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Ottawa County Influenza Surveillance Report

MMWR* Week 17: April 19, 2020 - April 25, 2020

Summary:

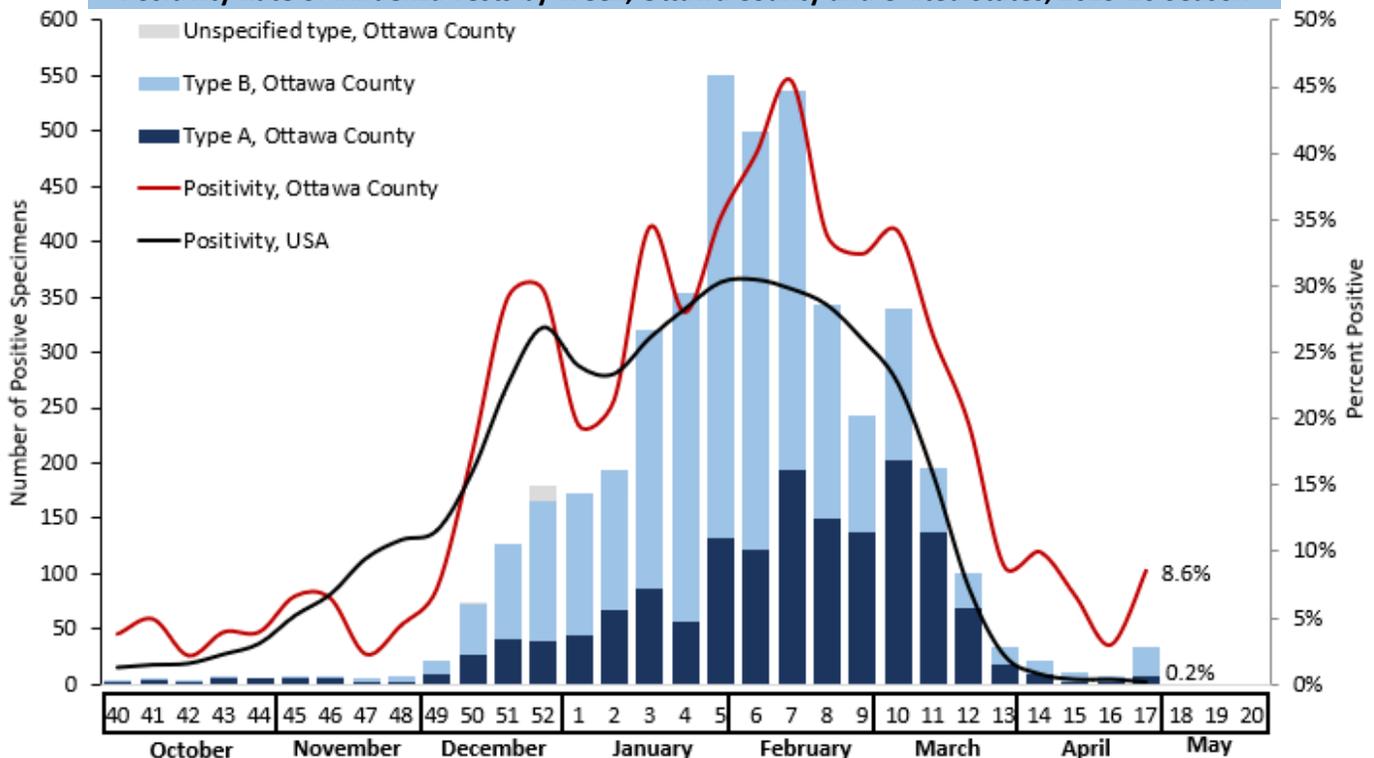
During week 17, influenza positivity in Ottawa County was 8.6%. No influenza-like illness (ILI) was reported in schools/licensed childcare settings. In-person activities in most schools/childcare settings are suspended as part of the measures to mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Reported ILI in healthcare offices (0.8%) increased slightly from last week, staying below this same time last year. No influenza was reported in long-term care facilities (LTCF). Emergency Department (ED) visits with influenza symptoms decreased to 0.8%, slightly below this same time last year. Overall, influenza activity was moderate – low in week 17.



Influenza Test Positivity

Influenza positivity is the percent of influenza tests conducted by reporting providers and laboratories that result positive. In week 17, reported positivity was 8.6%. Elevated influenza laboratory positivity is often an indication that influenza is circulating in the community^(1,2). **Influenza positivity has been moderate over the last 3 weeks.**

Positivity Rate of Influenza Tests by Week, Ottawa County and United States, 2019-20 Season



MMWR* Week	Week ending date	Type A	Type B	Unspecified	Total Influenza	Total Tested	Positivity
15	04/11/2020	3	8	0	11	167	6.7%
16	04/18/2020	2	6	0	8	270	3.0%
17	04/25/2020	7	26	0	33	383	8.6%

Influenza test data includes both PCR and rapid tests

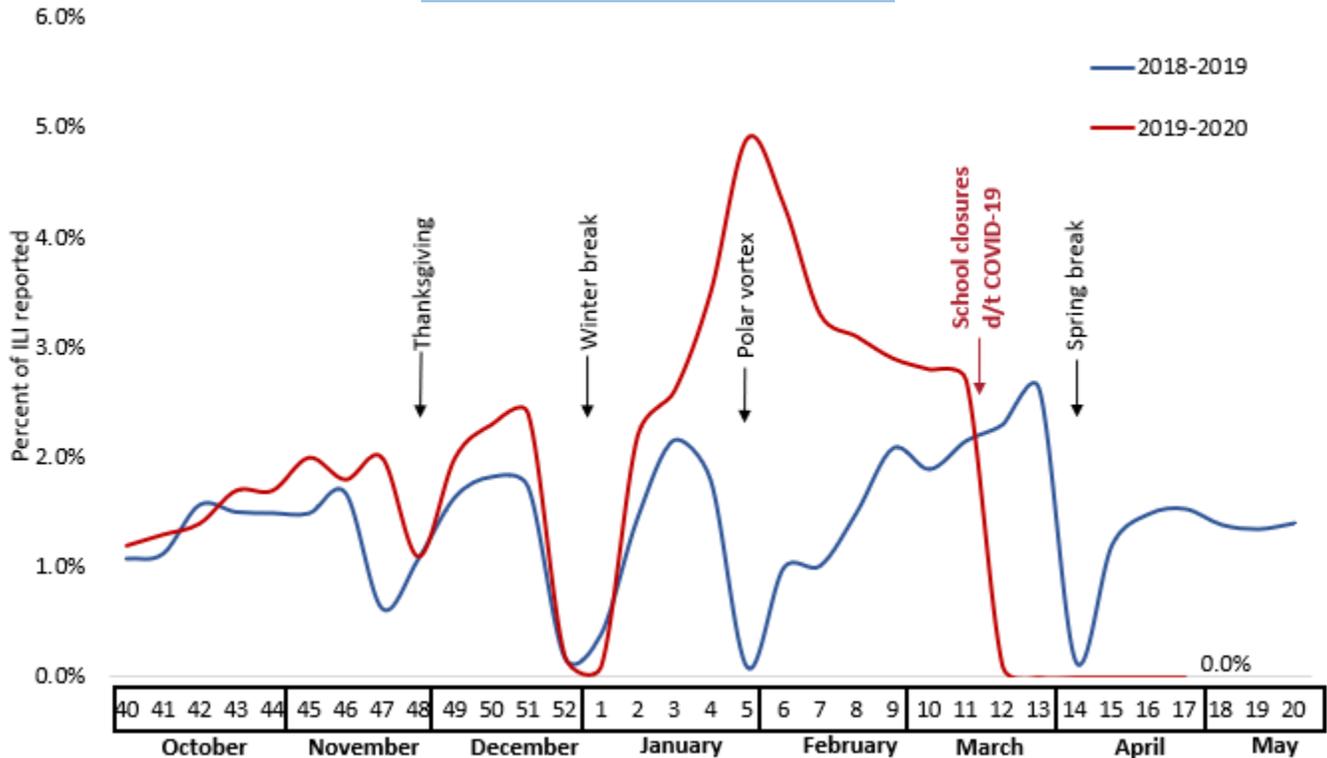
* Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



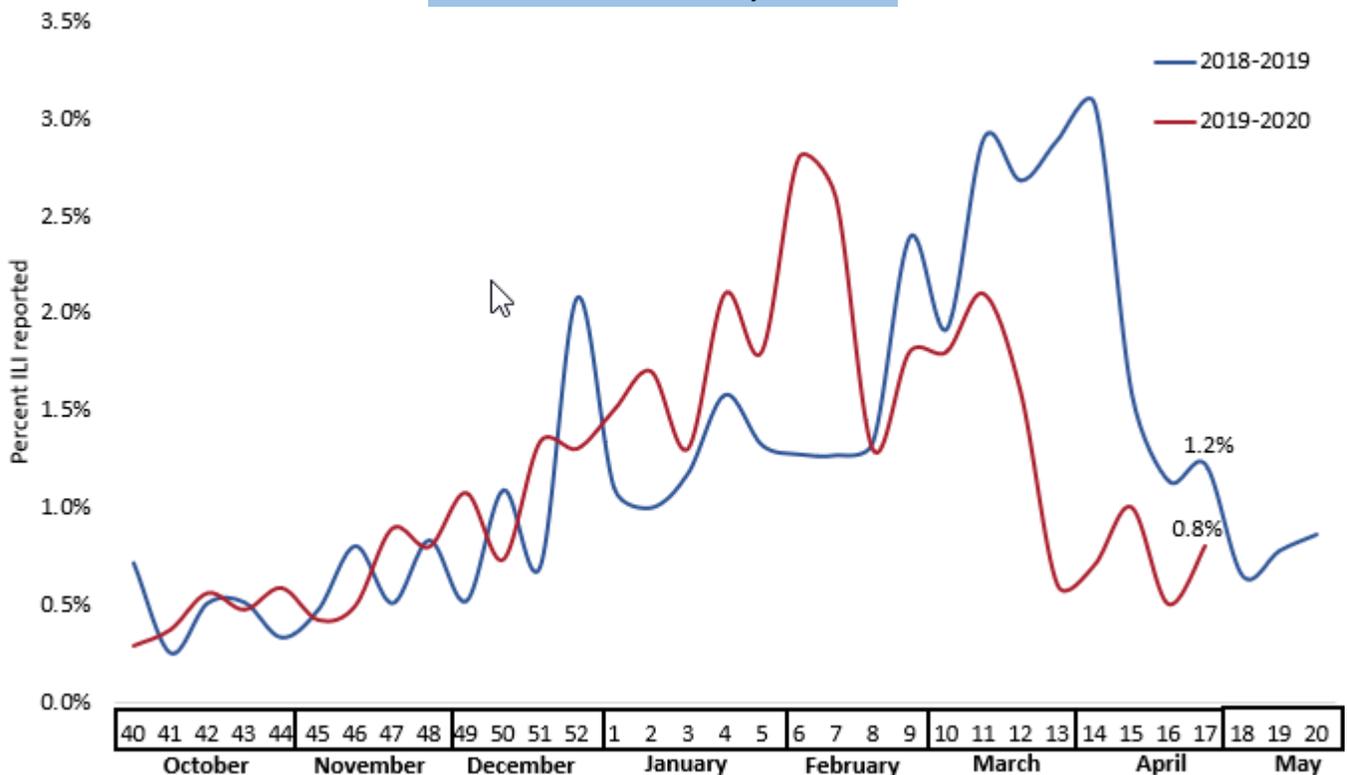
Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Reporting Schools, Childcare and Healthcare Settings

Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) reports on ILI activity in schools, licensed childcare, healthcare providers and LTCFs by week. During week 17, the proportion of ILI reported in school/childcare was 0%. This is mainly due school closures across the county as a measure to mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19). ILI in healthcare offices (0.8%) was also low, staying below that reported at this time last season (1.2%). There was one new report of influenza in a LTCF during week 17.

School and Childcare ILI by Week



Healthcare ILI Visits by Week

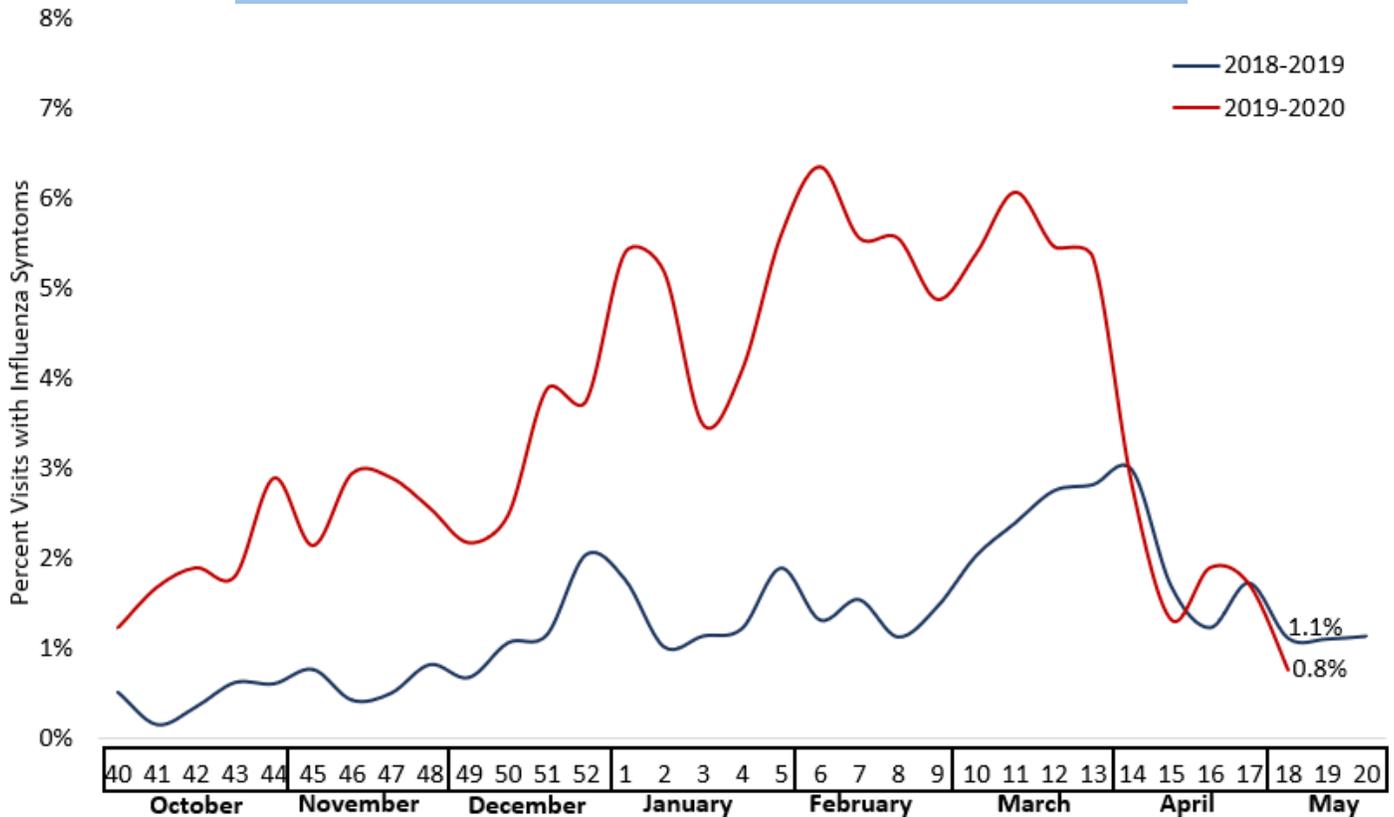




Syndromic Surveillance for Influenza

This data reflects the proportion of patients seen in Ottawa County hospital EDs with an influenza symptom*. During week 17, Ottawa County ED visits with influenza symptoms decreased to 0.8% (from 1.7% last week). This proportion is lower than that seen at the same time last season (1.1%). The decrease in ED census over the last few weeks might contribute to the overall decrease in reported ILI.

Percentage of ED Visits in Ottawa County with Influenza Symptoms



MMWR Week	Week Ending Date	Total ED ILI	Total ED Visits	Percent ILI
15	04/11/2020	14	734	1.9%
16	04/18/2020	12	696	1.7%
17	04/25/2020	6	775	0.8%

* Influenza symptoms include sudden onsets of fever, cough and/or sore throat.



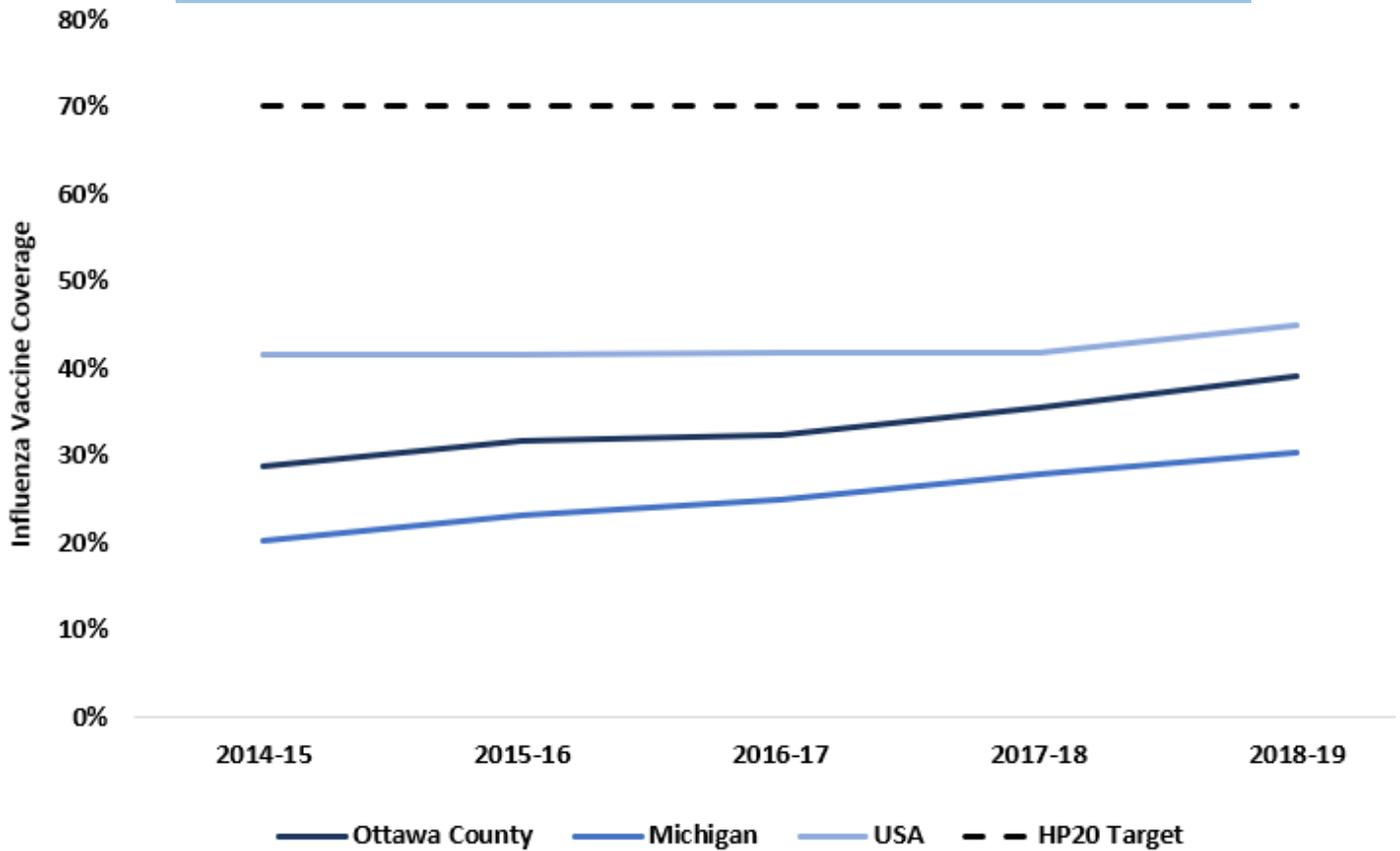
Influenza Vaccine Coverage

The best way to prevent influenza is by getting the influenza vaccine each year. Although below the national average, Ottawa County has seen improvements in influenza vaccine coverage over the years. The table below reflects adult vaccination coverage in Ottawa County, Michigan and the United States over the last 5 influenza seasons.

	2014-15 Season	2015-16 Season	2016-17 Season	2017-18 Season	2018-19 Season
Ottawa County	28.8%	31.7%	32.4%	35.5%	39%
Michigan	20.2%	23.1%	24.9%	27.9%	30.3%
United States (average)	41.5%	41.5%	41.7%	41.7%	44.9%
Healthy People 2020 Target	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%

Source: Michigan's County Quarterly Immunization Report Card - Annual Q2 Reports.

Influenza Vaccine Coverage by Season, Ottawa County, Michigan and United States



Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness

The performance of influenza seasonal vaccines are monitored to improve their benefits. Vaccine effectiveness (VE) studies regularly assess and confirm the value of flu vaccination as a public health intervention³. The table below shows estimates of seasonal flu vaccine effectiveness from past seasons.

	2015-16 Season	2016-17 Season	2017-18 Season	2018-19 Season	2019-20 Season
Overall vaccine effectiveness	48%	40%	38%	29%	45%

Source: CDC - Past seasons Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates⁴.



Severe Disease

One new influenza-associated pediatric death was reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on week 17, making a total of **170 influenza-associated pediatric deaths** this season. **Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths** have been reported in Michigan so far this season. There have been **no** reports influenza-associated pediatric deaths in Ottawa County.

Resources

- ◆ Michigan Department of Health and Human Services - Influenza activity and Surveillance: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2955_22779_40563_48357-191722--,00.html
- ◆ Michigan's County Quarterly Immunization Report Card: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Ottawa_447497_7.pdf and https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Report_Card_Defs_447511_7.pdf
- ◆ National influenza surveillance data are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
- ◆ Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2019–20 Influenza Season: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/rr/rr6803a1.htm?scid=rr6803a1e&deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM7382
- ◆ ¹Forecasting Peak Activity of Seasonal Influenza Using Only One Surveillance Indicator Colorado, 2013-2019 (CSTE Presentation): By Bernadette Albanese, MD, MPH, Tri-County Health Department
- ◆ ²Baumbach, J., Mueller, M., Smelser, C., Albanese, B., & Sewell, C. M. (2009). Enhancement of influenza surveillance with aggregate rapid influenza test results: New Mexico, 2003-2007. American journal of public health, 99 Suppl 2(Suppl 2), S372–S377. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2007.125450
- ◆ ³CDC. (2019). Seasonal Flu Vaccine Effectiveness Studies. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/effectiveness-studies.htm>
- ◆ ⁴CDC. (2019). Past Seasons Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/past-seasons-estimates.html>

NOTE: This surveillance report is based on preliminary data. Charts and figures are subject to change as the data is updated.

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