

Highlights

- Local Geographic Activity Designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = WIDESPREAD
- Hospital labs reported 1,525 tests run with 388 positive results (25.4%) for week 42 (388 type A; 0 Type B); 7% higher than the previous week and the 10th consecutive weekly increase.
- Hospital emergency department (ED) and pediatric urgent care (PUC) ILI indicators continue to be elevated overall, but the most recent complete week (42) show decreases in a few indicators for the 1st time in a number of weeks.
- Respiratory related visits in both EDs and PUCs show a decrease in week 42.
- School absences decreased in week 42 for the 1st time in 8 weeks.
- In week 42, certain over-the-counter medication sales have seen a stabilization or minimal increase (cough & cold medication, electrolytes, thermometers, throat lozenges), while chest rubs and anti-fever medications have seen a decrease. An increase in antiviral prescription have been seen in week 41 (most recent week available).
- Nationally, during week 41, influenza B viruses co-circulated at low levels with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. All subtyped influenza A viruses reported to CDC this week were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses.

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 | 42 | 25.4% Pos. | | 10 ▲ | |
| ILI Outpatient Data (Sentinel Medical Sites) | 42 | 3.2% of All Visits | | 4 ▲ | |
| Hospital ED Data†: | | | | | |
| <i>Coded as ILI</i> | 41 | 15.6% of All ED Visits | | 9 ▲ | |
| <i>Complaint Defined as ILI‡</i> | 42 | 31.7% of ALL ED Visits | | 1 ▼ | |
| <i>Categorized as Respiratory</i> | 42 | 26.2% of All ED Visits | | 1 ▼ | |
| Pediatric Urgent Care Data†: | | | | | |
| <i>Complaint Defined as ILI‡</i> | 42 | 66% of All PUC Visits | | 1 ▼ | |
| <i>Categorized as Respiratory</i> | 42 | 58.8% of All PUC Visits | | 1 ▼ | |
| School Absences | 42 | 7.8% Absent | | 1 ▼ | |
| Death Certificate Pneumonia & Influenza Deaths† | 42 | 9.7% of All Deaths | | 2 ▲ | |
| Medication Data: | | | | | |
| <i>OTC Cough & Cold Sales</i> | 42 | 10,763 Total Sales | | 4 ▲ | |
| <i>Thermometer</i> | 42 | 652 Total Sales | | 10 ▲ | |
| <i>Antiviral Prescriptions</i> | 41 | 8.1% of All Anti-Infective | | 8 ▲ | |

Cumulative Numbers as of August 1 - Oct. 28, 2009*, 12:00 PM

| Reportable Conditions | Suspected | Confirmed |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Influenza Clusters/Outbreaks Reported | 1 | 0 |
| Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported | 14 | 284 |
| <i>IAH Confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009**</i> | <i>Not Available</i> | 145 |
| Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported | 0 | 1 |

*Numbers subject to fluctuations as lab results are received and suspects are determined confirmed or not a case. Due to reporting variations, these numbers may represent an undercount.

**Information provided for references (Reportable condition is any influenza associated hospitalization, regardless of influenza type).

†Franklin County, OH residents only (based on zipcode); ‡Broader definition used from previous weeks report to encompass more potential ILI.

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality

In week 42 of 2009 (Oct. 18th, 2009 – Oct. 24th, 2009), 9.7 % of all Columbus deaths were reported as due to pneumonia or influenza (Figure 1). Nationally, 6.9% of deaths reported were due to pneumonia or influenza in week 41. This national percentage is slightly above to the national epidemic threshold of 6.6%.

Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

Outpatient visits for ILI continue to increase in week 42 at sentinel medical practice reporting sites (3.2% of all visits reported). The week 41 percentage of Franklin County resident BioSense ED hospital encounters is 15.6% for ILI coded chief complaints and 9.4% for ILI diagnosis (Figure 2). Specific complaints of influenza and defined influenza like illness symptoms have decreases in both EDs and Pediatric Urgent Care sites for week 42 compared to the previous week (Figures 2-4).

Nationally, during week 41 of 2009, 7.1% of patient visits reported through the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This percentage is above the national baseline of 2.3%.

Laboratory Surveillance

During week 42 of 2009, reporting Franklin County sentinel laboratories tested 1,525 specimens, with 388 (25.4%) positive (Figure 5). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 through week 42 is 8,206, with 1,499 positives (1,491 type A, 8 type B). Nationally, during week 41, WHO and NREVSS laboratories reported 12,943 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 4,855 (37.5%) of which were positive (Figures 3). During week 41, influenza B viruses co-circulated at low levels with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. All subtyped influenza A viruses 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 (totals as of 10/26/2009).

| Location | # Seasonal A (H1) | # Seasonal A (H3) | # Seasonal B | # Pandemic A (H1) | # PCR Influenza Not Detected |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Franklin County | 0 | 0 | 0 | 98* | 216 |
| Ohio | 1 | 0 | 0 | 418 | 543 |

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.cdrsinfo.com/H1N1flu.html> for more details.

ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Respiratory Visits

In the 42nd week of 2009, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as *respiratory* (26.2%) decreased compared to the previous week (-9.2%). Similarly, the percentage of reporting Pediatric Urgent Care visits categorized as *respiratory* (58.8%) decreased slightly compared to the previous week (+7.4%) (Figure 6).

Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Antiviral Prescriptions

In week 42 of 2009, there was either stabilization or slight increases in several over-the-counter medication sales, including cough & cold medication, electrolytes, thermometers, and throat lozenges (Figure 7). Decreases in chest rubs and anti-fever medication sales were also seen during this time. In week 41 (latest week available), 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 41, 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 42 (10/18/09-10/24/09)

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

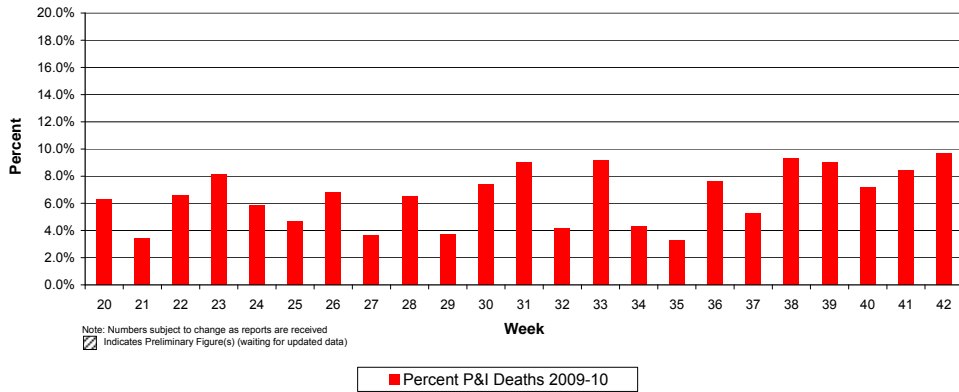


Figure 2: Percentage of Local, National, and HHS Region 5 ILI Outpatient visits and Percentage of Franklin County Resident BioSense Hospital ILI ED Visits, 2009-10

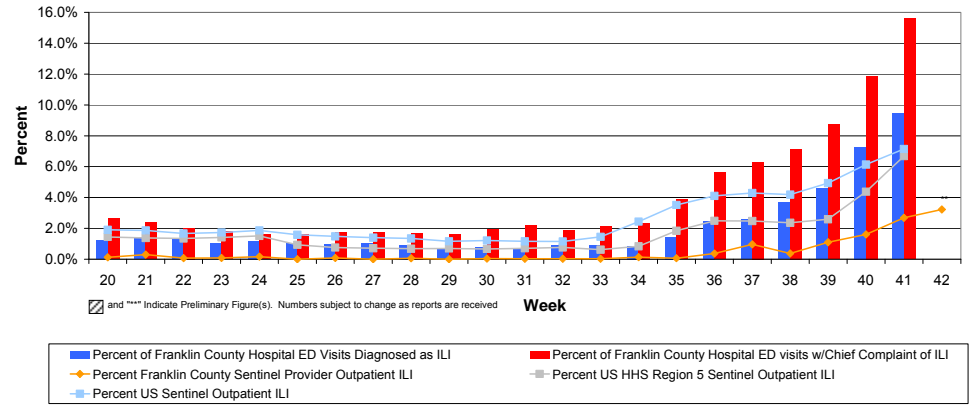


Figure 3: Franklin County Resident ILI Specific Complaint ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH

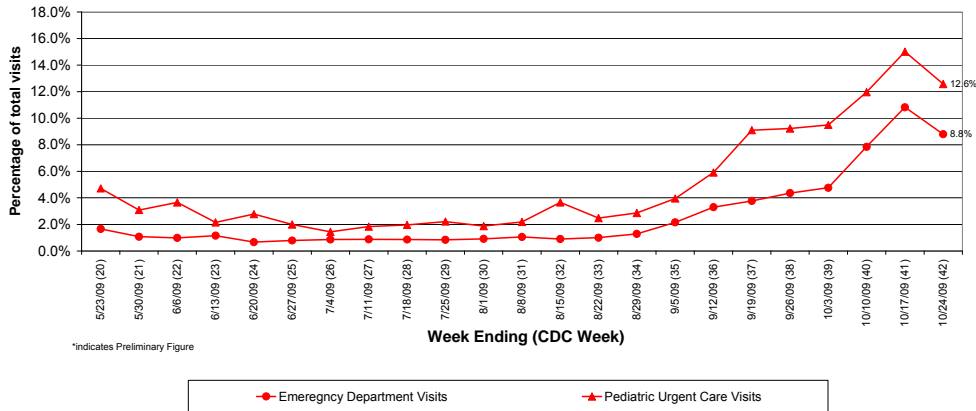
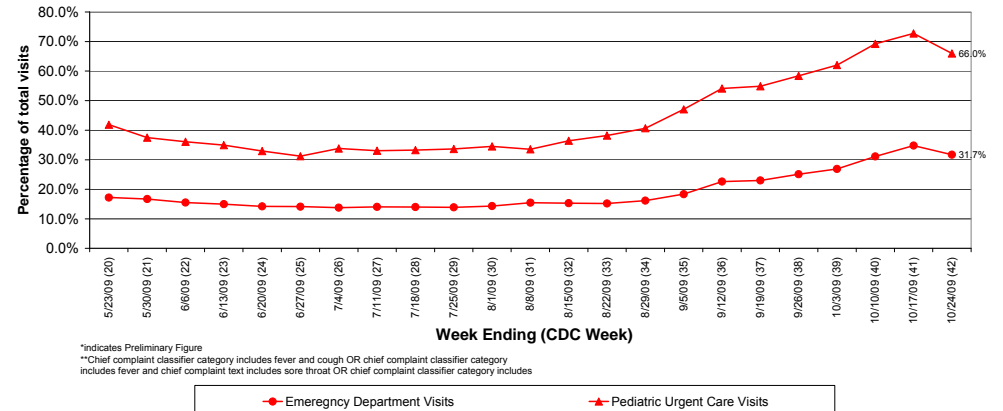


Figure 4: Franklin County Resident ILI Defined ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**



Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 42 (10/18/09-10/24/09)

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

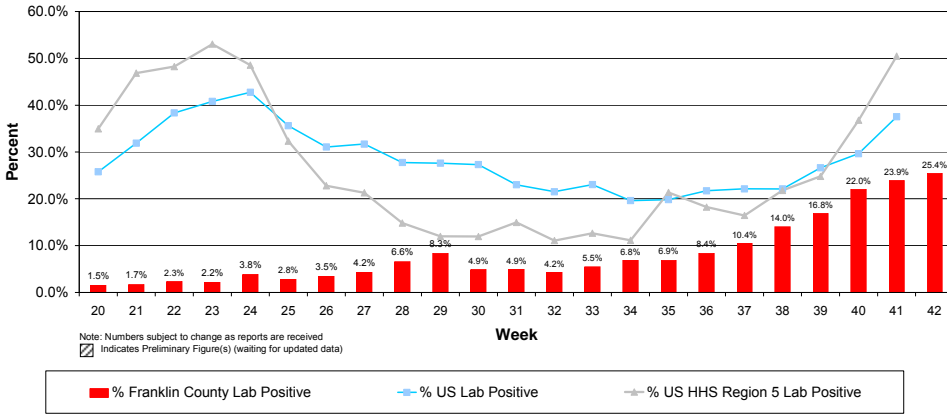


Figure 6: Franklin County Resident Respiratory ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH

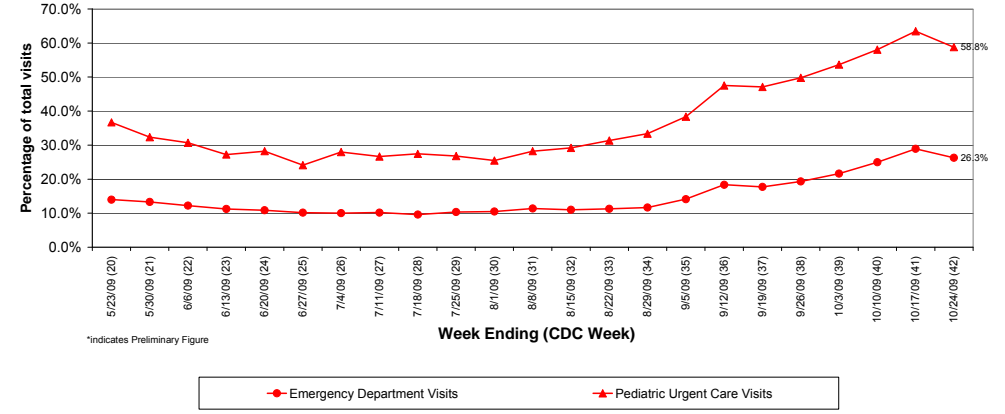


Figure 7: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Weekly Baseline Averages and Medians, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH

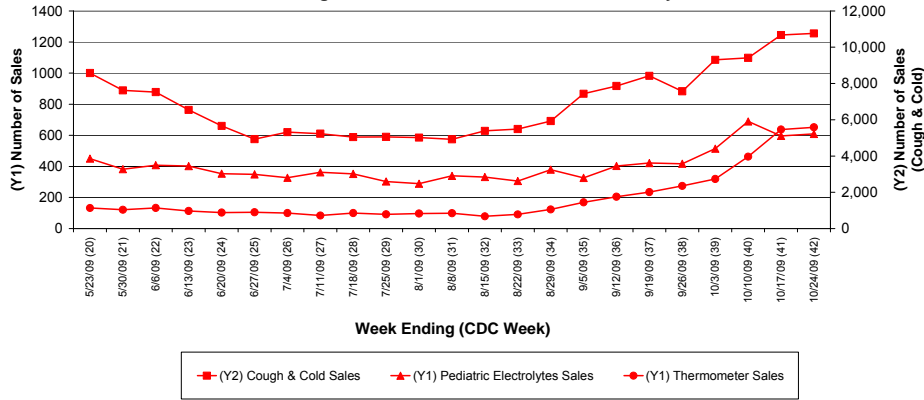


Figure 8: Percentage of Antiviral Prescriptions out of Total Number of Anti-Infective Prescriptions (Selected Pharmacies)

