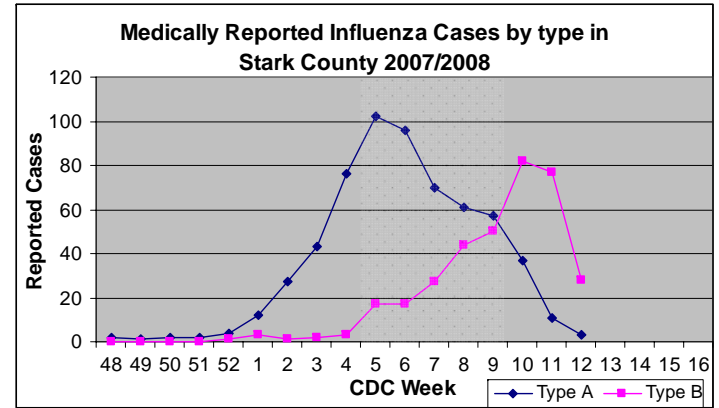


EPI Gram is a monthly publication of the Stark County Public Health Coalition. It contains a summary of provisional communicable disease reports and other key public health indicators, with summary tables for Stark County, Ohio. Some reportable conditions may be under investigation; and, at any given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

IN THE NEWS:

Influenza: February saw a peak in reported cases of Influenza type A; however, type B influenza quickly rose throughout the month, leading to an elevated number of cases throughout February. A particular highlight of this year's influenza season has been the increased number of reporting facilities. Twenty different clinics, hospitals, laboratories, and physicians offices took the time to report cases to their local health jurisdiction. Those that were able also reported Influenza type and patient age, thus permitting a detailed picture of influenza activity in Stark County.



Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) is a rare progressive neurological disease that often begins with symptoms such as confusion, poor concentration, or intermittent unsteadiness when standing or walking and then progresses to worsening dementia and death in as little as a few months. The causative agent of CJD is unknown and there is no known treatment or cure. CJD is reported sporadically in Stark County, including 2 cases reported to the Stark County Health Department in February 2008 which are still under investigation. CJD is not related to variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD), which has been linked to consuming beef products from cattle that were infected with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE, Mad Cow Disease) in Europe.

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

	February 2008				March 2007			
	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	Suspended for Season				Suspended for Season			
Mold Count	Suspended for Season				Suspended for Season			
Air Quality Index	60	9	26.85	2 Moderate	57	10	29.38	2 Moderate

Pollen and Mold counts are derived from rotorod samples on the 2nd 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 2nd 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

	Feb 2008	YTD 2008	2007
Live Births	365	702	5057
Births to Teens	44	80	537
Deaths	335	597	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	142
Death	1110	1040	1140	1076	1076

Table 4 – Summary of Select Reportable Diseases for February 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 for case definitions.

This report includes confirmed, probable and suspect cases.

	Alliance City			Canton City			Massillon City			Stark County			Stark County Totals			
	Feb 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Feb 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Feb 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Feb 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Feb 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	0	0	0	1	2	3	3	2	3	4	51.8
Chlamydia	3	14	14	39	94	103	6	13	6	30	52	57	78	173	180	1126.4
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Ds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0.6
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	3	1	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	0	0	0	0	0	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.8
Giardiasis	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	4	2	1	7	6	49.2
Gonorrhea	4	6	5	28	77	87	5	7	6	8	14	20	45	104	118	646
Haemo. Influz., Bac	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	0	2	2	0	3	1	2	4	0	2	9	3	44.6
Hepatitis C*#	2	6	1	6	11	13	2	3	0	10	19	12	20	39	26	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	0	0	0	1	0	12.2
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2.4
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2.6
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
Meningitis, Asep	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	3	53.8
Meningitis Bac.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	4.4
Meningococcal Dis.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	17
Salmonellosis	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	4	1	3	7	49.4
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	6	0	11.8
Strep Inv A GAS	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	5	6	1	5	6	3	12.2
Strep B Newborn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Strep Pneu ISP	0	1	0	1	2	6	0	1	0	6	13	7	7	17	13	47.8
Strep TSS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Syphilis	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	7	2	21.6
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Varicella#	0	1	1	1	3	6	0	0	1	6	13	43	7	17	51	#
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	1	1	1	1	2	1	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 or Christina Henning at (330) 489-3327 or Chenning@cantonhealth.org.