

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: Norovirus Season

Noroviruses have a seasonal pattern that usually begins in November and stretches into March. Emergency department (ED) visits for a combination of diarrhea and vomiting have historically coincided with an increase in norovirus cases and outbreaks. Outbreaks are commonly associated with close living and communal settings, including hospitals and nursing homes. Other settings include restaurants, catered events, cruise ships and schools or other institutional settings.

Norviruses are a group of highly contagious viruses that cause acute gastroenteritis. Symptoms include acute onset of vomiting, watery non-bloody diarrhea, nausea and in some individuals a low-grade fever, headaches and myalgia. In an average individual, symptoms persist for 12 to 48 hours with few complications. Hospitalizations for symptoms of norovirus are rare but may occur in the very young, elderly, immunocompromised and those relying on oral medication.

Disease transmission presented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states:

A person with norovirus infection can shed **billions** of norovirus particles.

But, it only takes as few as 18 viral particles to infect another person.

Primarily, noroviruses are spread through—

- close personal contact with an infected person;
- fecal-oral route when a person consumes contaminated food or water;
- touching contaminated surfaces, objects, or substances.

It is possible for norovirus to spread through aerosolized vomit that lands on surfaces or enters a person's mouth then he or she swallows it. There is no evidence showing that people can get infected by breathing in the virus. The best prevention is thorough hand-washing, isolating the ill and strongly discouraging ill employees from working.

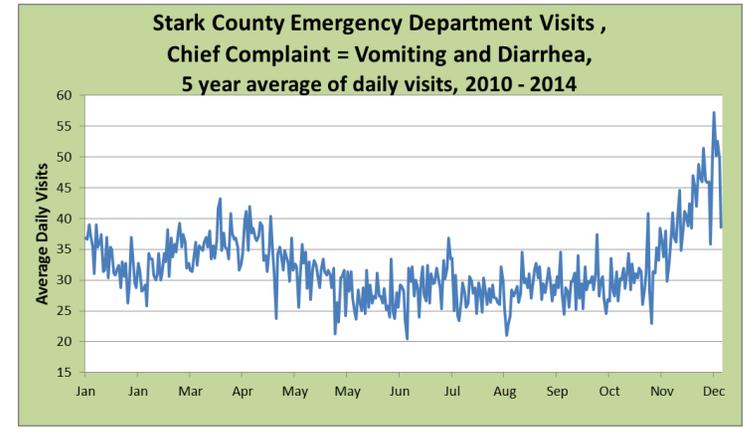


Figure 1: Seasonal pattern of emergency department visits with a chief complaint that included both vomiting and diarrhea.

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

	January 2015				February 2014			
	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	Reported seasonally, not currently available			N/A	Reported seasonally, not currently available			N/A
Mold Count	Reported seasonally, not currently available			N/A	Reported seasonally, not currently available			N/A
Air Quality Index	32	17	20	All Good	47	18	35	All Good

**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
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

	January 2015	YTD 2015	2014
Live Births	488	488	4235
Births to Teens	43	43	380
Deaths	406	406	4288

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

Table 3 Stark County Live Birth Rate and Death Rates

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Birth	59.4	59.2	59.6	61.5	61.8
Death	11.4	10.9	10.9	pending	pending

*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 or Amanda Archer at 330.489.3327 or aarcher@cantonhealth.org.

Table 4: JANUARY Jurisdictional Summary of Reportable Diseases in Stark County

(Provisional Data, as of 2/05/2015)	Alliance City		Canton City		Massillon City		Stark County		All Departments	
	Jan	YTD	Jan	YTD	Jan	YTD	Jan	YTD	Jan	YTD
Campylobacteriosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Chlamydia infection	5	5	64	64	11	11	41	41	121	121
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2
Giardiasis	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	3	5	5
Gonococcal infection	1	1	21	21	2	2	5	5	29	29
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Hepatitis A	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Hepatitis B - Perinatal Infection	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3
Hepatitis B (including delta) - acute	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Hepatitis B (including delta) - chronic	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	3	4	4
Hepatitis C - acute	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
Hepatitis C - chronic	5	5	3	3	4	4	9	9	21	21
Influenza-associated hospitalization	2	2	47	47	13	13	99	99	161	161
Meningococcal disease - Neisseria meningitidis (call health department immediately)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Mumps	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Mycobacterial disease - other than tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2
Pertussis	3	3	2	2	0	0	2	2	7	7
Salmonellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Streptococcal - Group A - invasive	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	3	3
Streptococcal toxic shock syndrome (STSS)	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	3	3
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistant/intermediate	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
Varicella	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 02/05/15.

Table 5 – Summary Table of Diseases Reported in the Previous 5 years within Stark County

(Provisional Data)	Jan-15	Jan-14	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	All 2014	5 Yr Annual Average	5 Yr Annual Rate
Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Campylobacteriosis	1	4	1	4	74	59.2	15.762
Chlamydia	121	146	121	146	1550	1465.2	390.110
Coccidioidomycosis	0	0	0	0	1	0.4	0.107
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease	0	0	0	0	0	0.6	0.160
Cryptosporidiosis	2	1	2	1	29	27.8	7.402
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Dengue	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.213
Escherichia coli , STP, Not O157:H7	0	0	0	0	2	1.2	0.320
Escherichia coli O157:H7	0	0	0	0	6	2.8	0.746
Escherichia coli , STP, Unk Serotype	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.107
Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Giardiasis	5	0	5	0	15	44.2	11.768
Gonorrhea	29	59	29	59	530	562.8	149.846
Haemophilus influenzae , Invasive	1	0	1	0	6	7.4	1.970
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS)	0	0	0	0	1	0.2	0.053
Hepatitis A	1	0	1	0	9	4.8	1.278
Hepatitis B, Perinatal	3	0	3	0	1	2.6	0.692
Hepatitis B, Acute	1	0	1	0	6	5.2	1.385
Hepatitis B, Chronic	4	3	4	3	42	32.4	8.627
Hepatitis C, Acute	2	0	2	0	4	6	1.597
Hepatitis C, Chronic	21	28	21	28	273	247.8	65.977
Hepatitis E	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Influenza-associated hospitalization	161	91	161	91	409	208.2	55.433
Influenza-associated pediatric mortality	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
LaCrosse virus disease	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	0.213
Legionellosis	0	0	0	0	6	13.6	3.621
Listeriosis	0	0	0	0	1	1.4	0.373
Lyme Disease	0	1	0	1	9	10.8	2.876
Malaria	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.266
Measles (indigenous to Ohio)	0	0	0	0	9	1.8	0.479
Meningitis, Aseptic	0	1	0	1	24	35.6	9.479
Meningitis, Other Bacterial	0	0	0	0	2	3.2	0.852
Meningococcal Disease	1	0	1	0	2	1	0.266
Mumps	1	0	1	0	5	1.4	0.373
Mycobacterial disease - Not TB	2	2	2	2	34	30.4	8.094
Pertussis	7	3	7	3	81	45.6	12.141
Q fever, acute	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.106
Salmonellosis	1	2	1	2	38	37.8	10.064
Shigellosis	0	15	0	15	70	34	9.053
Streptococcal Dis, Group A, Invasive	3	0	3	0	10	15.8	4.207
Streptococcal Dis, Group B, in Newborn	0	0	0	0	1	2.4	0.639
Streptococcal Toxic Shock Syndrome	1	0	1	0	2	1	0.266
Streptococcus pneumoniae - invasive antibiotic resistance unknown or non-resistant	3	2	3	2	27	36	9.585
Streptococcus pneumo - inv antibiotic resistant /intermediate	1	1	1	1	9	18.8	5.006
Syphilis, Total	1	0	1	0	7	6.4	1.704
Syphilis, Primary and Secondary	0	0	0	0	7	0.8	0.213
Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS)	0	0	0	0	0	0.8*	0.213*
Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	1	1.8	0.479
Thyphoid Fever						0.4	0.107
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
Varicella	1	1	1	1	24	35.4	9.425
Vibriosis - other (not cholera)	0	0	0	0	1	0.6	0.160
Vibriosis parahaemolyticus	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.053
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	1	0.4	0.107
Yersiniosis	1	0	1	0	3	1.2	0.320

Source: Ohio Disease Reporting System, downloaded 2/05/15. Rates are per 100K population and based on 5 yr average incidence '10-'14.

*08-12 from ODH Stats pg.