



## STARK COUNTY INFLUENZA SNAPSHOT, WEEK 01

Week 1, ending January 09, 2010 with updates through 01/18/2010.

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

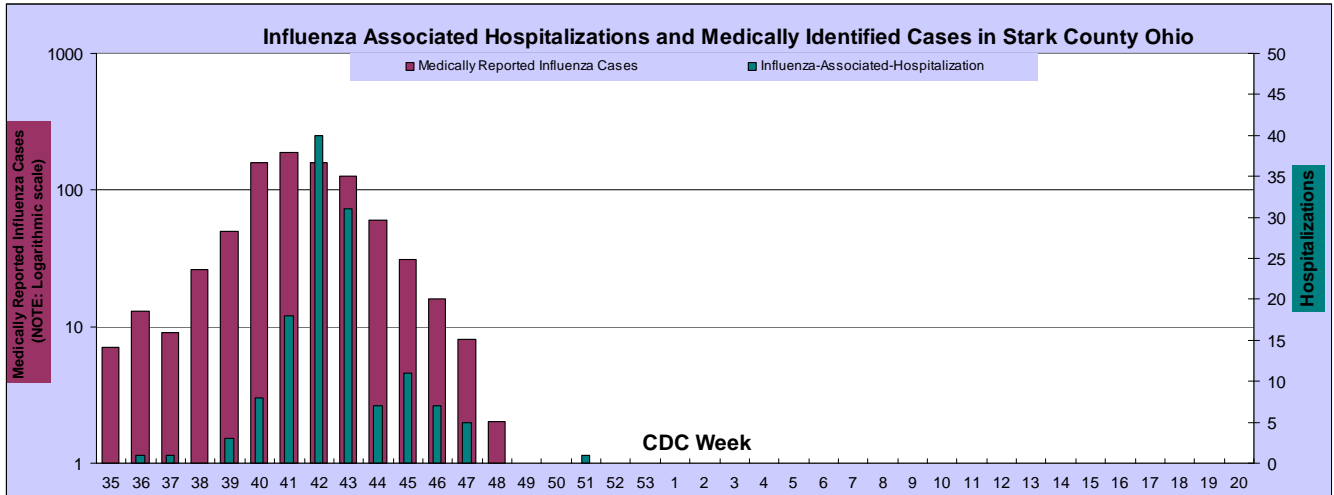
During week 01, (January 3-9, 2010) indicators of influenza like activity were all very low at the County, State and National levels.

- There was no influenza-like illness or influenza-associated hospitalizations reported during CDC Week 1. This reflects an 11 week downward trend in overall influenza-like activity in Stark County. (Graph 1)
- Due to low levels of activity, demographic information has not changed significantly over the past 5 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  $\leq 1$  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 four Sentinel Providers indicated a continued **decrease** to **0%** of all patient visits for Influenza-Like-Illness (ILI) in Stark County. The National level of ILI visits **decreased** to 1.9%. This is the first week during the 2009/2010 season that there were no reports of ILI in our county and the National level fell below the baseline level of 2.3%. (See Graph 2)
- Combined Constitutional and Respiratory visits to Emergency Departments in Stark County **decreased to 20.71%**, a slight decrease from week 52 and below expected values for this time of year. The overall number of total patient visits by Stark County residents to emergency departments has also declined to below expected for this time of year. Note: The highest average number of visits for these syndromes usually occurs in CDC week 7 (late February) and is 26.79%, increases are also seen in the weeks following large holidays. (See Graph 3)
- For week 01, both Cough/Cold (C/C) Products and Thermometer sales returned to their overall **downward** trend, following the expected post holiday increase. (See Graphs 4 and 5)
- According to the 54 area schools reporting absenteeism information, they have returned to pre-winter break levels. The median percentage of student absenteeism is 3.9%. (See graph 6)
- For the first time this influenza season there were **NO** states reporting 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)*. Ohio **identified** one Influenza A/H3 during week 45.
- National Pneumonia and Influenza (P & I) Mortality Surveillance **decreased slightly to 7.3%** of all deaths reported through the 122 Cities Mortality Reporting System as due to P & I. This percentage is **below** the epidemic threshold of 7.6% for week 1.

For questions, or to receive this report weekly by email, send requests to either [chenning@cantonhealth.org](mailto:chenning@cantonhealth.org) or [schanzk@starkhealth.org](mailto:schanzk@starkhealth.org).

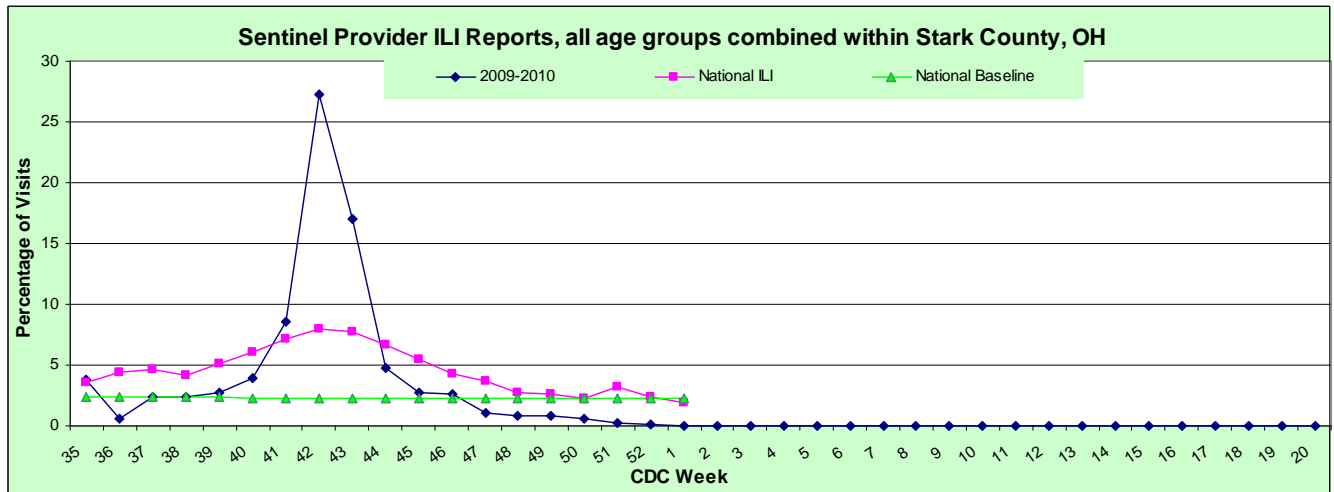
### Graph 1: Influenza Cases reported to Local Health Departments

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

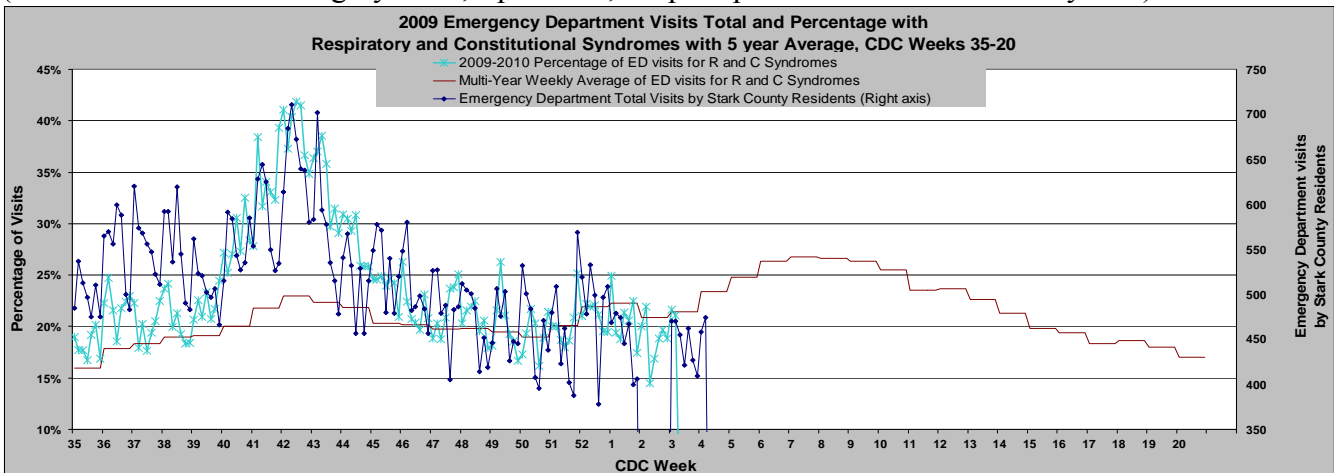


### Graph 2: Sentinel Provider Reported Influenza-Like-Illness in Stark County

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 influenza surveillance data to provide a national picture of influenza virus and ILI activity.

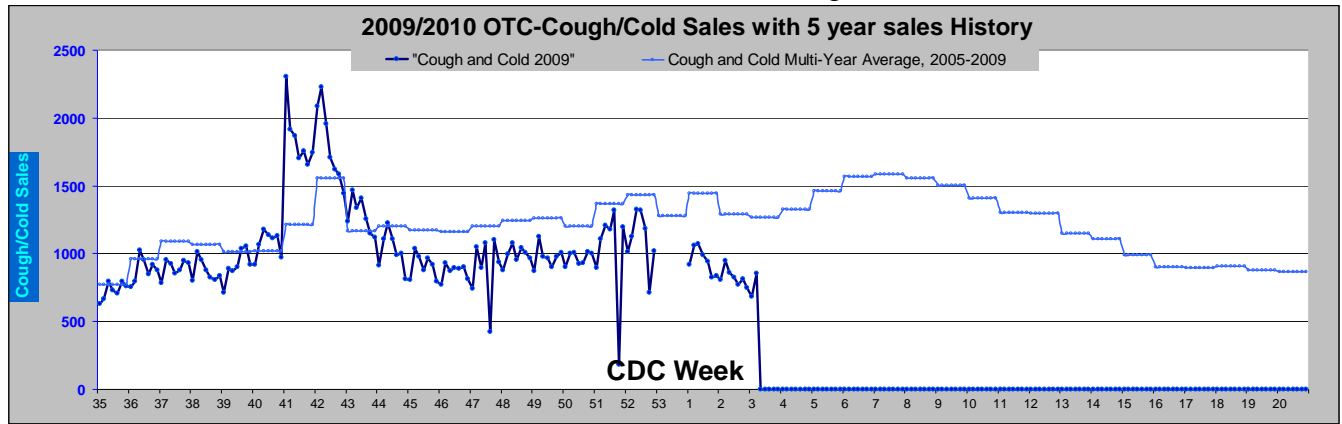


### Graph 3: Emergency Department Visits for combined Respiratory and Constitutional Syndromes (Source Health Monitoring Systems, EpiCenter, hospital patient visit surveillance system)



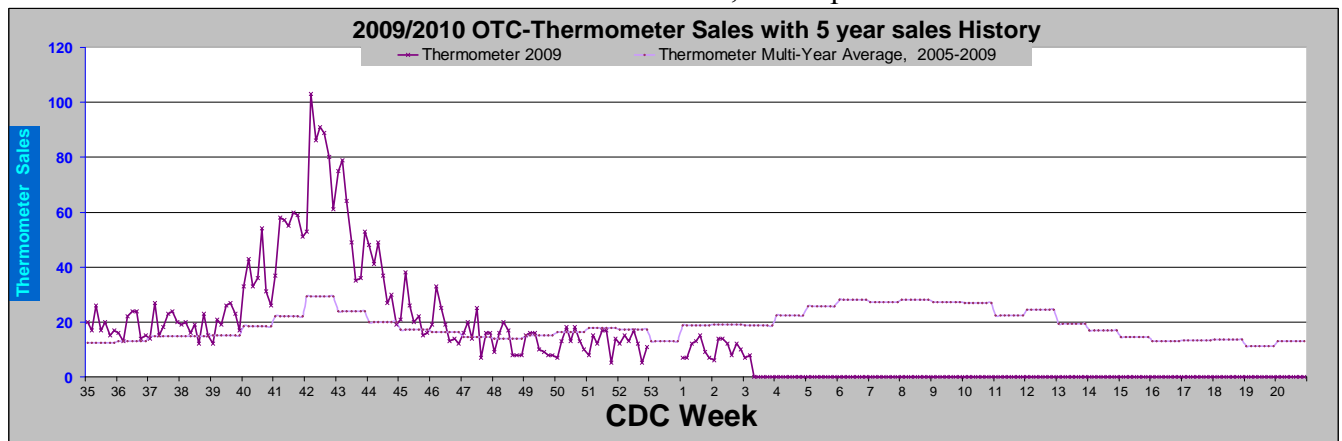
**Graph 4: Over-The-Counter Sales of Cough/Cold Product Sales in Stark County**

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



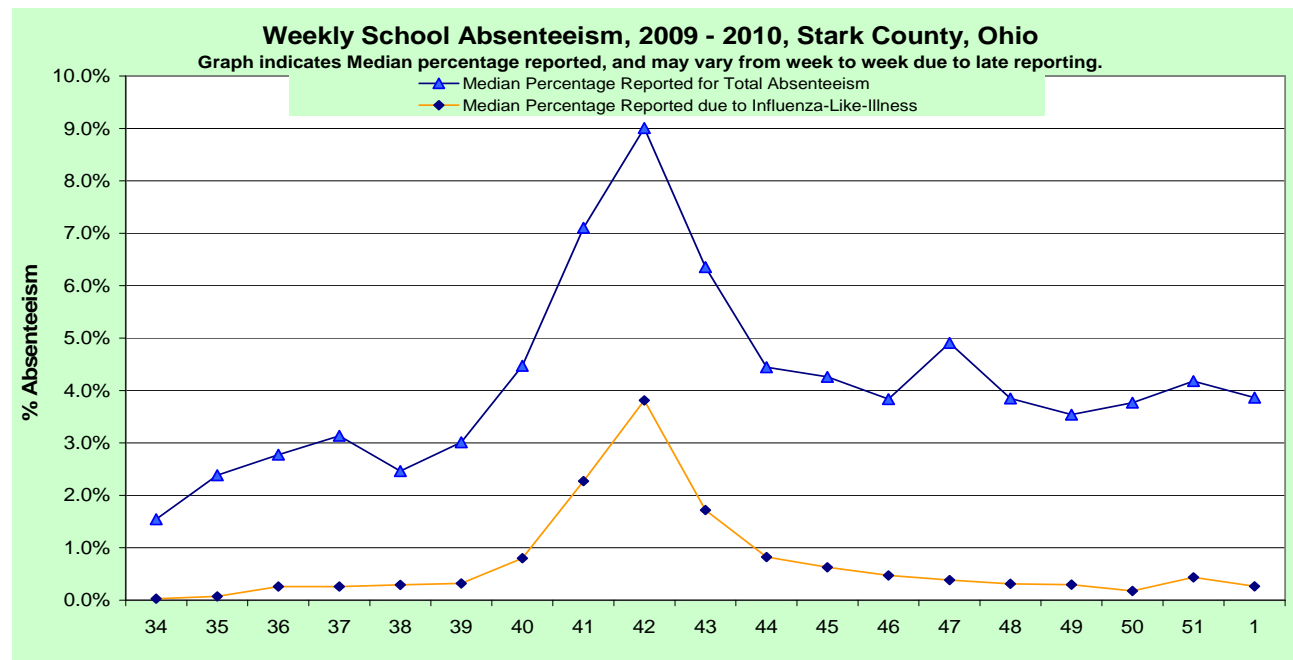
**Graph 5: Over-The-Counter Sales of Thermometers in Stark County**

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



**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.)



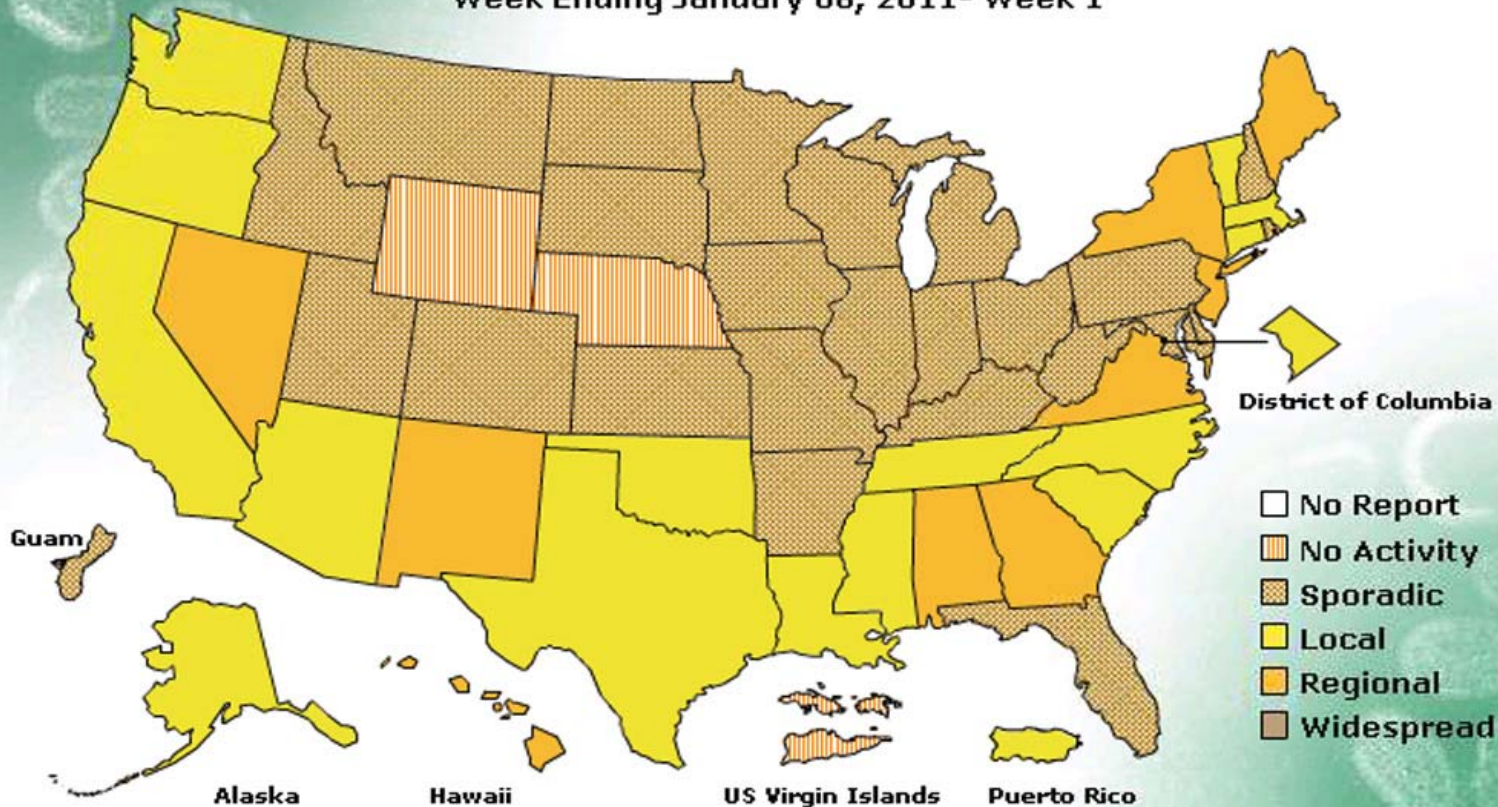
**Map Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists**  
(Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>)

# FLUVIEW



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

Week Ending January 08, 2011- Week 1



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