# Weekly Report **Morbidity and Mortality**



U.S. Department of

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# Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended January 7, 1956

NOTICE .- Beginning this week, several changes have been made in the list of notifiable diseases shown in this report. The new list was recommended by the Second Conference of State Epidemiologists and approved by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers. Diseases dropped from the list for weekly reporting on the national level are: Rocky Mountain spotted fever, scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat, trichiniasis, tularemia, and whooping cough. There is one addition, namely, other types of meningitis.

Only 41 cases of diphtheria were reported this week as compared with a high of 104 for the week ended December 10, 1955. Almost half (17) of the cases were reported in the West South Central States. These and 2 Southern States, Alabama, (8 cases) and Florida (4), accounted for all but 12 of the total cases.

#### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

#### Plague in a rodent

Mr. Frank M. Prince, Chief of the San Francisco Field Station, PHS, has reported that tissues collected from a female rat, Rattus alexandrinus, found deadin Hawaii, were positive for plague. The specimen was obtained within the endemic area of the Hamakua District, Kukuihaele area, Hawaii.

#### Typhus fever

Dr. A. C. Hollister, Jr., California Department of Public Health, has supplied final information on the case of typhus fever reported for the week ended October 15. At that time the case was suspected to be of the louse-borne type. However, laboratory tests done later at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C., indicate the infection was probably of murine type rather than epidemic.

#### Leprosy

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, has reported a case of leprosy in a 23-year-old man. The patient was born in a foreign country and had lived in the United States only 4 years, part of which was in New York. He has had no known exposure to leprosy. In 1952 he noted a persistent numbness of the right arm. During the latter part of December 1955, he developed fever, malaise, and nodules which were scattered over the extensor surface of the body. A physical examination revealed anesthesia of the right ulnar area. The patient had nasal obstruction, a chronic ulcer over left elbow, and inguinal adenopathy. The "nodules" were covered by patches of reddened skin, many or most of them appeared to be "raised macules" varying between 1 and 2 cm. in diameter. The diagnosis was supported by laboratory examination of smears from cutaneous lesions, lymph nodes, and nasal discharges.

### Rabies in animals

For the period January 1, 1955, to January 3, 1956, a total of 406 cases of rabies in animals was reported in California. While the majority of cases were in dogs, approximately a third (138) were in skunks. Among other wild animals, rabies were in foxes (20 cases), bobcats (3), bats (2), and a raccoon (1). The remaining cases were in domestic animals as follows: cows (9), cats (2), and a goat (1).

NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Epidemic meningitis Dr. A. A. Jenkins, Utah Department of Health, has reported 2 cases of epidemic meningitis among 7 young children in one family. The patients were comatose on admission to the hospital, but are making satisfactory progress toward recovery. All members of the family have been treated prophylactically with sulphadiazine. There are no known previous cases or subsequent cases. All contacts have been notified and are under close surveillance by State and local health departments.

#### Leptospirosis

Dr. R. H. Heeren, Iowa State Department of Health, has given preliminary information on a case of leptospirosis. The patient became ill early in November about 12 days after being bitten by the family dog. The dog was sick and icteric. The patient's illness was characterized by malaise, fever, chills. and severe headache. Complement fixation titers on blood specimens from the patient were as follows: Leptospira icterohemorrhagiae, 1:128; L. canicola, 1:512; and L. pomona, 1:128. No illness has occurred among other members of the patient's family, which includes her husband and 3 children.

#### **Psittacosis**

Dr. Mason Romaine, Virginia Department of Health, has reported 3 cases of psittacosis, 2 of which occurred in one city. Blood specimens were collected from the 3 patients but no laboratory reports have as yet been received. Two were store clerks who came in contact with laboratory confirmed infected parakeets. The source of one bird was New York City, and that of the other was North Carolina. The third patient owned 2 canaries (not sick) and 2 parakeets. One of the parakeets apparently became sick and was let out of the house. This bird was caught and eaten by the family cat which later died of "pneumonia." The patient's wife and son have not been ill but blood specimens collected showed complement fixation titers of 1:64 for psittacosis.

The California Department of Public Health has given epi-" demiologic information on 4 cases of psittacosis. Two cases, were confirmed by fourfold rises in complement fixation titers for psittacosis. Of these 2 patients, 1 had no known exposure to psittacine birds, and the other had shot 4 doves on a hunting trip. The other 2 patients were associated with psittacine birds. No laboratory tests were made on these birds nor on the doves.

#### Upper respiratory diseases

Dr. A. M. Washburn, Arkansas State Board of Health, states that scattered reports and other information indicate that respiratory infections have been occurring in the State since October. The chief characteristic, apparently, is a rather persist-

ent sinusitis with bronchitis and coughing, with a duration of from 2 to 5 days. Fever is considered uncommon. Antibiotics have been used quite extensively, but without effect, so far as terminating the condition or relieving the symptoms.

#### Poliomyelitis-like illness

During August of this year, a number of poliomyelitis-like illnesses were reported by health officers in Marshall County, Iowa. Recovery in most instances was complete in 7 to 10 days, and no paralysis developed. The illnesses were characterized by a sudden onset of severe headache, fever, nausea, vomiting, stiff back and neck, retrobulbar pain, and dizziness. A number of the patients also complained of sore throat. An investigation on a random sampling basis revealed an estimate of 500 cases. Stool specimens collected from patients were negative for poliomyelitis virus isolation. However, the stool suspensions caused degeneration of monkey kidney tissues, and further, upon inoculation into infant mice, these suspensions caused illness and paralysis. These findings are compatible with Coxsackie virus infection, probably the group B. Microscopic examination of the monkey tissues showed the degeneration in muscle bundles. Lesions were observed in the brain as well. Over 50 percent of the stools examined so far show these findings.

#### Coccidioidomycosis

Dr. S. H. Osborn, Connecticut Department of Health, has reported a case of coccidioidomycosis in a 29-year-old veteran who saw service in California, Burma, China, and India. He was admitted to one of the State tuberculosis sanatoriums in May of 1955, complaining of recent hemoptysis. A lesion in the left upper lobe was found on X-ray. Studies for tuberculosis were negative. Coccidioldes immitis was found in his sputum and in sections of lung tissue when his left upper lobe was removed in September. He was discharged from the sanatorium in October 1955 and is apparently doing well.

#### **Pasteurellosis**

The laboratory of the Connecticut State Department of Health has recently isolated Pasteurella multocida from a sputum culture. Investigation revealed that the patient is a 67-year-old dairy farmer. The patient has been hospitalized on numerous occasions since 1943 with bronchiectasis. His right middle lobe was removed in 1943, and the lingula of the left upper lobe was removed in 1949 because of bronchiectasis. Numerous sputum cultures have been done throughout the years. Only the most recent, collected in a hospital on November 28, 1955, was re-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, 1943)

2013년 1월 18일 - 18일		lst WEE <u>K</u>		CUMULA SEA:	Approxi-		
DISKASE	January 7, 1956	January 8, 1955	Med1an 1951-55	1955-56	1954-55	Median 1950-51 to 1954-55	mate seasonal low point
Anthrax062	12	S	5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Botulism049.1				( <sup>2</sup> ) ( <sup>2</sup> )	(²) (²)	(²) (²)	( <sup>2</sup> ) ( <sup>2</sup> )
Brucellosis (undulant fever)044	15	= 10					
Diphtheria055	41	66	65	1,371	1,283	1,675	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious082	20	27	14	971	1,379	742	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum 092, N998.5 pt.	385	618					
	5	3		( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	(2)
Malaria110-117 Measles085	4,464	10,044	7,244	33, 562	64,513	42,529	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections057	58	85	96	981	1,134	1,242	Sept. 1
Meningitis, other340	21					1 - LP	
Poliomyelitis080	120	129	136	28,327	37,316	34,577	Apr. 1
Psittacosis	2	- 5		(2)	(*)	(*)	(2)
Rabies in man094	-	-	-	(²)	(2)	) (²)	( <sup>2</sup> )
Smallpox084		-	<del>-</del>	( <sup>2</sup> ) ( <sup>2</sup> ) ( <sup>2</sup> )	(²) (²) (²)	( <sup>2</sup> ) ( <sup>2</sup> ) ( <sup>2</sup> )	(2) (2) (2)
Typhoid fever040	20	16	23	1.439	1,893	2,014	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic101	-	-		( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	(*)	(2)
Rabies in animals	95	122	123	1,120	1,475	1,522	0ct. 1

New Jersey and Pennsylvania, 1 case each. <sup>2</sup>Frequencies are too small.

### 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 of Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. They give the total number of cases of certain communicable diseases reported during the week usually ended the preceding Saturday. Cases of anthrax, botulism, 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 JANUARY 8, 1955 AND JANUARY 7, 1956

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

AREA	HRUCEL (UNDU FEV	LANT ER)	DIPHT 05	HERIA	ENCEPHALITIS, INFECTIOUS 082		HEPATITIS, INFECTIOUS, AND SERUM 092,N998.5 pt.		MALARIA 110-117	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES	15	10	41	66	20	27	385	618	5	
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ermont	-	1		1			6	4		
Assachusetts	-		-	2	-6	2	3	18	- 11 <del>-</del> -	1.1
onnecticut	-	-	-			11.2	9	12 8		
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	- T	e <sup>10</sup> -	-	-	2	4	64	133		
ew York			-	-	2	3	18	68	State 1	
ew Jersey	-	-		-		-	1	6		
enneylvania	5 - 1-	-	-	-		1	45	59		
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	-	4	4	8	3	3	36	90	1	
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ndiana	- i -	-	-	8	2		9	20		
llinois	-	2	-	-	1	2	6	19	-	
lichigan	-	- 1	1	-		1	62	20	- in -	11
		1	-	-			6	17	-	-
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	7	3	4	17		5	30	82		1.04
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uerto Rico	1		1	1		-	-	- 1		

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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 JANUARY 8, 1955 AND JANUARY 7, 1956-Continued

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

		P	OLIOMYEL	MEAC	MENINGOCOCCAL					
AREA	Total <sup>1</sup>		Paral; 080.0,		Nonparalytic 080.2		MEASLES 085		INFECTIONS 057	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES	120	129	66	57	34	26	4,464	10,044	58	8
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Rhode Island	ĩ		1				1	162		
Connecticut		1		-	- 1995 -	e))( -	3	782	- 2	55 BS
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	9	18	6	2	1	- 1	763	2,238	- 1	1
New York	6	8	5	2	ĩ	ĩ	301	729	-	
New Jersey	1	5	1	·· -	1252 4-		118	878	1	1. N. N.
Pennsylvania	2	5			- 22		344	631	- 9- <del>1</del> -1	
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South Carolina	1	3	1	3			43	48	1	
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WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	21	10	9	5	7	2	670	755	9	zče j
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uerto Rico	-	26	18.4	26			55	106		25623

<sup>1</sup>Includes cases not specified by type, category number 080.3.

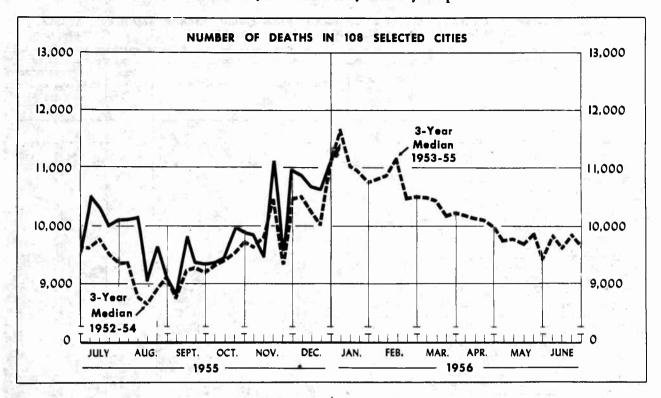
# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED JANUARY 8, 1955 AND JANUARY 7, 1956-Continued

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

AREA	MENINGITIS, OTELER 340	PSITTAC		TYPEOID 040		TYPHUS FEVER, ENDEMIC 101	RABING IN ANIMALS	
	1956	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES	21	• 2	5	20	16	1-10-1	95	122
NEW ENGLAND	Same Y		1000		1.1.1.2			100
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MIDDLE ATLANTIC	. Same		1	5		1	9	13
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EAST NORTH CENTRAL	9		1 . J		163	1	1 22	9
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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  $\pm$  2Vd, 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)

WEEK ENDED		lst	Percent change,	
January 7, 1956	December 31, 1955	waek median 1953-55	median to current week	
10,952	10,741	11,261	-2.	
540 3,326	561 3,162	498 3,199	+8.4 +4.0	
833	2,464 740	827	-3. +0.	
499	521	544	+4	
245 1,416	237 1,259	303 1,458	-19.	
	Januar y 7, 1956 10,952 540 3,326 2,337 833 872 459 864 245	January December   7, 31,   1956 1955   10,952 10,741   540 561   3,326 3,162   2,337 2,464   853 740   872 853   499 521   884 924   884 245	January December week   7, 51, 1955   1956 1955 1955   10,952 10,741 11,261   540 561 498   3,326 5,162 3,199   2,337 2,464 2,429   833 7400 827   672 853 835   499 521 544   684 944 965   245 237 303	

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# Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

## Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED JANUARY 7, 1956

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

1	WEEK	ENDED		WEEK ENDED		
CITY	January 7,	December 31,	CITY	January 7,	December 31,	
	1956	1955		1956	1955	
NEW ENGLAND	1		WEST NORTH CENTRAL-Con.	5-M -		
Boston, Mass		(279)	St. Louis, Mo	319	25	
Bridgeport, Conn	41	34	St. Paul, Minn.	67	7	
Cambridge, Mass	35	33	Wichita, Kans	35	5	
Fall River, Mass	31	25	SOUTH ATLANTIC	5-28x	and .	
Hartford, Conn	54 26	61 33	Atlanta Ca	110		
Lynn, Mass.	20	33	Atlanta, GaBaltimore, Md	116	11 25	
New Bedford, Mass	28	28	Charlotte, N. C.	53	3	
New Haven, Conn.	51	57	Jacksonville, Fla	(61)	(6	
Providence, R. I	69	65	Miami, Fla.	61	4	
Somerville, Mass	29	20	Norfolk, Va.	40	3	
Springfield, Mass	54 34	66 33	Richmond, Va.	71	10	
Worcester, Mass	68	71	Tampa, Fla.	55	5	
		1 1	Washington, D. C	195	16	
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	1		Wilmington, Del	33	5	
Albany, N. Y	57	63	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	Sec. 1	2.2.2	
Allentown, Pa.	(36)				1 N N	
Buffalo, N. Y	193	88	Birmingham, Ala	69	9	
Camden, N. J.	46	52	Knoxville, Tenn.	44	4 2	
Elizabeth, N. J.		(23)	Louisville, Ky	87	12	
Erie, Pa.		(39)	Memphis, Tenn	124	8	
Jersey City, N. J.	99 100	69 132	Mobile, Ala		4	
New York City, N. Y	1,795	1,837	Montgomery, Ala	25	4	
Patergon, N. J.	44	46	Nashville, Tenn	70	6	
Philadelphia, Pa	444	414	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	우리 모양을		
Pittsburgh, Pa	232	190	Austin, Tex	21	6.51	
Reading, Pa.	(16)		Baton Rouge, La.	31	1	
Rochester, N. Y.	107	94	Corpus Christi, Tex	9	3	
Schenectady, N. Y.	(37)	(43)	Dallas, Tex	120	9	
Syracuse, N. Y.	67	43	El Paso, Tex	26	3	
Trenton, N. J.	44	35	Fort Worth, Tex	56	8	
Utics, N. Y	43	35	Houston, Tex	117	16	
Yonkers, N. Y	33	37	Little Rock, Ark.	46	4	
	1		Oklahoma City, Okla	160	18	
EAST NORTH CENTRAL		1211 1	San Antonio, Tex	95	10	
Akron, Ohio	60	54	Shreveport, La	74	2	
Canton, Ohio		(32)	Tulsa, Okla	64	6	
Chicago, Ill.	808	811	MOUNTAIN	2.75		
Cincinnati, Ohio	159	171	Albuquerque, N. Mex			
Cleveland, Ohio	202	240	Colorado Springs, Colo	20	2	
Columbus, Chio	116	112	Denver, Colo	105	9	
Dayton, OhioDetroit, Mich	73	76	Ogden, Utah	18		
Evansville, Ind	40	54	Phoenix, Ariz	27	2	
Flint, Mich	43	46	Pueblo, Colo	10	1	
Fort Wayne, Ind.	49	38	Salt Lake City, Utah	39	4	
Gary, Ind.	(37)					
Grand Rapids, Mich	28	46	PACIFIC	1000	1.0	
Indianapolis, IndMilwaukee, Wis	98 136	120 157	Berkeley, Calif	19	1 1	
Peoria, Ill.	27	36	Long Beach, Calif	60	4	
South Bend, Ind.	26	38	Los Angeles, Calif	536	51	
Toledo, Ohio	107	83	Dakland, Calif.	106	9	
Youngstown, Ohio	48	49	Pasadena, Calif	35	3	
	2 A	17.2	Sacramento, Calif	115	8	
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	2	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	San Diego, Calif	52	6	
Des Moines, Iowa	56	54	San Francisco, Calif	217	18	
Duluth, Minn	37	17	Seattle, Wash	146	1 ii	
Kansas City, Kans		26	Spokane, Wash	41	4	
	104	103	Tacoma, Wash,	31	4	
Kansas City Mo	136	119			1.11	

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

#### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS-Continued

### ported as showing Pasteurella multocida.

The only other isolation of <u>Pasteurella multocida</u> associated with human illness in Connecticut by the laboratory of the State Department of Healthin recent years occurred in January 1955. The patient, in this instance, was a 78-year-old woman who gave a history of having been bitten on the arm about a month earlier by her pet cat. The lesion had healed, but about 1 week before admission to a hospital her arm became red, hot, tender, and swollen. The abscess was opened on January 26, 1955, and drained of about 100 cc. of yellow pus. <u>Pasteurella multocida</u> were cultured from this pus. The patient recovered and was discharged from the hospital on January 30, 1955.

(This organism causes pasteurellosis or hemorrhagic septicemia in birds and mammals.)

#### Typhoid fever

Dr. G. J. Van Heuvelen, South Dakota Department of Health, has supplied epidemiologic information on 8 cases of typhoid fever reported in Corson County during October 1955. The cases were among Indians who live in 66 small substandard and overcrowded houses. Modern sanitary facilities were not available, and conditions in and around the area were deplorable. Water was from wells, one of which was an approved source but pumping facilities and distance prevented it from being ideal for the whole community. Laboratory work was done in North Dakota, and the report has not yet been received.

#### Gastro-enteritis

The Oregon State Board of Health has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis involving 5 of 6 persons at a family gathering. They became ill from 2 to 4 hours after eating chocolate eclairs which were purchased from a local bakery. No food was available for bacteriological examination. However, an investigation of the bakery indicated improper preparation and cooling of the eclair filling. The finished product was stored at room temperature. If you do not donire to continue receiving this publication, please check here and return.

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