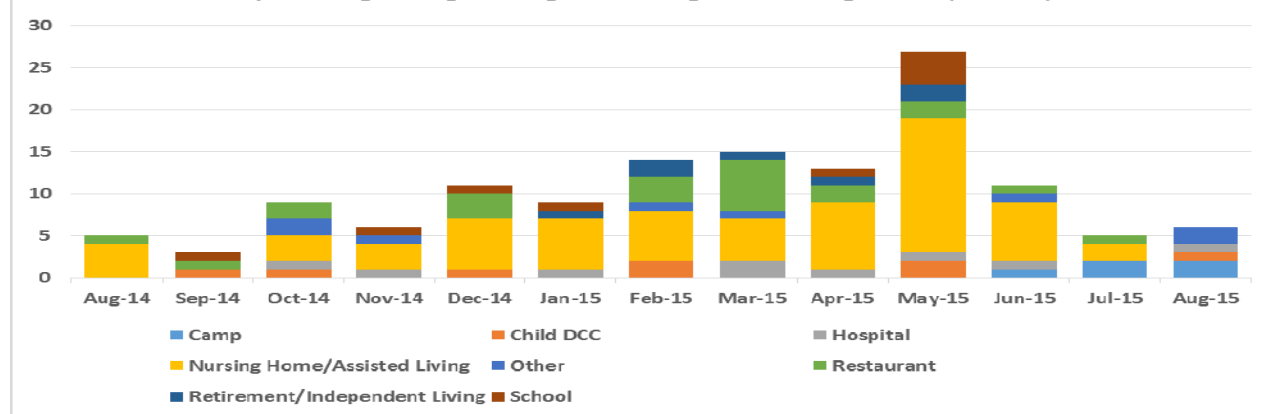


OREGON NOROVIRUS WATCH, JULY-AUGUST 2015. This issue of *Oregon*



Norovirus Watch includes norovirus outbreak data from the 2014–2015 norovirus season. Norovirus is considered to be a winter gastrointestinal disease. In 2015, most norovirus outbreaks were reported between February and May. Additionally, in July and August 2015, 11 norovirus or norovirus-like outbreaks were reported, of which 4 (36%) were in summer camps, 2 (18%) were in nursing homes or assisted-living facilities, and 1 (9%) was restaurant-associated (see Fig. 1). Since August 2014, 66 (49%) of Oregon’s 134 lab-confirmed and norovirus-like outbreaks occurred in nursing homes or assisted-living facilities.

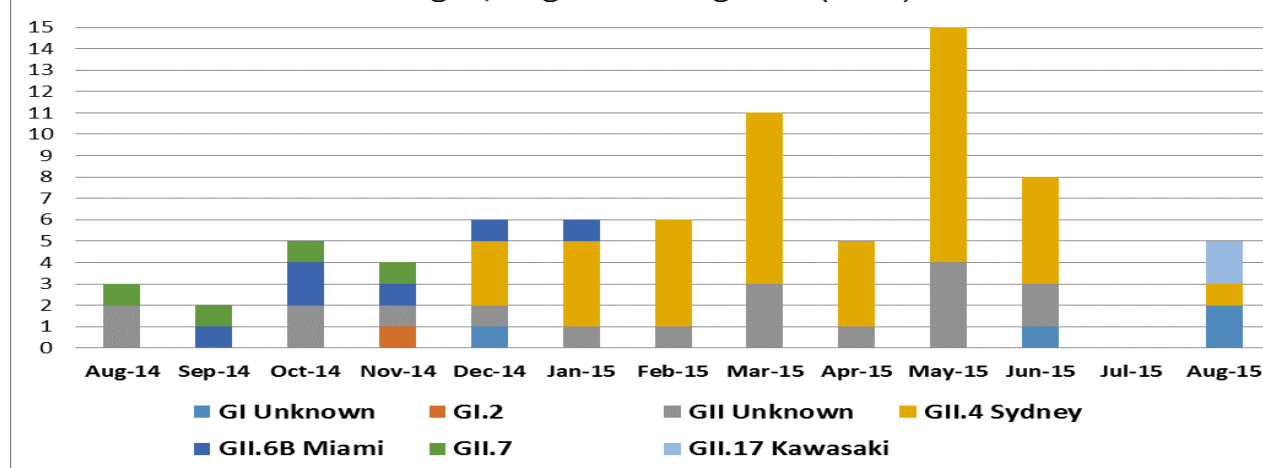
Figure 1. Laboratory-confirmed norovirus & norovirus-like outbreaks by setting, Oregon Aug 2014-Aug 2015 (n=134)



*"Other" includes hotels, workplaces, private homes, caterers.

The most common norovirus genotype reported since August 2014 has been GII.4 Sydney, identified in 41 (54%) of 76 lab-confirmed outbreaks. The first 2 outbreaks of GII.17 Kawasaki in Oregon were reported in summer camps held in August 2015 (see Fig. 2). This particular strain of norovirus has recently emerged in Asia and could potentially lead to a global strain replacement and has the potential to cause an increased number of outbreaks.

Figure 2. Laboratory-confirmed norovirus genotypes by month, Oregon, Aug 2014 – Aug 2015 (n=76)*



*76/134 (57%) suspect norovirus outbreaks have been lab-confirmed thus far.

Please send any comments or data requests (Emilio DeBess @ emilio.e.debess@state.or.us).

Oregon Norovirus Watch monthly reports are also found on our calcivirus web site:

<http://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/DiseasesAZ/Pages/disease.aspx?did=110>.