



Ottawa County Inﬂuenza Surveillance Report

MMWR* Week 51: December 15, 2019 - December 21, 2019



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Summary:

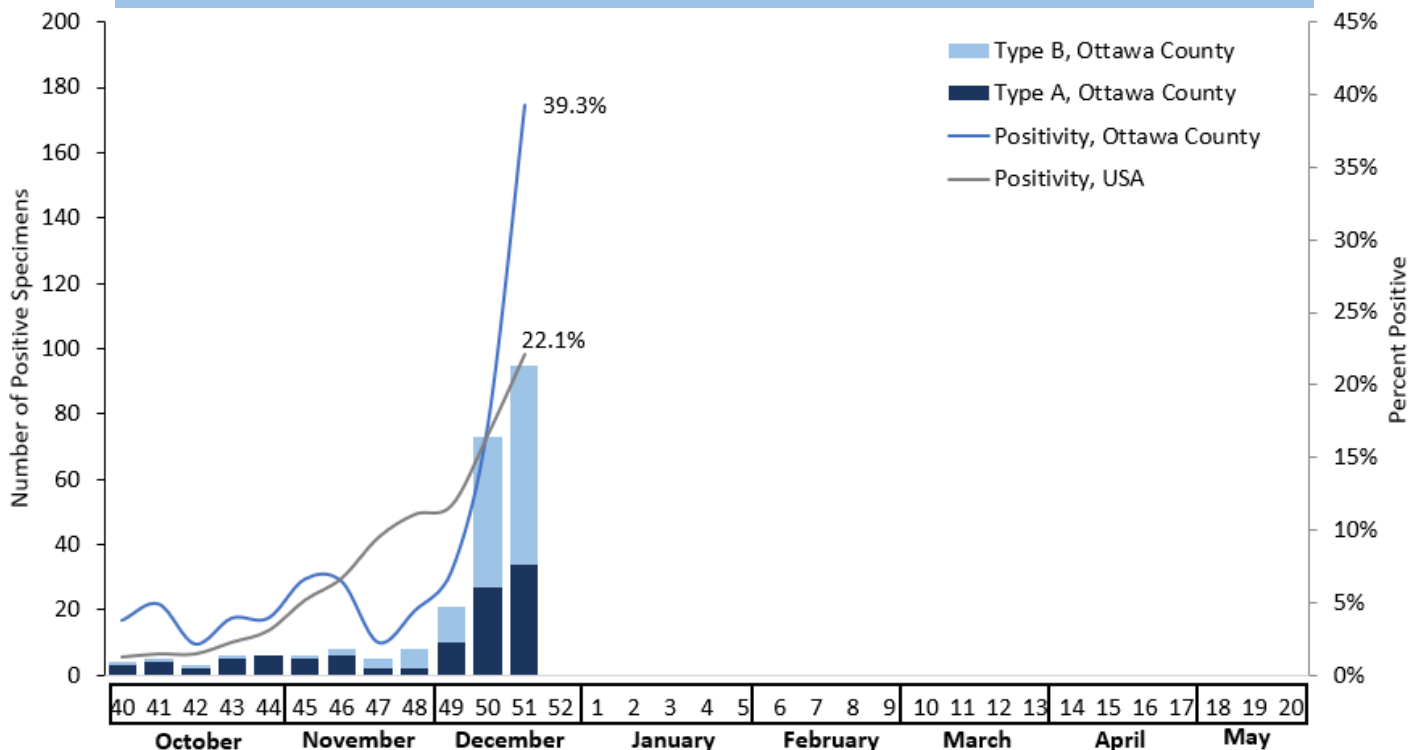
During week 51, inﬂuenza positivity in Ottawa County increased to 39.3% (from 17.4% last week). The proportion of inﬂuenza-like illnesses (ILI) reported in schools and licensed childcares (2.4%) was higher in week 51 than it was at the same time last year (1.7%). ILI in healthcare offices (1.3%) was also higher than it was at this time last year (0.7%). No ILIs were reported in long-term care facilities (LTCFs). Emergency Department (ED) visits with inﬂuenza symptoms stayed at 3.8%, higher than this same time last year, but well below last season’s peak. Overall, inﬂuenza activity increased in Ottawa County in week 51.



Inﬂuenza Test Positivity

Inﬂuenza positivity is the percent of inﬂuenza tests conducted by reporting providers and laboratories that result positive. In week 51, reported positivity was 39.3%. Elevated inﬂuenza laboratory positivity is often an indication that inﬂuenza is circulating in the community^(1,2). **Inﬂuenza positivity has been elevated for the last 2 weeks.**

Positivity Rate of Inﬂuenza Tests by Week, Ottawa County and United States , 2019-20 Season



MMWR* Week	Week ending date	Type A	Type B	Unspecified	Total Inﬂuenza	Total Tested	Positivity
49	12/07/2019	10	11	N/A	21	292	7.2%
50	12/14/2019	27	46	2	75	431	17.4%
51	12/21/2019	34	61	N/A	95	242	39.3%

Inﬂuenza test data includes both PCR and rapid tests

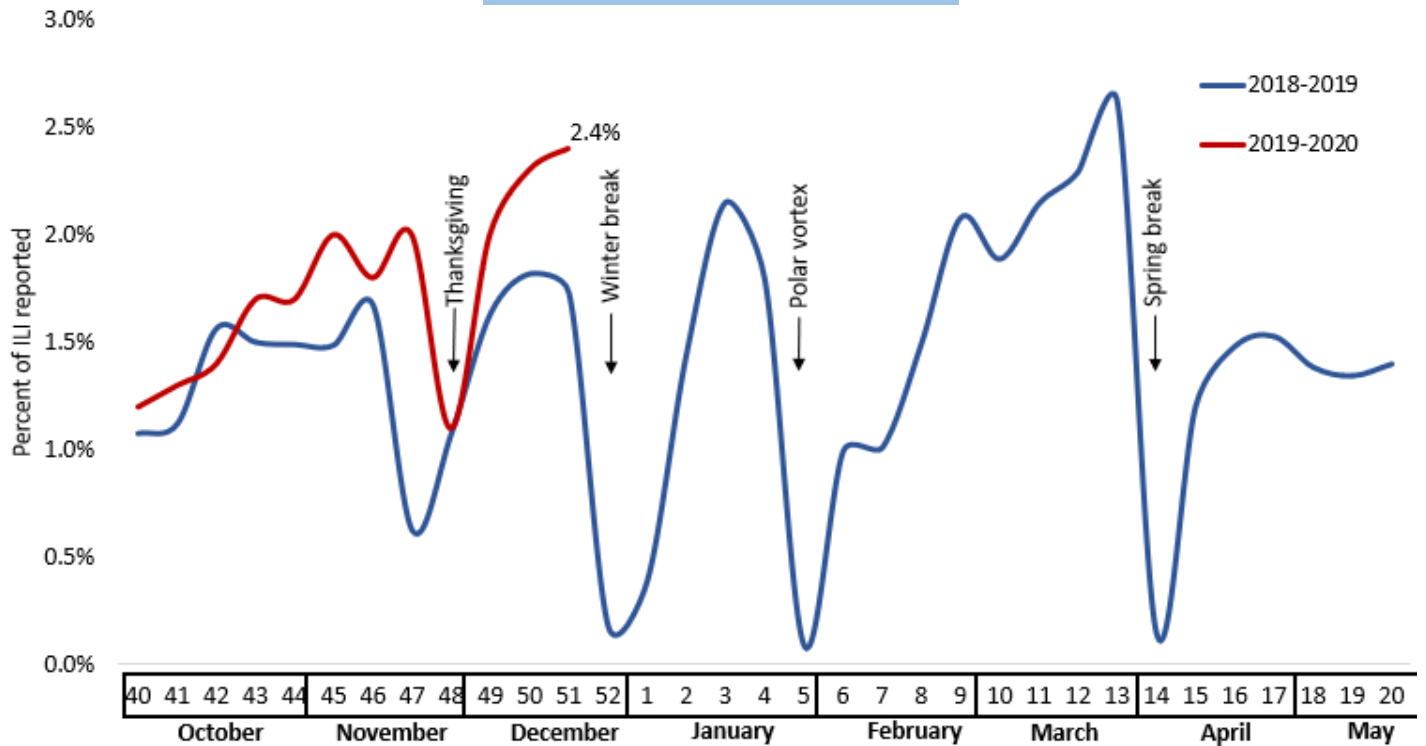
* Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



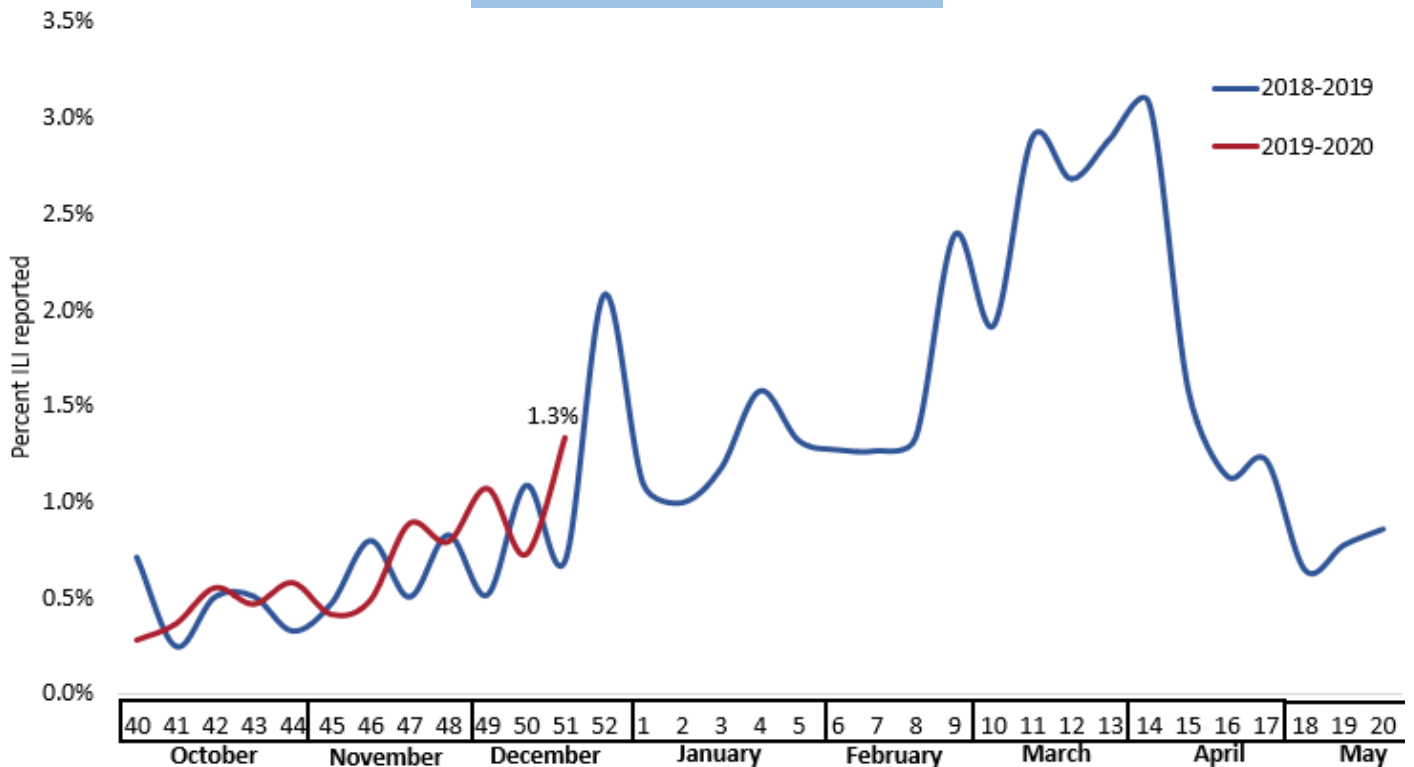
Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Reporting Schools, Childcare and Healthcare Settings

Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) receives ILI reports from schools, licensed childcare, healthcare providers and LTCFs on a weekly basis. During week 51, the proportion of ILI reported in school/childcare settings increased to 2.4%, higher than the proportion reported this time last year. The proportion reported in healthcare offices increased to 1.3%, also higher than this same time last year, but well below last season's peak. There were no reports of ILI in LTCFs.

School and Childcare ILI by Week



Healthcare ILI Visits by Week





Syndromic Surveillance for Influenza

This data reflects the proportion of patients seen in Ottawa County hospital EDs with an influenza symptom*. During week 51, Ottawa County ED visits with influenza symptoms stayed at 3.8%. This proportion is higher than that seen at the same time last season, but well below last season's peak. The overall pattern is similar to last season with a sharp increase around the year-end holidays.

Percentage of ED Visits in Ottawa County with Influenza Symptoms



* Influenza symptoms include sudden onsets of fever, cough and/or sore throat.



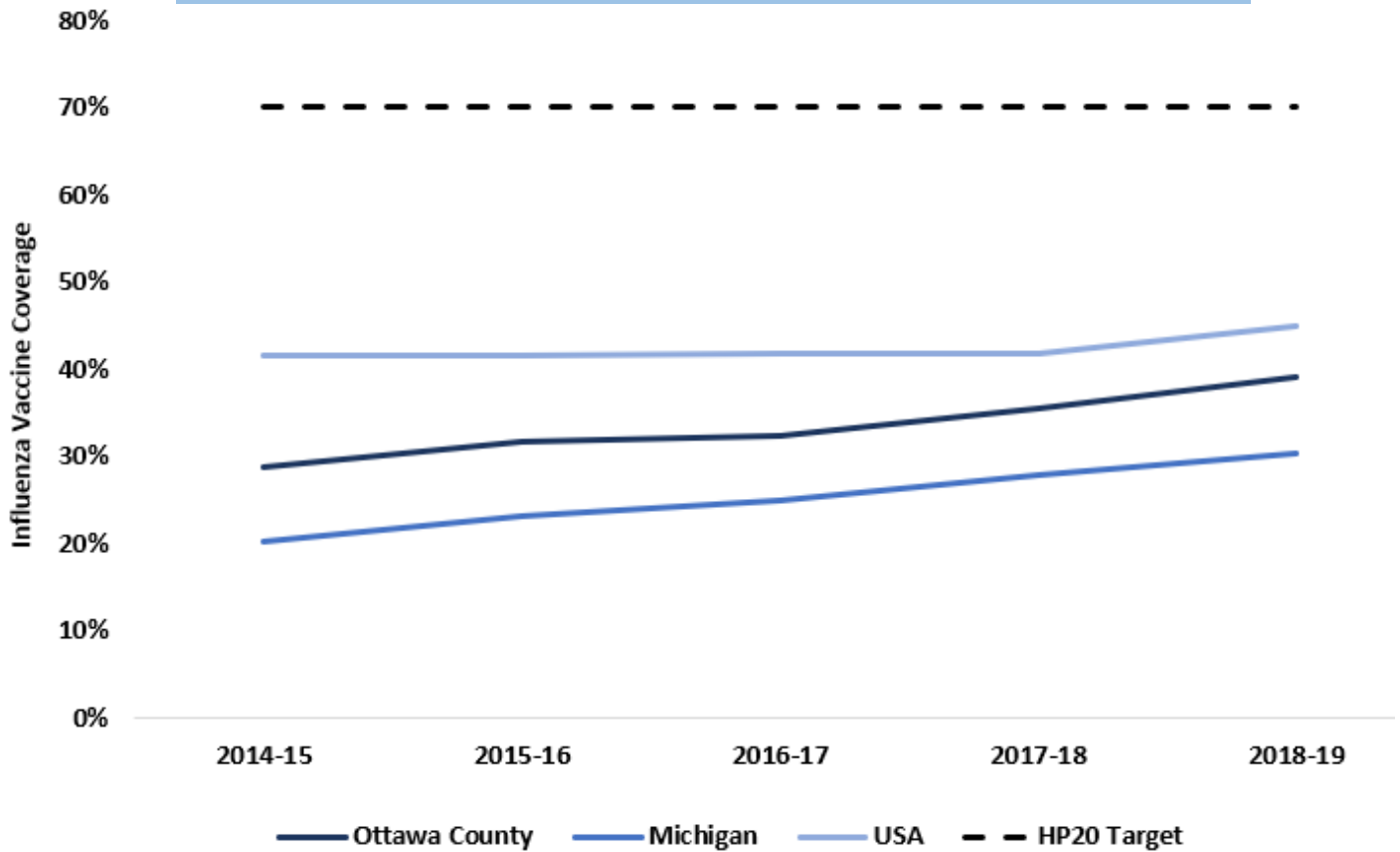
Influenza Vaccine Coverage

The best way to prevent influenza is by getting the influenza vaccine each year. Although below the national average, Ottawa County has seen improvements in influenza vaccine coverage over the years. The table below reflects adult vaccination coverage in Ottawa County, Michigan and the United States over the last 5 influenza seasons.

	2014-15 Season	2015-16 Season	2016-17 Season	2017-18 Season	2018-19 Season
Ottawa County	28.8%	31.7%	32.4%	35.5%	39%
Michigan	20.2%	23.1%	24.9%	27.9%	30.3%
United States (average)	41.5%	41.5%	41.7%	41.7%	44.9%
Healthy People 2020 Target	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%

Source: Michigan's County Quarterly Immunization Report Card - Annual Q2 Reports.

Influenza Vaccine Coverage by Season, Ottawa County, Michigan and United States



Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness

The performance of influenza seasonal vaccines are monitored to improve their benefits. Vaccine effectiveness (VE) studies regularly assess and confirm the value of flu vaccination as a public health intervention³. The table below shows estimates of seasonal flu vaccine effectiveness from past seasons.

	2014-15 Season	2015-16 Season	2016-17 Season	2017-18 Season	2018-19 Season
Overall vaccine effectiveness	19%	48%	40%	38%	47%*

* Preliminary estimate

Source: CDC - Past seasons Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates⁴.



Severe Disease

Three new influenza associated pediatric deaths were reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on week 51, making a total of **22 influenza-associated pediatric deaths** this season. **One influenza-associated death** was reported in Oakland County, MI earlier on in the season. There have been no reports influenza-associated deaths in Ottawa County.

Resources

- ◆ Michigan Department of Health and Human Services - Influenza activity and Surveillance: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2955_22779_40563_48357-191722--,00.html
- ◆ Michigan's County Quarterly Immunization Report Card: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Ottawa_447497_7.pdf and https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Report_Card_Defs_447511_7.pdf
- ◆ National influenza surveillance data are available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
- ◆ Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2019–20 Influenza Season: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/rr/rr6803a1.htm?scid=rr6803a1e&deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM7382
- ◆ ¹Forecasting Peak Activity of Seasonal Influenza Using Only One Surveillance Indicator Colorado, 2013-2019 (CSTE Presentation): By Bernadette Albanese, MD, MPH, Tri-County Health Department
- ◆ ²Baumbach, J., Mueller, M., Smelser, C., Albanese, B., & Sewell, C. M. (2009). Enhancement of influenza surveillance with aggregate rapid influenza test results: New Mexico, 2003-2007. American journal of public health, 99 Suppl 2(Suppl 2), S372–S377. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2007.125450
- ◆ ³CDC. (2019). Seasonal Flu Vaccine Effectiveness Studies. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/effectiveness-studies.htm>
- ◆ ⁴CDC. (2019). Past Seasons Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/vaccines-work/past-seasons-estimates.html>

Note: This surveillance report is based on preliminary data. Charts and figures are subject to change as the data is updated.

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