



## ERIE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

420 Superior Street · Sandusky, OH 44870 · (419) 626-5623

### Erie County Communicable Disease Report Quarter 3 (July-September 2019)

Communicable Disease Statistics			
	July	August	September
<b>Total Reported CDs</b>	64	59	63
<b>Total Outbreaks</b>	0 new outbreaks	0 new outbreaks	0 new outbreaks
<b>Top 5 Reported CDs/Month</b>	Chlamydia (38)	Chlamydia (33)	Chlamydia (37)
	Hepatitis C (13)	Gonorrhea (11)	Hepatitis C (13)
	Gonorrhea (6)	Hepatitis C (6)	Gonorrhea (4)
	Campylobacteriosis (3)	Salmonellosis (2)	Campylobacteriosis (2)
	Salmonellosis (2)	Hepatitis B (2)	Hepatitis B (2)

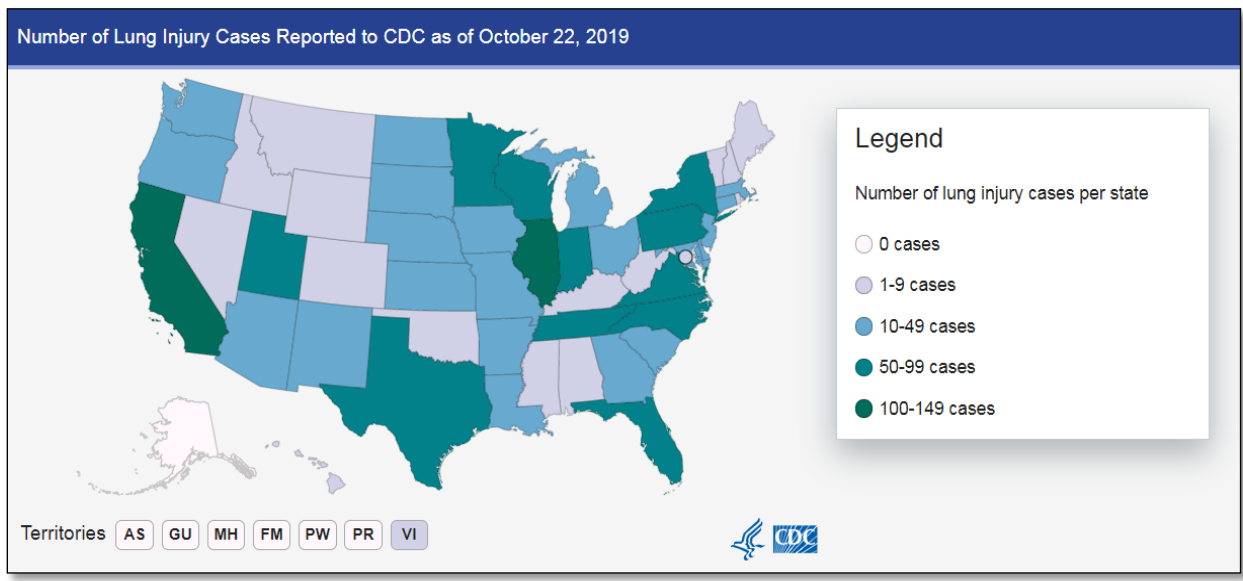
### Severe Pulmonary Illness Linked to Vaping

As of October 24, 2019, 44 confirmed cases of severe pulmonary illness linked to vaping have been identified in Ohio, with 30 additional illness reports under investigation. Currently, zero (0) cases have been reported in Erie County residents.

Under Section 3701.23 of the Ohio Revised Code, health care providers must report by the end of the next business day all suspected cases of severe pulmonary illness of unclear etiology with a history of vaping in the ninety (90) days prior to symptom onset. Cases can be reported to the Erie County Health Department via phone (419) 626-5623 x200 or fax (419) 626-8778 using the [ODH Clinician Report Form](#).

Nationwide, all e-cigarette, or vaping, product use associated lung injury (EVALI) patients have reported a history of using e-cigarette, or vaping products.

- THC is present in most of the samples tested by FDA to date, and most patients report a history of using THC-containing products.
- The latest national and state findings suggest products containing THC, particularly those obtained off the street or from other informal sources (e.g., friends, family member, illicit dealers), are linked to most of the cases and play a major role in the outbreak.



## Seasonal Influenza

The 2019-2020 flu season officially begins on October 1, 2019. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends annual influenza vaccination for everyone 6 months and older with any licensed, influenza vaccine that is appropriate for the recipient's age and health status (IIV, RIV4, or LAIV4) with no preference expressed for any one vaccine over another. More information about the [2019-2020 flu season](#) regarding vaccine and other seasonal flu updates is available.

For more information on seasonal influenza activity, please use the following resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/seasonal-influenza/ohio-flu-activity/>

## Perinatal Hepatitis B

Hepatitis B infection in a pregnant woman poses a serious risk to her infant at birth. Great progress has been made in identifying Hepatitis B positive pregnant women and immunizing and administering Hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) to prevent infection. There are still an average of 300 infants born every year to Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) positive females in Ohio.

Transmission of Hepatitis B can be prevented in about 95% of infants born to HBsAg mothers with early immunoprophylaxis. Administering HBIG within 12 hours of birth, the first dose of Hepatitis B vaccine at birth, and adhering to the regular vaccine schedule is recommended for all children born to HBsAg positive mothers.

Please remember to report Hepatitis B positive laboratory results to the Erie County Health Department.

For more information on Hepatitis B Perinatal infections, visit:

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/perinatal-hepatitis-b-prevention/Perinatal-Hepatitis-B-Prevention>

<https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/>

## Consider becoming a sentinel ILINET Provider!

ILINET is a collaborative surveillance program with the state health department and CDC. Data reported by sentinel providers provide a state and national picture of Influenza and Influenza-like-illness activity. Due to a large health care provider network in Northwest Ohio no longer participating in the ILINET reporting program, the NW region of Ohio has limited reporting providers. Becoming an ILINET provider is easy and only requires a few minutes of time a week.

Some benefits of this program include:

- Free Specimen Collection and Shipping Materials
- Feedback on submitted data
- Summaries of Regional and National Influenza data
- Free subscription to CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report and Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal

**More information about this program can be found on Page 3-4 of this newsletter.**

### Did you know the Erie County Health Department releases weekly flu reports throughout flu season?

Contact Ashley Franks ([afranks@echdohio.org](mailto:afranks@echdohio.org)) to receive weekly influenza updates from MMWR weeks 40-20

**OR**

View the Erie County Weekly Flu Reports at <http://eriecohealthohio.com/communicable-diseases/weekly-flu-reports/>

### The Sentinel ILINET Provider program is available to:

- Emergency Medicine
- Family Practice
- Internal Medicine
- Infectious Disease
- OB/GYN
- Pediatrics
- Urgent Care
- Student Health

Schools and institutions (nursing homes, jails, etc.) are **NOT** eligible

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Erie County Health Department (419) 626-5623 x200  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)  
Ohio Department of Health [www.odh.ohio.gov](http://www.odh.ohio.gov)

Now You Can Help With...

# Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance

...In Only a Few Minutes a Week!

## What is an influenza sentinel provider?

An influenza sentinel provider conducts surveillance for the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) in collaboration with the state health department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Data reported by sentinel providers, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, provide a national picture of influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. Over 3,500 providers were enrolled in this network during the 2018-19 influenza season.

## What data do sentinel providers collect? How and to whom are data reported?

Sentinel providers report each week the total number of patient visits and the number of patient visits for influenza-like illness by age group (0-4 years, 5-24 years, 25-49 years, 50-64 years,  $\geq 65$  years). These data are transmitted once a week through a CDC hosted website. With more providers now using electronic health records (EHR) systems, most providers report that it takes them **just a few minutes per week** to compile and report their data. In addition, sentinel providers can submit specimens from a subset of patients for influenza testing (subtyping) at the Ohio Department of Health Lab. All collection and shipping materials are provided **free of charge**.

## Who can be an influenza sentinel provider?

Providers of any specialty in any type of practice are eligible to be sentinel provider:

- Emergency Medicine
- Family Practice
- Infectious Disease
- Internal Medicine
- OB/GYN
- Pediatrics
- Student Health
- Urgent Care

Practice settings that are **not eligible** are elementary, middle, or high school health centers, and any type of institutional setting such as nursing homes or prisons.

## Why volunteer?

Influenza viruses are constantly evolving and cause substantial morbidity and mortality (a range of 3,000 – 80,000 influenza-associated deaths) almost every influenza season. Data from sentinel providers is critical in monitoring the impact of influenza and, in combination with other influenza surveillance data, can be used to guide prevention and control activities, vaccine strain selection, and patient care. Sentinel providers receive feedback on the data submitted and summaries of regional and national influenza data. The most important consideration is that the data provided are critical for protecting the public's health.

**For more information on Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance, please contact, Ohio's influenza surveillance coordinator, at 614-466-0456.**



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™



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