OREGON NOROVIRUS WATCH, MARCH 2019. This issue of Oregon Norovirus Watch includes norovirus outbreak data from March 2018 through March 2019. Eighteen outbreaks were reported in March 2019; 15 (83%) occurred in nursing homes, and 1 (6%) each in a day care center, hospital and other setting. Since March 2018, most reported norovirus and noro-like outbreaks have been in long-term care facilities (n=124, 70%, Fig. 1). Norovirus or noro-like outbreaks were reported in 12 (7%) schools, 11 (6%) child day-care centers, and 7 (4%) restaurants (Fig. 1) during the same period. Most of the 60 confirmed norovirus outbreaks reported since March 2018 were caused by strains within the GII genogroup (Fig 2, n=52, 87%); most GII outbreak strains were typed as GII.4 Sydney (n=29, 48%).

Figure 1. Laboratory-confirmed norovirus & norovirus-like outbreaks by setting type and month Oregon, March 2018–March 2019 (n=178)

Figure 2. Laboratory confirmed norovirus by genotypes and month in Oregon, March 2018–March 2019 (n=60)

*60 (34%) of 178 suspected norovirus outbreaks have been confirmed by positive lab results from ≥2 patients. GI* and GII* denote outbreaks that only had 1 positive sample.

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Oregon Norovirus Watch monthly reports are also found on our calicivirus web site: www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/diseasesconditions/diseasesaz/pages/calicivirus.aspx.