

Morbidity and Mortality

Weekly Report



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HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

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

The incidence of meningococcal infections in the country as a whole for the past 6 months has been consistently lower than for the same period last year. The incidence of the disease had been increasing each year from 1948 to 1953, inclusive. The number of cases reported in 1954 was about 19 percent below the peak year 1953, and this trend is continuing so far in 1955.

The provisional incidence rate for diphtheria in the United States was 1.3 cases per 100,000 estimated population for 1954. Rates for the individual States are shown in the accompanying chart.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Influenza

The following reports have been received by the WHO Influenza Information Center, N.I.H., and the National Office of Vital Statistics:

Dr. Irving Gordon, New York State Department of Health, reports scattered cases of influenza B throughout the State, occasionally necessitating closure of schools for brief periods. Serum samples received from an outbreak in December near Lockport, N. Y., have been tested and show evidence of influenza B infection.

The Preventive Medicine Division, S.G.O., Department of the Army, reports the isolation of 4 strains of influenza B virus from personnel at a military installation in New Jersey during the latter part of February.

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, reports serologic identification of two cases of influenza B occurring in Richmond during January.

Dr. A. P. McKee, State University of Iowa, reports cases of influenza among university students which have been identified serologically and by virus isolation as influenza B. Cases were first evident during the middle of February, but probably began to occur about the first of the month. The isolated virus has not been completely studied, but it appears to be closely related to viruses recovered in 1952.

Dr. Maxwell Finland, Boston City Hospital, reports that serum from a case considered to be atypical pneumonia and having onset in January, has shown a 32-fold rise in influenza B antibodies against a 1952 Boston strain of B virus. There was no rise against a 1953 A prime strain isolated in Boston in 1953. He also reported that Dr. T. H. Ingalls has been investigating a brisk outbreak of influenza in a boys' school 30 miles west of Boston. Nine paired sera from boys in this school all showed specific rises in antibodies against the 1952 influenza B virus but not against the 1953 A prime virus.

Dr. J. R. Amos, Missouri Director of Health, has reported that 110 cases of an influenza-like illness have occurred among students in a college in central Missouri with onsets in February. The dominant symptoms were fever, sore throat, cough, myalgia, and ocular pain. A few of the students had diarrhea.

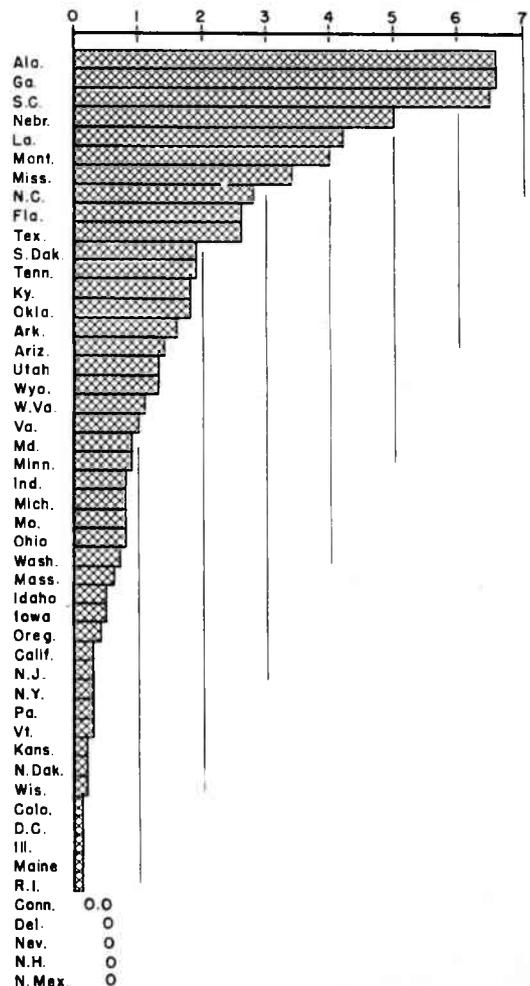
Dr. S. S. Kalter, New York State University at Syracuse, reports that hemagglutination tests indicate the occurrence of influenza B in the Syracuse area. A hemagglutinating agent has been isolated from throat washings of agents.

Anthrax

The New York State Department of Health reports a case of anthrax in a man who was exposed to raw wool in a mill.

Provisional Rates for Diphtheria Cases Reported by Each State: 1954

(Rates per 100,000 population)



O.O = Less than 0.05 O = No cases

The source of the wool was not given. He developed a pimple on his forehead and a smear from the lesion was found to be positive for bacilli resembling *B. anthracis*. Similar cases in the past have been attributed to exposure of raw wool from foreign countries.

Psittacosis

Dr. Milton Feig, Wisconsin State Board of Health, reports a case of psittacosis in a man who purchased 22 parakeets while on a trip to California. Two of the birds died before they were shipped to Wisconsin. About 3 weeks after returning home, the patient became ill suddenly with fever, chills, and cough. Chest X-ray showed pneumonitis in the right upper lobe. Blood agglutinations were negative for *Brucella abortus*. Two blood samples have been collected for further laboratory tests, but reports of these have not as yet been received.

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, gives epidemiologic information on the case of psittacosis reported

for the week ended February 12. The patient became ill with headache, nausea, and semi-consciousness, early in February. Chest X-ray showed pneumonia. A gift parakeet was associated with the patient for about 5 months before her illness. This bird was purchased in Maryland and there have been no signs of illness among other birds at this source. The gift bird is still living and apparently healthy. No respiratory illness has been reported in any other member of the patient's family. The complement fixation test on a blood specimen from the patient was positive for psittacosis in a dilution of 1:80.

Meningitis

The North Carolina State Board of Health has reported 8 cases of meningitis, with 1 death, among preschoolchildren and children of school age living in 1 county in the southwestern part of the State. Chemoprophylaxis among familial and classroom contacts have been instituted.

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	9th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Mar. 5, 1955	Ended Mar. 6, 1954	Median 1950-54	First 9 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	-	4	2	6	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	4	6	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	28	28	---	178	236	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	28	65	69	361	384	676	1,578	1,729	2,858	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	28	26	18	184	163	150	1,536	890	879	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	999	1,476	---	8,458	11,440	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	3	3	---	28	60	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Measles-----085	21,680	21,760	16,848	143,199	118,119	102,245	198,949	154,211	131,635	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	109	122	125	885	1,028	1,028	1,977	2,350	2,255	Sept. 1
Polioyelitis-----080	70	93	86	² 819	1,213	1,084	² 38,006	35,600	35,600	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	³ 3	2	---	⁴ 62	24	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	1	1	1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	-	2	2	9	6	6	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	5,438	5,102	4,052	38,009	39,346	25,713	75,400	73,980	42,035	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	4	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Trichiniasis-----128	1	5	---	24	45	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Tularemia-----059	16	17	15	141	135	135	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Typhoid fever-----040	20	26	28	⁵ 225	276	276	⁵ 2,098	2,267	2,267	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	1	1	---	10	21	---	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Whooping cough-----056	1,164	1,102	1,102	11,843	9,431	10,514	29,125	19,188	24,720	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	135	191	182	⁶ 1,101	1,616	1,495	⁶ 2,454	3,400	---	Oct. 1

¹Frequencies are too small.
²Addition: Oklahoma, week ended February 26, 1 case.
³Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, 1 case each.
⁴Addition: Idaho, week ended February 26, 2 cases.
⁵Addition: South Dakota, week ended February 26, 1 case.
⁶Addition: Kentucky, week ended February 19, 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 MARCH 6, 1954, AND MARCH 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-----	28	28	28	65	28	26	999	1,476	3	3	-	-
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	-	-	1	3	2	91	87	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	25	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	5	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	1	-	-	1	3	2	32	43	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	2	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	10	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	1	3	2	1	6	7	254	311	-	-	-	-
New York-----	1	1	2	-	6	7	118	233	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	16	14	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	120	64	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	9	3	-	25	3	4	132	181	-	-	-	-
Ohio-----	-	-	-	25	-	-	31	52	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	31	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	5	1	-	-	1	-	18	38	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	3	1	-	-	1	2	49	37	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	1	1	-	-	-	2	20	23	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	13	12	6	3	5	2	152	193	1	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	6	2	1	-	-	1	39	87	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	3	7	-	1	-	-	41	76	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	13	15	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	1	-	4	1	-	1	44	11	1	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	1	1	1	1	4	-	3	3	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	-	-	4	22	1	5	100	251	-	-	-	-
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	48	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	-	-	1	1	4	43	132	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	3	-	1	19	10	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	37	-	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	-	2	7	-	-	4	7	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	-	-	-	9	-	-	5	7	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1	1	7	4	3	1	49	157	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	1	1	1	1	-	-	9	30	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	-	-	3	1	-	1	19	88	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	2	2	1	-	11	10	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	-	-	1	-	2	-	10	29	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	-	3	9	5	-	1	65	113	1	3	-	-
Arkansas-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	1	1	1	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	-	-	1	1	-	-	6	24	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	-	-	7	3	-	1	47	80	1	3	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1	6	-	4	-	-	48	48	-	-	-	-
Montana-----	-	1	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	1	-	1	-	-	6	18	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	15	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	2	-	1	-	-	13	8	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	2	-	-	-	7	4	108	135	1	-	-	-
Washington-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	37	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	42	-	-	-	-
California-----	2	-	-	-	7	4	48	56	1	-	-	-
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	1	8	-	-	2	-	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 MARCH 6, 1954, AND MARCH 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 ²		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		1955	1954
					1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954		
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	21,680	21,760	109	122	70	93	24	30	27	34	-	2
NEW ENGLAND-----	6,259	375	2	6	1	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
Maine-----	350	206	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	414	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	403	41	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	2,994	96	1	5	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	282	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Connecticut-----	1,816	20	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	4,461	3,802	24	10	7	12	1	-	1	-	-	1
New York-----	1,400	2,727	11	5	3	9	1	-	1	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	2,334	183	5	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	727	892	8	2	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3,069	4,406	18	30	7	13	4	2	1	5	-	-
Ohio-----	590	1,066	1	10	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	197	1,099	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
Illinois-----	384	936	5	8	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	1,225	1,097	7	1	4	3	3	-	1	2	-	-
Wisconsin-----	673	208	3	6	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	1,415	550	10	6	8	5	2	1	3	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	597	70	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	330	114	2	-	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Missouri-----	246	40	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	139	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	4	7	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	4	166	2	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Kansas-----	95	51	2	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	510	3,462	12	23	13	11	2	5	5	3	-	-
Delaware-----	1	30	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	16	631	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	15	135	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	126	725	1	4	1	3	-	1	1	1	-	-
West Virginia-----	93	114	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	7	730	4	6	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	71	483	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	126	164	1	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	55	450	2	3	9	7	1	3	2	2	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	498	2,477	15	20	8	2	1	-	7	1	-	-
Kentucky-----	70	1,226	4	8	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	252	754	3	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Alabama-----	129	351	5	7	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	47	146	3	3	4	1	-	-	4	1	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1,836	3,151	17	16	5	18	2	10	2	6	-	1
Arkansas-----	122	90	-	2	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	143	1	3	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	-
Oklahoma-----	13	32	2	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	1,701	2,866	14	6	4	12	2	7	2	4	-	1
MOUNTAIN-----	792	1,122	2	1	3	4	2	-	-	3	-	-
Montana-----	5	84	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	8	362	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	3	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	31	44	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
New Mexico-----	255	82	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Arizona-----	453	127	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Utah-----	6	388	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	2,840	2,415	9	10	18	26	10	11	8	15	-	-
Washington-----	381	713	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	95	109	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
California-----	2,364	1,593	7	7	16	26	8	11	8	15	-	-
Alaska-----	2	7	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	336	10	-	-	-	8	-	5	-	3	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	143	133	-	1	18	-	18	-	-	-	-	-

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

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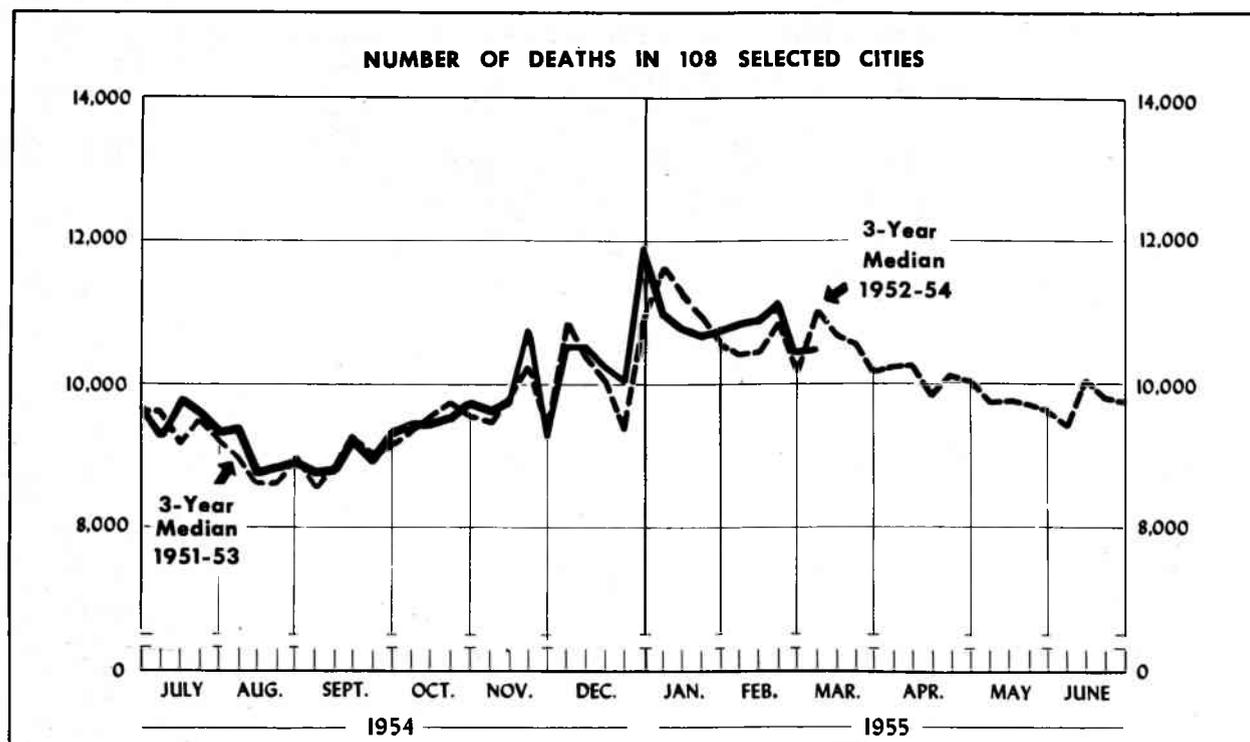
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED MARCH 6, 1954, AND MARCH 5, 1955—Continued

(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-----	5,438	5,102	1	16	17	20	26	1	1,164	1,102	135	191
NEW ENGLAND-----	294	532	-	-	-	-	-	-	78	150	-	-
Maine-----	25	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	5	-	-
New Hampshire-----	9	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	-	-
Vermont-----	4	208	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	30	-	-
Massachusetts-----	202	174	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	77	-	-
Rhode Island-----	12	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	10	-	-
Connecticut-----	42	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	23	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	732	789	-	1	-	5	1	-	136	298	11	9
New York-----	356	456	-	-	-	1	-	-	60	170	10	8
New Jersey-----	74	105	-	1	-	1	1	-	15	46	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	302	228	-	-	-	3	-	2	61	82	1	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	904	938	1	-	5	1	2	-	246	213	16	33
Ohio-----	202	292	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	38	3	1
Indiana-----	213	104	-	-	-	-	1	-	59	21	6	18
Illinois-----	143	177	1	-	5	1	1	-	28	29	1	9
Michigan-----	234	191	-	-	-	-	-	-	63	79	1	4
Wisconsin-----	112	174	-	-	-	-	-	-	61	46	5	1
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	156	248	-	1	1	2	2	-	102	32	10	17
Minnesota-----	24	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	18	-	3
Iowa-----	36	64	-	-	-	1	-	-	25	1	3	4
Missouri-----	19	35	-	1	-	-	2	-	26	3	7	7
North Dakota-----	42	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	3	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Kansas-----	32	31	-	-	1	1	-	-	19	10	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	695	452	-	3	2	2	2	-	99	136	52	38
Delaware-----	12	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	121	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	28	-	-
District of Columbia-----	6	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
Virginia-----	294	139	-	1	-	-	-	-	20	40	20	9
West Virginia-----	60	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	24	6	11
North Carolina-----	111	129	-	-	-	1	1	-	20	26	4	4
South Carolina-----	9	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	5	10
Georgia-----	56	32	-	2	2	1	1	-	5	-	5	4
Florida-----	26	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	7	12	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	256	196	-	6	4	4	7	-	94	35	18	58
Kentucky-----	127	89	-	-	-	1	3	-	28	17	10	19
Tennessee-----	106	80	-	5	1	2	3	-	19	5	6	10
Alabama-----	13	12	-	1	2	1	1	-	47	5	1	22
Mississippi-----	10	15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	8	1	7
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1,086	1,046	-	4	4	5	8	1	162	138	19	33
Arkansas-----	123	114	-	1	2	1	-	-	18	7	4	7
Louisiana-----	1	4	-	1	-	-	3	-	2	1	-	-
Oklahoma-----	34	58	-	-	1	1	4	-	7	1	-	1
Texas-----	928	870	-	2	1	3	1	1	135	129	15	25
MOUNTAIN-----	685	415	-	1	1	-	-	-	50	28	3	1
Montana-----	24	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
Idaho-----	22	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-
Wyoming-----	124	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Colorado-----	150	87	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
New Mexico-----	123	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	4	2	1
Arizona-----	187	256	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	16	1	-
Utah-----	54	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Nevada-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	630	486	-	-	-	1	4	-	197	72	6	2
Washington-----	188	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	19	-	-
Oregon-----	93	87	-	-	-	1	1	-	20	14	-	-
California-----	349	306	-	-	-	-	3	-	156	39	6	2
Alaska-----	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	8	66	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 38 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	9th week ended Mar. 5, 1955	8th week ended Feb. 26, 1955	9th week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 9 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 106 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,340	10,334	10,885	-5.0	95,711	93,681	+2.2
New England----- (14 cities)	773	702	775	-0.3	6,757	6,451	+4.7
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,035	3,022	3,264	-7.0	28,707	28,081	+2.2
East North Central----- (18 cities)	2,216	2,306	2,340	-5.3	20,775	20,395	+1.9
West North Central----- (8 cities)	673	708	801	-16.0	6,330	6,475	-2.2
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	759	859	848	-10.5	7,321	7,238	+1.1
East South Central----- (8 cities)	506	495	473	+7.0	4,552	4,521	+0.7
West South Central----- (12 cities)	820	725	735	+11.6	6,764	6,514	+3.8
Mountain----- (8 cities)	254	255	236	+7.6	2,367	2,164	+9.4
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,304	1,262	1,309	-0.4	12,138	11,842	+2.5

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 5, 1955
(By place of occurrence, and week of filing certificate. Exclusive of fetal deaths)

CITY	9th week ended Mar. 5, 1955	8th week ended Feb. 26, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 9 WEEKS		CITY	9th week ended Mar. 5, 1955	8th week ended Feb. 26, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 9 WEEKS	
			1955	1954				1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL--Con.				
Boston-----	284	252	2,331	2,086	St. Louis-----	232	242	2,015	2,130
Bridgeport-----	36	35	357	321	St. Paul-----	63	52	599	629
Cambridge-----	22	22	267	268	Wichita-----	37	44	363	388
Fall River-----	30	23	266	268	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	48	45	486	431	Atlanta-----	92	106	951	1,001
Lowell-----	19	16	211	282	Baltimore-----	239	259	2,166	2,146
Lynn-----	24	23	215	228	Charlotte-----	31	42	308	289
New Bedford-----	31	24	227	223	Jacksonville-----	(43)	(40)	(459)	(482)
New Haven-----	55	51	459	458	Miami-----	39	50	500	568
Providence-----	64	70	618	616	Norfolk-----	33	39	321	287
Somerville-----	20	16	150	142	Richmond-----	63	66	660	592
Springfield, Mass.-----	55	33	418	395	Savannah-----	---	---	---	(271)
Waterbury-----	29	36	270	249	Tampa-----	51	63	544	554
Worcester-----	56	56	482	484	Washington, D. C.-----	170	192	1,511	1,492
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmington, Del.-----	41	42	360	309
Albany-----	46	52	439	431	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown-----	(34)	(31)	(319)	(338)	Birmingham-----	71	104	790	770
Buffalo-----	93	131	1,252	1,417	Chattanooga-----	65	37	429	468
Camden-----	38	39	370	356	Knoxville-----	37	30	324	336
Elizabeth-----	15	26	257	273	Louisville-----	120	122	1,045	1,014
Eric-----	35	39	316	298	Memphis-----	84	97	927	900
Jersey City-----	63	76	663	722	Mobile-----	26	33	258	303
Newark, N. J.-----	88	112	1,034	977	Montgomery-----	39	26	282	268
New York City-----	1,628	1,571	15,150	14,776	Nashville-----	64	46	497	462
Paterson-----	54	35	361	372	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia-----	486	497	4,520	4,269	Austin-----	37	24	270	221
Pittsburgh-----	197	184	1,722	1,536	Baton Rouge-----	14	17	205	226
Reading-----	(31)	(17)	(224)	(193)	Corpus Christi-----	27	12	173	143
Rochester, N. Y.-----	103	78	908	894	Dallas-----	---	(101)	---	(945)
Schenectady-----	24	23	208	251	El Paso-----	26	23	263	247
Scranton-----	(26)	(38)	(324)	(304)	Fort Worth-----	62	43	512	500
Syracuse-----	51	56	512	530	Houston-----	157	149	1,225	1,215
Trenton-----	45	45	443	451	Little Rock-----	43	56	387	401
Utica-----	28	28	279	280	New Orleans-----	148	184	1,478	1,468
Yonkers-----	41	30	273	248	Oklahoma City-----	56	62	529	564
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio-----	107	85	853	745
Akron-----	59	46	501	510	Shreveport-----	60	33	408	342
Canton-----	13	24	240	302	Tulsa-----	83	37	461	442
Chicago-----	732	769	6,761	6,560	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati-----	162	159	1,448	1,292	Albuquerque-----	29	42	274	254
Cleveland-----	217	219	1,875	1,889	Colorado Springs-----	10	16	123	106
Columbus-----	114	106	1,010	991	Denver-----	105	107	1,072	944
Dayton-----	68	68	628	618	Ogden-----	9	9	99	92
Detroit-----	283	328	3,012	2,961	Phoenix-----	35	24	253	232
Evansville-----	37	38	287	289	Pueblo-----	17	16	131	136
Flint-----	35	28	322	340	Salt Lake City-----	46	35	375	365
Fort Wayne-----	28	32	288	223	Tucson-----	3	6	40	35
Gary-----	(15)	(29)	(242)	(235)	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids-----	39	47	366	380	Berkeley-----	15	22	160	174
Indianapolis-----	114	105	1,040	1,098	Long Beach-----	59	54	493	452
Milwaukee-----	107	111	1,093	1,147	Los Angeles-----	485	463	4,572	4,330
Peoria-----	19	28	261	307	Oakland-----	90	90	864	898
South Bend-----	27	25	231	195	Pasadena-----	32	33	336	304
Toledo-----	105	105	902	839	Portland, Ore.-----	102	68	867	883
Youngstown-----	57	68	510	454	Sacramento-----	51	46	461	461
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego-----	68	76	726	670
Des Moines-----	39	59	440	422	San Francisco-----	193	186	1,781	1,777
Duluth-----	26	25	244	228	Seattle-----	143	122	1,159	1,145
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	---	---	(275)	Spokane-----	26	52	370	431
Kansas City, Mo.-----	113	110	997	1,019	Tacoma-----	40	50	349	317
Minneapolis-----	95	110	1,061	1,080	Honolulu-----	(39)	(38)	(328)	(321)
Omaha-----	68	66	611	579					

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

Shigellosis

The California Department of Public Health reports an outbreak of shigellosis among members of 2 groups of farm workers. The groups involved lived and worked in different areas and no contact between them has been established. However, the disease occurred in both groups about the same time. For one of the groups, sanitary conditions were poor in their homes. The sewage disposal system consisted of an open ditch, at least part of the way, which was adjacent to a pond in which children played. The children also played in a sump hole which was used for part of the water supply. In the other group, 2 families were involved. One lived in a house with complete sanitary facilities, and the other lived in a shack nearby. Water was piped into the shack, but other facilities were common to a group of shacks. Shigella flexner III was isolated from 9 of the 15 cases reported.

Epidemic diarrhea

Dr. J. R. Amos, Missouri Department of Health, states that an epidemic of diarrhea, chiefly among children, has been reported in the southwestern part of the State. Over 100 children have been hospitalized and 4 may have died from the disease. In the majority of the cases the initial symptoms were limited to the upper respiratory tract followed in 3 to 7 days with acute diarrhea and vomiting. In some cases encephalitic symptoms were present.

Suspect shigellosis

Dr. A. L. Marshall, Indiana Department of Health, reports an outbreak of a contagious enteric infection among inmates and attendants of an institution. During 1954 a total of 219 cases was reported. The disease is apparently shigellosis because stool specimens of 8 patients revealed S. sonnei. However, most of the 84 specimens collected showed no pathogens. One attendant was found to be a typhoid carrier, and another, a carrier of amebic dysentery.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. A. L. Marshall, Indiana Department of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among members of a private family of 8 persons. Of these, 6 ingested ham and became ill from 3 to 23 hours later. Two had no ham and remained well. No other food was common to all the victims. A delay in transit of a sample of the ham prevented bacteriological examination.

Dr. Ruth E. Church, Illinois Department of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among an estimated 100 persons who ate at different times in an inn. A canvass of the neighborhood was made and only 7 persons were found who had been ill. The vehicle of infection was not determined.

Communicable diseases in other areas

Information has been received that 10 persons with psittacosis have been hospitalized in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The infection was traced to parakeets. One case was also reported recently in Rotterdam.

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