Current Season Summary:
January 26 – February 1, 2020
MMWR Week 5

This week, there were 202 emergency department visits for influenza-like illnesses out of 6,825 total emergency departments visits for any cause; there were 95 confirmed hospitalizations for influenza this week bringing the seasonal total to 471; and, there were 28 pneumonia- or influenza-related deaths out of 352 total deaths* for any cause. There was one influenza outbreak noted in Week 5 bring the total number of outbreaks up to 3. All outbreaks occurred within Long-Term Care facilities.

Influenza A is the predominant strain noted this week. Of those with known vaccination status, 64% of those with Influenza A were not vaccinated and 58% of those with Influenza B were not vaccinated. The CDC reports that this vaccine is a good match for the current circulating strain of Influenza A (H1N1 lineage).

Flu Intensity This Week
For the sixth week in a row, flu activity remains Very High

Seasonal Flu Intensity

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<tr>
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<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
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<td>40</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flu Intensity Indicators</th>
<th>This Week n (%)</th>
<th>Season Total n (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses</td>
<td>202 (2.96%)</td>
<td>2,661 (2.31%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations*</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>471</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pneumonia- &amp; Influenza-Related Deaths*</td>
<td>28 (8.0%)</td>
<td>246 (4.6%)</td>
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* Due to the large number of hospitalizations and delays in reporting, methodology was updated in Week 1 to include cases that are still open but confirmed.

*Deaths represent all deaths for Cuyahoga County. All other data presented are City of Cleveland-specific

Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

The three indicators for calculating the intensity thresholds are based on 2017 methodology from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
INFLUENZA WATCH

February 10, 2020
Week 5
Ending 2/1/2020

Influenza-Like Illnesses

Figure 1: 2019-2020 Proportion of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses

The proportion of Emergency Room visits for influenza-like illnesses remains elevated beyond what has been observed in 5 years. This week 51% of visits were among females. Regarding race and ethnicity, 29% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 21% were among White or Caucasian individuals; and more than a third (41%) of visits were among other racial groups. Nearly a third (32%) of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The median age this week remains 6 years.

Low, Moderate, and High intensity thresholds are defined as the 50%, 90%, and 99% Confidence Intervals, respectively, based on the 5-Year Average of previous seasons.
The number of hospitalizations remains above four times greater than what has been observed over the past 5 years. Influenza A is the predominant strain currently, which was observed among 83% of cases this week. This week, most cases (54%) occurred among Black or African Americans, 36% were among White or Caucasian populations, and 6% were among Hispanic or Latinx populations, which is similar to what has been observed this season. A little more than half (51%) of all hospitalizations were among females this week. The median age of cases this week was 52 years of age.

Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 2/10/2019. Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

Due to the large number of hospitalizations and delays in reporting, methodology was updated in Week 1 to include cases that are still open but confirmed.

Low, Moderate, and High intensity thresholds are defined as the 50%, 90%, and 99% Confidence Intervals, respectively, based on the 5-Year Average of previous seasons.
Pneumonia- & Influenza-Associated Deaths*

There have been 246 deaths this season due to pneumonia or influenza-related illnesses (P&I). The proportion of P&I deaths is within the very high threshold this week. This week, the data show the 4 additional influenza specific-related deaths yielding a seasonal total of 11 with one being among an individual younger than 18 years of age. None of the influenza-related deaths this week occurred within the City of Cleveland. The majority P&I deaths that occurred this season were among individuals aged 45 years and older although this week 3 deaths were among individuals younger than 45 years. To-date, 11 P&I deaths have occurred among younger age groups.

Data Source: Cleveland Department of Public Health Department of Vital Statistics. Data compiled on 2/4/2020. Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

*Deaths represent all deaths for Cuyahoga County. All other data presented are City of Cleveland-specific.

Low, Moderate, and High intensity thresholds are defined as the 50%, 90%, and 99% Confidence Intervals, respectively, based on the 5-Year Average of previous seasons.