

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:

Seasonal Influenza:

Nationally: During week 49 (December 2-8, 2007), a low level of influenza activity was reported in the United States. At this time, the CDC reports it is too early to determine which influenza viruses will predominate or how well the vaccine and circulating strains will match.

- One hundred twenty-one (4.7%) specimens tested by U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) collaborating laboratories were positive for influenza. Of those with antigenic confirmation, nineteen (19) were A/Solomon Islands/3/2006, four (4) were A/Wisconsin/67/2005-like, seven (7) were A/Brisbane/10/2007-like, and three (3) were B/Yamagata lineage. A/Brisbane and B/Yamagata are not components of this year's influenza vaccination.
- The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza was below the epidemic threshold.
- The proportion of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) and acute respiratory illness (ARI) was below national and region-specific baseline levels.
- One state reported regional activity, six states reported local influenza activity; 32 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico reported sporadic influenza activity; and 11 states reported no influenza activity.

State: The state of Ohio influenza activity level remains at "no activity". No activity is defined as "No laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza and no reported increase in the number of cases of influenza-like illness (ILI)."

County: Locally, indicators of influenza activity remain very low. Local activity level is monitored utilizing a combination of: lab reported cases of influenza using rapid test confirmation, Physician Sentinel Provider reports of Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) office visits, over-the-counter sales of ILI response medication, number of emergency department visits for constitutional and respiratory syndromes, school reports of ILI, and other community partner reports.

Avian Influenza: Countries with confirmed human cases has grown to 13 with the recent addition of a 7-year-old case from Myanmar. The child had an illness onset in November, and lived in an area with a confirmed outbreak in the avian population. The World Health Organization reports a total of 340 confirmed cases and 208 deaths. Avian influenza appears to follow a seasonal pattern due to increased environmental persistence in colder weather. Therefore, an increase is possible with the onset of colder weather in areas that currently have avian outbreaks.

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

	November 2007				December 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	47	5	24	All Good	45	4	24	All 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

	Nov 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	2006
Live Births	364	4509	4338	4839
Births to Teens	34	462	363*	434
Deaths	320	3759	3660	4061

*Under reporting due to change in birth certificate reporting mechanism, which was corrected in Jan 2007.

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	1076

Table 4 – Summary of Select Reportable Diseases for November 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			
	Nov 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Nov 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Nov 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Nov 2007	YTD 2007	YTD 2006	Nov 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	0	3	1	0	10	12	0	1	4	3	32	31	3	46	48	51.8
Chlamydia	7	90	74	72	609	605	1	66	53	18	284	365	98	1049	1097	1126.4
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Ds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0.6
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	0	2	6	0	4	1	1	19	11	1	25	18	14
E Coli 0157	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	2	2.4
E Coli	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	3
Enceph., WNV	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	4	3.6
Enceph., Other	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2.8
Giardiasis	0	5	2	2	8	9	0	5	1	2	21	24	4	39	36	49.2
Gonorrhea	1	17	26	32	397	389	5	48	24	9	111	104	47	573	543	646
Haemo. Influz., Bac	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	4	5.8
Hepatitis A	0	1	1	0	1		0	0	1	0	5	2	0	7	4	8
Hepatitis B*	0	2	3	1	19	17	0	3	0	2	26	20	3	50	40	44.6
Hepatitis C*#	0	19	17	6	89	103	1	21	8	10	106	97	17	235	225	273.5
Kawasaki Syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	3.6
Legionellosis	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	0	7	6	0	10	8	12.2
Listeriosis	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	4	2.4
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	2.6
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8
Meningitis, Asep	0	1	6	3	24	15	0	3	4	2	27	17	5	55	42	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	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	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	1	0	6	8	0	8	9	17
Salmonellosis	0	5	4	0	5	12	0	3	7	1	22	25	1	35	48	49.4
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	11.8
Strep Inv A GAS	0	0	3	0	3	3	0	2	0	0	4	2	0	9	8	12.2
Strep B Newborn	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	3	2
Strep Pneu ISP	1	3	7	2	18	21	0	0	0	1	24	23	4	45	51	47.8
Strep TSS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2		0	2	0	0.4
Syphilis	0	0	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	7	13	0	9	18	21.6
Typhoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.4
Varicella#	1	10	26	2	23	47	0	4	9	9	109	173	12	146	255	
Vibriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2
Yersiniosis	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	5	2	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) 489-3454 or Chenning@cantonhealth.org.