Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

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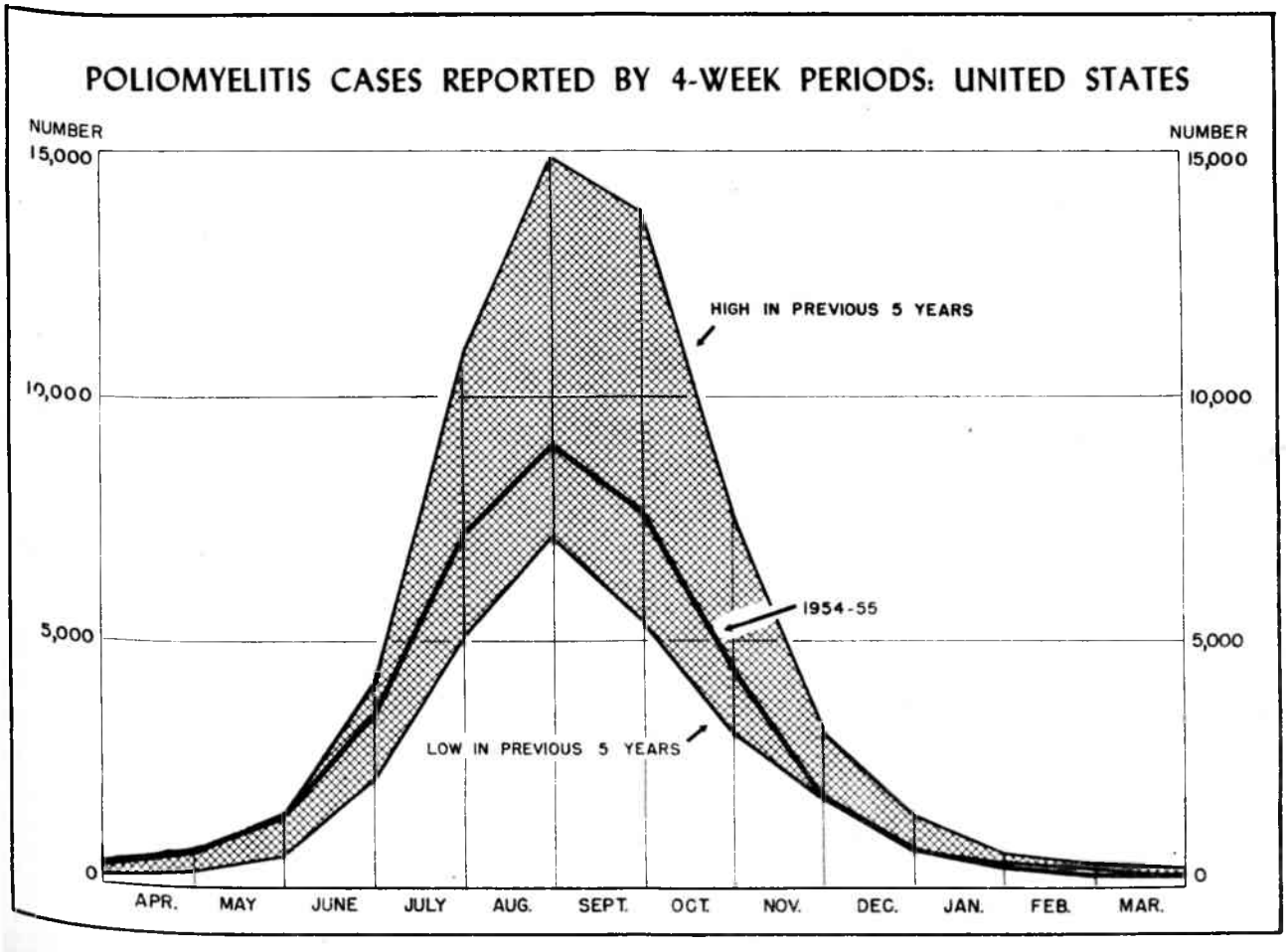
Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended April 2, 1955

Characteristically, the first quarter of the year is one in which respiratory infections predominate. Measles, whooping cough, streptococcal infections of the respiratory tract, and influenza are common occurrences.

During the first quarter of 1955, the reported incidence of measles was about 3 percent above that for the same period of last year; and whooping cough was nearly 18 percent in excess of the 1954 figures. The streptococcal infections, while highly prevalent, were slightly below the number reported in the first quarter of last year. In 1954 there was no widespread occurrence of influenza, although sporadic cases, diagnosed principally by serologic tests, were reported. In the first 3 months of the current year there were numerous localized outbreaks of respiratory diseases reported in which influenza B virus was isolated or serological tests indicated this type of infection. Many of the outbreaks were reported as occurring mainly among school children. There have been no indications from available mortality data that the influenza B infections were severe.

Psittacosis cases so far in 1955 have been more frequently reported than for the same period of last year. A total of 90 cases from 28 States has been recorded as compared with 50 in 16 States in 1954. Epidemiological reports show that nearly all of the 90 cases followed contact with parakeets.

The first 13 weeks of 1955 is the final quarter of the 1954-55 poliomyelitis "disease year." During the first quarter of the 1954-55 "disease year," about April 1 to June 30, 1954, the number of cases reported from week to week was often higher than for any of the previous 5 years. However, in the last quarter (first 13 weeks of 1955), the incidence was often lower than for any of the previous 5 years (see accompanying chart).



The relatively low incidence so far in 1955 should not be used in predicting a trend for the 1955-56 "disease year." The above figures do not include Puerto Rico where poliomyelitis has been reported in epidemic proportions since November 1954. According to a report from Puerto Rico, the total for a 14-week period ended April 2, is 311 cases as compared with 14 last year.

The number of meningococcal infections for the first quarter of 1955 was 1,263 as compared with 1,477 for the corresponding period of 1954. The corresponding number for 1953 was 1,889. The decrease this year is a further indication that the cycle of the disease was completed in 1953, and the incidence of the disease is now definitely on the decline. So far this year, little change has occurred in the incidence over that for last year in 2 geographic divisions—the Middle Atlantic and the East South Central. The Middle Atlantic Division has reported approximately 198, and the East South Central, approximately 175 cases for both years. In the East North Central Division, the incidence decreased from 279 cases for the first 13 weeks of 1954 to 227 for the same period in 1955. The South Atlantic showed a decrease from 286 cases to 211.

So far, more cases of infectious encephalitis have been reported in 1955 than in 1954, but this may be related to an increase in both measles and whooping cough. Most cases reported in the winter months are presumed to be post infectious types of disease, since arthropod-borne infections are rare in this season.

In addition to the numerous outbreaks of gastro-enteritis affecting more than 1,100 individuals, reported to have occurred since January 1, 1955, information on 1 outbreak in each of the following has been received: trichiniasis, typhoid fever, botulism, and chemical food poisoning. Four reports of anthrax in man were also received. Of the 6 cases reported, 4 occurred in industrial plants, and the remaining 2 had contact with live or dead animals.

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	13th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
				First 13 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
	Ended Apr. 2, 1955	Ended Apr. 3, 1954	Median 1950-54	1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	-	-	1	9	5	10	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Botulism-----049.1	-	-	---	4	6	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	23	34	---	[2]280	358	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	34	24	52	460	518	890	1,677	1,863	3,072	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	40	39	22	300	271	242	1,652	998	981	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	761	1,323	---	12,044	17,250	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	5	7	---	48	87	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Measles-----085	22,895	30,401	19,548	232,622	226,882	176,493	288,372	262,974	205,883	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	78	122	117	1,263	1,477	1,477	2,355	2,799	2,799	Sept. 1
Poliomyelitis-----080	61	78	67	[3]1,064	1,553	1,318	[3]38,251	35,940	35,940	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	3	6	---	[4]90	50	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	2	1	1	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	1	3	1	12	9	9	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	4,783	5,134	3,648	[5]57,530	59,612	40,931	[5]94,921	94,246	57,253	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	4	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Trichiniasis-----128	4	7	---	39	80	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Tularemia-----059	11	8	12	174	169	188	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Typhoid fever-----040	17	28	28	307	406	399	2,180	2,397	2,397	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	1	-	---	16	34	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Whooping cough-----056	1,151	1,066	1,066	16,349	13,925	15,056	33,631	23,682	29,262	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	150	183	182	1,666	2,322	2,242	3,019	4,106	---	Oct. 1

[1] Frequencies are too small.
[2] Deduction: Arkansas, week ended March 26, 1 case.
[3] Addition: Mississippi, week ended March 26, 1 case.
[4] Addition: Idaho, week ended March 26, 3 cases. Deduction: Kentucky, week ended March 26, 1 case.
[5] Addition: Wyoming, week ended March 26, 100 cases.

NOTE.—California reported 1 case of dengue with origin in South America.

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 APRIL 3, 1954, AND APRIL 2, 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	23	34	34	24	40	39	761	1,323	3	4	2	3
NEW ENGLAND	1	-	1	1	-	4	89	75	-	-	1	1
Maine	1	-	-	-	-	-	21	12	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	-	-	1	1	-	3	29	45	-	-	1	1
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	4	-	-	-	-
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	1	22	10	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	-	1	1	4	11	10	197	215	-	-	-	-
New York	-	-	1	2	9	9	112	148	-	-	-	-
New Jersey	-	1	-	-	2	1	16	16	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	-	-	-	2	-	-	69	51	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	5	6	4	2	11	8	89	164	1	-	-	-
Ohio	-	-	3	-	-	-	14	42	1	-	-	-
Indiana	-	-	-	2	9	1	19	26	-	-	-	-
Illinois	1	4	-	-	-	2	13	36	-	-	-	-
Michigan	1	2	1	-	1	5	33	33	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin	3	-	-	-	1	-	10	27	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	13	12	11	-	-	3	89	228	-	-	-	-
Minnesota	7	7	-	-	-	-	28	67	-	-	-	-
Iowa	4	3	-	-	-	-	11	113	-	-	-	-
Missouri	-	1	-	-	-	-	26	18	-	-	-	-
North Dakota	-	1	-	-	-	2	4	11	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	1	-	11	-	-	-	16	5	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	14	-	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	-	5	8	11	4	4	54	214	-	-	-	2
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Maryland	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	21	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia	-	2	1	1	1	-	30	133	-	-	-	1
West Virginia	-	1	1	1	-	1	5	24	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	-	-	1	5	2	-	6	20	-	-	-	1
South Carolina	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
Georgia	-	2	-	4	1	3	-	10	-	-	-	-
Florida	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	3	3	2	1	4	4	34	104	-	-	1	-
Kentucky	1	1	1	-	-	-	7	30	-	-	1	-
Tennessee	1	1	-	1	4	2	11	25	-	-	-	-
Alabama	1	-	1	-	-	1	9	9	-	-	-	-
Mississippi	-	1	-	-	-	1	7	40	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	1	4	7	4	-	2	39	144	1	3	-	-
Arkansas	-	-	1	-	-	-	12	8	-	-	-	-
Louisiana	-	1	2	-	-	-	2	89	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma	1	-		1	-	-	2	17	-	-	-	-
Texas	-	3	4	3	-	2	23	30	1	3	-	-
MOUNTAIN	-	2	-	-	-	-	58	57	1	-	-	-
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	22	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
Colorado	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	11	-	-	-	-
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	4	-	-	-	-
Arizona	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	10	1	-	-	-
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	-	-	-	-
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	-	1	-	1	10	4	112	122	-	1	-	-
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	15	-	-	-	-
Oregon	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	57	-	-	-	-
California	-	1	-	1	10	4	53	50	-	1	-	-
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	33	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	3	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-

[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 APRIL 3, 1954, AND APRIL 2, 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	22,895	30,401	78	122	61	78	26	32	18	24	1	3
NEW ENGLAND	4,630	578	2	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Maine	328	180	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire	410	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	302	131	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts	1,835	145	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island	256	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut	1,499	97	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	5,462	5,260	15	18	8	4	1	1	1	-	-	-
New York	1,470	3,542	10	5	5	3	1	1	1	-	-	-
New Jersey	3,077	477	1	6	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	915	1,241	4	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	3,725	5,958	14	23	2	8	1	2	-	2	-	-
Ohio	728	1,757	3	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indiana	152	1,118	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Illinois	409	1,217	4	7	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Michigan	864	1,455	2	7	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Wisconsin	1,572	411	3	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	1,277	605	4	4	5	4	2	-	1	1	-	-
Minnesota	330	10	2	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa	459	377	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri	316	59	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
North Dakota	103	70	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	3	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska	3	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kansas	63	53	-	2	2	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	539	4,584	12	16	15	12	5	7	5	2	1	1
Delaware	3	85	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland	71	737	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	14	156	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia	91	1,249	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
West Virginia	69	342	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	32	506	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Carolina	93	337	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Georgia	110	534	1	6	3	1	2	1	1	-	-	1
Florida	56	638	1	2	10	8	2	4	4	1	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	452	3,269	10	25	1	8	1	1	-	4	-	-
Kentucky	45	1,801	1	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee	163	783	3	4	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Alabama	88	567	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi	156	118	1	4	1	5	1	1	-	3	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	1,913	5,212	7	16	14	19	7	10	6	7	-	-
Arkansas	109	98	-	3	1	5	-	2	1	2	-	-
Louisiana	8	178	2	1	1	4	1	2	-	2	-	-
Oklahoma	95	154	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Texas	1,701	4,782	4	9	12	10	6	6	5	3	-	-
MOUNTAIN	1,022	1,507	2	1	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	2
Montana	2	137	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho	23	242	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wyoming	3	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado	114	54	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
New Mexico	291	140	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Arizona	574	165	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utah	4	562	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada	11	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	3,875	3,428	12	16	10	20	5	11	5	8	-	-
Washington	582	887	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Oregon	129	133	2	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
California	3,164	2,408	8	15	7	19	2	11	5	8	-	-
Alaska	-	11	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
Hawaii	475	-	-	-	3	8	2	6	1	2	-	-
Puerto Rico	323	116	-	-	17	-	17	-	-	-	-	-

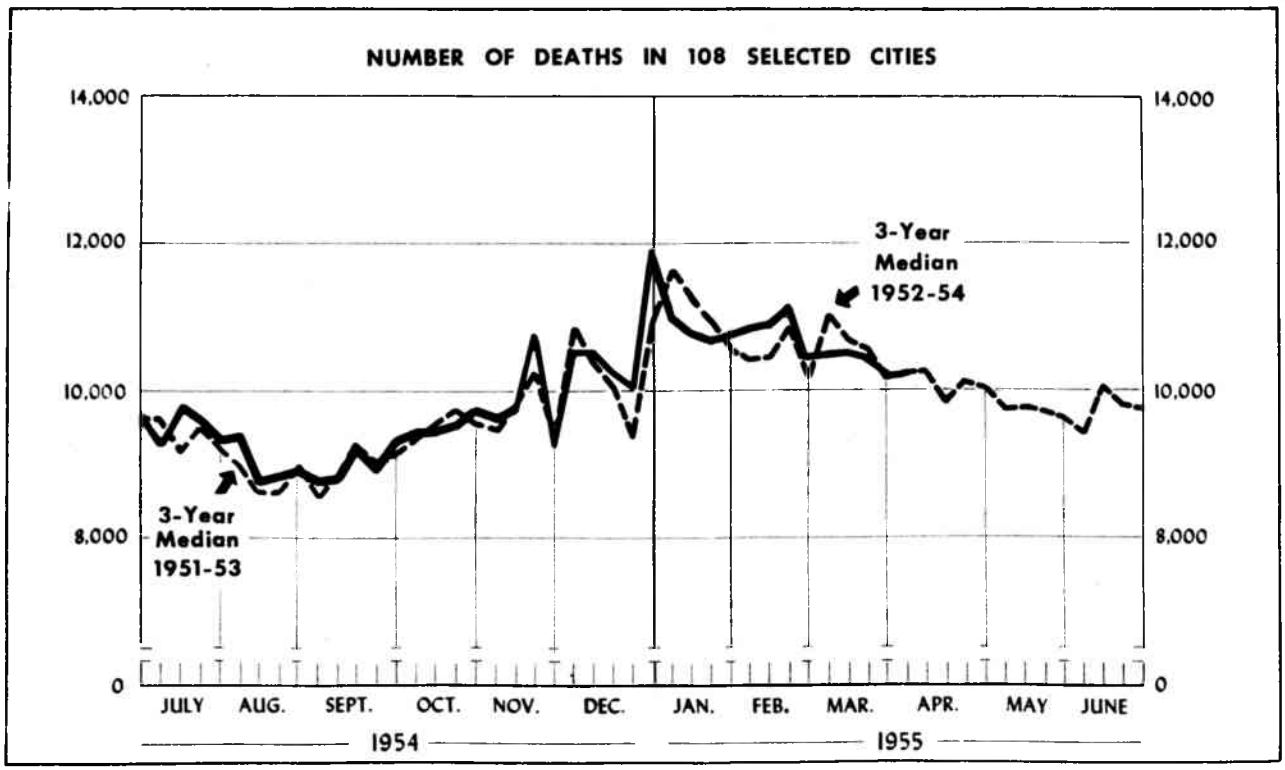
[2]Includes cases not specified by type, category number (080.3).

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED APRIL 3, 1954, AND APRIL 2, 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	4,783	5,134	4	11	8	17	28	1	1,151	1,066	150	183
NEW ENGLAND	487	418	-	-	-	-	1	-	105	133	-	-
Maine	39	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	2	-	-
New Hampshire	9	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-
Vermont	14	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	25	-	-
Massachusetts	360	142	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	54	-	-
Rhode Island	7	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	3	-	-
Connecticut	58	150	-	-	-	-	1	-	20	41	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	630	721	2	-	-	1	2	-	96	217	16	6
New York	342	419	1	-	-	-	-	-	42	96	8	3
New Jersey	67	88	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	37	-	-
Pennsylvania	221	214	1	-	-	1	2	-	34	84	8	3
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	812	927	-	1	2	2	-	-	165	190	12	15
Ohio	195	294	-	-	-	1	-	-	17	44	2	2
Indiana	109	139	-	-	-	-	-	-	48	17	2	-
Illinois	117	163	-	1	2	1	-	-	22	28	3	7
Michigan	228	186	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	80	2	4
Wisconsin	163	145	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	21	3	2
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	134	274	-	-	1	-	1	-	79	54	27	35
Minnesota	53	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	9	2	4
Iowa	28	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	7	13	16
Missouri	17	23	-	-	1	-	1	-	7	20	11	11
North Dakota	24	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	-	-
South Dakota	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nebraska	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Kansas	12	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	552	548	2	1	1	3	9	-	160	72	31	47
Delaware	19	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maryland	124	75	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	12	-	-
District of Columbia	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Virginia	159	191	-	-	1	-	2	-	24	20	14	9
West Virginia	71	77	-	-	-	1	3	-	66	10	4	16
North Carolina	89	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	19	4	7
South Carolina	19	12	2	-	-	1	-	-	6	3	7	7
Georgia	39	62	-	1	-	1	3	-	14	5	2	3
Florida	17	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	2	-	5
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	178	303	-	8	1	4	5	-	52	75	17	38
Kentucky	64	200	-	5	1	3	-	-	14	47	6	7
Tennessee	103	96	-	2	-	-	-	-	20	13	3	13
Alabama	6	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	16	14	5	15
Mississippi	5	3	-	1	-	1	1	-	2	1	3	3
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	901	955	-	1	2	2	7	1	195	177	38	34
Arkansas	40	114	-	1	-	-	2	-	18	12	6	3
Louisiana	10	11	-	-	1	1	-	-	7	1	-	-
Oklahoma	51	62	-	-	1	-	4	-	14	2	-	1
Texas	800	768	-	-	-	1	1	1	156	162	32	30
MOUNTAIN	500	390	-	-	1	-	3	-	119	37	-	8
Montana	18	22	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	-	-
Idaho	30	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	1	-	-
Wyoming	4	20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colorado	103	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	-	7
New Mexico	61	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	5	-	1
Arizona	218	211	-	-	-	-	1	-	77	6	-	-
Utah	66	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	11	-	-
Nevada	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC	589	598	-	-	-	5	-	-	180	111	9	-
Washington	165	167	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	47	-	-
Oregon	127	78	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	8	-	-
California	297	353	-	-	-	4	-	-	146	56	9	-
Alaska	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	46	35	-	1

NOTE.—Puerto Rico—Figures for last week were erroneously reported. They should have been as follows: Diphtheria, 2 cases; infectious hepatitis, 2; measles, 84; paralytic poliomyelitis, 19; typhoid fever, -; whooping cough, 13; and rabies in animals, -.



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	13th week ended Apr. 2, 1955	12th week ended Mar. 26, 1955	13th week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 13 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 107 REPORTING CITIES	10,192	10,287	10,211	-0.2	137,978	135,113	+2.1
New England (14 cities)	726	736	689	+5.4	9,764	9,107	+7.2
Middle Atlantic (17 cities)	2,915	3,169	3,073	-5.1	41,160	40,079	+2.7
East North Central (18 cities)	2,258	2,162	2,229	+1.3	29,715	29,422	+1.0
West North Central (8 cities)	716	701	684	+4.7	9,197	9,259	-0.7
South Atlantic (9 cities)	783	760	764	+2.5	10,370	10,375	-0.0
East South Central (8 cities)	478	433	446	+7.2	6,350	6,346	+0.1
West South Central (13 cities)	844	757	785	+7.5	10,739	10,578	+1.5
Mountain (8 cities)	213	237	235	-9.4	3,298	3,051	+8.1
Pacific (12 cities)	1,259	1,332	1,298	-3.0	17,385	16,896	+2.9

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED APRIL 2, 1955

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

CITY	13th week ended Apr. 2, 1955	12th week ended Mar. 26, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 13 WEEKS	
			1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND				
Boston	242	239	3,376	2,985
Bridgeport	46	31	513	469
Cambridge	33	29	387	384
Fall River	25	44	406	390
Hartford	51	52	668	609
Lowell	27	26	318	394
Lynn	24	25	323	304
New Bedford	29	30	329	293
New Haven	41	46	629	623
Providence	62	64	904	855
Somerville	12	19	227	199
Springfield, Mass.	42	46	589	572
Waterbury	27	21	354	341
Worcester	65	64	741	689
MIDDLE ATLANTIC				
Albany	40	45	620	604
Allentown	(37)	(38)	(473)	(469)
Buffalo	63	137	1,813	1,973
Camden	21	45	516	511
Elizabeth	24	33	388	392
Erie	42	31	472	434
Jersey City	66	86	993	972
Newark, N. J.	109	105	1,447	1,367
New York City	1,625	1,673	21,704	21,082
Paterson	31	43	529	532
Philadelphia	483	521	6,537	6,244
Pittsburgh	150	180	2,418	2,225
Reading	(22)	(18)	(310)	(300)
Rochester, N. Y.	90	104	1,276	1,266
Schenectady	24	14	300	330
Scranton	(30)	(38)	(460)	(453)
Syracuse	51	48	727	744
Trenton	37	41	635	639
Utica	31	31	395	405
Yonkers	28	32	390	359
EAST NORTH CENTRAL				
Akron	47	50	726	750
Canton	38	23	354	422
Chicago	724	687	9,607	9,549
Cincinnati	170	148	2,055	1,851
Cleveland	214	205	2,692	2,740
Columbus	104	102	1,436	1,404
Dayton	54	55	865	878
Detroit	341	323	4,346	4,246
Evansville	16	37	416	419
Flint	38	31	467	500
Fort Wayne	39	35	427	324
Gary	(40)	(27)	(364)	(334)
Grand Rapids	49	38	535	544
Indianapolis	111	128	1,505	1,565
Milwaukee	113	106	1,576	1,651
Peoria	35	31	378	422
South Bend	22	24	324	293
Toledo	100	91	1,309	1,209
Youngstown	43	48	697	655
WEST NORTH CENTRAL				
Des Moines	49	42	636	615
Duluth	20	27	342	337
Kansas City, Kans.	---	---	---	(404)
Kansas City, Mo.	128	112	1,480	1,503
Minneapolis	110	124	1,563	1,541
Omaha	71	63	853	811
WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
St. Louis	252	226	2,935	3,058
St. Paul	63	68	883	854
Wichita	23	39	505	540
SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Atlanta	107	104	1,365	1,397
Baltimore	240	224	3,064	3,010
Charlotte	29	35	436	415
Jacksonville	(40)	(43)	(635)	(658)
Miami	58	40	698	833
Norfolk	28	41	467	403
Richmond	73	58	894	859
Savannah	---	(20)	---	(384)
Tampa	62	58	784	786
Washington, D. C.	152	166	2,165	2,235
Wilmington, Del.	34	34	497	437
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Birmingham	66	70	1,079	1,086
Chattanooga	39	48	603	640
Knoxville	38	35	473	464
Louisville	108	115	1,474	1,415
Memphis	117	73	1,300	1,241
Mobile	39	28	373	442
Montgomery	26	13	371	376
Nashville	45	51	677	682
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Austin	23	13	353	326
Baton Rouge	24	20	292	317
Corpus Christi	22	14	237	205
Dallas	99	102	1,272	1,318
El Paso	29	27	363	352
Fort Worth	49	47	721	708
Houston	147	124	1,718	1,746
Little Rock	51	38	548	547
New Orleans	169	148	2,096	2,096
Oklahoma City	59	79	770	812
San Antonio	94	68	1,175	1,070
Shreveport	35	41	567	491
Tulsa	43	36	627	590
MOUNTAIN				
Albuquerque	17	23	355	362
Colorado Springs	14	12	177	154
Denver	108	104	1,507	1,342
Ogden	10	10	135	128
Phoenix	14	18	333	312
Pueblo	10	15	181	174
Salt Lake City	38	47	546	529
Tucson	2	8	64	50
PACIFIC				
Berkeley	---	21	15	226	252
Long Beach	56	42	679	650
Los Angeles	422	423	6,439	6,186
Oakland	80	100	1,224	1,282
Pasadena	26	29	460	426
Portland, Oreg.	83	114	1,239	1,304
Sacramento	53	49	643	646
San Diego	90	92	1,057	907
San Francisco	198	211	2,601	2,540
Seattle	145	159	1,748	1,632
Spokane	46	56	568	601
Tacoma	39	42	501	470
Honolulu	(46)	(33)	(471)	(487)

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Human anthrax

Dr. G. D. Wallace, Public Health Veterinary Services, Colorado Department of Public Health, has supplied information on the 2 cases of anthrax in man, reported for the week ended March 19. Both patients were in the rendering business and picked up carcasses of dead animals for transfer to another rendering company. No known contact was made with the affected animals, but bovine anthrax has been reported sporadically in the area. The disease was not confirmed by laboratory tests. However, the clinical symptoms and the lesions resemble those of cutaneous anthrax. Blood specimens from 1 patient were negative for tularemia. The other patient had tularemia 12 years ago, and the agglutination test was positive for this disease, but negative for brucellosis.

Influenza

Last week there was a typographical error in reporting the isolation of influenza A virus (A/Albany/1/51), which should have been (A/Albany/1/55).

Psittacosis

Dr. D. S. Fleming, Minnesota Department of Health, reports 2 cases of psittacosis. One case was in a woman who became ill with a cough and fever during the latter part of February. X-ray showed patchy pneumonia consistent with the diagnosis of psittacosis. The clinical diagnosis had been substantiated by complement fixation tests. The patient had been exposed to 2 parakeets, one of which died, and was not available. The other bird, apparently well, was killed and sent to a laboratory for examination. The second case was in an employee of a department store. This case was also confirmed by complement fixation tests on blood specimens. The patient came in contact with birds only when walking past the cages, and when the cages were being cleaned by other employees. Two previously reported cases have been associated with this store.

Typhoid fever

Dr. J. D. Martin, Louisiana Department of Health, has supplied information regarding 21 cases of typhoid fever which have occurred in one parish since April 10, 1954. These cases were all interrelated and occurred among 5 families. The first case occurred in a person who had visited her sister in Arkansas. The sister was ill and her case was diagnosed as typhoid fever, but the organism was not typed. Her son had no history of illness, but Salmonella typhosa, type J was isolated from his stool specimens. All the Louisiana cases that have been typed, yielded the same type of organism. Two persons from California who visited Louisiana became ill with typhoid fever, type J.

Gastro-enteritis

The Los Angeles County Health Department reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 50 persons in an institution. Of these, 10 became ill with nausea and vomiting from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 15 hours after an evening meal. Some of the patients had fever and some had diarrhea. The menu consisted of soup, creamed eggs with corn, jello, bread, butter, milk or coffee. None of the food was available for bacteriological examination, but an investigation revealed certain defects which could have contaminated a portion of the creamed eggs.

The California Department of Public Health reports 4 small outbreaks of gastro-enteritis involving a total of 21 among 31 persons who ingested custard or cream filled pastries. Bacteriological examination of pastries associated with 1 outbreak revealed numerous golden pigmented colonies of gram positive cocci. Pastries associated with another were negative for staphylococcus, but yielded alpha hemolytic streptococci (not enterococci group). None of the food for 1 outbreak was available, and no pathogens were found in the pastry suspected to be the vehicle of the fourth outbreak.