

**EPI Gram** is a monthly publication of the Stark County Public Health Coalition. It contains a summary of provisional communicable disease reports and other key public health indicators, with summary tables for Stark County, Ohio. Some reportable conditions may be under investigation; and, at any given time, data may fluctuate from month to month for a specific category.

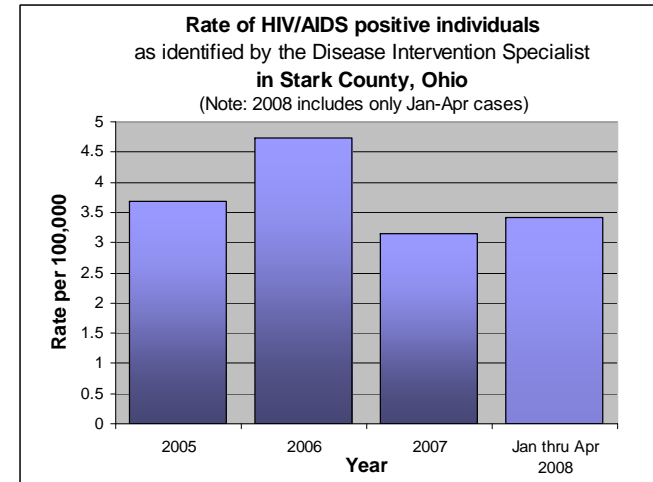
**IN THE NEWS:**

**HIV/AIDS:** The Disease Intervention Specialist has identified a startling number of HIV/AIDS positive individuals in 2008. The number of cases through the month of April was 13, surpassing the total number identified in the entire 2007 calendar year. The number of cases is not the only alarming trend. These cases have been identified in a younger population than in previous years with the 15-24 year old age category attributing to 38 percent of the cases. Further, despite current Stark County estimated population racial demographics reflecting 7.5% of the population is African American and 90.1% is White, the 2008 cases are 46% African American and 54% White.

Initial reports indicate unprotected sexual contact as the primary risk factor. Some of the men reported sexual contact with men or with both men and women. Despite the self-reports of HIV positive individuals having unprotected sexual contact with women, there have been no identified cases in the female population this year or last.

One very positive trend has also surfaced; these young men are recognized at an earlier stage of disease progression. All of the Jan to April 2008 cases were identified as HIV positive rather than AIDS. This trend mirrors a new goal issued by the CDC to “Increase the proportion of people at the time of HIV diagnosis with a CD4 count greater than 350.”

For further information including available testing sites in Stark County Ohio, please contact Pam Gibbs, Stark Regional HIV Prevention and Education Planning Advisory Group Chair, at 330.489.3322.



**Table 1 Summary of Air Quality Index, Pollen, and Mold Counts for Stark County, Ohio, including limited historical data.**

	April 2008				May 2008			
	Monthly High	Monthly Low	Monthly Mean	Counts in highest reported health risk category	Monthly High	Monthly Low	Monthly Mean	Counts in highest reported health risk category
Pollen Count	1400	5	319	N/A	2320	45	428	N/A
Mold Count	8090	540	2673	1 Moderate	8190	1230	4298	2 Moderate
Air Quality Index	67	30	44	3 Moderate	67	25	43	3 Moderate

Pollen and Mold counts are derived from rotorod samples on the 2<sup>nd</sup> story roof of Canton City Hall. The readings are from a 24 hour period/24 hour avg. on all work days. Mold counts of 6,500-12,999 are moderate and many individuals sensitive to molds may experience symptoms, counts of 13,000 to 49,999 are high and most individuals with any sensitivity to molds will experience symptoms. These indices are produced from March to October. The Air Quality Index (AQI) is derived by comparison to EPA standards from the following readings: Particulate Matter 10, Particulate Matter 2.5 continuous on CCHD 2<sup>nd</sup> floor roof top; Sulfur Dioxide at Malone College; and ozone monitors in Canton, Brewster, Alliance, and Middlebranch. AQI ratings are 151-200: unhealthy (UH); 101-150: unhealthy for sensitive groups (UH sg); 51-100: moderate (M); 0-50: good (g).

**Table 2 Summary of Select Vital Statistics for Stark County, Ohio**

	April 2008	YTD 2008	2007
Live Births	335	1473	5057
Births to Teens	40	150	537
Deaths	380	1593	4061

Due to the current method of reporting live births, all data is provisional.

**Table 3 Stark County Crude Birth and Death Rates per 100,000 Population** Rates are based on the US Census 2000 Stark County population of 377,438.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Birth	1260	1240	1211	1282	1342
Death	1110	1040	1140	1076	1076

**Table 4 – Summary of Select Reportable Diseases for April 2008 in Stark County, Ohio (provisional data only)**

Refer to “Case Definitions for Infectious Conditions Under Public Health Surveillance,” MMWR (Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report) 1997; 46 (No. RR-10), the Ohio Department of Health Infectious Disease Control Manual or visit [www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/casedef/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/casedef/index.htm) for case definitions.

This report includes confirmed, probable and suspect cases.

	Alliance City			Canton City			Massillon City			Stark County			Stark County Totals			
	Apr 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Apr 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Apr 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Apr 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Apr 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	5 Year annual average
Amebiasis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Campylobacteriosis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	5	8	1	5	10	51.8
Chlamydia	9	27	29	61	211	182	11	32	17	19	95	97	100	365	325	1126.4
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Ds	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0.6
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	4	3	2	5	6	14
E Coli 0157	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.4
E Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	3
Enceph., WNV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.6
Enceph., Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2.8
Giardiasis	1	1	3	0	3	1	0	0	2	2	8	6	3	12	12	49.2
Gonorrhea	2	9	7	31	133	154	3	11	16	9	29	46	45	182	223	646
Haemo. Influz., Bac	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	1	5.8
Hepatitis A	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
Hepatitis B*	0	0	0	2	6	4	0	0	2	0	5	4	2	11	10	44.6
Hepatitis C*#	3	11	8	6	22	36	4	10	3	8	31	38	21	74	85	273.5
Kawasaki Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.6
Legionellosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	12.2
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	2.4
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	4	1	2.6
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
Meningitis, Asep	1	1	0	0	2	5	0	0	1	0	1	4	1	4	10	53.8
Meningitis Bac.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	4.4
Meningococcal Dis.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.4
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.4
Pertussis	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	7	17
Salmonellosis	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	6	7	1	6	11	49.4
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	9	0	11.8
Strep Inv A GAS	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	7	2	2	8	5	12.2
Strep B Newborn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2
Strep Pneu ISP	0	1	0	1	4	9	0	2	1	5	20	14	6	27	24	47.8
Strep TSS	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	0.4
Syphilis	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	9	3	21.6
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Varicella#	0	2	5	2	5	16	0	1	4	5	20	77	7	28	102	
Vibriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	3	4	2

\*This includes all hepatitis reports; acute, chronic, and status not known. # Incomplete 5 yr average due to a change in reporting.

If you have any questions, including how to receive copies of this report, please contact Karen Schanz at (330) 493-9928 x287 or [Schanzk@starkhealth.org](mailto:Schanzk@starkhealth.org) or Christina Henning at (330) 489-3327 or [Chenning@cantonhealth.org](mailto:Chenning@cantonhealth.org).