

Kent County Influenza Surveillance Trends

Week 12/30/2018 to 01/04/2019

During the week ending January 4, 2019, there were ninety-eight (98) cases of influenza (97 type A and 1 type B) reported to the Kent County Health Department. To date, four-hundred and fifty-nine (459) cases of influenza have been reported. Visits to local emergency departments for influenza-like illness (ILI) during the week ending January 4 show that local activity is similar to what was seen last year. Details of local influenza activity indicators are listed below.

- **Constitutional %** - Data are presented on the average weekly percentage of emergency department (ED) visits for constitutional complaints (including chief complaints of fever, weakness, dizziness, temp, flu, lightheadedness, and chills). The percentage of ED visits for constitutional complaints decreased from 9.8% to 7.7% during the week. This percentage is lower than that seen during this week last year (8.0%).
- **School ILI%** - Schools were closed during the week ending January 4, 2018.

Figure 1: Percentage of ED Visits for constitutional complaints and percentage of students absent with influenza-like illness, Kent County 09/02/2017 through 01/04/2019

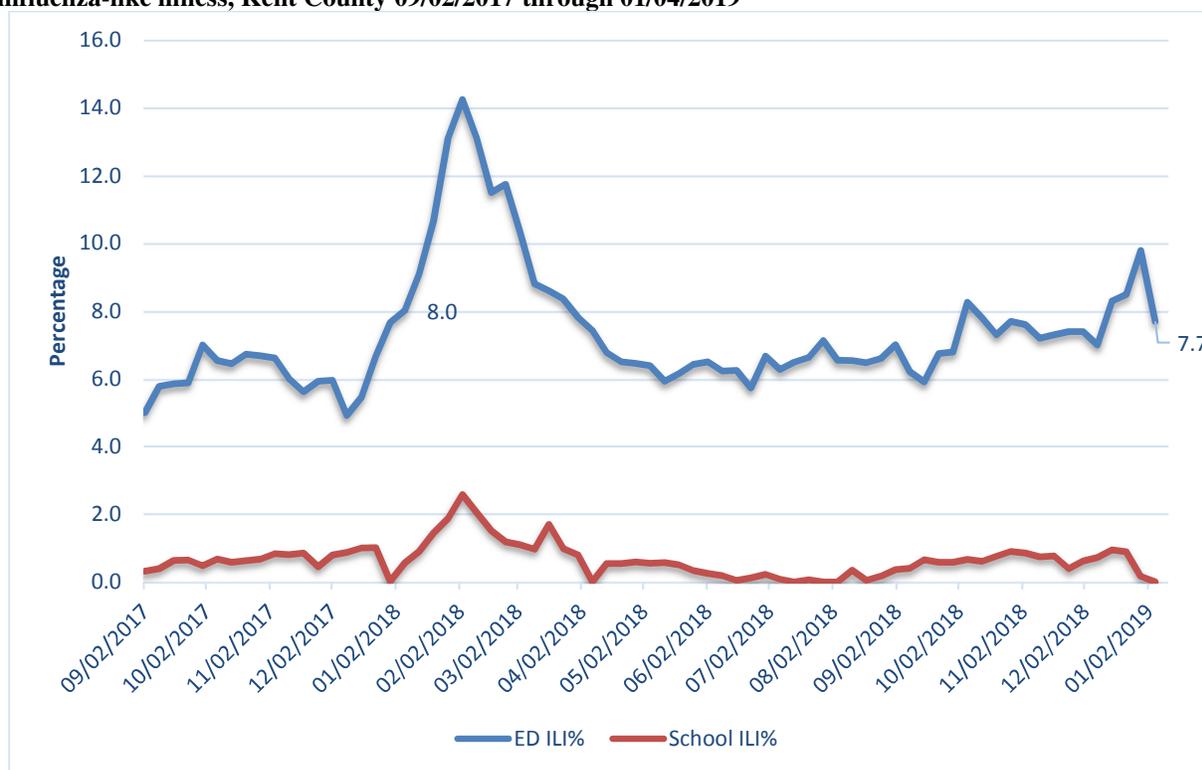


Table 1: Characteristics of Reported Influenza Cases, 2018-2019

Age Group	Influenza Type	Gender
0-17	A	Male
18-64	B	Female
65+		Unknown
Unknown		

Average Age of Reported Cases: 31 years
Median Age of Reported Cases: 32 years

Figure 2: Influenza Cases Reported by Week

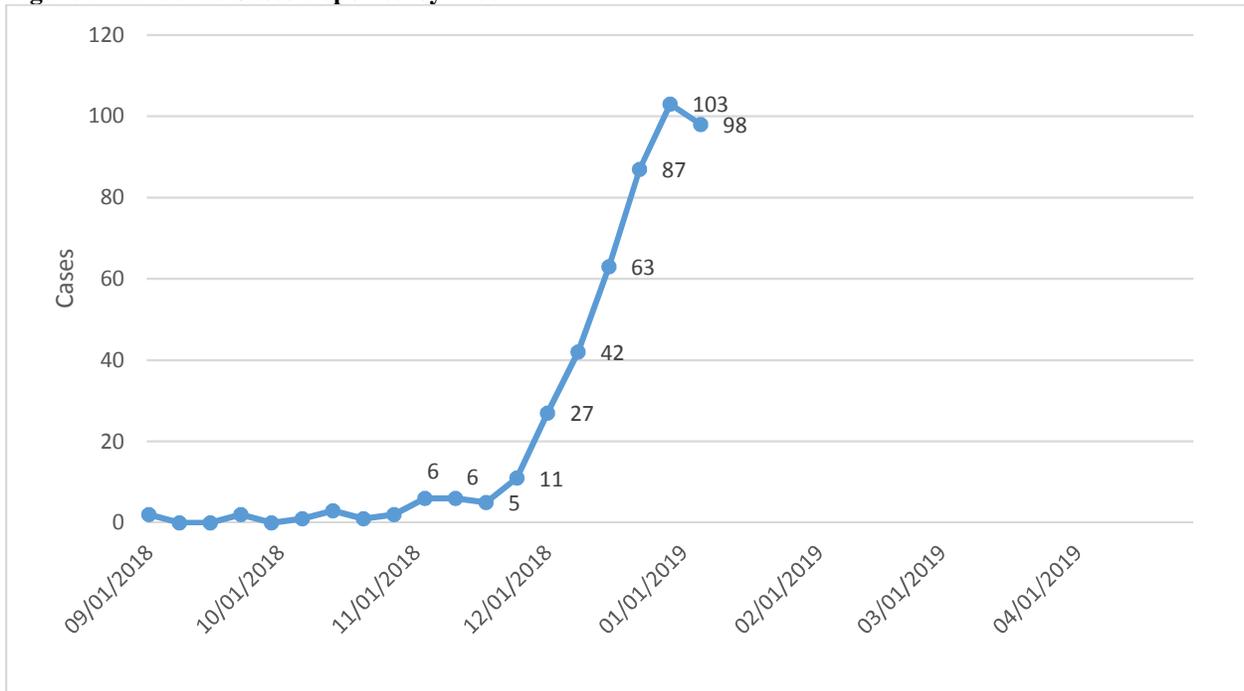


Figure 3 plots influenza activity for the current season compared to the 2017-2018 season, whereas Figure 4 plots current activity compared to the average activity over the previous four influenza seasons. For comparison purposes, weeks are numbered 1-52, with week 1 being the first week ending in the month of January and week 52 the last week ending in the month of December (week ending day is Saturday). For this analysis, the influenza season is considered to begin with week 35, the first week ending in the month of September (week ending 09/01 for 2018). Both figures present the percentage of emergency department visits for constitutional complaints through week 1 (week ending 01/04/2019). It is evident from the figures that current influenza activity is similar to what was seen last year, but lower than the average over the previous four seasons.

Figure 3: Comparison of Influenza Activity, Kent County, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019

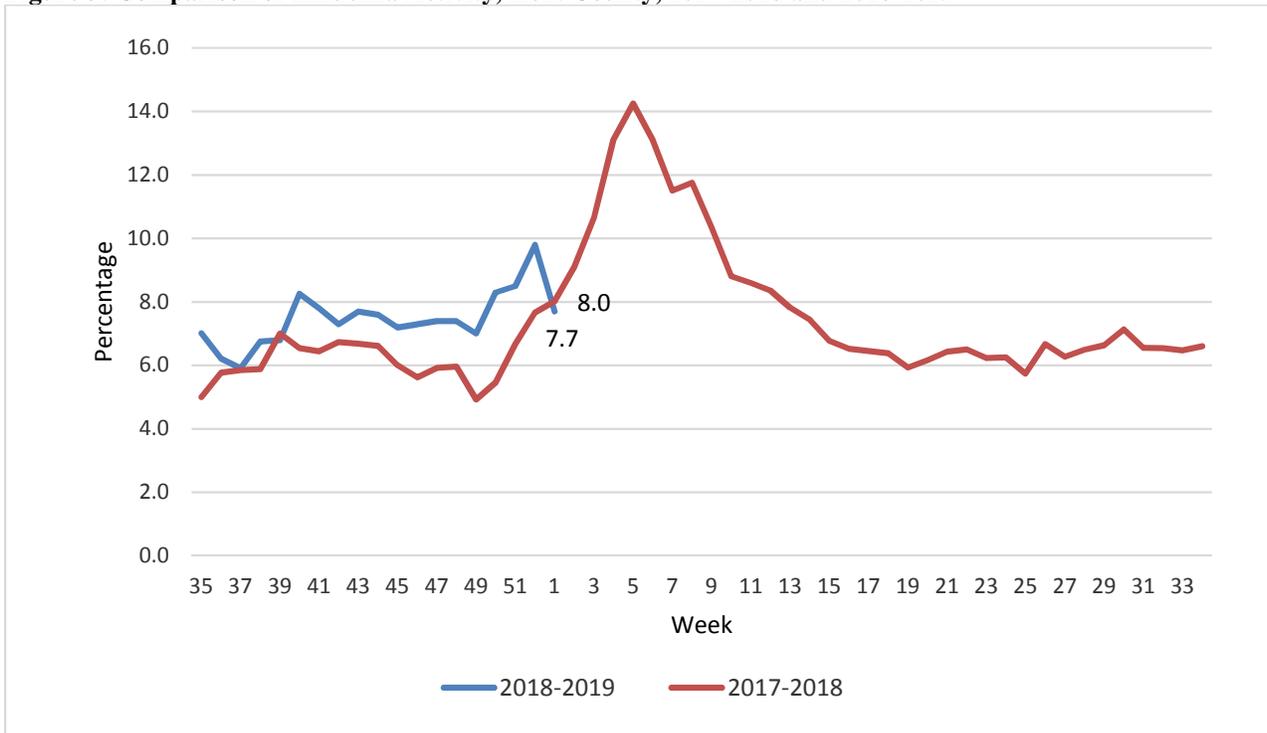


Figure 4: Comparison of Influenza Activity, Kent County, 2018-2019 against the Four-Year Average

