

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 March 19, 1955

The incidence of measles has been slowly increasing during the past few weeks. For the current week, the total is only about 4 percent greater than that for the previous week. The peak incidence will probably be reached during the next 6 weeks as indicated by reports for the last 4 years. The cumulative total cases for the year to date is 187,369 as compared with 166,512 for the corresponding period of 1954.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Rickettsialpox

Dr. John H. Dingle, Western Reserve University, has reported a probable case of rickettsialpox which occurred in Cleveland during the month of January. The clinical findings and the course of the disease were compatible with a diagnosis of rickettsialpox. Serological studies at the Army Medical Service Graduate School revealed a rise in complement fixing antibody to both soluble and specific antigens to rickettsialpox in the convalescent serum. Additional laboratory and epidemiological studies are in progress. (Previously, this disease has not been reported outside the New England-Middle Atlantic States area.)

Influenza

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

Dr. S. Edward Sulkin, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, reports the occurrence of influenza B in the Dallas area. During the past 2 months there has been much absenteeism from school due to this illness.

The Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Department of the Navy, reports serologic tests on 150 paired sera from a naval installation in Illinois. Of these, 38 showed a rise in antibodies to influenza B, 6 to influenza C, and 3 to influenza A. Eleven strains of influenza B were isolated at this station, the last being a sample taken on January 27.

Dr. E. H. Lennette, California State Department of Public Health, has reported that only 5 serologic diagnoses of influenza B have been made during January and February from patients in scattered areas of California.

The National Microbiological Institute, National Institutes of Health, has isolated a total of 21 strains of influenza B from individuals ill during the latter part of January and early in February. These strains are all similar to each other and to B/GL/1/54 (GL-1760-54B) when tested with specific rooster antisera.

Dr. R. M. Albrecht, New York State Department of Health, reports an influenza-like disease in a hospital. The outbreak began suddenly, and during the period, March 8-14, a total of 90 cases occurred among 1,253 persons. The illness was characterized by a sudden onset of fever from 101 to 104 degrees, and a nonproductive cough. Loose stools and vomiting were rare. Patients began to improve within 24 hours and as of March 14, the incidence was declining. Throat washings and acute phase sera from 5 patients have been collected for laboratory examination.

Anthrax in animals

According to the monthly report from the Department of Agriculture, 3 outbreaks of animal anthrax occurred during February 1955. They were confined to 2 parishes in Louisiana, where infected soil was suspected to be the source. In these outbreaks the losses were 3 cattle, 3 hogs, and 1 horse. Reports have not been received from 6 States, but all other States, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico indicated they experienced no anthrax outbreaks during February.

Psittacosis

Dr. M. P. Hines and Dr. Jacob Koomen, Jr., North Carolina Board of Health, reports the occurrence of psittacosis in Durham County. Four human cases followed exposure to parakeets. Three of the 4 persons were employed in a store which sold parakeets. The fourth person had kept 2 parakeets in her home, 1 of which had diarrhea and died before the onset of illness in the patient. The patient's husband kept approximately 200 birds in a small building located in the yard of their home, but no illness was reported among these. Following the illness in one of the employees of the store, all remaining birds—26 parakeets and 12 canaries—were placed in isolation. Three parakeets that died and the 23 live birds were submitted to the CDC Laboratory in Montgomery, Alabama, where psittacosis virus was isolated from 5 birds. These examinations are still in progress. The 12 canaries have since been destroyed.

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, reports a case of psittacosis in a man who became ill with fever, pain in chest, and general malaise about 10 days after the purchase of a psittacine bird. A chest X-ray showed evidence of congestion. Complement fixation titer rose from 1:8 to 1:64 on blood specimens collected about 4 and 6 weeks after the onset of symptoms. The bird was from a local department store, and was disposed of, although it was not ill. Information as to the health of other birds in the store was not available.

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports a case of psittacosis which came to light following the investigation of a previous case. (See report for the week ended February 12, 1955.) By the use of sales records and band numbers, an epidemiologist was able to investigate 8 of a lot of 20 parakeets from a local breeder. Of these, 6 yielded negative results for both the human contacts and the birds. For 1 bird, the history is still being processed. The owner of the eighth bird stated that it had been ill and was given tablets for treatment which had been supplied by the pet store. Later the bird was returned to the store where it died. In mid-January, the owner's mother developed pneumonia and sought medical attention. The physician changed the diagnosis after a complement fixation test on blood specimen was positive for psittacosis in a dilution of 1:32.

Trichiniasis

Dr. R. H. Heeren, Iowa Department of Health, reports an outbreak of trichiniasis among 10 persons in 3 families. Of these, 6 became ill about a week after eating a raw pork product, and 4 who did not eat any of the pork remained well. The illness

was characterized by diarrhea, cramps, muscle pains, fever, chills, headache, and periorbital edema. Blood counts on 2 patients revealed eosinophilia of 49 and 80 percent, respectively. Precipitin tests, made on 3 patients, were positive for the disease. The meat came from 2 hogs butchered on a farm operated jointly by 2 of the families. These hogs, part of a herd of 150, had been grain fed. The only garbage available to them was refuse from the table. Laboratory examination of sausage and spare ribs from the butchered hogs revealed heavy infestation with trichinae. Examination of rats found on the farm has not been completed.

Chemical poisoning

The Los Angeles County Health Department reports an outbreak of chemical poisoning among 19 persons in a private household. Of these, 11 became ill with dizziness, weakness, "hot taste in mouth," vomiting, nausea, and slight diarrhea less than

30 minutes after eating mustard greens. The greens were from a truck farm where the mustard was sprayed with nicotine sulphate the day before being picked. Laboratory examination of the mustard greens revealed the presence of nicotine alkaloid.

Salmonellosis

The California Department of Public Health reports an outbreak of salmonellosis in a family of 4 persons. They became ill from 8 to 12 hours after eating pork meat balls, rice-cabbage, and bean cake. Eggs were also eaten by 2 persons, but according to the report, 2 children, who were given small portions, did not swallow any. The eggs were probably duck eggs imported from China or Formosa. The actual preparation of the eggs is unknown, but when purchased, they had been wrapped in mud and ashes and baked. Bacteriological examination of the eggs was

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	11th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Mar. 19, 1955	Ended Mar. 20, 1954	Median 1950-54	First 11 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	1	7	5	9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	4	6	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	34	24	---	231	299	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	28	37	37	411	460	774	1,628	1,805	2,956	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	25	21	21	226	205	183	1,578	932	929	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	957	1,507	---	10,353	14,336	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	5	10	---	39	74	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Measles-----085	22,467	25,227	17,914	187,369	166,512	139,370	243,119	202,604	168,760	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	91	99	111	³ 1,087	1,242	1,242	² 2,179	2,564	2,554	Sept. 1
Polioyelitis-----080	68	105	69	⁴ 942	1,407	1,212	⁴ 38,129	35,794	35,794	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	⁵ 5	9	---	74	37	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rabies in man-----094	⁶ 1	-	-	2	1	1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	1	-	-	10	6	6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	4,896	4,737	4,212	47,882	49,160	33,565	85,273	83,794	49,887	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	4	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Trichiniasis-----128	-	3	---	27	68	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Tularemia-----059	8	7	9	156	149	151	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Typhoid fever-----040	26	31	28	272	351	350	2,145	2,342	2,342	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	1	-	-	12	23	---	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Whooping cough-----056	1,097	1,131	1,131	13,987	11,616	13,154	31,269	21,373	27,360	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	135	135	172	1,371	1,968	1,897	2,724	3,752	---	Oct. 1

¹Colorado, 2 cases; Virginia, 1.

²Frequencies are too small.

³Deduction: Georgia, week ended March 5, 1 case.

⁴Deductions for week ended March 12: Kansas 2 cases and Wyoming, 1.

⁵Minnesota, New Jersey, and Washington, 1 case each; and New Mexico, 2.

⁶Reported in North Carolina.

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 20, 1954, AND MARCH 19, 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	24	28	37	25	21	957	1,507	4	9	1	1
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	2	1	-	1	1	70	62	-	-	-	1
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	4	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	1	-	-	1	21	35	-	-	-	1
Rhode Island-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	1	2	-	-	1	-	27	11	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	1	-	4	2	6	8	233	227	-	1	-	-
New York-----	1	-	-	-	6	8	139	159	-	1	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	13	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	-	4	2	-	-	78	55	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	14	4	2	-	5	5	131	230	-	1	1	-
Ohio-----	-	-	1	-	-	-	30	31	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	1	1	-	2	-	22	68	-	1	-	-
Illinois-----	7	3	-	-	-	1	27	66	-	-	1	-
Michigan-----	2	-	-	-	3	3	36	56	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	5	-	-	-	-	1	16	9	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	10	13	1	8	-	1	154	281	-	-	-	-
Minnesota-----	5	3	-	6	-	-	66	82	-	-	-	-
Iowa-----	1	2	-	-	-	-	44	115	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	1	1	1	1	-	-	22	24	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	5	-	-	-	-	3	8	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	38	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	2	2	-	1	-	-	13	14	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	1	3	8	4	1	2	67	285	-	-	-	-
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	11	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	1	1	-	-	2	26	167	-	-	-	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	37	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	-	-	1	2	1	-	16	53	-	-	-	-
South Carolina-----	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	1	1	1	2	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-
Florida-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	7	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	3	1	2	6	2	1	45	158	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	77	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	1	-	4	2	-	-	31	41	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	2	2	-	-	5	9	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	2	-	-	-	-	1	5	31	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2	-	7	15	4	2	62	106	4	7	-	-
Arkansas-----	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	1	-	3	1	-	-	2	8	1	-	-	-
Texas-----	1	-	4	11	4	1	57	87	3	7	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1	-	1	1	-	-	72	34	-	-	-	-
Montana-----	1	-	1	-	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	12	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	10	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	8	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	1	1	2	1	6	1	123	124	-	-	-	-
Washington-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	20	25	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	42	-	-	-	-
California-----	1	1	-	-	6	1	70	57	-	-	-	-
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-

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 20, 1954, AND MARCH 19, 1955—Continued

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

AREA	MEASLES		MENINGO-COCCAL INFECTIONS		POLIOMYELITIS (080)						ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER	
	(085)		(057)		Total ²		Paralytic (080.0,080.1)		Nonparalytic (080.2)		(104A)	
	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	22,467	25,227	91	99	68	105	27	46	18	21	1	-
NEW ENGLAND-----	5,398	485	3	-	1	3	1	2	-	1	-	-
Maine-----	390	325	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	373	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	353	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	2,386	88	2	-	1	3	1	2	-	1	-	-
Rhode Island-----	303	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	1,593	17	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	5,052	4,305	11	9	8	10	1	3	-	-	-	-
New York-----	1,564	2,969	2	3	5	5	1	2	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	2,858	284	8	4	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	630	1,052	1	2	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	3,089	4,333	26	15	11	7	3	2	2	2	-	-
Ohio-----	647	1,093	5	3	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Indiana-----	163	978	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	463	709	9	4	3	2	3	1	-	-	-	-
Michigan-----	820	1,319	8	5	2	2	-	1	2	1	-	-
Wisconsin-----	996	234	4	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	1,333	641	4	11	6	9	1	3	3	2	-	-
Minnesota-----	440	15	1	1	2	4	1	-	-	1	-	-
Iowa-----	670	265	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	100	56	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	66	69	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	51	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	144	1	-	1	3	-	3	1	-	-	-
Kansas-----	57	41	-	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	586	4,560	21	29	11	11	4	1	3	2	1	-
Delaware-----	4	77	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	57	547	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	13	174	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	111	1,514	6	7	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
West Virginia-----	95	390	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	20	555	6	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
South Carolina-----	77	477	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	94	280	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1	-	-
Florida-----	115	546	2	-	9	4	3	1	2	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	775	3,426	7	12	1	3	-	1	1	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	162	1,894	1	5	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	428	926	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	154	507	3	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	31	99	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	2,329	3,686	6	8	13	24	9	12	2	2	-	-
Arkansas-----	132	59	-	2	2	2	1	1	-	1	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	88	1	4	5	1	5	1	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	67	54	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas-----	2,130	3,485	5	2	5	20	3	10	2	1	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	780	1,339	4	3	2	8	-	3	-	3	-	-
Montana-----	3	117	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	-
Idaho-----	18	446	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	58	56	2	-	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	-
New Mexico-----	201	89	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	483	132	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Utah-----	9	464	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	3,125	2,452	9	12	15	30	8	19	7	9	-	-
Washington-----	388	561	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon-----	142	118	-	2	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-
California-----	2,595	1,773	9	8	13	27	6	17	7	9	-	-
Alaska-----	1	37	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
Hawaii-----	436	1	-	-	-	7	-	6	-	1	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	123	128	-	-	17	-	17	-	-	-	-	-

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

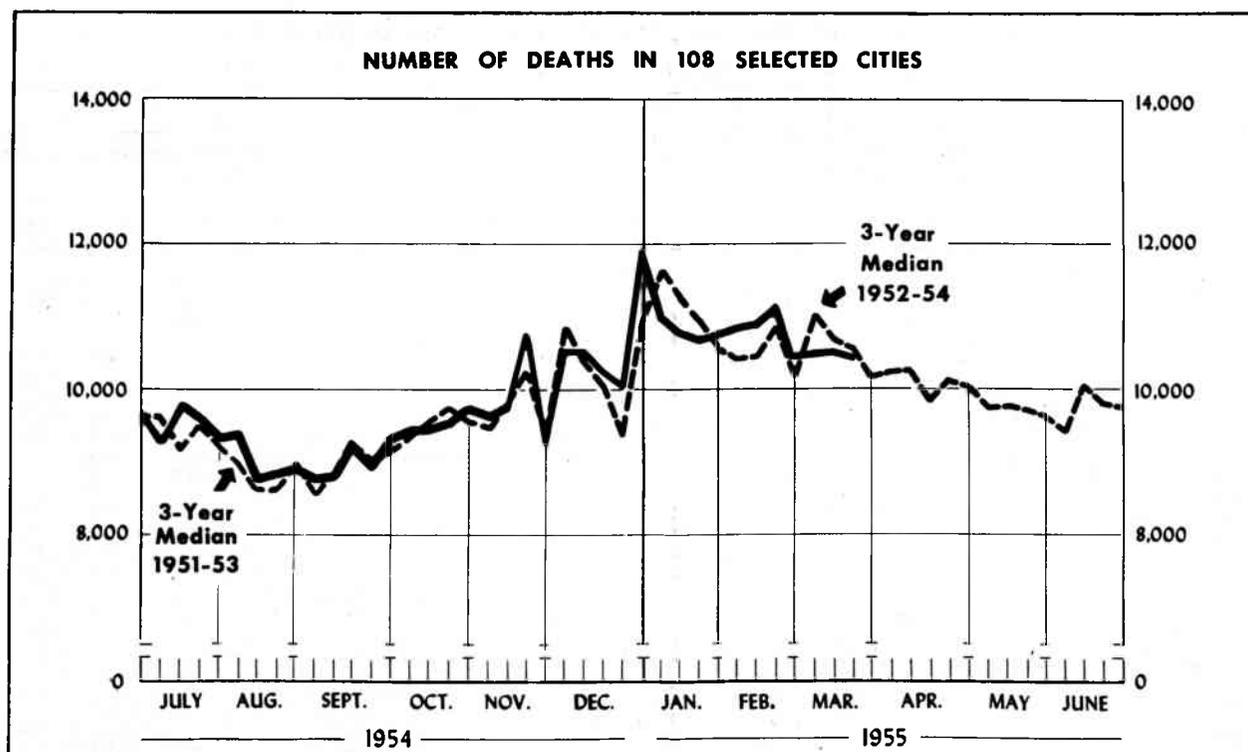
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED MARCH 20, 1954, AND MARCH 19, 1955—Continued

(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)	WHOOPIING COUGH (056)		RABIES IN ANIMALS	
	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955	1955	1954	1955	1954
CONT. UNITED STATES-----	4,896	4,737	-	8	7	26	31	1	1,097	1,131	135	135
NEW ENGLAND-----	321	400	-	-	-	-	3	-	93	129	-	-
Maine-----	28	85	-	-	-	-	1	-	14	3	-	-
New Hampshire-----	5	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	-	-
Vermont-----	11	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	21	-	-
Massachusetts-----	222	166	-	-	-	-	1	-	28	74	-	-
Rhode Island-----	6	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	3	-	-
Connecticut-----	49	82	-	-	-	-	1	-	22	26	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	674	726	-	-	-	4	-	-	115	248	15	4
New York-----	342	394	-	-	-	-	-	-	45	115	13	3
New Jersey-----	77	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	46	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	255	259	-	-	-	4	-	-	52	87	2	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	948	954	-	2	1	1	1	-	203	241	8	17
Ohio-----	174	230	-	-	-	1	-	-	25	54	2	3
Indiana-----	170	151	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	14	2	7
Illinois-----	141	164	-	2	1	-	1	-	25	25	3	3
Michigan-----	224	224	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	96	-	4
Wisconsin-----	239	165	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	52	1	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	147	244	-	-	-	2	1	-	61	31	11	22
Minnesota-----	66	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	9	1	4
Iowa-----	33	57	-	-	-	2	-	-	26	1	5	11
Missouri-----	6	34	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	4	3	6
North Dakota-----	18	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	1	-
South Dakota-----	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Kansas-----	23	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	581	476	-	1	-	4	9	-	86	100	41	44
Delaware-----	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	110	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	14	-	-
District of Columbia-----	10	26	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	4	-	-
Virginia-----	209	110	-	-	-	1	2	-	27	27	10	14
West Virginia-----	37	77	-	-	-	-	2	-	17	28	10	16
North Carolina-----	108	139	-	-	-	-	2	-	5	15	3	3
South Carolina-----	3	12	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	6	3
Georgia-----	48	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	9	5
Florida-----	49	19	-	1	-	2	1	-	24	3	3	3
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	160	186	-	4	3	5	5	-	107	104	31	24
Kentucky-----	88	91	-	-	-	3	-	-	59	76	10	6
Tennessee-----	62	77	-	3	2	-	5	-	20	16	6	6
Alabama-----	5	8	-	1	1	2	-	-	27	11	12	9
Mississippi-----	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	1,014	946	-	1	3	7	9	1	197	140	27	22
Arkansas-----	116	53	-	-	2	1	2	-	21	31	5	2
Louisiana-----	9	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	4	3	-	-
Oklahoma-----	30	58	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	6	1	2
Texas-----	859	831	-	1	1	6	3	1	161	100	21	18
MOUNTAIN-----	417	296	-	-	-	1	2	-	83	38	-	1
Montana-----	13	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	-	-
Idaho-----	30	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	3	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Colorado-----	108	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	-
New Mexico-----	59	17	-	-	-	1	2	-	21	1	-	-
Arizona-----	190	184	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	25	-	1
Utah-----	14	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	3	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	634	509	-	-	-	2	1	-	152	100	2	1
Washington-----	134	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	30	-	-
Oregon-----	118	101	-	-	-	-	1	-	12	25	-	-
California-----	382	296	-	-	-	2	-	-	109	45	2	1
Alaska-----	3	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	9	101	-	-

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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	11th week ended Mar. 19, 1955	10th week ended Mar. 12, 1955	11th week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 11 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 105 REPORTING CITIES-----	10,004	10,077	10,132	-1.3	112,954	110,192	+2.5
New England----- (14 cities)	720	825	729	-1.2	8,302	7,779	+6.7
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	3,150	3,219	3,192	-1.3	35,076	33,915	+3.4
East North Central----- (17 cities)	2,024	1,826	1,930	+4.9	21,613	21,308	+1.4
West North Central----- (9 cities)	813	699	764	+6.4	8,189	8,239	-0.6
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	728	778	839	-13.2	8,827	8,807	+0.2
East South Central----- (8 cities)	416	471	448	-7.1	5,439	5,418	+0.4
West South Central----- (11 cities)	634	641	661	-4.1	7,866	7,794	+0.9
Mountain----- (8 cities)	225	256	250	-10.0	2,848	2,569	+10.9
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,294	1,562	1,306	-0.9	14,794	14,563	+3.0

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED MARCH 19, 1955

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

CITY	11th week ended Mar. 19, 1955	10th week ended Mar. 12, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 11 WEEKS		CITY	11th week ended Mar. 19, 1955	10th week ended Mar. 12, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 11 WEEKS	
			1955	1954				1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND					WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
Boston	250	314	2,895	2,520	St. Louis	256	186	2,457	2,604
Bridgeport	41	38	436	400	St. Paul	86	67	752	745
Cambridge	30	28	325	325	Wichita	39	41	443	457
Fall River	29	42	337	325	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford	33	46	565	526	Atlanta	98	105	1,154	1,203
Lowell	29	25	265	347	Baltimore	204	230	2,600	2,578
Lynn	22	37	274	261	Charlotte	30	34	372	358
New Bedford	19	24	270	259	Jacksonville	(54)	(39)	(552)	(563)
New Haven	41	42	542	538	Miami	46	54	600	705
Providence	67	93	778	736	Norfolk	26	51	398	337
Somerville	29	17	196	172	Richmond	61	42	763	740
Springfield, Mass.	51	32	501	491	Savannah	---	(26)	---	(323)
Waterbury	18	18	306	291	Tampa	59	61	664	666
Worcester	61	69	612	588	Washington, D. C.	170	166	1,847	1,855
MIDDLE ATLANTIC					Wilmingon, Del.	34	35	429	365
Albany	49	47	535	525	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Allentown	(36)	(43)	(398)	(406)	Birmingham	77	76	943	913
Buffalo	170	191	1,613	1,670	Chattanooga	35	52	516	546
Camden	40	40	450	425	Knoxville	31	45	400	406
Elizabeth	24	50	331	328	Louisville	110	96	1,251	1,211
Erie	44	39	399	374	Memphis	90	93	1,110	1,066
Jersey City	75	103	841	843	Mobile	18	30	306	378
Newark, N. J.	111	88	1,233	1,180	Montgomery	15	35	332	328
New York City	1,600	1,656	18,406	17,842	Nashville	40	44	581	570
Pateron	59	35	455	451	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Philadelphia	506	507	5,533	5,187	Austin	28	19	317	279
Pittsburgh	196	170	2,088	1,897	Baton Rouge	20	23	248	282
Reading	(25)	(21)	(270)	(242)	Corpus Christi	(15)	---	---	(179)
Rochester, N. Y.	89	85	1,082	1,075	Dallas	---	(88)	---	(1,124)
Schenectady	26	28	262	286	El Paso	22	22	307	310
Scranton	(36)	(32)	(392)	(383)	Fort Worth	64	49	625	612
Syracuse	52	64	628	627	Houston	111	111	1,447	1,485
Trenton	52	62	557	551	Little Rock	37	35	459	462
Utica	30	24	333	352	New Orleans	148	153	1,779	1,811
Yonkers	27	30	330	302	Oklahoma City	46	57	632	680
EAST NORTH CENTRAL					San Antonio	71	89	1,013	929
Akron	68	60	629	619	Shreveport	46	37	491	419
Canton	27	26	295	363	Tulsa	41	46	548	525
Chicago	737	698	8,196	8,037	MOUNTAIN				
Cincinnati	158	131	1,737	1,563	Albuquerque	15	26	315	300
Cleveland	223	175	2,273	2,321	Colorado Springs	14	14	151	129
Columbus	108	112	1,230	1,196	Denver	107	116	1,295	1,128
Dayton	65	63	756	754	Ogden	6	10	115	111
Detroit	---	(313)	---	(3,596)	Phoenix	25	23	301	275
Evansville	34	42	363	354	Pueblo	10	15	156	158
Flint	48	28	398	435	Salt Lake City	41	45	461	429
Fort Wayne	30	35	353	265	Tucson	7	7	54	39
Gary	(27)	(28)	(297)	(286)	PACIFIC				
Grand Rapids	43	39	448	466	Berkeley	16	14	190	222
Indianapolis	115	111	1,266	1,330	Long Beach	49	39	581	551
Milwaukee	146	118	1,357	1,387	Los Angeles	513	509	5,594	5,310
Peoria	29	22	312	368	Oakland	105	75	1,044	1,087
South Bend	28	19	278	246	Pasadena	27	42	405	355
Toledo	115	101	1,118	1,052	Portland, Oreg.	76	99	1,042	1,082
Youngstown	50	46	606	552	Sacramento	35	45	541	559
WEST NORTH CENTRAL					San Diego	62	87	875	779
Des Moines	53	52	545	514	San Francisco	198	213	2,192	2,137
Duluth	21	30	295	286	Seattle	142	143	1,444	1,387
Kansas City, Kans.	32	30	409	348	Spokane	38	58	466	509
Kansas City, Mo.	120	123	1,240	1,265	Tacoma	33	38	420	385
Minneapolis	146	122	1,329	1,316	Honolulu	(26)	(38)	(392)	(401)
Omaha	60	48	719	704					

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

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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

negative for pathogens and none of the other foods were available for examination. Stool specimens submitted by the 4 patients yielded Salmonella typhimurium.

Gastro-enteritis

The California Department of Public Health reports that 3 persons in a private household became ill after eating ham. The illness was characterized by headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chilliness, prostration, and sweating. The ham was apparently contaminated after it was baked and allowed to stand. Bacteriological examination of a specimen of ham revealed

staphylococci.

The New York Department of Health reports 2 outbreaks of gastro-enteritis—one probably was food-borne and the other was spread by person-to-person contact. Both outbreaks were reported late, thus hampering investigation, and no specimens were collected for laboratory tests. In the food-borne outbreak 54 children became ill about 4 hours after a meal. In the other outbreak several schools were closed because of illness. This illness was characterized by sore throat, headache, some vomiting, and diarrhea. In one school of 320 pupils, 150 became ill. The attack rate was higher among those in kindergarten through the fifth grade than for those in the sixth through the twelfth grades.

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