

Toledo-Lucas County Health Department Seasonal Influenza Activity Summary

MMWR Week 51 December 16-22, 2018

Local Surveillance:

Current Influenza Activity Levels:

Lucas County had 5 confirmed Influenza-associated Hospitalizations (IAH) reported in week 51, bringing the total to 15 cases as of December 22, 2018. 94% of cases are flu type A.

--There were no deaths* reported

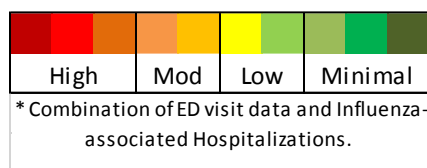
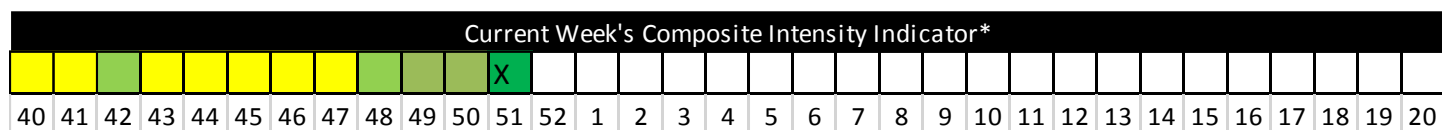
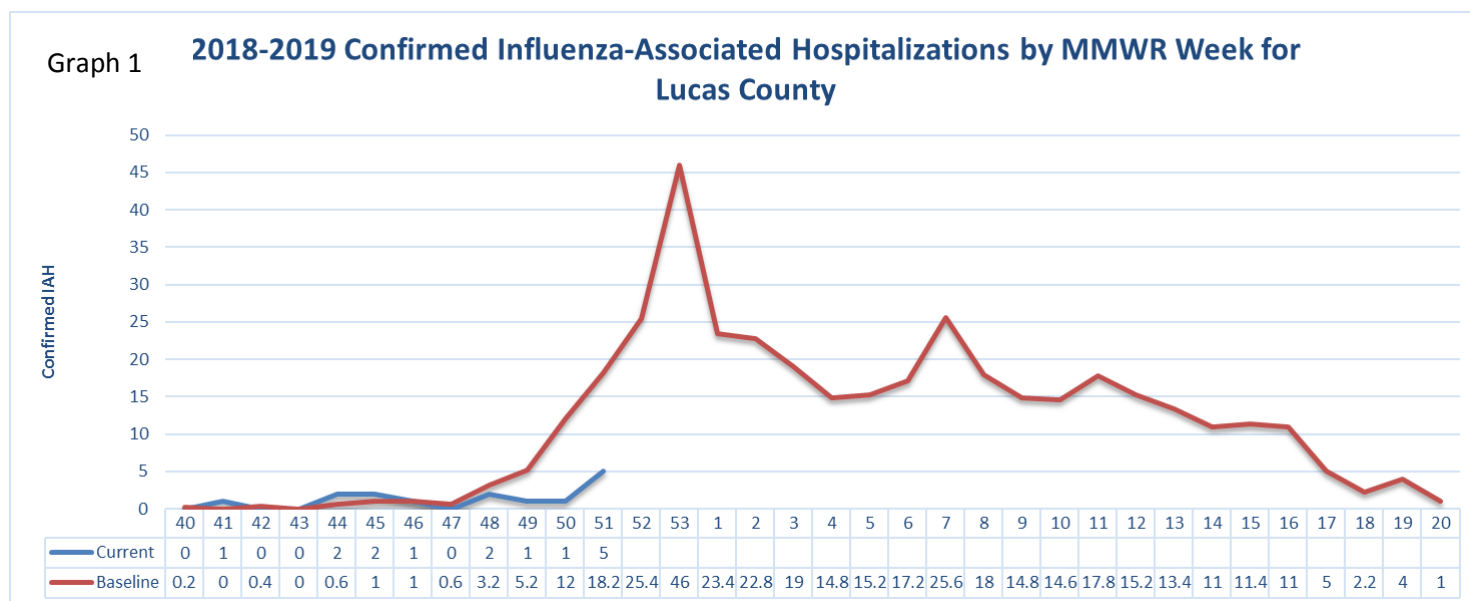
Gender Distribution of Cases: 75% female, 25% male

Lucas County accounts for 3.1% of the IAH reported in Ohio. Rate per 100,000 population**: 2.72

*Stating Influenza as the cause of death OR as 'a consequence of' on the certificate of death. Please note that some individuals may have underlying health conditions and influenza may not be the sole cause of their death.

**Disease rates were calculated by number of cases per 100,000 residents using 2010 census data

Graph 1 illustrates the current confirmed IAH compared to baseline, which is a five year average.



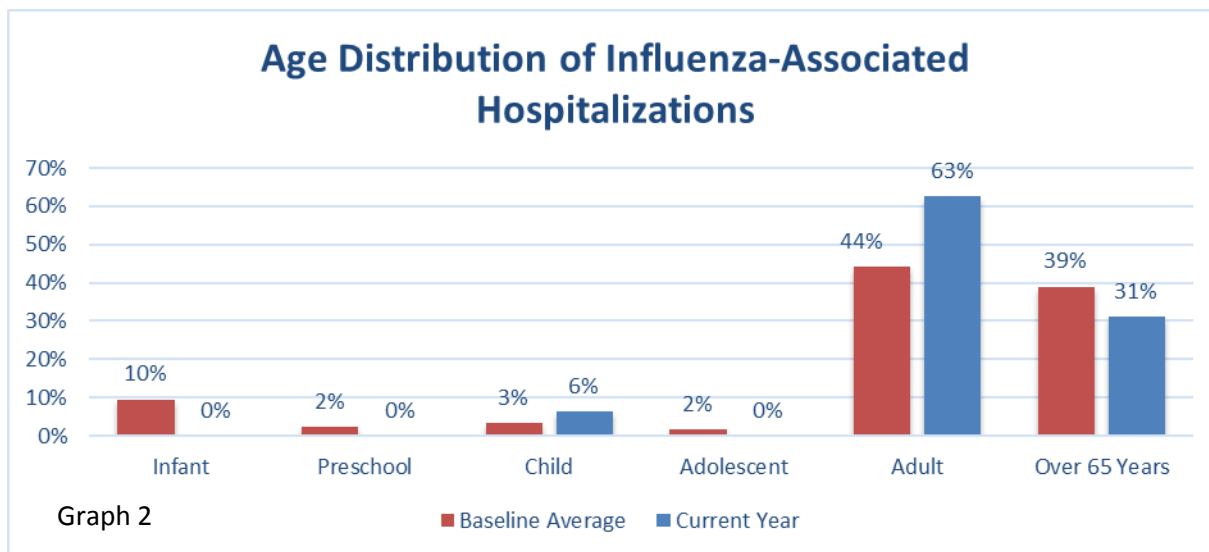
ED Visits are comprised of Influenza-like illness and respiratory syndrome as compared to the baseline average

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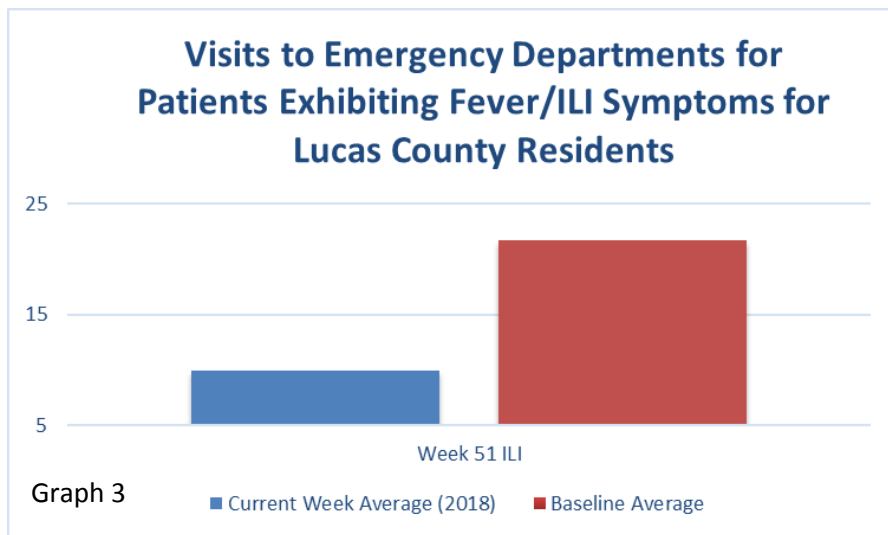
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The number of emergency department visits with patients exhibiting fever/ILI symptoms was well under baseline for MMWR 51. ILI (Influenza-Like Illness) is defined as a fever greater than or equal to 100 degrees F AND a cough or sore throat. (Graph 3)



Summary of State Data: Current Ohio Activity Level (Geographic Spread) – Regional
 Definition: Increased ILI in > 2 but less than half of the regions AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the affected regions, OR institutional outbreaks (ILI or lab confirmed) in > 2 but less than half of the regions AND recent (within the past 3 weeks) lab confirmed influenza in the affected regions.

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During MMWR Week 51, public health surveillance data sources indicate minimal intensity for influenza-like illness (ILI) in outpatient settings reported by Ohio's sentinel providers. The percentage of emergency department visits with patients exhibiting constitutional symptoms and fever and ILI specified ED visits are below baseline levels. Reported cases of influenza-associated hospitalizations are above the seasonal threshold*. There were 125 influenza-associated hospitalizations reported during MMWR Week 51.

State Surveillance:

- ODH lab has reported 58 positive influenza tests from specimens sent from various submitters. 2018-2019 influenza season positive results: (50) A/pdmH1N1; (7) A/H3N2; (1) Influenza B; (through 12/22/2018).
- The National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) has reported 21,042 influenza tests performed at participating facilities. 2018-2019 influenza season positive results: (25) A/pdmH1N1, (22) A/H3N2, (588) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (32) Flu B (through 12/22/2018).
- 0 pediatric influenza-associated mortalities have been reported during the 2018-2019 season (through 12/22/2018).
- No novel influenza A virus infections have been reported during the 2018-2019 season (through 12/22/2018).
- Incidence of confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations in 2018-2019 season = 389 (through 12/22/2018).

Regional Surveillance*: During week 50 (December 9th - December 15th, 2018), the proportion of outpatient visits for ILI in Region 5 (Ohio is in Region 5) was 1.7%, which is below the regional baseline of 1.8%. West Virginia reported Sporadic Activity; Michigan and Indiana reported Local Activity; Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Kentucky reported Regional Activity.

National Surveillance*: During week 50 (December 9th - December 15th, 2018), the majority of U.S. states reported Minimal influenza activity; a few states are reporting Low, Moderate, or High activity. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI was 2.7%, which is above the national baseline of 2.2%. Eight of 10 regions reported ILI at or above their region-specific baseline level. The most frequently identified influenza virus type reported by public health laboratories was influenza A (H1N1).

**Regional and National surveillance data are reported one week later than Ohio state and local data*

Flu News: [CIDRAP: WHO snapshot shows Northern Hemisphere flu rise](#)

According to the latest update on global flu from the World Health Organization (WHO), influenza rates in the northern hemisphere have continued to rise, with influenza A dominating the season. The update covers the 2 weeks from Nov 26 through Dec 9.

Flu was on the rise in Europe, Canada, and Mexico, the WHO said. In the temperate zones of the southern hemisphere, influenza activity returned to inter-seasonal levels, and overall flu activity remained low.

Of all flu specimens tested worldwide, 94.8% were typed as influenza A, and 84.1% of those were subtyped as influenza A 2009 H1N1. H3N2 represented 15.9% of influenza A samples.

No influenza activity was recorded in North Africa, while countries in western and eastern Asia reported flu levels at seasonal thresholds.

State, Regional and National data is provided by the Ohio Department of Health

[ODH Influenza Activity Summary MMWR 51](#)