

CITY OF CLEVELAND INFLUENZA WATCH

January 6, 2022 MMWR Week 52 December 26 – January 1st, 2022

Week 52 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"
- 18.2% of the 406 deaths reported were due to pneumonia. No influenza deaths were reported this week and there has been 1 influenza death so far this season.
- There were not any confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalization were reported this week. 30 hospitalizations due to the flu were reported this season
- 2.87% 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

Oct			Nov				Dec					Jan				Feb			Mar				Apr				May						
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	

Influenza (Flu) Intensity Indicators	This Week n (%)	Activity Compared to Last Week	Season Total n (%)
Emergency Department visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses	163 (2.87%)	-1.3%	1,790 (2.22%)
Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations [¥]	3	+1	30
Pneumonia- & Influenza-Related Deaths	74 (18.2%)	+1.5%	597 (13.0%)

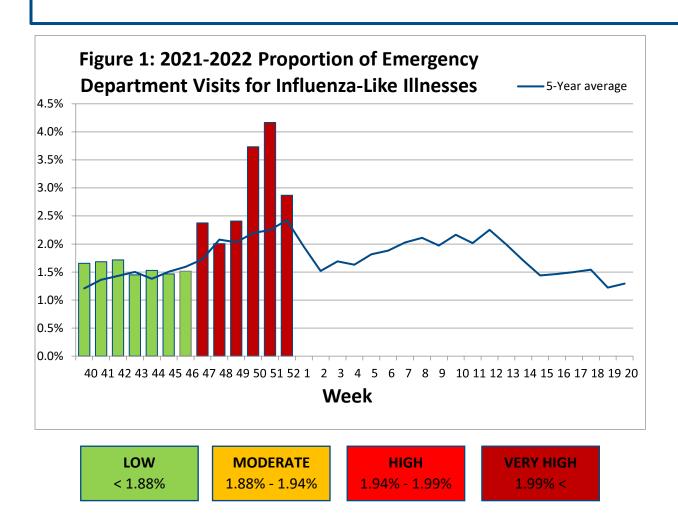
^{*}Deaths represent all deaths for Cuyahoga County. All other data presented are City of Cleveland-specific Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

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

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Influenza-Like Illnesses



The proportion of Emergency Room visits this reporting week for influenza-like illnesses is above the *very high* threshold and higher than the 5-year average. This week 47% of visits were among males. Regarding race and ethnicity, 36% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 31% were among White individuals; and 33% of visits were among other racial groups. A little less than a quarter (24%) of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The median age this

Data Source: Health Monitoring Systems: EpiCenter 3.5.18. Data extracted on 1/4/2022. 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



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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
Week 51	2	35.4
Week 52	3	41.0
Total	30	149

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 not any influenza-associated hospitalizations keeping the season total at 30.

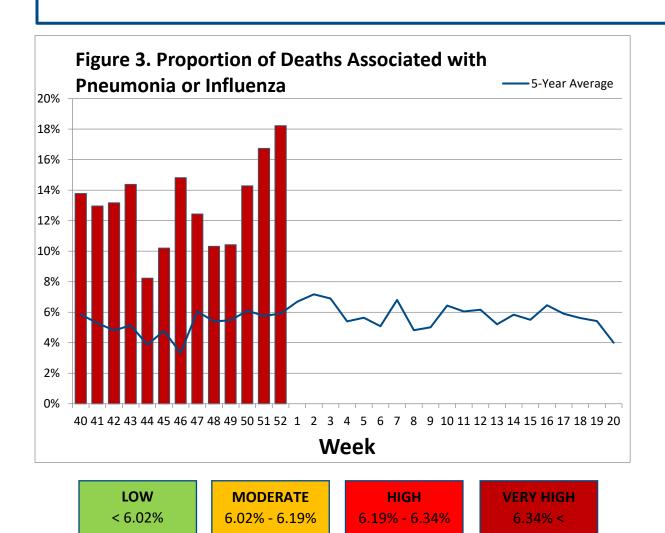
Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 1/4/2022. Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

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Pneumonia- & Influenza-Associated Deaths*



There have been 74 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 one 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 1/4/2022. 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.