2019-2020 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 19, May 3rd, 2020– May 9th, 2020)

Highlights
- The COVID-19 pandemic may affect healthcare seeking behavior which in turn would impact certain flu surveillance data.
- With the decline in influenza lab positives and confirmed influenza associated hospitalizations to at or below baseline levels, flu activity currently appears low. Please see the individual indicators below.
- Local medical facility labs reported 427 tests run with 15 (3.5%) positive results for week 19 of 2020.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptom visits decreased compared to last week.
- In week 19 of 2020, the trends for individual local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in electrolyte and adult anti-fever; increase in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, and throat lozenge sales; stable pediatric anti-fever sales) compared to last week.
- In week 19, National flu activity remains low. 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 Chart1 (black = current, red = historical avg.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Facility Lab Data</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>3.5% Pos.</td>
<td>&gt;100%</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>athenaHealth® Network PCP Flu or ILI Visit (Ohio)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Update not available at time of this report</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Cold/Flu Symptom Runs</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>14 runs</td>
<td>-17.6%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Absences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Update not available at time of this report</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital ED Data5:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint Defined as ILI</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>19.1% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>-13.3%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categorized as Respiratory</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>14.4% of All ED Visits</td>
<td>-11.5%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medication Data:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OTC Cough &amp; Cold Sales</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>11,428 Total Sales</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermometer</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>59 Total Sales</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>1 ▲</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations6</td>
<td>35-19</td>
<td>0 Admitted (863 Since wk. 35, 2019)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1 ▼</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Reportable Conditions (Cumulative Numbers as of May 10, 2020)

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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>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported by Admission Year2</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>846</td>
<td>1,036</td>
<td>839</td>
<td>728</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAH comparison by Flu Season (October through May or Weeks 35 - 20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>871</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>746</td>
<td>863</td>
<td></td>
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</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).
4Number of weeks “X” = Increase (>2%), “▼” = Decrease (>2%), “*” = Stable (-2% to +2%).
5Data 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.
6Franklin 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.
7Confirmed 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
Updated statewide influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit data from athenaHealth® was not available at the time of this report. The week 19 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 19 of 2020, 1.2% of patient visits reported through ILINet were due to influenza-like illness (ILI) and is below the national baseline of 2.4% for week 19.

Laboratory Surveillance
During week 19 of 2020, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 427 specimens, with 15 (3.5%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2019 through week 19 of 2020 is 65,370 with 12,458 (19.1%) positives (5,362, type A, 6,752 type B, 0 type A and B, 344 type unknown).

Nationally in week 19 of 2020, clinical laboratories reported 7,526 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 23 (0.3%) of which were positive (10 type A, 13 type B). In week 19, public health laboratories reported testing 312 specimens, 29 of which were positive (27 type A – of which 26 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 1 were H3N2, and 0 were not subtyped; 2 type B – lineage was not performed. Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 19 of 2020, Ohio clinical labs reported 102,536 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (731) A(H1N1)pdm09; (7) A/H3N2; (10,962) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (10,040) Flu B (through 5/9/2020). In week 19 of 2020, ODH Public Health Lab reported 1,034 positive influenza tests from various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (627) A(H1N1)pdm09; (17) A/H3N2; (390) Influenza B (through 5/9/2020). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

ED Respiratory Visits
In the 19th 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 19 of 2020, the trends for individual local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in electrolyte and adult anti-fever; increase in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, and throat lozenge; stable pediatric anti-fever 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

Updated athenaHealth® data not available at the time of this report.

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


Note: athenaHealth® data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

Figure 2: Percentage of CDC National, Regional, and Local Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider* Site visits for ILI, 2019-20

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

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

*Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough OR chief complaint 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, 2019-20
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 5/10/2020)

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