



AN  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
FOR THE  
HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
CITY OF  
PROVIDENCE

Mayor of the City of Providence

Honorable Walter H. Reynolds

Board of Health

The Honorable - City Council

Superintendent of Health, Joseph Smith, M.D.

Deputy Superintendent of Health, Joseph C. Flynn M.D.

Deputy City Registrar, Edward D. Greer, B.S.

- ADMINISTRATION -

Administrative Assistant

Edward D. Greer B.S.

- COMMUNICABLE DISEASES -

Public Health Physicians

Thomas Dolan, M.D.

Peter Harrington, M.D.

Daniel G. Calenda, M.D.

Director of Nurses

Sarah P. Nagle, R.N.

- CHILD HYGIENE -

School Dentists

Dr. John J. Carmody

Dr. Aaron J. Shatkin

Director of Nurses

Sarah P. Nagle, R.N.

- MILK DEPARTMENT -

Deputy Inspector of Milk

Richard S. McKenzie, B.S.

- FOOD INSPECTION -

Sanitarian

Anthony LaFazia, B.S.

Chief of Licenses

John R. Dennin

- ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL -

Sanitarian

Armando DiMeo, Reg. Phar.

- SCHOOL AND CLINIC MEDICAL STAFF -

Parochial School Physicians

Dr. Peter Mathieu

Dr. Phyllis Meola

Dr. Clara L. Smith

Well Baby Clinic Physicians

Dr. George K. Boyd  
Dr. Harold Calder

Dr. B. G. DeFusco  
Dr. Normand E. Gauvin  
Dr. Juergen Nicholas

Dr. Clara L. Smith  
Dr. Mario Vigliani

Chapin Hospital Physicians

Dr. Pelagio Iriarte  
Dr. Santiago

Sick Poor Physician

Dr. Giovanni Petrocelli

Immunization Physician

Dr. Clara L. Smith



CITY OF PROVIDENCE - RHODE ISLAND - Walter H. Reynolds, Mayor

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Joseph Smith, M. D.  
Superintendent of Health

*Ex-officio*

City Registrar  
Inspector of Milk

161 FOUNTAIN ST.,  
PROVIDENCE 3, R. I.

To His Honor, the Mayor and the Honorable City Council;

I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Superintendent of Health for year 1961.

The last published report of the Superintendent of Health was for the year 1940. Owing to World War II, the reports for 1941 - 42, while prepared for publication were never printed. While no formal reports for the past twenty-one years have been issued, this department has maintained the records and such records are available.

In 1946, a five year summary of Births, Marriages and Deaths was printed for the years 1941 - 45. Much of the Vital Statistic since 1946, has been collated and published by Professor Goldstein of Brown University and others.

Our Communicable Disease information has been utilized by the Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Since our original records go back to 1855, we hope this information will be collated and evaluated some day as a special project.

The prime duties of a Department of Health is; to maintain the efficiency of the community in the highest possible level, and; to prevent unnecessary disease and accidents. It is the function of Universities and Colleges to study the various activities of the Health Departments and results, and thus evaluate the basic principles and the methods whereby an active Department of Health may efficiently and economically carry out its function. We, in the Department of Health of the City of Providence, feel that we are operating in an efficient and economical manner and trust that the following report, so ably compiled by Mr. Edward D. Greer, substantiates our feelings.

IN CITY COUNCIL

APR 19 1962

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

1961

*W. Everett Whelan*  
CLERK

Respectfully submitted,

*Joseph Smith M.D.*

JOSEPH SMITH, M. D.  
Superintendent of Health

INDEX

Administration	1
Animal Bites	20
Audio Visual Tests	5
Bacteriological Exams	23, 24
Birth Rate	2
Bites, Animal	20
Case Load	3
Chemical Exams, Food	23, 24
Child Health Conference	13, 14, 15
Clinics	8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
Communicable Diseases	3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Conferences, Nursing	5
Death Rate	2, 8, 9, 11
Dental Examinations	5, 16, 17, 18
Diphtheria Immunization	9, 13, 15
Dog Officer	20
Environmental Control	19, 20
Examinations, School	5, 16, 17, 18
First Aid	5
Food	21, 22, 23, 24
Food Handlers	8, 10, 22
Frozen Desserts	22, 24
Health Examinations	5, 16, 17, 18
Hepatitis Infectious	2, 4, 6, 7
Hypospray Injector	13, 14
Ice Cream	22, 24
Infectious Hepatitis	2, 4, 6, 7
Inspections	19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
Immunizations	13, 14, 15
Licenses	21, 22, 23, 24
Mantoux Test	9
Marijuana	20
Marriages	2
Measles	2, 6, 7
Milk Control	23
Mortality	2, 8, 9, 11, 12
Mosquito Control	19, 20
Nursing	3, 4, 5, 6, 9
Nursing Visits	3, 5
Nutrition	4

INDEX CONT'D

Parochial Schools	4, 16, 17, 18
Pediatricians	13
Physical Fitness	4
Polio Immunizations	13, 14, 15
Prophylaxis	3
P. D. N. A.	14
Pulmonary Clinic	8, 9
Quality, Milk-Frozen Desserts	22, 23, 24
Rabies Control	20
Restaurant Sanitation	21, 22
Rodent Control	19
Sanitarians	8, 19, 21, 22, 23
Scarlet Fever	3, 6, 7
Schick Tests	9, 13, 15
School Health	4, 16, 17, 18
Special Activities	5
Sputum	9
Streptococcal Sore Throat	3, 6, 7
Teeth	5, 16, 17, 18
Tests	5, 9, 13, 15, 23, 24
Tuberculosis	2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
TB Skin Tests	9
Violations	19
Visual-Audio Tests	5
Vital Statistics	2
Weed Control	20
Well Baby Clinics	13, 14, 15
Whooping Cough	6, 7
X-Ray	8, 9, 22

EXHIBITS

Parochial School Health	5, 14
Nursing Visits, Communicable Diseases	6
Resident, Ac. Communicable Diseases	7
Summary of Activity of Pulmonary Clinic	9
Summary of Foodhandler's X-Rays	10
Residents Reported Having Secondary TBC	10
Residents Reported Having Sec. TBC. (By Age)	11
Mortality From Tuberculosis (All Forms)	12
Total TBC. Deaths, Resident and Non-Resident	12
Mosquito Program Summary	20
Diphtheria Immunizations	15
Poliomyelitis Immunizations	15
Child Health Clinics	15
Dental Service, Parochial Schools	16, 17
Dental Caries, Increase-Decrease	17, 18
Restaurant Inspections	22
Food Licenses	22
Milk Control Summary	23
Frozen Dessert Summary	24

**ADMINISTRATION**

This division administers the proper execution of all programs and matters of policy in accordance with the state statutes, city ordinances and departmental policy as outlined by the Superintendent of Health. The division is charged with directing and supervising all fiscal and business management operations of the various divisions, along with planning and development of management methods, systems, procedures, and supervision of an authorized staff of 88 employees, exclusive of the Bath House and Comfort Station Divisions. Health Education, publicity, and public relations are programmed to better inform and motivate public concern and interest in our community health. A major responsibility of this division is the preparation of the departmental budget and supervision of expenditures. Efficient control has provided the citizens of Providence with a most effective Health Program, at a minimum of cost.



VITAL  
STATISTICS

During the year 1961, there were 3,262 deaths, 1856 males and 1406 females, registered in the City of Providence. A large percentage were non-residents, being treated in our hospitals. At the same time there were 9,821 births, 406 of which were out of wedlock and 125 still-births recorded. Here again a high proportion were non-resident. 213 deaths under one, 119 male and 94 female occurred in 1961. Our crude rates were as follows.

Birth rate           - 47.22   - per 1,000 pop.  
Death rate           - 15.68   - per 1,000 pop.  
Infant Mortality - 21.69   - per 1,000 live births.

During the year there was 1 death registered to Poliomyelitis (a woman who had swallowed a phenol compound and after death the organism was found in her stool). One death from Measles, four from Infectious Hepatitis, three from Influenza, seven from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and ninety-eight from Pneumonia were also reported.

Heart disease still leads in all causes of death, with forty-five from Rheumatic Heart Disease and 1268 from other forms of Heart Disease, Cancer was next with 602 deaths, Cerebral-Vascular conditions accounted for 303 deaths, Pneumonia for ninety-eight, Diabetes eighty-six and Cirrhosis of the Liver for eighty-two. Only twenty-six deaths were attributed to Nephritis, accidents accounted for 111 deaths of which thirty were automobile accidents and fifty-four were due to falls. There were five Homocides and eight Suicides.

While there were fifty-eight deaths due to congenital malformations, forty-seven to prematurity, seventeen to injuries at birth and seventy-nine due to other conditions of infancy, there were no deaths attributable to child birth during 1961.

In all our vital statistics bookkeeping was satisfactory.

	<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>MARRIAGES</u>	<u>DEATHS</u>
Jan.	799	78	300
Feb.	735	91	278
Mar.	865	48	266
Apr.	767	146	270
May	849	138	244
June	806	224	270
July	905	139	282
Aug.	879	127	276
Sept.	875	190	272
Oct.	811	161	269
Nov.	740	118	256
Dec.	<u>790</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>279</u>
TOTAL	9,821	1,544	3,262

## NURSING

## DIVISION

Our nursing service has been generalized since 1945. The city is divided into districts according to census tracts and each of the fourteen staff nurses is responsible for all of the three areas of our service in her district. These services are tuberculosis control, acute communicable disease control, health service in parochial schools and health service in a day nursery if there is one in her district. In the latter service we act as agents for the Children's Division of State Welfare Department. We also act in that capacity for health evaluation of prospective foster homes.

## TUBERCULOSIS

## SERVICE

At the close of the year the nursing division had a case load of 958 families. Of this number 638 cases of tuberculosis were carried in 587 families. The remainder, 371, are classified as contact families in which the cases had been removed either by death, hospitalization or change of address. There was a total of 2958 persons in these families who were under the direct guidance of our department. The nurses made 4810 visits to homes of these families. This is a very important area of service but often frustrating for it includes many families with social problems of long standing. Many are on public assistance and I wish to pay a tribute here to the social workers who co-operate so well with us. These cases involve a great expenditure of time in consultation with other agency workers. Again I must say that this cannot show up in a statistical report.

On visiting the families the nurses act as health educators, stressing the importance of periodic x-rays, of strict adherence to the regime as outlined by the physician, the importance of good technique to prevent the spread of the disease and among other things faithfully continuing the chemotherapy whenever prescribed. The nurses also serve at the pulmonary clinic on a rotating basis.

## COMMUNICABLE

## DISEASE

## CONTROL

Of a total of 5487 visits in the interest of communicable disease control 3605 were to homes in which scarlet fever and other streptococcus infections were the major illness. Because these infections are the forerunners of rheumatic fever often followed by permanent heart damage, the nursing division have expended considerable time and effort in an active preventive program. The citizens of Providence have available through the department at no cost, penicillin for prophylaxis of immediate family contacts, subject only to the approval of the family physician. During 1961, 26,842 penicillin tablets were issued to 1371 individuals. This program has enabled the department to liberalize its regulations so that student contacts on this program may attend school with no danger to their classmates. We hope that our efforts will be reflected in a lowered rate of heart cases in the years to come.

Infectious Hepatitis has been on the increase throughout the country. Although Providence had fewer cases in 1961 than in 1960 we still are concerned about the number. Only within the past year has the State Health Department made available gamma globulin in adequate quantities for prevention. We were fortunate in 1960 in having the Chapin Hospital not only provide the gamma globulin but also administer it in the Out-Patient Department to family contacts in the low income group, not on public assistance. Every reported case and contact is visited by one of our nurses. There was a total of 431 visits to the homes of the above. Most of the cases were in the sub-standard South Providence area.

SCHOOL  
HEALTH

This is the area which affords the greatest satisfaction for it is here that we have an opportunity to begin early to teach the importance of good physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health. Since the children of today will be the leaders in an ever growing complex world, we must spare nothing to help them not only develop to their maximum capabilities but to assume some responsibility for keeping fit. The teachers have been co-operating with us in physical fitness programs. There has been greater emphasis on good nutrition and exercise and on corrections of remediable defects. We are more and more concerned with the problems of the emotionally disturbed child however, facilities for diagnosis and treatment are wholly inadequate. This will no doubt be corrected and the sooner the better.

NURSING  
STAFF

The department has at present, fourteen staff nurses, a tuberculosis supervisor who is responsible for the management of the pulmonary clinic, a generalized supervisor whose time is spent in supervising nurses in the acute communicable disease and tuberculosis phase of our work and the director of nursing service who not only acts as administrator of the division but also as counselor in the school health program. The complexities of an expanding program makes great demands on a director and it is not possible to continue as we are and function satisfactorily. We would like to add another generalized supervisor to the staff, one whose major responsibilities would be guidance in the school health program and staff educational director. Our staff education program does pay dividends in high morale. Nurses come to us unprepared for school health work, since this is a specialized area in which no student nurse has training, but after a few years they can leave for school department position offering not only more money, but more time to be with their families. We lost two in this manner last year.

EXHIBIT: A PAROCHIAL SCHOOL HEALTH 1960-61  
26 Elementary & Junior High Schools - 6 Secondary Schools

	Total
HEALTH EXAMINATIONS	
1. Routine	4641
2. Special	314
PARENTS CONFERENCE	
1. At Health Examinations	2753
2. At Other Times	1411
Number of children who require follow-up after exams.	2309
	DENTAL 802 *
Number of defects found at examinations	OTHERS 2749
Number of children examined this year	DENTAL 1957 *
who had defects corrected	OTHERS 1468
Number of children examined previously	DENTAL 1950 *
who had defects corrected	OTHERS 1035
CONTACTS WITH CHILDREN	
1. First Aid	540
2. Follow-up First Aid	316
3. Conferences	7670
4. Inspections	
(a) Heads	3028
(b) Symptoms of Communicable Disease	1004
5. Height - Weight	7090
6. Visual Acuity Tests	
1. By nurses	6226
2. By teachers	5866
7. Hearing Tests	2566
1. Screening	2333
2. Threshold Pure-Tone	233
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	
1. Health Talks to Student Groups	2364
2. Demonstrations to Teachers	102
3. Teacher-Group Conferences	52
4. Planned Teacher-Nurse Conferences	488
CONFERENCES WITH TEACHERS	9605
1. Principal	2305
2. Classroom Teachers	7300
TYPES OF TEACHER CONFERENCES	
1. Preparation for Health Exams.	918
2. Follow-up Health Exams.	1141
3. Health Status of Children	6500
4. Absentees	2460
5. Report of Home Visits	1021
6. Teachers Health	1461
7. Incorporating Health into Curriculum	1355
VISITS TO SCHOOLS	2490

\* Explanation of discrepancy in number of dental defects found at the time of the physical examinations and the number of dental defects corrected. The total dental corrections include those of defects found by the school dentist in children not seen by the school physician.

## EXHIBIT: B

## NURSING VISITS - 1961

	Total
TUBERCULOSIS:	
Cases, all forms	3725
Contacts	1085
TOTAL	4810

## ACUTE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Bacillary Dysentery	1
Chicken-pox	12
Epidemic Meningitis	2
Infectious Hepatitis	431
Measles	627
Poliomyelitis	2
Rheumatic Fever	54
Scarlet Fever	1951
Streptococcal Sore Throat	1654
Para Typhoid	22
Whooping Cough	74
Miscellaneous	675
TOTAL COMMUNICABLE	5505

VISITS TO HOME IN INTEREST OF SCHOOL CHILD	2004
DAY NURSERY	232
FOSTER HOME INVESTIGATIONS	22
PULMONARY CLINIC	144
VACCINATION CLINIC	9
NOT FOUND	2277
ADVICE GIVEN; NOT ADMITTED TO SERVICE	957
TOWER HILL EXAMINATIONS	21
PRODUCTIVE TELEPHONE VISITS	1837

## EXHIBIT: C

## RESIDENT ACUTE COMMUNICABLE DISEASES - 1961

	Total
BACILLARY DYSENTERY	9
CHICKEN-POX	173
DIPHTHERIA	0
EPIDEMIC MENINGITIS	2
GASTRO ENTERITIS	2
INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS	109
INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS	10
MALARIA	0
MEASLES	1,960
MUMPS	62
PNEUMONIA	121
POLIOMYELITIS	1
RHEUMATIC FEVER	0
RUBELLA	51
SCARLET FEVER	281
SEPTICEMIA	6
STREPTOCOCCUS SORE THROAT	334
TETANUS	0
TRICHINOSIS	0
TYPHOID-PARATYPHOID	10
INFLUENZA	9
UNDULANT FEVER	0
WHOOPING COUGH	34

TUBERCULOSIS  
CONTROL

The Pulmonary Clinic had a greater number attending in 1961 than any year since 1953 (see exhibit 1). There also was a greater number x-rayed, the largest number of new patients, and the greatest number of tuberculin skin tests performed. It is noted, too, that there were more home visits made by the Public Health Nurses than any year since 1956.

There would be an even larger number of patients x-rayed if we were adhering to the standards which we were following ten years ago. The major change which reduces the number of x-rays necessary has come about because of the greater utilization of the tuberculin tests. The policy now is to omit x-ray of tuberculin negative reactors unless a special situation prevails.

In 1961 more people were checked by miniature films than at any time since the program was inaugurated (see exhibit 2). It is noted that about 6% of those receiving miniature films required large (14 x 17) films to accurately determine their status. We consider this part of our program a valuable case finding, educational, and economical activity.

Combining the miniature program with the major clinic activity, it is evident that there were a total of 8,908 patients seen and 6,382 films obtained. The increase in our activity in a large measure reflects the increased home visits by our Public Health Nurses and also the efforts of the Health Inspectors in their check-up on food handlers....plus the diligence and competence of the Staff at the Clinic.

There were 102 cases of secondary tuberculosis reported for the year (exhibit 4), which is essentially the same as reported for 1960, and represents the second lowest number in the history of the Health Department. Of equal significance is the age distribution. In 1961 we find that 19% of the patients reported as having secondary tuberculosis were under the age of 35. Ten years ago, in 1951, 34% were under the age of 35, and in 1941, 41% were under the age of 35. These percentages vividly demonstrate that we are now protecting the younger people in their most productive years. It was not too long ago that the most serious consequences of tuberculosis were that the disease was attacking and destroying the health of people under the age of 35. The reversal is gratifying and we are sure that continued progress will be made in the succeeding years. It is to be noted that although 102 cases were reported, only 70 of these were active cases of tuberculosis.

The mortality rate for all residents of Providence is depicted in exhibit 5. We include in our statistics deaths of residents even though they occur out of the City; consequently some of these deaths do not directly reflect on the status of the Tuberculosis Program in the City. The total number for 1961 was 19, which gave us a rate of 9.09 per 100,000, which is slightly

less than the 11.56 in 1960, but slightly more than 1958 and 1959. However, deaths of older people who have had tuberculosis for many years frequently swell the percentage of any one year, and it is best in evaluating mortality statistics to take five year averages, which will show that in the past five years the mortality rate has been 8.37, the previous five years, 11.9, and in the five years previous to that, 28.7.

Exhibit 6 designates the mortality according to age groups, and again we see that there are very few deaths in the younger people, with 73% occurring after the age of 45.

Exhibit 7 signifies the deaths in Providence of residents and non-residents. This, however, does not reflect the true picture of tuberculosis, and is merely maintained for more complete records.

# EXHIBIT 1      SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY OF PULMONARY CLINIC 1952 - 61

<u>Year</u>	<u>Patients Attending</u>	<u>New Patients</u>	<u>X-Rayed</u>	<u>Sputum Reports</u>	<u>Tbc, Skin Tests</u>	<u>Mantoux Test</u>	<u>Home Visits Health Dept.</u>
1952	5139	950	2780	552	348		5073
1953	5363	793	3021	957	437		5100
1954	4787	763	2658	654	397		4448
1955	4245	715	2373	642	300		4494
1956	4679	626	2609	483	341		5963
1957	4244	675	2356	327	278		4543
1958	3326	569	1867	225	134	67	2885
1959	3404	624	1762	348	5	390	3468
1960	3607	633	1822	402	1	899	4268
1961	5208	1268	2682	294		936	4810



## EXHIBIT 2

## FOODHANDLERS - MINIATURE X-RAYS. 1952 - 61

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>NEG. MIN.</u>	<u>DEF. MIN.</u>	<u>14 x 17 REQUESTED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1952	1356	1129	2356	109	20	2377	108	108	2485
1953	1714	1336	2875	155	20	2893	157	157	3050
1954	1752	1513	3112	136	17	3044	221	221	3265
1955	1855	1471	3145	156	25	3115	211	160	3326
1956	1843	1365	3023	169	16	2998	210	210	3208
1957	1882	1589	3279	181	11	3106	362	322	3471
1958	1820	1505	3154	146	25	2999	326	267	3325
1959	1727	1286	2857	145	11	2678	221	221	3013
1960	1801	1501	3130	170	2	3044	258	222	3302
1961	2105	1595	3513	171	16	3459	241	225	3700

## EXHIBIT 3

## RESIDENTS REPORTED HAVING SECONDARY TBC. 1952 - 61

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>NON WHITE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>PUL.</u>	<u>O.F.</u>	<u>PLEUR. ONLY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1952	156	22	114	64	165	12	1	178 and 11 P.I.
1953	150	28	122	56	163	12	3	178 and 13 P.I.
1954	127	22	94	55	140	9	0	149 and 8 P.I.
1955	155	18	115	58	160	13	0	173 and 3 P.I.
1956	106	26	85	47	125	7	0	132 and 5 P.I.
1957	129	19	100	48	144	4	0	148 and 7 P.I.
1958	100	9	78	31	103	6	0	109 and 6 P.I.
1959	89	17	77	29	100	6	0	106 and 4 P.I.
1960	81	18	70	29	88	11	0	99 and 8 P.I.
1961	81	21	71	31	92	10	0	102 and 5 P.I.

## EXHIBIT 4 RESIDENTS REPORTED HAVING SEC. TBC. BY AGE 1952 - 61

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>0-4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>35-44</u>	<u>45-54</u>	<u>55-64</u>	<u>Over 65</u>
1952	2	1	0	9	18	13	14	30	34	31	26
1953	10	7	1	8	15	14	12	35	28	35	26
1954	2	1	1	4	11	13	15	25	27	29	21
1955	3	0	2	6	13	9	21	26	33	33	27
1956	4	3	4	4	7	15	5	25	23	25	22
1957	0	1	3	1	5	7	13	26	25	34	33
1958	0	0	1	3	3	13	4	21	25	10	29
1959	1	0	1	5	2	9	4	13	20	28	23
1960	3	1	1	2	5	4	7	11	23	11	31
1961	0	1	0	3	5	6	6	22	18	21	20

## EXHIBIT 5 DEATH AND DEATH RATES FOR ALL RESIDENTS 1952 - 61

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>DEATHS IN PROV.</u>	<u>RATE PER 100,000</u>	<u>DEATHS OUT- SIDE CITY</u>	<u>TOTAL DEATHS</u>	<u>RATE PER 100,000</u>
1952	18	7.15	20	38	15.19
1953	18	7.15	18	36	14.31
1954	10	3.97	18	28	11.13
1955	11	4.33	14	25	9.84
1956	11	4.33	12	23	9.05
1957	10	3.93	13	23	9.05
1958	5	1.97	8	13	5.1
1959	4	1.57	14	18	7.08
1960	8	3.95	16	24	11.56
1961	8	3.85	11	19	9.09

## EXHIBIT 6 MORTALITY FROM TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) FOR 1952 - 61

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>0-4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>15-19</u>	<u>20-24</u>	<u>25-29</u>	<u>30-34</u>	<u>35-44</u>	<u>45-54</u>	<u>55-64</u>	<u>65-74</u>	<u>75+</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1952	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	6	8	10	9	2	38
1953	0	0	0	2	1	3	2	5	10	4	5	4	36
1954	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	7	7	6	2	28
1955	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	11	6	1	25
1956	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	7	6	3	23
1957	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	5	6	7	23
1958	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	5	1	13
1959	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	4	5	3	18
1960	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5	2	9	4	24
1961	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	3	5	4	19

## EXHIBIT 7 TOTAL DEATHS IN PROVIDENCE, RES. AND NON-RES. 1952 - 61

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>RESIDENTS</u>	<u>NON-RESIDENTS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>RATE PER 100,000</u>
1952	18	5	23	9.14
1953	18	8	26	10.3
1954	10	6	16	6.36
1955	11	7	18	7.09
1956	11	3	14	5.51
1957	10	6	16	6.29
1958	5	5	10	3.9
1959	4	7	11	4.33
1960	8	5	13	6.26
1961	11	3	14	6.73

DIPHTHERIA  
IMMUNIZATION

During the calendar year 1961, there were administered thru this Department 9947 Schick Tests, 2729 Alum Toxoid Diphtheria inoculations and 2346 Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis injections. This was an increase of 1981 Schick Tests, 387 Alum Toxoid Treatments and 91 Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis treatments over the preceeding year. (Exhibit A)

In October, in order to avoid confusion, the responsibility for the Immunization Program in the Well Baby Clinics was turned over to the Physicians conducting these clinics. The Diphtheria Immunization clinics previously conducted once a month at these stations were rescheduled to a different date and time so as not to interfere with the Well Baby Clinics. A separate Clinic had to be established at the Plain Street Recreation Center so as not to conflict with the Rhode Island Hospital Well Baby Clinic.

8370 of the 9947 Schick Tests done in the schools were read as Negative, which would indicate that most children in the City of Providence have been well immunized by their private physicians since the 2346 Tri-Immunol inoculations given at the Infant Stations would only account for less than twenty percent of that age group.

During the year 29,726 Polio inoculations were given at the various Clinics.

POLIO  
IMMUNIZATION

We can be justifiably proud of our polio immunization record. (Exhibit B)

Providence was chosen as one of the test areas in 1954. We recognized very early that proper immunization would prevent this disease. With the full cooperation of the Medical Society and the general public, we embarked on a polio immunization program that put Providence, and Rhode Island, in the forefront among the fighters against this disease. However, in spite of our well planned program, a few areas of resistant persons remained in this state and in 1960 we did experience an epidemic among these unvaccinated groups. Be stressing these facts our immunization program increased in tempo and again Providence, and Rhode Island, enjoyed freedom from this disease. The one case recorded in 1961 was recorded as such only on laboratory findings after death.

While it was true that we were able to immunize 500 individuals an hour using our "Providence Pack" needles, we purchased a Hypospray injector and obtained another through the State for use at our clinics. This "gun" has also been used for other immunizations such as influenza, tetanus and typhoid.

The 29,726 injections administered by this "gun" has more than off set the price of this unit, by eliminating cost of expensive needles.

While this department has no hesitancy in setting up clinics, without "means tests", we still feel that people should, when possible, have their own physician administer the immunization injections when and as needed.

#### WELL

#### BABY

#### CLINICS

Well Baby Clinics have been conducted in the City of Providence for the past forty years. Originally starting out as a community coordinated effort, they have become more and more the responsibility of the Health Department.

At the present time there are eight such Clinics, manned by 7 Physicians, operating in the City of Providence. Four at Housing Projects (Roger Williams, Coddington Court, Chad Brown and Hartford Park). Two at Settlement Houses (The Federal Hill House and Nickerson House). One at the Rhode Island Hospital and one at the Benefit Street Recreation Center. The Benefit Street Recreation Center replaced the Jenkins Street School Clinic in October 1961. (Exhibit C)

When these Clinics were first started, they were housed in School buildings and the local PTA's were very active in getting the supplies. The District Nursing Association supplied the Nurses and the Health Department supplied the Physicians. Today, The Health Department still supplies the Physicians and furnishes other supplies such as syringes, trays, thermometers, scales, tape measures, baskets and records.

While the Health Department does assume most of the financial responsibility the overall policy formulation is still set by the meeting of representatives from the Providence District Nursing Association, the Health Department and the Pediatricians who are active in this field, the PTA having withdrawn. A great deal of credit goes to Dr. Harold G. Calder and Dr. Morris Adelman for their continued activity, both having been associated with these clinics since its inception.

Exhibit "A" - DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATIONS

Schick Test	9947
Positive	1386
Negative	8370
Not Read (Absent)	191
1st Treatment	1386
2nd Treatment	1343

Exhibit "B" - POLIO IMMUNIZATIONS

1st Injection	2861
2nd	2573
3rd	7228
4th	4420
5th	7516
6th	3405
7th	584
Unknown No.	1139
	<u>29726</u>

Exhibit "C" - CHILD HEALTH CONFERENCE CLINICS - 1961

<u>NAME OF CLINIC</u>	<u>CLINIC SESSIONS</u>	<u>TOT. ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>TOTAL SEEN BY DOCTOR</u>
Federal Hill House	50	135	122
Roger Williams Housing	49	411	405
Nickerson House	50	313	270
Codding Court	51	270	258
Rhode Island Hospital	50	873	848
Benefit St. and Jenkins St.	48	253	228
Chad Brown Housing	49	598	572
Hartford Park	49	560	549
	<u>396</u>	<u>3,413</u>	<u>3,252</u>
At Doctor's request, Nurse examination only			<u>161</u>
			<u>3,413</u>

PAROCHIAL During the school year 1960-1961 the Dental Examiner and  
SCHOOLS Clinic Supervisor, examined 9835 children in kindergarten  
and grades 1 to 4 inclusive in the Providence public and  
DENTAL parochial schools. Of these children, 4468 or 45.4% had  
REPORT decayed teeth and 13.6% or 1340 children had decayed  
permanent teeth. This is only a slight change in the number  
of children with decayed teeth from the number of children  
with decayed teeth from the 1959-1960 examinations, but  
there is a 1% increase in decayed permanent teeth for the  
same period.

In the parochial schools, The Dental Examiner examined 4826  
children in the above grades and 44% or 2133 had decayed  
teeth while 530 or 10.9% of these children had decayed  
permanent teeth. This shows no change from the 1959-1960  
examinations. The children of the parochial schools show a  
better record than those in the public schools. For example,  
decayed teeth in the parochial schools were 44% compared to  
46.6% in the public schools and parochial children had 10.9%  
decayed permanent teeth to 16% in the public schools.

The school dental clinics were opened for 20 weeks again this  
year and during this period 855 children from the parochial  
schools made 3401 visits to the clinics. (Exhibit A.) These  
children had 2011 teeth filled of which 679 were permanent  
teeth. Also, 317 received treatments or medicated fillings  
for deep seated cavities, 554 had extractions of which only  
3 were for permanent teeth and 718 children had their teeth  
cleaned. Of the 855 children to visit the clinics, 638 or  
74% of them had their work completed. This is a very good  
record.

With 855 children going to the clinics and only 3 permanent  
teeth being extracted, it shows that the school children's  
permanent teeth are being well taken care of for their adult  
life.

EXHIBIT ACLINIC SERVICE TO PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS 1960-61

CLINICS	Patients			Emer-	Teeth	Treat-	Filled		Extracted		Hosp.	Comp.
	Ret.	New	Tot.	gency	Cl'nd	ments	Tem.	Per.	Tem.	Per.		
ACADEMY	176	41	217		50		77	47	35			32
BRIDGHAM	270	79	349	1	79	12	126	102	41			69
ED.FLYNN	194	84	278	2	80	8	95	78	40		4	84
FOX POINT	234	54	288	1	42	77	89	35	45	2		37
JENKINS	255	74	329		62	45	123	93	50		3	52

(cont'd)





EXHIBIT B Cont'd.	<u>% Decrease in Caries</u>	<u>% Increase in Caries</u>
HOLY GHOST	.8%	
HOLY NAME		6.3%
ST. JOSEPH		6.9%
ST. MARY	5.5%	
ST. MICHAEL		2.7%
OUR LADY OF LOURDES	7.2%	
ST. PATRICK	4.9%	
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN DAY		10.5%
ST. PIUS	.5%	
ST. RAYMOND		2%
ST. SEBASTIAN		16.1%
ST. TERESA	4.1%	
ST. THOMAS		5%
TYLER		6.5%

## RODENT

## CONTROL

Since the dawn of civilization rats have been a problem to man and programs have been undertaken to control and eliminate their population. Rats and mice have followed man to most of the areas he has settled and his indifference and carelessness in handling foodstuff and refuse have fostered populations of rats in such proximity to his home and work that they are now called "domestic" rodents. As a result of this relationship, we often suffer from rat bites and rodent-borne diseases.

Our community-wide eradication program was initiated in 1948. A mixture of "Warfarin" and corn meal is prepared and placed on publicly owned properties, dumps and river banks. Responsibility for rodent infestation of all privately owned properties falls fully upon the owner or occupant of such premises. Sanitarians investigating reports of such nuisances and conditions of harborage, stress where regulations are violated and offer advice for correcting conditions and eliminating the problem. During 1961, 2068 complaints of suspected infestation were received and investigated. Notices were sent to owners or occupants advising them to eliminate rat-infested conditions, to correct other sanitary violations, and to accomplish the measures necessary for ratproofing. Court action was necessary in 45 instances of non-compliance. The baiting program resulted in the placing of over 16,000 containers of Warfarin throughout the city. 687 packages of "free" bait were distributed by the Health Office. The department received 3 reports of rat bites during this period. 49 "No Dumping" signs were posted on various properties.

## MOSQUITO

## CONTROL

In Providence the mosquito is primarily a nuisance factor, and not a factor in malaria control. Few insects if any, can compare with the mosquito as a pest of man. These common nuisances are not known only for their part in the spreading of disease, but have been known to effect real estate values in areas near swamps, marshes and ponds.

The Health Department maintains a constant program of Mosquito control and elimination of breeding places. Drainage ditches are constructed where necessary, to provide an effective and economical course for removal of surface water. Three main conditions making constant summer and winter maintenance are necessary: Growth of vegetation, caving or sloughing of banks and artificial obstructions. Brush cutting within three feet of ditch and stream banks is required after each growing season.

Drainage work starts early in the spring with the first appearance of larvae, and is kept ahead of the mosquitoes. During the breeding season all areas of surface water, ponds and swamps are sprayed periodically with oil. With the arrival of the end of the breeding season efforts are intensified to reduce the last brood as far as possible so as to have fewer overwintering mosquitoes to start the next year's brood. During the winter months maintenance work of streams and drainage systems is continued.

All local control work is surveyed and approved by State Director of Agriculture and Conservation.

#### 1961 Program

Ditching	19,370 Lin. Ft.
Acres Sprayed	2,754
Brush Cutting	203,650 Sq. Ft.
Catch Basins Sprayed	68,383
Spray materials used	4,045 Gals.

**WEED CONTROL** Control of Poison Ivy, and other poisonous or dangerous weeds, falls under the jurisdiction of this Health Department. Owners of property which has such growth in evidence are notified to remove such weeds within five days of receiving notice. With the cooperation of the Providence Police Department, this office removed 24 loads of Marihuana from various locations in the city. Poison Ivy growth on City owned property was reported and controlled at 6 locations.

**RABIES CONTROL** Providence has been fortunate in not having had a case of rabies reported in over 30 years. Although this record is encouraging, the Health Department, with the cooperation of the Dog Officer, continuously survey each report of animal bite submitted. Stray animals are picked up by the dog officer, regularly and biting animals' reported are, if found, quarantined for 10 to 15 days at the pound. Brain examinations were performed by the State Laboratory on 14 dogs. All these examinations were found negative.

During 1961 there were reported to this department, 770 Dog bites, 23 cat bites, 5 mouse bites, 3 rat bites, 2 monkey bites, 2 hamster bites, 2 parakeet bites, 1 bat bite, one horse bite, 1 rabbit bite, 1 squirrel bite and 1 turtle bite. Of the dog bites reported, the owner was established in 561 cases and in 209 cases ownership could not be determined.

FOOD  
CONTROL

Sanitary practices in the various food handling establishments were strengthened to an all time high during the year. The department has followed the plan of action whereby inspection, education, cooperation and regulation have brought about better and more efficient standards in 1285 food handling establishments. Through experience, it is apparent that a strict enforcement of the ordinance leads to a far better and more friendly relationship between the Health Officer and the Industry, then does a policy of enforcement which seeks to excuse violations and defer punishment thereof. Whenever violations are discovered, the Sanitarian points out to the management the requirements that have been violated, suggests methods of correcting the defects and explains the Public Health reason for such requirements.

The inspection staff consists of a Chief Sanitarian, four Sanitarian Aides, and a Kosher Food Inspector, who made a total of 4806 inspections during the year, exclusive of recalls and complaint investigations. Evidence of enforcement of good sanitary practices is apparent by the minimum number of complaints and reported cases of illnesses caused by consumption of contaminated food. Proper handling, refrigeration and cooking procedures are prime requisites in preventing food poisoning outbreaks. Methods of cleaning and bactericidal treatment of utensils and equipment are always under the scrutiny of the Sanitarian, for food cannot be clean and safe if permitted to be handled or served on improperly treated utensils.

Certain diseases can be controlled and in some cases are completely absent from the community because of proper restaurant inspection and regulation. Sanitary practices carried out by Providence restaurants have greatly reduced the transmission of contagious diseases. These restaurants should be complimented for their part in disease control. Proper education of all concerned in the food handling industry appears to be the greatest area for attaining improvement and appreciation for the vital need and importance of the Sanitary Code.

To establish better sanitary and licensing controls over the operations of "Traveling Restaurants", every vehicle known operating and licensed within the city was given a thorough inspection and windshield "Emblem" in September. This emblem serves as a visual identification of a properly license truck, complying with sanitary regulations. Previously it was difficult to establish whether a moving vendor was properly licensed and had received proper inspection. This system has been proven very effective both for the Health Department and for the operators. During August and September 159 vehicles were inspected and identification emblems were issued.

The Department has initiated a periodic bulletin known as the "Key", which is distributed to all Licensees, informing the trade of priority requirements and other interesting matter related to food handling and sanitary procedures. An In-Service training program has been adopted for all members of the Staff, whereby group discussion, films and lectures by members of the Food and Drug Administration, plumbing trade and others have been of great assistance in improving Staff knowledge and efficiency.

A Restaurant Improvement Program has been established whereby the most prevalent deficiencies found in the field are emphasized for correction. Stressing most vital requirements first, we hope to, within two years, have every food handling establishment in prime sanitary status. This program should reward Providence with some of the finest restaurants in the country.

#### FOOD

#### HANDLERS

No person without the certificate issued by the Health Department, may engage in the preparation or serving of food or drink within the City of Providence. Each person is required to be examined by a Physician to ascertain if such person is suffering from or infected by any contagious disease. Each such person is required to have a physical examination once every six months and to have a chest X-ray once each year. Physicians are available daily at the Charles V. Chapin Hospital Food Handlers Clinic for free examinations and X-rays. During this period 3700 x-rays and 3897 physicals were processed.

Ground work has been laid for the establishment of a year round "walk-in" X-ray facility at the Health Department, Fountain Street office. This service will provide an easily accessible permanent facility for TB and chest disease control. Special efforts will also be made to encourage participation among Welfare recipients and City employees.

Throughout the year, this division has maintained liaison with the United States Navy, United States Food & Drug Administration, the State Department of Health, Fire Department and many City Agencies in carrying out its restaurant control program. Through continued cooperation from the Food Handling Industry and such Agencies, we look forward with pride, to another year of accomplishment in a field which is vital to the citizens of our community and to the survival and success of every restaurateur.

#### Summary of Restaurant Inspections

Routine Inspections	4806
Recalls	624
Complaint investigations	153
Total Inspections	5583
Average Monthly Inspections	465

#### Licensed Food Establishments

Class A Restaurants	492
Class B Restaurants	132
Delicatessens	263
Ice Cream vendors	163
Industrial Caterers (trucks)	159
Caterers, Commissaries	76

MILK  
QUALITY  
CONTROL

During the past year this department purchased a Fiske Milk Cryoscope. This is a precise electronic instrument designed to give a rapid determination of the freezing point of milk and thus the possibility of added water. This machine proved its value immediately, as tests showed samples with added water. Upon investigation it was found that many short time pasteurizers are pushed and carelessness on the part of the operator allowed some water to enter the milk.

Extreme care should be taken by all milk dealers to see that the volume of water used is correct and that the time needed to remove the milk is accurate. There are no short cuts in health protection.

MILK LICENSES ISSUED

Milk Dealers.....76                      Schools, Stores, Fountains.....981

SAMPLES ANALYZED

Chemical  
6,569

Bacteriological  
6,469

SAMPLES COLLECTED

Milk.....6,500                      Cream.....687

PLANT INSPECTIONS

Milk Plants.....60

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL ACTIVITY

Milk Plants located in Providence.....5

Milk dealers delivering in Providence.....76

Hearings held.....3

Violation warnings issued.....480

Estimated daily consumption

Grade A.....20,000 qts.

Pasteurized.....145,000 qts.

FROZEN  
DESSERT  
QUALITY  
CONTROL

Ice cream and frozen dessert products are under the constant surveillance of the Milk Inspection laboratory. These supplies are examined each month as a check on the sanitary conditions surrounding the manufacture, handling and distribution and quality of this important milk product. Inspections are increased during the summer months when an influx of mobile dealers peddle through the city streets. Hand scooping operations, particularly, require much attention as this method, although legal, offers the greatest chance of contamination through improper handling and storage of the spoon or scoop.

FROZEN DESSERT SAMPLES ANALYZED

Chemical.....288

Bacteriological.....424

Number of Frozen Dessert Dealer  
licenses Issued,...70

Frozen Desserts Plants in City.....39

Frozen Dessert Plants shipping finished  
products into city,31

Plant Inspection.....45

Frozen Dessert Hearings held.....6