cdph
Cleveland Department of Public Health

CITY OF CLEVELAND INFLUENZA WATCH

December 2, 2022
MMWR Week 47
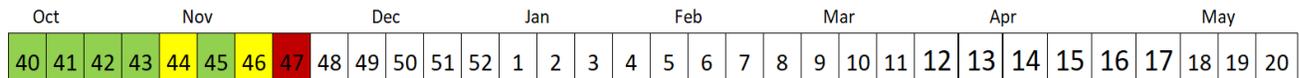November 20th –
November 26th, 2022

Week 47 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 is "very high".
- 6.10% of the deaths reported were due to pneumonia. No influenza deaths were reported this week, and there have been two influenza deaths so far this season.
- There were 57 confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalizations (IAH) were reported this week. A total of 100 hospitalizations due to the influenza were reported so far this season.
- 4.48% of emergency department visits were for flu-like illness.
- Influenza A is the predominant strain. The vaccine is a good match for the circulating strain of Influenza A.
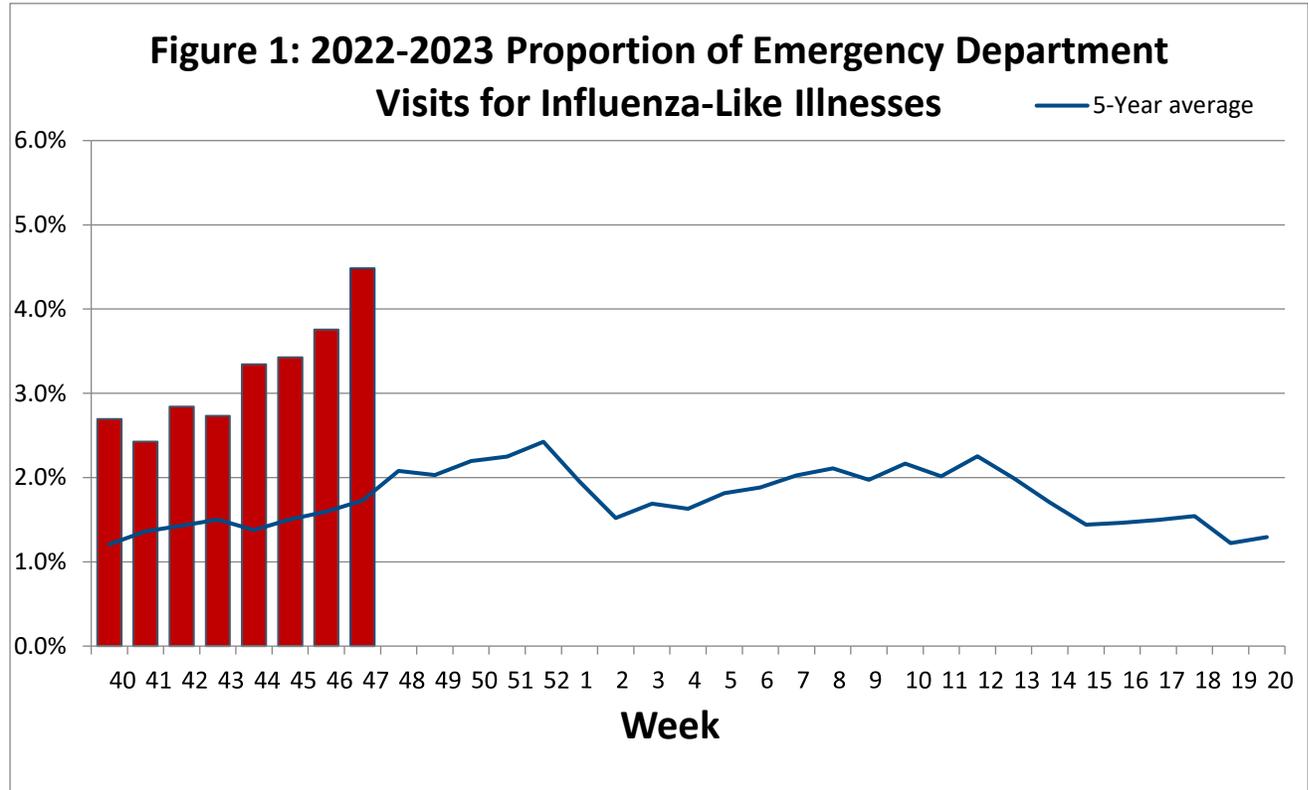
Flu Intensity

Very High
❌

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	240 (4.48%)	+0.72%	1,404 (3.21%)
Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations¥	57	+25	100
Pneumonia- & Influenza-Related Deaths	13 (6.10%)	-4	113 (5.00%)

*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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Page 1 of 4

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Influenza-Like Illnesses

Figure 1: 2022-2023 Proportion of Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses

—— 5-Year average

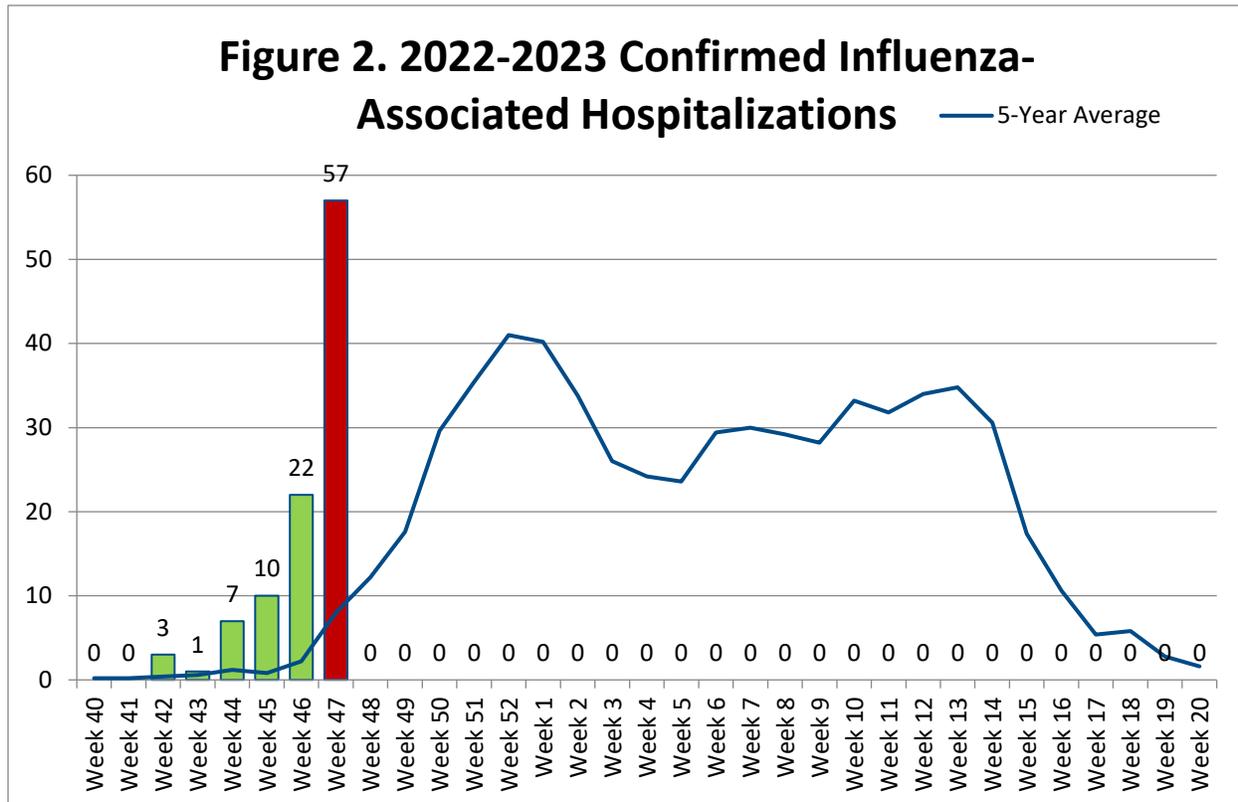| LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	VERY HIGH
< 1.88%	1.88% - 1.94%	1.94% - 1.99%	1.99% <

The proportion of emergency department visits this week for influenza-like illnesses is over the *very high* threshold and higher than the 5-year average. This week 50% of visits were among males. Regarding race and ethnicity, 39% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 25% were among White individuals; and 36% of visits were among other racial groups. 18% of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The median age this week is 7 years.

Data Source: Health Monitoring Systems: EpiCenter 3.5.18. Data extracted on 11/29/2022.
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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Page 2 of 4

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Influenza-associated Hospitalizations

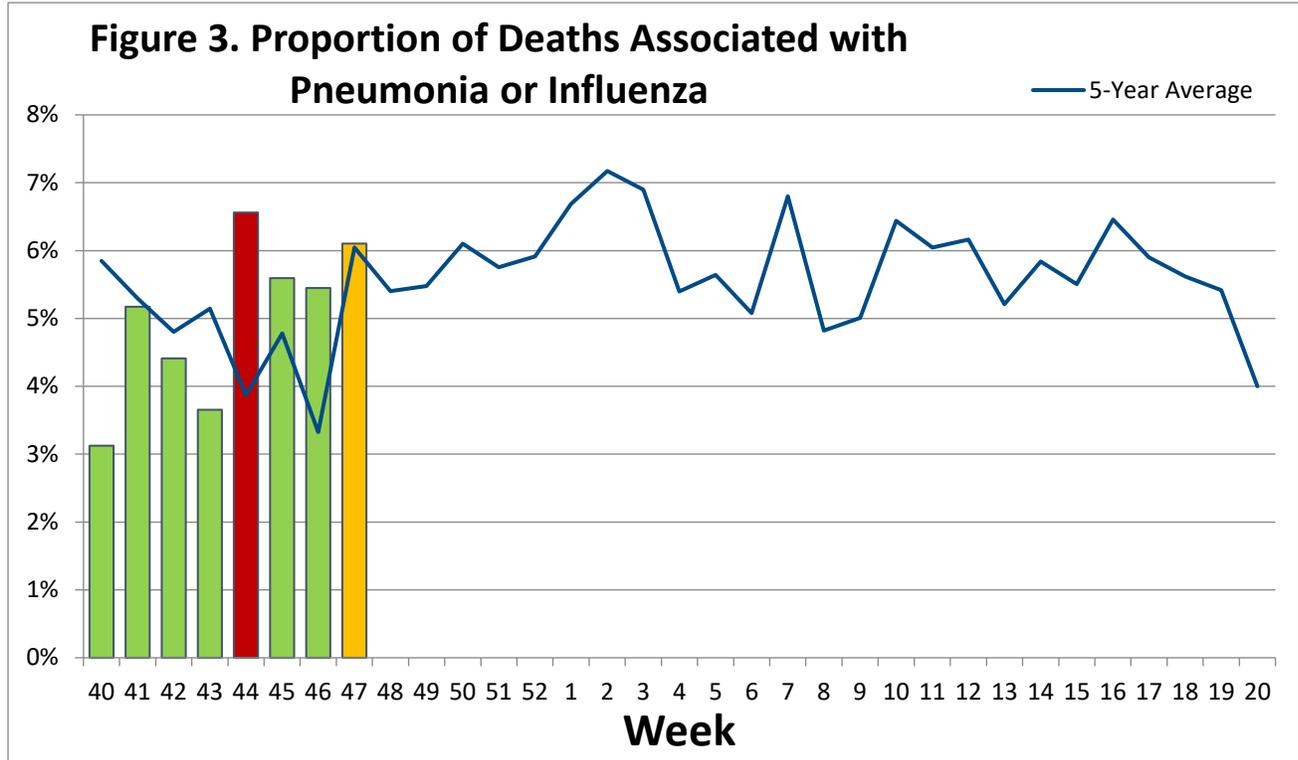Figure 2. 2022-2023 Confirmed Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations — 5-Year Average

There were 57 influenza-associated hospitalizations (IAH) this reporting week. This is very high number of influenza-associated hospitalizations, which is over 5 times higher than the average number of hospitalizations expected over the last 5 years at this point in the season. Roughly half (49%) of influenza-associated hospitalizations were among Cleveland residents age 60 years and older. There have been 100 influenza-associated hospitalizations so far this season.

Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 12/1/2022. Data are preliminary and subject to change as more information is gained.

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Page 3 of 4

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Pneumonia- & Influenza-Associated Deaths*

Figure 3. Proportion of Deaths Associated with Pneumonia or Influenza

LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	VERY HIGH
< 6.02%	6.02% - 6.19%	6.19% - 6.34%	6.34% <

There have been 13 deaths this season due to pneumonia or influenza-related illnesses (P&I). This week, the data shows there was not an influenza specific-related death bringing the season total to 2. The proportion of P&I deaths is at the moderate threshold this week. All of the 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 11/29/2022. 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.

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Page 4 of 4