

# LOUISIANA MONTHLY MORBIDITY

DISEASES REPORTED DURING MONTH OF MAY, 1970

BY PARISH OF RESIDENCE

## MEASLES (RUBEOLA)

Measles vaccine was licensed in 1963, but it was not until the latter half of 1966 that a major effort was launched in the United States to eradicate the disease. The Health Department in Louisiana administered a limited amount of the vaccine to children ages 1 - 3 in 1965. The age group receiving the vaccine was increased to include all preschool children in September of 1966, but it was not until March, 1967 that the state launched a statewide parish-by-parish mass immunization campaign directed at all susceptible children. In 1967 alone 257,324 doses of vaccine were administered in health unit clinics and in mass campaigns conducted jointly by the health department, local medical societies, and other interested groups. From the beginning of the

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS -

- LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RELEASED JUNE 3, 1970	ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	DIPHTHERIA	ENCEPHALITIS	ENCEPHALITIS, POST INFECTIOUS	INFECTIOUS AND SERUM HEPATITIS	MEASLES	MININGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	PERTUSSIS	POLIOMYELITIS, PARALYTIC	RABIES IN ANIMALS	RHEUMATIC FEVER	RUBELLA *	SHIGELLOSIS	TYPHOID FEVER	OTHER SALMONELLOSIS	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY
TOTAL TO DATE 1969	10	4	18	1	367	103	69	1	0	13	8	29	23	0	29	5	311	3658	275
TOTAL TO DATE 1970	11	11	8	10	271	70	49	9	0	41	8	140	13	1	26	1	311	4446	293
TOTAL THIS MONTH	2	2	3	1	59	19	5	6	0	2	0	49	1	0	6	0	35	989	70
ACADIA					1										1			2	1
ALLEN																			
ASCENSION					1														1
ASSUMPTION																			1
AVOUELLES																			
BEAUREGARD																		2	
BIENVILLE										1									
BOSSIER					1													12	1
CADDO					4		1										3	102	18
CALCASIEU	1				7	1							1				1	26	
CALDWELL																			
CAMERON																		2	
CATAHOULA																			1
CLAIBORNE												1						5	
CONCORDIA																			
DESOTO																			1
EAST BATON ROUGE															1		3	15	12
EAST CARROLL																		4	
EAST FELICIANA																			
EVANGELINE																	1	1	
FRANKLIN					1														1
GRANT																			3
IBERIA																			5
IBERVILLE																			

\* Includes Rubella, Congenital Syndrome

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS -		- LOUISIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH																		
RELEASED	ASEPTIC MENINGITIS	DIPHThERIA	ENCEPHALITIS	ENCEPHALITIS, POST INFECTIONOUS	INFECTIOUS AND SERUM HEPATITIS	MEASLES	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	PERTUSSIS	POLIOMYELITIS, PARALYTIC	RABIES IN ANIMALS	RHEUMATIC FEVER	RUBELLA	SHIGELLOSIS	TYPHOID FEVER	OTHER SALMONELLOSIS	TETANUS	TUBERCULOSIS, PULMONARY	GONORRHEA	SYPHILIS, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY	
JACKSON																				
JEFFERSON			1		7	4	1					3					2	73	2	
JEFFERSON DAVIS																		3		
LAFAYETTE					1		1	1							1			19		
LAFOURCHE					1												1	7		
LASALLE																				
LINCOLN						1				1								3		
LIVINGSTON					1												1			
MADISON																		1	1	
MOREHOUSE																	3			
NATCHITOCHEs			1														1	7		
ORLEANS				1	15			1				24			1		10	426	23	
OUACHITA					1	12		2									1	52	2	
PLAQUEMINES																				
POINTE COUPEE																				
RAPIDES					4		1					1						24		
RED RIVER																				
RICHLAND					1												1	1		
SABINE																		5		
ST. BERNARD												1						5	3	
ST. CHARLES																		1		
ST. HELENA																		2		
ST. JAMES																				
ST. JOHN																				
ST. LANDRY		1													1			17		
ST. MARTIN																		2		
ST. MARY		1	1															4		
ST. TAMMANY	1				2												1	15		
TANGIPAHOA															1		4	9		
TENSAS																			1	
TERREBONNE																		11	3	
UNION												1						1		
VERMILION					1													1		
VERNON					10	1	1	2				18						67	1	
WASHINGTON																		19		
WEBSTER																	1	4		
WEST BATON ROUGE																		1		
WEST CARROLL																		2		
WEST FELICIANA																		21		
WINN																	1	3		
OUT OF STATE																				

From January 1 through May 31 of 1970, the following cases were also reported: 1 Brucellosis, 2 Leprosy, 1 Leptospirosis, 20 Malaria (Contracted outside U.S.A.), and 1 Trichinosis.

program in 1965 through 1969, a total of 440,309 doses were given. These data do not reflect the amount of vaccine given by private physicians. Immunization of children at 1 year of age has now become a routine procedure in all health department clinics.

The average number of reported cases of measles for the United States for the 5 year period immediately prior to the extensive use of vaccine exceeded 400,000 per year. In 1968, the number dropped to 22,231 cases. In Louisiana, only 27 cases were reported in 1968. Included in this number were 21 cases from one outbreak that started in a day care center for retarded children in June, 1968. The outbreak was not detected until September, when a 7 year old was admitted to Charity Hospital in New Orleans with clinical measles and associated mild encephalitis. The true reduction in measles morbidity in both the United States and Louisiana was perhaps even greater than that reflected by the reported incidence, because of programs initiated in 1968 to improve reporting. One such program was a school reporting system started for the purpose of detecting cases not seen or reported by physicians. The State Department of Health recently passed a regulation requiring schools to report cases of measles and other communicable diseases. Every case reported by a school or a physician is investigated by the health department.

In 1969, an increase in the number of reported cases of measles over the 1968 figures was observed in Louisiana and in the United States as a whole. In Louisiana, 125 cases were recorded in 1969. Most of these cases were isolated occurrences without laboratory documentation, while some were associated with small community outbreaks promptly brought under control by administration of vaccine to the remaining susceptibles.

The increased incidence in 1969 is perhaps due, in part, to improved reporting and surveillance. Also, in 1969, federal support of state programs shifted to rubella control programs. Except for a limited amount of vaccine stock piled for epidemic control, the United States Public Health Service discontinued furnishing measles vaccine to the states on July 1, 1969. This shift of emphasis before completion of total eradication of measles was perhaps ill advised. After the spending of millions of dollars, not to finish the job may be a major error.