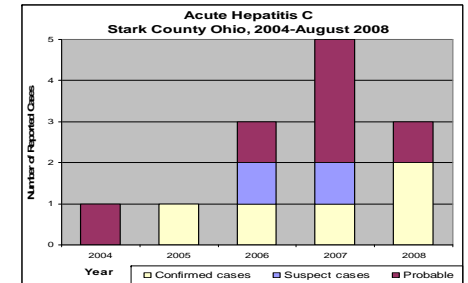


EPI Gram is a monthly publication of the Stark County Public Health Coalition. It contains a summary of provisional communicable disease reports and other key public health indicators, with summary tables for Stark County, Ohio. Some reportable conditions may be under investigation; and, at any given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

**IN THE NEWS:**

**Acute Hepatitis C:** Acute cases of Hepatitis C are rare in our community; however, in just over one month 3 cases (2 confirmed, 1 probable) have been identified. These cases are geographically centered within a 1 ½ mile area of Canton City. The cases range in age from 37-57, with 2 males and 1 female identified. Prior to 2008, Stark County received 3 confirmed case reports since Hepatitis became a reportable disease in Ohio. (See graph)

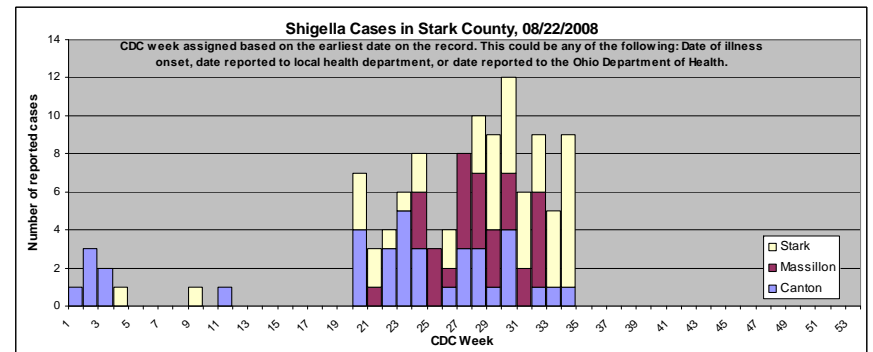


The cases this year may never be fully understood or a source identified as they provided false or outdated contact information to their healthcare providers. In order to establish possible sources of infection and trends in disease, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention would like a Viral Hepatitis form completed on all cases of Hepatitis, and, in particular, on acute cases, a form which public health struggles to complete due to the often high loss to follow-up when attempting to contact patients. Additional information on Hepatitis and case forms can be found at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/Statistics.htm#section2>.

**Diarrheal Diseases:** The overall rate of reportable diarrheal illness is elevated, with both Cryptosporidium and Shigella exceeding the 5 year average and Campylobacter exceeding the number we would expect at this time of year. Most notably, Shigella cases continue to increase and spread rapidly in the home and daycare settings. Also, reports of gastrointestinal illness, as reported by local hospital RODS data, have been greater than our upper threshold (2.5 times the standard deviation of our four year average) on 11 different occasions in the past 10 weeks. This is an indication that other cases may exist, but simply have not been diagnosed.

Through Health Alert Messages area health departments continue to urge physicians to screen symptomatic patients and their household contacts for diarrheal illnesses to help slow and eliminate their spread in our community.



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

	July 2008				August 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	65	5	28.8	N/A	200	5	58.3	N/A
Mold Count	15760	6720	9573	1 High	22950	3740	12466	10 High
Air Quality Index	90	30	48.05	6 Moderate	93	19	50.2	9 Moderate

Pollen and Mold counts are derived from rotorod samples on the 2<sup>nd</sup> story roof of the Canton City Health Department. 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 2.5 continuous monitoring on CCHD 2<sup>nd</sup> floor roof top and ozone monitors in Canton, Brewster, and Alliance. 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**

	July 2008	YTD 2008	2007 Total
Live Births	346	2878	5057
Births to Teens	29	317	537
Deaths	304	2603	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 July 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			
	Jul 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Jul 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Jul 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Jul 2008	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	Jul 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	1	1	2	5	8	3	3	4	1	10	21	16	19	34	22	51.8
Chlamydia	10	50	55	45	325	361	10	50	38	31	151	160	86	576	614	1126.4
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Ds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	2	3	2	0.6
Cryptosporidiosis	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	6	13	3	8	16	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	0	1	1	0	1	1	3
Enceph., WNV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.6
Enceph., Other	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	3	1	2.8
Giardiasis	0	1	5	4	7	4	1	1	0	1	13	15	6	22	24	49.2
Gonorrhea	1	11	10	42	251	253	2	18	29	16	53	73	59	333	365	646
Haemo. Influz., Bac	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	6	1	5.8
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	4	0	3	5	8
Hepatitis B*	0	1	0	2	9	7	2	5	2	2	8	12	6	23	21	44.6
Hepatitis C*#	3	18	18	12	47	59	0	14	10	22	68	60	37	147	147	273.5
Kawasaki Syndrome	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3.6
Legionellosis	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	0	2	5	1	5	9	2	12.2
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	1	2.4
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	0	2.6
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
Meningitis, Asep	1	2	0	1	4	10	1	1	2	3	9	10	6	16	22	53.8
Meningitis Bac.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	1	4.4
Meningococcal Dis.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	2.4
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0.4
Pertussis	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	1	7	17
Salmonellosis	0	0	3	1	2	4	1	2	1	3	13	13	5	17	21	49.4
Shigellosis	0	0	0	10	33	0	14	22	0	19	31	0	43	86	0	11.8
Strep Inv A GAS	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	9	6	12.2
Strep B Newborn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	2
Strep Pneu ISP	0	2	0	0	8	14	0	3	0	2	29	23	2	42	37	47.8
Strep TSS	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	2	0.4
Syphilis	0	0	1	0	6	1	0	1	0	0	2	6	0	9	8	21.6
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Varicella#	0	2	6	0	7	17	0	2	4	1	26	92	1	37	119	#
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	1	0	2	4	0	3	5	2

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

\*\*This information is temporarily unavailable.

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).