

## Highlights

- Hospital labs reported 701 tests run with 58 positive results (8.3%) for week 36 (57 type A; 1 Type B); 16% higher than the previous week and the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive weekly increase. Preliminary week 37 figures indicate a higher percentage (~11.9%).
- Hospital emergency department (ED) and pediatric urgent care (PUC) information indicates elevated visits for ILI and ILI related symptoms, such as cough and fever conditions. Increases have been noted for a number of weeks.
- Respiratory related visits in both EDs and PUCs leveled off in week 37.
- School absences increased slightly in week 37. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive weekly increase.
- Increases in over-the-counter medication sales have been seen for cough and cold medications, electrolytes, thermometers, and throat lozenges. Increases in antiviral prescriptions have also occurred for three weeks in a row.

## Local Flu Activity Dashboard *(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.)*

Indicators	Most Complete Week Available	Current Week Value	% Change Chart from Last Week	# Weeks ↑ ↓	General Trend Chart
Hospital Lab Data	36	8.3% Positive		4 ↑	
ILI Outpatient Data (Sentinel Medical Sites)	36	0.6% of All Visits		1 ↑	
<b>Hospital ED Data:</b>					
<i>Coded as ILI</i>	36	5.6% of All ED Visits		4 ↑	
<i>Complaint Specified as ILI</i>	37	3.8% of ALL ED Visits		5 ↑	
<i>Categorized as Respiratory</i>	37	17.7% of All ED Visits		1 ↓	
<b>Pediatric Urgent Care Data:</b>					
<i>Complaint Specified as ILI</i>	37	9.1% of All PUC Visits		4 ↑	
<i>Categorized as Respiratory</i>	37	47.1% of All PUC Visits		1 ↓	
School Absences	37	7.2% Absent		3 ↑	
Death Certificate Pneumonia & Influenza Deaths	37	5.2% of All Deaths		1 ↓	
<b>Medication Data:</b>					
<i>OTC Cough &amp; Cold Sales</i>	37	8,419 Total Sales		6 ↑	
<i>Antiviral Prescriptions</i>	36	3.2% of All Anti-Infective		3 ↑	

### Cumulative August 1 - Sept. 24, 2009\*, 12:00 PM

	Suspected	Confirmed
Influenza Clusters/Outbreaks Reported	0	0
Influenza Associated Hospitalizations Reported	9	24
<i>Influenza Associated Hospitalization Resulting in Death</i>		3
Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported	0	0

### Cumulative Starting Week 31 (Week Ending 8/8/2009) - Week 37 (Week Ending 9/19/2009)



\*Due to inconsistencies in reporting, these figures may not represent an accurate count. Numbers subject to change as lab results are received and suspects are determined confirmed or not a case.

### Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality

In week 37 of 2009 (Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009), 5.2% of all Columbus deaths were reported as due to pneumonia or influenza (Figure 1). Nationally, 6.0% of deaths reported were due to pneumonia or influenza in week 36. This is below the national epidemic threshold of 6.3%.

### Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

The week 36 percentage of Franklin County resident BioSense ED hospital encounters is 5.6% for ILI coded chief complaints and 2.5% for ILI diagnosis (Figure 2). Specific complaints of influenza and defined influenza like illness symptoms have increased in both EDs and Pediatric Urgent Care sites (Figures 2-4).

Nationally, during week 36 of 2009, 4.4% of patient visits reported through the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This percentage is below the national baseline of 2.4%.

### Laboratory Surveillance

During week 36 of 2009, reporting Franklin County sentinel laboratories tested 701 specimens, with 58 (8.3%) positive (Figure 5). Current preliminary data for week 37 indicate a higher percentage (~11.9%). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 through preliminary week 37 is 1,817, with 170 positives (168 type A, 2 type B). Nationally, during week 36, WHO and NREVSS laboratories reported 7,569 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 1,378 (18.2%) of which were positive (Figures 3). During week 36, seasonal influenza A (H1) and A (H3) viruses co-circulated at low levels with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. Ninety-nine percent of all subtyped influenza A viruses being reported to CDC this week were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> for a comprehensive national report.

The table below shows 2009-10 (starting August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009) cumulative PCR and culture influenza lab results from ODH lab (as of 9/24/2009).

Location	# Seasonal A (H1)	# Seasonal A (H3)	# Seasonal B	# Pandemic A (H1)	# PCR Influenza Not Detected
Franklin County	0	0	0	15*	46
Ohio	0	0	0	42	110

Source: ODH Lab (based on county of provider submitting specimen, not county of patient's residence)

\*Not an official count of Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) in Franklin County. Similar to the CDC and ODH, individual case counts are no longer being tracked. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> or <http://www.cdrcinfo.com/H1N1flu.html> for more details.

### ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Respiratory Visits

In the 37<sup>th</sup> week of 2009, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as *respiratory* (17.7%) was very similar to the previous week (-3.5%). Similarly, the percentage of reporting Pediatric Urgent Care visits categorized as *respiratory* (47.1%) was similar, compared to the previous week (-.86%) (Figure 6).

### Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Antiviral Prescriptions

In week 37 of 2009, there were continued increases in several over-the-counter medication sales, including cough and cold medication, thermometer, pediatric electrolytes, and throat lozenges (Figure 7). Anti-fever medication sales remained stable. Additionally, in week 36, the percentage of Franklin County pharmacy prescriptions for antivirals, out of all anti-infective prescriptions, increased compared to the previous weeks (Figure 8). During week 36, the national antiviral prescription percentage also increased.

### Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:

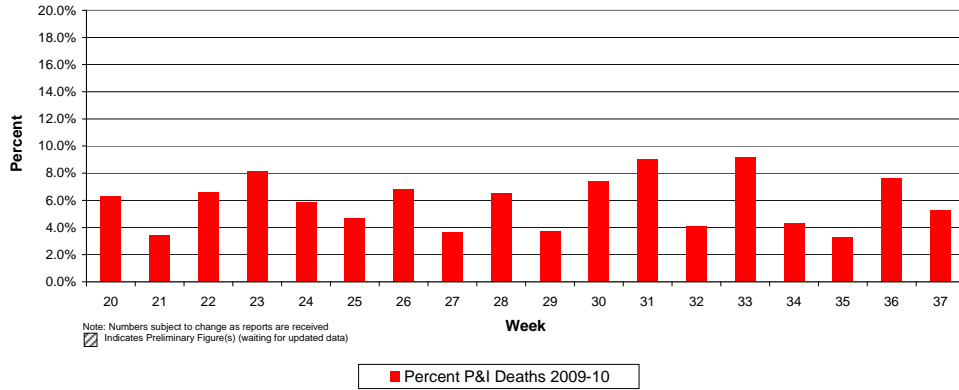
National Pandemic H1N1 Situation Updates: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm>

International Pandemic H1N1 Activity Map: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/updates/international/map.htm>

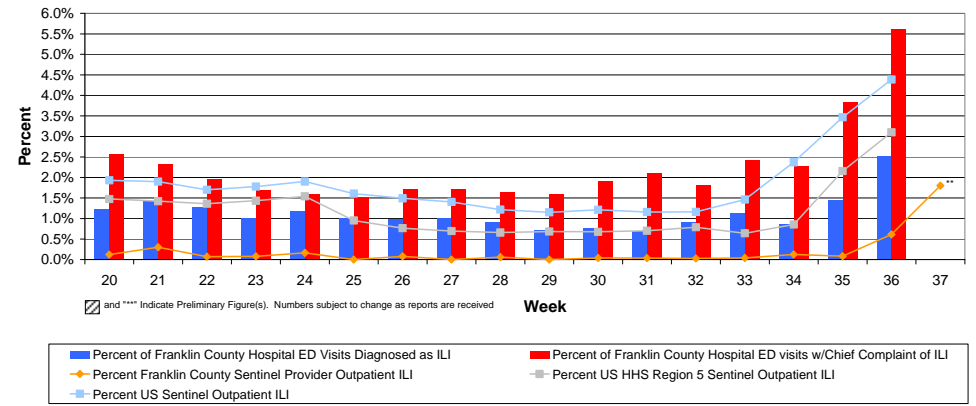
World health Organization Situation Updates: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/updates/en/index.html>

# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 37 (9/13-9/19/09)

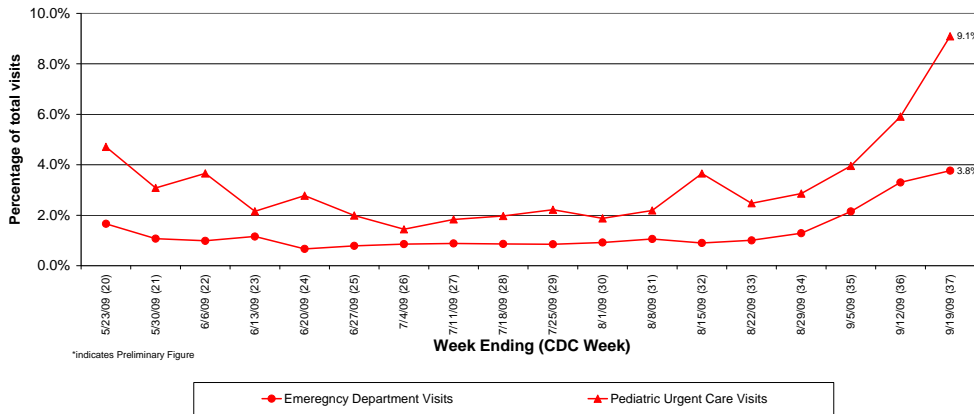
**Figure 1: Percentage of Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza Columbus, Ohio 2009-10**



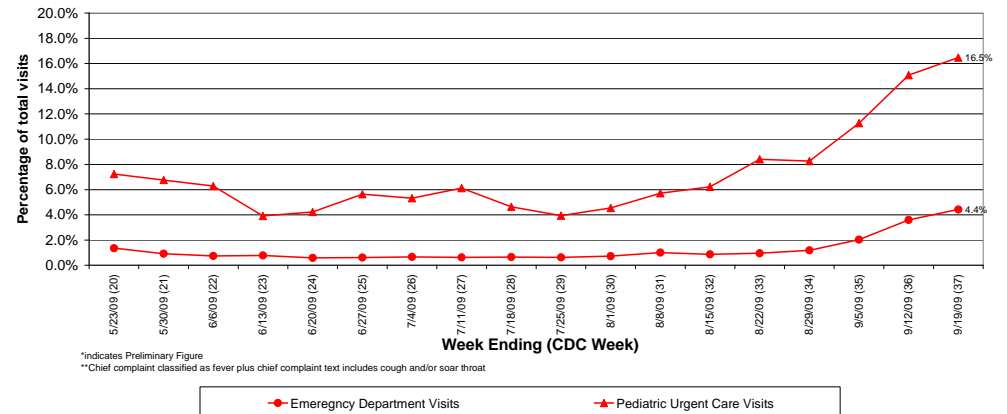
**Figure 2: Percentage of Local, National, and HHS Region 5 ILI Outpatient visits and Percentage of Franklin County Resident BioSense Hospital ILI ED Visits, 2009-10**



**Figure 3: ILI Specific Complaint ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**

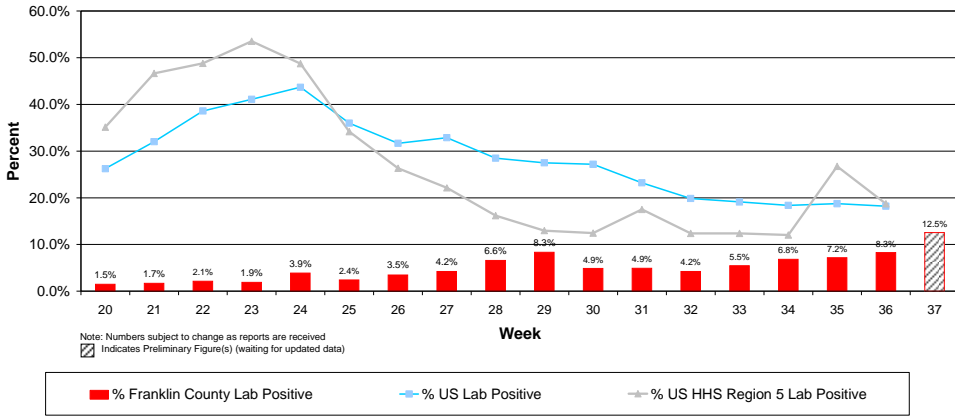


**Figure 4: ILI Defined\*\* ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**

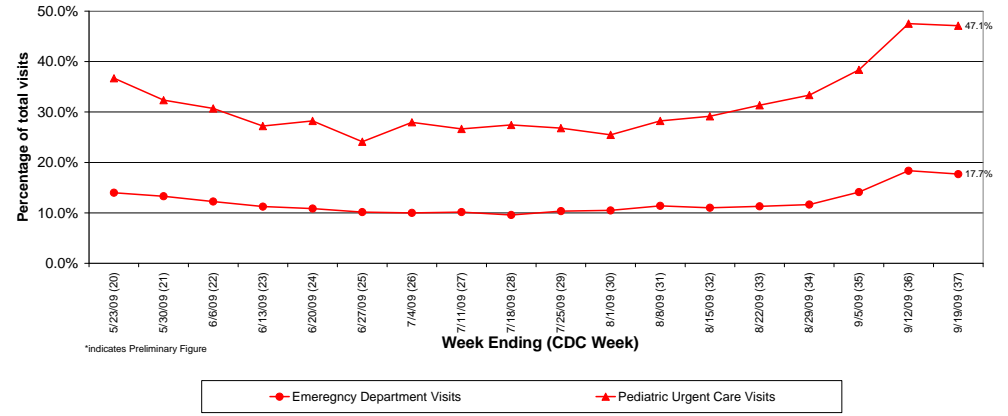


# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 37 (9/13-9/19/09)

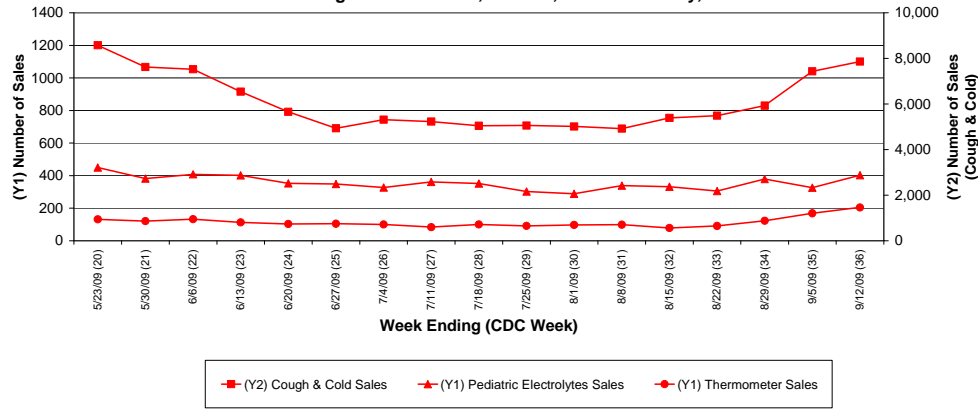
**Figure 5: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2009-10**



**Figure 6: Respiratory ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**



**Figure 7: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Weekly Baseline Averages and Medians, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**



**Figure 8: Percentage of Antiviral Prescriptions out of Total Number of Anti-Infective Prescriptions (Selected Pharmacies)**

