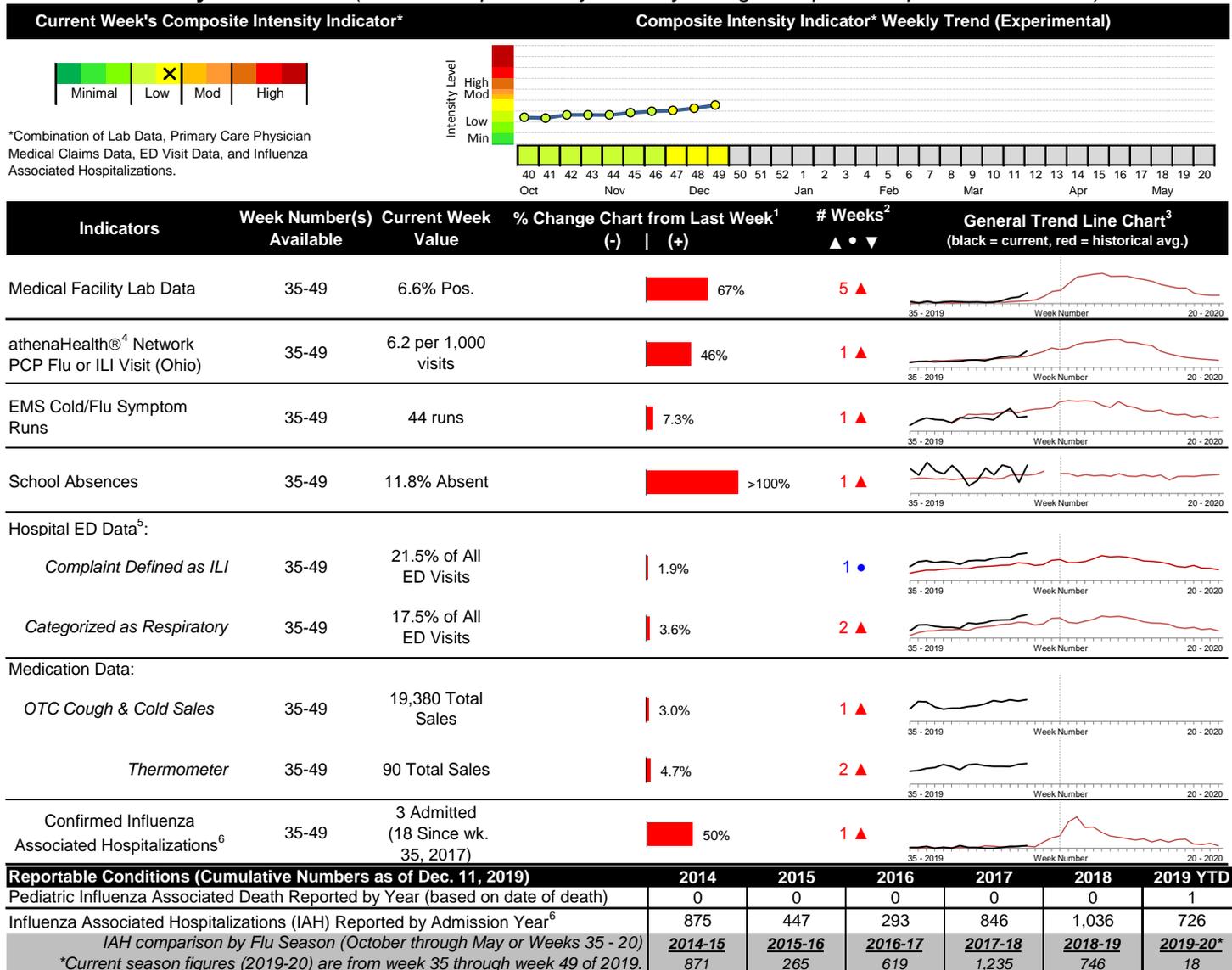


## Highlights

- In week 49 of 2019, trends for the preliminary individual flu activity indicators generally increased compared to the previous week. As a whole, flu intensity (composite indicator) continued to increase and is low, trending towards moderate.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = REGIONAL, LOW
- Local medical facility labs reported 1,547 tests run with 102 (6.6%) positive results for week 49 of 2019.
- The percentage of ED visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI) was stable while respiratory symptom visits increased compared to last week.
- In week 49 of 2019, the majority of individual local over-the-counter medication category sale trends tracked increased (decrease in electrolyte sales; increase in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, and adult anti-fever sales; stable lozenge sales) compared to last week.
- In week 49, the U.S. seasonal influenza activity has been elevated for five weeks and continues to increase. Please [visit the CDC website for specific information](#).

## 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 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.

<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 49, the preliminary Ohio<sup>1</sup> (statewide) influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® primary care providers (6.2 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 49 percentage of all Emergency Department (ED) visits categorized as ILI was stable compared to the previous week (Figure 3) and is above its historic baseline for the week.

Nationally, during week 49 of 2019, 3.2% 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 49.

## **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 49 of 2019, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 1,547 specimens, with 102 (6.6%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2019 through week 49 of 2019 is 13,757 with 289 (2.1%) positives (78 type A, 210 type B, 0 type A and B, 1 type unknown).

Nationally in week 49 of 2019, clinical laboratories reported 30,510 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 3,436 (11.3%) of which were positive (1,083 type A, 2,353 type B). In week 49, public health laboratories reported testing 1,508 specimens, 631 of which were positive (283 type A – of which 221 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 43 were H3N2, and 19 were not subtyped; 348 type B – of which 6 were Yamagata lineage, 232 were Victoria lineage, and 110 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

Update Ohio clinical lab data was not available at the time of this report. In week 48 of 2019, Ohio clinical labs reported 14,014 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (12) A(H1N1)pdm09; (2) A/H3N2; (72) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (86) Flu B (through 11/30/2019).

In week 49 of 2019, ODH Public Health Lab reported 42 positive influenza tests from various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (13) A(H1N1)pdm09; (9) A/H3N2; (20) Influenza B (through 12/7/2019). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

## **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 49<sup>th</sup> 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 49 of 2019, the majority of individual local over-the-counter medication category sale trends tracked increased (decrease in electrolyte sales; increase in cough and cold, thermometer, chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, and adult anti-fever sales; stable lozenge sales) compared to last week.

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

Ohio Seasonal Flu Surveillance: <https://odh.ohio.gov>

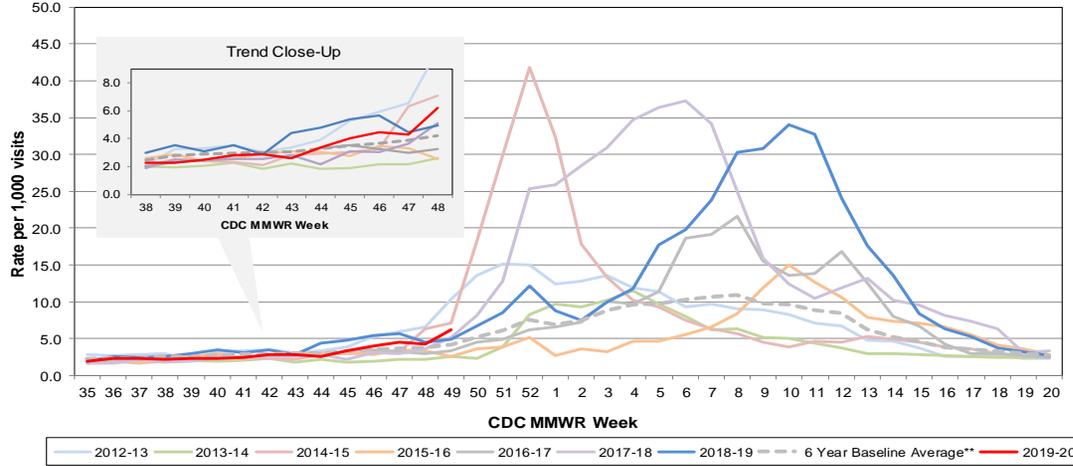
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

World Health Organization Situation Updates: [http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/en/](http://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/en/)

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

# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 49, 2019 (12/1/2019-12/7/2019)

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

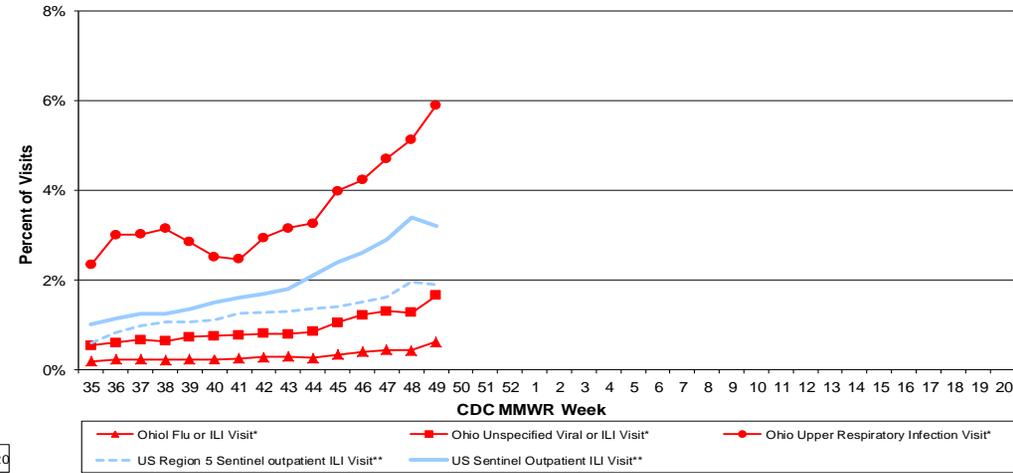


\*Source: Ohio (Statewide) medical claims data from athenaHealth®

\*\*Seasons: 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2015-16, 2016-17

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

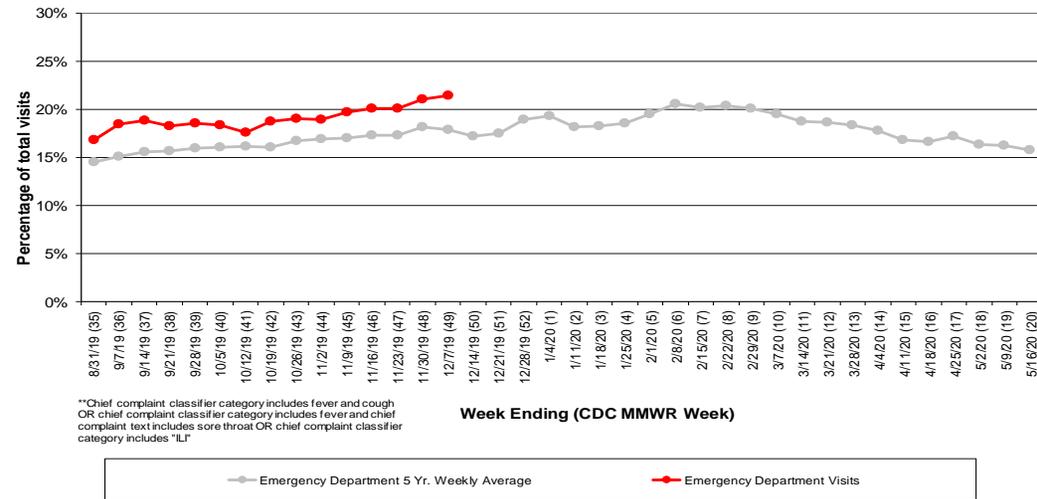
**Figure 2: Percentage of Ohio Outpatient Participating Provider\* and CDC National Outpatient Sentinel Health Care Provider\*\* visits for ILI and Associated Illnesses, 2019-20**



\*Source: Ohio (statewide) medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when received.

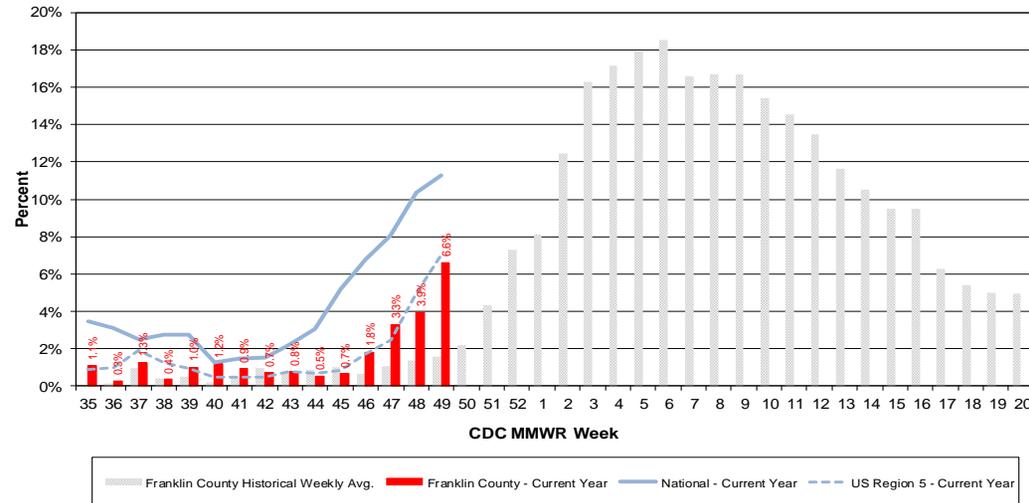
\*\*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits.

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



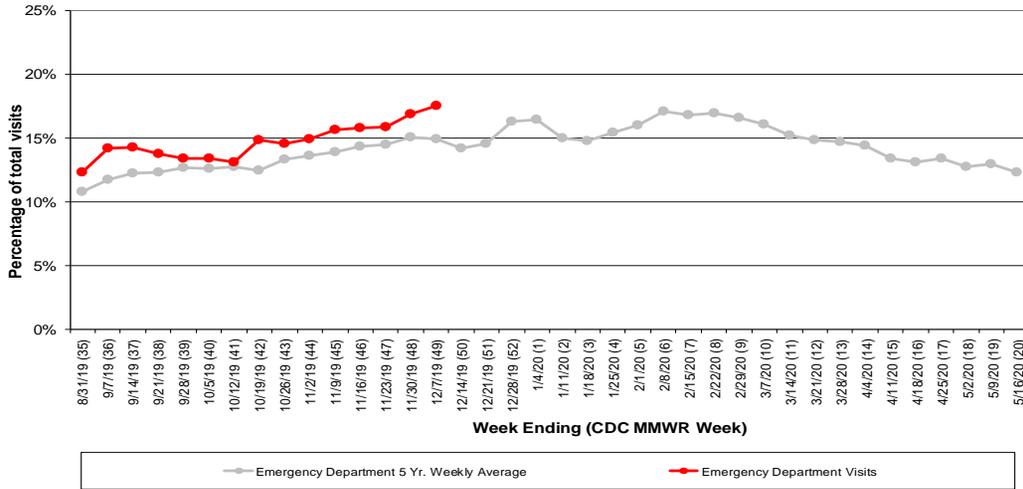
\*\*Chief complaint classifier category includes fever and cough OR chief complaint classifier category includes fever and chief complaint text includes sore throat OR chief complaint classifier category includes "ILI"

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

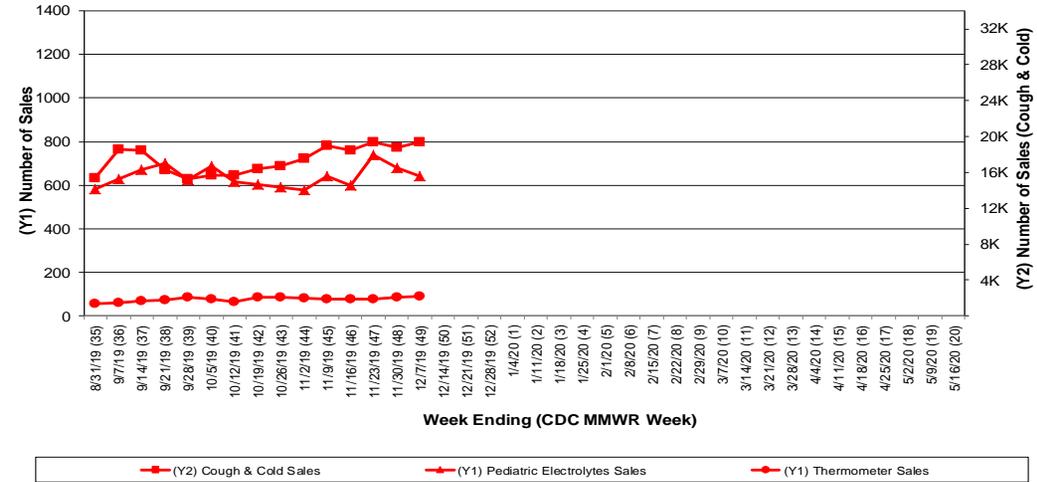


## Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 49, 2019 (12/1/2019-12/7/2019)

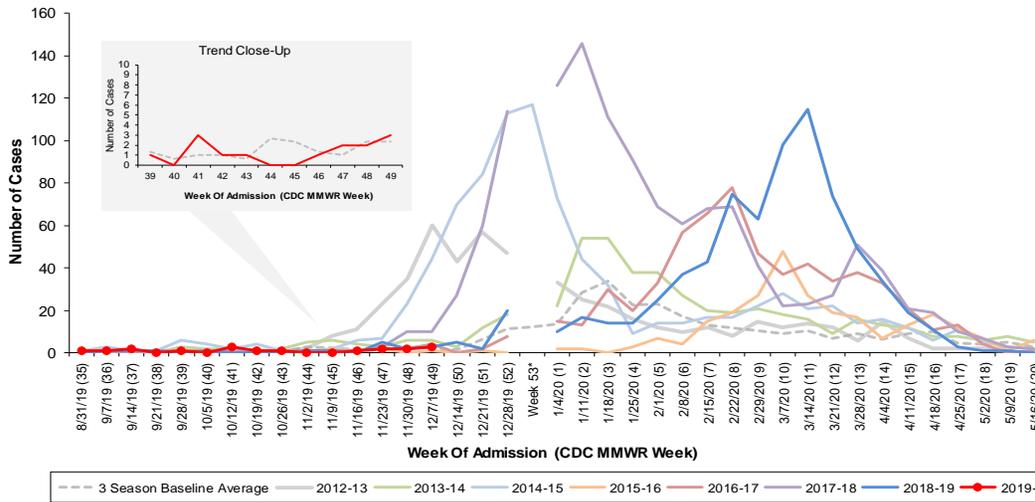
**Figure 5: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED Visits, 2019-20, Franklin County, OH**



**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 12/11/2019)**



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

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

