

# December 2022

## A Monthly Publication of the Stark Public Health Infrastructure Coalition

EPI Gram is a monthly publication of the Stark County Public Health Infrastructure 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. If you have any questions please contact Allie Robbins at 330.451.1559 or [robbinsa@starkhealth.org](mailto:robbinsa@starkhealth.org) or Kaelyn Boyd at 234.458.5135 or [kboyd@cantonhealth.org](mailto:kboyd@cantonhealth.org).



### Monthly Highlight: Increase in Invasive Group A Strep Infections

In late December, the CDC issued a HAN notifying clinicians and public health officials of an increase in pediatric invasive group A streptococcal (iGAS) infections. A review of preliminary 2022 data from CDC’s surveillance system for invasive bacterial pathogens demonstrated an increase in confirmed iGAS cases in children between September and November. Similarly, an increase in cases had been identified in Colorado and Minnesota. Group A streptococcal bacteria are commonly found in the throat and on skin. Invasive GAS occurs when the bacteria invades parts of the body it’s not normally found in, like blood, lungs and deep tissue. Invasive GAS can be transmitted via direct contact through secretions from infected persons. Early recognition of invasive GAS infections is important because of its ability to rapidly progress and cause severe outcomes, including hospitalizations and death. The CDC recommends that health care providers should offer vaccinations for influenza, COVID-19 and varicella to all eligible persons, be mindful of iGAS as a possible cause of severe illness and obtain cultures of suspected iGAS infections when indicated. All CDC recommendations can be found [here](#).



Infection control measures are important to halt the spread of GAS and prevent potential outbreaks in healthcare settings. Spread of iGAS to healthcare personnel can be prevented by standard precautions or other transmission-based precautions. Healthcare personnel should thoroughly wash hands after patient contact, wear gloves when touching contaminated secretions and wear gowns when contact with infective material is likely. Contaminated items should be disposed of properly. Secondary spread is also possible through direct contact with secretions from infected patients. Restrictions from patient care activities and food handling is necessary for personnel with GAS infections until 24 hours after they have received appropriate therapy. Work restrictions are not necessary for personnel colonized with GAS, unless epidemiologically link to transmission in a facility.

**Table 2: Select Vital Statistics for Stark County**

	Dec 2022	YTD 2022	2021
Live Births	325	3,814	3,929
Births to Teens	18	183	214
Deaths	371	4,725	5,409

\* Birth and death data is preliminary

**Table 3: Stark County Crude Birth Rate and Death Rates**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
Birth	10.7	10.9	11.0	10.5	10.5
Death	12.0	11.8	12.0	14.1	14.5

\*Source: Data Ohio. Rates are per 1,000 population. 2021 data is preliminary.

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

	December 2022				January 2022			
	Monthly High	Monthly Low	Monthly Median	Counts in highest reported health risk category	Monthly High	Monthly Low	Monthly Median	Counts in highest reported health risk category
Pollen Count	Data collected seasonally and currently not available.							
Mold Count	Data collected seasonally and currently not available.							
Air Quality Index	79	17	41	Moderate (5)	61	11	38	Moderate (4)

\*\*See the following websites for updated Air Quality Index and mold index terminology and color coding: <http://www.airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=aqibasics.aqi> <https://pollen.aaaai.org/#/pages/reading-the-levels>. Data source for this table is the Air Quality Division of the Canton City Health Department.

Jurisdictional Summary of Reportable Conditions in Stark County, OH (Provisional Data)	Alliance City		Canton City		Massillon City		Stark County		All Departments	
	Dec	YTD	Dec	YTD	Dec	YTD	Dec	YTD	Dec	YTD
Anaplasmosis-Anaplasma phagocytophilum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Babesiosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Campylobacteriosis	0	4	5	15	0	2	1	50	6	71
Chlamydia infection	9	128	69	853	15	153	53	537	146	1671
CP-CRE	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	16	2	22
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	4	0	1	1	13	1	18
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (O157:H7, Not O157, Unknown Serotype)	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	9	1	10
Ehrlichiosis-Ehrlichia chaffeensis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Giardiasis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7
Gonococcal infection	3	81	37	462	8	56	13	169	61	768
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)	0	1	0	2	1	2	0	7	1	12
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hepatitis B (including delta) - acute	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2
Hepatitis B (including delta) - chronic	0	4	0	12	0	4	1	9	1	29
Hepatitis C - acute	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	6
Hepatitis C - chronic	3	19	5	77	0	16	7	73	15	185
Hepatitis C - Perinatal Infection	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Influenza - ODH Lab Results	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	4
Influenza-associated hospitalization	1	9	52	108	14	28	82	182	149	327
LaCrosse virus disease (other California serogroup virus disease)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Legionellosis	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	20	1	28
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Lyme Disease	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	24	0	28
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Meningitis - aseptic/viral	0	1	0	5	0	2	0	6	0	14
Meningitis - bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Meningococcal disease - Neisseria meningitidis (call health department immediately)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Mpox	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	5	0	8
MIS-C associated with COVID-19 (call health department immediately)	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	5
Salmonellosis	0	2	1	10	1	3	1	32	3	47
Shigellosis	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	11	3	13
Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis, including Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Streptococcal - Group A -invasive	0	0	0	8	1	2	2	10	3	20
Streptococcal - Group B - in newborn	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome (STSS)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	0	1	1	8	0	2	2	9	3	20
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate	0	1	2	7	1	2	1	8	4	18
Syphilis, Total	1	6	6	60	0	7	1	38	8	111
Syphilis, Primary, Secondary and Early Latent	0	4	4	43	0	5	1	29	5	81
Varicella	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	4
Vibriosis (not cholera)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>1692</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>1295</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>3554</b>

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 1/11/2023.



Summary Table of Diseases Reported in the Previous 5 years within Stark County (Provisional Data)	Dec 2022	Dec 2021	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	All of 2021	5 Year Annual Average	Rate
Anaplasmosis	0	1	1	1	1	0.2	0.054
Babesiosis	0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.108
Campylobacteriosis	6	8	71	58	58	74.6	20.086
Chlamydia	146	119	1671	1645	1645	1729.8	465.742
CP-CRE	2	3	22	18	18	13.0	3.500
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	2	1	1	0.2	0.054
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	0	0	3	3	1.0	0.269
Cryptosporidiosis	1	1	18	19	19	29.6	7.970
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	1	5	5	4.2	1.131
Ehrlichiosis-Ehrlichia chaffeensis	0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing (O157:H7, Not O157, Unknown Serotype)	1	0	10	8	8	11.4	3.069
Giardiasis	0	0	7	6	6	12.6	3.393
Gonorrhea	61	75	768	841	841	673.0	181.203
Haemophilus influenzae , Invasive	1	1	12	10	10	6.0	1.615
Hepatitis A	0	0	1	3	3	6.6	1.777
Hepatitis B, Acute	0	0	2	2	2	6.4	1.723
Hepatitis B, Chronic	1	3	29	35	35	39.0	10.501
Hepatitis C, Acute	1	0	6	9	9	5.8	1.562
Hepatitis C, Chronic	15	16	185	205	205	256.2	68.981
Hepatitis C - Perinatal Infection	0	0	1	1	1	0.8	0.202
Influenza-associated hospitalization	149	7	327	15	15	359.2	96.713
LaCrosse virus disease	0	0	1	1	1	1.0	0.268
Legionellosis	1	0	28	30	30	18.0	6.893
Listeriosis	0	0	3	0	0	0.8	0.215
Lyme Disease	0	0	28	43	43	19.4	5.223
Malaria	0	0	2	0	0	N/A	N/A
Measles - imported from outside Ohio	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.054
Meningitis, Aseptic	0	2	14	19	19	25.6	6.893
Meningococcal disease- Neisseria meningitidis (call health department immediately)	0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A
Meningitis, Other Bacterial	0	0	1	1	1	2.4	0.646
Monkeypox	0	0	8	0	0	N/A	N/A
MIS-C associated with COVID-19 (call health department immediately)	0	0	5	9	9	N/A	N/A
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.162
Pertussis	0	0	0	0	0	29.4	7.916
Salmonellosis	3	3	47	43	43	44.0	11.847
Shigellosis	3	0	13	3	3	15.4	4.146
Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis	0	0	1	0	0	0.8	0.215
Streptococcal Dis, Group A, Invasive	3	3	20	10	10	15.6	4.200
Streptococcal Dis, Group B, in Newborn	0	0	1	1	1	1.4	0.377
Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome (STSS)	1	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A
Streptococcus pneumoniae - inv antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	3	4	20	15	15	23.0	6.193
Streptococcus pneumo - inv antibiotic resistant/intermediate	4	2	18	7	7	11.2	3.016
Syphilis, Total	8	13	111	64	64	40.8	10.985
Syphilis, Primary, Secondary and Early Latent	5	12	81	46	46	27.2	7.323
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	3	3	2.0	0.538
Varicella	0	0	4	8	8	14.8	3.985
Vibriosis - other (not cholera)	0	0	1	3	3	2.0	0.538
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0	1.4	0.377
Yersiniosis	0	1	5	9	9	4.8	1.292

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 1/11/2023. Rates are per 100K population and based on 5 yr average incidence 2017-2021.