

29. *Deafness*.—Deafness is due to so great a variety of causes that it will be difficult to account for the variation in the distribution of incidence of deafness among the different States. (Table 29.) On the one hand a certain amount of deafness is due to syphilitic infection of the child before birth; on the other hand a large amount of congenital deafness is hereditary, and there is often an hereditary tendency to progressive deafness due to catarrhal and other conditions. We find that the more populous States of New Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Texas, and New York occupy the middle position in the list of States arranged by ratio of incidence of deafness. Southern and Western States are relatively free, as in the case of deaf-mutism, and for the same reasons.

TABLE 29.—Grand total for deafness, with ratio per 1,000 men.

State.	Number of cases.	Ratio per 1,000.	State.	Number of cases.	Ratio per 1,000.
Vermont.....	25	2.97	Maryland.....	44	1.18
Maine.....	56	2.83	New Mexico.....	12	1.17
Oregon.....	37	2.31	Minnesota.....	82	1.14
Kentucky.....	145	2.27	Mississippi.....	43	1.14
Virginia.....	107	1.92	South Carolina.....	45	1.14
Washington.....	68	1.91	Kansas.....	43	1.12
Utah.....	22	1.87	New Hampshire.....	9	1.06
Oklahoma.....	112	1.84	Iowa.....	71	1.04
Tennessee.....	111	1.81	Louisiana.....	50	.97
Missouri.....	153	1.79	Illinois.....	171	.95
Rhode Island.....	26	1.79	Indiana.....	66	.92
South Dakota.....	36	1.73	Nevada.....	3	.91
District of Columbia.....	19	1.65	Wyoming.....	6	.90
Alaska.....	2	1.64	Nebraska.....	25	.85
Ohio.....	229	1.60	Michigan.....	75	.76
West Virginia.....	62	1.59	Idaho.....	8	.64
North Dakota.....	28	1.57	Alabama.....	28	.54
North Carolina.....	85	1.53	Colorado.....	11	.49
New Jersey.....	109	1.44	Florida.....	11	.46
Wisconsin.....	91	1.44	Connecticut.....	6	.17
Massachusetts.....	129	1.41	Arizona.....	1	.12
Pennsylvania.....	276	1.36	Georgia.....	6	.09
Texas.....	159	1.34	Arkansas.....	1	.02
California.....	102	1.26	State not specified.....	9	.09
Montana.....	34	1.24			
Delaware.....	6	1.19	Total.....	3,363	1.22
New York.....	308	1.19			

30. *Defective hearing*—(See Table 30).

TABLE 30.—Grand total for defective hearing with ratio per 1,000 men.

State.	Number of cases.	Ratio per 1,000.	State.	Number of cases.	Ratio per 1,000.
Maine.....	239	12.06	Minnesota.....	389	5.41
Connecticut.....	430	11.97	Arkansas.....	229	5.36
Vermont.....	93	11.05	Oklahoma.....	320	5.27
Rhode Island.....	149	10.28	District of Columbia.....	59	5.11
Alaska.....	12	9.85	North Carolina.....	281	5.07
New Hampshire.....	78	9.15	New Jersey.....	382	5.03
Nevada.....	28	8.51	Michigan.....	494	4.99
Washington.....	298	8.38	Montana.....	136	4.96
Maryland.....	305	8.20	Florida.....	118	4.89
Massachusetts.....	688	7.53	West Virginia.....	183	4.70
Colorado.....	165	7.33	Georgia.....	293	4.59
Utah.....	86	7.31	Texas.....	544	4.59
Oregon.....	113	7.06	Pennsylvania.....	915	4.52
New Mexico.....	71	6.94	Wyoming.....	29	4.37
Iowa.....	463	6.75	Nebraska.....	128	4.34
California.....	530	6.57	Virginia.....	235	4.22
Louisiana.....	328	6.34	Kansas.....	160	4.16
Idaho.....	79	6.33	Mississippi.....	152	4.03
Indiana.....	451	6.31	Alabama.....	194	3.74
South Dakota.....	130	6.26	Ohio.....	532	3.72
Illinois.....	1,069	5.96	Arizona.....	29	3.50
New York.....	1,325	5.91	South Carolina.....	133	3.38
Missouri.....	497	5.80	Delaware.....	17	3.36
Kentucky.....	362	5.66	State not specified.....	147	1.55
North Dakota.....	100	5.60			
Wisconsin.....	352	5.57	Total.....	15,076	5.47
Tennessee.....	336	5.49			