

Highlights

- Hospital labs reported 777 tests run with 85 positive results (10.9%) for week 37 (84 type A; 1 Type B); 31% higher than the previous week and the 5th consecutive weekly increase. Preliminary week 38 figures indicate a higher percentage (~14.8%).
- Hospital emergency department (ED) and pediatric urgent care (PUC) information continue to indicate elevated levels of visits for ILI and ILI related symptoms, such as cough and fever conditions. Increases have been noted for a number of weeks for some indicators.
- Respiratory related visits in both EDs and PUCs increased in week 38 after leveling off for a week.
- School absences increased in week 38. This is the 4th consecutive weekly increase.
- Increases in over-the-counter medication sales have been seen for pediatric anti-fever medication, thermometers, and chest rubs. Increases in antiviral prescriptions have also occurred for four weeks in a row.

Local Flu Activity Dashboard *(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.)*

Indicators	Most Complete Week Available	Current Week Value	% Change Chart from Last Week	# Weeks ↑ ↓	General Trend Chart
Hospital Lab Data	37	10.9% Pos.		5 ↑	
ILI Outpatient Data (Sentinel Medical Sites)	37	0.6% of All Visits		2 ↑	
Hospital ED Data:					
<i>Coded as ILI</i>	37	6.3% of All ED Visits		5 ↑	
<i>Complaint Specified as ILI</i>	38	4.4% of ALL ED Visits		6 ↑	
<i>Categorized as Respiratory</i>	38	19.3% of All ED Visits		1 ↑	
Pediatric Urgent Care Data:					
<i>Complaint Specified as ILI</i>	38	9.2% of All PUC Visits		5 ↑	
<i>Categorized as Respiratory</i>	38	49.8% of All PUC Visits		1 ↑	
School Absences	38	8.0% Absent		4 ↑	
Death Certificate Pneumonia & Influenza Deaths	38	9.3% of All Deaths		1 ↑	
Medication Data:					
<i>OTC Cough & Cold Sales</i>	38	7,573 Total Sales		1 ↓	
<i>Thermometer</i>	38	274 Total Sales		6 ↑	
<i>Antiviral Prescriptions</i>	37	3.4% of All Anti-Infective		4 ↑	

Cumulative August 1 - Sept. 30, 2009*, 12:00 PM

	Suspected	Confirmed
Influenza Clusters/Outbreaks Reported	1	0
Influenza Associated Hospitalizations Reported	16	41
<i>Influenza Associated Hospitalization Resulting in Death</i>		2
Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported	0	0

Cumulative Starting Week 31 (Week Ending 8/8/2009) - Week 37 (Week Ending 9/19/2009)

*Numbers subject to change as lab results are received and suspects are determined confirmed or not a case.

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality

In week 38 of 2009 (Sept 20th, 2009 – Sept. 26th, 2009), 9.3% of all Columbus deaths were reported as due to pneumonia or influenza (Figure 1). Nationally, 6.1% of deaths reported were due to pneumonia or influenza in week 36. This is below the national epidemic threshold of 6.3%.

Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

The week 37 percentage of Franklin County resident BioSense ED hospital encounters is 6.3% for ILI coded chief complaints and 2.6% for ILI diagnosis (Figure 2). Specific complaints of influenza and defined influenza like illness symptoms continue to increase in both EDs and Pediatric Urgent Care sites (Figures 2-4).

Nationally, during week 37 of 2009, 4.6% of patient visits reported through the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This percentage is below the national baseline of 2.4%.

Laboratory Surveillance

During week 37 of 2009, reporting Franklin County sentinel laboratories tested 777 specimens, with 85 (10.9%) positive (Figure 5). Current preliminary data for week 38 indicate a higher percentage (~14.8%). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 through preliminary week 38 is 2,626, with 275 positives (271 type A, 4 type B). Nationally, during week 36, WHO and NREVSS laboratories reported 9,744 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 2,326 (23.9%) of which were positive (Figures 3). During week 37, seasonal influenza A (H1) and A (H3) viruses co-circulated at low levels with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. Ninety-nine percent of all subtyped influenza A viruses being reported to CDC this week were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> for a comprehensive national report.

The table below shows 2009-10 (starting August 30th, 2009) cumulative PCR and culture influenza lab results from ODH lab (as of 9/28/2009).

Location	# Seasonal A (H1)	# Seasonal A (H3)	# Seasonal B	# Pandemic A (H1)	# PCR Influenza Not Detected
Franklin County	0	0	0	25*	71
Ohio	0	0	0	63	170

Source: ODH Lab (based on county of provider submitting specimen, not county of patient's residence)

*Not an official count of Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) in Franklin County. Similar to the CDC and ODH, individual case counts are no longer being tracked. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> or <http://www.cdrcinfo.com/H1N1flu.html> for more details.

ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Respiratory Visits

In the 38th week of 2009, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as *respiratory* (19.3%) increased compared to the previous week (10.5%). Similarly, the percentage of reporting Pediatric Urgent Care visits categorized as *respiratory* (49.8%) increased slightly compared to the previous week (5.7%) (Figure 6).

Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Antiviral Prescriptions

In week 38 of 2009, there were continued increases in several over-the-counter medication sales, including pediatric anti-fever medication, thermometers, and chest rubs (Figure 7). Cough and cold medication sales decreased while electrolytes remained stable. Additionally, in week 37, the percentage of Franklin County pharmacy prescriptions for antivirals, out of all anti-infective prescriptions, increased compared to the previous weeks (Figure 8). During week 37, the national antiviral prescription percentage also increased.

Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:

National Pandemic H1N1 Situation Updates: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm>

International Pandemic H1N1 Activity Map: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/updates/international/map.htm>

World health Organization Situation Updates: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/updates/en/index.html>

Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 38 (9/20-9/26/09)

**Figure 1: Percentage of Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza
Columbus, Ohio 2009-10**

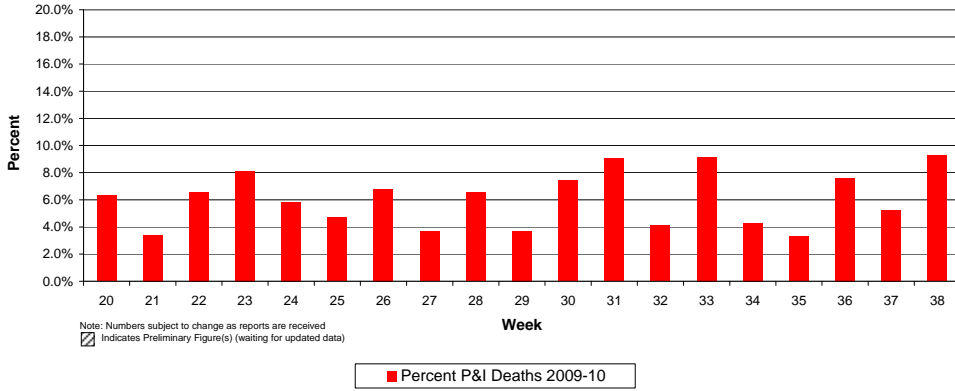


Figure 2: Percentage of Local, National, and HHS Region 5 ILI Outpatient visits and Percentage of Franklin County Resident BioSense Hospital ILI ED Visits, 2009-10

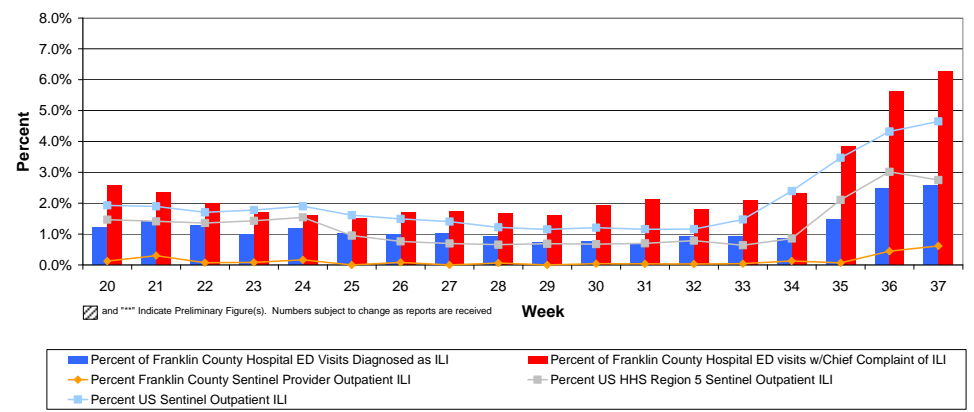


Figure 3: ILI Specific Complaint ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH

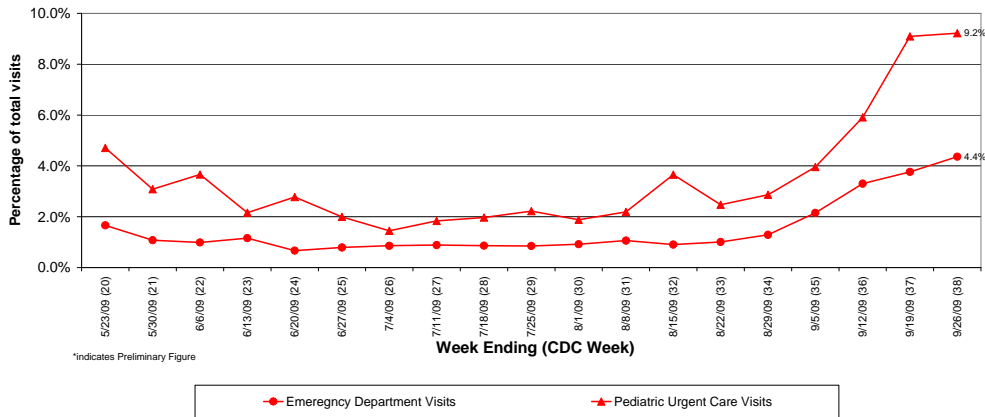
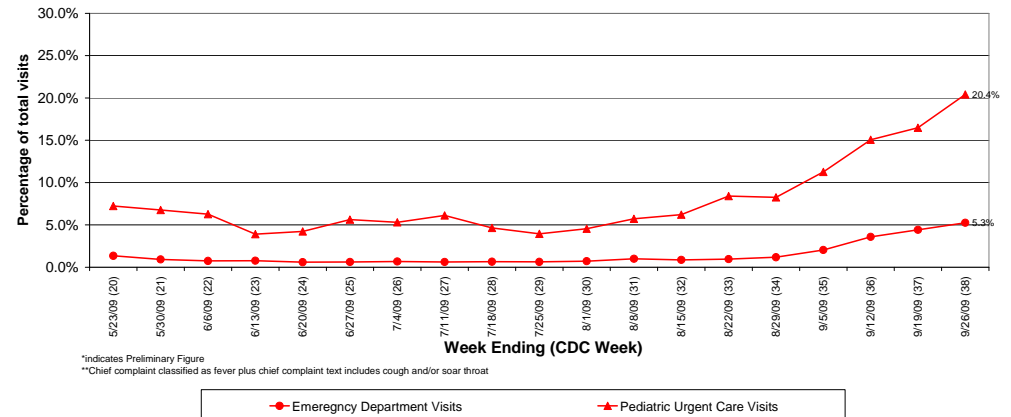


Figure 4: ILI Defined ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**



Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 38 (9/20-9/26/09)

Figure 5: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2009-10

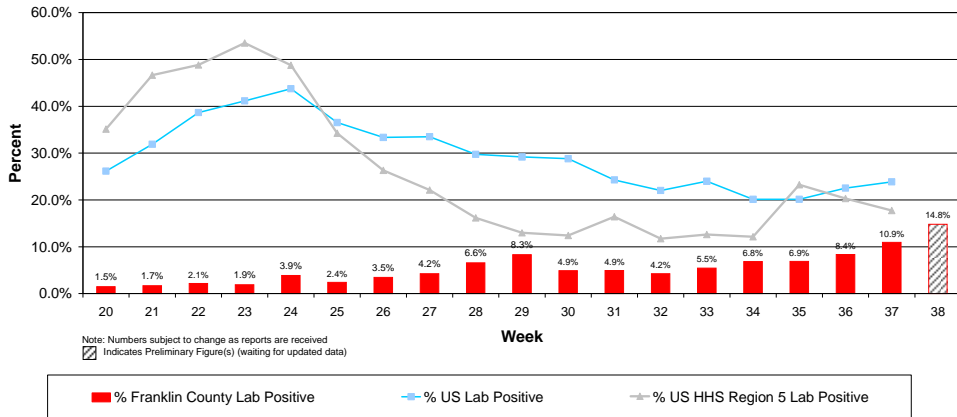


Figure 6: Respiratory ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH

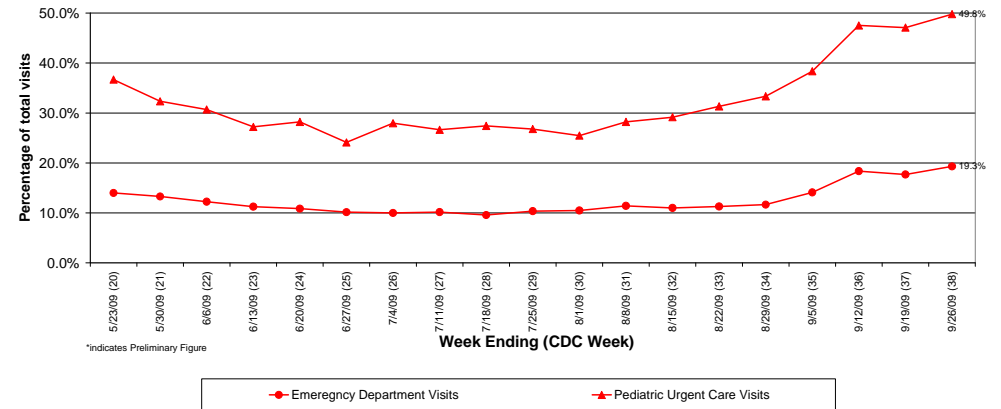


Figure 7: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Weekly Baseline Averages and Medians, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH

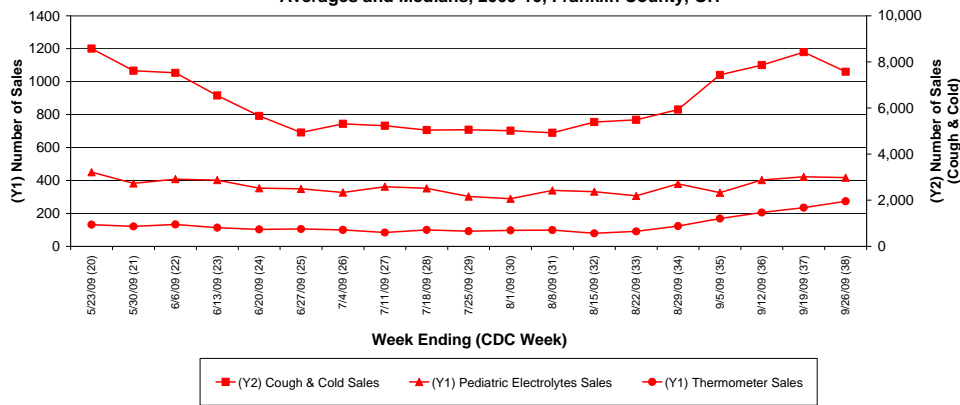


Figure 8: Percentage of Antiviral Prescriptions out of Total Number of Anti-Infective Prescriptions (Selected Pharmacies)

