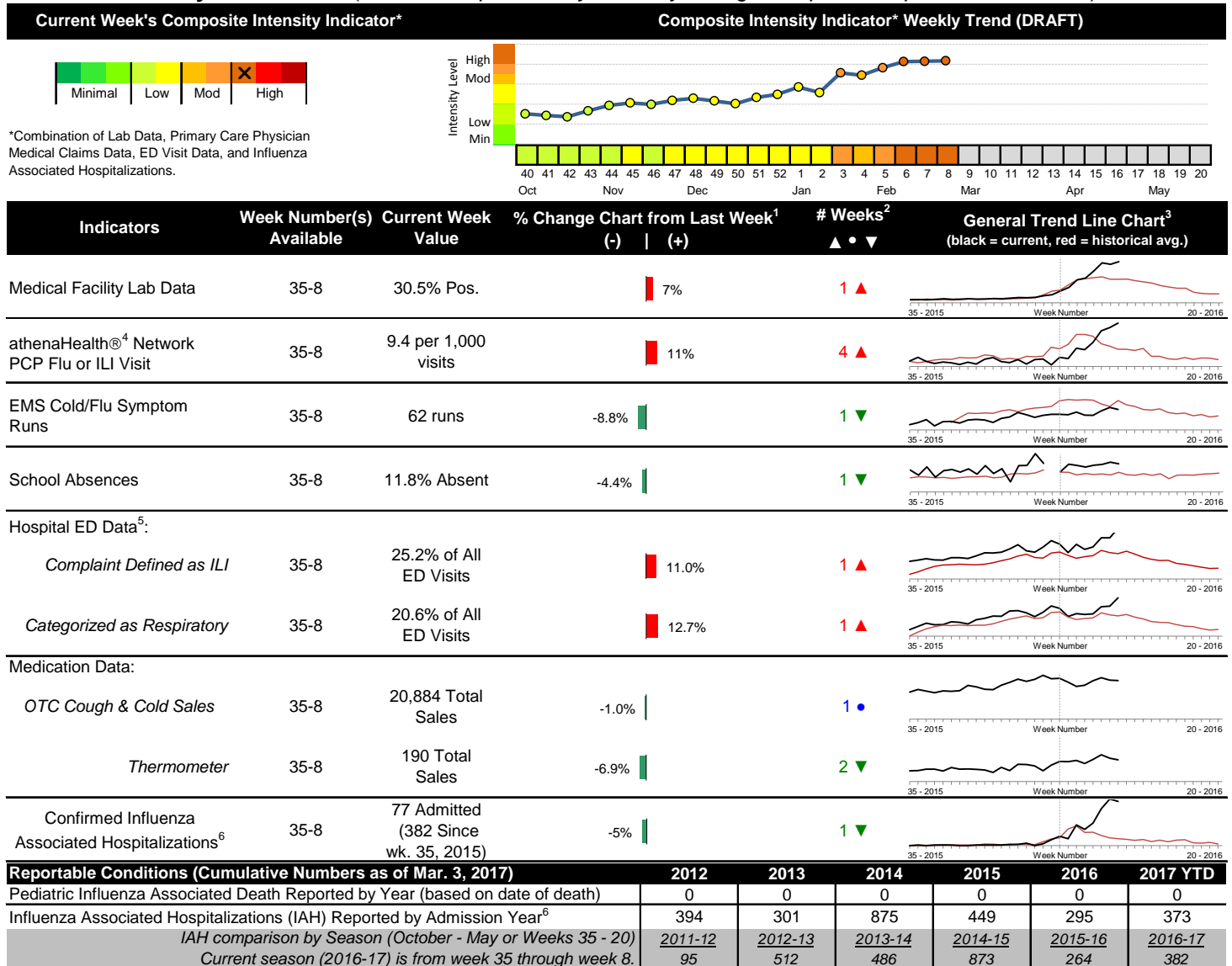


## 2016-2017 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 8, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017– Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

### Highlights

- In week 8 of 2017, the individual local flu activity indicator trends were mixed compared to last week, with the majority above their baseline averages. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) continued to be high for week 8.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, HIGH
- Local medical facility labs reported 3,526 tests run with 1,077 (30.5%) positive results for week 8 of 2017. This is higher than last week's 28.5% and is higher than the weekly baseline.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms increased compared to last week. The percentage of ED visits for both ILI and respiratory symptoms are above their respective baseline averages for the week.
- In week 8 of 2017, the trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in thermometer and chest-rub sales; stable cough and cold and electrolyte sales) compared to last week.
- Nationally, influenza activity remained elevated in the United States. 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**

In week 8, the preliminary local influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® providers (9.4 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 8 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 8 of 2016, 4.8% 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 8.

## **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 8 of 2017, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 3,526 specimens, with 1,077 (30.5%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2016 through week 8 of 2017 is 31,867 with 4,370 (13.7%) positives (3,408 type A, 957 type B, 5 type A and B, 0 type unknown).

Nationally in week 8 of 2017, clinical laboratories reported 35,124 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 8,515 (24.2%) of which were positive (6,300 type A, 2,215 type B). Public health laboratories reported testing 1,924 specimens, 1,070 of which were positive (884 type A – of which 26 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 804 were A/H3, and 54 were not subtyped; 186 type B – of which 82 were Yamagata lineage, 27 were Victoria lineage, and 77 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data since week 40.

In week 8 of 2017, participating Ohio clinical labs reported 36,916 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (4) A(H1N1)pdm09; (391) A/H3N2; (2,717) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (1,223) Flu B (through 2/25/17). ODH Public Health Lab reported 687 specimens tested for influenza from various submitters this season thus far. Positive results include: (4) A(H1N1)pdm09; (450) A/H3N2; (64) Influenza B (through 2/25/17). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

## **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 8<sup>th</sup> week of 2017, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory increased 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 8 of 2017, the trends for categories of local over-the-counter medication sales tracked were mixed (increase in pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales; decrease in thermometer and chest-rub sales; stable cough and cold and electrolyte sales) compared to last week.

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

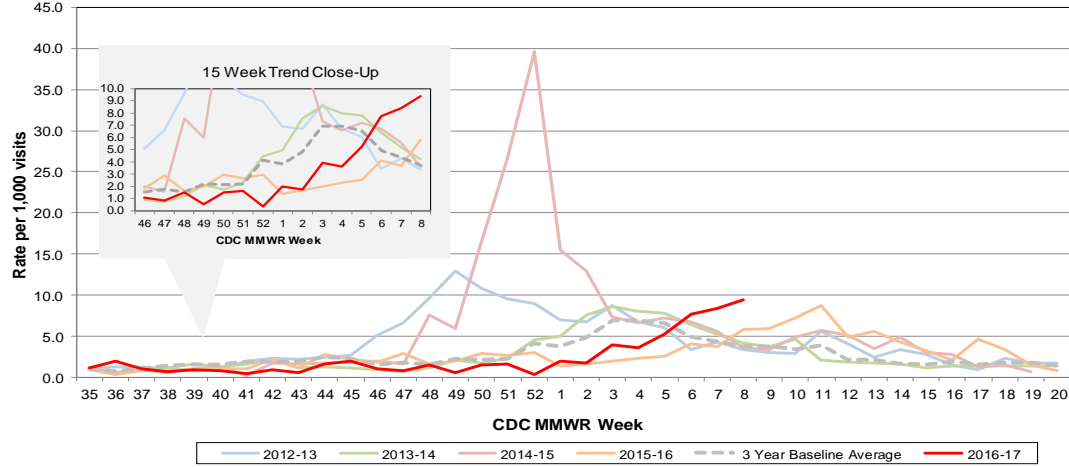
Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: <https://www.odh.ohio.gov/en/features/odhfeatures/seasflu/Ohio-Flu-Activity>

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/)

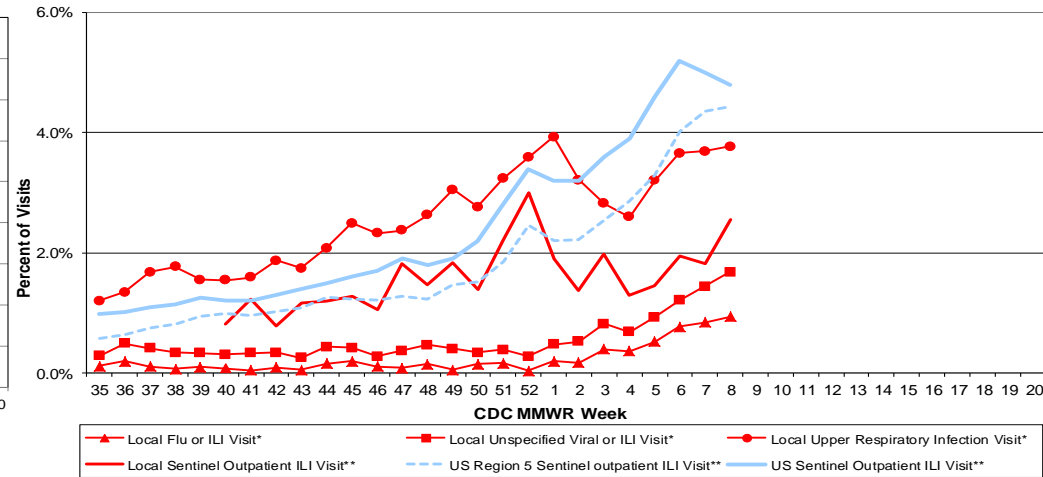
Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 8, 2017 (2/19/2017-2/25/2017)

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



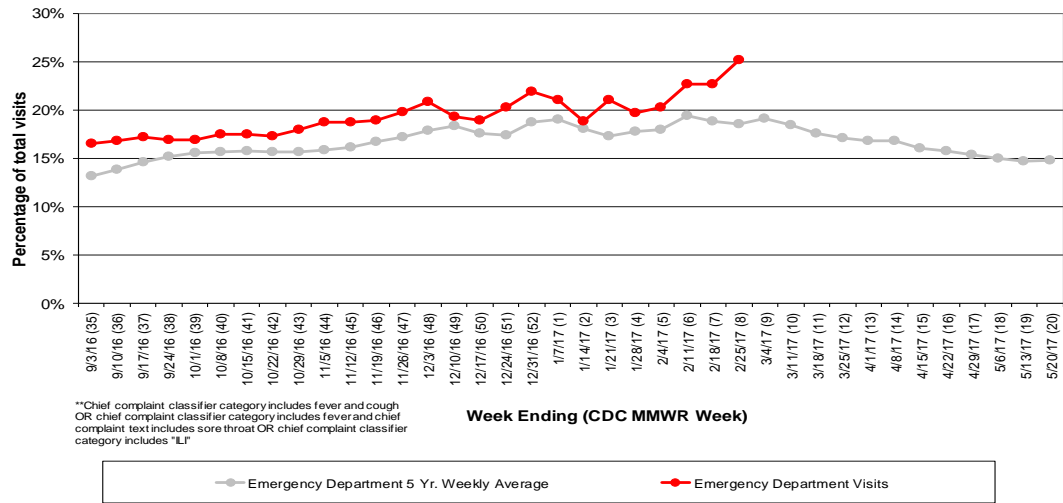
\*Source: Medical Claims data from athenaHealth®  
 Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

**Figure 2: Percentage of Local Outpatient Participating Provider\* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider\*\* Site visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2016-17**



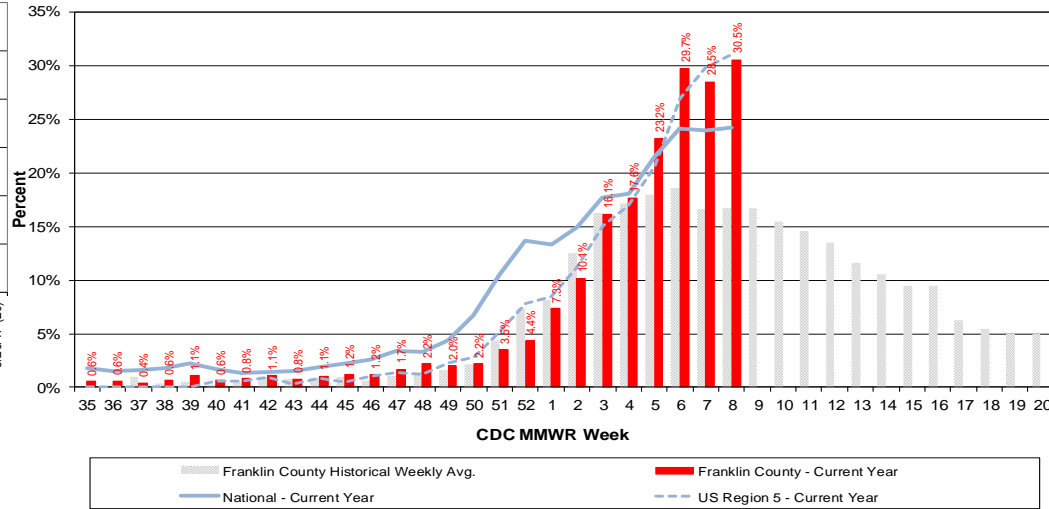
\*Source: Local medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when received.  
 \*\*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits

**Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined\*\* ED Visits, 2016-17, 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 "L"

**Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2016-17**



Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 8, 2017 (2/19/2017-2/25/2017)

Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2016-17, Franklin County, OH

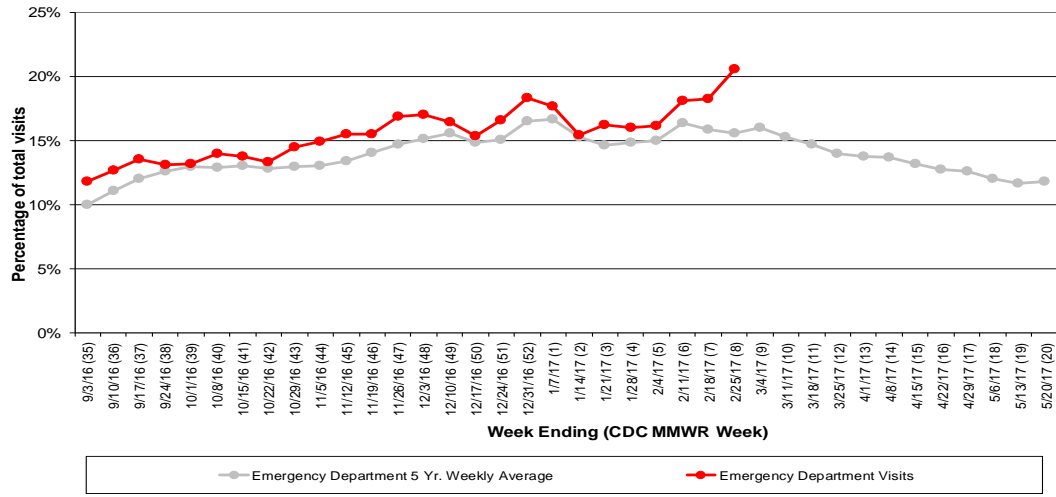


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales, 2016-17, Franklin County, OH

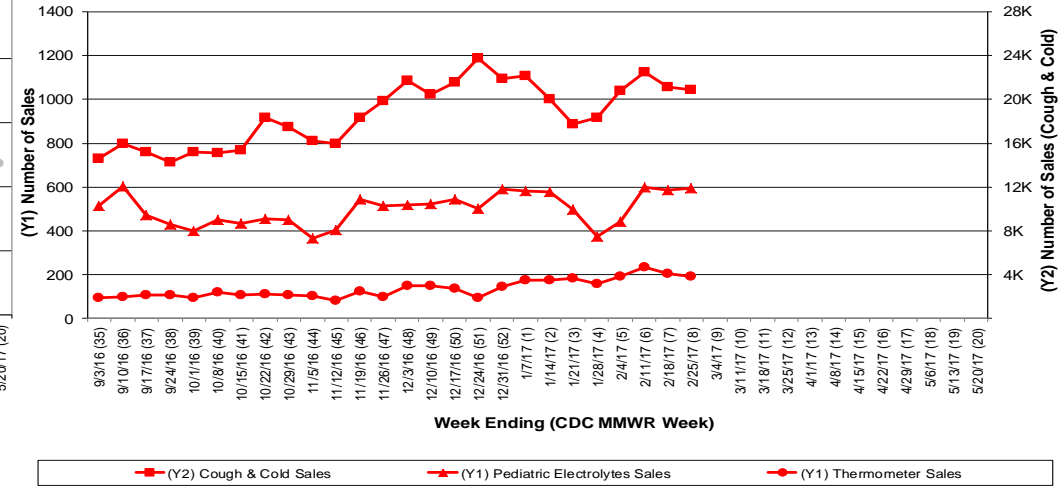
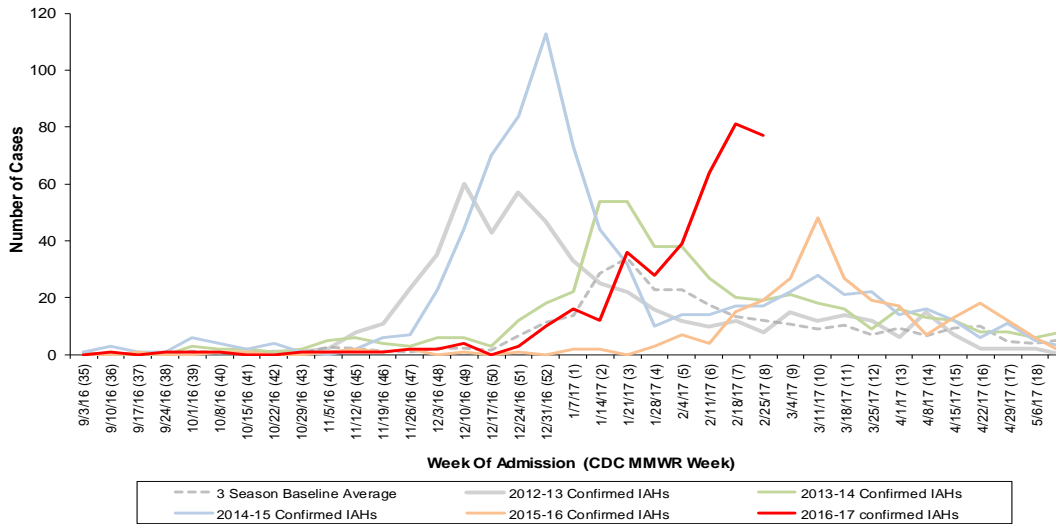


Figure 7: Franklin County Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 3/3/2017)



Franklin County, OH, Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2016-2017 Season

