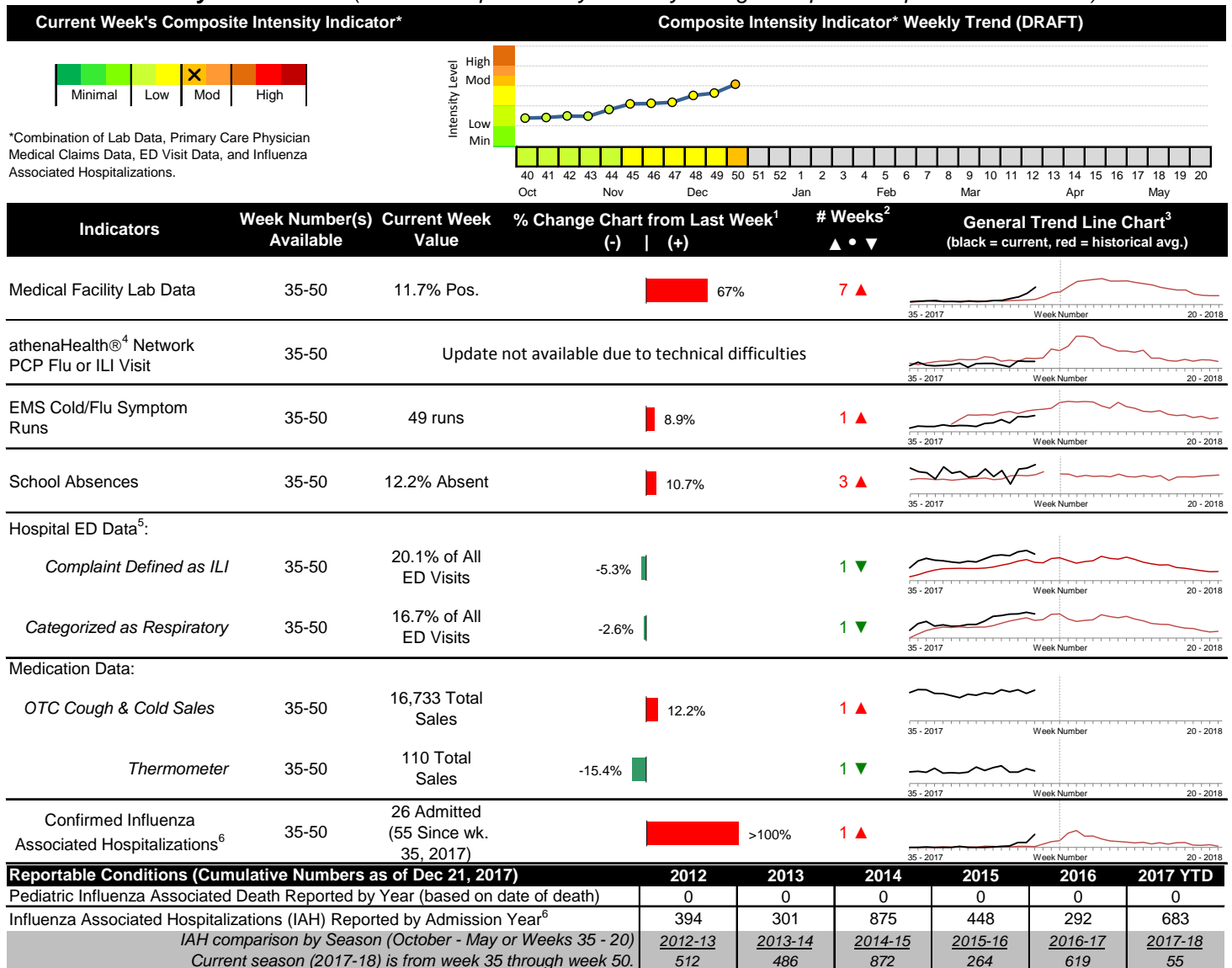


## 2017-2018 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 50, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017– Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

### Highlights

- In week 50 of 2017, the majority of individual local flu activity indicator values increased compared to last week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) increased a remarkable amount. Notable increases were seen in percent lab positives and number of influenza-associated hospitalizations.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, MODERATE
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,569 tests run with 184 (11.7%) positive results for week 50 of 2017.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptom decreased slightly 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 50 of 2017, trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in cough and cold, electrolyte, and chest rub sales; decrease in thermometer, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever sales, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity sharply increased in week 50. 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.)*



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

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

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

<sup>4</sup>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.

<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>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**

Due to technical difficulties, week 50 athenaHealth® data was not available at the time of this report. In week 49, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (1.5 per 1,000 visits) decreased compared to the previous week and is close to its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 50 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI decreased slightly compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 50 of 2017, 3.5% 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 50.

## **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 50 of 2017, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,569 specimens, with 184 (11.7%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2017 through week 50 of 2017 is 14,562 with 433 (3.0%) positives (356 type A, 75 type B, 1 type A and B, 1 type unknown).

Nationally in week 50 of 2017, clinical laboratories reported 23,607 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 3,308 (14%) of which were positive (2,812 type A, 496 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,623 specimens, 795 of which were positive (689 type A – of which 58 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 611 were A/H3, and 20 were not subtyped; 106 type B – of which 75 were Yamagata lineage, 10 were Victoria lineage, and 21 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 50, Ohio clinical labs reported 15,391 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (2) A(H1N1)pdm09; (29) A/H3N2; (445) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (73) Flu B (through 12/26/17). In week 50, ODH Public Health Lab reported 71 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (1) A(H1N1)pdm09; (54) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B (through 12/16/17). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

## **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 50<sup>th</sup> week of 2017, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory decreased slightly 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 50 of 2017, trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in cough and cold, electrolyte, and chest rub sales; decrease in thermometer, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever sales, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.

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

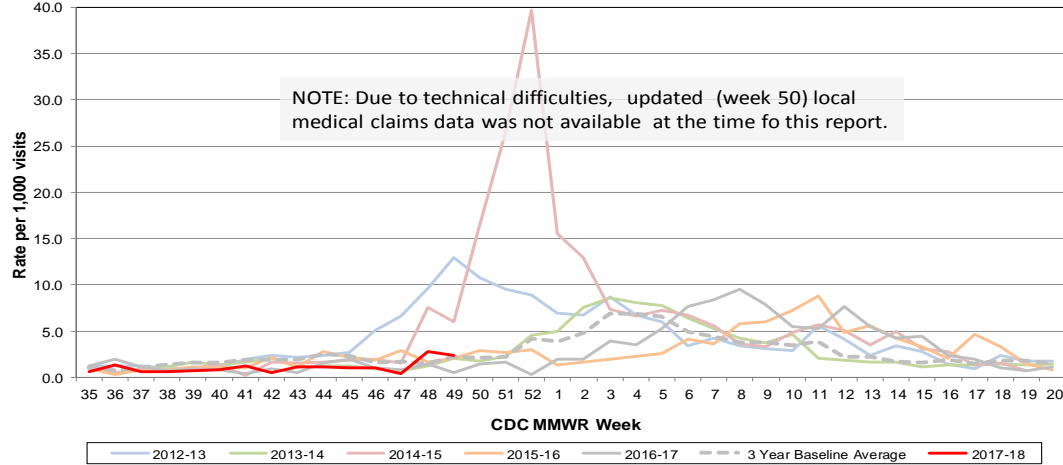
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx>

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/](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/en/)

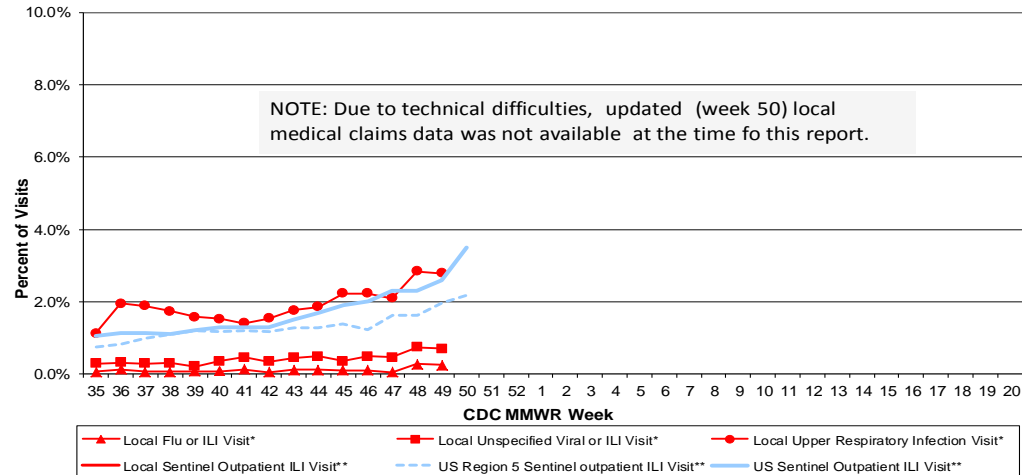
# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 50, 2017 (12/10/2017-12/16/2017)

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



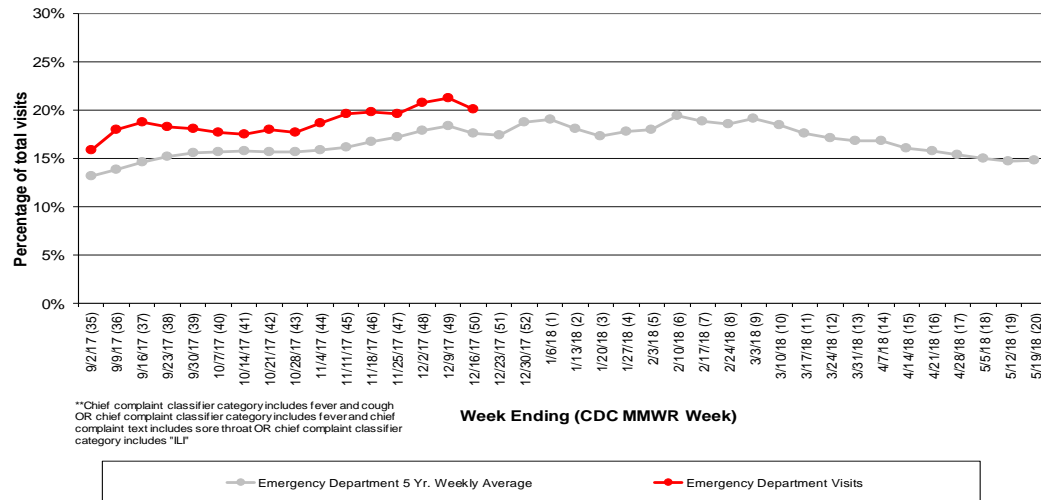
\*Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®  
 Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

**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**



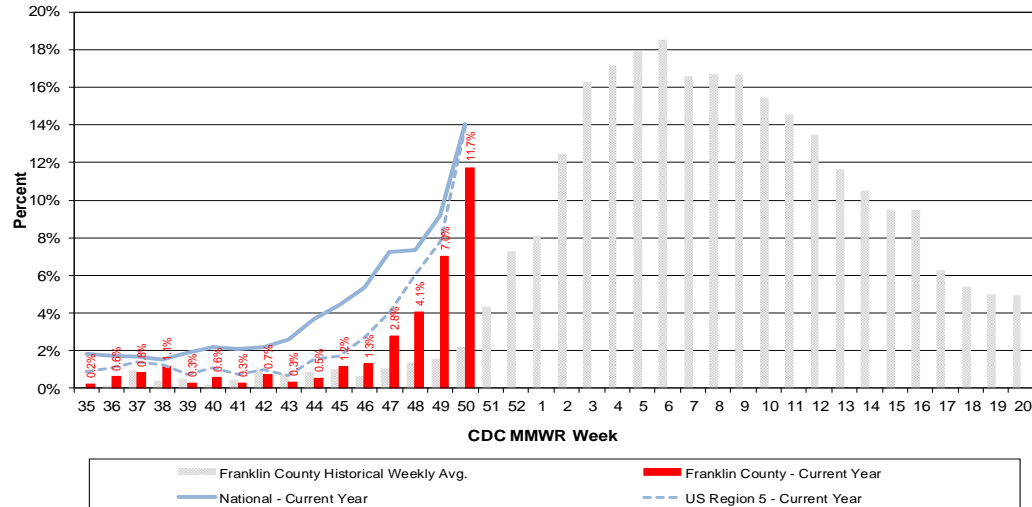
\*Source: Local medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when received.  
 \*\*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits

**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 "LI"

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



Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 50, 2017 (12/10/2017-12/16/2017)

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

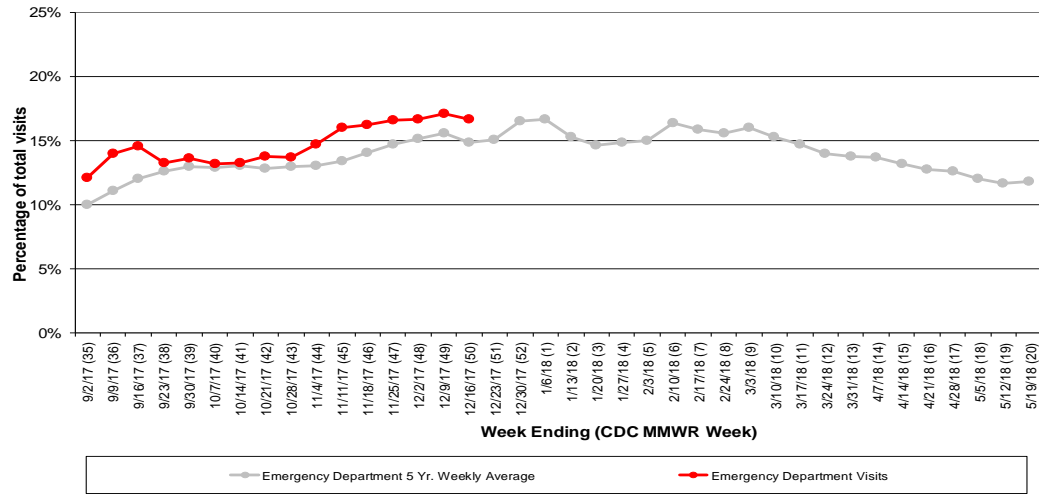


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2017-18, Franklin County, OH

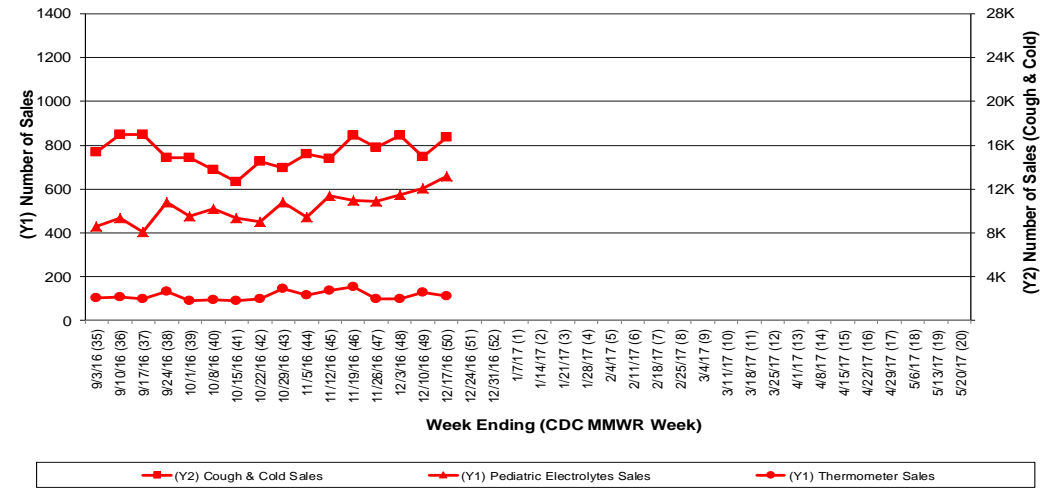
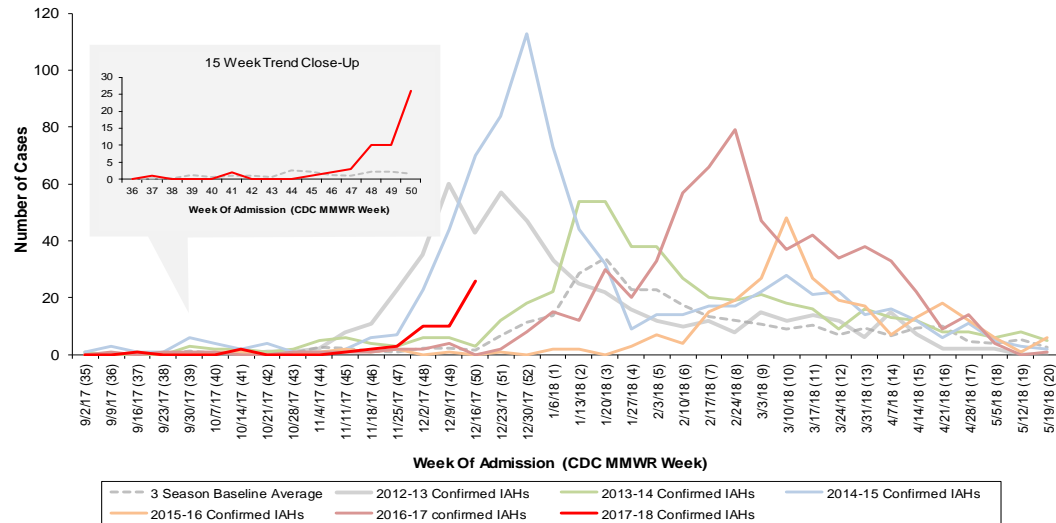


Figure 7: Franklin County Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 12/21/2017)



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

