



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Mahoning County District Board of Health

Influenza Summary

May 28, 2019

2018-2019 Influenza Season Surveillance Summary Final Report

The Mahoning County District Board of Health, in conjunction with Youngstown City Health District, will collect influenza surveillance data from September through May.

Summary: 2018-19 was a very uneventful influenza season. The majority of all reported cases were influenza A and we did not see the spike in Influenza B cases in late winter and early spring like usual. The peak of hospitalized cases was late this season and occurred in Week 11/2019. The Emergency Department visits for influenza like illness spiked in late December and remained high most of the season. School absences and Pneumonia and Influenza Deaths were highest in late December, early January as well. Hospitalized cases and pediatric deaths are the only two indicators that are reportable to the health department. The remainder of the data is voluntarily reported to the health department.

Current Ohio Activity Level: *Sporadic*: *Definition: 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.*

Final State Surveillance Data:

- ODH lab has reported 1325 positive influenza tests from specimens sent from various submitters.
- 2018-2019 influenza season positive results: (618) A/pdmH1N1; (695) A/H3N2; (12) Influenza B; (through 05/18/2019).
- The National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) has reported 79,243 influenza tests performed at participating facilities.
- 2018-2019 influenza season positive results: (447) A/pdmH1N1, (571) A/H3N2, (12,738) Flu A Not Subtyped, and (308) Flu B (through 05/18/2019).
- 4 pediatric influenza-associated mortalities have been reported during the 2018-2019 season (through 05/18/2019).
- No novel influenza A virus infections have been reported during the 2018-2019 season (through 05/18/2019).
- Incidence of confirmed influenza-associated hospitalizations in 2018-2019 season = 9865 (through 05/18/2019).

Local Surveillance:

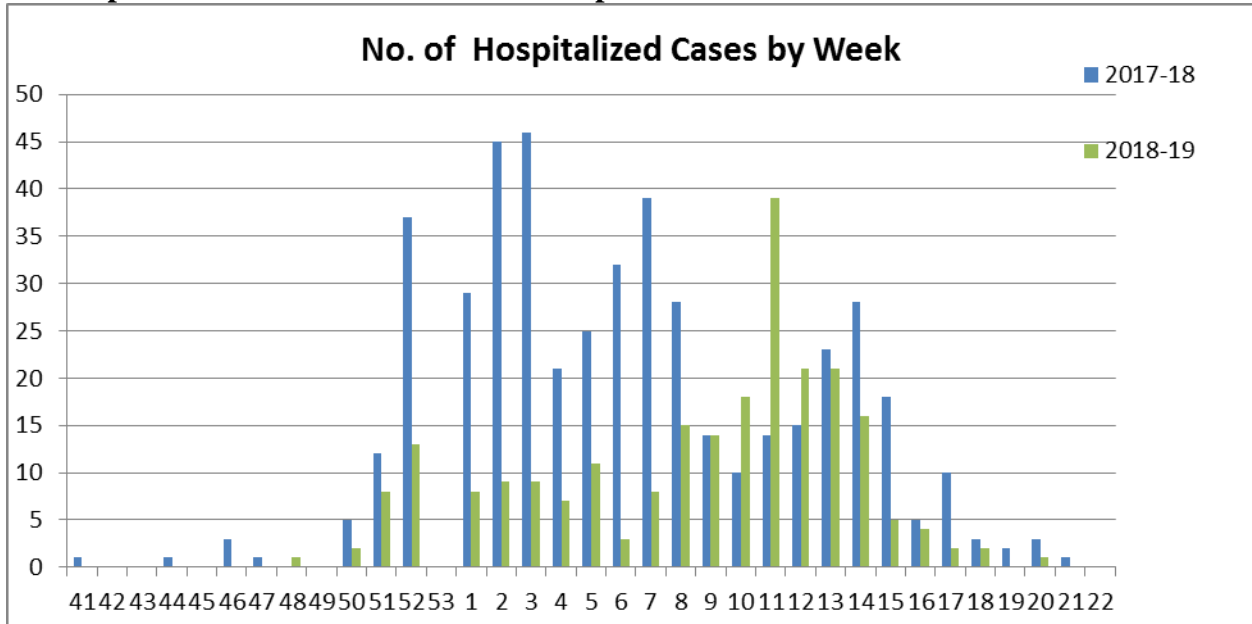
- **Physician Offices: Physicians' offices testing for influenza is voluntary**
 - 38% of all the influenza testing done in the physician office this year was positive
 - 95% were Influenza A and 5% were Influenza B

Hospitalized cases:

Final Count (18-19 season): Two hundred and thirty seven (237) hospitalized cases

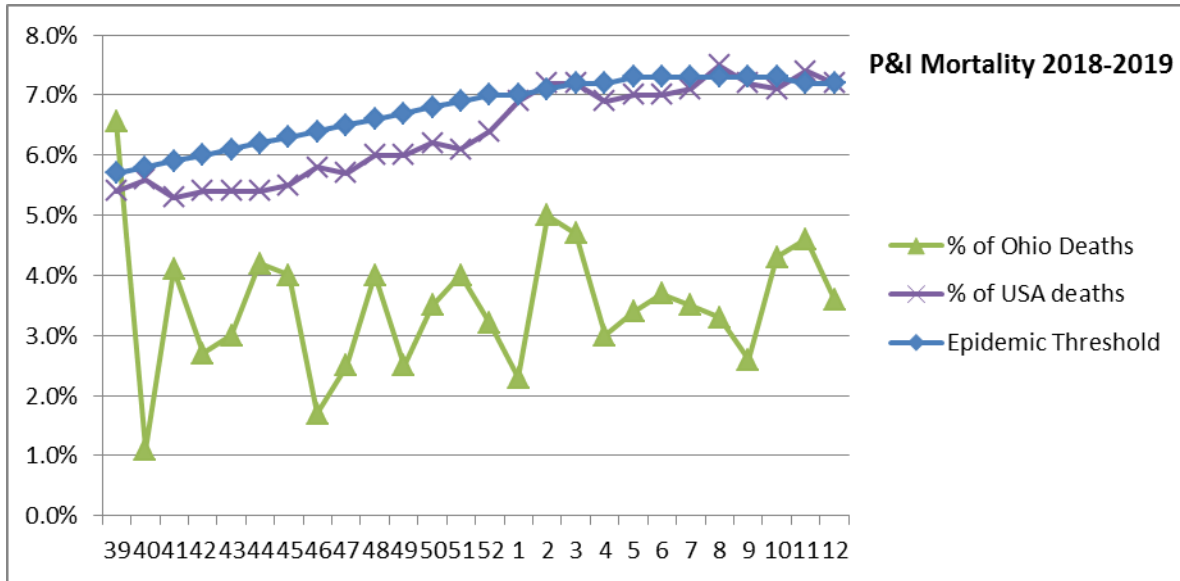
- Two hundred thirty three (233) were Influenza A
- Four (4) were Influenza B
- Twenty one (21) were children under the age of 18.

Hospitalized cases for 18-19 season compared to 17-18 season.



Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Deaths 2018-2019 Flu Season

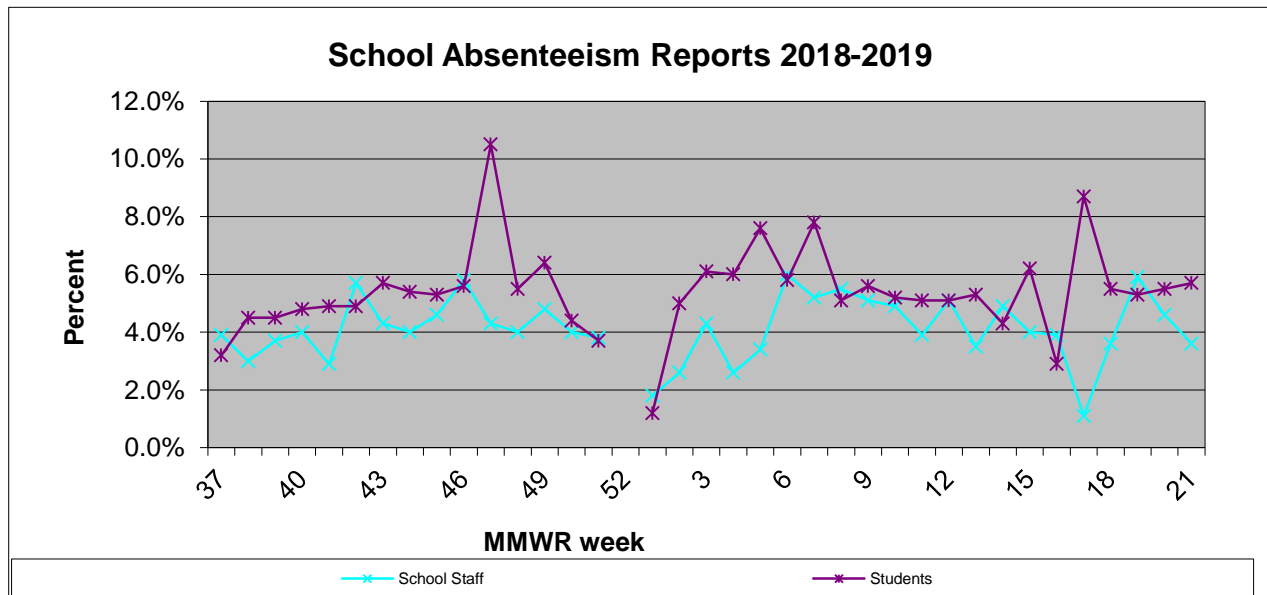
Each week, the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly report (MMWR) reports the total number of death certificates filed and the number of those for which pneumonia or influenza was listed as the underlying or as a contributing cause of death from the vital statistics offices of 122 cities. **CDC is no longer reporting local city data, only by state so we will be reporting Ohio P & I deaths instead of Youngstown data**



Absentee Data from sentinel Mahoning County Schools

Absenteeism in schools reflects the sum of the average daily absences for the week from all the reporting schools (currently 21 out of 79 schools report) divided by the sum of the reported student population in these schools for the week. (This will help provide a more accurate number of absences during the shortened school weeks of the holidays)

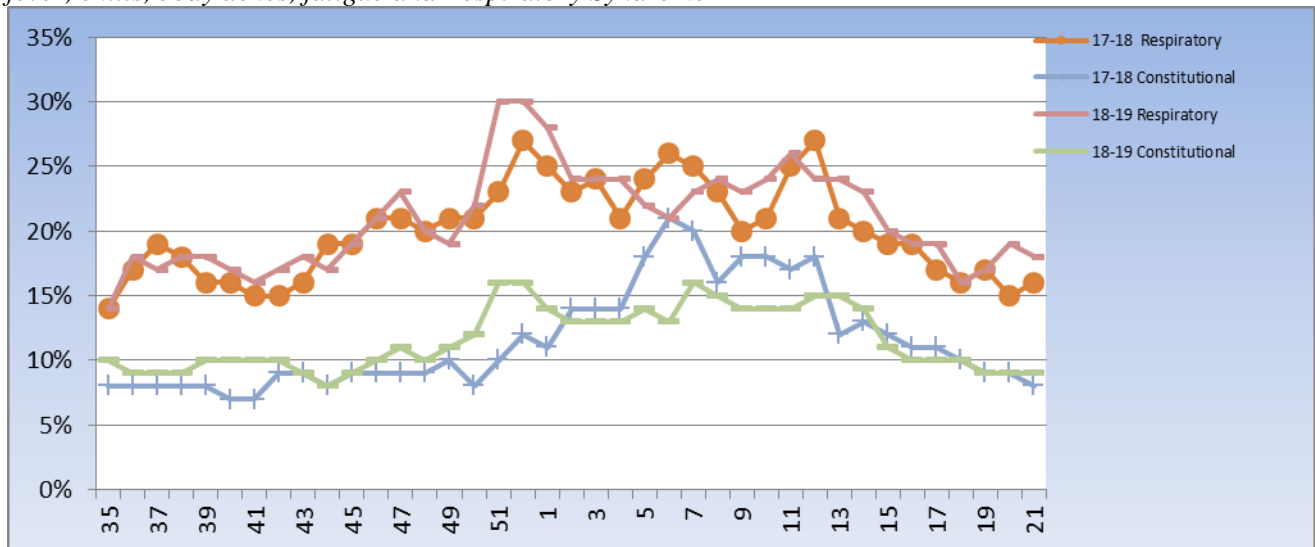
- **School absences:** (Total absences for week vs. population of school: could mean one child absent on multiple days)



All Schools, and Daycare Centers in Mahoning County were asked to participate as sentinel sites and report their daily absentee data and influenza like illness. *NOTE*: Numbers change as updated reports are received.*

Emergency Department Visits:

There are three hospital systems in Mahoning County who report electronically all ED visits into the Epicenter system. *Report: Constitutional Syndrome: Non-localized, systemic problems including fever, chills, body aches, fatigue and Respiratory Syndrome*



Any questions regarding this information please contact Susan Kovach at the Mahoning County District Board of Health at 330-270-2855 x 132.