### Highlights

- In week 48 of 2017, the majority of individual local flu activity indicator values increased compared to last week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) increased compared to last week and continues to be low.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = REGIONAL, LOW.
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,280 tests run with 52 (4.1%) positive results for week 48 of 2017.
- The percentage of ED visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI) increased and respiratory symptom visits were stable compared to last week. The percentage of ED visits for both ILI and respiratory symptoms were above their respective baseline averages for the week.
- In week 48 of 2017, trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in cough and cold, electrolyte, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in pediatric anti-fever sales; stable thermometer, chest rub, and adult anti-fever sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity increased in week 48. Please visit the CDC website for specific information (National data is usually updated on Friday of each week).

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

#### Current Week’s Composite Intensity Indicator\* Composite Intensity Indicator\* Weekly Trend (DRAFT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Week Number(s) Available</th>
<th>Current Week Value</th>
<th>% Change Chart from Last Week</th>
<th># Weeks*</th>
<th>General Trend Line Chart*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Facility Lab Data</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>4.1% Pos.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>2.9 per 1,000 visits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>46 runs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Absences</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>10.7% Absent</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital ED Data*:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint Defined as ILI</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>20.8% of All ED Visits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categorized as Respiratory</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>16.7% of All ED Visits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication Data:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTC Cough &amp; Cold Sales</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>16,873 Total Sales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermometer</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>100 Total Sales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations*:</td>
<td>35-48</td>
<td>9 Admitted (18 since wk. 35, 2017)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Dec 6, 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported by Year (based on date of death)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year*:</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAH comparison by Season (October - May or Weeks 35 - 20)</td>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>2017-18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current season (2017-18) is from week 35 through week 48.</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\*Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.
\#Number of weeks. \* = Increase (>2%), \* = Decrease (>2%), \* = Stable (-2% to +2%).
\$Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).
\%Data 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.
\#Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zip code). 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 48, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth providers (2.9 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 48 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI increased compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 48 of 2017, 2.3% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is above the national baseline of 2.2% for week 48.

Laboratory Surveillance
During week 48 of 2017, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,280 specimens, with 52 (4.1%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2017 through week 48 of 2017 is 11,539 with 147 (1.3%) positives (101 type A, 44 type B, 1 type A and B, 1 type unknown).

Nationally in week 48 of 2017, clinical laboratories reported 20,143 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 1,354 (6.7%) of which were positive (1,033 type A, 321 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,158 specimens, 425 of which were positive (359 type A – of which 33 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 314 were A/H3, and 12 were not subtyped; 66 type B – of which 40 were Yamagata lineage, 2 were Victoria lineage, and 24 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 48, Ohio clinical labs reported 11,380 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (0) A(H1N1)pdm09; (10) A/H3N2; (115) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (37) Flu B (through 12/2/17). In week 48, ODH Public Health Lab reported 35 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (1) A(H1N1)pdm09; (22) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B (through 12/2/17). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits
In the 48th week of 2017, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory was stable 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 48 of 2017, trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in cough and cold, electrolyte, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in pediatric anti-fever sales; stable thermometer, chest rub, and adult anti-fever sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 48, 2017 (11/26/2017-12/2/2017)

**Figure 1: Local Participating Outpatient Primary Care Provider Influenza or Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate**, Franklin County, OH

*Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®. Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

**Figure 2: Percentage of Local Outpatient Participating Provider* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider** Site visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2017-18

*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits

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

*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”

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

*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits

---

**Note:**
- CDC MMWR Week
- 15 Week Trend Close-Up
- Rate per 1,000 visits
- Percent of Visits
- **Local Sentinel Outpatient ILI Visit**: Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough
- **Local Flu or ILI Visit**: Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and chief complaint text includes sore throat OR chief complaint classifier category includes “ILI”
- **Local Upper Respiratory Infection Visit**: Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and chief complaint text includes sore throat
- **US Region 5 Sentinel Outpatient ILI Visit**: FBI
- **US Region 5 - Current Year**
- **Local Unspecified Viral or ILI Visit**: Category includes "ILI"
- **Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2017-18**
- **Local Flu or ILI Visit**: Local reporting and national laboratory positive influenza tests by week ending (CDC MMWR Week)
- **Local Sentinel Outpatient ILI Visit**: Local reporting and national laboratory positive influenza tests by week ending (CDC MMWR Week)
- **Local Upper Respiratory Infection Visit**: Local reporting and national laboratory positive influenza tests by week ending (CDC MMWR Week)
- **Local Unspecified Viral or ILI Visit**: Local reporting and national laboratory positive influenza tests by week ending (CDC MMWR Week)
- **US Region 5 Sentinel Outpatient ILI Visit**: Local reporting and national laboratory positive influenza tests by week ending (CDC MMWR Week)
- **US Region 5 - Current Year**: Local reporting and national laboratory positive influenza tests by week ending (CDC MMWR Week)

---

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

*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”

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

*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits