

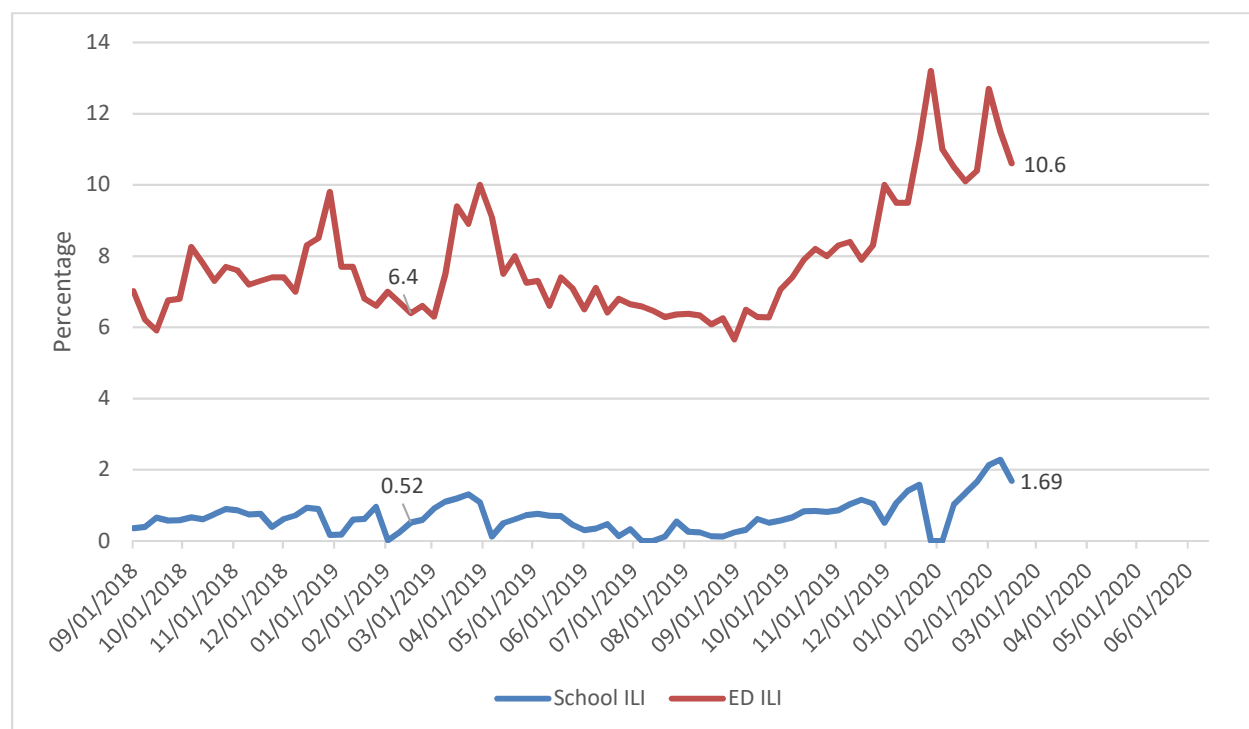
# Kent County Influenza Surveillance Trends

Week 02/09/2020 to 02/15/2020

During the week ending February 15, 2020, there were two hundred and fourteen (214) cases of influenza reported to the Kent County Health Department. To date, two-thousand, three hundred and four (2,304) cases of influenza (710 A, 1496 B and 98 unknown) have been reported. Based upon visits to local emergency departments, local influenza-like illness activity is higher than both what was seen at this time last year and the average level of activity over the previous four influenza seasons. Details of local influenza-like illness 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 11.5% to 10.6%. This percentage is higher than what was seen during this week last year (6.4%). The percentage of ED visits for constitutional complaints among patients 0-17 years decreased from 7.6% to 6.6% whereas the percentage of visits among those 18 and older increased from 3.9% to 4.0%.
- **School ILI%** - The percentage of students absent from Kent County schools due to influenza-like illness (ILI) decreased 2.28% to 1.69% during the week. This was more than the percentage seen at this time last year (0.52%).

**Figure 1: Percentage of ED Visits for constitutional complaints and percentage of students absent with influenza-like illness, Kent County 09/01/2018 through 02/15/2020**



**Table 1: Characteristics of Reported Influenza Cases, 2019-2020**

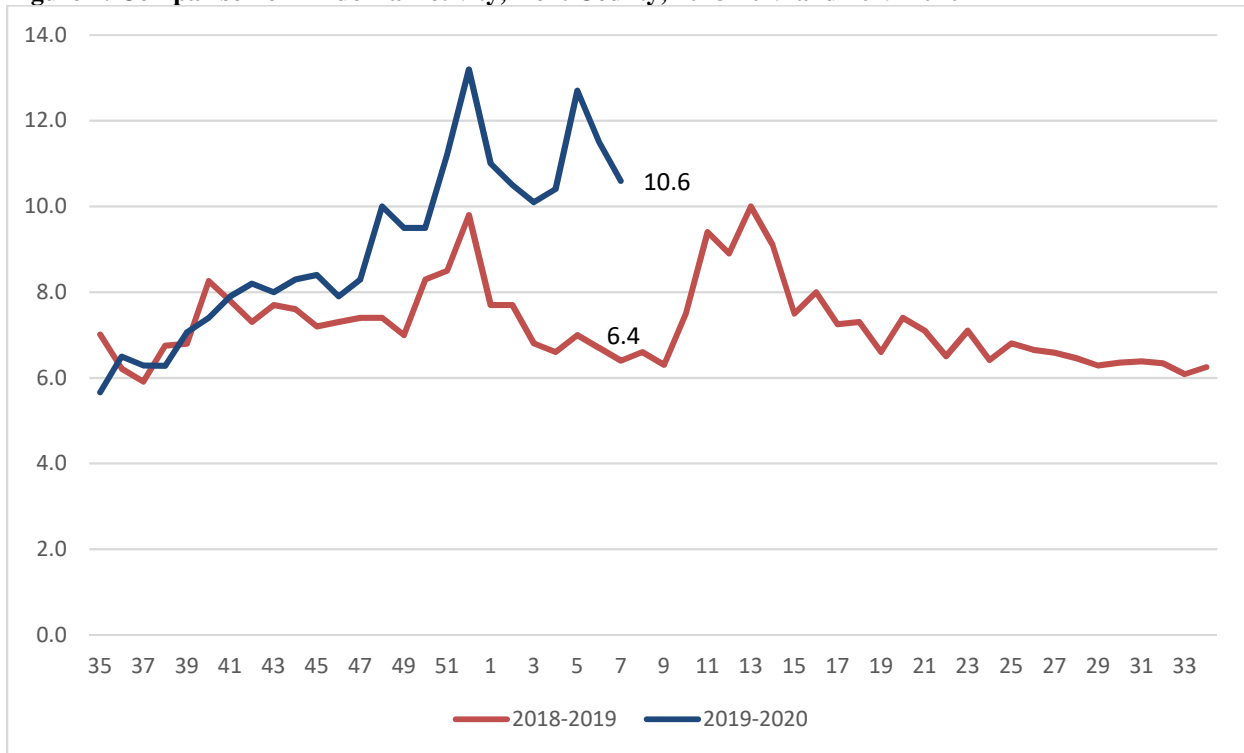
Age Group		Influenza Type		Gender	
<b>0-17</b>	46.4%	<b>A</b>	30.8%	<b>Male</b>	43.6%
<b>18-64</b>	44.0%	<b>B</b>	64.9%	<b>Female</b>	54.5%
<b>65+</b>	5.8%	<b>Unknown</b>	4.3%	<b>Unknown</b>	1.9%
<b>Unknown</b>	3.8%				

**Average Age of Reported Cases: 27 years**

**Median Age of Reported Cases: 22 years**

Figure 2 plots influenza-like illness activity for the current season compared to the 2018-2019 season, whereas Figure 3 plots current activity compared to the average activity over the previous four influenza seasons. Figure 4 plots the activity of influenza types against each other for the 2019-2020 influenza season. 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 last week ending in the month of August (week ending 08/31 for 2019). Both figures present the percentage of emergency department visits for constitutional complaints through week 7 (week ending 02/15/2020). It is evident from this figures that current influenza-like illness activity is higher than both what was seen last year and the average over the previous four seasons.

**Figure 2: Comparison of Influenza Activity, Kent County, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020**



**Figure 3: Comparison of Influenza Activity, Kent County, 2019-2020 against the Four-Year Average**

