

## Subsection 2.—Notifiable Diseases and Other Health Statistics\*

In terms of number of new cases, the major infectious diseases reportable on a national basis were, in 1963, the venereal diseases combined (22,199 cases), infectious and serum hepatitis (10,077 cases), and scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat (9,920 cases). Despite its relatively high level, the incidence of scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat was 57.6 p.c. below the peak reached in 1959; the rate of infection was 52.5 cases per 100,000 population, which compared favourably with the corresponding 1959 rate of 134.2. In proportion to population, the province most severely affected in 1963 was Prince Edward Island, where the rate was more than 42 times that for the country as a whole.

Year-to-year increases, which exceeded the rate of growth in the population at risk, occurred between 1959 and 1963 in the incidence of the venereal diseases, the rate of new infections rising from 97.3 to 117.5 per 100,000 population. As in 1961 and 1962, British Columbia contributed the largest number of cases, although the case-rate for that province (320.6 per 100,000 persons) was lower than those for the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories. Among the reportable types of venereal disease, gonorrhoea accounted for 87.4 p.c. of total cases nationally, and for 75.6 p.c. of the British Columbia cases.

The rate of viral hepatitis infections increased from 27.1 cases per 100,000 population in 1959 to 67.5 in 1961 and 1962 and then dropped to 53.3 in 1963.

In recent years the most significant decline in the incidence of a notifiable disease has been the falling off in reported cases of paralytic poliomyelitis. Contributing to the decrease have been the development of vaccines and mass inoculation and feeding programs undertaken by public health authorities. Only 123 new cases were reported during 1963; this was slightly higher than the 89 cases reported in 1962 but was still lower than for any other year since 1949, the first year statistics on this disease were compiled nationally.

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

## 15.—Reported Cases of Selected Notifiable Diseases and Rates per 100,000 Population, 1960-63

Inter-national List No.	Disease	Cases				Rates per 100,000 Population			
		1960 <sup>1</sup>	1961 <sup>1</sup>	1962 <sup>1</sup>	1963	1960 <sup>1</sup>	1961 <sup>1</sup>	1962 <sup>1</sup>	1963
		No.	No.	No.	No.				
044	Brucellosis (undulant fever)...	142	109	98	57	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.3
764	Diarrhoea of the newborn, epidemic.....	72	81	82	99	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9
055	Diphtheria.....	55	91	71	76	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4
045, 046, 048	Dysentery <sup>2</sup> .....	3,279	3,250	2,910	4,165	18.4	17.8	15.7	22.0
046	Amoebic.....	4	18	7	20	3	0.1	3	0.1
045	Bacillary.....	2,640	1,479	1,241	1,448	14.8	8.1	6.7	7.7
082.0	Encephalitis, infectious.....	9	1	4	57	0.1	3	3	0.5
049.0, 042.1, 049.2	Food poisoning.....	1,216	1,288	1,412	1,116	10.4	10.7	11.6	9.0
092, N998.5	Hepatitis, infectious (including serum hepatitis).....	6,314	12,314	12,538	10,077	35.4	67.5	67.5	53.3
080.2, 082.1	Meningitis, viral or aseptic.....	694	412	279	291	6.0	3.5	2.3	2.3
057	Meningococcal infections.....	158	122	110	111	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6
766	Pemphigus neonatorum (impetigo of the newborn).....	7	13	13	3	0.1	0.1	0.1	3
056	Pertussis (whooping cough).....	5,992	5,476	8,076	6,136	33.6	30.0	43.5	32.5
080.0, 080.1	Poliomyelitis, paralytic.....	909	188	89	123	5.1	1.0	0.5	0.7
050, 051	Scarlet fever and streptococcal sore throat.....	21,251	13,060	10,241	9,920	119.3	71.6	55.1	52.5
040, 041	Typhoid and paratyphoid fever.....	335	266	277	147	1.9	1.5	1.5	0.8
	Venereal diseases <sup>3</sup> .....	17,834	18,774	20,133	22,199	100.1	102.9	108.4	117.5
030-034	Gonorrhoea.....	15,661	16,480	17,697	19,411	87.9	90.2	95.3	102.7
020-021.3, 023, 024, 026-029	Syphilis.....	2,168	2,311	2,452	2,785	12.2	12.7	13.1	14.7

<sup>1</sup> Includes venereal diseases only for the Northwest Territories. type not specified.

<sup>2</sup> Includes other cases and cases where

<sup>3</sup> Less than 0.05 per 100,000 population.