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Ottawa County Influenza Surveillance Report

MMWR* Week 8: February 16, 2020 - February 22, 2020

Summary:

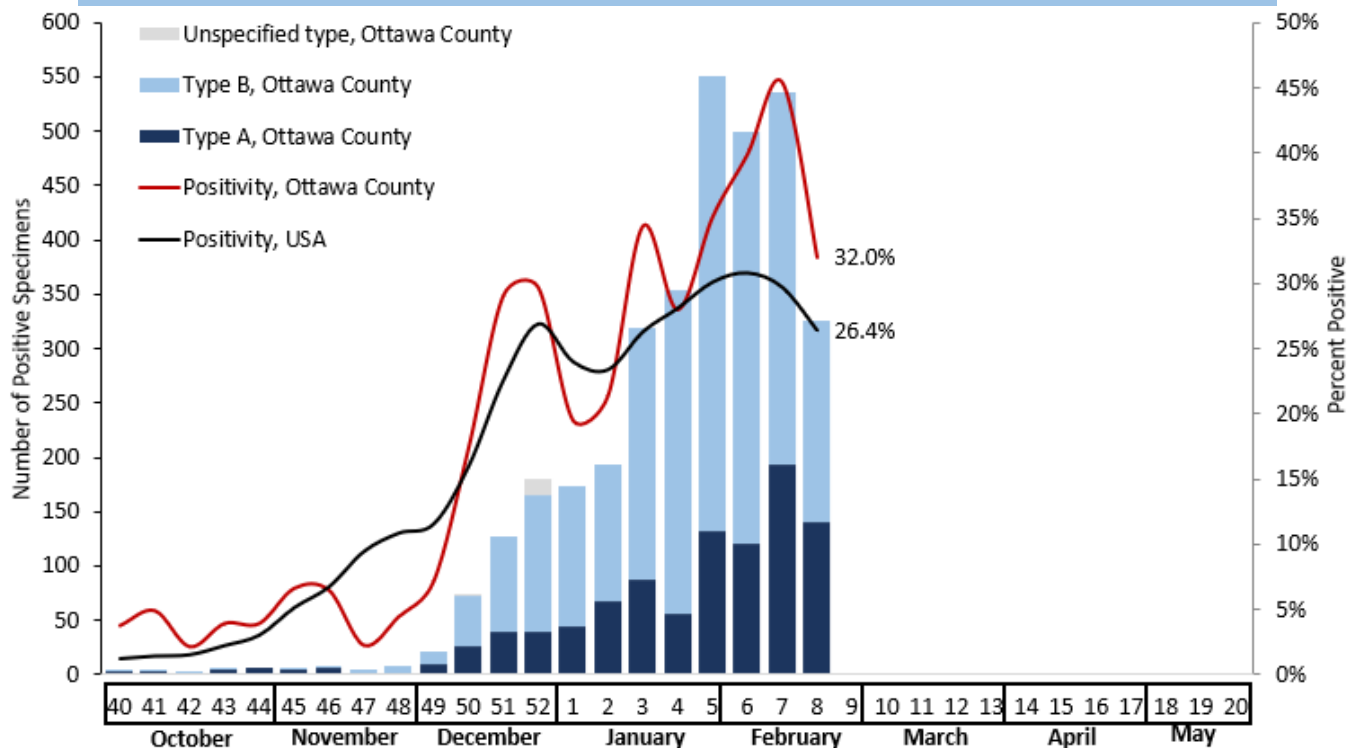
During week 8, influenza positivity in Ottawa County decreased to 32.0%. The proportion of influenza-like illness (ILI) reported in schools and licensed childcares (3.1%) decreased slightly, but stayed above last season's peak proportion. Reported ILI in healthcare offices (1.3%) decreased from last week, comparable to that reported at this same time last year, and well below last season's peak (3.1%). No influenza outbreaks were reported in long-term care facilities (LTCFs). Emergency Department (ED) visits with influenza symptoms decreased to 4.3%, remaining higher than this same time last year. Overall, influenza activity remained **high** in week 8.



Influenza Test Positivity

Influenza positivity is the percent of influenza tests conducted by reporting providers and laboratories that result positive. In week 8, reported positivity was 32.0%. 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 11 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 |
|------------|------------------|--------|--------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| 06 | 02/08/2020 | 121 | 378 | 0 | 499 | 1251 | 39.9% |
| 07 | 02/15/2020 | 193 | 343 | 0 | 536 | 1180 | 45.4% |
| 08 | 02/22/2020 | 141 | 185 | 0 | 326 | 1019 | 32.0% |

Influenza test data includes both PCR and rapid tests

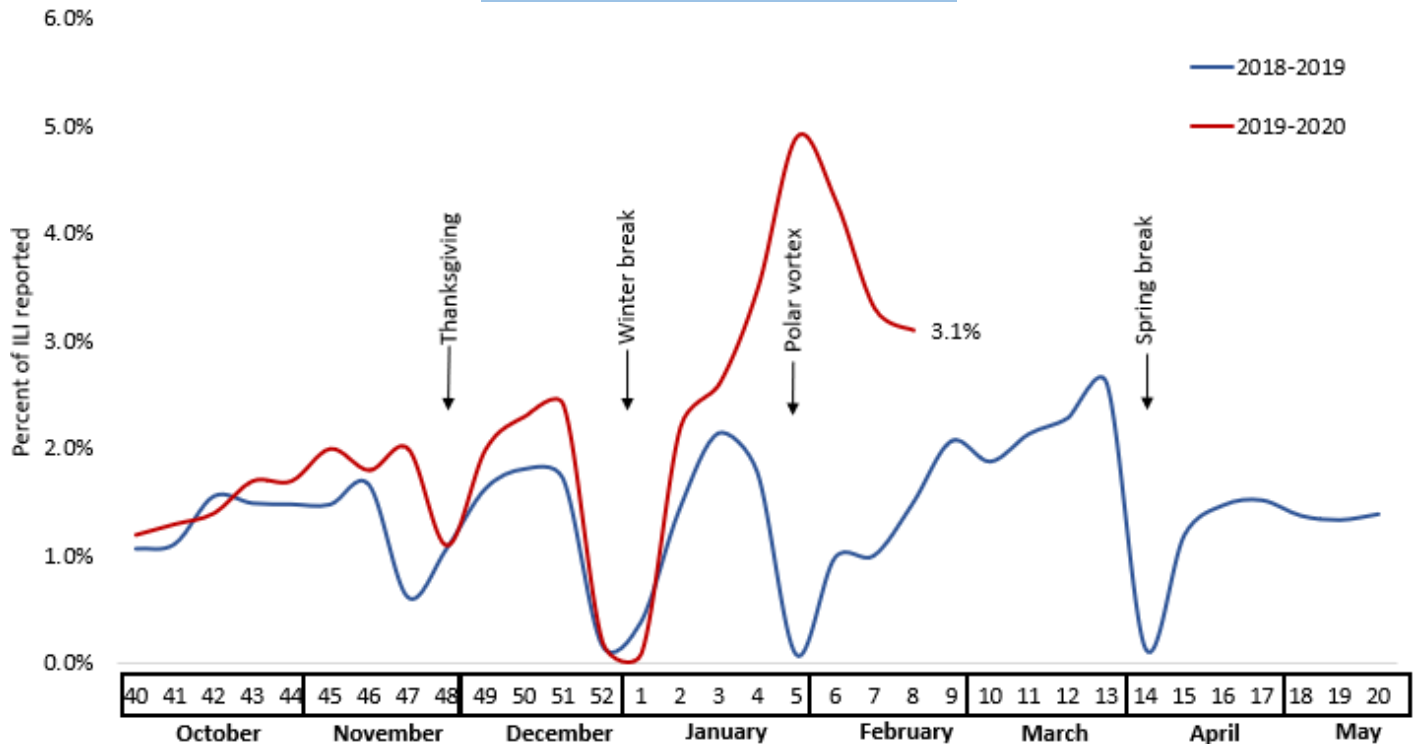
* Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report



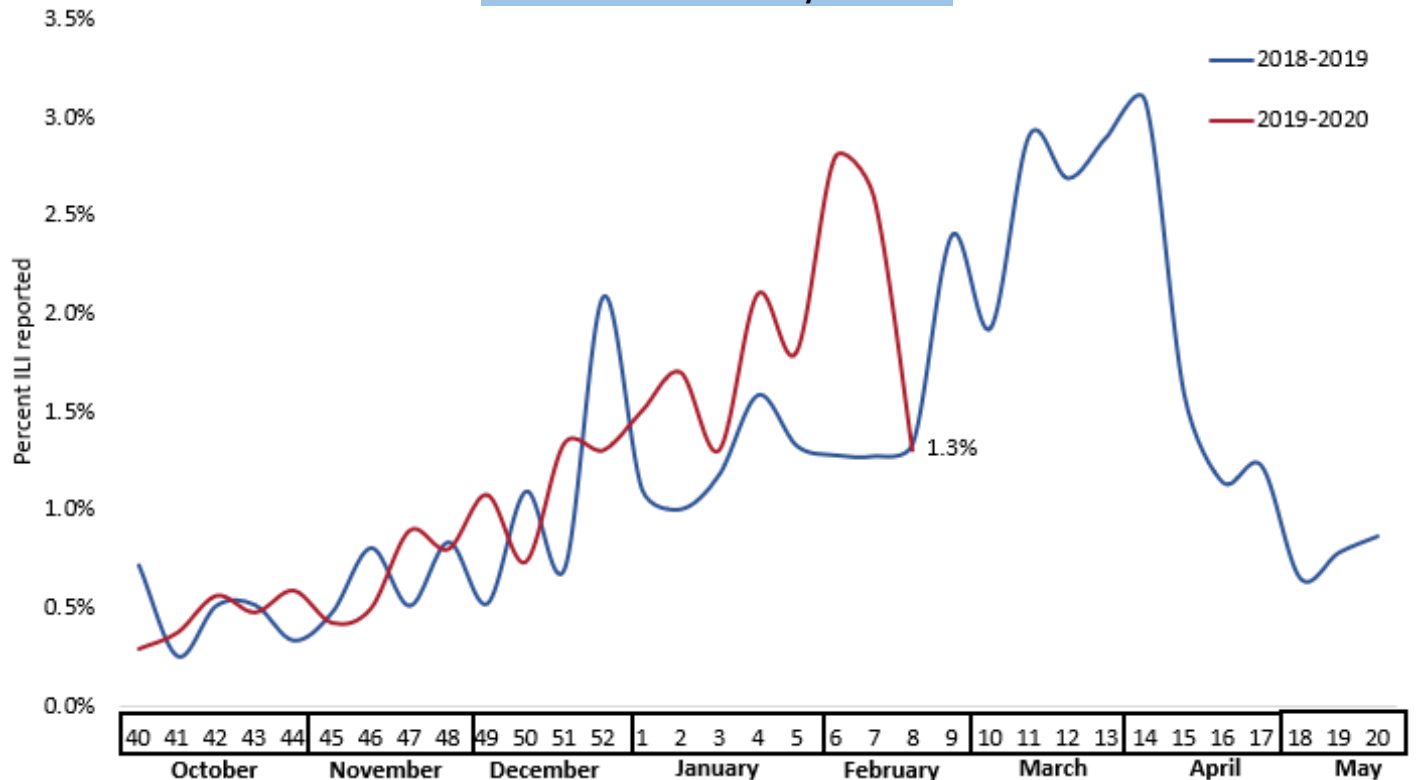
Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance from Reporting Schools, Childcare and Healthcare Settings

Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) receives ILI reports from schools, licensed childcare, healthcare providers and LTCFs on a weekly basis. During week 8, the proportion of ILI reported in school/childcare settings decreased slightly to 3.1%, remaining above the peak proportion reported last season (2.6%). Reported ILI in healthcare offices decreased to 1.3%, very similar to this same time last year (1.3%), but stayed below last season's peak (3.1%). There were no new reports of influenza outbreaks in LTCFs during week 8.

School and Childcare ILI by Week



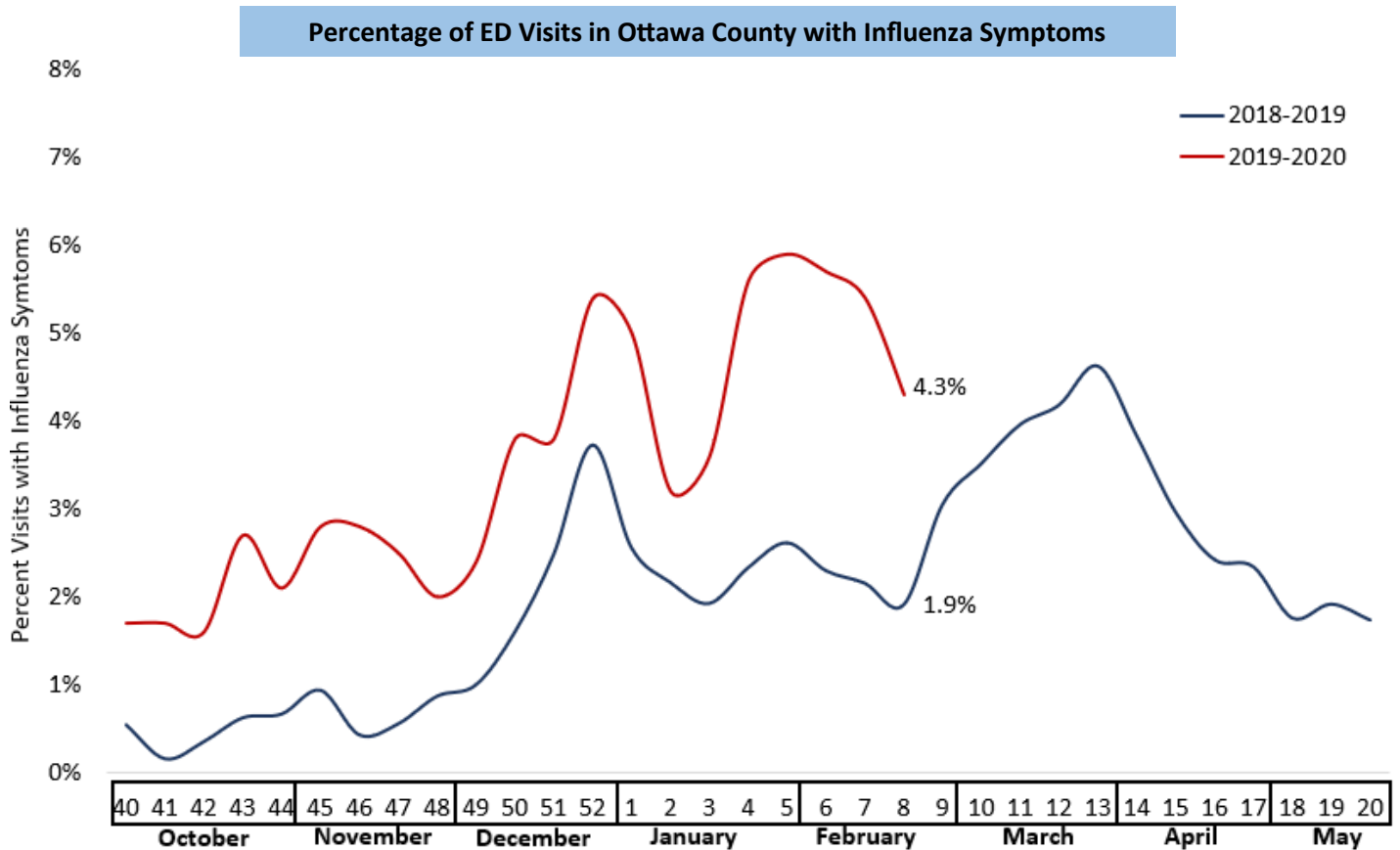
Healthcare ILI Visits by Week





Syndromic Surveillance for Influenza

This data reflects the proportion of patients seen in Ottawa County hospital EDs with an influenza symptom*. During week 8, Ottawa County ED visits with influenza symptoms decreased slightly to 4.3% (from 5.4% last week). This proportion is higher than that seen at the same time last season (1.9%), and just under last season's peak. Despite this difference, the overall trend is similar to last season's.



| MMWR Week | Week Ending Date | Total ED ILI | Total ED Visits | Percent ILI |
|-----------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 06 | 02/08/2020 | 111 | 1941 | 5.7% |
| 07 | 02/15/2020 | 104 | 1911 | 5.4% |
| 08 | 02/22/2020 | 79 | 1846 | 4.3% |

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



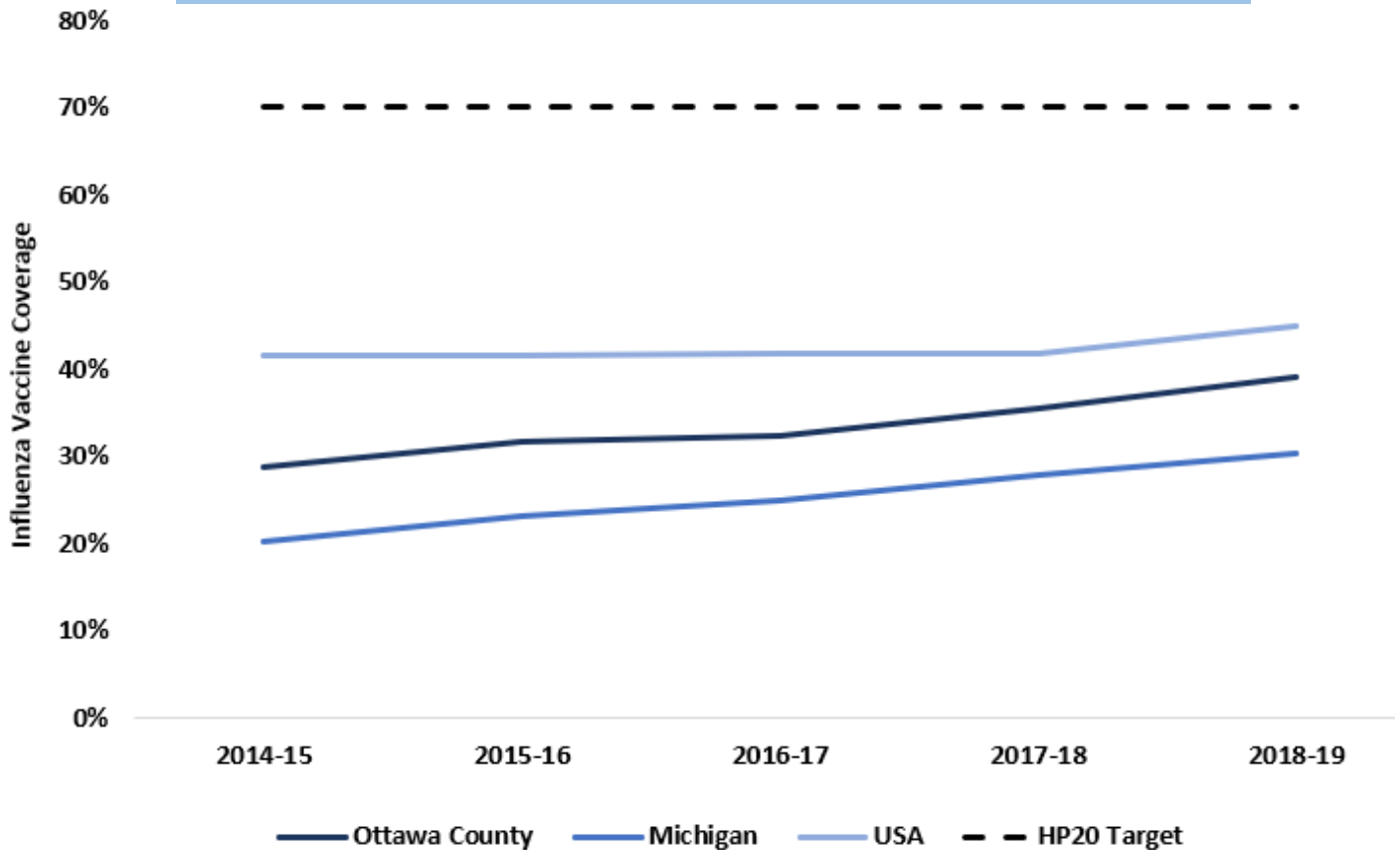
Influenza Vaccine Coverage

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.

| | 2015-16 Season | 2016-17 Season | 2017-18 Season | 2018-19 Season | 2019-20 Season |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Overall vaccine effectiveness | 48% | 40% | 38% | 29% | 45% |

Source: CDC - Past seasons Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates⁴.



Severe Disease

Twenty new influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on week 8, making a total of **125 influenza-associated pediatric deaths** this season. **Two influenza-associated pediatric deaths** have been reported in Michigan so far this season. There have been **no** reports influenza-associated pediatric 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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Contact Information

Derel Glashower, MPH, CPH

Senior Epidemiologist

Ottawa County Department of Public Health

Phone: 616-393-5785

Email: dglashower@miottawa.org

Derick N. Chia, MPH

Epidemiologist

Ottawa County Department of Public Health

Phone: 616-393-5765

Email: dchia@miottawa.org