



STARK COUNTY INFLUENZA SNAPSHOT, WEEK 7

Week ending February 20, 2010. With updates through 02/28/2010.

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

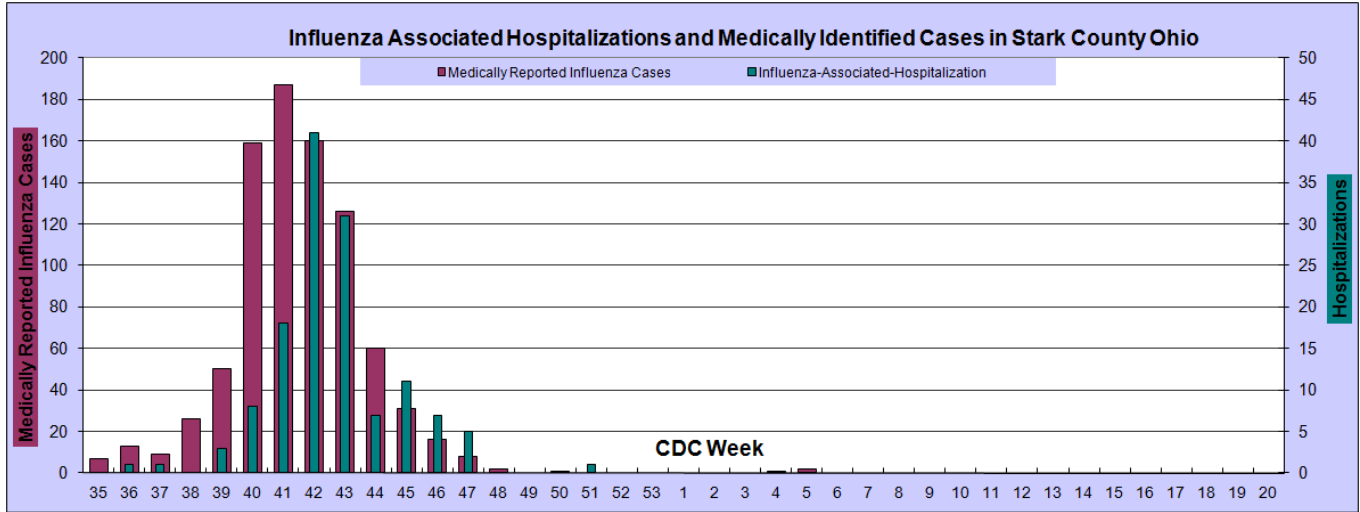
During week 7, (February 14 – February 20, 2010) indicators of influenza-like-illness activity varied modestly. Nearly all local indicators remained below seasonal expectations.

- Although our medical partners reported several laboratory positive reports in the past two weeks, there were no reports from Stark County residents. Further, at least one report was a rapid antigen positive test that was later determined to be a false positive result as the viral culture was negative. During periods of low influenza activity influenza rapid tests are known to have a high false positive rate. There were no influenza-associated hospitalizations or medically reported influenza cases during CDC Week 7 in Stark County residents. (Graph 1)
- Demographics for the medically reported cases not hospitalized: 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 have been hospitalized at the highest rate, >7 per 10,000 population.
- Reports from four Sentinel Providers once again indicated a very slight **increase** to **1.3%** of all patient visits for Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) in Stark County. The National level of ILI visits **declined** to 1.8% and remains below the baseline level of 2.3%. (See Graph 2)
- Combined Constitutional and Respiratory (C & R) visits to Emergency Departments in Stark County **decreased** to **23.82%** from 25.8 in week 6. This level is below the expected level of 26.30%. The overall number of total patient visits by Stark County residents to emergency departments **increased** again this week to an average of 496 visits per day which is **above** expected for this time of year. (See Graph 3)
- For week 07, Cough/Cold (C/C) Products sales **increased** slightly; however sales remain well below expected for this time of year. Sales of Thermometers **declined** slightly and are nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ of expected for this time of year. This is the fifth consecutive week of slight increases in C/C product sales. (See Graphs 4 and 5)
- Due to excess snow days during week 7, there is no school report.
- Nationally the majority of influenza activity, based on geographic indicators, is in the Southeastern United States; and once again, there were no states reporting Widespread 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 **97.8%** of cocirculating strains of influenza (seasonal influenza A (H1), A (H3), and 2009 influenza A (H1N1) and influenza B) as *2009 influenza A (H1N1)*. The remaining cocirculating strains of influenza are influenza B.
- National Pneumonia and Influenza (P & I) Mortality Surveillance **decreased to 7.4%** of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System as due to P & I. This percentage is **below** the epidemic threshold of 7.9% for week 7.

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

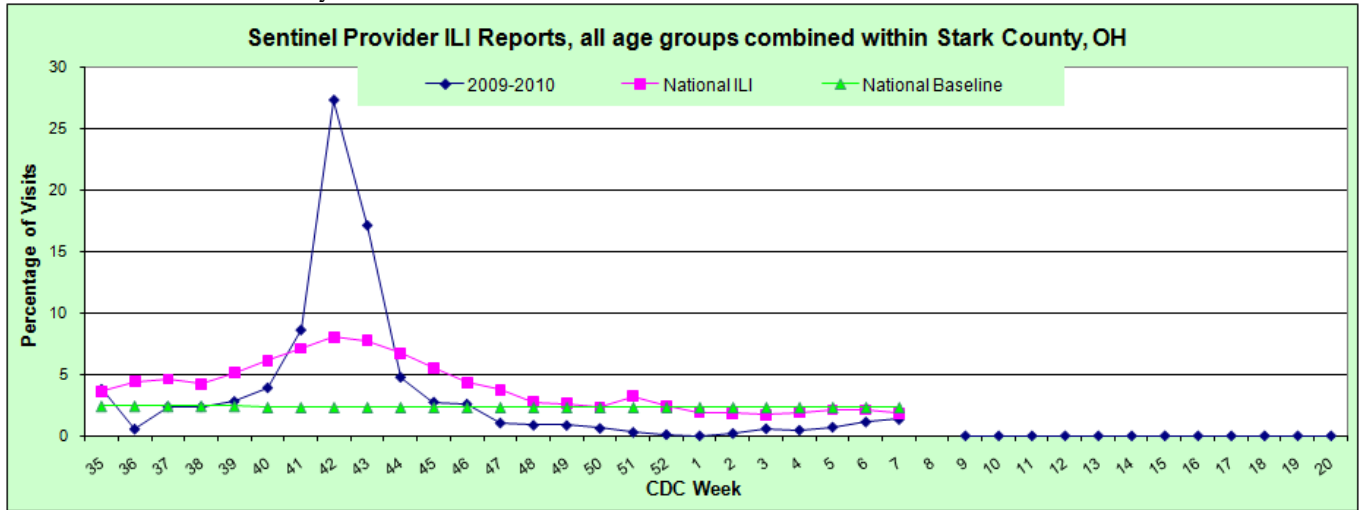
Graph 1: Influenza Cases reported to Local Health Departments

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



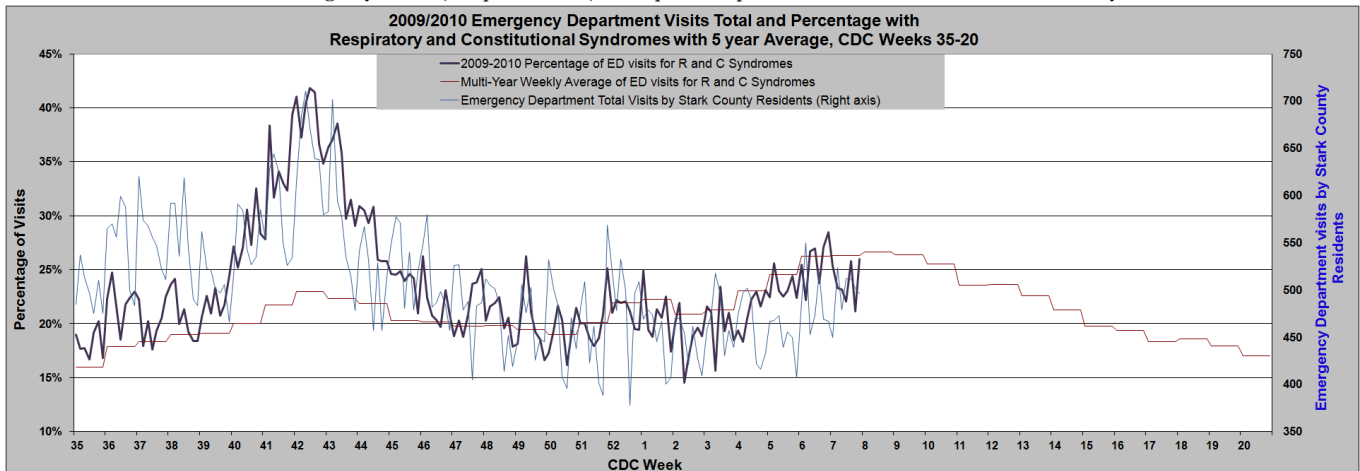
Graph 2: Sentinel Provider Reported Influenza-Like-Illness in Stark County

Sentinel Providers-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). Data reported by Stark Counties 4 provider's s are combined with other in influenza surveillance data to provide a national picture of influenza virus and ILI activity.



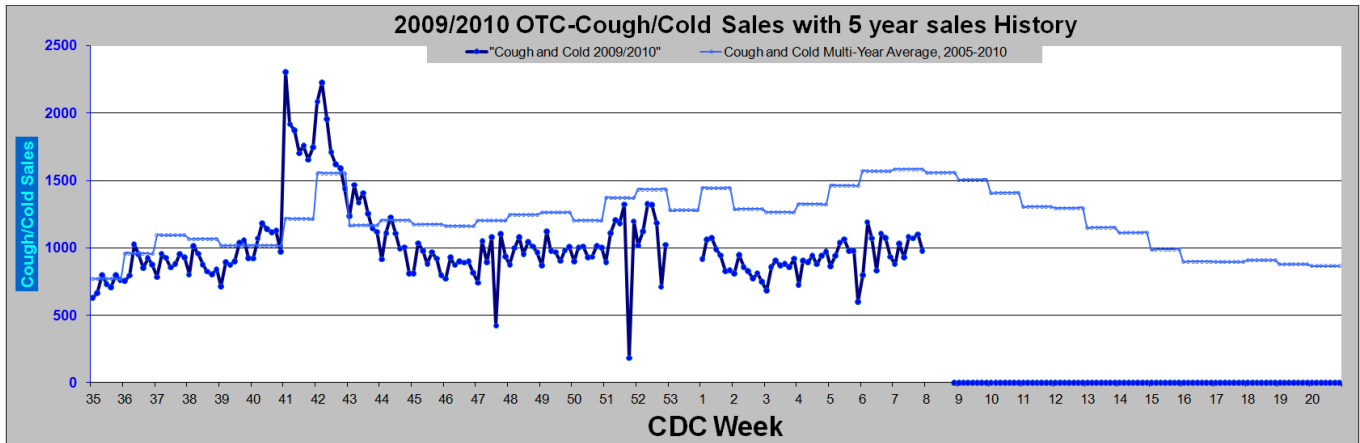
Graph 3: Emergency Department Visits for combined Respiratory and Constitutional Syndromes

(Source Health Monitoring Systems, EpiCenter, hospital patient visit surveillance system)



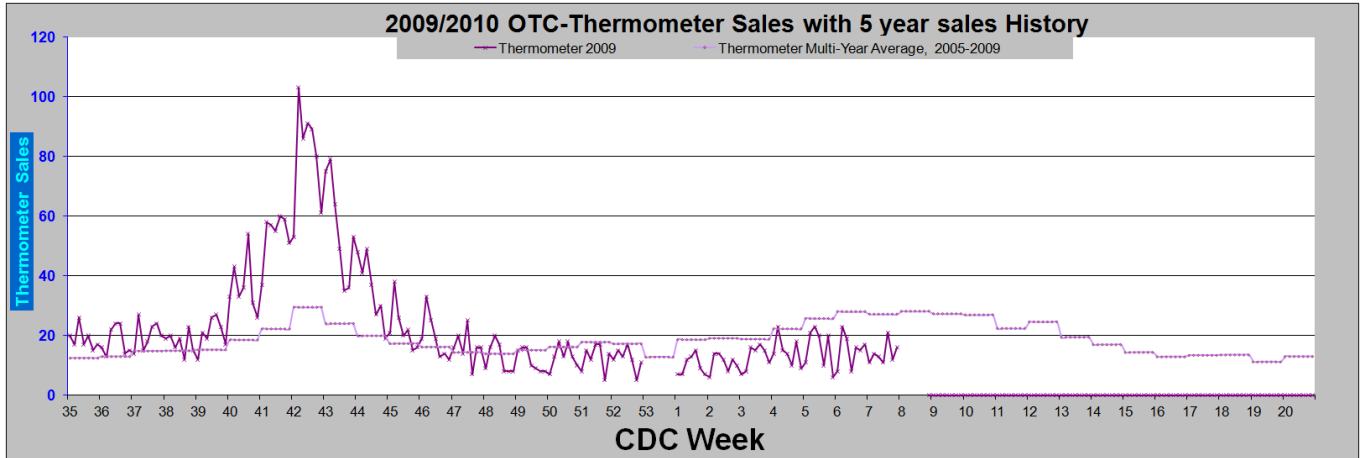
Graph 4: Over-The-Counter Sales of Cough/Cold Product Sales in Stark County

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.



Map Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists

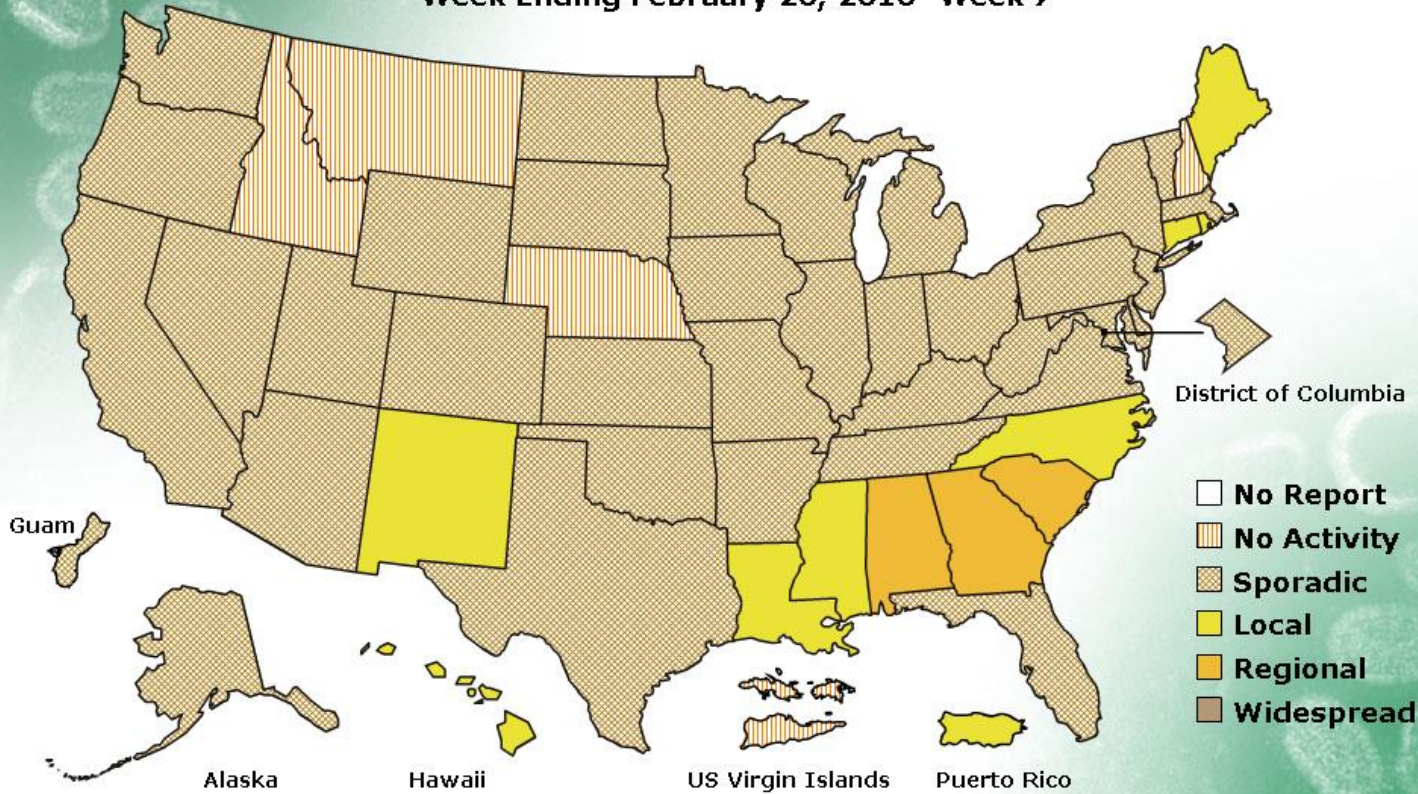
(Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>)

FLUVIEW



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

Week Ending February 20, 2010- Week 7



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