

## Week 50 Highlights

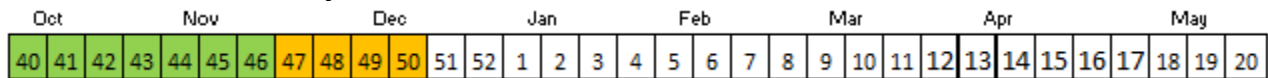
*The weekly Influenza Watch summarizes the flu surveillance in the City of Cleveland. The metrics in this report include the number and percentage of emergency department visits for influenza-like illness, confirmed hospitalizations for the flu, and the deaths each week due to pneumonia and influenza.*

- This week, flu activity remains “Moderate”
- 14.3% of the 392 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 5 confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalization were reported this week. 25 hospitalizations due to the flu were reported this season
- 3.73% 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



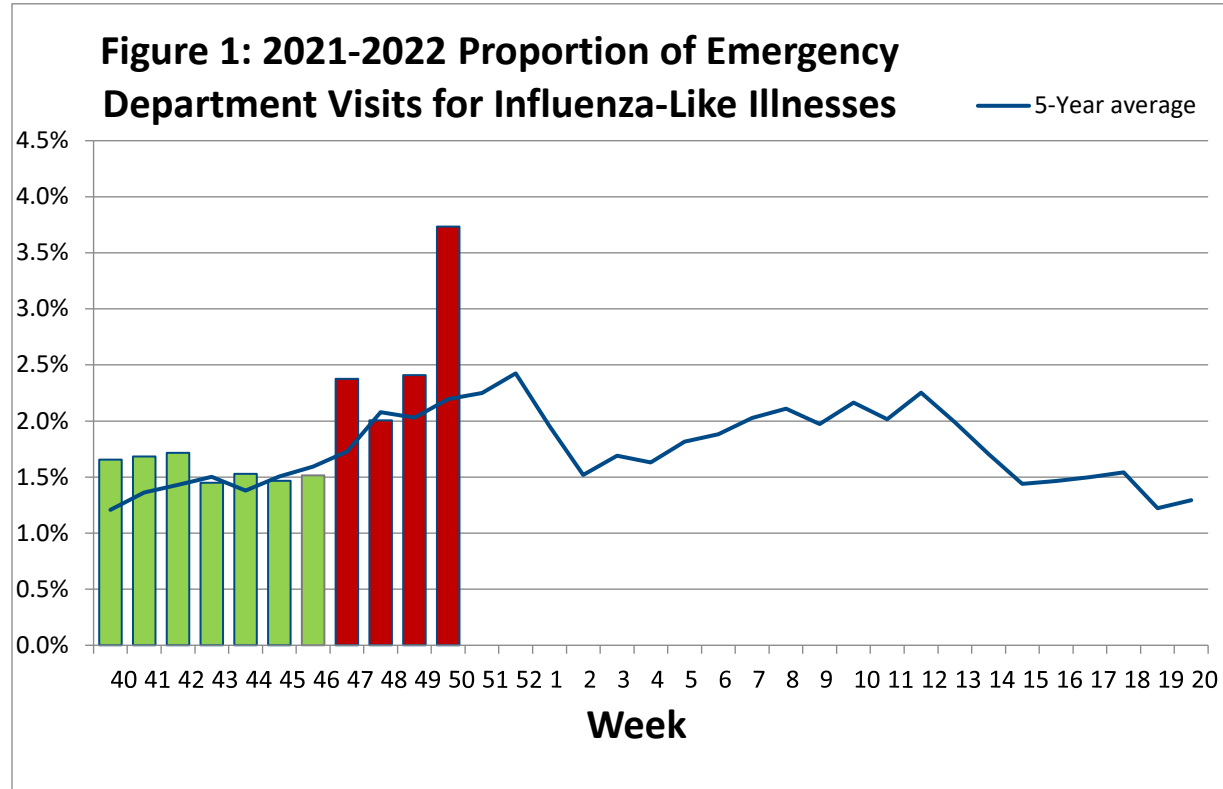
### Seasonal Flu Intensity



Influenza (Flu) Intensity Indicators	This Week n (%)	Activity Compared to Last Week	Season Total n (%)
Emergency Department visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses	296 (3.73%)	+1.32%	1,354 (1.98%)
Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations <sup>‡</sup>	5	+1	25
Pneumonia- & Influenza-Related Deaths	56 (14.3%)	+3.9%	481 (12.2%)

\*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**



<b>LOW</b> < 1.88%	<b>MODERATE</b> 1.88% - 1.94%	<b>HIGH</b> 1.94% - 1.99%	<b>VERY HIGH</b> 1.99% <
-----------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------

The proportion of Emergency Room visits this reporting week for influenza-like illnesses above the *very high* threshold and higher than the 5-years average. This week 38% of visits were among males. Regarding race and ethnicity, 52% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 14% were among White individuals; and 34% of visits were among other racial groups. A little less than a quarter (23%) of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The

Data Source: Health Monitoring Systems: EpiCenter 3.5.18. Data extracted on 12/21/2021.  
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

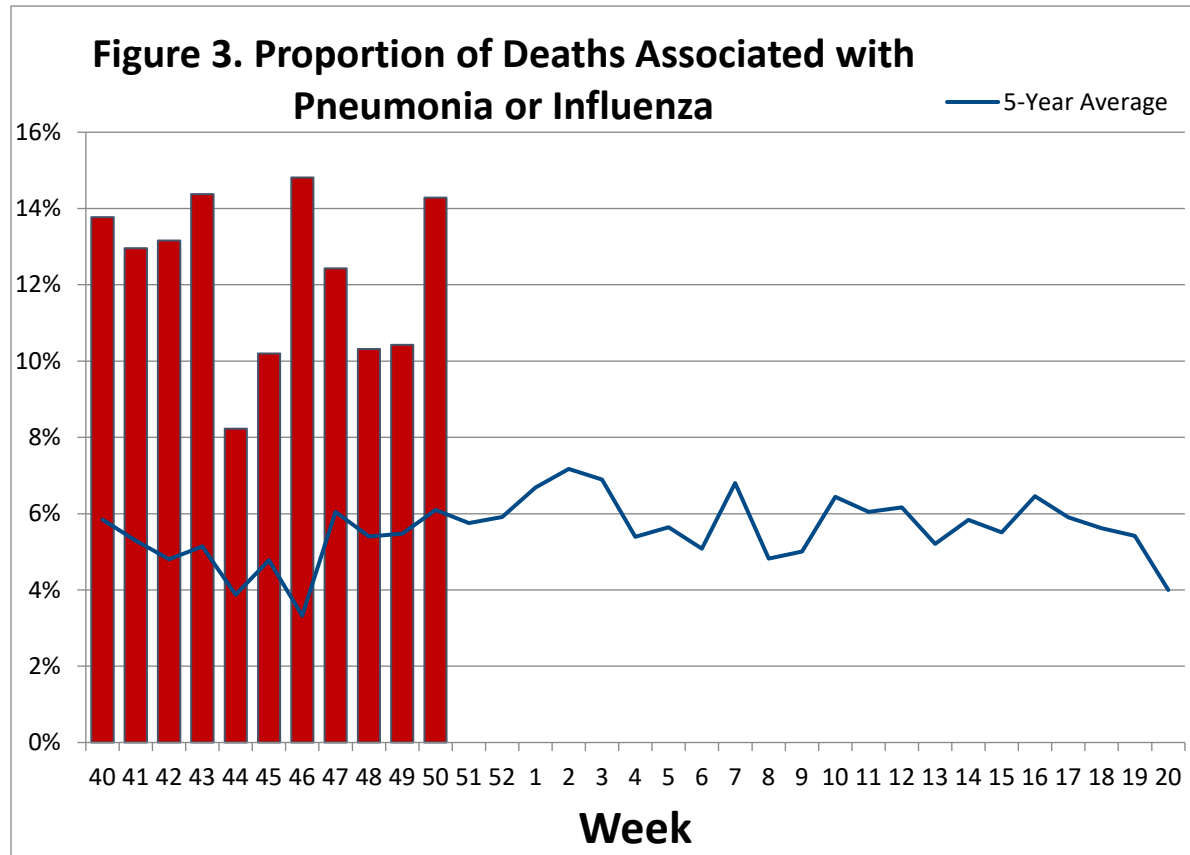
MMWR	Hospitalizations	5-Year Average
Week 40	1	0.2
Week 41	0	0.2
Week 42	0	0.4
Week 43	0	0.6
Week 44	0	1.2
Week 45	1	0.8
Week 46	1	2.2
Week 47	3	8
Week 48	10	12.2
Week 49	4	17.6
Week 50	5	29.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>73</b>

The number of hospitalizations remains very 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 5 influenza-associated hospitalizations keeping the season total at 25.

Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 12/21/2021. 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\***



<b>LOW</b> < 6.02%	<b>MODERATE</b> 6.02% - 6.19%	<b>HIGH</b> 6.19% - 6.34%	<b>VERY HIGH</b> 6.34% <
-----------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------------

There have been 56 deaths this week 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 12/21/2021. 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.