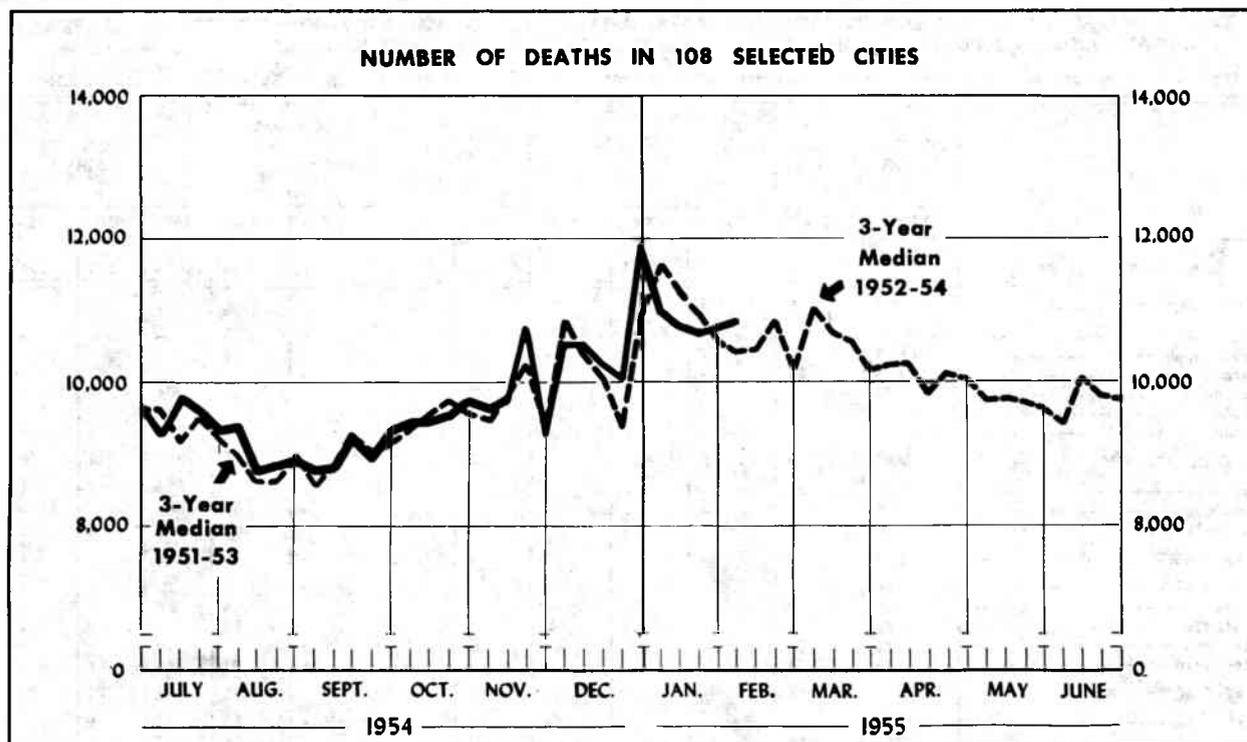
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED FEBRUARY 6, 1954, AND FEBRUARY 5, 1955—Continued

(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-----	4,351	4,879	5	7	21	26	36	1	1,382	1,076	104	191
NEW ENGLAND-----	237	375	-	-	-	1	2	-	152	157	-	-
Maine-----	22	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	23	-	-
Vermont-----	5	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	21	-	-
Massachusetts-----	171	182	-	-	-	1	1	-	81	64	-	-
Rhode Island-----	9	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	18	-	-
Connecticut-----	25	70	-	-	-	-	1	-	23	31	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	489	609	3	-	-	5	5	-	144	253	11	5
New York-----	189	377	-	-	-	3	2	-	60	112	5	4
New Jersey-----	55	91	-	-	-	-	1	-	32	63	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	245	141	3	-	-	2	2	-	52	78	6	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	571	1,128	-	-	3	4	2	-	321	229	7	24
Ohio-----	166	392	-	-	1	1	1	-	46	25	2	1
Indiana-----	116	178	-	-	-	-	1	-	64	55	1	6
Illinois-----	86	178	-	-	2	3	-	-	39	26	-	14
Michigan-----	124	179	-	-	-	-	-	-	81	95	-	3
Wisconsin-----	79	201	-	-	-	-	-	-	91	48	4	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	141	234	-	1	1	1	2	-	93	22	20	27
Minnesota-----	33	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	13	8	-
Iowa-----	19	48	-	-	-	1	-	-	36	1	2	7
Missouri-----	13	25	-	-	-	-	1	-	12	2	10	17
North Dakota-----	52	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	2
South Dakota-----	-	13	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kansas-----	23	32	-	-	1	-	-	-	15	6	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	528	448	-	2	4	6	5	1	142	109	29	39
Delaware-----	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	74	53	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	27	-	1
District of Columbia-----	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-
Virginia-----	228	132	-	-	1	-	2	-	34	20	13	11
West Virginia-----	71	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	72	33	4	8
North Carolina-----	42	95	-	-	-	1	-	-	10	10	1	3
South Carolina-----	26	30	-	1	-	1	1	-	11	5	8	14
Georgia-----	53	57	-	-	3	3	-	1	-	3	3	1
Florida-----	21	20	-	-	-	1	2	-	8	7	-	1
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	218	193	1	2	8	4	6	-	85	59	21	59
Kentucky-----	68	106	-	-	4	4	2	-	54	45	6	19
Tennessee-----	115	70	1	2	1	-	1	-	17	2	5	15
Alabama-----	32	12	-	-	-	-	2	-	12	11	10	14
Mississippi-----	3	5	-	-	3	-	1	-	2	1	-	11
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1,041	1,041	-	2	4	4	9	-	186	95	13	33
Arkansas-----	67	75	-	2	3	1	3	-	14	4	2	3
Louisiana-----	15	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	5	-	-
Oklahoma-----	22	63	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	7	-	2
Texas-----	937	900	-	-	-	2	5	-	165	79	11	28
MOUNTAIN-----	522	401	-	-	-	-	2	-	99	20	-	1
Montana-----	7	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	1	-	-
Idaho-----	20	19	-	-	-	-	2	-	16	4	-	-
Wyoming-----	109	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	21	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-
New Mexico-----	56	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	-	1
Arizona-----	255	271	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	8	-	-
Utah-----	52	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
Nevada-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	604	450	1	-	1	1	3	-	160	132	3	3
Washington-----	266	117	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	46	-	-
Oregon-----	84	79	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	25	-	-
California-----	254	254	-	-	1	1	3	-	114	61	3	3
Alaska-----	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	17	18	2	1

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



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	5th week ended Feb. 5, 1955	4th week ended Jan. 29, 1955	5th week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 5 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 107 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,765	10,706	10,374	+3.8	53,753	54,239	-0.9
New England----- (14 cities)	730	765	754	-3.2	3,774	3,736	+1.0
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,230	3,162	3,068	+5.3	16,017	16,024	-0.0
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,394	2,278	2,213	+6.2	11,540	11,697	-1.3
West North Central----- (9 cities)	757	726	766	-1.2	3,609	3,893	-7.0
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	820	824	864	-5.1	4,002	4,033	-0.8
East South Central----- (8 cities)	515	507	514	+0.2	2,550	2,649	-3.7
West South Central----- (13 cities)	839	875	808	+3.8	4,257	4,356	-2.3
Mountain----- (7 cities)	210	236	192	+9.4	1,120	1,019	+9.9
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,270	1,333	1,317	-3.6	6,884	6,832	+0.8

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED FEBRUARY 5, 1955

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

CITY	5th week ended Feb. 5, 1955	4th week ended Jan. 29, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 5 WEEKS		CITY	5th week ended Feb. 5, 1955	4th week ended Jan. 29, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 5 WEEKS	
			1955	1954				1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston-----	243	266	1,281	1,194	St. Louis-----	239	216	1,035	1,207
Bridgeport-----	44	51	210	202	St. Paul-----	67	61	356	360
Cambridge-----	27	26	155	157	Wichita-----	36	37	200	219
Fall River-----	30	41	149	146	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	59	47	292	260	Atlanta-----	102	121	551	582
Lowell-----	15	32	127	168	Baltimore-----	247	211	1,169	1,217
Lynn-----	29	25	139	122	Charlotte-----	42	29	161	150
New Bedford-----	24	25	122	127	Jacksonville-----	(55)	(49)	(268)	(282)
New Haven-----	52	57	247	256	Miami-----	57	57	294	316
Providence-----	68	61	331	359	Norfolk-----	31	35	168	167
Somerville-----	11	15	81	80	Richmond-----	67	88	370	339
Springfield, Mass.-----	47	40	235	231	Savannah-----	(36)	(30)	(167)	(135)
Waterbury-----	26	20	144	145	Tampa-----	73	64	319	306
Worcester-----	55	59	261	289	Washington, D. C.-----	156	191	779	786
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmington, Del.-----	45	28	191	170
Albany-----	53	43	224	239	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown-----	(53)	(34)	(190)	(178)	Birmingham-----	91	94	445	445
Buffalo-----	156	139	756	788	Chattanooga-----	45	38	225	293
Camden-----	28	41	191	219	Knoxville-----	27	39	193	188
Elizabeth-----	21	30	148	162	Louisville-----	119	89	564	565
Erie-----	37	47	174	183	Memphis-----	108	128	538	550
Jersey City-----	75	75	349	408	Mobile-----	34	31	144	171
Newark, N. J.-----	130	101	611	570	Montgomery-----	30	34	159	148
New York City-----	1,693	1,650	8,471	8,544	Nashville-----	61	54	282	289
Paterson-----	44	42	196	220	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia-----	520	546	2,555	2,268	Austin-----	27	33	144	126
Pittsburgh-----	187	162	921	877	Baton Rouge-----	21	26	127	138
Reading-----	(27)	(27)	(120)	(109)	Corpus Christi-----	13	20	88	70
Rochester, N. Y.-----	116	101	499	510	Dallas-----	106	107	491	571
Schenectady-----	17	26	114	148	El Paso-----	25	27	163	158
Scranton-----	(40)	(44)	(175)	(197)	Fort Worth-----	69	74	301	293
Syracuse-----	56	51	273	316	Houston-----	132	127	673	731
Trenton-----	38	44	241	264	Little Rock-----	34	42	224	228
Utica-----	26	35	155	156	New Orleans-----	178	160	807	821
Yonkers-----	33	29	139	152	Oklahoma City-----	43	54	280	341
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio-----	108	104	490	421
Akron-----	68	64	300	303	Shreveport-----	46	60	222	199
Canton-----	14	35	144	176	Tulsa-----	37	41	247	259
Chicago-----	793	722	3,715	3,751	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati-----	168	151	820	759	Albuquerque-----	25	27	141	148
Cleveland-----	270	177	1,009	1,111	Colorado Springs-----	10	14	65	68
Columbus-----	105	112	576	588	Denver-----	116	135	638	531
Dayton-----	76	77	348	345	Ogden-----	13	14	51	53
Detroit-----	336	353	1,720	1,665	Phoenix-----	28	30	134	133
Evansville-----	35	28	143	169	Pueblo-----	14	13	69	67
Flint-----	46	27	185	189	Salt Lake City-----	(42)	---	---	(244)
Fort Wayne-----	34	41	170	135	Tucson-----	4	3	22	19
Gary-----	(23)	(32)	(146)	(129)	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids-----	32	43	186	218	Berkeley-----	16	17	94	104
Indianapolis-----	126	118	571	625	Long Beach-----	46	63	270	270
Milwaukee-----	116	122	593	640	Los Angeles-----	484	467	2,578	2,508
Peoria-----	34	25	155	168	Oakland-----	81	106	524	484
South Bend-----	22	38	146	122	Pasadena-----	30	40	172	154
Toledo-----	77	90	494	481	Portland, Oreg.-----	114	94	514	521
Youngstown-----	42	55	265	252	Sacramento-----	52	56	267	280
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego-----	73	83	442	390
Des Moines-----	60	54	233	240	San Francisco-----	162	203	972	1,031
Duluth-----	34	27	143	128	Seattle-----	128	132	662	651
Kansas City, Kans.-----	30	38	182	145	Spokane-----	43	38	203	258
Kansas City, Mo.-----	102	122	527	615	Tacoma-----	41	34	186	181
Minneapolis-----	129	96	593	633	Honolulu-----	(51)	(36)	(189)	(183)
Omaha-----	60	75	340	346					

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

tory tests on the parakeet has not yet been received, but anatomically the bird showed signs of psittacosis.

Tularemia

Dr. M. D. Keller, Ohio State Department of Health, reports 2 cases of tularemia in a family of 9 persons. The mother had been dressing a rabbit 10 days prior to the onset of her illness. During this procedure, she broke the skin on one finger with a sharp fragment of bone. A lesion developed on that finger and the axillary nodes became enlarged. The patient's illness was generally mild. Blood serum specimens were positive for tularemia in a dilution of 1:160. Twenty-three days later her son became ill and a blood specimen from him was positive for the disease in a dilution of 1:160. He had no lesions and no adenopathy. Five days before the onset of his illness he had taken a dead rabbit away from his dog. He does not recall having any scratches on his hands at the time.

Typhoid fever

Dr. M. D. Keller reports an outbreak of a febrile illness among 12 nuns in a convent in Ohio. Of these, 7 became ill in the course of 1 week. They ate all their meals at this residence and all of them helped in the kitchen assisting a cook who came in daily. None gave a history of previous typhoid fever. Salmonella typhi was isolated from all 7 patients. Stool specimens have been obtained from the cook, other nuns, and some parishioners who brought in food, but none yielded the typhoid organism. Stools of 1 nun revealed S. oranienburg. Repeat specimens are being collected and the investigation is being continued in an attempt to find the source of infection.

Salmonellosis

Dr. M. D. Keller reports an outbreak of salmonellosis among the faculty of a parochial school in Ohio. Twenty of 50 nuns became ill with diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. The suspected vehicle of infection was turkey and dressing, but no specimens were collected for bacteriological tests. No illness occurred among the 400 students whose food was prepared and served separately. Laboratory examination of stool specimens of the patients revealed that 9 were positive for Salmonella typhimurium.

Gastro-enteritis of unknown etiology

Dr. S. B. Osgood, Oregon State Board of Health, gives preliminary information on an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in and surrounding the city of Portland. The disease is reported to have begun late in November and is still present. Epidemiological information has been received from about 200 patients in 71 households scattered throughout the area. The exact number of cases is not known but it is estimated to be 50,000. Giardia lamblia has been identified more frequently in stool specimens from the patients than any of the common enteric pathogens. Studies are currently in progress, and it is believed that it will be difficult to establish the true etiologic agent and the mode of spread of this outbreak.

Gastro-enteritis

Reports of 3 outbreaks of gastro-enteritis, which occurred in 1954, have been received from Arkansas and Iowa. In Arkansas, 2 outbreaks occurred in schools. In one school 31 of about 70 students and teachers became ill after eating lunch in the school. No food was available for bacteriological examination, but deviled eggs were suspected to be the vehicle of infection. In the other school, all of the 39 members of a senior class who went on a field trip to Mississippi were involved. They became ill from 25 minutes to 3 hours after eating ham and hamburgers at a cafe in that State. The outbreak in Iowa involved most of the 50 members of a men's club who had eaten minced ham sandwiches. The local physician reported the outbreak too late for an investigation to be made.

Communicable diseases in other areas

Smallpox cases in France now total 73 with 15 deaths. The outbreak, which began in Vannes, seems to be declining in that locality, but cases have appeared in other parts of France, including Rennes, St. Die, Nantes, and Brest. The case in St. Die was in a soldier returned from Indo-China and is not related to the Vannes outbreak. The relatively high fatality rate is indicative of a virulent type of disease.

The cases in Vannes included a number of persons who became infected in the hospital where the original case was isolated. In this group were hospital personnel and a health officer. The latter died. This outbreak is similar to others reported in recent years in that medical and nursing personnel with inadequate protection against smallpox became infected. It was also similar in that spread in the community was from the hospital. The danger of spread to other patients in the hospital has also been reported including the outbreak in Seattle in 1946 and New York City in 1947.

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