

Week 41 Highlights

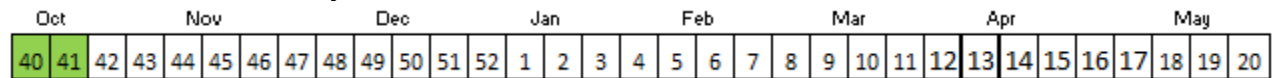
The weekly Influenza Watch summarizes the flu surveillance in the City of Cleveland. The metrics in this report include the number and percentage of emergency department visits for influenza-like illness, confirmed hospitalizations for the flu, and the deaths each week due to pneumonia and influenza.

- This week, flu activity remains “Low”
- 12.96% of the 324 deaths reported were due to pneumonia. No influenza deaths were reported this week and there have been no influenza deaths so far this season.
- There were 0 confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalization were reported this week. 1 hospitalization due to the flu was reported this season
- 1.68% of emergency department visits were for flu-like illness
- Influenza A remains the predominant strain. The vaccine remains a good match for the current circulating strain of Influenza A.

Flu Intensity



Seasonal Flu Intensity



Influenza (Flu) Intensity Indicators	This Week n (%)	Activity Compared to Last Week	Season Total n (%)
Emergency Department visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses	102 (1.68%)	+0.26%	203 (1.54%)
Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations [‡]	0	-1	1
Pneumonia- & Influenza-Related Deaths	42 (12.96%)	-0.8%	96 (13.4%)

*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-Like Illnesses

Date	Emergency Department visits for flu-like illness	Total Visits	Percentage
10/10/2021	14	783	1.79%
10/11/2021	14	961	1.46%
10/12/2021	18	936	1.92%
10/13/2021	20	894	2.24%
10/14/2021	20	892	2.24%
10/15/2021	9	853	1.06%
10/16/2021	7	739	0.95%
Total	102	6,058	1.68%



The proportion of Emergency Room visits for influenza-like illnesses is under the *low* threshold and lower than the 5-year average. This week 44% of visits were among males. Regarding race and ethnicity, 43% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 22% were among White individuals; and 35% of visits were among other racial groups. 20% of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The median age this week is 14 years.

Data Source: Health Monitoring Systems: EpiCenter 3.5.18. Data extracted on 10/21/2021.

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

Influenza-associated Hospitalizations

Date	Hospitalizations	5-years average
10/10/2021	0	0.2
10/11/2021	0	0.2
10/12/2021	0	0.2
10/13/2021	0	0.2
10/14/2021	0	0.2
10/15/2021	0	0.2
10/16/2021	0	0.2
Total	0	0.2

The number of hospitalizations remains low compared to what has been observed over the past 5 years. Influenza A is the predominant strain currently, which was observed among all of cases this week. This week there were not any influenza-associated hospitalizations keeping the season total at 1.

Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 10/21/2021. Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

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*

October 10th – October 16th, 2021			
Age	Pneumonia	Influenza	Total Deaths (P&I Death % of Total Deaths)
Unknown	0	0	0 (0.0%)
Under 1 year	0	0	3 (0.0%)
1-14 years	0	0	1 (0.0%)
15-24 years	0	0	1 (0.0%)
25-44 years	2	0	15 (0.62%)
45-64 years	8	0	79 (2.47%)
65-74 years	3	0	57 (0.93%)
75 years and older	29	0	168 (8.95%)
Total	42	0	324 (12.96%)

LOW
< 6.02%

MODERATE
6.02% - 6.19%

HIGH
6.19% - 6.34%

VERY HIGH
6.34% <

There have been 42 deaths this season due to pneumonia or influenza-related illnesses (P&I). The proportion of P&I deaths is 2-fold over the *very high* threshold this week. This is likely because of COVID-19 deaths that had pneumonia complications. This week, the data shows there was not an influenza specific-related death. The majority P&I deaths that occurred this season were among individuals aged 45 years and older.

Data Source: Cleveland Department of Public Health Department of Vital Statistics. Data compiled on 10/21/2021. Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

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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.