



2017-18 Ottawa County Influenza Surveillance Report

Local Influenza Activity Level: Local

Released April 26, 2018

Influenza and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) data reported by schools, licensed childcare, colleges, healthcare providers and long-term care facilities to the Ottawa County Department of Public Health through the week ending 4/21/18 (Week 16) indicate that influenza-related illness has now decreased to near baseline levels after an early February peak. Positive influenza test results reported by healthcare providers continue to decline, with only 20 reported this week compared to a weekly season high of nearly 600. The majority of positive rapid tests in week 16 were Influenza Type B.

Figure 1. Comparison of Current Flu-like Illness Activity to the Average over the Previous Three Flu Seasons

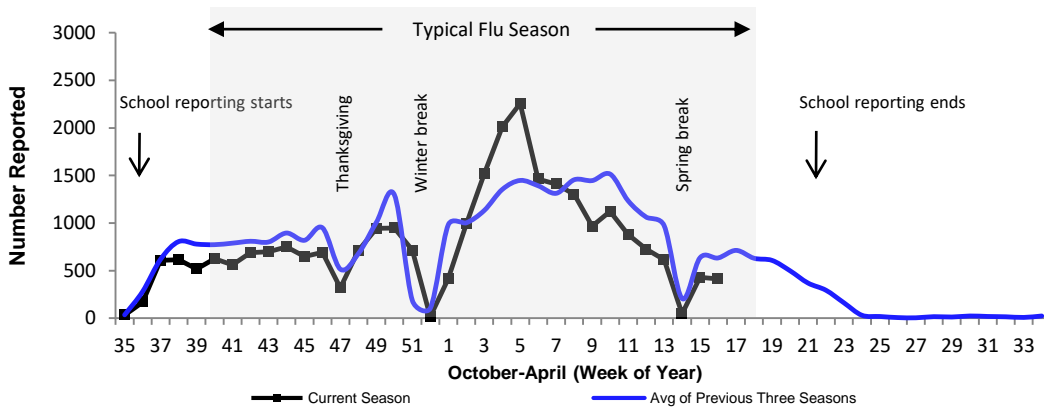
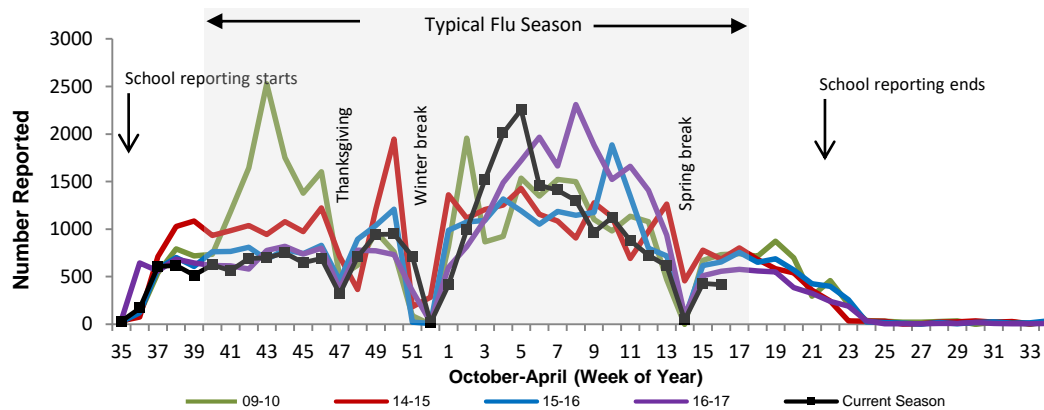


Figure 1 shows total reported cases of influenza-like illness or **ILI** (defined as fever in the presence of cough and/or sore throat) from **schools and childcare**.³ Numbers for the most recent 3 weeks have been lower than expected levels, following a sharp drop in mid-February. We should expect the decreasing trend in ILI to continue.

Figure 2. Comparison of Current Flu-like Illness Cases to Selected Previous Flu Seasons



After a peak in early February, data in Figure 2 comparing flu seasons indicate that this season's weekly number of ILI cases among **schools and childcare** is similar or higher than we've seen in the past few flu seasons.³ The pandemic flu season of 09-10 had a very early seasonal peak; most flu seasons peak in the winter. Each flu season is unique and this season appears to have peaked earlier than the last two.

Figure 3. Percentage of Flu & Flu-like Illness in Students versus Patients, Current Flu Season

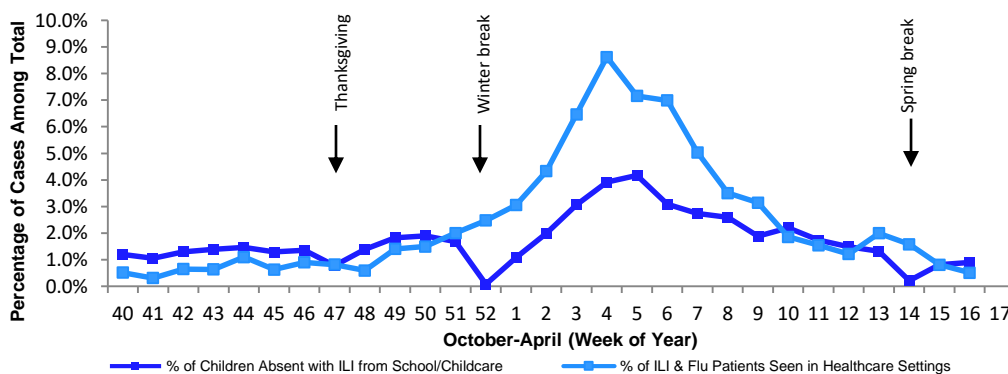


Figure 3 compares the percentage reported absent from school/childcare due to ILI to the percentage of visits at healthcare providers for ILI & influenza.³ Both are reporting significantly less ILI & flu, similar to levels seen earlier in the season and close to baseline.

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Data from area emergency departments through 4/21/18 indicate that the proportion of visits for *constitutional complaints* (Figure 4) among Ottawa County residents became significantly elevated for weeks 3 through 6, before returning to expected levels. Constitutional visits are currently below both the same week last season and slightly below the seasonal average for April.

The percentage of emergency department visits through 4/21/18 for *respiratory complaints* (Figure 5) among Ottawa County residents was stable from November to mid-December then increased significantly, reaching two weekly high points during the flu season in mid-December and late January. Respiratory visits to area emergency departments are now lower than would typically be expected.

Constitutional symptoms include fever, chills, fatigue, among others. Respiratory symptoms include cough, sore throat, congestion, among others.

Figure 4. Percentage of Visits to Emergency Departments for Constitutional Complaints

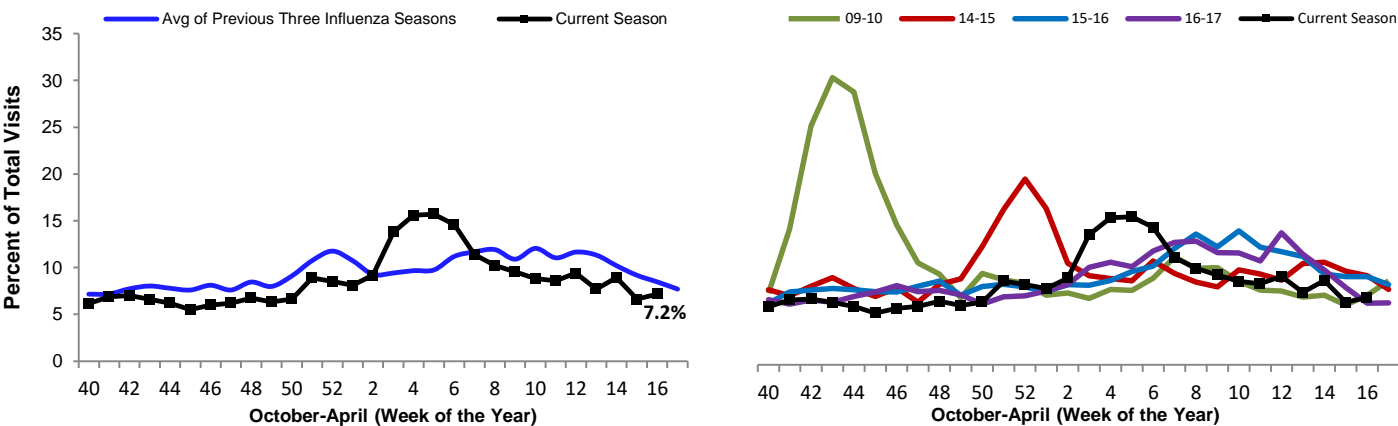
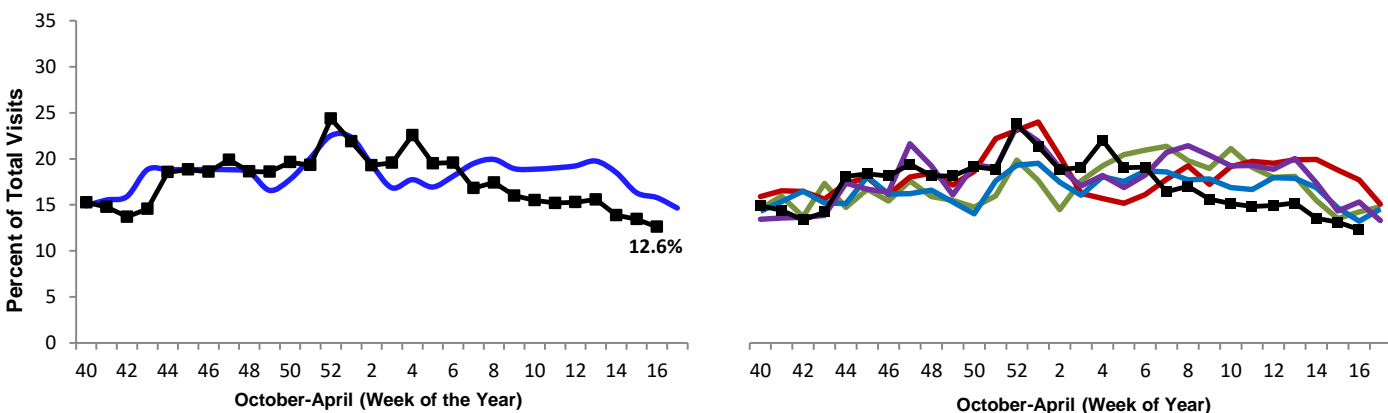


Figure 5. Percentage of Visits to Emergency Departments for Respiratory Complaints



Influenza and Respiratory Illness Outbreaks in Congregate Settings^{1,3}: 2017-18 flu season outbreaks of respiratory or flu-like illness are listed in the table by facility type. Of those outbreaks that had laboratory confirmation of influenza, two late season outbreaks were influenza type B; others with confirmatory testing were influenza type A.

Facility Type	Total
Licensed Childcare/Preschool	6
K-12 School	2
Long-term Care or Assisted Living	16

Influenza-associated Pediatric Mortality^{1,4}: There have been **156 influenza-associated deaths** reported in the U.S. among youth younger than 18 years, with **two** in Michigan. There were 110 reported in the U.S. during all of the last flu season.

The data are provisional, based on current reports in the ¹MI Disease Surveillance System (MDSS), the ²MI Syndromic Surveillance System (MSSS), the ³OCDPH online aggregate illness reporting site, and the ⁴CDC's FluView.