Highlights

- In week 45 of 2019, the individual local flu activity indicator trend values were mixed compared to the previous week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) increased but continues to be low.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click here for definitions) = SPORADIC, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,007 tests run with 7 (0.7%) positive results for week 45 of 2019.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptom visits increased compared to last week.
- In week 45 of 2019, the majority of individual local over-the-counter medication category sale trends tracked increased (decrease in thermometer sales; increase in cough and cold, chest rub, electrolyte, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, and throat lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- In week 45, the U.S. seasonal influenza activity increased. Please visit the CDC website for specific information.

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

<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>35-45</td>
<td>0.7% Pos.</td>
<td>30% (+)</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit (Ohio)</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>42% (+)</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>34 runs</td>
<td>-10.5% (-)</td>
<td>2 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Absences</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>7.6% Absent</td>
<td>-31.0% (-)</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital ED Data³:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Complaint Defined as ILI</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>19.7% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>3.9% (+)</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categorized as Respiratory</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>15.7% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>4.9% (+)</td>
<td>2 ▲</td>
<td></td>
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<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>35-45</td>
<td>18,970 Total Sales</td>
<td>8.0% (+)</td>
<td>2 ▲</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermometer</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>77 Total Sales</td>
<td>-3.8% (-)</td>
<td>2 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations⁶</td>
<td>35-45</td>
<td>0 Admitted (10 Since wk. 35, 2017)</td>
<td>0% (+)</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Nov 10, 2019)

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<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>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year³</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>846</td>
<td>1,036</td>
<td>714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAH comparison by Flu Season (October through May or Weeks 35-20)</td>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>2019-20³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 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 reviewed.
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 45, the preliminary Ohio¹ (statewide) influenza and influenza-like-Illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® primary care providers (4.2 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 45 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 45 of 2019, 2.3% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is below the national baseline of 2.4% for week 45.

Laboratory Surveillance

During week 45 of 2019, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,007 specimens, with 7 (0.7%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2019 through week 45 of 2019 is 7,974 with 63 (0.79%) positives (19 type A, 44 type B, 0 type A and B, 0 type unknown).

Updated national clinical lab data was not available at the time of this report. Nationally in week 44 of 2019, clinical laboratories reported 18,126 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 582 (3.2%) of which were positive (143 type A, 439 type B). In week 45, public health laboratories reported testing 844 specimens, 178 of which were positive (73 type A – of which 40 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 25 were H3N2; and 8 were not subtyped; 105 type B – of which 5 were Yamagata lineage, 66 were Victoria lineage, and 34 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

Updated statewide lab data was not available at the time of this report. In week 44 of 2019, Ohio clinical labs reported 6,141 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (1) A(H1N1)pdm09; (0) A/H3N2; (7) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (9) Flu B (through 11/2/2019). In week 45 of 2019, ODH Public Health Lab reported 10 positive influenza tests from various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (0) A(H1N1)pdm09; (7) A/H3N2; (2) Influenza B (through 11/2/2019). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits

In the 45th week of 2019, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as respiratory increased 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 45 of 2019, the majority of individual local over-the-counter medication category sale trends tracked increased (decrease in thermometer sales; increase in cough and cold, chest rub, electrolyte, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever, 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/

¹Note: County level athenaHealth® network primary care medical claims data is no longer available.

Figure 1: Ohio Outpatient Primary Care Provider Influenza or Influenza-Like-Illness Visit Rate

Figure 2: Percentage of Ohio Outpatient Participating Provider* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider** visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2019-20

Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined** ED Visits, 2019-20, Franklin County, OH

Figure 4: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2019-20

*Source: Ohio (Statewide) 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.

*Source: Ohio (Statewide) medical claims data from 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.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Unspecified Viral or ILI Visit*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio Upper Respiratory Infection Visit*</td>
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**Note:**
- A chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough.
- A chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough and associated symptoms like body aches.
- A chief complaint classifier category includes ILI.

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- Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough OR chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough and associated symptoms like body aches.
- Chief complaint classifier category includes ILI.
Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2019-20, Franklin County, OH

Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Total Sales, 2019-20, Franklin County, OH

Figure 7: Columbus and Franklin County Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 11/10/2019)

Columbus and Franklin County, OH Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Hospitalization Cumulative Rates (per 100,000) by Age-Group and Admission Week, 2019-2020 Season

*Note: Certain years have a 53rd week (e.g., season 2014-15) based on CDCs MMWR Week

Page 4 of 4