

*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:

April 2012 was a slow month in the county, and within all health districts. While this is an unusual occurrence, it was a nice break for both the health department and the citizens they serve. With that in mind, there are some items to be addressed in this month's *EPIGram*.

School absenteeism records are used as a form of syndromic surveillance to track school-aged illnesses. We will initiate this surveillance in the next school year by utilizing the piloted School Absenteeism electronic database that was created last year by Stark County Health Department. This training will commence sometime late summer, and will include voluntary school districts that wish to move from paper to electronic surveillance.

Hand-foot-mouth disease, while not reportable (even in the event of an outbreak), has been on public health radars this month throughout surrounding counties, the State of Ohio, and at national levels. Public health officials are on the lookout for variant strains that seem to cause more severe symptoms than previously seen. Hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) is a common illness of infants and children. It is characterized by fever, sores in the mouth and a rash with blisters. HFMD begins with a mild fever, poor appetite, malaise and frequently a sore throat. One or two days after the fever begins, painful sores develop in the mouth. They begin as small red spots that blister and then often become ulcers. They are usually located on the tongue, gums and inside of the cheeks. The skin rash develops over 1-2 days with flat or raised red spots, sometimes with blisters. The skin rash does not itch and it is usually located on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet. It may also appear on the buttocks or genitalia. A person with HFMD may have only the rash or the mouth ulcers. HFMD is moderately contagious. Infection is spread from person-to-person by direct contact with nose and throat discharges, saliva, fluid from blisters, or the stool of infected persons. A person is most contagious during the first week of the illness. HFMD is not transmitted to or from pets or other animals.

HFMD occurs mainly in children under 10 years of age, but adults may also be at risk. Everyone is at risk of infection with viruses that cause HFMD, but not everyone who is infected becomes ill. Infants, children, and adolescents are more likely to be susceptible to infection and illness from these viruses because they are less likely than adults to be immune to them. Many adults have developed protective antibodies due to previous exposures to the viruses. Infection results in immunity to the specific virus, but a second episode of HFMD may occur following infection with a different member of the enterovirus group of viruses. National headlines have covered this topic in recent weeks, including MSN and USAToday: <http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/story/2012-04-19/hand-foot-mouth-virus/54419854/1>. No known variant cases are in Stark County.

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

	April 2012				May 2011			
	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	750	55	122.5	N/A	2695	20	300	N/A
Mold Count	4560	200	635	All Low	11090	1050	3030	5 Moderate
Air Quality Index	55	29	40	2 Moderate	87	17	42	6 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**

	APR 2012	YTD 2012	2011
Live Births	266	1343	4075
Births to Teens	18	116	399
Deaths	355	1434	4110

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

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Birth	1191*	1190*	1166*	1139	1085
Death	1000*	1035*	1055*	1072	1094

\*Source: Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse. Rates are per 100,000 population.

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**Table 4: 2011 Jurisdictional Summary of Reportable Diseases in Stark County, OH**

	Alliance City		Canton City		Massillon City		Stark County		All Departments	
	APR	YTD	APR	YTD	APR	YTD	APR	YTD	APR	YTD
Brucellosis							1		0	1
Campylobacteriosis		1				1	5		0	7
Chlamydia infection	12	51	59	252	9	43	40	157	120	503
Coccidioidomycosis							1		0	1
Cryptosporidiosis		2				1	1	5	1	8
Dengue							1		0	1
Giardiasis				1			2	10	2	11
Gonococcal infection	2	14	17	110	3	24	10	51	32	199
Haemophilus influenzae			1	1				1	1	2
Hepatitis A		1		1					0	2
Hepatitis B - Perinatal Infection				1					0	1
Hepatitis B - acute				1					0	1
Hepatitis B (including delta) - chronic				4			5		0	9
Hepatitis C - chronic	1	11	11	28	4	12	10	37	26	88
Influenza-associated hospitalization			2	4		1	2	9	4	14
Legionellosis - Legionnaires' Disease				1				1	0	2
Lyme Disease					1	1	1	4	2	5
Meningitis - aseptic/viral		1					1	4	1	5
Meningitis - bacterial (Not N. meningitidis)			1	2				1	1	3
Mycobacterial disease - other than tuberculosis			2	2			1	4	3	6
Pertussis							2	2	2	2
Salmonellosis							3	9	3	9
Streptococcal - Group A -invasive			1	3		1	4	6	5	10
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant		2	1	6			2	22	3	30
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate				2			2	5	2	7
Syphilis, Total		1	1	1	2	3			3	5
Syphilis, Primary and Secondary										
Varicella	2	3	1	4		1	4	10	7	18
Yersiniosis							1		0	1

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 05/16/2012.

**Table 5 – 2011 Summary Table of Diseases Reported in the Previous 5 years within Stark County, OH.  
(Provisional Data)**

	APR-12	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	All of 2011	5 Yr annual average	Rate
Anaplasmosis					0.2	0.05
Brucellosis		1			0	0
Campylobacteriosis		7	7	40	50	13.31
Chlamydia	120	503	434	1457	1269.6	338.03
Coccidioidomycosis		1			0	0
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)				2	1.6	0.43
Cryptosporidiosis	1	8	6	16	21.2	5.64
Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Congenital					0.4	0.11
Dengue		1		2	0.6	0.16
Encephalitis, Post Other Infection					0.2	0.05
Encephalitis, Primary Viral					0.8	0.21
Escherichia coli , Shiga Toxin-Producing, Not O157:H7				2	1	0.27
Escherichia coli , Shiga Toxin-Producing, Unknown Serotype					1.4	0.37
Escherichia coli O157:H7			1	2	2	0.53
Ehrlichiosis-Ehrlichia chaffeensis				1	0.2	0.05
Giardiasis	2	11	25	62	52.2	13.9
Gonorrhea	32	199	181	613	540.4	143.88
Haemophilus influenzae , Invasive Disease	1	2	3	8	7	1.86
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)					0.6	0.16
Hepatitis A		2	1	1	2.4	0.64
Hepatitis B - Perinatal Infection		1		2	**	**
Hepatitis B, Acute		1	1	2	3.4	0.91
Hepatitis B, Chronic		9	12	23	36.4	9.69
Hepatitis C, Acute			3	6	4.2	1.12
Hepatitis C, Chronic	26	88	91	281	239.8	63.85
Hepatitis E				1	0.2	0.05
Herpes, Congenital					0.4	0.11
Influenza A - novel virus infection					0.4	0.11
Influenza-associated hospitalization	4	14	140	143	**	**
LaCrosse virus disease (other California serogroup virus disease)				1	0.6	0.16
Legionellosis		2		9	14.2	3.78
Listeriosis			1	2	2.4	0.64
Lyme Disease	2	5	1	12	4.2	1.12
Malaria				1	1.2	0.32
Meningitis, Aseptic	1	5	1	63	40.8	10.86
Meningitis, Bacterial, Not Neisseria meningitidis	1	3		3	2.6	0.69
Meningococcal Disease			1	1	1.2	0.32
Mumps					0.8	0.21
Mycobacterial disease - other than tuberculosis	3	6	8	23	24	6.39
Pertussis	2	2	8	11	34	9.05
Q Fever					0	0
Rheumatic Fever					0.2	0.05
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF)			1	2	0.6	0.16
Salmonellosis	3	9	8	32	36.4	9.69
Shigellosis				1	50	13.31
Streptococcal Disease, Group A, Invasive	5	10	13	22	10.6	2.82
Streptococcal Disease, Group B, in Newborn				3	3.6	0.96
Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome (STSS)			2	2	1	0.27
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	3	30	18	37	30.8	8.2
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate	2	7	9	17	20.2	5.38
Syphilis, Total	3	5	5	9	11.2	2.98
Syphilis, Primary and Secondary			3	8	4.2	1.12
Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS)					0.6	0.16
Tuberculosis		1	1	2	2.6	0.69
Varicella	7	18	11	33	68.6	18.26
Vibriosis - other (not cholera)				1	0.2	0.05
Yersiniosis		1			1.2	0.32

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 05/16/2012. Rates are per 100,000 population.