## Highlights

- In week 3 of 2020, despite recent decreases, some individual indicators show signs of rebounding upwards. As a whole, local flu intensity (composite indicator) increased slightly and remains HIGH.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click here for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, HIGH
- Local medical facility labs reported 2,762 tests run with 849 (30.7%) positive results for week 3 of 2020.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms decreased compared to last week.
- In week 3 of 2020, the trends for individual local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in cough and cold, chest rub, adult anti-fever and throat lozenge sales; increase in thermometer and pediatric anti-fever sales; stable electrolyte sales) compared to last week.
- In week 3, U.S. key indicators that track flu activity remain high and, after falling during the first two weeks of the year, increased slightly this week. Please [visit the CDC website for specific information](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/).

### 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><strong>Medical Facility Lab Data</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>30.7% Pos.</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit (Ohio)</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>25.1 per 1,000 visits</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>42 runs</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>School Absences</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>7.8% Absent</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>2 ▲</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hospital ED Data</strong>:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Complaint Defined as ILI</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>23.4% of All ED Visits</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>3 ▼</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Categorized as Respiratory</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>17.7% of All ED Visits</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>2 ▼</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Medication Data</strong>:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OTC Cough &amp; Cold Sales</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>17,854 Total Sales</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>2 ▼</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thermometer</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>182 Total Sales</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>2 ▲</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations</strong></td>
<td>35-3</td>
<td>48 Admitted (248 Since wk. 35, 2019)</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/graph" alt="Graph" /></td>
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### Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of Jan. 23, 2020)

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*Current season figures (2019-20) are from week 35 through week 3 of 2020.

1. Interpret with caution. Indicators with small numbers subject to large weekly percentage fluctuations.
2. Number of weeks “▼” = Increase (>2%), “▼” = Decrease (-2%).
3. Black line is current years data. Based on data availability, red line is historical average (excluding pandemic year).
4. 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 received.
5. 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.
6. 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 3, the preliminary Ohio\(^1\) (statewide) influenza and influenza-like-Illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® primary care providers (25.1 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 3 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 3 of 2020, 5.0% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). The percentage is above the national baseline of 2.4% for week 3.

**Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 3 of 2020, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 2,762 specimens, with 849 (30.7%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2019 through week 3 of 2020 is 30,517 with 4,762 (15.6%) positives (1,155 type A, 3,579 type B, 0 type A and B, 28 type unknown).

Nationally in week 3 of 2020, clinical laboratories reported 46,427 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 11,890 (25.6%) of which were positive (5,629 type A, 6,261 type B). In week 3, public health laboratories reported testing 1,262 specimens, 756 of which were positive (364 type A – of which 306 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 18 were H3N2, and 40 were not subtyped; 392 type B – of which 2 were Yamagata lineage, 308 were Victoria lineage, and 82 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 3 of 2020, Ohio clinical labs reported 42,760 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (130) A(H1N1)pdm09; (2) A/H3N2; (1,821) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (4,733) Flu B (through 1/18/2020). In week 3 of 2020, ODH Public Health Lab reported 285 positive influenza tests from various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (116) A(H1N1)pdm09; (14) A/H3N2; (155) Influenza B (through 1/18/2020). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

**ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 3\(^{rd}\) week of 2020, 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 3 of 2020, the trends for individual local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in cough and cold, chest rub, adult anti-fever and throat lozenge sales; increase in thermometer and pediatric anti-fever sales; stable electrolyte sales) compared to last week.

**Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:**

Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: [https://odh.ohio.gov](https://odh.ohio.gov)


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\(^1\)Note: County level athenaHealth® network primary care medical claims data is no longer available.
Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 3, 2020 (1/12/2020-1/18/2020)

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 received.

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*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits.

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**Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough
ILI chief complaint classifier category includes fever and chief complaint text includes sore throat
ILI chief complaint classifier category includes "ILI"

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Note:
- Note: athenaHealth claims 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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