

2017-2018 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 43, Oct. 22nd, 2017– Oct. 28th, 2017)

Highlights

- In week 43 of 2017, the individual local flu activity indicator trends were mixed compared to last week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) was low for the week and was stable compared to the preceding week.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = SPORADIC, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 893 tests run with 3 (0.3%) positive results for week 43 of 2017.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms 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 43 of 2017, the trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in electrolyte, thermometer, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in cough and cold and adult anti-fever sales; stable chest rub and pediatric anti-fever sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity was low. 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.)*



Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Oct 29, 2017)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 YTD
Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported by Year (based on date of death)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year ⁶	394	301	875	448	292	607
IAH comparison by Season (October - May or Weeks 35 - 20)	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Current season (2017-18) is from week 35 through week 43.	512	486	872	264	626	3

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 43, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (1.5 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is slightly below its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 43 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI was stable compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 43 of 2017, 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 43.

Laboratory Surveillance

During week 43 of 2017, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 893 specimens, with 3 (0.3%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2017 through week 43 of 2017 is 6,076 with 34 (0.6%) positives (14 type A, 20 type B, 0 type A and B, 0 type unknown).

Nationally in week 43 of 2017, clinical laboratories reported 11,775 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 336 (2.9%) of which were positive (228 type A, 108 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 694 specimens, 119 of which were positive (109 type A – of which 14 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 88 were A/H3, and 7 were not subtyped; 10 type B – of which 5 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 43 of 2017, participating Ohio clinical labs reported 4,590 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (0) A(H1N1)pdm09; (2) A/H3N2; (26) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (15) Flu B (through 10/28/17). ODH Public Health Lab reported 4 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (1) A(H1N1)pdm09; (3) A/H3N2; (0) Influenza B (through 10/28/17). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits

In the 43rd 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 43 of 2017, the trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in electrolyte, thermometer, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in cough and cold and adult anti-fever sales; stable chest rub and pediatric anti-fever sales) compared to last week.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:

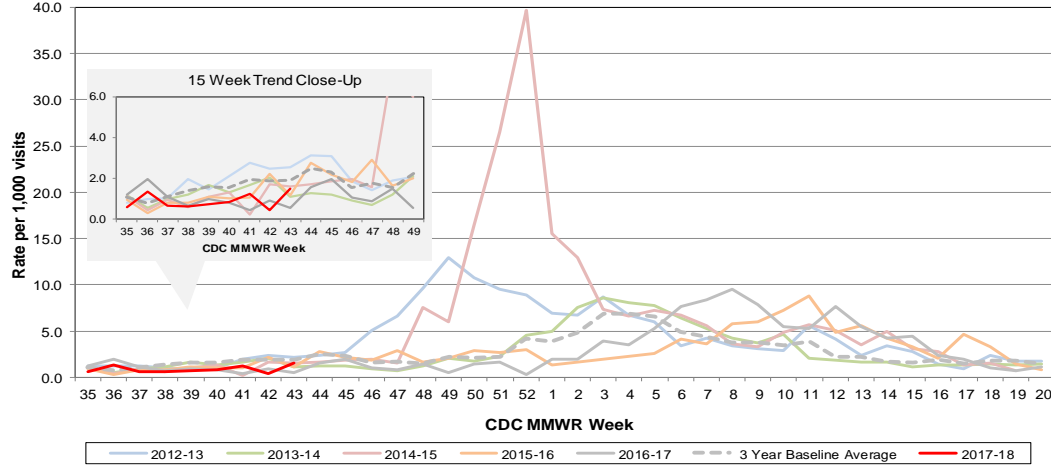
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx>

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

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

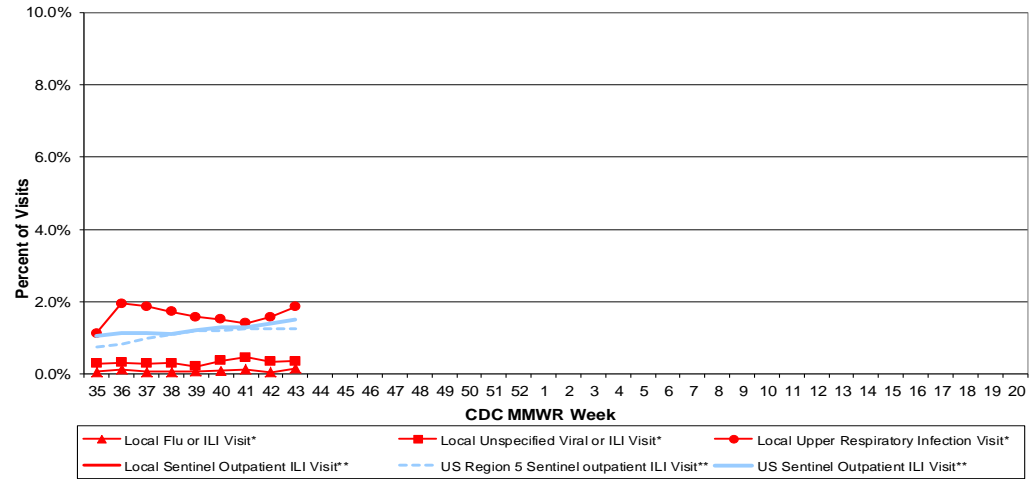
Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 43, 2017 (10/22/2017-10/28/2017)

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



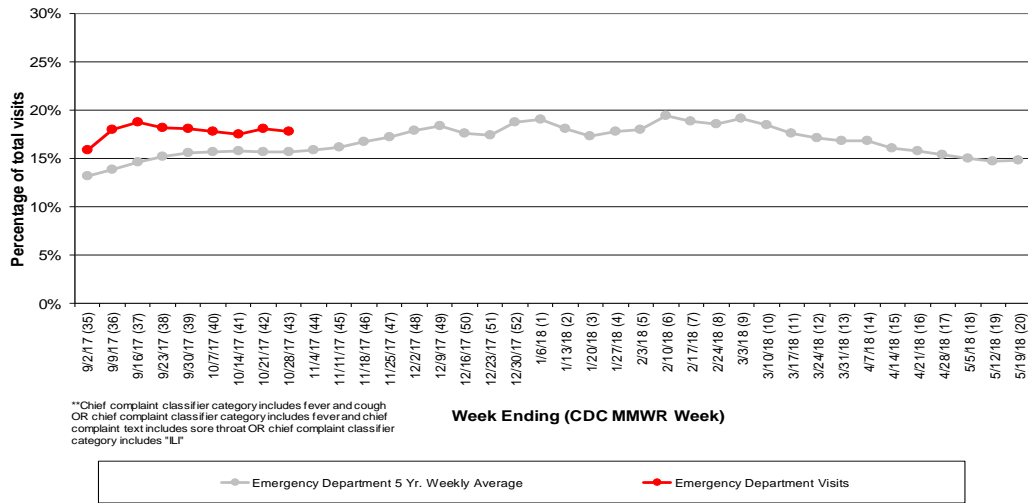
*Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®
 Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

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**



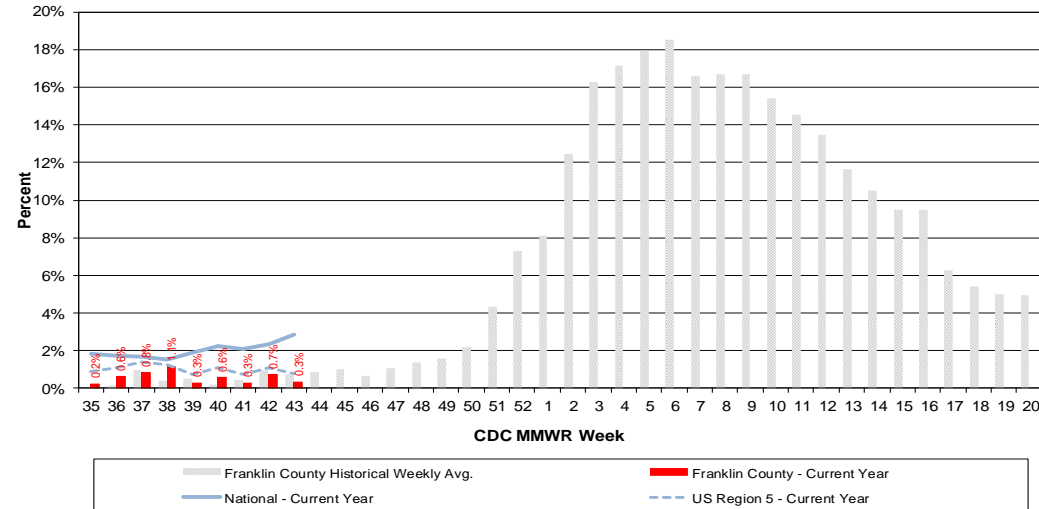
*Source: Local medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when received.
 **Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits

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



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Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

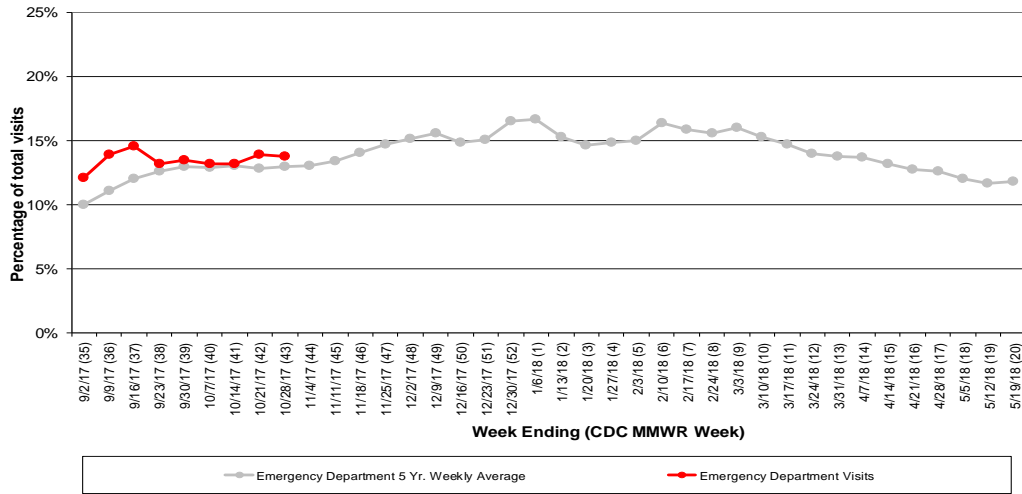


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

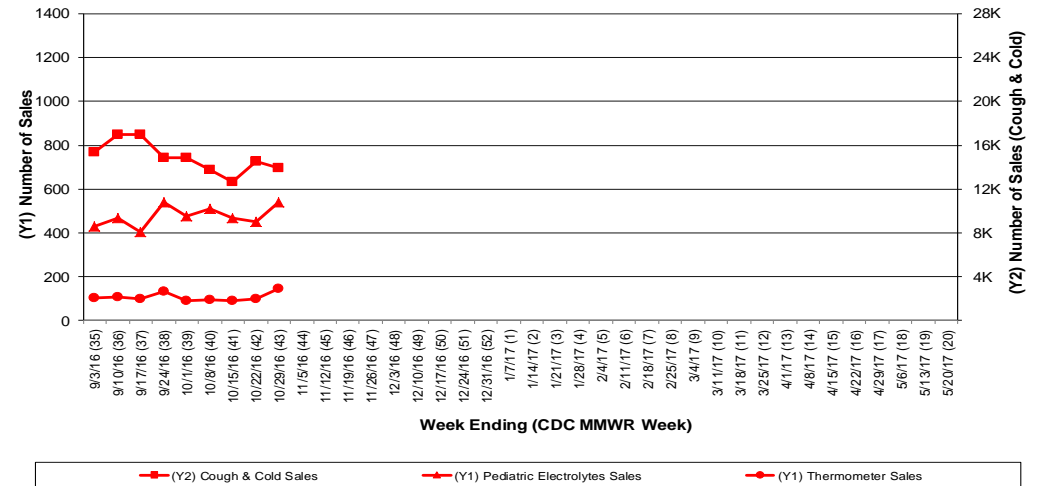
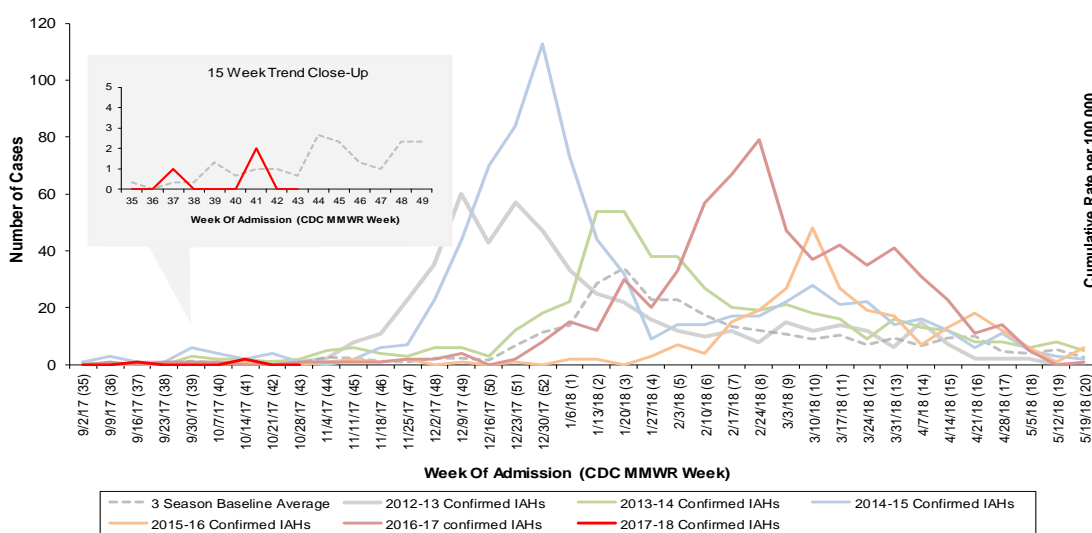


Figure 7: Franklin County Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 10/29/2017)



Franklin County, OH, Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2017-2018 Season

