

# LOUISIANA MONTHLY MORBIDITY

DISEASES REPORTED DURING MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1968

BY PARISH OF RESIDENCE

## INFLUENZA

The most recent report of the Public Health Service, National Communicable Disease Center, indicated that all states but Louisiana, Mississippi, and Hawaii have reported one or more outbreaks of influenza-like illness in the civilian population. Those states with the least reported influenza activity are located predominantly in the Gulf Coast and South Atlantic regions.

While there have been several documented individual cases of Hong Kong strain influenza in Louisiana, there have been no reported community outbreaks. Periodic interviews with private practitioners and industry clinicians have revealed a moderate increase in the number of cases of influenza-like illness in most areas of the state. A more accurate evaluation will be possible now that schools have reopened following the holidays. Schools throughout the state report weekly on the number of absentees due to influenza and other communicable diseases.

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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
Jan. 9, 1969																			
TOTAL TO DATE 19 67	56	51	37	25	646	159	103	138	1	70	19	136	97	17	215	6	896	7057	2222
TOTAL TO DATE 19 68	157	45	68	10	747	27	102	11	0	42	25	500	74	6	179	10	935	8389	2471
TOTAL THIS MONTH	2	3	4	0	66	2	11	1	0	2	5	29	5	0	16	0	48	695	165
ACADIA															1		1	3	1
ALLEN																			
ASCENSION																		3	1
ASSUMPTION																		5	3
AVOUELLES					2			1										2	
BEAUREGARD					2														2
BIENVILLE																		2	
BOSSIER																		6	1
CADDO					2	1											3	110	10
CALCASIEU					1												2	23	
CALDWELL																			
CAMERON																			
CATAHOULA					1														
CLAIBORNE					1														1
CONCORDIA																			
DESOTO																		2	1
EAST BATON ROUGE					4								1		10		1	43	17
EAST CARROLL																			
EAST FELICIANA																	1		4
EVANGELINE																	1		
FRANKLIN					1														
GRANT																			
IBERIA					2		1										4	3	1
IBERVILLE	1						1										1	4	1

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## - LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RELEASED Jan. 9, 1969	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 SALMONELLOSIS	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS
JACKSON																	1		
JEFFERSON					1		2										3	46	13
JEFFERSON DAVIS																	2		1
LAFAYETTE					2										1			13	4
LAFOURCHE					1	1						12					1	4	3
LASALLE		1																	
LINCOLN					1													5	2
LIVINGSTON																	1		
MADISON					1												1		4
MOREHOUSE			1		1													1	1
NATCHITOCHE					1												1	5	3
ORLEANS	1		1		21		5				3	9	3		3		9	237	54
OUACHITA			1														3	36	1
PLAQUEMINES					1							3							
POINTE COUPEE																			3
RAPIDES					5												1	8	7
RED RIVER																			1
RICHLAND					1													4	3
SABINE																		2	
ST. BERNARD					2												2	1	1
ST. CHARLES							1					2							1
ST. HELENA																		1	
ST. JAMES																			1
ST. JOHN					2													1	
ST. LANDRY					4										1		1	10	4
ST. MARTIN		1															1	3	
ST. MARY		1										1					2	1	1
ST. TAMMANY			1		1		1											16	3
TANGIPAHOA																		9	3
TENSAS					1														
TERREBONNE					2						2						1	1	2
UNION																		1	
VERMILION																			
VERNON					1												1	66	2
WASHINGTON																	3		1
WEBSTER										2								2	
WEST BATON ROUGE																		1	
WEST CARROLL																		2	3
WEST FELICIANA					1							3						11	
WINN																		2	
OUT OF STATE																			

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

LOUISIANA MONTHLY MORBIDITY

Excess total mortality and excess pneumonia-influenza mortality have been observed for four successive weeks for the country as a whole, based on mortality statistics compiled from cities of 100,000 population or greater. Statistics from the three reporting cities in Louisiana (New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Shreveport) have shown no significant increase in total mortality and pneumonia-influenza deaths.

Confirmed cases of Hong Kong strain influenza have been confined to Orleans, East Baton Rouge, and Webster parishes. The State Health Department is interested in receiving specimens from all areas of the state. Physicians treating typical influenza-like cases are urged to submit throat washings and acute and convalescent serum to the State Health Department Laboratory in New Orleans. Throat washings should be frozen unless they are submitted directly to the laboratory immediately after collection in which case they should be refrigerated. The serum may be shipped frozen with the throat washings. If a centrifuge is not available, whole blood specimens may be collected and mailed to the laboratory unrefrigerated. Throat washings should be collected in sterile tryptose phosphate broth obtainable from any of the larger parish health units throughout the state.

While vaccine supplies remain inadequate, physicians are urged to use discretion in the selection of patients to receive the vaccine. Included in the high risk group are children and adults with chronic debilitating diseases and individuals over 65 years of age. Since influenza apparently has not yet affected a large portion of the Louisiana population, the state is perhaps in a good position to receive the effects of the vaccine. While the effectiveness of the new vaccine can be substantiated only by field use, judging from experience with comparably monovalent influenza vaccines, a single dose can be expected to afford significant protection. The vaccine contains 400 chick cell agglutinating (CCA) units per dose. There is at least a 2 week interval between vaccination and maximal antibody response.