

*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.

**Monthly Highlight:**

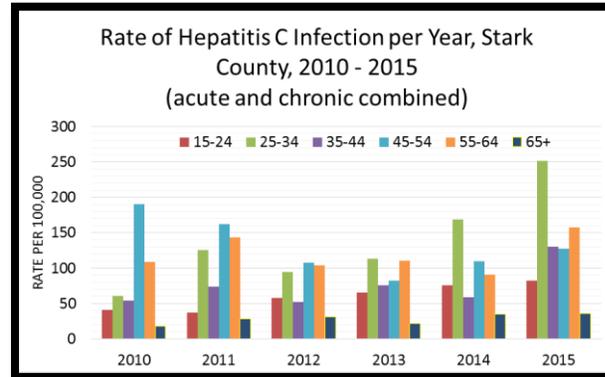
Hepatitis C is a contagious disease that ranges in severity from a mild illness lasting a few weeks to a serious, lifelong illness that attacks the liver. It results from infection with the Hepatitis C virus (HCV), which is spread primarily through contact with the blood of an infected person. Hepatitis C can be either “acute” or “chronic.”

**Acute Hepatitis C virus infection** is a short-term illness that occurs within the first 6 months after someone is exposed to the Hepatitis C virus. For most people, acute infection leads to chronic infection.

**Chronic Hepatitis C virus infection** is a long-term illness that occurs when the Hepatitis C virus remains in a person’s body. Hepatitis C virus infection can last a lifetime and lead to serious liver problems, including cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) or liver cancer, and even death.

For some people, hepatitis C is a short-term illness, but for 70%–85% of people who become infected with Hepatitis C, it becomes a long-term, chronic infection. Most persons with chronic HCV infection are asymptomatic or have mild symptoms that are unlikely to prompt a visit to a health care professional. In fact, HCV infection is often not recognized until asymptomatic persons are identified as HCV-positive when screened for blood donation or when elevated liver enzyme levels are detected during routine examinations. When symptom are presents, they can include fever, dark urine, clay-colored stool, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes and/or nausea.

In Ohio, Hepatitis C (acute or chronic) is a Class B Reportable disease. From 2010 to 2015, Stark County has seen a 56% increase in the total number of newly diagnosed Hepatitis C cases across all ages, most likely tied to the opiate and heroin epidemic. Although the “Baby Boomers” are considered a high risk demographic, Stark County has seen a significantly larger rate increase of 316% in our 25-34 year olds since 2010. And the 35-44 year old group is reporting a 140% rate increase since 2010.



Risk factors for acquiring the blood-borne infection include:

- ☹ Current or former injection drug users, including those who injected only once many years ago
- ☹ Recipients of clotting factor concentrates made before 1987
- ☹ Recipients of blood transfusions or solid organ transplants before July 1992
- ☹ Chronic hemodialysis patients
- ☹ Health care workers after needle sticks involving HCV-positive blood
- ☹ Persons with HIV infection
- ☹ Children born to HCV-positive mother

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

	March 2016				April 2015			
	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, not currently available				555	2	97.5	N/A
Mold Count	Data collected seasonally, not currently available				4600	200	420	Good
Air Quality Index	46	8	16.5	Good	61	28	40	1 Moderate

\*\*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/nab/index.cfm?p=reading\\_charts](https://pollen.aaaai.org/nab/index.cfm?p=reading_charts)  
Data source for this table is the Air Quality Division of the Canton City Health Department.

**Table 2 Summaries of Select Vital Statistics for Stark County**

	March 2016	YTD 2016	2015
Live Births	233	959	4,314
Births to Teens	16	63	308
Deaths	395	1149	4,362

Birth and Death Data is reported by the 4 health districts and may include non county residents.

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Birth	10.8	10.8	10.9	11.2	12.0
Death	10.9	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.4

\*Source: Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse. Rates are per 1,000 population.

If you have any questions, including how to receive copies of this report, please contact Julia Wagner at 330.493.9904 or [Wagnerj@starkhealth.org](mailto:Wagnerj@starkhealth.org) or Amanda Archer at 330.489.3327 or [aarcher@cantonhealth.org](mailto:aarcher@cantonhealth.org)

**Table 4: Jurisdictional Summary of Reportable Diseases in Stark County, OH (Provisional Data)**

	Alliance City		Canton City		Massillon City		Stark County		Total	
	March	YTD	March	YTD	March	YTD	March	YTD	March	YTD
Campylobacteriosis	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	12	3	13
Chlamydia infection	12	27	67	232	13	52	59	171	151	482
E. coli, Shiga Toxin-Producing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Giardiasis	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	3
Gonococcal infection	6	12	54	123	4	12	9	37	73	184
Haemophilus	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
Hepatitis B - acute	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hepatitis B - chronic	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	9	3	13
Hepatitis C - acute	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Hepatitis C - chronic	3	9	9	26	2	9	15	38	29	82
Influenza-associated hospitalization	1	5	22	30	9	13	40	53	72	101
Legionellosis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Lyme Disease	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Measles - indigenous to Ohio	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Meningitis - aseptic/viral	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	2	6
Meningitis - bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Mycobacterial disease - other than tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8	3	8
Other arthropod-borne disease	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Pertussis	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	2	4
Salmonellosis	1	1	0	3	0	1	0	3	1	8
Streptococcal - Group A -invasive	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	3
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	0	0	3	9	1	2	3	8	7	19
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate	0	0	1	4	0	0	1	4	2	8
Syphilis, Total	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	6
➤ Syphilis, Primary, Secondary and Early Latent	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Varicella	1	1	0	5	0	3	2	7	3	16
Yersiniosis	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>982</b>

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 4/08/2016.

**Table 5 – Summary Table of Diseases Reported in the Previous 5 years within Stark County (Provisional Data)**

	Jan 2016	Jan 2015	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	All of 2015	5 Yr Annual Average	Rate
Amebiasis	0	0	0	1	1	0.2	0.053
Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Babesiosis	0	0	0	0	1	0.2	0.053
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Campylobacteriosis	3	4	13	7	58	61.0	16.241
Chlamydia	151	139	482	369	1633	1539.0	409.760
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.107
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.160
Cryptosporidiosis	1	2	5	4	30	29.2	7.775
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0	1	0.4	0.107
Dengue	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.160
Escherichia coli , STP, Not O157:H7	0	0	1	1	17	4.4	1.172
Escherichia coli O157:H7	0	0	0	0	0	2.2	0.586
Escherichia coli , STP, Unk Serotype	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Giardiasis	1	1	3	6	27	36.2	9.638
Gonorrhea	73	38	184	91	506	586.8	156.236
Haemophilus influenzae , Invasive	1	1	2	3	8	7.4	1.970
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	1	5	5.8	1.544
Hepatitis B, Perinatal	0	0	0	1	4	3.4	0.905
Hepatitis B, Acute	0	1	1	1	4	5.0	1.331
Hepatitis B, Chronic	3	6	13	13	42	33.6	8.946
Hepatitis C, Acute	0	1	2	5	13	7.8	2.077
Hepatitis C, Chronic	29	37	82	85	371	275.8	73.432
Hepatitis E	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Influenza-associated hospitalization	72	30	101	230	284	263.6	70.184
Influenza-associated pediatric mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
LaCrosse virus disease	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.107
Legionellosis	0	1	2	1	19	14.2	3.781
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	1	1.4	0.373
Lyme Disease	1	0	3	2	18	13.6	3.621
Malaria	0	0	1	0	0	0.6	0.160
Measles (indigenous to Ohio)	0	0	1	0	0	1.8	0.479
Meningitis, Aseptic	2	3	6	6	30	35.2	9.372
Meningitis, Other Bacterial	0	1	1	1	3	3.4	0.905
Meningococcal Disease	0	1	0	2	3	1.2	0.320
Mumps	0	1	1	3	4	2.0	0.533
Mycobacterial disease - Not TB	3	2	8	5	23	31.0	8.254
Other arthropod-borne disease	0	0	2	0	0	0.2	0.053
Pertussis	2	1	4	16	41	34.6	9.212
Q fever, acute	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.106
Salmonellosis	1	1	8	4	49	41.6	11.076
Shigellosis	0	0	0	0	6	34.4	9.159
Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.160
Streptococcal Dis, Group A, Invasive	2	2	3	5	9	15.2	4.047
Streptococcal Dis, Group B, in Newborn	0	0	0	0	0	1.6	0.426
Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome	0	0	0	1	1	1.2	0.320
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	7	1	19	4	27	36.8	9.800
Streptococcus pneumo - inv antibiotic resistant/intermediate	2	3	8	7	16	17.8	4.739
Syphilis, Total	0	1	6	2	7	10.4	2.769
Syphilis, Primary, Secondary and Early Latent	0	1	3	1	5	6.6	1.757
Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS)	0	0	0	0	1	0.8*	0.213*
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	1	1.0	0.266
Thyphoid Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.107
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Varicella	3	2	16	4	26	29.2	7.775
Vibriosis - other (not cholera)	0	0	0	0	3	1.2	0.320
Vibriosis parahaemolyticus	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	1	0.6	0.160
Yersiniosis	0	1	1	2	8	2.8	0.746

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 04/08/2016. Rates are per 100K population and based on 5 yr average incidence 09-13.\*08-12 from ODH Stats