

Subsection 3.—Notifiable Disease and Other Health Statistics*

Health statistics collected nationally—in addition to statistics of hospitals, mental and tuberculosis institutions dealt with at pp. 245-256—cover notifiable diseases, illness among federal Civil Servants, and home nursing services. The first two phases are covered briefly in this Subsection, while reference may be made to the 1957-58 Year Book, pp. 269-270, for information on home nursing and health counselling services, a survey based on the experience of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada. Valuable statistical material is also available from some provincial governments regarding certain aspects of their health services.

Notifiable Diseases.—Notifiable diseases are essentially communicable diseases, reportable according to provincial health regulations. The method of collecting such statistics is outlined in the 1955 Year Book at pp. 246-247 and numbers of cases and rates for selected diseases for 1926 to 1956 are given in the 1956 and 1957-58 editions at pp. 267 and 268, respectively.

The progress that has been made toward the successful treatment and eradication of such diseases is indicated by the fact that the proportion of total deaths attributable to notifiable diseases dropped from 9.4 p.c. in 1931 to 1.0 p.c. in 1957 and the death rate from 95.2 per 100,000 population to 8.3. Case rates for some of the major diseases over the same period are shown in the chart on p. 259.

Table 12 shows the number of cases reported for selected notifiable diseases and the rates per 100,000 population, by province, for 1957 with totals for 1956. During the late months of 1957 Canada, along with many other countries, experienced a major epidemic of influenza (see p. 258) which accounted for the high incidence of this disease. Poliomyelitis, on the other hand, continued the downward trend in evidence since 1953, reaching a low in 1957 of 273 cases of which 172 were paralytic and 26 resulted in death.

* Prepared in the Public Health Section of the Health and Welfare Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

12.—Reported Cases of Selected Notifiable Diseases and Rates per 100,000 Population, by Province, 1957

Int. List No.	Disease	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.	Canada ¹	
												1957	1956
NUMBER OF CASES													
087	Chickenpox	2	2	1,580	2	6,466	18,050	1,005	2	—	4,872	32,138	36,499
055	Diphtheria	12	—	—	—	32	25	29	—	39	5	142	135
045-048	Dysentery ¹	3	49	2	51	160	71	60	36	543	136	1,179	611
046	Amoebic	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	2
045	Bacillary	5	48	2	50	160	71	60	36	543	132	1,167	608
082	Encephalomyelitis, infectious	—	—	—	—	—	13	8	—	3	7	1	33
480-483	Influenza, epidemic	2	5,869	22,541	2	—	24,463	28,950	985	2	171,422	255,292	11,177
085	Measles	—	—	2,126	2	6,457	12,842	4,056	2	11,938	11,807	49,612	53,986
057	Meningococcal meningitis and meningococemia	132	4	5	49	26	55	21	4	2	35	345	285
089	Mumps	1	2	1,925	2	4,122	9,507	590	2	—	6,241	22,386	28,112
080	Poliomyelitis, epidemic ²	1	2	2	17	37	65	9	31	65	43	273	607
080.0	} With paralysis	1	—	—	6	27	54	8	20	31	26	172	369
080.1		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
080.2	Without paralysis	—	2	—	12	10	11	1	7	34	17	95	226
086	Rubella (German measles)	—	2	414	2	1,023	2,107	214	2	8,652	4,202	16,652	52,028
050.051	Scarlet fever ¹	220	463	3,242	20	1,050	2,187	138	160	763	440	8,693	11,672
084	Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
001-019	Tuberculosis ¹	339	37	272	477	3,135	1,315	555	344	565	627	7,979	9,377
001,002	Pulmonary	337	26	250	440	3,024	2	603	283	479	821	6,154	7,545
003-019	Non-pulmonary	2	11	42	37	111	2	52	61	86	106	510	494
040,041	Typhoid and paratyphoid	5	1	1	4	176	48	3	7	18	16	279	455
044	Undulant fever	1	1	—	—	82	22	11	1	2	2	120	141
020-039	Veneral diseases	424	21	463	231	3,506	2,318	1,321	1,389	2,612	4,112	16,540	16,642
020-029	Syphilis	37	2	46	40	1,050	408	64	115	112	304	2,213	2,082
030-035	Gonorrhoea	385	19	417	191	2,452	1,910	1,226	1,272	2,499	3,806	14,313	14,547
036-039	Other venereal diseases ¹	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	14	13
056	Whooping cough	3	25	337	—	5,252	2,490	129	107	901	941	7,459	8,513

For footnotes, see end of table, p. 258.