Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

U. S. Department of
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service

NATIONAL OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

December 14, 1956 Washington 25, D. C. Vol. 5, No. 49

Provisional Information on Selected Notifiable Diseases in the United States and on Deaths in Selected Cities for Week Ended December 8, 1956

Of the 55 cases of diphtheria reported this week, 34 were in Michigan. Most of these cases are probably associated with the outbreak reported in Detroit.

A total of 18,207 cases of infectious hepatitis has been reported since January 1, 1956, a 39 percent decrease from the corresponding number (30,066) for 1955. Decreases have been reported in all divisions of the country except the East South Central where approximately 1,615 cases were reported for each year. States reporting a decrease of 400 cases or more, with last year's figures in parentheses, are: New York, 2,080 (4,078); Pennsylvania, 1,426 (2,925); Minnesota, 469 (1,230); Massachusetts, 296 (886); Iowa, 360 (925); Virginia, 469 (1,026); Connecticut, 240 (708); Michigan, 751 (1,189); and Wisconsin, 307 (712).

The numbers of reported cases of poliomyelitis by type for the United States for the current week, disease year, and calendar year are:

TYPE	CURRENT WEEK		DISEASE YEAR		CALENDAR YEAR	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
TOTAL---------	152	229	14,061	27,753	15,128	28,816
Paralytic----------	82	119	5,982	9,941	6,565	10,405
Nonparalytic--------	40	60	5,520	10,691	5,805	10,981
Unspecified---------	30	50	2,559	7,121	2,758	7,430

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS

Brucellosis

Dr. J. D. Martin, Louisiana State Department of Health, has reported a case of brucellosis in a 5-year-old boy. The child had been ill for approximately a year before being admitted to a hospital. Symptoms recorded at the time of admission to the hospital were fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, anorexia, jaundice of the sclera, and leg pains. Brucella suis was cultured from the blood and bone marrow of the child 10 days after admission. Seven agglutination tests performed over a 5-month period were positive for the organism in titers, ranging from 1:2,560 to 1:10,240. This boy had been drinking raw milk for about 3 years prior to onset of his illness. The cows from which the milk was obtained had not been tested for brucellosis. The owner has been encouraged to have his cows tested.

Dr. E. J. Witte, Pennsylvania Department of Health, has reported a case of brucellosis in an employee of an abattoir where only hogs are slaughtered and processed. This employee spends half of his time doing office work and the remainder on the floor where he cleans and processes hog casings (intestines). He wore a canvas glove on one hand when he worked, but both hands came into direct contact with raw products. The patient could not recall having any cuts or bruises on his hands before becoming ill. His illness was first diagnosed as a "virus condition" but when his condition did not improve he went to a hospital. Here an agglutination test revealed a titer of 1:640 for brucellosis, and the diagnosis was changed accordingly.

At least 8 cases of brucellosis have occurred at the abattoir during the past 3 years.

Anthrax

Dr. E. J. Witte also reports a case of anthrax in an employee of a yarn manufacturing company in Pennsylvania. The employee's job was to open bales of raw wool and place them on a moving tread. The patient recalled having cut his arms on machinery at times but does not recall any injury to his arms immediately preceding his illness. He first noticed below his left elbow a pimple which gradually enlarged. The lesion was opened by a physician who gave the patient one injection of penicillin. Two days later his condition was worse, and he was admitted to a hospital where anthrax organisms were recovered from the lesion.

The company imports wool from several foreign countries. From 2 to 4 million pounds are handled annually by 100 to 200 employees. Two cases of anthrax have previously been reported from this plant.

Psittacosis

The Los Angeles County (California) Health Department has reported 2 cases of psittacosis, both of which were confirmed by complement fixation tests. The cases were in a mother and her 7-year-old son. The family owned 2 pet ducks but apparently no laboratory tests were done on them. It was reported that the mother occasionally visited a pet shop in Los Angeles. However, information was lacking as to whether or not the child went with her.

Salmonellosis

Dr. J. D. Martin has supplied additional information on the outbreak of streptococcal food infection reported in Louisiana for the week ended November 10. Further studies by the State Department of Health show that stool specimens collected from 10 patients were all positive for Salmonella rubislaw. In view of these findings this outbreak is now classified as salmonellosis. Studies are not yet complete, but the source is believed to be a carrier in the food handling area of the school.

Gastro-enteritis

Dr. F. A. Tornabene, Regional Health Officer, Illinois Department of Public Health, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among approximately 350 persons who attended a church dinner served in a restaurant. Of these, 50 became ill with diarrhea and abdominal pains from 8 to 10 hours later. The menu consisted of roast turkey, dressing, and gravy, supplied by the restaurant; and mashed potatoes, corn, pies, and jello salads, supplied by the church members. Bacteriologic examination of the turkey yielded hemolytic, coagulase-positive Staphylococcus aureus.

Dr. Dean Fisher, Maine Department of Health and Welfare, has reported 4 cases of gastro-enteritis following the ingestion of coconut cream pie. The pie had been on sale in a bakery store but was not sold. It was returned to the main plant

where it was refrigerated for about 2 days before being sold to a local resident. From 1 to 4 hours after ingestion of the pie, 4 adults became ill. Children who ate no pie remained well. Bacteriologic examination of the pie revealed S. aureus and also Bacterium coli.

Dr. A. M. Washburn, Arkansas State Board of Health, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis following a noon meal in a school. The symptoms were largely abdominal cramps and diarrhea with onsets from approximately 8 to 10 hours after lunch. The meal consisted of turkey and dressing, but no specimens were obtained for laboratory tests. It was estimated that about 350 pupils and teachers were affected. The following day absenteeism was so great that the school was closed at noon; however, the next day most were back in school.

Dr. Lane, County Health Officer in New York State, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in a school. At least 60 persons became ill with diarrhea and cramps from 4 to 16 hours after eating lunch. An investigation revealed that turkey was the most likely vehicle of infection. There was no dressing with the turkey. Stool specimens from 5 patients were negative. Bacteriologic examination of the turkey showed a high standard plate count of organisms but no identifications of specific types were made.

Dr. D. P. Conwell, Kentucky State Department of Health, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis in a school in the western part of the State. Of 300 children, 101 became ill with cramps, vomiting, and diarrhea from 1½ to 6 hours after a noon meal. No food was available for laboratory tests. However, epidemiological evidence indicated turkey was the vehicle of infection. The cooked turkeys had been boned and left in a refrigerator over night but during the night the power went off. The meat was removed from the refrigerator the following morning and left at room temperature for about 3½ hours. Some of the boning was done by a woman who had an open, infected lesion on her hand.

Dr. W. R. Giedt, Washington State Department of Health, has reported an outbreak of gastro-enteritis among 8 persons. Of these, 7 became ill from 8 to 20 hours after a meal of meat loaf, bread, jello fruit salad, and home-canned baked beans. The person who did not become ill had not eaten any beans. Since all the beans had been eaten, an unopened jar of beans was examined but no pathogenic organisms were isolated. A sample of meat loaf was also examined with similar results.

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	49th WEEK			CUMULATIVE NUMBER						Approximate seasonal low point
				First 49 weeks			Since seasonal low week			
	Ended Dec. 8, 1956	Ended Dec. 10, 1955	Median 1951-55	1956	1955	Median 1951-55	1955-56	1954-55	Median 1950-51 to 1954-55	
Anthrax-----062	-	1	-	36	27	32	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Botulism-----049.1	-	1	---	12	9	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Brucellosis (undulant fever)-----044	24	24	---	1,044	1,194	---	---	---	---	---
Diphtheria-----055	55	104	83	1,461	1,864	2,260	635	1,155	1,208	July 1
Encephalitis, infectious-----082	41	15	15	2,128	1,423	1,423	1,499	863	863	June 1
Hepatitis, infectious, and serum-----092,N998.5 pt.	346	476	---	18,207	30,066	---	---	---	---	---
Malaria-----110-117	1	5	---	227	464	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Measles-----085	3,813	2,830	4,112	601,233	537,183	537,183	24,539	18,784	23,373	Sept. 1
Meningococcal infections-----057	51	60	85	2,558	3,286	3,908	593	715	895	Sept. 1
Meningitis, other-----340	25	---	---	1,521	---	---	---	---	---	---
Poliomyelitis-----080	152	229	371	15,128	28,816	35,280	14,061	27,753	33,709	Apr. 1
Psittacosis-----096.2	11	6	---	481	265	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rabies in man-----094	-	-	-	8	5	10	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Smallpox-----084	-	-	-	-	-	5	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Typhoid fever-----040	21	30	32	1,708	1,646	2,199	1,395	1,339	1,793	Apr. 1
Typhus fever, endemic-----101	2	3	---	101	129	---	[1]	[1]	[1]	[1]
Rabies in animals-----	81	79	112	4,471	4,829	6,843	719	794	1,152	Oct. 1

[1]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 DECEMBER 10, 1955 AND DECEMBER 8, 1956

(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.			
			49th week		Cumulative first 49 weeks				49th week		Cumulative first 49 weeks	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES	24	24	55	104	1,461	1,864	41	15	346	476	18,207	30,066
NEW ENGLAND	1	-	-	-	15	23	-	-	20	45	1,154	2,646
Maine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	15	290	361
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	33	82
Vermont	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	5	160	243
Massachusetts	1	-	-	-	14	21	-	-	5	6	296	886
Rhode Island	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	135	366
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	17	240	708
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	-	2	1	3	63	59	8	2	82	103	3,871	7,481
New York	-	2	-	2	20	38	6	2	50	61	2,080	4,078
New Jersey	-	-	-	-	23	6	2	-	5	7	365	478
Pennsylvania	-	-	1	1	20	15	-	-	27	35	1,426	2,925
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	5	5	34	3	309	134	5	1	61	61	2,772	4,219
Ohio	1	-	-	3	18	37	-	1	25	13	688	748
Indiana	-	-	-	-	92	34	-	-	6	10	368	578
Illinois	3	1	-	-	8	10	2	-	10	12	658	992
Michigan	1	2	34	-	189	50	1	-	15	15	751	1,189
Wisconsin	-	2	-	-	2	3	2	-	5	11	307	712
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	7	11	5	16	129	204	11	-	31	38	1,434	3,441
Minnesota	2	1	-	1	26	56	-	-	12	12	469	1,230
Iowa	3	6	-	-	18	9	-	-	4	7	360	925
Missouri	-	-	-	-	14	14	-	-	-	1	94	333
North Dakota	-	-	5	-	10	1	-	-	7	8	131	301
South Dakota	1	3	-	-	10	45	-	-	6	5	175	350
Nebraska	-	-	-	15	34	76	-	-	2	-	95	81
Kansas	1	1	-	-	17	3	11	-	-	5	110	221
SOUTH ATLANTIC	2	-	6	19	361	649	1	1	20	31	1,166	2,522
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	31	46
Maryland	-	-	-	-	2	13	-	-	1	2	89	349
District of Columbia	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	21	41
Virginia	-	-	-	1	30	37	-	-	8	13	469	1,026
West Virginia	-	-	-	-	8	19	-	-	1	3	64	239
North Carolina	-	-	1	4	66	85	-	1	1	3	119	323
South Carolina	-	-	2	2	85	192	-	-	-	2	63	79
Georgia	2	-	-	4	77	225	1	-	3	4	159	168
Florida	-	-	3	8	92	75	-	-	6	4	151	251
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	-	1	1	30	194	397	2	1	21	34	1,607	1,625
Kentucky	-	-	-	-	14	46	2	-	11	20	500	327
Tennessee	-	-	-	2	23	39	-	1	9	10	683	630
Alabama	-	-	-	25	101	262	-	-	1	-	203	294
Mississippi	-	1	1	3	56	50	-	-	-	4	221	374
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	5	4	1	30	287	322	2	2	19	16	1,307	1,763
Arkansas	1	-	1	-	22	11	1	-	4	1	142	221
Louisiana	3	2	-	4	36	40	-	-	3	-	135	121
Oklahoma	-	1	-	-	59	29	-	-	-	3	103	184
Texas	1	1	-	26	170	242	1	2	12	12	927	1,237
MOUNTAIN	-	1	7	1	49	22	2	-	18	77	1,559	2,448
Montana	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	3	28	367	440
Idaho	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	12	195	258
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	1	4	106	150
Colorado	-	-	-	1	3	2	-	-	6	8	351	494
New Mexico	-	-	7	-	25	4	2	-	5	2	147	336
Arizona	-	-	-	-	6	8	-	-	2	23	309	674
Utah	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	75	73
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	9	23
PACIFIC	4	-	-	2	54	54	10	8	74	71	3,337	3,921
Washington	1	-	-	1	12	25	-	-	6	16	601	846
Oregon	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	13	5	663	1,044
California	3	-	-	1	31	29	10	8	55	50	2,073	2,031
Alaska	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	3	2	184	361
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	42
Puerto Rico	-	-	1	-	78	65	-	-	4	3	226	82

Table 2. CASES OF SPECIFIED NOTIFIABLE DISEASES: UNITED STATES, EACH DIVISION AND STATE, ALASKA, HAWAII, AND PUERTO RICO, FOR WEEKS ENDED DECEMBER 10, 1955 AND DECEMBER 8, 1956—Continued

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

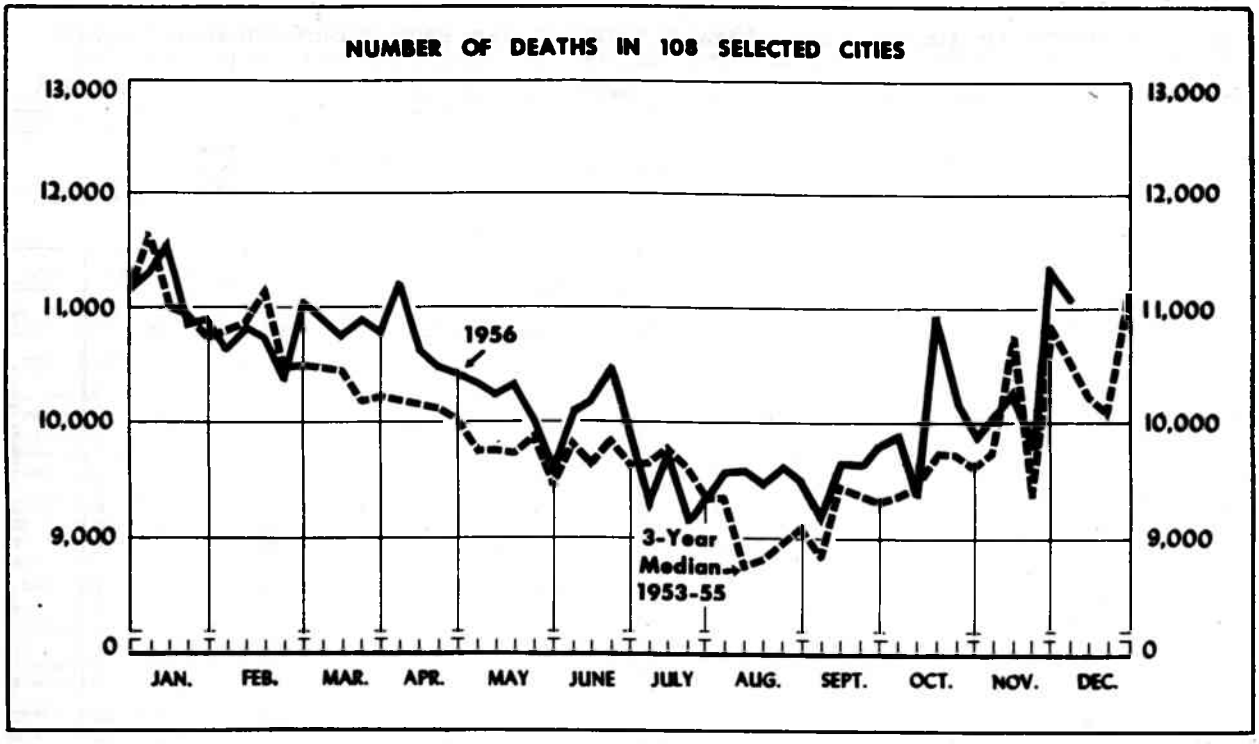
AREA	POLIOMYELITIS 080								MALARIA		MEASLES	
	Total[1]				Paralytic		Nonparalytic					
	49th week		Cumulative first 49 weeks		080.0,080.1		080.2		110-117		085	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES	152	229	15,128	28,816	82	119	40	60	1	5	3,813	2,830
NEW ENGLAND	1	26	249	5,510	-	17	1	6	-	-	224	50
Maine	-	1	22	204	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	1
New Hampshire	-	1	3	222	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	-	-	21	124	-	-	-	-	-	-	64	33
Massachusetts	1	20	110	3,893	-	16	1	3	-	-	31	10
Rhode Island	-	-	9	417	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Connecticut	-	4	84	650	-	1	-	3	-	-	115	4
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	10	20	1,198	4,187	4	7	1	5	-	-	707	395
New York	7	12	784	2,764	4	6	1	3	-	-	389	170
New Jersey	-	3	210	678	-	1	-	2	-	-	127	32
Pennsylvania	3	5	204	745	-	-	-	-	-	-	191	193
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	33	27	4,085	6,766	13	12	9	5	-	-	730	617
Ohio	6	3	618	1,264	1	-	1	-	-	-	161	83
Indiana	12	6	418	442	2	3	4	1	-	-	74	24
Illinois	3	5	1,830	1,388	2	2	1	-	-	-	148	242
Michigan	4	3	671	1,180	2	2	2	1	-	-	188	213
Wisconsin	8	10	548	2,492	6	5	1	3	-	-	159	55
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	11	17	1,694	2,113	6	10	1	2	-	-	215	314
Minnesota	1	4	204	590	1	4	-	-	-	-	76	8
Iowa	1	1	628	551	-	-	-	1	-	-	54	15
Missouri	6	8	419	273	5	6	-	-	-	-	34	19
North Dakota	-	-	37	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	47	87
South Dakota	1	1	38	76	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	2
Nebraska	2	-	181	283	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	11
Kansas	-	3	187	278	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	172
SOUTH ATLANTIC	22	17	1,480	2,385	11	8	8	7	1	1	309	284
Delaware	-	-	27	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-
Maryland	2	3	107	278	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	68
District of Columbia	-	1	11	52	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Virginia	2	3	230	320	1	2	1	1	-	-	46	107
West Virginia	-	2	111	184	-	1	-	-	-	-	89	29
North Carolina	7	5	329	453	5	3	2	2	-	1	10	30
South Carolina	3	1	108	309	2	-	1	-	-	-	46	4
Georgia	2	2	196	270	1	1	-	1	-	-	97	30
Florida	6	-	361	462	1	-	3	-	1	-	8	10
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	14	13	733	1,027	10	2	2	7	-	-	548	52
Kentucky	4	4	195	423	3	1	1	2	-	-	234	26
Tennessee	3	1	150	242	2	-	1	1	-	-	249	13
Alabama	-	7	95	179	-	1	-	4	-	-	59	9
Mississippi	7	1	293	183	5	-	-	-	-	-	6	4
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	28	30	2,373	2,752	22	13	6	9	-	3	289	383
Arkansas	5	-	214	184	5	-	-	-	-	-	45	43
Louisiana	1	6	613	376	1	3	-	3	-	-	8	4
Oklahoma	-	2	221	297	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	71
Texas	22	22	1,325	1,895	16	10	6	6	-	3	233	265
MOUNTAIN	11	13	819	1,089	5	8	1	2	-	-	310	301
Montana	3	6	52	155	3	3	-	1	-	-	49	91
Idaho	1	2	109	255	-	1	-	1	-	-	9	3
Wyoming	-	-	36	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	29
Colorado	1	1	158	222	-	1	-	-	-	-	28	67
New Mexico	2	1	80	131	1	1	1	-	-	-	45	11
Arizona	1	2	129	129	1	2	-	-	-	-	25	82
Utah	3	1	221	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	149	8
Nevada	-	-	34	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	10
PACIFIC	22	66	2,497	2,987	11	42	11	17	-	1	481	434
Washington	2	16	185	528	-	11	2	1	-	-	181	71
Oregon	3	11	168	429	3	5	-	3	-	-	24	10
California	17	39	2,144	2,030	8	26	9	13	-	1	276	353
Alaska	-	-	12	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	38
Hawaii	-	5	67	171	-	5	-	-	-	-	366	3
Puerto Rico	-	-	51	443	-	-	-	-	-	-	105	84

[1]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 DECEMBER 10, 1955 AND DECEMBER 8, 1956—Continued

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

AREA	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS 057		MENINGITIS, OTHER 340	PSITTACOSIS 096.2		TYPHOID FEVER 040				TYPHUS FEVER, ENDEMIC 101	RABIES IN ANIMALS	
						49th week		Cumulative first 49 weeks				
	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1956	1955
CONT. UNITED STATES	51	60	25	11	6	21	30	1,708	1,646	2	81	79
NEW ENGLAND	4	5	3	-	-	-	-	55	35	-	-	-
Maine	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	17	6	-	-	-
New Hampshire	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vermont	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
Massachusetts	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	17	14	-	-	-
Rhode Island	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	-
Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	11	-	-	-
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	4	6	-	-	-	-	2	205	171	-	2	11
New York	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	58	42	-	2	11
New Jersey	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	26	-	-	-
Pennsylvania	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	115	103	-	-	-
EAST NORTH CENTRAL	9	17	10	5	1	3	1	223	161	-	8	4
Ohio	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	59	71	-	4	3
Indiana	1	9	4	-	-	-	-	30	23	-	2	-
Illinois	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	36	33	-	1	-
Michigan	2	6	-	-	-	1	-	53	26	-	1	-
Wisconsin	-	-	-	4	-	2	-	45	8	-	-	1
WEST NORTH CENTRAL	8	3	2	2	-	3	3	202	103	-	16	13
Minnesota	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	37	7	-	10	5
Iowa	1	-	2	-		1	2	61	27	-	6	3
Missouri	3	-	-	-	-	2	1	69	50	-	-	4
North Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
South Dakota	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	13	-	-	-
Nebraska	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	13	4	-	-	1
Kansas	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2	-	-	-
SOUTH ATLANTIC	13	10	5	1	-	4	5	277	301	2	18	15
Delaware	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	-	-	-
Maryland	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	18	21	-	-	-
District of Columbia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	6	-	-	-
Virginia	2	2	2	-	-	2	1	56	45	-	5	3
West Virginia	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	24	41	-	-	1
North Carolina	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	28	33	-	2	-
South Carolina	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	30	49	-	3	9
Georgia	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	53	48	2	6	2
Florida	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	52	56	-	2	-
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	6	4	2	-	2	4	2	234	241	-	18	14
Kentucky	4	-	-	-	-	4	-	57	103	-	6	3
Tennessee	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	81	77	-	3	5
Alabama	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	30	40	-	9	6
Mississippi	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	66	21	-	-	-
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	3	8	2	-	1	7	11	321	404	-	13	12
Arkansas	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	68	83	-	5	1
Louisiana	2	2	-	-	-	5	4	49	86	-	8	-
Oklahoma	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	50	53	-	-	-
Texas	-	6	1	-	1	1	4	154	182	-	-	11
MOUNTAIN	1	1	-	-	-	-	4	74	124	-	1	2
Montana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-
Idaho	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	16	-	-	-
Wyoming	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-
Colorado	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	21	14	-	-	-
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	57	-	-	-
Arizona	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	24	21	-	1	2
Utah	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-
Nevada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
PACIFIC	3	6	1	3	2	-	2	117	106	-	5	8
Washington	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-
Oregon	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	14	12	-	-	-
California	1	5	-	3	2	-	2	100	92	-	5	8
Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerto Rico	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	82	47	-	-	-



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	49th week ended Dec. 8, 1956	48th week ended Dec. 1, 1956	49th week median 1953-55	Percent change, median to current week	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 49 WEEKS		
					1956	1955	Percent change
TOTAL: 102 REPORTING CITIES	10,339	10,627	9,796	+5.5	467,060	459,790	+1.6
New England (14 cities)	676	705	689	-1.9	32,871	33,309	-1.3
Middle Atlantic (17 cities)	3,160	3,300	3,210	-1.6	145,484	145,423	+0.0
East North Central (18 cities)	2,462	2,424	2,320	+6.1	109,856	108,190	+1.5
West North Central (8 cities)	696	829	720	-3.3	34,047	33,438	+1.8
South Atlantic (8 cities)	877	869	759	+15.5	37,490	36,017	+4.1
East South Central (7 cities)	435	454	397	+9.6	17,893	17,682	+1.2
West South Central (12 cities)	999	845	792	+26.1	39,858	37,312	+6.8
Mountain (7 cities)	214	292	201	+6.5	9,878	9,484	+4.2
Pacific (11 cities)	820	909	812	+1.0	39,683	38,935	+1.9

Table 4. DEATHS IN SELECTED CITIES FOR WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 8, 1956

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

CITY	49th week ended Dec. 8, 1956	48th week ended Dec. 1, 1956	CUMULATIVE NUMBER FIRST 49 WEEKS	
			1956	1955
NEW ENGLAND				
Boston, Mass.	240	218	11,117	11,288
Bridgeport, Conn.	37	54	1,788	1,797
Cambridge, Mass.	34	20	1,429	1,457
Fall River, Mass.	27	38	1,348	1,337
Hartford, Conn.	36	45	2,288	2,210
Lowell, Mass.	22	18	1,142	1,245
Lynn, Mass.	31	19	1,028	1,094
New Bedford, Mass.	25	25	1,108	1,164
New Haven, Conn.	47	54	2,214	2,089
Providence, R. I.	51	69	2,987	3,101
Somerville, Mass.	14	14	734	728
Springfield, Mass.	44	38	2,009	2,063
Waterbury, Conn.	21	31	1,234	1,228
Worcester, Mass.	47	62	2,445	2,508
MIDDLE ATLANTIC				
Albany, N. Y.	64	56	2,380	2,323
Allentown, Pa.	(40)	(56)	(1,823)	(1,759)
Buffalo, N. Y.	136	204	6,964	6,630
Camden, N. J.	38	52	1,905	1,763
Elizabeth, N. J.	20	32	1,341	1,281
Erie, Pa.	31	37	1,593	1,681
Jersey City, N. J.	72	80	3,374	3,357
Newark, N. J.	79	113	4,690	4,869
New York City, N. Y.	1,670	1,648	75,738	76,257
Paterson, N. J.	47	46	1,847	1,800
Philadelphia, Pa.	499	498	23,076	23,181
Pittsburgh, Pa.	190	232	8,897	8,634
Reading, Pa.	---	(23)	---	(1,108)
Rochester, N. Y.	107	106	4,628	4,626
Schenectady, N. Y.	26	22	1,089	1,085
Scranton, Pa.	(36)	(42)	(1,663)	(1,646)
Syracuse, N. Y.	62	65	2,880	2,714
Trenton, N. J.	49	47	2,130	2,322
Utica, N. Y.	34	30	1,502	1,509
Yonkers, N. Y.	36	32	1,450	1,391
EAST NORTH CENTRAL				
Akron, Ohio	65	72	2,591	2,557
Canton, Ohio	30	38	1,394	1,332
Chicago, Ill.	778	782	35,694	35,436
Cincinnati, Ohio	161	153	7,388	7,191
Cleveland, Ohio	221	242	10,002	9,593
Columbus, Ohio	123	126	5,265	5,173
Dayton, Ohio	77	74	3,239	3,163
Detroit, Mich.	347	283	15,416	15,669
Evansville, Ind.	40	40	1,623	1,551
Flint, Mich.	49	37	1,868	1,807
Fort Wayne, Ind.	38	41	1,743	1,616
Gary, Ind.	(31)	(41)	(1,394)	(1,345)
Grand Rapids, Mich.	39	48	1,984	2,017
Indianapolis, Ind.	119	140	5,710	5,395
Milwaukee, Wis.	165	134	6,073	6,043
Peoria, Ill.	25	33	1,419	1,425
South Bend, Ind.	35	24	1,204	1,220
Toledo, Ohio	98	114	4,614	4,506
Youngstown, Ohio	52	43	2,629	2,496
WEST NORTH CENTRAL				
Des Moines, Iowa	47	59	2,450	2,488
Duluth, Minn.	32	32	1,268	1,239
Kansas City, Kans.	27	33	1,494	1,637
Kansas City, Mo.	107	118	5,283	5,368
Minneapolis, Minn.	125	141	5,818	5,747
Omaha, Nebr.	60	92	3,188	3,106
WEST NORTH CENTRAL—Con.				
St. Louis, Mo.	227	277	11,339	10,729
St. Paul, Minn.	71	77	3,207	3,124
Wichita, Kans.	---	(33)	---	(1,883)
SOUTH ATLANTIC				
Atlanta, Ga.	126	115	5,289	5,096
Baltimore, Md.	239	251	11,279	10,926
Charlotte, N. C.	---	(29)	---	(1,331)
Jacksonville, Fla.	(57)	(49)	(2,497)	(2,358)
Miami, Fla.	53	61	2,503	2,528
Norfolk, Va.	35	56	1,601	1,526
Richmond, Va.	89	72	3,408	3,136
Savannah, Ga.	(32)	(53)	(1,406)	(1,383)
Tampa, Fla.	63	81	2,823	2,661
Washington, D. C.	235	198	8,886	8,435
Wilmington, Del.	37	35	1,701	1,709
EAST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Birmingham, Ala.	85	110	3,740	3,746
Chattanooga, Tenn.	54	37	2,038	2,149
Knoxville, Tenn.	37	32	1,585	1,629
Louisville, Ky.	---	(121)	---	(5,036)
Memphis, Tenn.	108	121	4,802	4,780
Mobile, Ala.	53	53	1,694	1,411
Montgomery, Ala.	37	48	1,404	1,267
Nashville, Tenn.	61	53	2,630	2,700
WEST SOUTH CENTRAL				
Austin, Tex.	(29)	---	---	(1,248)
Baton Rouge, La.	24	26	1,081	1,043
Corpus Christi, Tex.	19	26	966	841
Dallas, Tex.	114	112	5,280	4,779
El Paso, Tex.	35	30	1,321	1,367
Fort Worth, Tex.	77	55	2,846	2,656
Houston, Tex.	172	136	6,607	6,123
Little Rock, Ark.	54	51	2,256	2,166
New Orleans, La.	195	174	7,727	7,329
Oklahoma City, Okla.	75	61	3,058	2,738
San Antonio, Tex.	117	93	4,313	4,167
Shreveport, La.	37	46	2,192	1,930
Tulsa, Okla.	80	35	2,211	2,173
MOUNTAIN				
Albuquerque, N. Mex.	19	29	1,127	1,126
Colorado Springs, Colo.	14	23	636	627
Denver, Colo.	111	157	5,264	5,181
Ogden, Utah	15	8	618	553
Phoenix, Ariz.	34	39	1,266	1,180
Pueblo, Colo.	9	20	610	603
Salt Lake City, Utah	---	(48)	---	(2,035)
Tucson, Ariz.	12	16	357	214
PACIFIC				
Berkeley, Calif.	24	20	812	890
Long Beach, Calif.	45	83	2,610	2,389
Los Angeles, Calif.	(494)	---	---	(22,275)
Oakland, Calif.	80	75	4,400	4,225
Pasadena, Calif.	39	38	1,709	1,749
Portland, Oreg.	95	97	4,622	4,523
Sacramento, Calif.	44	62	2,369	2,380
San Diego, Calif.	56	115	3,655	3,587
San Francisco, Calif.	190	181	9,277	8,947
Seattle, Wash.	147	152	6,145	6,200
Spokane, Wash.	60	48	2,239	2,235
Tacoma, Wash.	40	38	1,845	1,810
Honolulu, Hawaii	(40)	(41)	(1,690)	(1,736)

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

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL REPORTS—Continued

Blastomycosis

Dr. G. B. Tayloe, Norfolk City (Va.) Health Department has reported a case of blastomycosis in a 46-year-old woman. The patient was first seen by a physician about a month after swelling began in her legs. For the past 2 years she has had intermittent swelling around the left elbow. Both feet, ankles, and the lower third of the legs were edematous, hot, red, and tender. Over the posterior surface of the legs there were several hard, subcutaneous nodules which were not tender. Also, in the epitrochlear area of the left arm there was a large, firm, hard nodule, and down toward the elbow there were several smaller ones.

The patient refused hospitalization but later when lesions appeared and there was severe pain in the legs she agreed to enter a hospital. An X-ray of the chest revealed the lung fields to be clear. There was no clinical evidence of tuberculosis. Biopsy of one of the lesions on the left leg and one of the nodules around the left elbow was diagnostic of blastomycosis. Complement fixation test on a blood specimen was positive in dilution of 1:250.