Within age groups, participation differentials were noted between geographic regions, areas of residence, and color groups. Generally, the proportion of the population that received at least one inoculation was lower in the South than in other regions, lower outside Standard Metropolitan Areas, and lower among the nonwhite population.

Participation in the inoculation program was strongly associated with family income. Although the pattern of participation by age was essentially the same within four broad income levels, the proportion of the population inoculated one or more times increased with income for virtually all age groups. The association between participation and income held for each region and area of residence. The relationship was much more marked for the white population than for the nonwhite population. In fact, among nonwhite children of school age, participation was not correlated with family income.

Of the 60 million persons vaccinated by August 1957, slightly more than half completed the series of three inoculations. The priorities of the vaccination program were quite evident in the differences between the age groups in the proportion that had completed three inoculations. Children in the age group 5 to 9 years had the highest completed participation rate, and those in the age group 10 to 14 years had nearly as high a completion rate. The rate was appreciably lower for preschool children and for persons 15 years and older, and it declined precipitously with advancing age. For the reproductive age groups, the completed participation rates were higher among women. Generally, completed participation rates were lower in the South than in other regions, lower outside Standard Metropolitan Areas, lower among the nonwhite population, and lower for lower income families.

The population that had started but not completed the series of three inoculations (persons having received at most one or two inoculations) represented the current or more recent participators in the sense that they had received their first inoculation during a period that rarely extended more than a few months prior to the survey date. It is noteworthy that there was less disparity between adults and children in the proportion who had completed one or two inoculations than there was in the proportion that had completed three inoculations. For children under 20 years, the percentage that started but had not completed the series of three inoculations was about the same for preschool, school, and the 15- to 19-year age groups, although it tended to be slightly lower for the school-age group, 5–14 years, which had achieved the highest participation levels. Major differentials by geographic region, area of residence, color, and family income were not evident either. Apparently some major disparities in the levels of participation between the age groups under 20 years were not being increased further during the summer of 1957. At the adult ages, however, the reverse was noted—the disparities by age, sex, and color in the levels of participation appeared to be increasing.

A chronology of the major events and factors affecting the population’s participation in the poliomyelitis inoculation program between May 1953 and August 1957 is presented in the appendix.

Editor’s Correction

In the article entitled “Relationship of Excess Weight in Children and Adults,” by Sidney Abraham and Marie Nordsieck, Public Health Reports, March 1960, figure 1, page 268, should be captioned “Adult weight status of overweight children of both sexes, 10 to 13 years of age, Hagerstown, Md., 1937–39.” Figure 2, page 269, should be captioned “Adult weight status of average weight children of both sexes, 10 to 13 years of age, Hagerstown, Md., 1937–39.”
Federal Publications


This pamphlet alerts uranium miners and operator-owners to certain occupational health hazards inherent in their jobs and informs them of necessary protective measures.

It is illustrated by line drawings and simple, brief descriptions of the hazards of radiation, silicosis, and dangerous gases and conditions are presented together with recommendations for their control.

School Mental Health. PHS Publication No. 704; 1959; 11 pages; 10 cents.

Program activities of the National Institute of Mental Health relating to school mental health are briefly described. A few examples of current projects are given for each program area.

A list of agencies designated as State mental health authorities and a list of the regional offices of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare are included for the convenience of those who wish information on State school mental health programs.


Latest statistics on venereal disease incidence, prevalence, reported morbidity, mortality, and therapeutic methods are given. Information on trends in health departments' casefinding and epidemiological activities are also given.

Estimated cost of uncontrolled syphilis, current penicillin reaction studies, and other basic material complete the data.

The Child With a Missing Arm or Leg. Children's Bureau Folder No. 49; 1959; 25 pages; 10 cents.

Parents of child amputees are given practical information about helping their children become independent by learning to use prostheses.

The folder emphasizes the importance of the use of prosthetic teams, including doctors, social workers, prosthetists, therapists, and nurses, in helping the child get a correct fitting and in training him to use the device.

Milk Sanitation Administration. Selected lectures. PHS Publication No. 728; 1960; 208 pages.

Administrative programs of the Public Health Service as related to State and local procedures for the milk industry are developed in detail. Separate lectures deal with the operational program of the Public Health Service and survey and laboratory certification procedures for interstate and intrastate shipments of milk and milk products.

Included are descriptions of recent research in the inactivation of pathogenic micro-organisms in milk and milk products exposed to ultra-high temperatures. Other papers discuss animal diseases, vector control procedures, dairy plant sanitation, and noninfectious milkborne diseases.

Although developed primarily for State and local public health administrators, this syllabus should be useful to universities, the dairy industry, and the Armed Forces.

Heart Disease. PHS Publication No. 45 (Health Information Series No. 63); revised 1959; leaflet; 5 cents, $2.75 per 100. Directed to the general public. Briefly explains coronary artery disease, hypertension, and rheumatic heart disease. Stresses importance of regular physical examinations.

Hypertension. PHS Publication No. 146 (Health Information Series No. 69); revised 1959; leaflet; 5 cents, $2.70 per 100. Describes in lay language what happens in hypertension, its symptoms, and methods of treatment. Discusses role of tension and stresses importance of medical care.

Varicose Veins. PHS Publication No. 153 (Health Information Series No. 50); revised 1959; leaflet; 5 cents, $2.25 per 100. Simply written description of varicose veins, telling what is known about the causes of this disorder and about contemporary methods of treatment.

Leptospirosis. PHS Publication No. 686 (Health Information Series No. 93); 1959; leaflet; 5 cents, $2.50 per 100. Directed to the general public, especially dog owners and others who may come in contact with the disease. Lists the animal carriers, of leptospires, the methods of spread from animals to humans, and symptoms of the disease in humans. Touches on treatment as well as prevention, stressing sanitation measures.

This section carries announcements of new publications prepared by the Public Health Service and of selected publications prepared with Federal support.

Unless otherwise indicated, publications for which prices are quoted are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C. Orders should be accompanied by cash, check, or money order and should fully identify the publication. Public Health Service publications which do not carry price quotations, as well as single sample copies of those for which prices are shown, can be obtained without charge from the Public Inquiries Branch, Office of Information, Public Health Service, Washington 25, D.C.

The Public Health Service does not supply publications other than its own.