

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 September 10, 1955

Beginning with the first week in August, there has been a marked increase in the number of reported cases of diphtheria, and the totals for each of the 6 weeks has been in excess of those for the same weeks of 1954. For the 6 weeks ended September 10, a total of 237 cases was reported as compared with 156 for the same period last year. Fifty-five cases were reported in Alabama, 55 in South Carolina, and 28 in Georgia. Most of the cases in Alabama occurred in Russell County, and in South Carolina, in Charleston County. In Georgia, cases have been reported in small numbers from several counties located in the southern part of the State.

During the past year, a number of reports of epidemiologic investigations of diphtheria were received, which suggest that the disease is still one of public health importance. In one instance, 25 cases with 1 death occurred in a southern town of 375 inhabitants over a period of several months. The incidence rate per 100,000 population in 1954 was 205 for the county in which this town was located. (The rate for the United States as a whole was 1.3.) In a northern State, 11 cases with 2 deaths occurred among 5 families living in a community of 10,000 population. In another northern State, 22 generally mild cases occurred in a county with a population of 31,000. In another area, an increase of cases was noted early in April 1955. This appeared to be a continuation of a relatively high incidence during the previous fall. Extending over both periods there were 37 cases with 7 deaths. A virulent gravis type of diphtheria organism was isolated from cases in this area. Two recent outbreaks in southern States have been under investigation. In one, 9 cases were found in a very poor, crowded, housing area, and in the other, a relatively large number of cases with 1 death occurred on an off-shore island. Diphtheria incidence was high on an adjoining island in 1954.

Study of the geographic distribution of diphtheria cases reported in 1954 shows that many other areas had relatively high incidence rates, and these were not confined to the Southern States. In a number of counties, the rates ranged from 50 to as high as 290 per 100,000 population. A few areas containing large metropolitan populations showed rates far in excess of the country as a whole. When counties reporting 5 or more cases during the year were spotted on a map, they tended to fall into fairly distinct groups. In Nebraska, 2 adjoining counties reported 63 of the 68 cases in the State. In southeastern Louisiana, 5 parishes reported 99 of 122 cases in the State. In North Carolina, a group of 6 counties reported 42 cases, and in another part of the State, 2 adjoining counties reported 28 cases. The total for the State as a whole was 126. A similar type of grouping was evident in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, South Carolina, and Texas.

The usual seasonal pattern of diphtheria is a rising incidence in late summer in the South, and in the fall months in the North.

The total of 2,009 cases of poliomyelitis reported for the current week is only about 2 percent less than the 2,058 (corrected figure) for the previous week. The incidence in 5 geographic divisions (New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, West North Central, and Mountain) showed decreases from the previous week or remained stationary. For the South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, and the Pacific Divisions, increases over the previous week were reported.

The Poliomyelitis Surveillance Unit, PHS Communicable

Disease Center, reports that 213 paralytic and 341 nonparalytic cases of poliomyelitis in vaccinated persons have been accepted. No conclusions can be drawn from these figures with reference to the efficacy of the present vaccination program since complete information on cases of poliomyelitis in vaccinated and nonvaccinated persons is not available.

Excess deaths in the Pacific States

As seen in table 3, the number of deaths reported by the major cities in the Pacific Division for this week was 32 percent in excess of the median. This excess was associated with the unusual heat wave which struck southern California the last day of August and persisted through the present week. Table 4 gives a comparison of deaths reported by the cities for the last 2 weeks. More deaths this week than the week before are noted for Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Pasadena, and San Diego. Larger numbers would have been reported by these cities if the registration offices had remained open on Friday—September 9 is Admission Day, a legal holiday in California.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Encephalitis

Information has been received from the U. S. Department of Agriculture that 20 fatal cases of encephalomyelitis in horses have been reported around Charleston, South Carolina. There is some evidence of spread of the infection northward. Eastern equine encephalomyelitis is suspected but the etiology in this group of cases has not been established by isolation of virus. Last week, information was given on encephalomyelitis in Massachusetts. The State Department of Public Health states that few additional cases should occur among horses because most of them have now been vaccinated.

In California, a few cases of encephalomyelitis among horses have been reported, but no outbreaks have occurred this year. Recently, western equine encephalitis virus was isolated from 2 gray squirrels submitted from Butte County. These squirrels were found sick and submitted to the laboratory in July as suspected cases of rabies. Brain material was inoculated into mice which died from 3 to 7 days later with symptoms of a neurotropic virus, not characteristic of rabies. Additional laboratory tests with animal inoculations resulted in the isolation of western equine virus. Further investigations will be made. So far this year, only 3 human cases of arthropod-borne encephalitis (western equine infections) have been diagnosed with laboratory confirmations. One each was reported in Fresno, Sutter, and Yolo Counties during August. In 1954, 20 cases were reported in August—also the first for that year. Six were western and 14 were St. Louis types of infection. Western equine virus has been isolated from 36 of 594 pools of mosquitoes tested between May 1 and August 13, 1955. To date, no St. Louis virus has been isolated. Last year, for the corresponding period, western equine virus was isolated from 130 pools and St. Louis virus from 41 pools of mosquitoes from the 572 pools tested.

Rabies

Dr. R. A. Tjalma, Veterinary Epidemiologist, Ohio Department of Health, reports the isolation of a rabies virus from native Ohio bats. The species from which the isolation was

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made is the big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*). These bats were collected in February 1955 as part of a survey project on rabies. The agent isolated was identified by standard serum-virus neutralization test methods. Negri bodies were produced in test mice.

Dr. C. B. Philip, Rocky Mountain Laboratory, reports that an insectivorous bat from the vicinity of Hamilton, and a hoary bat near Polson, Montana, have been proved rabid by mouse inoculation. Negri bodies were found in infected mice. Both bats were obviously abnormal when captured.

Dr. J. R. Amos, Missouri Department of Public Health and Welfare, reports that a woman from California visiting in Missouri was attacked by a rabid coyote while sitting on the front porch of a relative's home. She attempted to enter the house,

but the coyote jumped and seriously lacerated her right cheek and upper lip. Four hunting dogs were also bitten. In the same area, a fox recently attacked a farm woman and inflicted lacerations on her right arm and hands.

Diarrhea of the newborn

Dr. M. H. Merrill, California Department of Public Health, gives preliminary information on an outbreak of diarrhea among newborn infants in a hospital nursery. Eight cases occurred during a 2-day period. *E. coli* cultures, isolated from 5 patients and 8 employees, have been forwarded to the Communicable Disease Center for typing.

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	36th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
	Ended Sept. 10, 1955	Ended Sept. 11, 1954	Median 1950-54	First 36 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
				1955	1954	Median 1950-54	1954-55	1953-54	Median 1949-50 to 1953-54	
Anthrax-----062	-	1	-	20	16	23	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Botulism-----049.1	-	2	---	6	10	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	24	39	---	904	1,180	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	45	40	45	² 998	1,149	1,775	² 289	277	339	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	27	97	37	1,031	1,233	771	500	677	366	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	442	749	---	³ 24,279	38,432	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	5	12	---	332	496	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Measles-----085	610	902	728	519,009	630,011	469,784	610	902	728	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	38	44	43	2,609	3,103	3,103	38	44	43	Sept. 1
Polioyelitis-----080	2,009	2,119	2,111	⁴ 18,215	21,324	21,324	⁴ 17,152	19,771	19,771	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	⁵ 4	1	---	199	446	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Rabies in man-----094	-	1	-	4	5	6	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever-----104A	8	7	7	229	247	277	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat-----050,051	1,383	1,092	622	113,476	115,502	81,314	8,219	7,761	5,041	Aug. 1
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	11	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Trichiniasis-----128	20	2	---	207	184	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Tularemia-----059	15	11	9	398	420	464	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Typhoid fever-----040	44	61	68	1,188	1,550	1,591	881	1,144	1,286	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	5	6	---	100	143	---	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Whooping cough-----056	1,092	1,071	988	49,033	39,987	39,987	66,315	49,744	49,744	Oct. 1
Rabies in animals-----	67	82	102	3,796	5,075	5,101	5,149	6,859	---	Oct. 1

¹Frequencies are too small.

²Addition: Wisconsin, week ended September 3, 1 case. Deduction: Louisiana, week ended August 27, 1 case.

³Deduction: Louisiana, week ended August 27, 1 case.

⁴Deductions: Arkansas, week ended August 13, 1 case; Colorado, week ended September 3, 1 case.

⁵California and Montana, 1 case each; and Wisconsin, 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 SEPTEMBER 11, 1954 AND SEPTEMBER 10, 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
CONF. UNITED STATES-----	24	39	45	40	27	97	442	749	3	9	2	3
NEW ENGLAND-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	34	53	-	-	-	-
Maine-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	15	-	-	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	14	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	9	7	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	11	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	-	5	2	2	4	2	91	151	-	-	-	-
New York-----	-	1	1	1	4	2	49	90	-	-	-	-
New Jersey-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	12	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	-	4	1	1	-	-	38	49	-	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	6	18	2	-	12	3	52	63	-	1	-	1
Ohio-----	-	-	-	-	2	-	15	12	-	-	-	-
Indiana-----	-	-	1	-	10	-	10	7	-	-	-	-
Illinois-----	4	10	-	-	-	1	11	24	-	1	-	1
Michigan-----	1	5	1	-	-	2	11	17	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin-----	1	3	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	5	10	1	4	1	7	51	84	1	2	-	-
Minnesota-----	-	4	-	-	-	-	18	29	1	-	-	-
Iowa-----	4	3	-	-	-	2	9	34	-	-	-	-
Missouri-----	-	3	-	1	-	1	2	5	-	-	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	3	-	-	-	-
South Dakota-----	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Kansas-----	-	-	-	-	-	1	19	1	2	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	2	1	27	13	-	-	56	92	-	-	2	1
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Maryland-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia-----	-	1	1	-	-	-	19	53	-	-	1	-
West Virginia-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	8	-	-	-	-
North Carolina-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	-	1	-
South Carolina-----	-	-	18	9	-	-	1	20	-	-	-	-
Georgia-----	-	-	6	1	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	1
Florida-----	1	-	2	3	-	-	14	3	-	-	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	4	1	10	12	1	3	46	140	-	-	-	-
Kentucky-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	14	75	-	-	-	-
Tennessee-----	3	1	2	-	-	1	13	13	-	-	-	-
Alabama-----	-	-	7	9	1	1	13	13	-	-	-	-
Mississippi-----	1	-	1	2	-	1	6	39	-	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	5	2	3	7	3	52	24	38	2	6	-	-
Arkansas-----	2	-	-	2	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
Oklahoma-----	1	-	-	3	1	-	3	6	-	2	-	-
Texas-----	2	-	3	2	2	52	18	24	2	4	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	1	1	-	1	-	1	43	56	-	-	-	-
Montana-----	-	1	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-
Idaho-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-
Wyoming-----	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	12	-	-	-	-
Colorado-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	7	-	-	-	-
New Mexico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-
Arizona-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	28	-	-	-	-
Utah-----	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	-	-	-	1	6	29	45	72	-	-	-	1
Washington-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	13	-	-	-	1
Oregon-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	31	-	-	-	-
California-----	-	-	-	1	6	29	11	28	-	-	-	-
Alaska-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	4	-	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	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 SEPTEMBER 11, 1954 AND SEPTEMBER 10, 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-----	610	902	38	44	2,009	2,119	598	775	812	628	8	7
NEW ENGLAND-----	27	94	-	3	453	130	141	26	196	62	-	-
Maine-----	2	15	-	-	22	5	7	2	14	1	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	1	-	-	20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont-----	13	19	-	1	13	6	5	3	6	1	-	-
Massachusetts-----	12	39	-	2	290	83	116	16	117	54	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	11	-	-	33	12	5	-	-	-	-	-
Connecticut-----	-	9	-	-	75	23	8	5	59	6	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	85	197	4	9	384	283	59	64	132	47	-	1
New York-----	52	89	3	3	245	122	59	30	132	29	-	-
New Jersey-----	13	60	-	3	66	57	-	34	-	18	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	20	48	1	3	73	104	-	-	-	-	-	1
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	109	154	9	11	528	463	167	163	178	131	-	-
Ohio-----	16	18	1	3	97	137	18	38	20	34	-	-
Indiana-----	4	21	6	3	27	46	8	15	10	4	-	-
Illinois-----	34	20	2	3	112	148	34	63	44	45	-	-
Michigan-----	24	36	-	2	68	115	16	43	42	44	-	-
Wisconsin-----	31	59	-	-	224	17	91	4	62	4	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	32	44	1	2	136	352	41	134	71	108	-	-
Minnesota-----	1	10	1	-	45	38	16	19	29	12	-	-
Iowa-----	14	8	-	-	33	101	9	33	22	41	-	-
Missouri-----	2	5	-	2	15	51	3	30	3	13	-	-
North Dakota-----	-	14	-	-	5	13	2	5	2	2	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	3	-	-	1	5	-	-	1	2	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	4	-	-	19	88	8	34	7	23	-	-
Kansas-----	15	-	-	-	18	56	3	13	7	15	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	75	86	5	4	131	243	54	105	59	72	6	4
Delaware-----	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Maryland-----	1	1	-	-	12	15	4	8	8	7	-	-
District of Columbia-----	4	1	-	-	4	4	2	3	2	1	-	-
Virginia-----	23	17	-	1	20	44	13	21	6	15	1	2
West Virginia-----	27	54	1	-	20	42	11	18	9	12	1	-
North Carolina-----	2	3	3	2	21	37	7	14	14	16	3	2
South Carolina-----	11	3	-	-	22	13	9	6	3	3	-	-
Georgia-----	1	4	1	-	6	55	3	27	1	8	1	-
Florida-----	5	3	-	1	23	33	5	8	13	10	-	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	18	37	4	4	54	148	18	62	25	33	-	-
Kentucky-----	5	-	1	1	19	82	7	44	11	23	-	-
Tennessee-----	6	18	2	2	20	34	6	3	7	5	-	-
Alabama-----	4	4	-	-	12	19	5	11	6	5	-	-
Mississippi-----	3	15	1	1	3	13	-	4	1	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	86	145	7	3	149	195	47	83	72	71	-	2
Arkansas-----	4	7	-	1	9	16	4	13	5	2	-	-
Louisiana-----	-	2	1	-	17	19	5	13	12	6	-	2
Oklahoma-----	5	18	-	-	29	29	2	7	6	2	-	-
Texas-----	77	118	6	2	94	131	36	50	49	61	-	-
MOUNTAIN-----	67	52	2	2	52	94	11	22	23	19	2	-
Montana-----	14	4	1	1	10	7	3	4	6	1	-	-
Idaho-----	1	1	-	-	5	11	1	-	1	-	1	-
Wyoming-----	5	1	-	-	2	20	-	1	1	1	-	-
Colorado-----	20	13	-	-	12	24	2	11	9	8	-	-
New Mexico-----	10	17	1	1	5	17	2	4	1	4	-	-
Arizona-----	11	13	-	-	8	9	3	2	5	5	1	-
Utah-----	6	3	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nevada-----	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	111	93	6	6	122	211	60	116	56	85	-	-
Washington-----	24	15	1	-	38	25	21	13	11	9	-	-
Oregon-----	11	13	-	1	20	27	10	18	10	5	-	-
California-----	76	65	5	5	64	159	29	85	35	71	-	-
Alaska-----	2	16	-	-	2	11	2	4	-	4	-	-
Hawaii-----	17	5	-	-	4	-	3	-	1	-	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	17	50	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

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

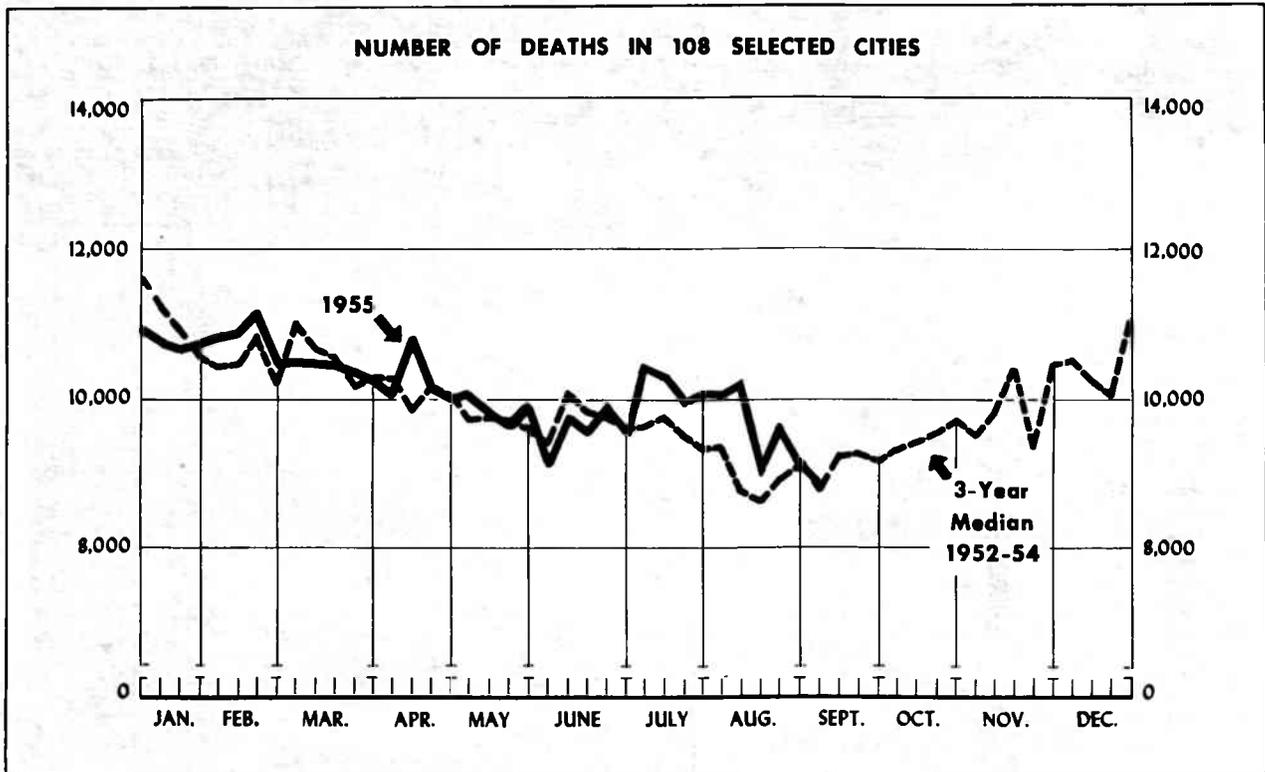
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Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED SEPTEMBER 11, 1954 AND SEPTEMBER 10, 1955—Continued

(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-----	1,383	1,092	20	15	11	44	61	5	1,092	1,071	67	82
NEW ENGLAND-----	14	27	-	-	-	-	1	-	33	103	-	-
Maine-----	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	11	-	-
New Hampshire-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Vermont-----	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Massachusetts-----	6	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	50	-	-
Rhode Island-----	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	16	-	-
Connecticut-----	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	25	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC-----	49	28	5	-	-	5	7	1	103	146	15	4
New York-----	39	17	5	-	-	-	4	1	41	72	15	4
New Jersey-----	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	29	-	-
Pennsylvania-----	6	7	-	-	-	5	3	-	43	45	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL-----	60	73	-	2	-	5	4	-	246	244	5	4
Ohio-----	16	15	-	-	-	2	2	-	31	67	5	2
Indiana-----	10	25	-	-	-	1	1	-	41	22	-	-
Illinois-----	9	16	-	2	-	2	1	-	42	61	-	-
Michigan-----	15	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	96	74	-	-
Wisconsin-----	10	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	20	-	2
WEST NORTH CENTRAL-----	24	34	-	1	-	-	6	-	29	90	10	9
Minnesota-----	6	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	32	5	-
Iowa-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	5	-	5
Missouri-----	4	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	16	4	2
North Dakota-----	12	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	16	-	-
South Dakota-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10	-	-
Nebraska-----	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Kansas-----	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	12	11	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC-----	182	84	-	1	1	8	5	1	172	150	13	26
Delaware-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Maryland-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	-	-
District of Columbia-----	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Virginia-----	119	48	-	-	1	-	-	-	24	41	-	5
West Virginia-----	-	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	27	70	6	11
North Carolina-----	15	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	51	5	2	2
South Carolina-----	6	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	12	14	4	5
Georgia-----	23	10	-	1	-	2	3	-	27	7	1	2
Florida-----	16	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	24	4	-	1
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	129	34	-	2	1	9	11	2	133	61	3	20
Kentucky-----	102	12	-	1	-	5	3	-	99	27	2	5
Tennessee-----	18	12	-	1	1	4	3	-	16	19	-	2
Alabama-----	7	6	-	-	-	-	5	2	18	11	1	9
Mississippi-----	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL-----	670	636	-	4	3	12	16	1	247	96	11	19
Arkansas-----	71	36	-	2	-	1	5	-	39	10	3	1
Louisiana-----	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	8	-	-
Oklahoma-----	12	27	-	2	3	2	1	-	14	7	-	1
Texas-----	586	572	-	-	-	9	8	-	192	71	8	17
MOUNTAIN-----	207	113	15	5	6	4	8	-	51	60	3	-
Montana-----	2	9	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	8	2	-
Idaho-----	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-
Wyoming-----	9	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	9	2	-	-
Colorado-----	33	28	-	-	-	2	2	-	19	24	-	-
New Mexico-----	51	7	-	-	-	-	4	-	11	2	-	-
Arizona-----	97	56	-	-	-	1	2	-	11	11	1	-
Utah-----	13	9	15	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Nevada-----	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PACIFIC-----	48	63	-	-	-	1	3	-	78	121	7	-
Washington-----	16	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	14	-	-
Oregon-----	11	16	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	3	-	-
California-----	21	22	-	-	-	1	2	-	53	104	7	-
Alaska-----	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	-
Hawaii-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	-
Puerto Rico-----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	1	2



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	36th week ended Sept. 10, 1955	35th week ended Sept. 3, 1955	36th week median 1952-54	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 36 WEEKS		
					1955	1954	Percent change
TOTAL: 106 REPORTING CITIES-----	8,739	9,058	8,739	0	361,782	351,718	+2.9
New England----- (14 cities)	587	625	597	-1.7	24,724	23,361	+5.8
Middle Atlantic----- (17 cities)	2,437	2,519	2,529	-3.6	107,520	103,437	+3.9
East North Central----- (18 cities)	1,992	2,041	1,988	+0.2	80,095	77,421	+3.5
West North Central----- (8 cities)	603	660	660	-8.6	24,757	25,634	-3.4
South Atlantic----- (9 cities)	640	670	674	-5.0	27,535	27,010	+1.9
East South Central----- (8 cities)	399	450	412	-3.2	16,881	16,619	+1.6
West South Central----- (12 cities)	639	722	622	+2.7	26,649	26,447	+0.8
Mountain----- (8 cities)	203	235	208	-2.4	8,571	8,151	+5.2
Pacific----- (12 cities)	1,239	1,136	941	+31.7	45,050	43,638	+3.2

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Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 10, 1955

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

CITY	36th week ended Sept. 10, 1955	35th week ended Sept. 3, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 36 WEEKS		CITY	36th week ended Sept. 10, 1955	35th week ended Sept. 3, 1955	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FOR FIRST 36 WEEKS	
			1955	1954				1955	1954
NEW ENGLAND				WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.					
Boston-----	199	180	8,426	7,810	St. Louis-----	175	232	7,876	8,405
Bridgeport-----	29	36	1,345	1,273	St. Paul-----	52	46	2,295	2,278
Cambridge-----	21	40	1,038	977	Wichita-----	28	52	1,369	1,569
Fall River-----	20	22	992	982	SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Hartford-----	42	42	1,656	1,618	Atlanta-----	80	92	3,699	3,742
Lowell-----	19	18	894	970	Baltimore-----	187	206	8,098	7,664
Lynn-----	19	25	825	765	Charlotte-----	27	33	1,000	1,056
New Bedford-----	18	21	872	796	Jacksonville-----	(49)	(37)	(1,681)	(1,763)
New Haven-----	42	38	1,565	1,527	Miami-----	38	49	1,935	2,320
Providence-----	55	54	2,294	2,144	Norfolk-----	29	23	1,129	1,027
Somerville-----	10	14	546	497	Richmond-----	49	46	2,294	2,246
Springfield, Mass.-----	41	47	1,487	1,381	Savannah-----	(28)	(25)	(1,006)	(1,010)
Waterbury-----	29	33	916	861	Tampa-----	40	46	1,970	1,900
Worcester-----	43	55	1,868	1,760	Washington, D. C.-----	144	147	6,125	5,887
MIDDLE ATLANTIC				Wilmington, Del.-----					
Albany-----	47	44	1,731	1,617	46	28	1,285	1,168	
Allentown-----	(29)	(41)	(1,308)	(1,192)	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Buffalo-----	115	96	4,841	4,788	Birmingham-----	59	84	2,743	2,650
Camden-----	29	27	1,326	1,317	Chattanooga-----	44	27	1,560	1,564
Elizabeth-----	19	16	961	1,011	Knoxville-----	33	31	1,216	1,216
Erie-----	32	35	1,268	1,209	Louisville-----	82	120	3,780	3,866
Jersey City-----	56	68	2,505	2,422	Memphis-----	82	81	3,526	3,449
Newark, N. J.-----	80	96	3,633	3,470	Mobile-----	33	30	1,041	1,146
New York City-----	1,305	1,330	56,205	54,327	Montgomery-----	13	28	919	930
Paterson-----	27	30	1,354	1,345	Nashville-----	53	49	2,096	1,798
Philadelphia-----	331	388	17,350	16,540	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Pittsburgh-----	132	150	6,328	5,702	Austin-----	22	25	918	916
Reading-----	(17)	(19)	(818)	(724)	Baton Rouge-----	11	15	759	759
Rochester, N. Y.-----	83	85	3,355	3,243	Corpus Christi-----	11	20	623	613
Schenectady-----	20	16	819	878	Dallas-----	91	97	3,472	3,561
Scranton-----	(33)	(27)	(1,189)	(1,204)	El Paso-----	28	24	1,039	951
Syracuse-----	45	45	1,982	1,932	Fort Worth-----	33	61	1,940	2,003
Trenton-----	66	40	1,749	1,590	Houston-----	98	121	4,452	4,338
Utica-----	25	30	1,077	1,080	Little Rock-----	---	---	---	(1,470)
Yonkers-----	25	23	1,036	966	New Orleans-----	159	138	5,387	5,302
EAST NORTH CENTRAL				Oklahoma City-----					
Akron-----	54	59	1,894	1,944	San Antonio-----	75	83	3,077	2,783
Canton-----	19	27	961	1,019	Shreveport-----	27	54	1,387	1,380
Chicago-----	670	687	26,134	25,697	Tulsa-----	37	32	1,574	1,693
Cincinnati-----	142	114	5,370	5,014	MOUNTAIN				
Cleveland-----	162	170	7,057	7,097	Albuquerque-----	22	25	829	934
Columbus-----	99	98	3,844	3,620	Colorado Springs-----	17	5	474	420
Dayton-----	60	69	2,360	2,241	Denver-----	92	105	3,870	3,604
Detroit-----	266	290	11,731	11,017	Ogden-----	4	17	392	395
Evansville-----	34	32	1,149	1,082	Phoenix-----	21	22	862	754
Flint-----	32	33	1,322	1,352	Pueblo-----	12	14	467	475
Fort Wayne-----	25	29	1,226	931	Salt Lake City-----	31	45	1,515	1,422
Gary-----	(50)	---	---	(905)	Tucson-----	4	2	162	147
Grand Rapids-----	42	29	1,514	1,381	PACIFIC				
Indianapolis-----	104	86	3,935	3,920	Berkeley-----	10	17	634	638
Milwaukee-----	111	124	4,511	4,359	Long Beach-----	62	47	1,766	1,738
Peoria-----	26	23	1,037	1,082	Los Angeles-----	502	405	16,224	15,507
South Bend-----	22	28	881	803	Oakland-----	90	75	3,114	3,291
Toledo-----	83	91	3,315	3,161	Pasadena-----	66	37	1,329	1,185
Youngstown-----	41	52	1,854	1,701	Portland, Oreg.-----	58	84	3,374	3,518
WEST NORTH CENTRAL				Sacramento-----					
Des Moines-----	50	59	1,851	1,799	San Diego-----	70	58	2,614	2,560
Duluth-----	23	27	922	967	San Francisco-----	142	162	6,620	6,464
Kansas City, Kans.-----	---	(27)	---	(1,211)	Seattle-----	112	125	4,609	4,321
Kansas City, Mo.-----	107	83	3,930	4,356	Spokane-----	44	40	1,634	1,573
Minneapolis-----	121	110	4,202	4,059	Tacoma-----	41	35	1,375	1,216
Omaha-----	47	51	2,312	2,201	Honolulu-----	(35)	(29)	(1,273)	(1,211)

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. C. B. Nelson, Minnesota Department of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 78 persons. Of these, 56 became ill with nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and cramps from 1 1/4 to 13 hours after eating. The only common food consumed by all who became ill was a sandwich spread with a mixture of ground "weiners" and ham, mayonnaise, seasoning, and butter. Cultures of the spread showed hemolytic, coagulase positive Staphylococcus aureus.

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, reports an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in a private home. Five persons were served a meal consisting of fish sticks, French fries, canned pears, bread, butter, milk, and coconut cream pie. Of these, 4 became ill with nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramps, and diarrhea from 2 to 5 hours later. One person did not eat any pie and was not ill. Bacteriological examination of samples of the pie revealed the presence of staphylococci.

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