

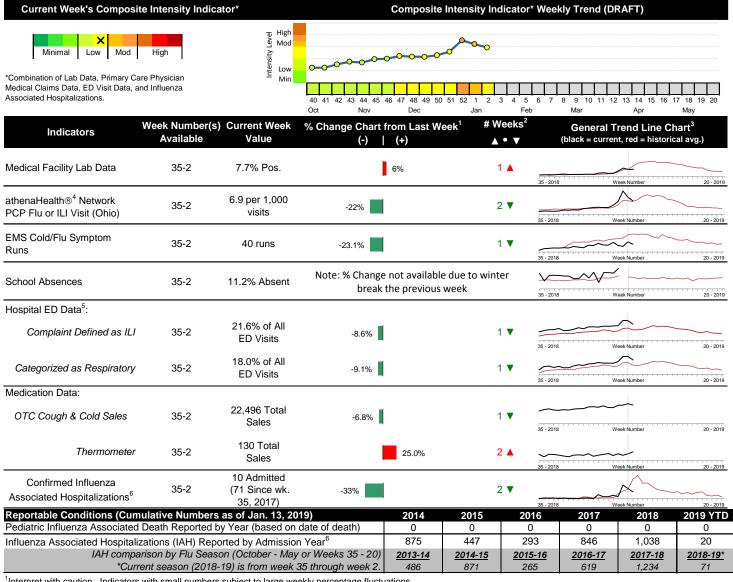
# 2018-2019 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 2, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018– Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019)



# **Highlights**

- In week 2 of 2019, the majority of individual local flu activity indicators decreased compared to the previous week. As a
  whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) decreased compared to the previous week and is low.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click <u>here</u> for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,980 tests run with 153 (7.7%) positive results for week 2 of 2019.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms decreased compared to last week.
- In week 2 of 2019, the trends for local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (increase in thermometer, adult anti-fever, and pediatric anti-fever sales; decrease in cough and cold, electrolyte, chest rub, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- In the U.S., influenza activity remains elevated. Please visit the CDC website for specific information.

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



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Number of weeks "▲" = Increase (>2%), "▼" = Decrease (>2%), "●" = Stable (-2% to +2%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Data Source: Medical claims data from athenaHealth® (www.athenahealth.com). Rate of Flu or ILI visits to Ohio (statewide) athenaHealth® network primary care practices/physicians. Claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are recieved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Franklin 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Confirmed 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 2, the preliminary Ohio<sup>1</sup> (statewide) influenza and influenza-like-Illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (6.9 per 1,000 visits) decreased compared to the previous week and is similar to its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 2 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 2 of 2019, 3.1% 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 two.

#### **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 2 of 2019, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,980 specimens, with 153 (7.7%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2018 through week 2 of 2019 is 23,186 with 819 (3.5%) positives (717 type A, 100 type B, 0 type A and B, 2 type unknown).

Nationally in week 2 of 2019, clinical laboratories reported 31,051 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 3,856 (12.4%) of which were positive (3,730 type A, 126 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,399 specimens, 752 of which were positive (743 type A – of which 605 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 74 were H3N2, and 64 were not subtyped; 9 type B – of which 4 were Yamagata lineage, 0 were Victoria lineage, and 5 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 2 of 2019, Ohio clinical labs reported 30,152 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (68) A(H1N1)pdm09; (36) A/H3N2; (1,773) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (42) Flu B (through 1/12/2019). In week 2 of 2019, ODH Public Health Lab reported 161 positive influenza tests from specimens sent by various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (119) A(H1N1)pdm09; (42) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B (through 1/12/2019). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

# **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of 2019, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory decreased compared to the percentage seen the previous week and is above its baseline for the week (Figure 5).

### **Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales**

In week 2 of 2019, the trends for local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (increase in thermometer, adult anti-fever, and pediatric anti-fever sales; decrease in cough and cold, electrolyte, chest rub, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.

#### **Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:**

Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: https://odh.ohio.gov

CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

World Health Organization Situation Updates: http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance monitoring/en/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Note: County level athenaHealth® network primary care medical claims data is no longer available.

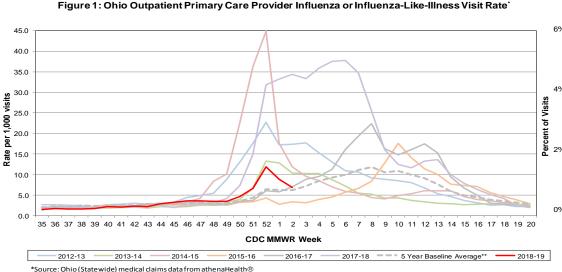
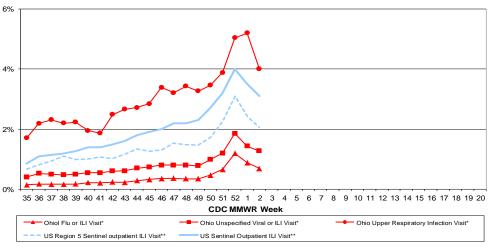
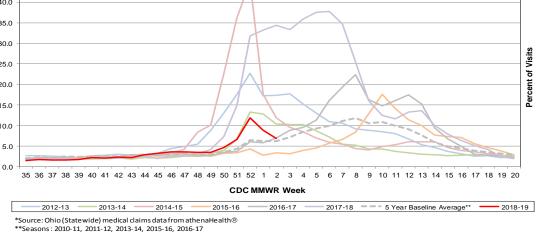


Figure 2: Percentage of Ohio Outpatient Participating Provider\* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider\*\* visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2018-19



<sup>\*</sup>Source: Ohio (statewide) medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when recieved.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits.



 $Note: athena Health @\ claims\ data\ are\ subject\ to\ filing\ and\ processing\ time\ lags.\ Historical\ data\ are\ updated\ when\ they\ are\ received\ data\ are\ updated\ data\ are\ updated\ when\ they\ are\ received\ data\ data\ are\ updated\ data\ dat$ 

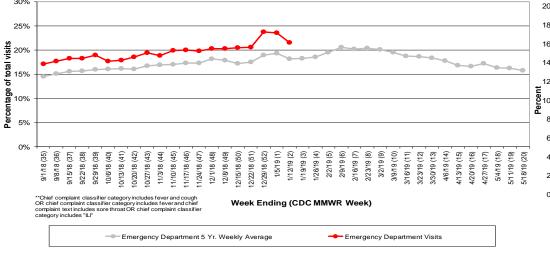


Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2018-19

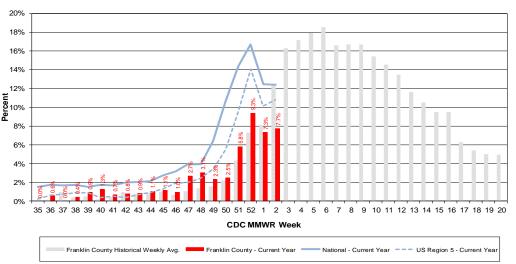


Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined\*\* ED Visits, 2018-19, Franklin County, OH

Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Total Sales, 2018-19,

(Y1) Pediatric Electrolytes Sales

(Y1) Thermometer Sales

Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2018-19, Franklin County, OH

--- Emergency Department 5 Yr. Weekly Average

Franklin County, OH 25% 1400 20% Percentage of total visits
%010%
50% (Y1) Number of 800 600 200 12/15/18 (50) 12/22/18 (51) 12/29/18 (52) 1/12/19 (2) 1/19/19 (4) 1/26/19 (4) 2/2/19 (5) 2/9/19 (7) 2/2/19 (8) 2/2/19 (5) 2/9/19 (6) 3/30/19 (13) 10/6/18 (40) 12/8/18 (49) 1/5/19 (1) 1/12/19 (2) 2/16/19 (7) 12/1/18 (48) 1/19/19 (3) 0/13/18 (41) 0/20/18 (42) 10/27/18 (43) 11/17/18 (46) 11/24/18 (47) 4/20/19 (16) 5/18/19 (20) 3/2/19 (9) 11/3/18 ( Week Ending (CDC MMWR Week) Week Ending (CDC MMWR Week)

---(Y2) Cough & Cold Sales

Emergency Department Visits

