

LOUISIANA MONTHLY MORBIDITY

DISEASES REPORTED DURING MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1968

BY PARISH OF RESIDENCE

POLIOMYELITIS SURVEILLANCE

The number of cases of paralytic poliomyelitis has declined rapidly in the United States in the last few years following the extensive use of Salk and Sabin vaccines. An average of 76 cases have been reported annually in the last four years. Only 29 cases were reported last year.

This decrease in cases however has led to a gradual change in reporting practices which has been observed nationwide. In general today a case of paralytic illness possibly due to the polio virus is often no longer reported at the time it is first discovered. Instead reporting is delayed by either the physician or the health department until final proof is established through a series of laboratory tests. This has led to excessively late reporting.

(Continued on Page 3).

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS -

- LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RELEASED November 7, 1968	ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	DIPHThERIA	ENCEPHALITIS	ENCEPHALITIS, POST INFECTION	INFECTIOUS AND SERUM HEPATITIS	MEASLES	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	PERTUSSIS	POLIOMYELITIS, PARALYTIC	RABIES IN ANIMALS	RHEUMATIC FEVER	STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	SHIGELLOSIS	TYPHOID FEVER	OTHER SALMONELLOSI	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS
TOTAL TO DATE 1967	52	38	34	21	515	156	91	133	0	63	11	117	90	14	181	4	791	6012	1865
TOTAL TO DATE 1968	159	37	56	10	624	24	89	10	0	36	16	390	62	6	144	10	824	7033	2140
TOTAL THIS MONTH	12	16	3	0	80	1	4	1	0	2	3	124	12	0	14	2	69	853	267
ACADIA					2										1		1	6	3
ALLEN																		1	
ASCENSION																		1	3
ASSUMPTION																		5	4
AVOYELLES					1												1	4	1
BEAUREGARD																			
BIENVILLE																			
BOSSIER																		3	4
CADDO					3		1								1		12	118	34
CALCASIEU					1			1				1	3		5		3	27	6
CALDWELL					1														1
CAMERON																		9	1
CATAHOULA				1													2		1
CLAIBORNE												1					1	1	1
CONCORDIA																			3
DESOLO												2						2	2
EAST BATON ROUGE	1				2							1			2	1	4	50	14
EAST CARROLL																			2
EAST FELICIANA																	1		
EVANGELINE																		2	9
FRANKLIN					1												3		
GRANT																		1	1
IBERIA			3															1	2
IBERVILLE											1	1						2	5

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS -		- LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH																	
RELEASED	ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	DIPHTHERIA	ENCEPHALITIS	ENCEPHALITIS, POST INFECTIOUS	INFECTIOUS AND SERUM HEPATITIS	MEASLES	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	PERTUSSIS	POLIOMYELITIS, PARALYTIC	RABIES IN ANIMALS	RHEUMATIC FEVER	STREPTOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	SHIGELLOSIS	TYPHOID FEVER	OTHER SALMONELLOSIS	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS
November 7, 1968																			
JACKSON																		1	1
JEFFERSON	2	1	1		3							7					7	49	11
JEFFERSON DAVIS																	1	1	
LAFAYETTE		3			6										1		1	21	
LAFORCHE	3				1	1	1										1	2	1
LASALLE																	1		
LINCOLN																		8	1
LIVINGSTON					1												1		3
MADISON					1														3
MOREHOUSE																	1	1	
NATCHITOCHE					9													9	1
ORLEANS	2				19						1	102	8		2		14	255	91
OUACHITA					1		1										5	59	7
PLAQUEMINES												1							2
POINTE COUPEE																			
RAPIDES					7		1										1	15	8
RED RIVER																		1	1
RICHLAND					3													7	3
SABINE																		1	
ST. BERNARD					1													4	
ST. CHARLES															1				2
ST. HELENA																		1	1
ST. JAMES	1											1							4
ST. JOHN												1					1		4
ST. LANDRY		3			4												1	26	3
ST. MARTIN		3																3	
ST. MARY		1										1						3	
ST. TAMMANY					3												1	25	1
TANGIPAOHA	1		1														4	13	3
TENSAS																			
TERREBONNE	2	2			5								1					2	8
UNION									2	1								2	
VERMILION					1										1				
VERNON					4											1		74	4
WASHINGTON																		12	1
WEBSTER												2					1	15	6
WEST BATON ROUGE																		8	
WEST CARROLL																		1	
WEST FELICIANA												3							
WINN																		1	
OUT OF STATE																			

From January 1 through October 31 of 1968, the following cases were also reported:
 18 Malaria (contracted outside U.S.A.), 7 Tularemia, 5 Brucellosis, 2 Rocky Mountain
 Spotted Fever, and 3 Leptospirosis

In 1967 a number of cases of poliomyelitis were reported in certain states due principally to infections acquired outside of this country. In order to have more effective surveillance and to promptly initiate the necessary epidemiology inquiry it is desirable to return to the earlier practice when cases of paralytic illness were reported rapidly pending final diagnosis.

Physicians and local health departments should send initial reports of cases of paralytic illness as soon as they come to attention. The early submission of appropriate laboratory specimens should also be undertaken at that time. It is understood that laboratory work will usually not have been completed but this will yield a much better assessment of critical disease incidence and enable the health department to alert others of any unusual incidence. Changes in diagnosis can be made later if indicated through a corrected report. Finally annual statistics will include only cases presumed to be due to the polio virus.

DIPHTHERIA – LOUISIANA

Diphtheria has continued to be a problem in Louisiana with a total of 37 cases with 4 fatalities reported this year. None of the fatal cases had received diphtheria immunizations.

Orleans parish was credited with 12 cases before a mass immunization program was held in the City just prior to school opening. Approximately 38,000 immunizations were administered. No cases have been recorded since the completion of this program.

Jefferson, Lafourche, Vermilion, and St. Mary Parishes have had single cases, Terrebonne, Lafayette, and St. Landry Parishes have reported 3 cases each, St. Martin 5, and Iberia 7. Mass immunization programs were held in the affected area of St. Landry Parish on October 23 and a tri-parish program was held in Lafayette, Iberia, and St. Martin Parishes on Sunday, October 27. Approximately 2,100 diphtheria immunizations were given in St. Landry Parish and approximately 30,000 in the tri-parish program.

Twenty-three of the cases this year have been six years of age or older and might have been prevented if the new school immunization law had been in effect.