

Influenza Surveillance Report for Summit County, 2009-2010
Report #2: Surveillance Week September 27 to October 3
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Week 39

Influenza Activity in Summit County

- EpiCenter has reported a steady increase in adult emergency room visits over the past 2 weeks for respiratory and constitutional complaints.
- Influenza activity continued to increase in Summit County.
- There continued to be an increase in the number of medical practitioners diagnosing influenza-like illness (ILI).
- The number of hospitalizations for influenza increased.
- The number of lab tests being performed decreased. However it has been reported that many practitioners have stopped ordering rapid influenza tests and are clinically diagnosing instead.
- Of the schools that reported their absences, there was an increase in the number of absences and they were distributed throughout the county.
- There was an increase in the number of calls to the local health departments about influenza-like illness in the community.

Influenza Activity in Ohio

- Ohio's influenza activity continues to be **widespread**. This refers to the geographic spread and not the severity of illness.
- EpiCenter has reported a steady increase in adult emergency room visits for respiratory and constitutional illness.
- There continues to be an increase in influenza-associated hospitalizations.
- For the 2009-2010 season, there have been 149 influenza-associated hospitalizations and 75 are laboratory confirmed 2009 pandemic A(H1N1).
- Another death from 2009 pandemic A(H1N1) was reported. This brings the total number of deaths due to confirmed 2009 pandemic A(H1N1) to four.
- Ohio Department of Health's laboratory has isolated its first seasonal influenza strain (in the past 3 months). It was seasonal A(H1N1) from Lucas County.
- ODH is only testing hospitalized cases and clusters of influenza-like illness (not including family members) around the state.
- Physicians can test patients for H1N1 but it needs to go through a private laboratory and the patient is responsible for the cost.

Influenza Activity in U.S. CDC Week 39 (September 27 to October 3)

- 37 states reported **widespread** activity (increased by 10 from the previous week); 11 states and Guam had regional activity; and 2 states, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico had local influenza activity.
- Widespread influenza activity is unusual in September and October.
- Laboratory-confirmed influenza hospitalizations rates were higher than expected for adults and children.
- There were 19 influenza-associated pediatric deaths of which 16 were associated with 2009 pandemic A(H1N1) virus infection and 3 were associated with influenza A virus for which the subtype was not undetermined.

- 5.1 % of outpatient visits reported through the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) were due to influenza-like illness compared to the national baseline of 2.4 %.
- 10,816 specimens were tested and 2,968 (27.4%) were positive for influenza. Of the positive specimens, 2,959 (99.7%) were Influenza A. Out the Influenza A positives, 1,549 (52.3%) were 2009 pandemic A(H1N1).
- Seasonal influenza A(H1), A(H3) and influenza B virus co-circulated at low levels with 2009 pandemic A(H1N1).
- Almost all of the influenza viruses identified so far are 2009 A(H1N1). The viruses remain similar to the ones chosen for the 2009 A(H1N1) vaccine. They remain susceptible to the antiviral drugs oseltamivir and zanamivir.
- For additional information go to <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/updates/us/>

Influenza Activity Worldwide

- As of October 4, the World Health Organization (WHO) reports there has been over 375,000 laboratory confirmed cases of 2009 pandemic A(H1N1) and 4,500 deaths.
- Most countries have stopped reporting individual cases therefore the number of cases is significantly lower than the number of cases that have occurred.
- In temperate regions of the northern hemisphere, transmission of influenza virus and influenza-like illness (ILI) activity continues to increase and thus marking an unusually early start to the fall and winter influenza seasons.
- Mexico has reported a high intensity of respiratory diseases for the past 3 weeks.
- In Canada, ILI activity remains low.
- Europe, Central and Western Asia continue to report early transmission of influenza virus.
- In temperate regions of the southern hemisphere, influenza activity has largely subsided (Chile, Argentina, and New Zealand) or continues to decline (South Africa and Australia).
- For additional information go to: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/en/index.html>

Participants in Summit County Influenza Surveillance

- 33 private schools/public districts (69 individual schools)
- 5 Summit County emergency departments
- 17 medical providers
- 13 laboratories
- 6 nursing homes
- 3 residential institutions
- 3 Summit County health departments- vital records offices
- 1 university health service
- 1 workshop
- 2 pharmacy chains
- Epicenter

Number of influenza or influenza-like diagnoses by medical practitioners, emergency departments, university infirmary, nursing homes, institutions

Total number of absentees (diagnosis not specified) for selected elementary, middle, high schools and workshop

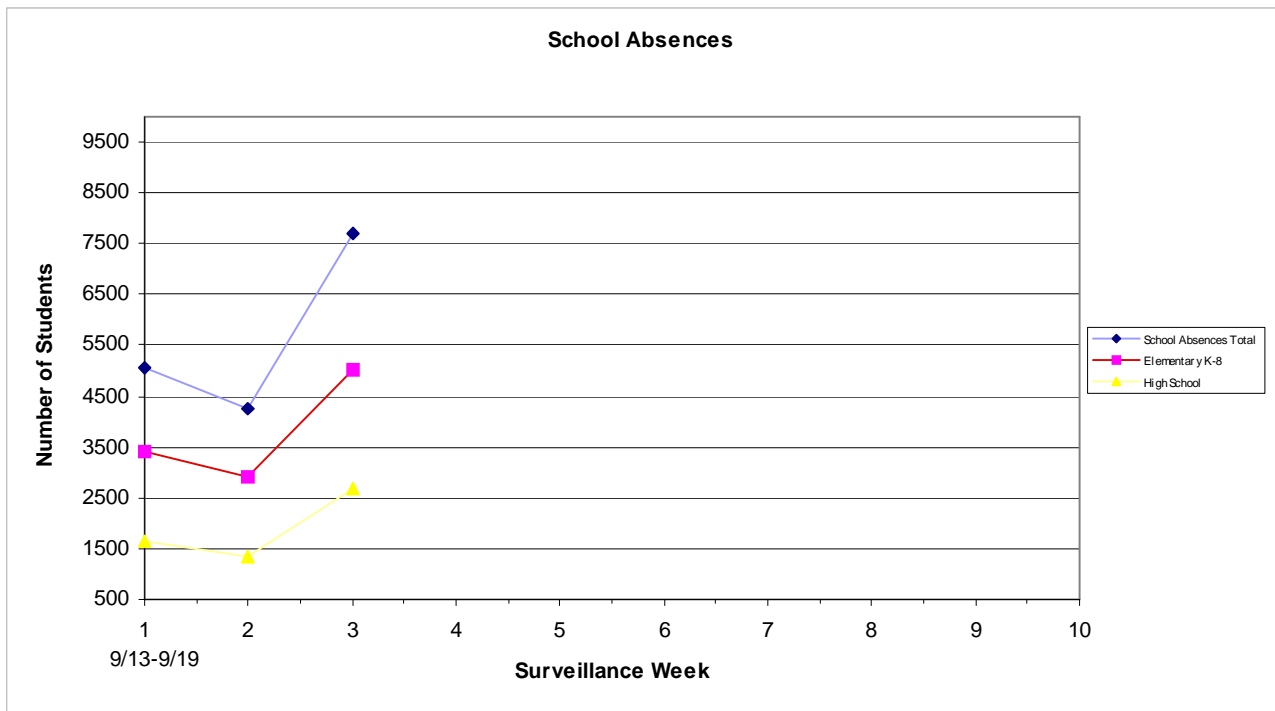
Number of positive influenza cultures and antigen tests from area labs

Total number of four influenza antiviral medications sold in pharmacy chains

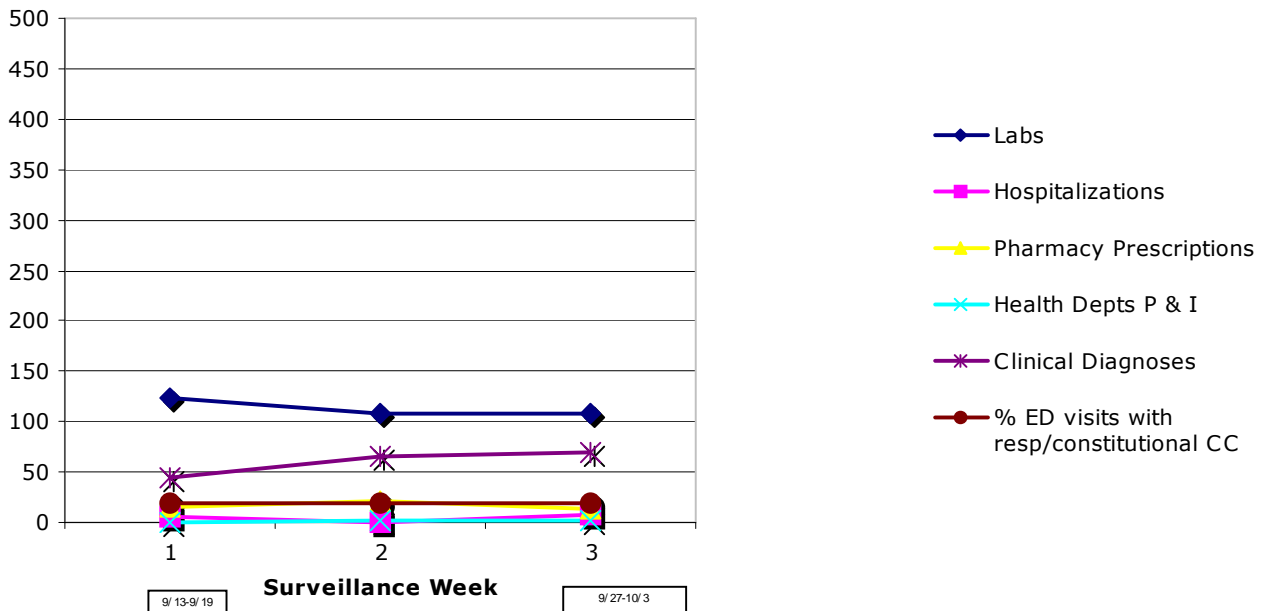
Number of pneumonia/influenza deaths reported to CDC by the Akron Health Department, Barberton Health Department and Summit County Health District

Number of confirmed influenza hospitalizations at Summit County hospitals

The percent of respiratory & constitutional visits per week from two hospitals that electronically report ED visits which are categorized into respiratory or constitutional syndrome based on chief complaint.



Summit County Influenza Surveillance Summary



This report was created by the Akron Health Department's Office of Epidemiology, on October 13, 2009. For questions, please contact Courtney Hudson at 330.375.2988 ext. 3122 or Michelle Papp at 330.375.2988 ext. 6717. Reporting from participants may not be complete each week. Numbers may change as updated reports are received. For information about influenza resources in Summit County, go to www.summitflu.org