

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:

Multi-State Outbreaks: Numerous outbreaks have been identified this summer. Recognition of these outbreaks is primarily due to strengthened efforts in identifying and matching isolates through PulseNet, as well as increased communication through CDC OutbreakNet. CDC OutbreakNet is a network of epidemiologists and other public health officials, facilitated by CDC, who investigate outbreaks of foodborne, waterborne, and other enteric illnesses nationwide. PulseNet is a national network of public health and food regulatory agency laboratories coordinated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). PulseNet participants perform standardized molecular subtyping (or “fingerprinting”) of foodborne disease-causing bacteria by pulsed-field gel electrophoresis (PFGE). PFGE can be used to distinguish strains of organisms such as *Escherichia coli* O157:H7, *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Listeria*, or *Campylobacter* at the DNA level. DNA “fingerprints,” or patterns, are submitted electronically to a dynamic database at the CDC.

Outbreaks recently identified:

Clostridium botulinum: As of July 21, 2007, four cases of botulism have been reported to CDC from Indiana (2 cases) and Texas (2 cases). Suspect cases have been reported in numerous states including Ohio. Onset dates range from June 29 to July 9, 2007. All four persons were reported to have consumed Castleberry’s brand Hot Dog Chili Sauce Original. Botulinum toxin was identified in leftover chili sauce from an unlabeled sealable bag collected from a patient’s refrigerator.

Consumers were advised to report to a medical provider if they have new onset of double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, or muscle weakness and have consumed any of the recalled product. These symptoms generally begin 18 to 36 hours after eating a contaminated food, but they can occur as early as 6 hours or as late as 10 days. Health care providers evaluating persons with signs of botulism should contact their health department immediately. CDC provides 24/7 consultation on botulism to health departments. More information can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/botulism/botulism.htm>.

Salmonella Wandsworth: As of July 18, 65 persons infected with *Salmonella* Wandsworth have been reported to CDC. Most (91%) of cases have occurred in children aged 10 months to 3 years. Among the patients for whom clinical information is available, all had diarrhea, 76% had bloody stools, and six patients were hospitalized. No deaths have been attributed to these infections. A multi-state case-control study demonstrated a strong association between illness and consumption of Veggie Booty, a snack of puffed rice and corn with a vegetable coating. More information can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/wandsworth_062807.htm.

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

	June 2007				July 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	185	15	74	N/A	30	5	15	N/A
Mold Count	13160	3460	6850	11 Mod, 1 High	17490	3800	11149	15 Moderate, 4 High
Air Quality Index	89	23	52	8 Moderate	95	32	55	10 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. 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

	June 2007	YTD 2007	2006
Live Births	380	2367	4839
Births to Teens	41	241	434
Deaths	295	2114	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 June 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			
	June 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	June 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	June 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	June 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	June 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	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	0	0	2	3	0	1	2	7	16	16	8	20	21	51.8
Chlamydia	11	47	43	35	280	361	6	30		22	143	164	74	500		1126.4
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Ds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0.6
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	2	0	0	3	4	0	6	8	14
E Coli 0157	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.4
E Coli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2.8
Giardiasis	0	4	1	3	4	7	0	2	1	5	14	13	8	24	22	49.2
Gonorrhea	0	8	13	25	209	210	4	22		9	67	51	38	306		646
Haemo. Influz., Bac	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	5.8
Hepatitis A	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	2	4	3	8
Hepatitis B*	0	0	2	3	6	8	0	2	0	4	11	13	7	19	23	44.6
Hepatitis C*#	1	16	10	8	52	66	1	8	8	5	49	69	15	125	153	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	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2.6
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
Meningitis, Asep	0	0	1	1	7	3	0	1	0	3	8	4	4	16	8	53.8
Meningitis Bac.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	4.4
Meningococcal Dis.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2.4
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.4
Pertussis	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	7	2	17
Salmonellosis	1	3	1	0	2	9	0	0	1	0	11	12	1	16	23	49.4
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	11.8
Strep Inv A GAS	0	0	2	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	5	7	12.2
Strep B Newborn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Strep Pneu ISP	1	1	4	4	14	16	0	1	0	3	20	15	6	36	35	47.8
Strep TSS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0.4
Syphilis	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	5	4	1	5	9	21.6
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.4
Varicella#	0	6	23	0	17	27	0	4	8	4	91	152	4	118	210	
Vibriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	2

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

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