

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
Position Statement

04-EC-01

Committee: Executive

Title: **MMWR Dissemination of Data from the Nationally Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS)**

Statement of the Problem:

Expectations for surveillance systems to detect changes in disease patterns have increased. Each week, since 1961, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) has released provisional data from the Nationally Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System (NNDSS) through publication in the *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*. The type of data released has undergone only minor changes for many years. Revising the display of provisional NNDSS data published in the *MMWR* could help state epidemiologists and others to access more readily local and national surveillance trends.

Statement of the desired action(s) to be taken:

CDC should modify the formats used to present provisional NNDSS data in the print *MMWR* and on the CDC web site. CSTE supports the approach embodied in CDC's proposed NNDSS data display options (attached, Figure I, Table I, Table II). Further, CSTE encourages CDC to use web-based technologies to make this information readily available.

Public Health Impact:

States report provisional nationally notifiable disease (NND) incidence data to CDC, which are aggregated and published weekly in the *MMWR*. Each year, NNDSS data are finalized in collaboration with state epidemiologists and are published in the *MMWR Summary of Notifiable Diseases – United States*. The NND weekly and annual data presentation formats have remained relatively unchanged for several years, despite the increased expectations for surveillance to detect changes rapidly in disease trends.

To decide which data would help health officials more readily detect local and national surveillance trends, CDC engaged CSTE and other *MMWR* audiences in an assessment of NND data presented in the publication. Based on these discussions, CDC has proposed revisions in the NNDSS Tables and the Figure. The revised *MMWR* NNDSS Tables and Figure are described below and examples are attached. The Tables and the Figure will be published each week (the week of the epidemiologic year for which the NNDSS disease report is assigned by the reporting local or state health department for the purposes of *MMWR* disease incidence reporting and publishing; values for *MMWR* week range from 1 to 53, although most years consist of 52 weeks). The diseases to be displayed in each Table or the Figure will be adjusted annually, if needed, to reflect changes in number of cases reported the previous calendar year.

- Figure 1: The data presented for the nationally notifiable conditions with more than 10,000 cases annually (in the previous annual reporting period) will include the following six elements: 1) a map shaded to represent average rate per million for each state for most current 4 weeks (including the current week); 2) national and state/territory-level counts for the week; 3) national data on the minimum, median and maximum number of cases reported in the past 52 weeks; 4) the number of cases reported in the current week; 5) the cumulative number reported through the current week in the current year and the previous year; and 6) a graph showing the ratio of number of cases reported each week to the past 52-week median. AIDS will not be included in this group because incidences are updated monthly rather than weekly (see example attached).
- Table I displays information about conditions with annual nationwide total of fewer than 1,000 cases reported in the past year. The Table will include the following four elements: 1) the number of cases reported in the most recent *MMWR* week, 2) the states/territories

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- reporting these conditions, 3) the number of cases by state for that week, and 4) the most recent 5-year total number of cases for these conditions (see example attached).
- Table II displays information about conditions with a 5-year average annual national total of more than 1,000 cases but fewer than 10,000 cases. The Table will include the following three elements: displays data for the 1) United States, regions and state/territories for the cases reported in the current week, 2) minimum and maximum number of cases reported in the past 52 weeks, and 3) the cumulative number reported through the current week in the current year and the previous year for each condition (see example attached).

Release of NNDSS data will be consistent with the *Data Release Guidelines of the Council of State & Territorial Epidemiologists for the National Public Health System (June 1996)* and the *CDC-ATSDR Data Release Guidelines and Procedures for Re-release of State-Provided Data*, which represents implementation guidelines for the *CDC/ATSDR Policy on Releasing and Sharing Data*.

[See attached <Redesigned NNDSS Tables.pdf>.]

Coordination:

Agencies for Response:

- (1) Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH
Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE, M/S D14
Atlanta, GA 30333
Phone: (404) 639-7000
Email: jyg2@cdc.gov

Agencies for Information:

- (1) John Ward, MD
Director, Office of Scientific Health and Communication
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30333
Telephone: (404) 639-3636
Email: Jward@cdc.gov
- (2) Richard Hopkins, MD, MSPH
Acting Director, Division of Public Health Surveillance & Informatics
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, Mail Stop E91
Atlanta, GA 30333
Telephone: (404) 498-6207
Email: Rhopskins@cdc.gov

Submitting Author:

- (1) Steven C. Macdonald, PhD, MPH
Epidemiologist
Office of Epidemiology
Washington State Department of Health
P.O. Box 47812

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Olympia, WA 98504-7812
Telephone: (360) 236-4253
Email: steven.macdonald@doh.wa.gov

TABLE I. Summary of provisional cases of infrequently reported notifiable diseases (<1,000 cases reported in the past year) for which at least one case was reported in the past 52 weeks, United States, week ending January 31, 2004 (4th Week)*

Disease	Current		Total reports for previous years					States reporting cases during current week
	Preceding week	52 wks	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	
Botulism: foodborne	1	25	22	31	25	24	50	WA (1)
Botulism: infant	3	83	65	79	80	54	85	CA (1), NH (1), TN (1)
Botulism: other (wound & unspecified)	1	35	29	22	22	19	8	CA (1)
Brucellosis	-	82	79	98	112	98	119	
Chancroid	2	123	76	25	23	50	33	NYC (2)
Cholera	-	14	19	6	6	32	40	
Cyclosporiasis	-	62	58	94	*	*	*	
Ehrlichiosis: human granulocytic	2	211	143	117	*	*	*	CT (1), TN (1)
Ehrlichiosis: human monocytic	3	65	19	25	*	*	*	AR (1), MO (1), NC (1)
Encephalitis: California serogroup viral	4	66	109	138	131	13	*	NC (2), OH (2)
Encephalitis: eastern equine	-	6	4	14	5	1	*	
Encephalitis: St. Louis	-	21	26	14	2	3	*	
Hansen disease	1	25	22	31	25	24	50	AR (1)
Hantavirus Pulmonary syndrome	3	83	65	79	80	54	85	NYC (3)
Hemolytic uremic syndrome, postdiarrheal	2	152	119	93	98	75	52	TN (2)
Measles, total	3	83	65	79	80	54	85	CA (1), NH (1), TN (1)
Mumps	1	25	22	31	25	24	50	WA (1)
Plague	-	14	19	6	6	32	40	
Psittacosis	3	83	65	79	80	54	85	NYC (2), OR (1)
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	2	123	76	25	23	50	33	AL (1), AR (1)
Rubella	1	25	22	31	25	24	50	WA (1)
Rubella, congenital syndrome	2	123	76	25	23	50	33	NYC (2)
Streptococcal toxic-shock syndrome	2	152	119	93	98	75	52	TN (2)
Syphilis, congenital	1	25	22	31	25	24	50	WA (1)
Tetanus	3	83	65	79	80	54	85	AL (1), TX (1), WY (1)
Toxic-shock syndrome	2	123	76	25	23	50	33	TN (1), WV (1)
Trichinosis	2	123	76	25	23	50	33	NYC (2)
Typhoid fever	7	337	377	366	398	373	444	MD (1), MI (2), NJ (2), NYC (2)

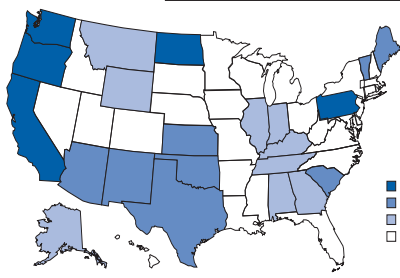
* Not reportable

Infrequently reported notifiable diseases with no reported cases in the past 52 weeks: diphtheria, western equine encephalitis, yellow fever.

FIGURE I. Provisional cases of selected notifiable diseases of > 10,000 cases, United States, week ending October 9, 1999 (40th week)

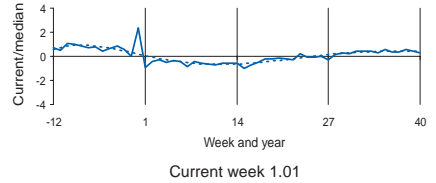
Disease	Current week	Change from Previous week	Preceding 52 weeks			YTD*		Ratio of number of cases reported each week to the past 52 week median
			Minimum	Median	Maximum	Current year	Previous year	

CHLAMYDIA **12,698** **+802** **9,678** **12,602** **15,167** **505,860** **450,964**

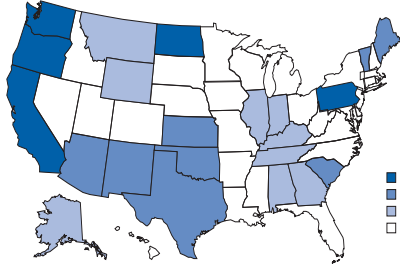


No. reported cases for current week, by area

AL	351	IN	180	NV	79	TN	309
AK	37	IA	127	NH	17	TX	1,302
AZ	333	KS	45	NJ	200	UT	61
AR	163	KY	105	NM	74	VT	8
CA	11,204	LA	465	NY	421	VA	437
CO	23	ME	12	NC	307	WA	10,299
CT	196	MD	22,229	ND	17	WV	48
DE	69	MA	172	OH	34,413	WI	272
DC	85	MI	404	OK	112	WY	26
FL	558	MN	146	OR	94	AS	1,234
GA	628	MS	101	PA	500	CNMI	999
HI	52	MO	416	RI	51	GU	1,234
ID	46	MT	34	SC	469	PR	1,234
IL	872	NE	65	SC	37	VI	1,234

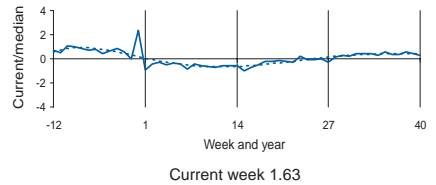


GIARDIASIS **603** **-107** **205** **371** **1,161** **16,113** **NA†**

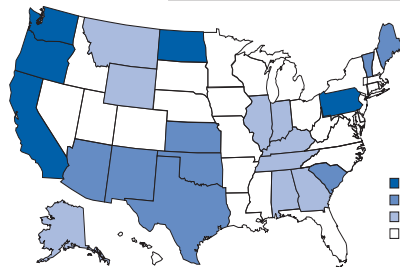


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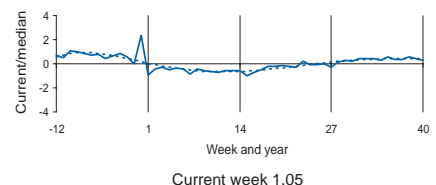


GONORRHEA **7,293** **-467** **4,867** **6,938** **8,982** **275,391** **268,863**

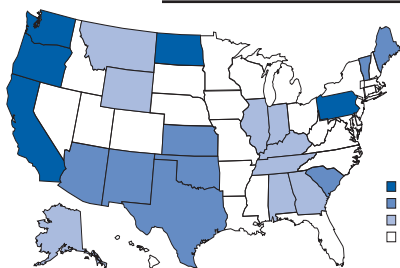


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IL	872	NE	65	SC	37	VI	1,234

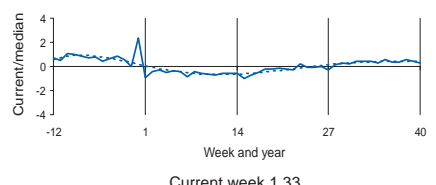


LYME **1,099** **-68** **307** **829** **2,190** **29,990** **32,004**



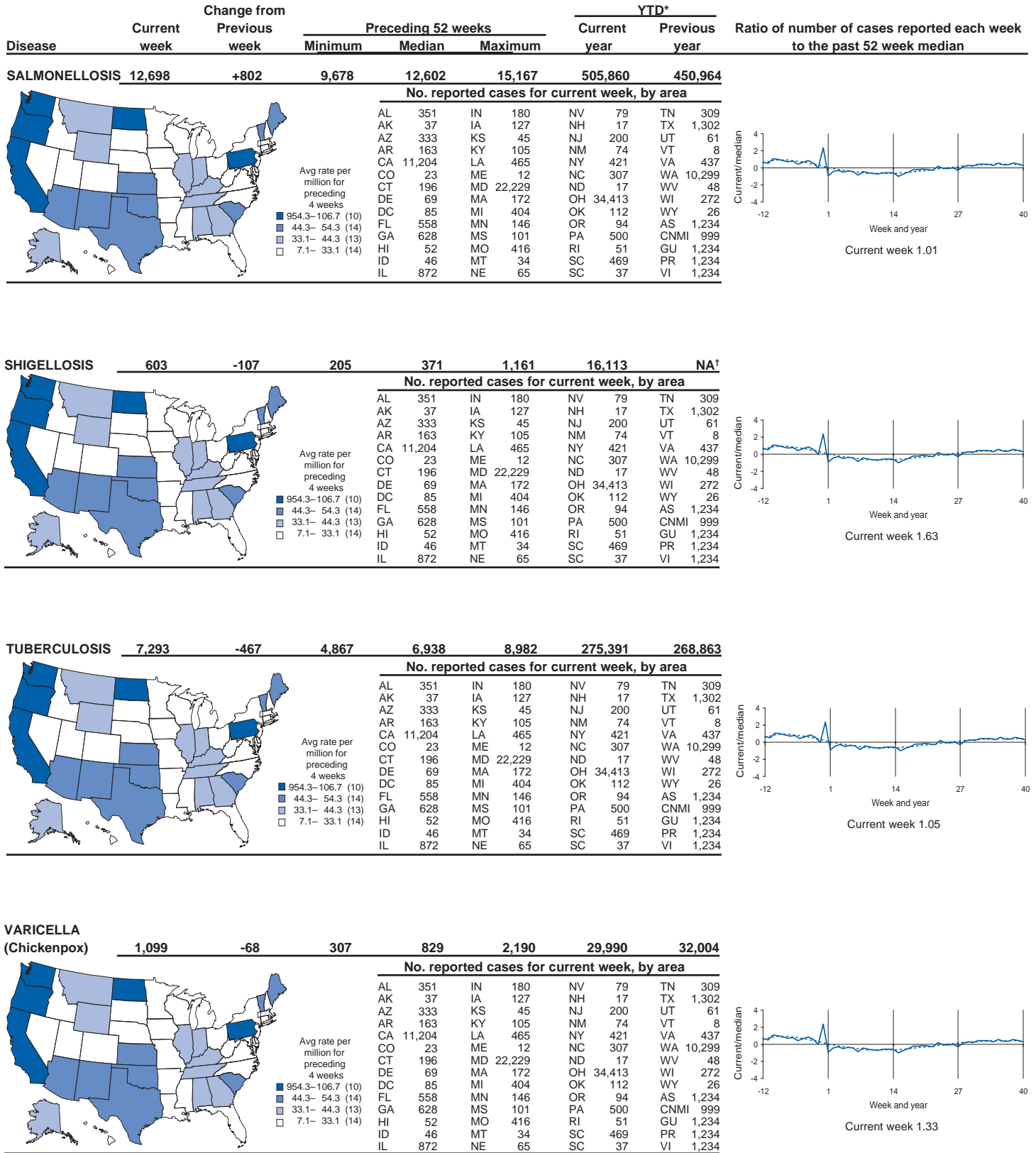
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AS: American Samoa. CNMI: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. GU: Guam. PR: Puerto Rico. VI: Virgin Islands.
 * Year to date.
 † Not applicable.

FIGURE I. (Continued) Provisional cases of selected notifiable diseases of > 10,000 cases, UNITED STATES, week ending October 9, 1999 (40th week)



AS: American Samoa. CNMI: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. GU: Guam. PR: Puerto Rico. VI: Virgin Islands.
 * Year to date.
 † Not applicable.

TABLE II. Selected cases of notifiable diseases, United States, week ending December 28, 2002 (50th week)

Reporting Area	AIDS					Coccidioidomycosis					Cryptosporidiosis				
	Current week	Past 52 weeks		Cum YTD	Previous YTD	Current week	Past 52 weeks		Cum YTD	Previous YTD	Current week	Past 52 weeks		Cum YTD	Previous YTD
		Min	Max				Min	Max				Min	Max		
UNITED STATES	171	254	359	453	1,355	1,231	548	876	86	67	171	254	359	453	1,355
NEW ENGLAND	12	7	13	17	402	126	54	77	4	-	12	7	13	17	402
ME	-	1	-	1	-	-	10	6	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
NH	-	2	2	1	7	7	4	5	-	-	-	2	2	1	7
VT	1	-	1	-	10	17	4	6	-	-	1	-	1	-	10
MA	7	4	10	13	382	101	18	29	4	-	7	4	10	13	382
RI	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
CT	3	-	-	2	3	1	18	30	-	-	3	-	-	2	3
MID. ATLANTIC	29	41	45	40	386	125	87	137	7	9	29	41	45	40	386
Upstate NY	7	7	12	5	276	47	58	46	1	-	7	7	12	5	276
NY City	12	22	9	10	-	-	-	1	1	4	12	22	9	10	-
NJ	3	4	5	6	31	21	-	33	-	4	12	22	9	10	-
PA	7	8	19	19	79	57	29	57	5	1	7	8	19	19	79
E.N. CENTRAL	14	18	43	56	156	89	3	4	2	1	14	18	43	56	156
OH	3	5	18	19	90	56	2	-	2	1	3	5	18	19	90
IN	-	-	6	6	7	4	1	2	-	-	-	-	6	6	7
IL	1	8	1	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	1	11	-
MI	5	3	15	12	22	10	-	2	-	-	1	8	1	11	-
WI	5	2	3	8	37	19	-	-	-	-	5	2	3	8	37
W.N. CENTRAL	11	4	17	22	64	73	69	81	2	2	11	4	17	22	64
MN	6	2	3	4	14	27	9	5	-	-	6	2	3	4	14
IA	1	2	3	5	10	28	9	9	-	1	1	2	3	5	10
MO	3	-	5	11	33	12	2	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
ND	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
SD	-	-	1	-	-	1	10	7	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
NE	-	-	1	1	-	-	12	9	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
KS	1	-	4	1	6	5	16	39	-	-	1	-	4	1	6
S. ATLANTIC	69	120	66	148	72	173	276	499	61	51	69	120	66	148	72
DE	-	-	1	6	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	2
MD	19	16	4	6	22	14	50	57	2	4	19	16	4	6	22
DC	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1
VA	4	3	2	6	16	1	15	76	-	1	4	3	2	6	16
WV	-	2	3	1	-	1	13	10	-	-	-	2	3	1	-
NC	3	4	7	5	16	36	106	104	56	27	3	4	7	5	16
SC	3	-	5	6	3	2	16	25	-	-	3	-	5	6	3
GA	10	3	10	11	-	4	64	57	2	1	10	3	10	11	-
FL	26	92	34	107	12	114	11	170	1	18	26	92	34	107	12
E.S. CENTRAL	4	5	16	21	20	21	11	28	8	2	4	5	16	21	20
KY	1	1	3	2	2	3	2	4	-	-	1	1	3	2	2
TN	1	2	7	3	13	8	7	19	2	1	1	2	7	3	13
AL	1	2	2	5	1	8	2	5	1	-	1	2	2	5	1
MS	1	-	4	11	4	2	-	-	5	1	1	-	4	11	4
W.S. CENTRAL	5	16	35	51	18	28	26	18	-	2	5	16	35	51	18
AR	1	1	5	2	2	2	8	-	-	-	1	1	5	2	2
LA	2	1	9	19	2	4	-	-	-	-	2	1	9	19	2
OK	1	-	1	3	-	2	18	18	-	-	1	-	1	3	-
TX	1	14	20	27	14	20	-	-	-	2	1	14	20	27	14
MOUNTAIN	8	6	23	15	150	193	14	12	-	-	8	6	23	15	150
MT	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
ID	-	1	2	-	13	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	13
WY	-	-	2	-	2	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
CO	3	4	10	4	79	77	-	-	-	-	3	4	10	4	79
NM	1	-	2	2	8	16	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	8
AZ	2	1	5	6	27	44	13	11	-	-	2	1	5	6	27
UT	1	-	1	-	17	16	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	17
NV	1	-	-	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-
PACIFIC	19	37	101	83	87	403	8	20	2	-	19	37	101	83	87
WA	2	4	7	8	60	29	-	-	-	-	2	4	7	8	60
OR	1	5	22	21	26	49	-	-	-	-	1	5	22	21	26
CA	16	28	67	51	-	324	8	19	2	-	16	28	67	51	-
AK	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
HI	-	-	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	-
AS	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
CNMI	-	U	-	U	-	U	-	U	-	U	-	U	-	U	-
GU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PR	-	-	-	1	1	-	14	10	N	N	-	-	-	1	1
VI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

AS: American Samoa. CNMI: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. GU: Guam. PR: Puerto Rico. VI: Virgin Islands.