



STARK COUNTY INFLUENZA SNAPSHOT, WEEK 4

Week ending 30 January, 2010 (updates through 02/08/2010)

All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.

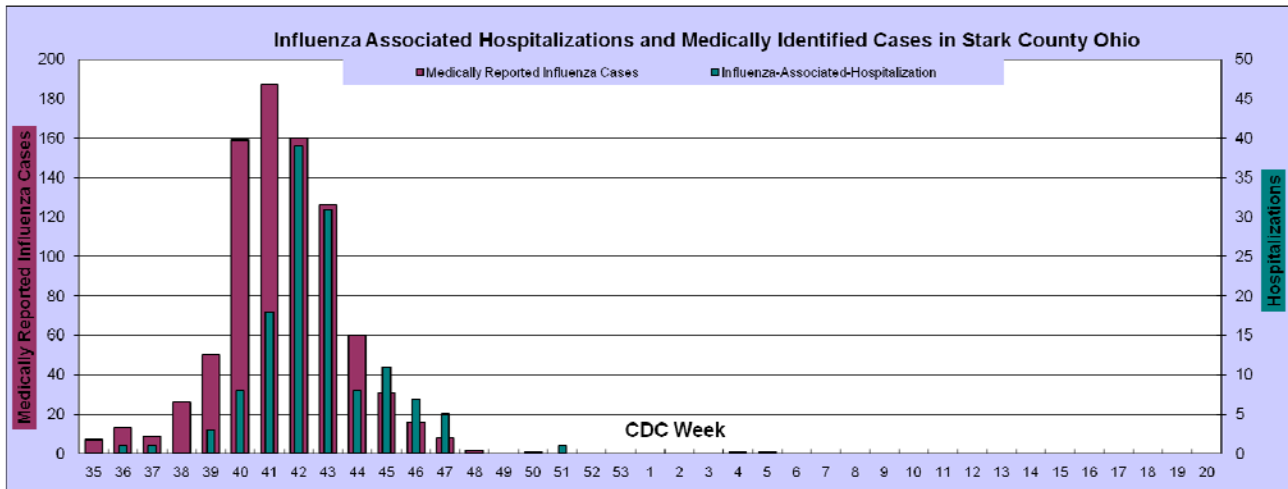
During Week 4, (January 24 - 30, 2010) local indicators of influenza activity continued to increase slightly, but remain well below expected levels. Influenza activity remained steady at low levels across Ohio and throughout the Nation.

- There were no influenza-associated hospitalizations reported during CDC Week 4. There was one case of a non-hospitalized influenza patient reported by a medical partner. (Graph 1)
- Demographic information has not changed over the past 6 weeks. For medically reported cases, not hospitalized, the average age is 16.7 years with a range of 4 months to 79 years and a median of 11 years. Additionally, **64%** of the reports are in the age group of 5 to 24 years.
- Hospitalized cases ranged in age from ≤ 1 month to 80 years with a median of 37 years. The most affected age group, based on percentage, is 25-50 years at 35%. Young children aged 0-4 years continue to be hospitalized at the highest rate, >8 per 10,000 population.
- Reports from three Sentinel Providers indicated a very slight **decrease** to **0.4%** of all patient visits for Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) in Stark County. The National level of ILI visits **increased slightly** to 1.9%. The National level remains below the baseline level of 2.3%. (See Graph 2)
- Combined Constitutional and Respiratory visits to Emergency Departments in Stark County **increased slightly** to **21.18%** from 20.08% in week 3, but remain below expected for this time of year. The overall number of total patient visits by Stark County residents to emergency departments has also increased slightly. Note: The highest average number of visits for these syndromes usually occurs in CDC week 7 (late February) and is 26.79%. (See Graph 3)
- For week 04, both Cough/Cold (C/C) Products and Thermometer sales **increased** slightly. Both of these influenza surveillance indicators remain below expected for this time of year. (See Graphs 4 and 5)
- According to 55 area schools reporting absenteeism information, the median percentage of student absenteeism is 4.5%. This represents a **slight increase** from week 3, but overall remains very low for this time of year. (See graph 6)
- Once again, no states reported Widespread geographic activity. The state of Ohio remains at **sporadic** geographic influenza activity. Note: this indicator is reported to the CDC by each state and does not describe severity of disease. Sporadic geographic activity is defined as: Small numbers of laboratory- confirmed influenza cases or a single laboratory-confirmed influenza outbreak has been reported, but there is no increase in cases of ILI. (See National Map)
- Nationally, the CDC identified **>98%** of cocirculating strains of influenza (seasonal influenza A (H1), A (H3), and 2009 influenza A (H1N1) and influenza B) as *2009 influenza A (H1N1)*.
- National Pneumonia and Influenza (P & I) Mortality Surveillance remained **steady** at **8.1%** of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System as due to P & I. This percentage is **above** the epidemic threshold of 7.8% for week 4.

For questions, or to receive this report weekly by email, send requests to either chenning@cantonhealth.org or schanzk@starkhealth.org.

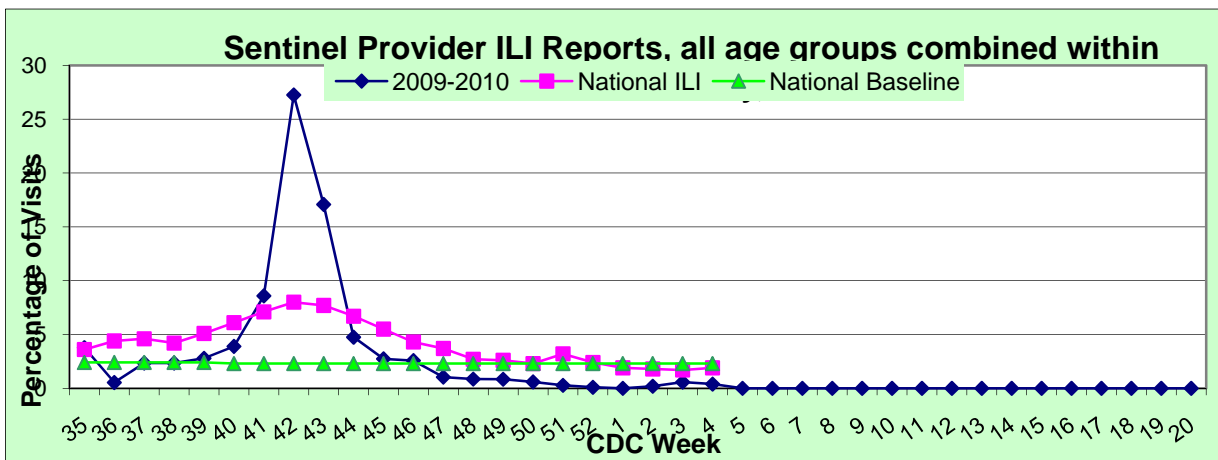
Graph 1: Influenza Cases reported to Local Health Departments

Note: Influenza is only reportable if associated with a hospitalization; therefore, this only represents a small number of actual influenza cases in Stark County.



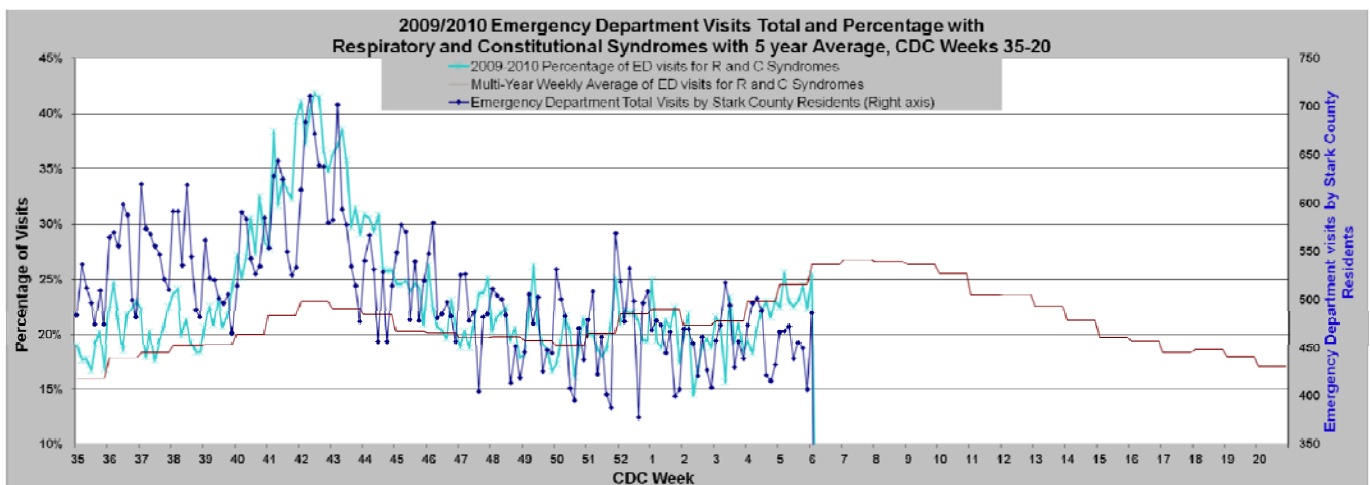
Graph 2: Sentinel Provider Reported Influenza-Like-Illness in Stark County

Note: An influenza sentinel provider conducts surveillance for influenza-like illness (ILI) in collaboration with the state health department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



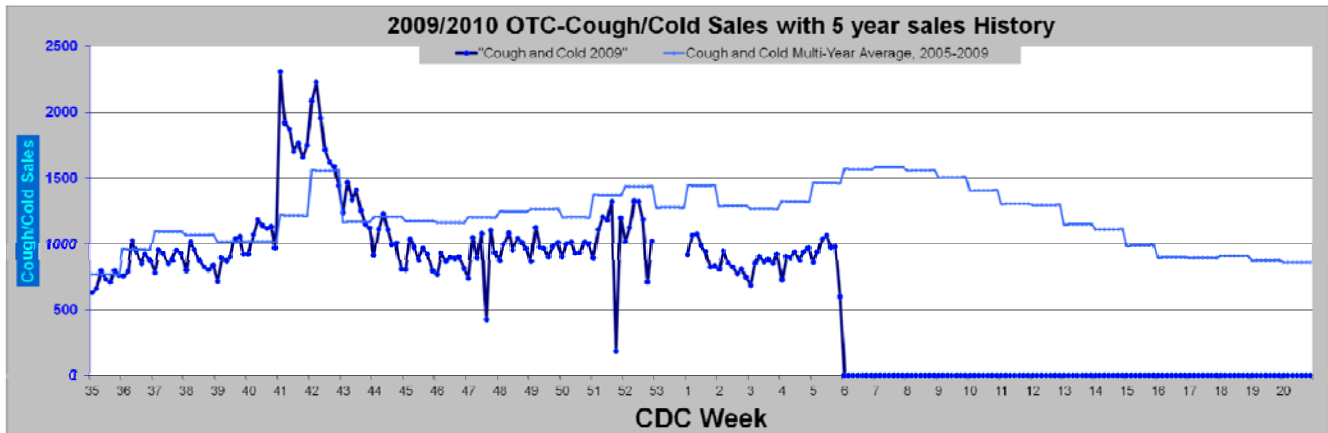
Graph 3: Emergency Department Visits for combined Respiratory and Constitutional Syndromes

Source: Health Monitoring Systems, EpiCenter, hospital patient visit surveillance system.



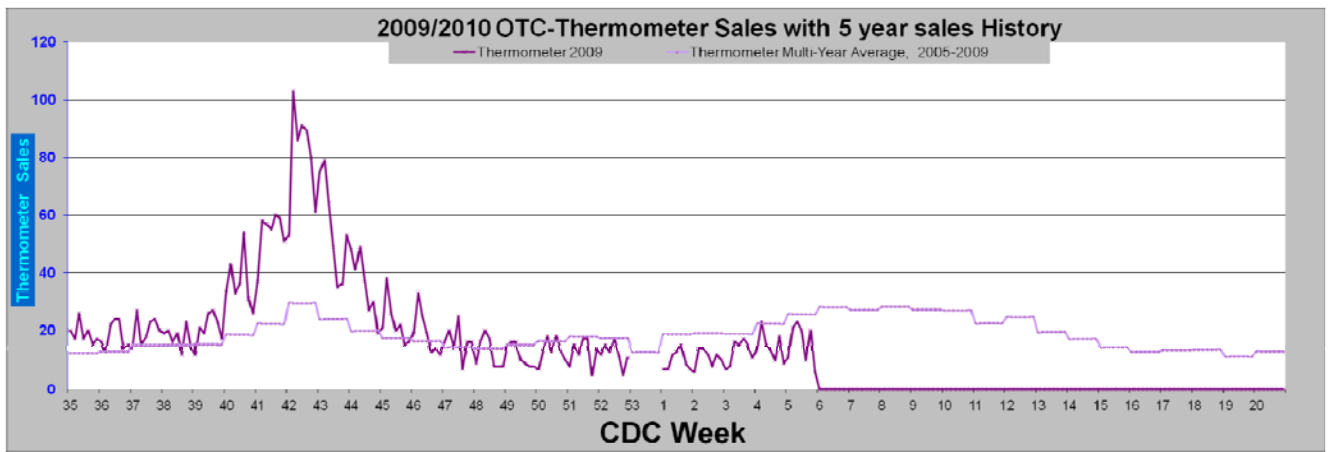
Graph 4: Over-The-Counter Sales of Cough/Cold Product Sales in Stark County

Source: RODS Real time Outbreak Disease Surveillance, Retail pharmaceutical sales.



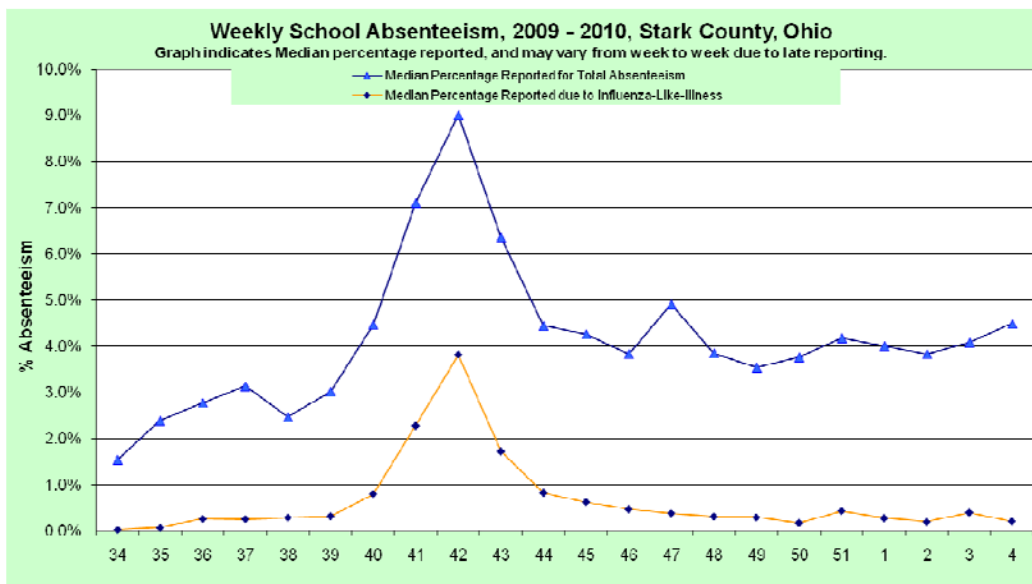
Graph 5: Over-The-Counter Sales of Thermometers in Stark County

Source: RODS Real time Outbreak Disease Surveillance, Retail pharmaceutical sales.



Graph 6: School Absenteeism, 2009-2010, Stark County, Ohio.

Source: Voluntary reporting by area public and private schools. Schools report overall absenteeism and five illness categories including influenza –like-illness and gastrointestinal illness.



Map Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists

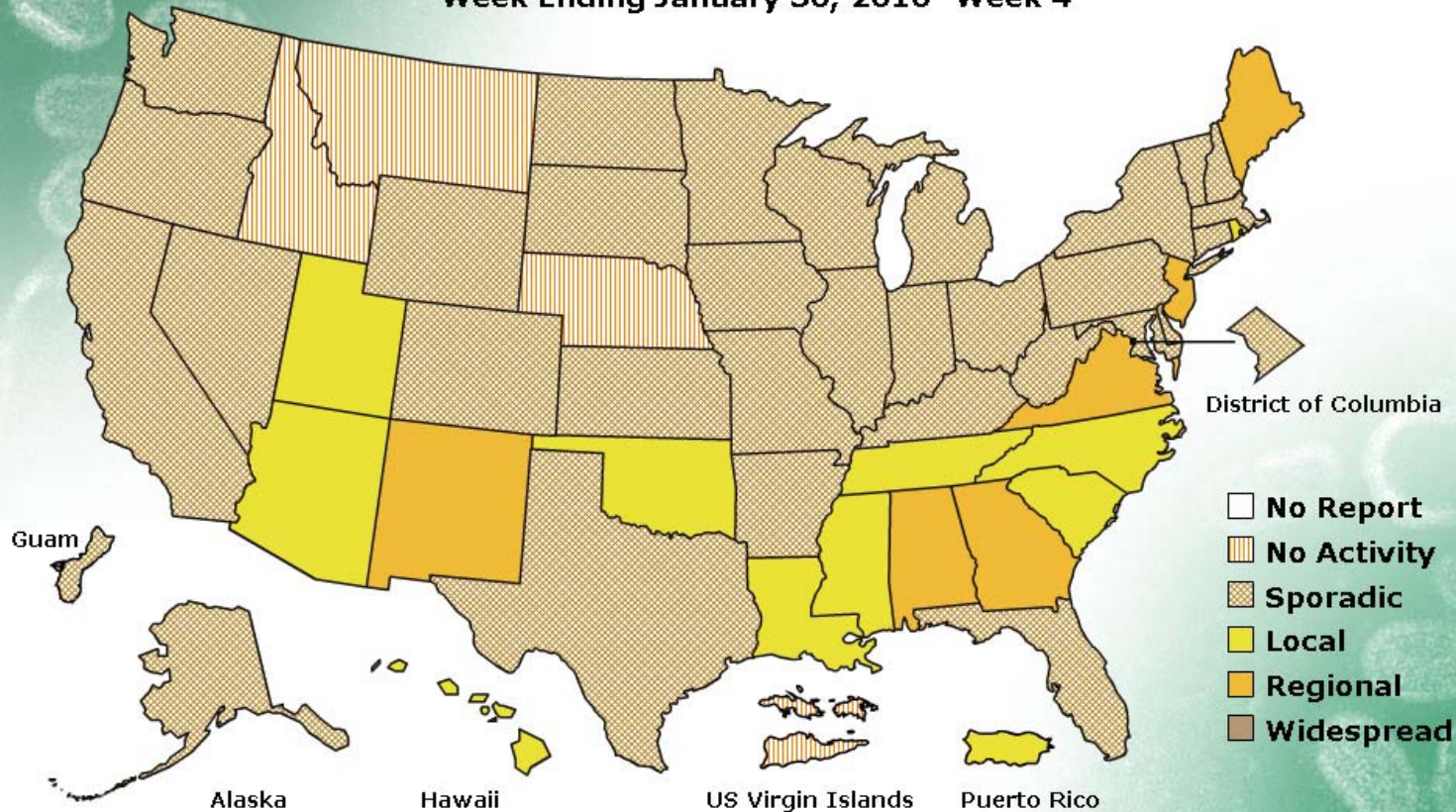
Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>

FLUVIEW



A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists*

Week Ending January 30, 2010- Week 4



*This map indicates geographic spread and does not measure the severity of influenza activity.