Highlights

- In week 17 of 2018, the majority of individual local flu activity indicators decreased compared to last week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) decreased and is low.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = REGIONAL, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 778 tests run with 65 (8.4%) positive results for week 17 of 2018.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms decreased compared to last week. The percentage of ED visits for ILI and respiratory symptoms are above their respective baseline averages for the week.
- In week 17 of 2018, the trends for all local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked decreased (decrease in cough and cold, electrolyte, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity decreased. Please visit the [CDC website](#) for specific information.

Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated reports are received.)

| Indicators                                      | Week Number(s) Available | Current Week Value | % Change Chart from Last Week | # Weeks | General Trend Line Chart
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------------------------
| Medical Facility Lab Data                        | 35-17                    | 8.4% Pos.          | -6%                          | 4 ▼     |
| athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit      | 35-17                    | 4.3 per 1,000 visits | 84%                          | 1 ▲     |
| EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs                       | 35-17                    | 21 runs            | -16.0%                       | 2 ▼     |
| School Absences                                 | 35-17                    | 12.0% Absent       | -0.5%                        | 1 ⊗     |
| Hospital ED Data:
  - Complaint Defined as ILI                     | 35-17                    | 18.2% of All ED Visits | -2.4%                       | 1 ▼     |
  - Categorized as Respiratory                    | 35-17                    | 13.5% of All ED Visits | -5.5%                       | 1 ▼     |
| Medication Data:
  - OTC Cough & Cold Sales                      | 35-17                    | 16,981 Total Sales | -3.5%                        | 1 ▼     |
  - Thermometer                                   | 35-17                    | 72 Total Sales     | -29.4%                       | 6 ▼     |
| Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations | 35-17                    | 10 Admitted (1322 Since wk. 35, 2017) | -50%                       | 4 ▼     |

Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of May 3, 2018)

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| IAH by Season (October - May or Weeks 35 - 20)
  - 2017-18 is from week 35 through week 17. |
| 513  | 486  | 872  | 264  | 620  | 1,322     |

1Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.
2Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "●" = Stable (-2% to +2%).
3Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).
4Data Source: Medical claims data from athenaHealth® (www.athenahealth.com). Rate of Flu or ILI visits to Franklin County, OH athenaHealth® network primary care practices/physicians. Claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.
5Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode). NOTE: Excludes one hospital system included in the past due to technical changes affecting visit classification assignment and numbers.
6Confirmed cases only. Based on jurisdiction equal to Franklin County or City of Columbus and admission date available in ODRS.
Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports
In week 17, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (4.3 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 17 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI decreased compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 17 of 2018, 1.5% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is below the national baseline of 2.2% for week 17.

Laboratory Surveillance
During week 17 of 2018, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 778 specimens, with 65 (8.4%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2017 through week 17 of 2018 is 62,713 with 12,199 (19.5%) positives (8,490 type A, 3,701 type B, 7 type A and B, 1 type unknown).

Nationally in week 17 of 2018, clinical laboratories reported 12,794 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 948 (7.4%) of which were positive (319 type A, 629 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 467 specimens, 135 of which were positive (39 type A – of which 21 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 15 were H3N2, and 3 was not subtyped; 96 type B – of which 59 were Yamagata lineage, 10 were Victoria lineage, and 27 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

Week 17 Ohio data was not available at the time of this publication. In week 16, Ohio clinical labs reported 76,205 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (200) A(H1N1)pdm09; (640) A/H3N2; (11,267) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (4,281) Flu B (through 4/21/18). In week 16, ODH Public Health Lab reported 1,223 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (105) A(H1N1)pdm09; (683) A/H3N2; (199) Influenza B (through 4/21/18). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits
In the 17th week of 2018, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory decreased compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is above its historic baseline for the week (Figure 5).

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales
In week 17 of 2018, the trends for all local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked decreased (decrease in cough and cold, electrolyte, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: [http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx)
Figure 1: Local Participating Outpatient Primary Care Provider Influenza or Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate*, Franklin County, OH

Figure 2: Percentage of Local Outpatient Participating Provider* visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2017-18

Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined** ED Visits, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2017-18

*Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when recieved.

**Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough OR chief complaint classifier category includes fever and chief complaint text includes sore throat OR chief complaint classifier category includes "ILI"

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Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 17, 2018 (4/22/2018-4/28/2018)