STARK COUNTY INFLUENZA SNAPSHOT, WEEK 33 Week 33 ending August 22, 2009, with updates through 08/28/2009.

This report provides a summary of 2009 influenza A (H1N1) (formerly known as swine flu) and influenza activity at the local, state, and national level.

H1N1 provisional summary:

- A Novel Influenza Virus was first identified in Ohio the third week of April, since then, Stark County has confirmed **three** cases
- As of 08/28/2009, Ohio confirmed 265 cases of 2009 influenza A (H1N1). Note only a small proportion of persons with respiratory illness are tested for the 2009 influenza A (H1N1) infection, confirmed and probable case counts represent a significant underestimate of the true number of the 2009 influenza A (H1N1) cases in Ohio.
- Dates of onset range from 04/22/2009 to 08/17/2009. (See Epi curve below. Note the sudden reduction in cases is likely due to the change of reporting during CDC Week 31.)
- Cases range in age from 1 month to 69 years with a mean of 22.3 and a median of 16 years and a mode of 14 years. Stark County cases were 21, 25 and 29 years of age. One was in their third trimester of pregnancy.
- During the last three weeks of reporting, preliminary data reveals an increasing median age of 33.5 years. This may be due to the change in reporting or simply an artifact of very few reports.



- Cases are racially diverse, however an increasing and disproportionate amount are Black, 23.33%; White represent 71.11% and 5.56% are Other. The Hispanic population represents 9.09% of cases with completed responses.
- Data from confirmed 2009 Influenza A cases in Ohio reported from CDC Week 16 to 32 in Ohio presented with the following symptoms: Fever (94%), Cough (85%), Sore Throat (53%), and Headache (39%).
- As of August 28, 2009, 8,843 hospitalizations and 556 deaths (15 deaths in individuals 0-4 years, 86 deaths in individuals 5-24 years, 235 deaths in adults 25-49 years, 158 deaths in adults 50-64 years, 50 deaths in adults age 65 and older, and 12 deaths for which age was no reported) are associated with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus. (<u>http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm</u>).
- The Novel Influenza reported since April is related to the A/California/07/2009 (H1N1) strain.
- Stark County received **no** reports of influenza in our community during week 33. (See graph 1)
- Nationally, the CDC identified greater than **99%** of cocirculating strains of influenza A (seasonal influenza A (H1), A (H3), and 2009 influenza A (H1N1)) as 2009 influenza A (H1N1).
- During week 33, the average Emergency Department visits for Constitutional and Respiratory visits continued to be **elevated**, and are currently at an average rate 9 percent above baseline data. (see graph 2)
- Only one local Sentinel Provider report is available for ILI during week 33. Nationally, sentinel Providers reported **steady** visits for ILI, which were below baseline levels. (See Graph 3)
- Despite a one day spike in over-the-counter sales, the Real-Time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS) data reflected weekly sales of both Thermometer and Cough/Cold products **below** the five-year average. (See Graph 4)
- Ohio continues to report **Sporadic** influenza activity. Note: Widespread geographical activity **remained steady** with only 2 states reporting Widespread Activity. (See Map 1)
- National Pneumonia and Influenza (P & I) Mortality Surveillance **increased slightly to 6.1**% of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System as due to P & I. This percentage is **below** the epidemic threshold of 6.3% for week 33.



Graph 1: Number of medically identified cases of Influenza in Stark County, Ohio. (Cases reported from a medical provider or laboratory; established with a minimum of a rapid test confirmation).

Graph 2: 2009 Emergency Department Visits for Respiratory and Constitutional Illness with 5 year Average.









Graph 4: Sales of Over-The-Counter Cough/Cold Medications and Thermometers, as reported by RODS. (Note: secondary Y axis on the right for thermometer sales)

Map 1: National Influenza Activity. Source <u>www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly</u>

