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 “high”.
- 5.69% of the deaths reported were due to pneumonia. There was not an influenza death reported this week and there have been three influenza deaths so far this season.
- There were 62 confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalizations (IAH) were reported this week. 314 hospitalizations due to the influenza were reported so far this season.
- 3.18% 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**

High

**Seasonal Flu Intensity**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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<th>Feb</th>
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<td>52</td>
<td>0.52%</td>
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<td>2,032</td>
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**Influenza (Flu) Intensity Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Department Visits for Influenza-Like Illnesses</th>
<th>This Week n (%)</th>
<th>Activity Compared to Last Week</th>
<th>Season Total n (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>171 (3.18%)</td>
<td>-0.52%</td>
<td>2,032 (3.34%)</td>
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| Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations*                     | 62              | -22                           | 314                |

| Pneumonia- & Influenza-Related Deaths                   | 17 (5.69%)      | -4                            | 167 (5.10%)        |

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

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 49% of visits were among males. Regarding race and ethnicity, 47% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 25% were among White individuals; and 29% of visits were among other racial groups. 16% of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The median age this week is 8 years.

Data Source: Health Monitoring Systems: EpiCenter 3.5.18. Data extracted on 12/20/2022.
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.
There were 62 influenza-associated hospitalizations (IAH) this reporting week. This is high number of influenza-associated hospitalizations, which is 2 times higher than the average number of hospitalizations expected over the last 5 years at this point in the season. 58% of influenza-associated hospitalizations were among Cleveland residents age 60 years and older. There have been 314 influenza-associated hospitalizations so far this season.

Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 12/22/2022. 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.
There have been 17 deaths this week due to pneumonia or influenza-related illnesses (P&I), which was 5.69% of all deaths during that week. This week, the data shows there was not an influenza specific-related death keeping the season total at 3. The proportion of P&I deaths is at the moderate threshold this week. Most 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 12/20/2022. 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.