

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:

Salmonella: A National outbreak of Salmonella Tennessee, linked to peanut butter, has been confirmed in Stark County. Currently, three Salmonella cases are linked with the outbreak, one case is directly linked through a PFGE matched specimen, one is pending further lab results, and one will remain as suspect, with no specimens available for further testing. Numerous calls have been received by all health departments from consumers reporting consumption of the peanut butter in question and having Salmonella like symptoms. Those that are reporting current illness are being referred to their physician for treatment. The Ohio Department of Health is asking for stool specimens from anyone with Salmonella like symptoms and reporting recent consumption of the specific type of peanut butter in question. For questions on current recommendations for collecting and ordering stool specimens, please contact your local health department. For information on the details of the nationwide outbreak, refer to: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/salmonellosis_2007/outbreak_notice.htm.

Norovirus: Early in January, two confirmed Norovirus outbreaks were investigated. One outbreak involved several groups of people who celebrated New Year's Eve at a local restaurant. Approximately 15 people became ill following the parties, 2 of whom were confirmed to have Norovirus. A separate outbreak was investigated at an assisted-living facility. Approximately 30 staff and residents were ill.

Norovirus has not subsided in the community, with two outbreaks reported in February currently under investigation. One involved an extended-care facility with 57 patients and staff reporting illness, several with lab confirmation. The second, at a local restaurant, required hospitalization of 3 suspect cases. For most patients presenting with Norovirus typical symptoms have included severe vomiting and/or diarrhea lasting approximately 24 hours, this is frequently accompanied by chills, mild if any fever, nausea, and malaise. For the average adult stricken with this illness normal activities are resumed in 48 hours. However, for those recently affected, more severe affects have been seen resulting in hospitalization. For further information on Norovirus refer to: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/gastro/norovirus.htm>.

Influenza: Based on reports throughout the state of increased rates of influenza and influenza like illness Ohio's influenza activity has been elevated from Sporadic to LOCAL activity. **Locally**, Stark County has 242 lab confirmed cases. Laboratory reports peaked at the end of January and have since steadily declined. A similar declining trend has been seen in ILI reports from area schools. After four straight weeks with the median age of those affected under 10 years the median has increased and remained steady around 30 years.

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

	January 2007				February 2006			
	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	32	7	32	21 Good	45	8	25	21 Good

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. 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. This index is produced from March to October. 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

	Jan 2007	YTD 2007	2006
Live Births	408	408	4839
Births to Teens	51	51	434
Deaths	345	345	4061

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.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Birth	1270	1260	1240	1211	1282
Death	1090	1110	1040	1140	1141

Table 4 – Summary of Select Reportable Diseases for January 2007 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			
	Jan 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Jan 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Jan 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Jan 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Jan 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	5 Year annual average
Amebiasis													0	0	0	0.4
Campylobacteriosis						2				3	3	3	3	3	5	51.8
Chlamydia	8	8	8	66	66	66	4	4		37	37	28	115	115	102	1126.4
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Ds													0	0	0	0.6
Cryptosporidiosis										1	1		1	1	0	14
E Coli 0157													0	0	0	2.4
E Coli													0	0	0	3
Enceph., WNV													0	0	0	3.6
Enceph., Other													0	0	0	2.8
Giardiasis	1	1	1									1	1	1	2	49.2
Gonorrhea	4	4	5	52	52	41	1	1		12	12	7	69	69	53	646
Haemo. Influz., Bac				1	1	1							1	1	1	5.8
Hepatitis A	1	1											1	1	0	8
Hepatitis B*				2	2	4	1	1					3	3	4	44.6
Hepatitis C*#	1	1	1	9	9	7			2	9	9	7	19	19	17	273.5
Kawasaki Syndrome													0	0	0	3.6
Legionellosis													0	0	0	12.2
Listeriosis										1	1	1	1	1	1	2.4
Lyme Disease													0	0	0	2.6
Malaria													0	0	0	0.8
Meningitis, Asep				1	1							1	1	1	1	53.8
Meningitis Bac.													0	0	0	4.4
Meningococcal Dis.										1	1		1	1	0	2.4
Mumps													0	0	0	0.4
Pertussis				1	1	2				1	1		2	2	2	17
Salmonellosis	1	1		1	1					1	1	3	3	3	3	49.4
Shigellosis															0	11.8
Strep Inv A GAS			1							1	1		1	1	1	12.2
Strep B Newborn													0	0	0	2
Strep Pneu ISP				4	4					6	6	3	10	10	3	47.8
Strep TSS													0	0	0	0.4
Syphilis										1	1	1	1	1	1	21.6
Typhoid Fever													0	0	0	0.4
Varicella#	1	1	2	5	5	13	1	1		21	21	63	28	28	78	
Vibriosis													0	0	0	0.2
Yersiniosis			0										0	0	0	1

*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) 489-3454 or Chenning@cantonhealth.org.