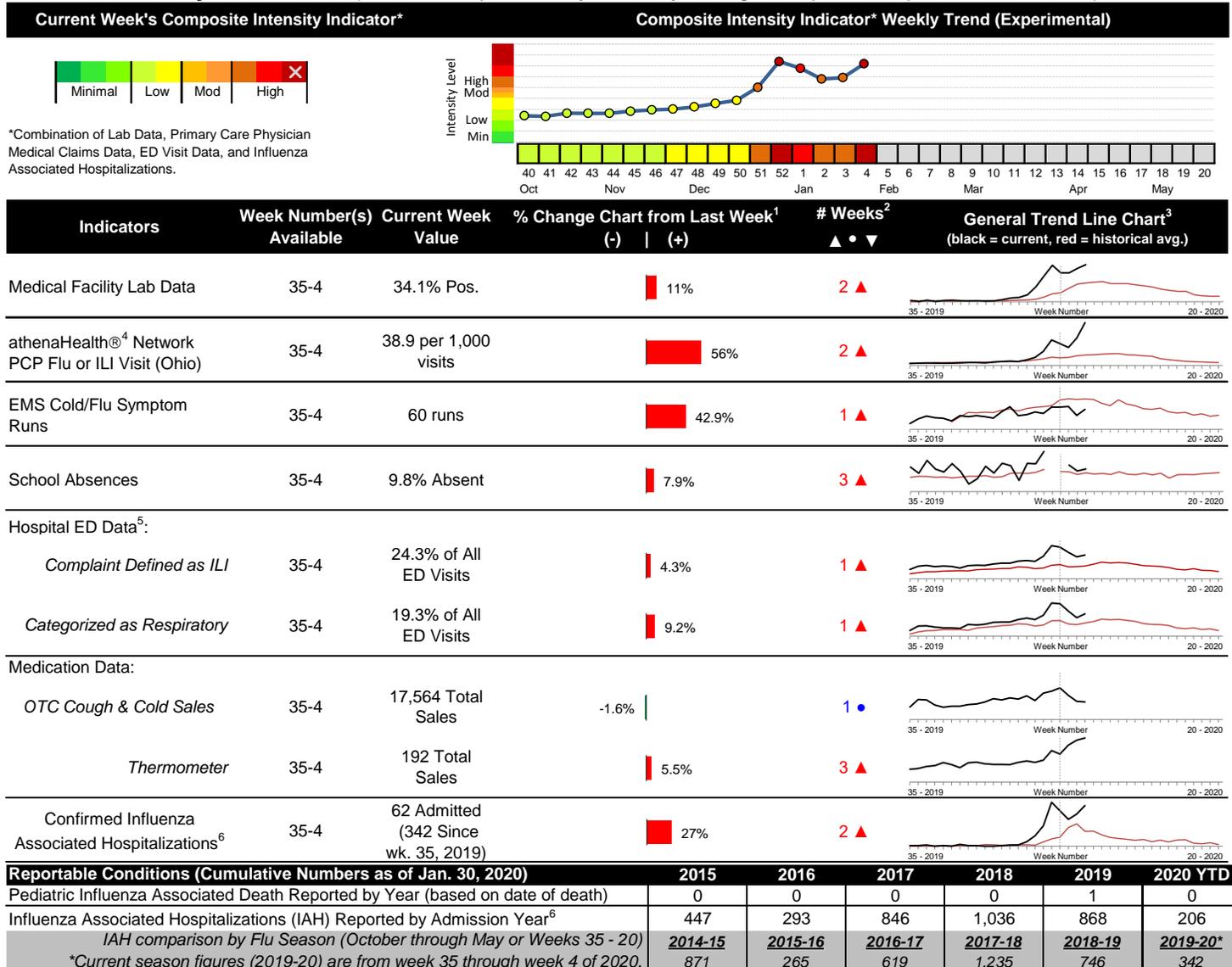


# 2019-2020 Columbus & Franklin County Seasonal Influenza Activity Weekly Summary (Week 4, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020– Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

## Highlights

- In week 4 of 2020, the vast majority of individual flu activity indicators increased compared to last week. As a whole, local flu intensity (composite indicator) increased substantially compared to last week and remains HIGH.
- Geographic spread and local intensity designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = WIDESPREAD, HIGH
- Local medical facility labs reported 3,050 tests run with 1,040 (34.1%) positive results for week 4 of 2020.
- The percentage of ED visits for both influenza-like-illness (ILI) and respiratory symptoms increased compared to last week.
- In week 4 of 2020, the trends for individual local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever and throat lozenge sales; increase in thermometer and electrolyte sales; stable cough and cold sales) compared to last week.
- In week 4, U.S. key indicators that track flu activity remain high and, after falling during the first two weeks of the year, increased over the last two weeks. 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 4, the preliminary Ohio<sup>1</sup> (statewide) influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) visit rate to athenaHealth® primary care providers (38.9 per 1,000 visits) increased compared to the previous week and is above its baseline average for the week (Figure 1). The week 4 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 4 of 2020, 5.7% 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 4.

## **Laboratory Surveillance**

During week 4 of 2020, reporting Franklin County sentinel medical facility laboratories tested 3,050 specimens, with 1,040 (34.1%) positive (Figure 4). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 of 2019 through week 4 of 2020 is 33,567 with 5,802 (17.3%) positives (1,571 type A, 4,188 type B, 0 type A and B, 43 type unknown).

Nationally in week 4 of 2020, clinical laboratories reported 45,949 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 12,715 (27.7%) of which were positive (6,335 type A, 6,380 type B). In week 4, public health laboratories reported testing 1,801 specimens, 1,129 of which were positive (629 type A – of which 585 were A(H1N1)pdm09, 24 were H3N2, and 20 were not subtyped; 500 type B – of which 1 were Yamagata lineage, 357 were Victoria lineage, and 142 where lineage was not performed). Please visit the CDC website for more information, including cumulative data.

In week 4 of 2020, Ohio clinical labs reported 46,137 specimens tested for influenza this season thus far. Positive results include: (158) A(H1N1)pdm09; (2) A/H3N2; (2,351) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (5,227) Flu B (through 1/25/2020). In week 4 of 2020, ODH Public Health Lab reported 332 positive influenza tests from various submitters this season so far. Positive results include: (143) A(H1N1)pdm09; (14) A/H3N2; (175) Influenza B (through 1/25/2020). Please visit the ODH website for more information.

## **ED Respiratory Visits**

In the 4<sup>th</sup> week of 2020, 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 4 of 2020, the trends for individual local over-the-counter medication category sales tracked were mixed (decrease in chest rub, pediatric anti-fever, adult anti-fever and throat lozenge sales; increase in thermometer and electrolyte sales; stable cough and cold sales) compared to last week.

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

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

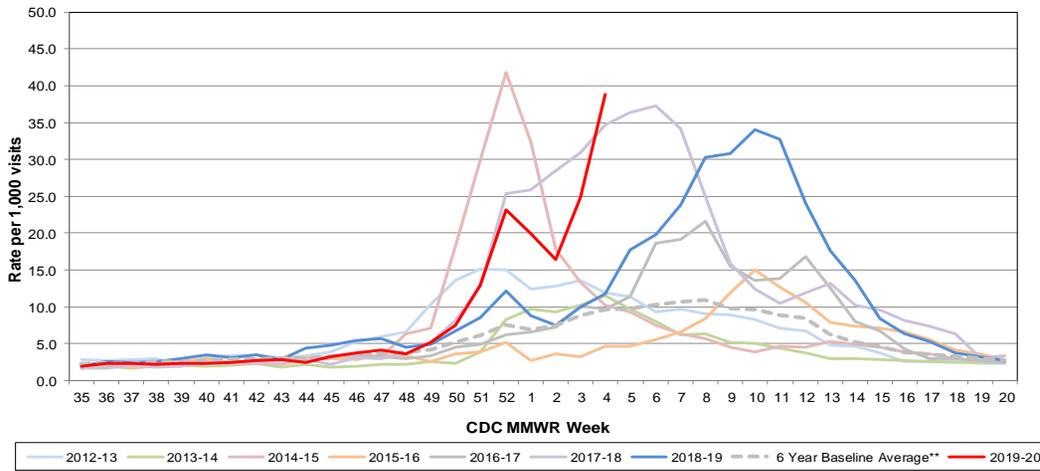
CDC National Seasonal Flu Surveillance Reports: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

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.

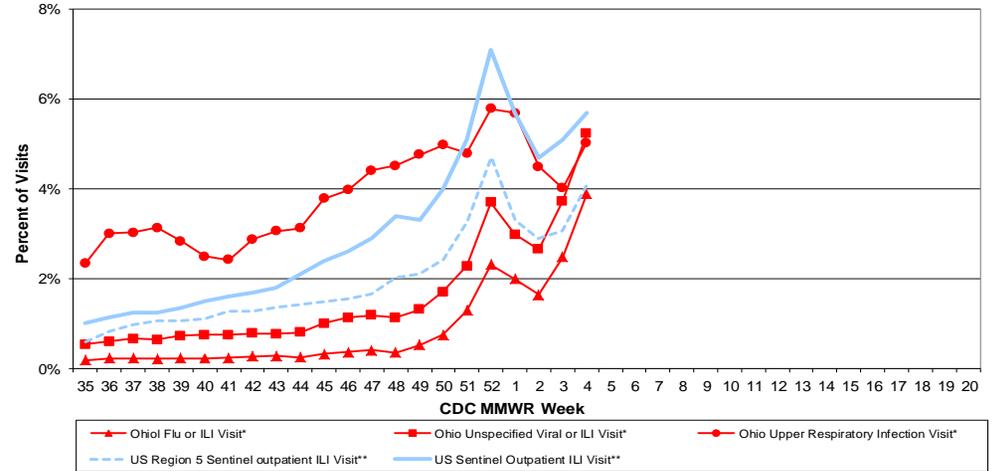
# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 4, 2020 (1/19/2020-1/25/2020)

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



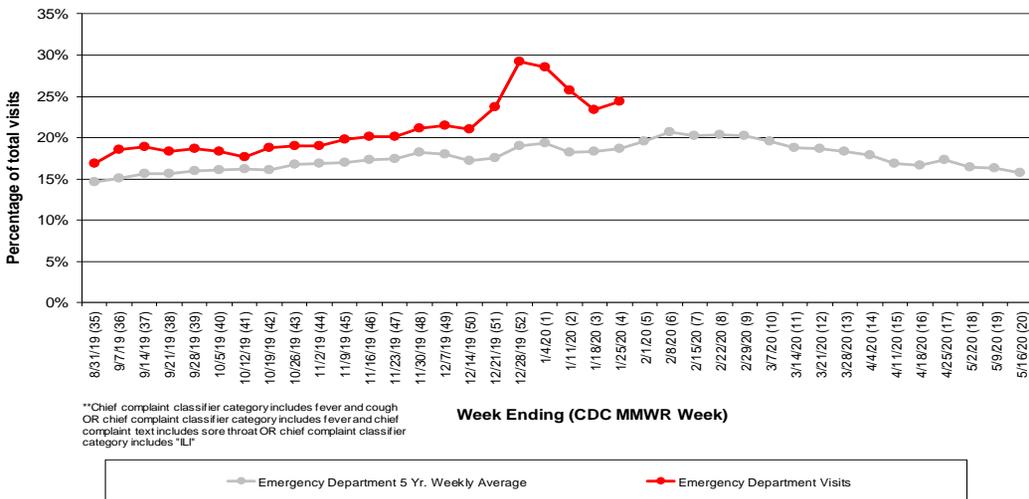
\*Source: Ohio (Statewide) medical claims data from athenaHealth®  
 \*\*Seasons: 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2015-16, 2016-17  
 Note: athenaHealth® claims data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when they are received.

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



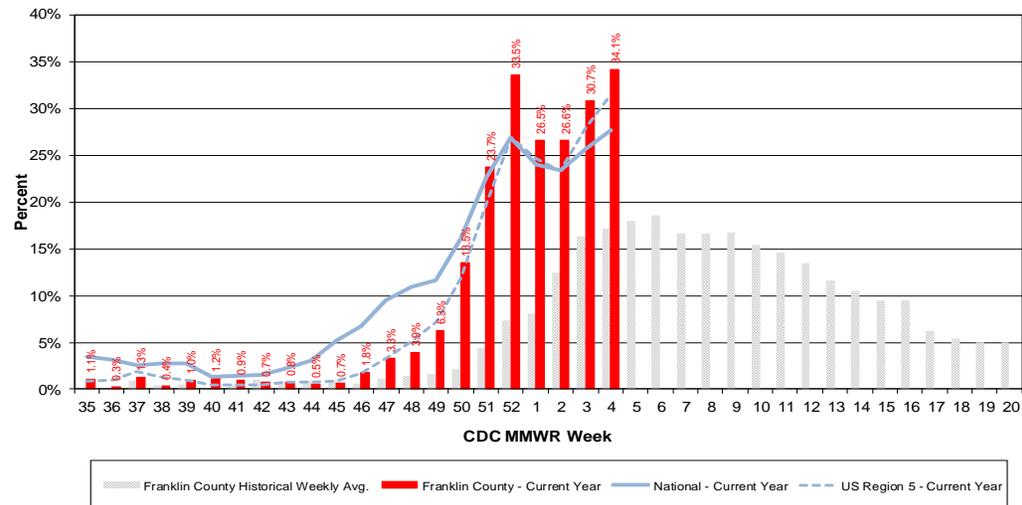
\*Source: Ohio (statewide) medical claims data provided by athenaHealth®. Data are subject to filing and processing time lags. Historical data are updated when received.  
 \*\*Source: U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) sentinel provider visits.

**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 4, 2020 (1/19/2020-1/25/2020)

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

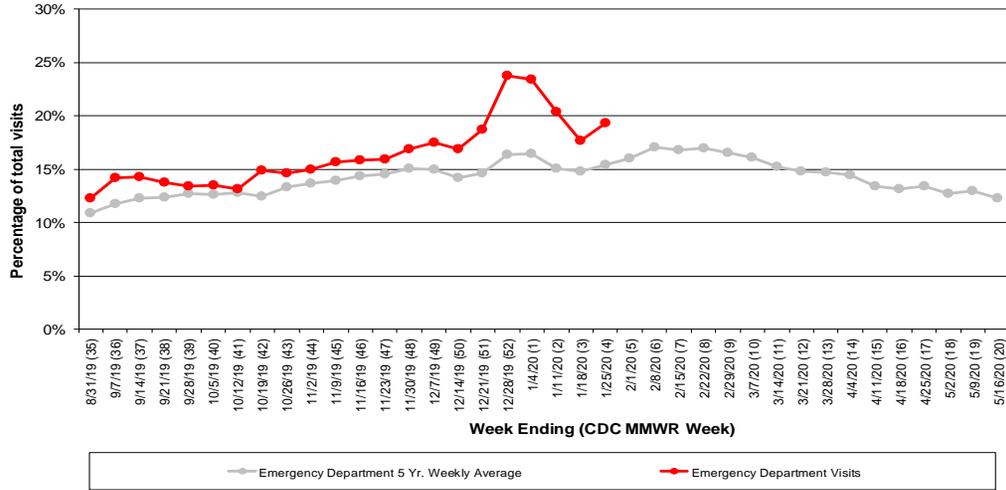


Figure 6: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Total Sales, 2019-20, Franklin County, OH

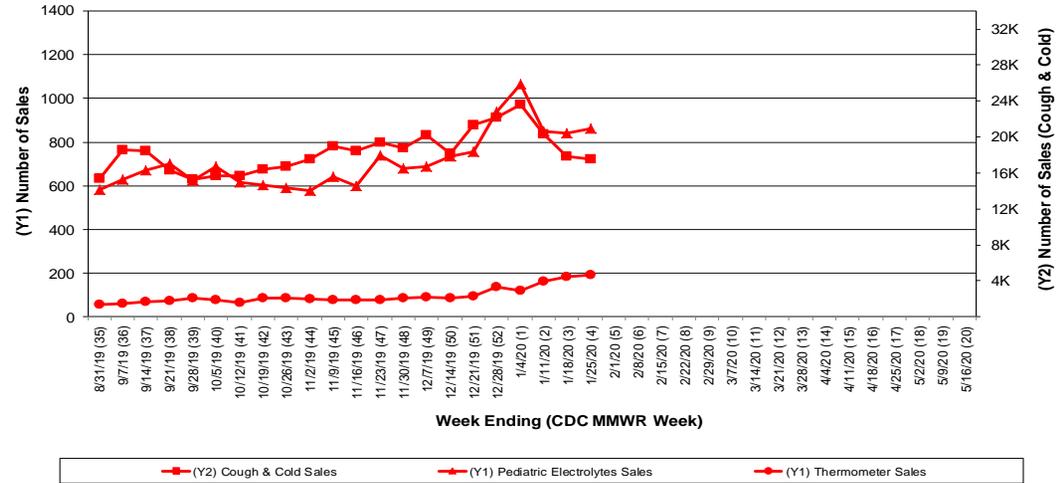
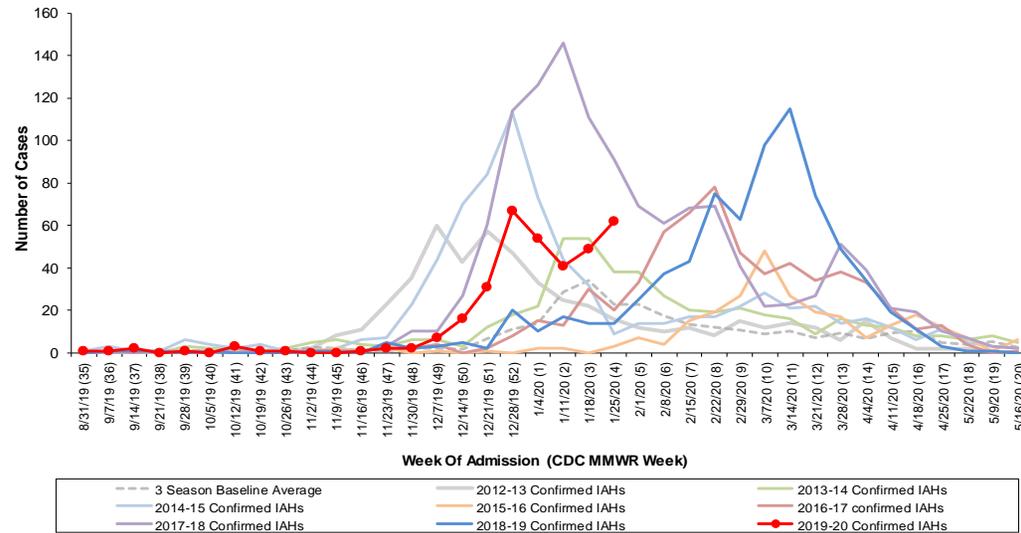


Figure 7: Columbus and Franklin County Jurisdiction Confirmed Influenza Associated Hospitalizations by Hospital Admission Week (As of 1/30/2020)



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

