

#### WEEKLY INFLUENZA WATCH WEEK 8: FEBRUARY 18 - FEBRUARY 24, 2024

# Week 8 Highlights

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

- This week, flu activity is classified as "High"
- 2.32% of emergency department visits were for flu-like illness
- There were 44 confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalizations reported this week. There have been 498 influenza associated hospitalizations so far this season
- 6.08% of deaths reported were due to pneumonia. Two influenza deaths was reported this week and there has been five influenza deaths so far this season

#### Flu Intensity: High

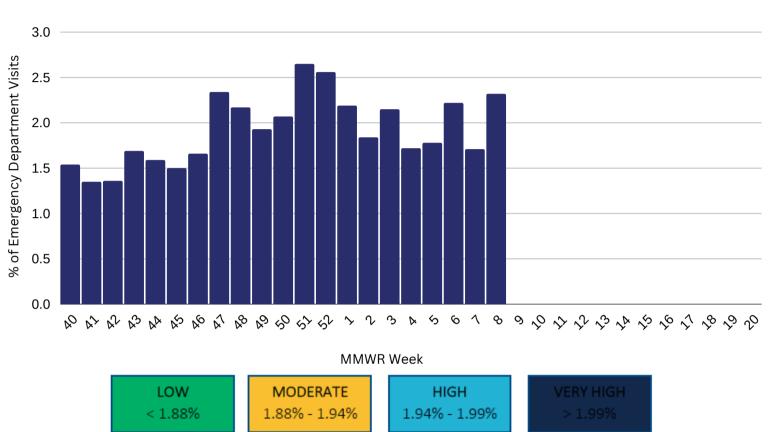
Influenza & COVID-19 Intensity Indicators	This Week n (%)	Activity Compared to Last Week	Season Total n (%)
Emergency Department visits for Influenza-like Illnesses	96 (2.32%)	+0.61%	1,631 (1.92%)
Confirmed Influenza Hospitalizations	44	+2	489
Confirmed COVID-19 Hospitalizations	5	-	166
Pneumonia- & Influenza- related Deaths	16 (6.08%)	+0.77%	352 (5.50%)

\*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 <u>on 2017 methodology from the Centers for Disease</u> <u>Control and Prevention</u>.





# Influenza-like Illnesses (ILI)



Percentage of Emergency Department visits for ILI by Week, 2023-2024

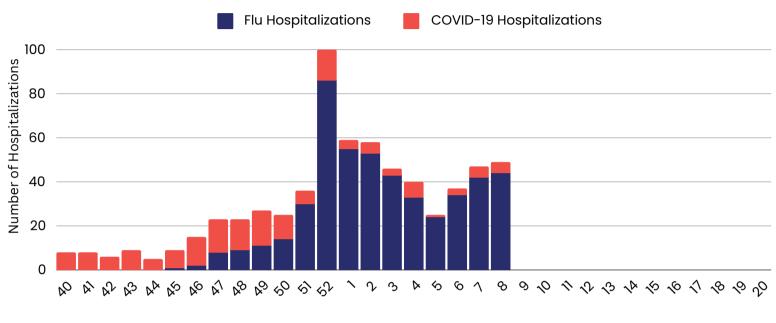
The proportion of Emergency Room visits for influenza-like illnesses is above the very high threshold and comparable to the 5-years average. This week, 52% of the visits were among males. Regarding race and ethnicity, 36% of visits were Black or African American individuals; 21% were among White individuals; and 43% of visits were among other racial groups. A little over than third (39%) of visits were among Hispanic or Latin individuals. The median age this week is 6 years.

\*Data Source: Health Monitoring Systems: EpiCenter 3.5.18. Data extracted on 5/21/2024. 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 and COVID-19 Hospitalizations

Number of Flu and COVID-19 Hospitalizations by Week, 2023-2024



MMWR Week

There have been 44 influenza-associated Hospitalizations (IAH) reported this week among individuals aged 1 month to 85 years. The majority of these hospitalizations were among residents 60 years of age and older. This is roughly 50% higher than the number of hospitalizations than expected at this point in the year based on the 5year average. This brings the total influenza-associated hospitalizations for the season to 489. Influenza has accounted for more hospitalizations than COVID-19 this fall. The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations has decreased from the previous week, with five hospitalizations reported during this reporting week.

\*Data Source: Ohio Department of Health: Ohio Disease Reporting System. Data extracted on 5/21/2024. 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\*

10.0 8.0 % of All Deaths 6.0 4.0 2.0 0.0 MMWR Week LOW MODERATE HIGH VERY HIGH < 6.02% 6.02% - 6.19% 6.19% - 6.34%

Percentage of Deaths due to Pneumonia or Influenza by Week, 2023-2024

There have been 16 deaths this reporting week due to pneumonia or influenza related illnesses (P&I). The proportion of P&I deaths is in the low threshold this week. This week, the data shows there were two influenza-associated deaths, which brings the season total to 13. Also, there have been 11 COVID-19 associated deaths thus far in the same period. The majority P&I deaths that occurred this week were among individuals aged 45 years and older.

\*Data Source: Cleveland Department of Public Health Department of Vital Statistics. Data compiled on 5/21/2024. 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.