The Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) is actively monitoring respiratory illness trends as we enter the 2026–2027 respiratory season, which spans from October 4, 2026 through May 22, 2027. This period typically sees increased activity of respiratory viruses, including COVID-19, Influenza, and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). Through ongoing surveillance and data reporting, CCBH aims to support partners and stakeholders with timely, actionable insights to inform public health response and community preparedness.

The respiratory illness surveillance dashboard has been updated for MMWR week 42 (October 18-24, 2026). Please visit https://ccbh.net/respiratory-webpage-dashboard/ for the most current data and trends.

Below are some key points for MMWR week 42 (October 18-24, 2026):

COVID-19

- COVID-19-associated hospitalizations remained stable. 6 hospitalizations were reported this week as well as the previous week. There have been 19 hospitalizations this respiratory season.
- 0 COVID-19 related deaths were reported this week by the Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics. There have been 0 COVID-19 related deaths this season.
- CCBH is investigating 2 COVID-19 outbreaks in congregate care settings.
- Wastewater monitoring data suggest viral gene copy concentration levels were low at NEORSD Easterly, Southerly, and Westerly WWTCs (Ohio Wastewater Monitoring Data | DataOhio).

Influenza

- Influenza-associated hospitalizations (IAHs) remained stable. 6 IAHs were reported this week compared to 7 the previous week. There have been 19 hospitalizations this respiratory season.
- 0 Influenza related deaths were reported this week by the Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics. There have been 0 Influenza related deaths this season.
- 1.8% of emergency department visits were for flu like symptoms. ED visits for fever/ILI were below the 5 year median and considered '**low**' this week.
- CCBH is not investigating any Influenza outbreaks.
- Wastewater monitoring data suggest viral gene copy concentration levels were low at NEORSD Easterly and Southerly WWTCs and not detected at NEORSD Westerly WWTC (Ohio Wastewater Monitoring Data | DataOhio).

RSV

- RSV-associated hospitalizations decreased. 0 RSV-associated hospitalizations were reported this week compared to 1 hospitalization the previous week. There have been 2 hospitalizations this respiratory season.
- 0 RSV related deaths were reported this week by the Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics. There have been 0 RSV related deaths this season.
- CCBH is not investigating any RSV outbreaks.
  Wastewater monitoring data suggest viral gene copy concentration levels were not detected at NEORSD Easterly, Southerly, and Westerly WWTCs (Ohio Wastewater Monitoring Data | DataOhio