

# CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION



## December 9 - December 15, 2018 (MMWR Week 50)

### Highlights

Flu activity was 'minimal' for the 11<sup>th</sup> straight week.

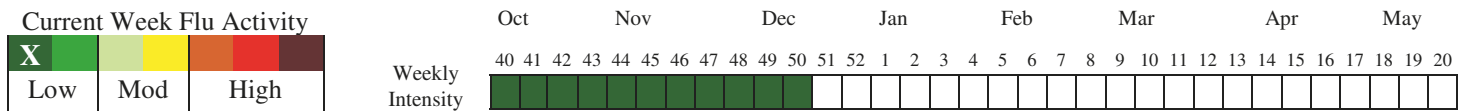
4.3% deaths reported were due to pneumonia-related causes. 2 flu related deaths were reported this week.

14 confirmed cases of flu associated hospitalizations were reported this week. 41 confirmed cases reported so far this flu season.

2.6% of emergency room visits were due to flu like illness.

Flu activity rating explanation and weekly flu reports can be found here: <http://www.ccbh.net/flu-weekly-reports/>

### Local Flu Activity Dashboard (All data are preliminary and may change as updated data are received.)



**Table 1. Cuyahoga County Influenza Data Dashboard**

Influenza (Flu) Indicator	Current Activity Level	Activity Compared to Last Week	#Weeks <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>	2017-2018 Season Total/Trend
Percent of pneumonia deaths & number of flu related deaths - [Fig 1]	Pneumonia: 4.29% Flu: 2 deaths	(10.8%) +2	▼1 ▲9	Pneumonia deaths lower than 5-year median. 2 flu deaths.
Influenza like illness (ILI) doctor visits [Fig 2]	Cuyahoga: N/A athenahealth: N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	Low percentage of doctor visits for flu like illness.
Flu associated hospitalizations [Fig 3]	14	+7	▲3	Lower than 5-yr median. n=41
School absenteeism due to <b>ILLNESS ONLY</b> - [Fig 4A]	2.86%	43.8%	▲1	Data trending up and similar to the 5-year median.
School absenteeism due to <b>ALL CAUSES</b> - [Fig 4B]	3.72%	(18.0%)	●2	Data trending up and similar to the 5-year median.
Emergency room visit due to ILI [Fig 5]	2.63%	20.1%	▲1	Higher than 5-yr median (2.6%)
Sales of over-the-counter medications used to treat ILI. [Fig 6]	287	11.2%	▲1	Lower than 5-yr median (3.2%)
Congestion & cough complaints [Fig 8]	14.06%	8.3%	▲1	Increased 60% since week 40
Vomiting & nausea complaints [Fig 9]	11.61%	4.7%	●1	Steadily increased since week 40
Diarrhea complaints [Fig 10]	2.93%	(0.6%)	●1	Remaining steady since week 40

<sup>1</sup>Due to small percentages, caution should be used while interpreting the 'Activity Compared to Last Week' box.

<sup>2</sup>For figures 2, 4a-4b, ▲ = (Increase ≥ 20%), ▼ = (Decrease ≥ -20%), ● = Stable (-19.9% to +19.9%)

<sup>3</sup>For figures 1, 5-10, ▲ = (Increase ≥ 5%), ▼ = (Decrease ≥ -5%), ● = Stable (-4.9% to +4.9%)

<sup>4</sup>For flu related deaths (Fig 1) & Fig 3, ▲ = (Increase # of deaths/cases), ▼ = (Decrease # of deaths/cases), ● = Stable (Same # of deaths/cases)

## December 9 - December 15, 2018 (MMWR Week 50)

### Flu Summary

This report is intended to provide an overview of influenza related activity occurring in Cuyahoga County while providing some information on state activity that is one week behind the current week. It will be published on a weekly basis and can be found at the following website: <http://www.ccbh.net/flu-weekly-reports/>

*Note: Data are provisional and subject to change. Updates will be included in future reports.*

#### **Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality**

4.3% of deaths reported were due to pneumonia. 76.9% of pneumonia related deaths occurred to adults 65 years old or older. Two flu related deaths were reported this week (**Figure 1**).

#### **Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports**

Unfortunately, athenahealth stopped reporting local ILI data to the public health collaborative as of week 48. No sentinel ILI physicians reported this week (**Figure 2**). ILI is defined as a fever ( $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F), **and** cough and/or sore throat.

#### **Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations and Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality**

In Cuyahoga County, 14 confirmed cases of influenza-associated hospitalization were reported this week and 7 cases for week 49 (**Figure 3**). There were 67 statewide confirmed influenza associated hospitalizations reported in week 50. No pediatric flu deaths reported so far this flu season in Ohio.

#### **School Absenteeism**

Participating schools in Cuyahoga County reported the percentage (median = 2.9%) of absenteeism *due to any illness* on Tuesday (**Figure 4A**). **Figure 4B** shows the total absenteeism *due to any reason* (median = 3.7%).

#### **Emergency Department (ED) visits and Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Sales**

2.6% of all ED visits were for fever + ILI symptoms. Approximately 45 fewer patients visited EDs for fever and ILI symptoms this week compared to the previous 5-year weekly median (**Figure 5**). **Figure 6** shows 65 fewer OTC products per drugstore were purchased this week than the previous 5-year weekly median.

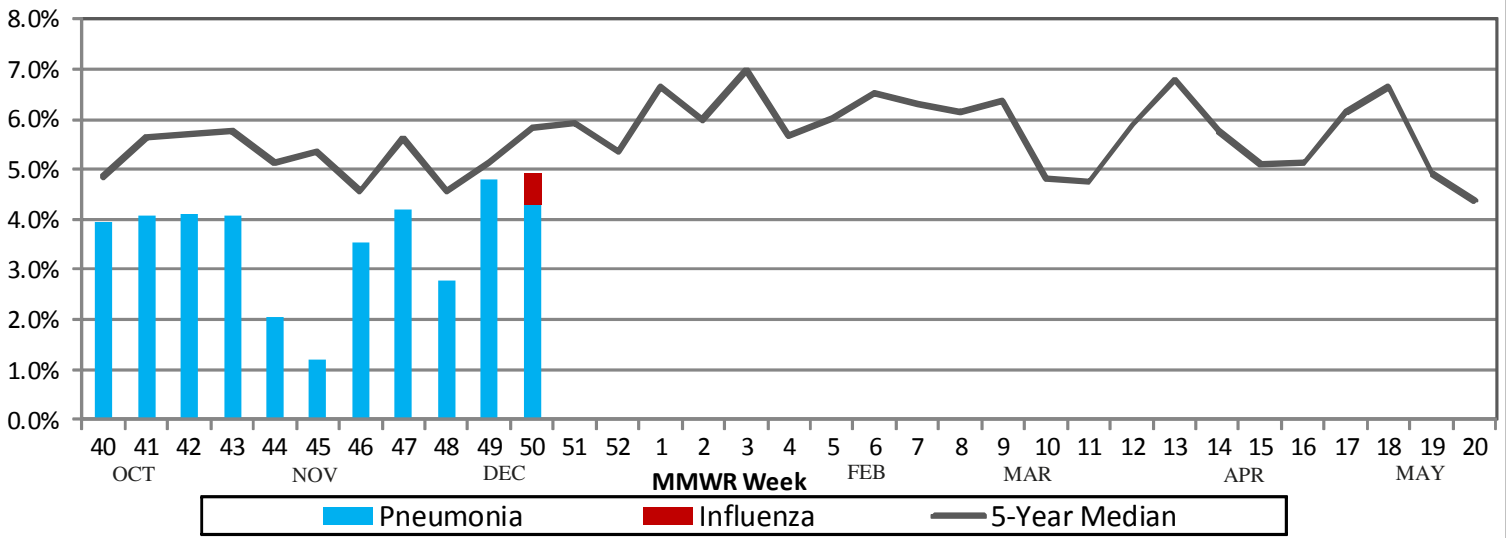
**Figure 7** shows, by zip code, the fever + ILI symptoms collected for Figure 5. Three other maps show, by zip code, the frequency of ED visits for three symptoms that are common during the fall and winter seasons and are of interest to the general public: congestion and cough (**Figure 8**), vomiting and nausea (**Figure 9**), and diarrhea (**Figure 10**).

Descriptions of data sources used to complete the weekly influenza write-up can be found on the last page of this report.

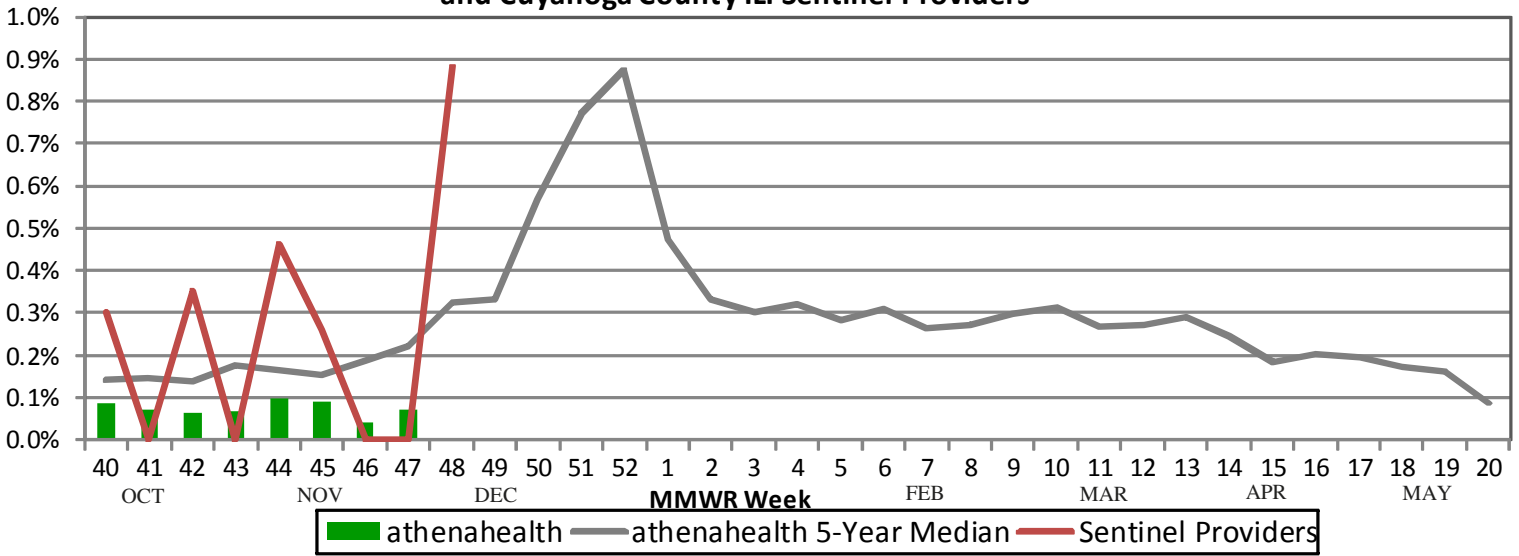
#### **Additional Influenza Activity Links**

- Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report – <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>
- Ohio Influenza Surveillance – <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/seasflu/Ohio%20Flu%20Activity.aspx>
- HealthMap Flu Trends - <http://www.healthmap.org/flutrends/#>

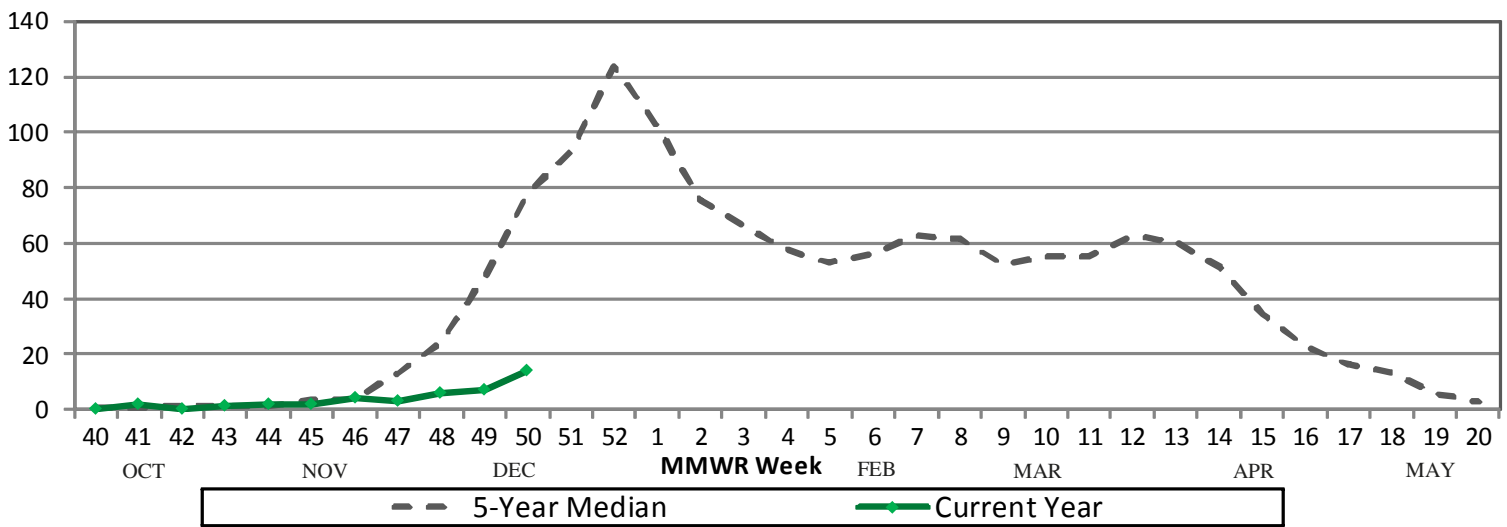
**Figure 1: Percentage of Deaths Due to Pneumonia & Influenza (P&I)  
Cleveland, Euclid, Lakewood, & Parma Vital Statistics Departments**



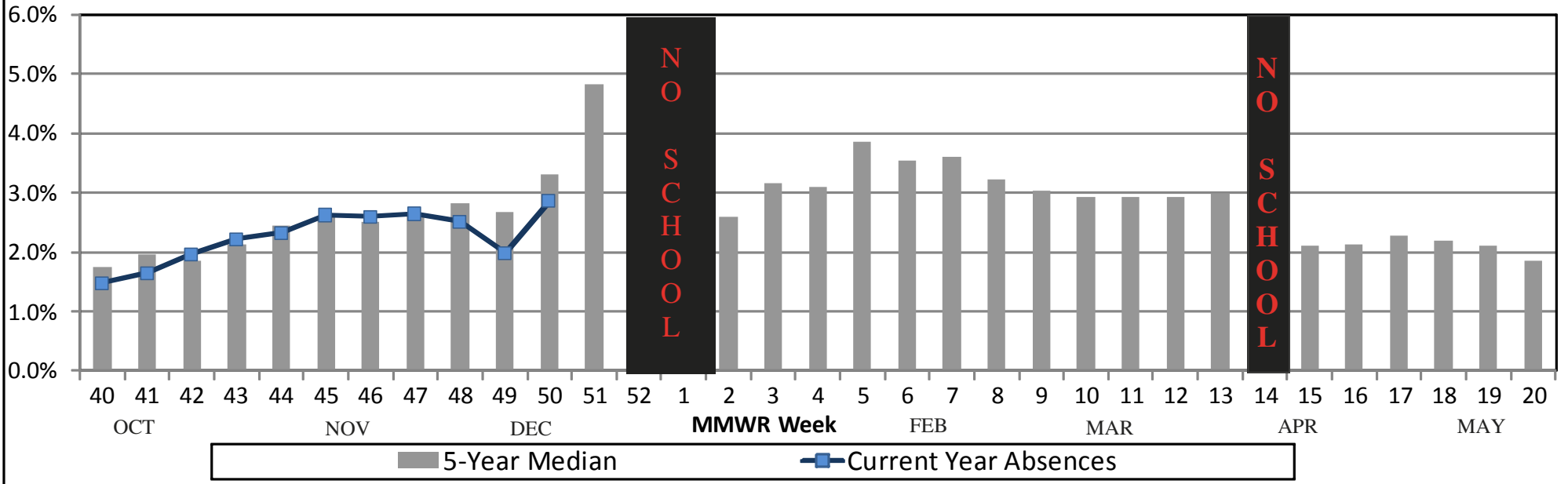
**Figure 2: Percent of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Visits via athenahealth  
and Cuyahoga County ILI Sentinel Providers**



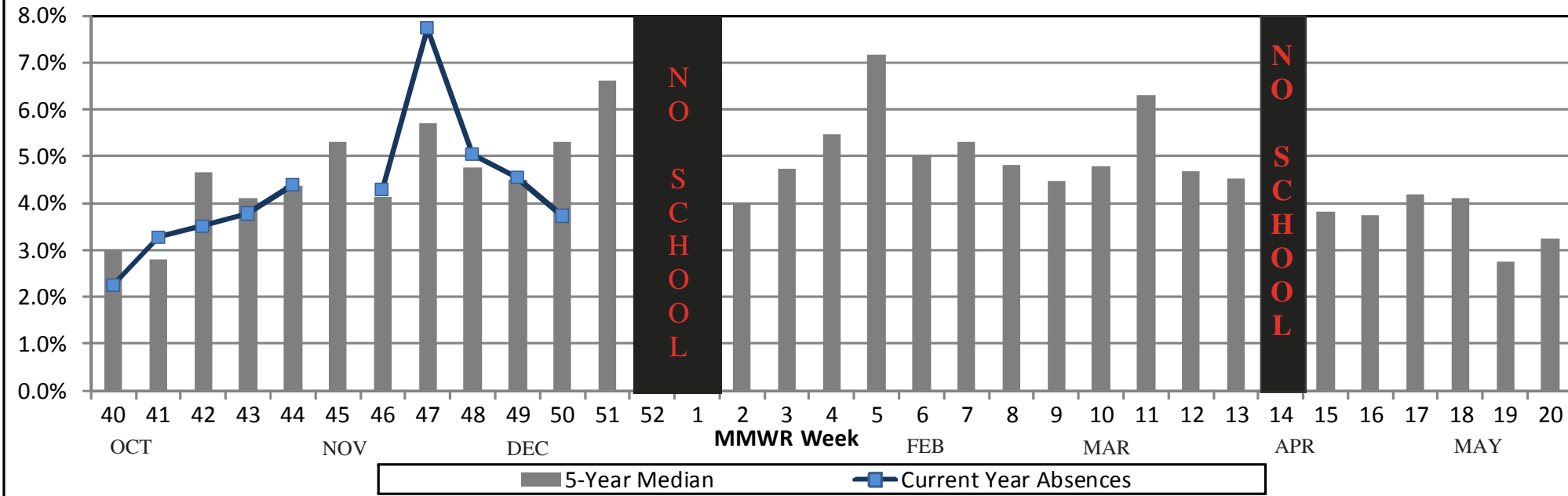
**Figure 3: Number of Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations  
in Cuyahoga County (using event date)**



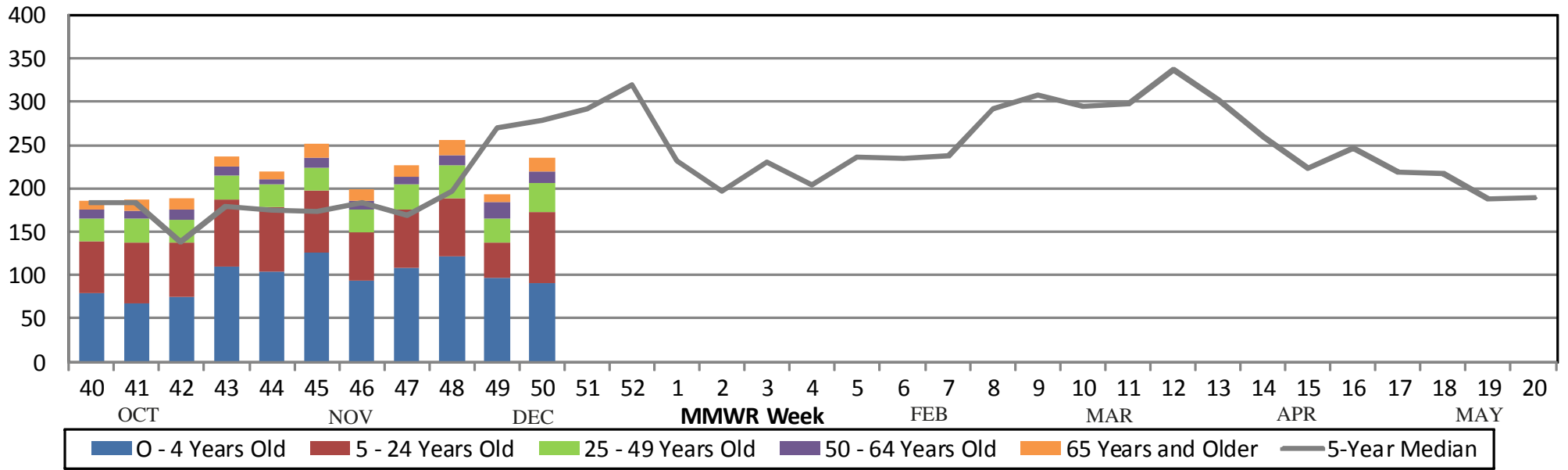
**Figure 4A: School Absenteeism (due to any illness) in Cuyahoga County**



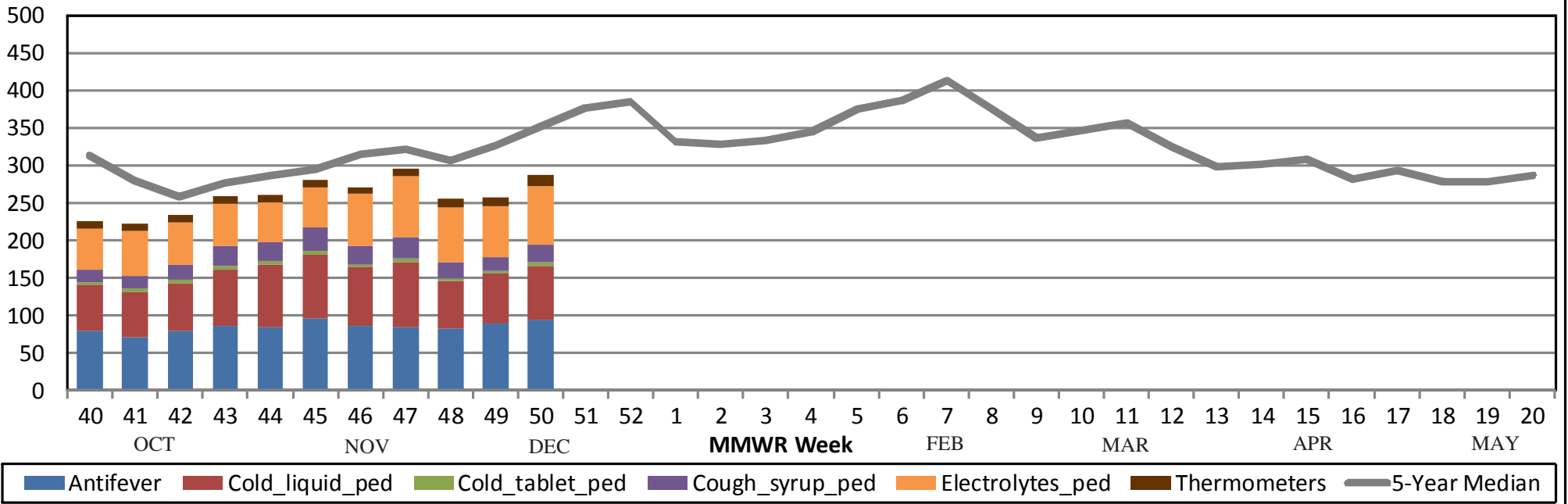
**Figure 4B: School Absenteeism (due to any reason) in Cuyahoga County**



**Figure 5: Cuyahoga County Hospital ED Visits for ILI & Fever Symptoms by Age Group**



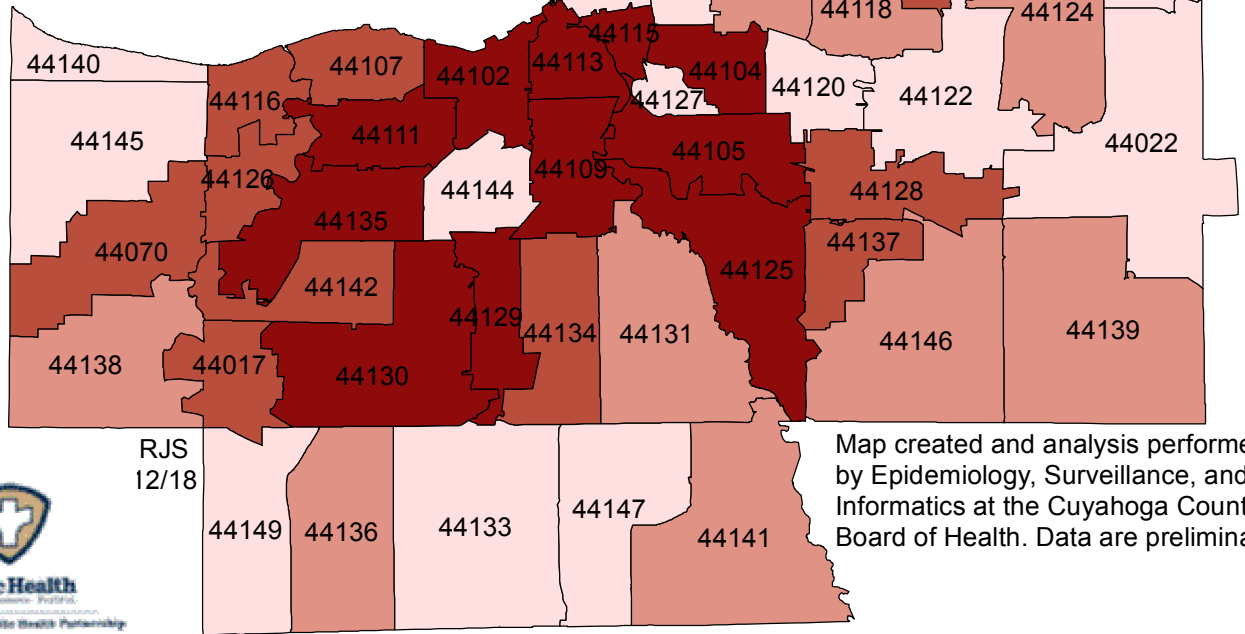
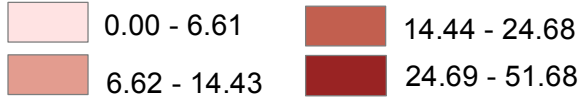
**Figure 6: Comparison of Average Weekly OTC Products Sold in Cuyahoga County Drugstores**



### Figure 7 Rate of Fever and Influenza-Like Illness Complaints per 100,000 by Zip Code

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#### Rate

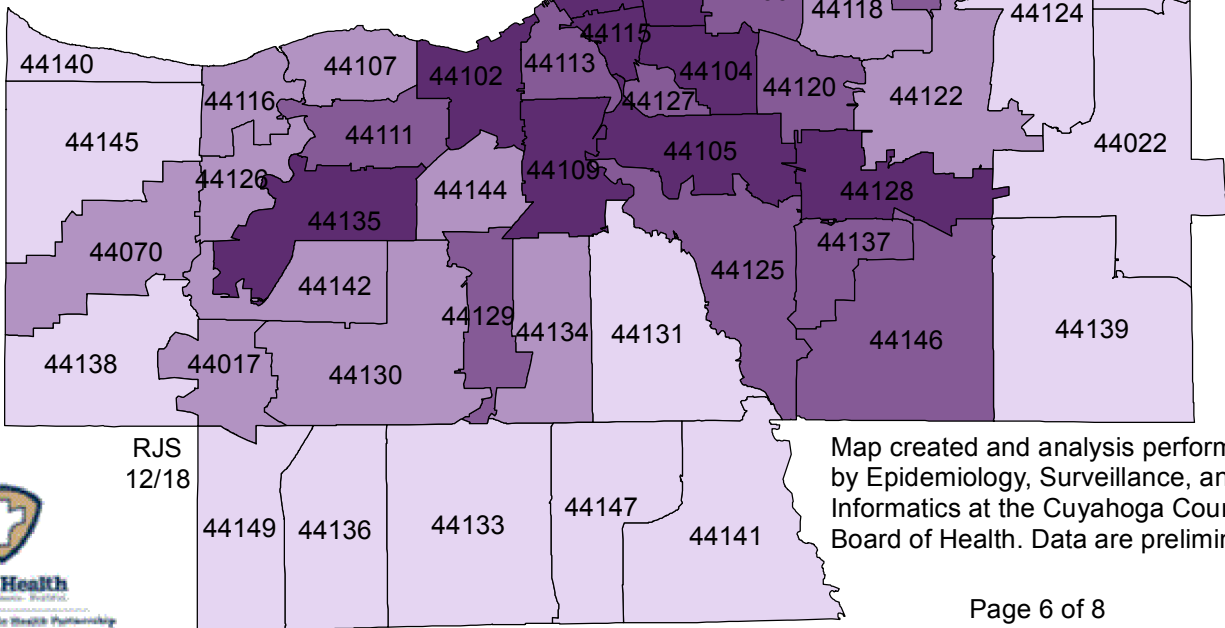
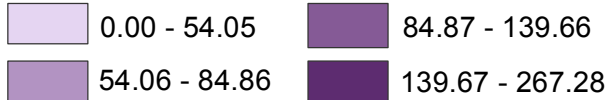


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### Figure 8 Rate of Congestion and Cough Complaints per 100,000 by Zip Code

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#### Rate

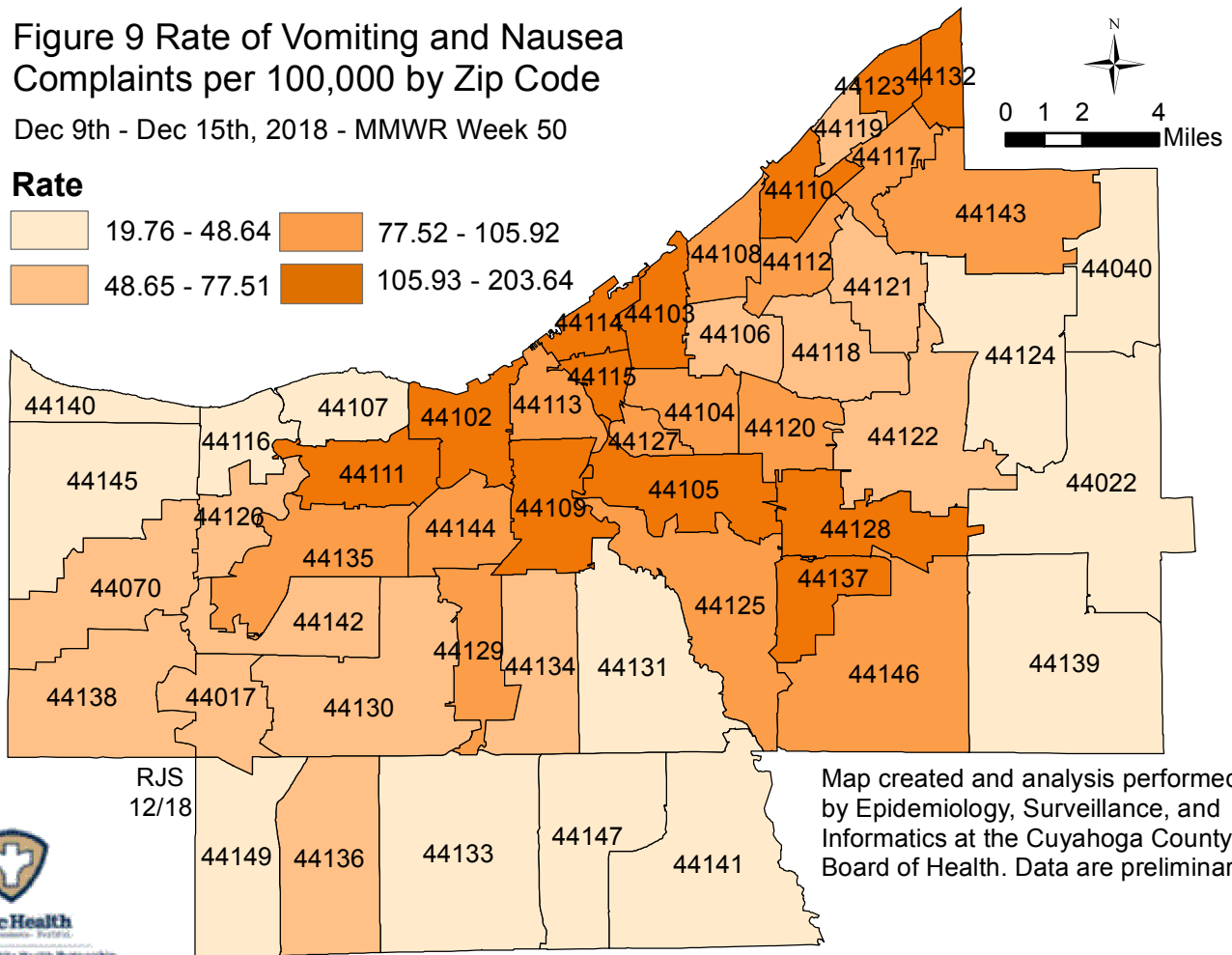
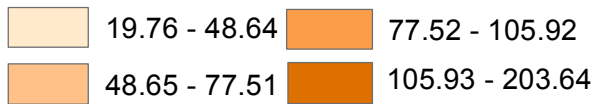


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# Figure 9 Rate of Vomiting and Nausea Complaints per 100,000 by Zip Code

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## Rate



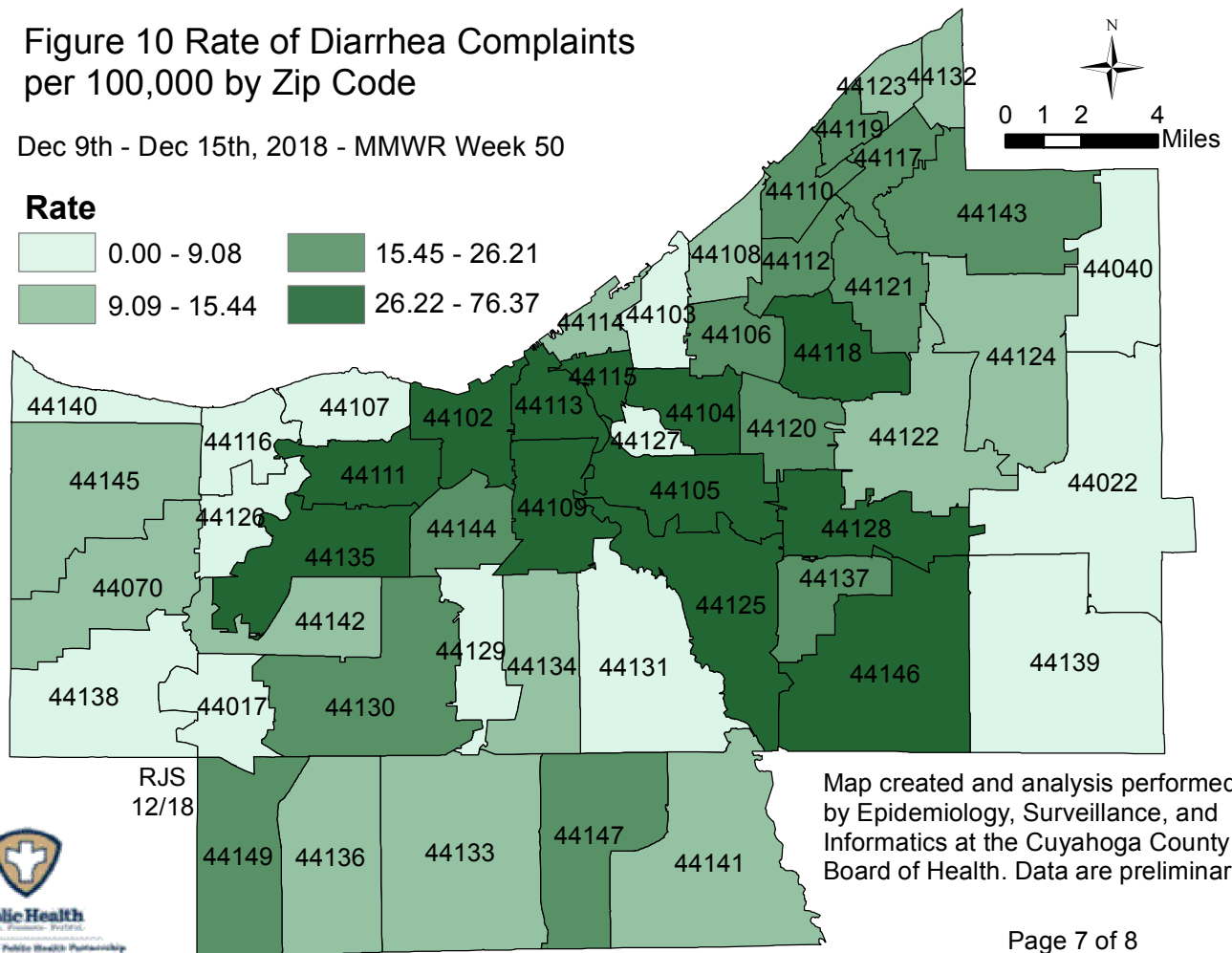
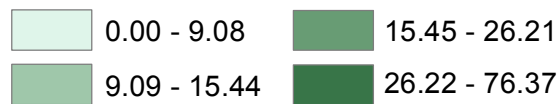
Map created and analysis performed by Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Informatics at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Data are preliminary.



# Figure 10 Rate of Diarrhea Complaints per 100,000 by Zip Code

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## Rate



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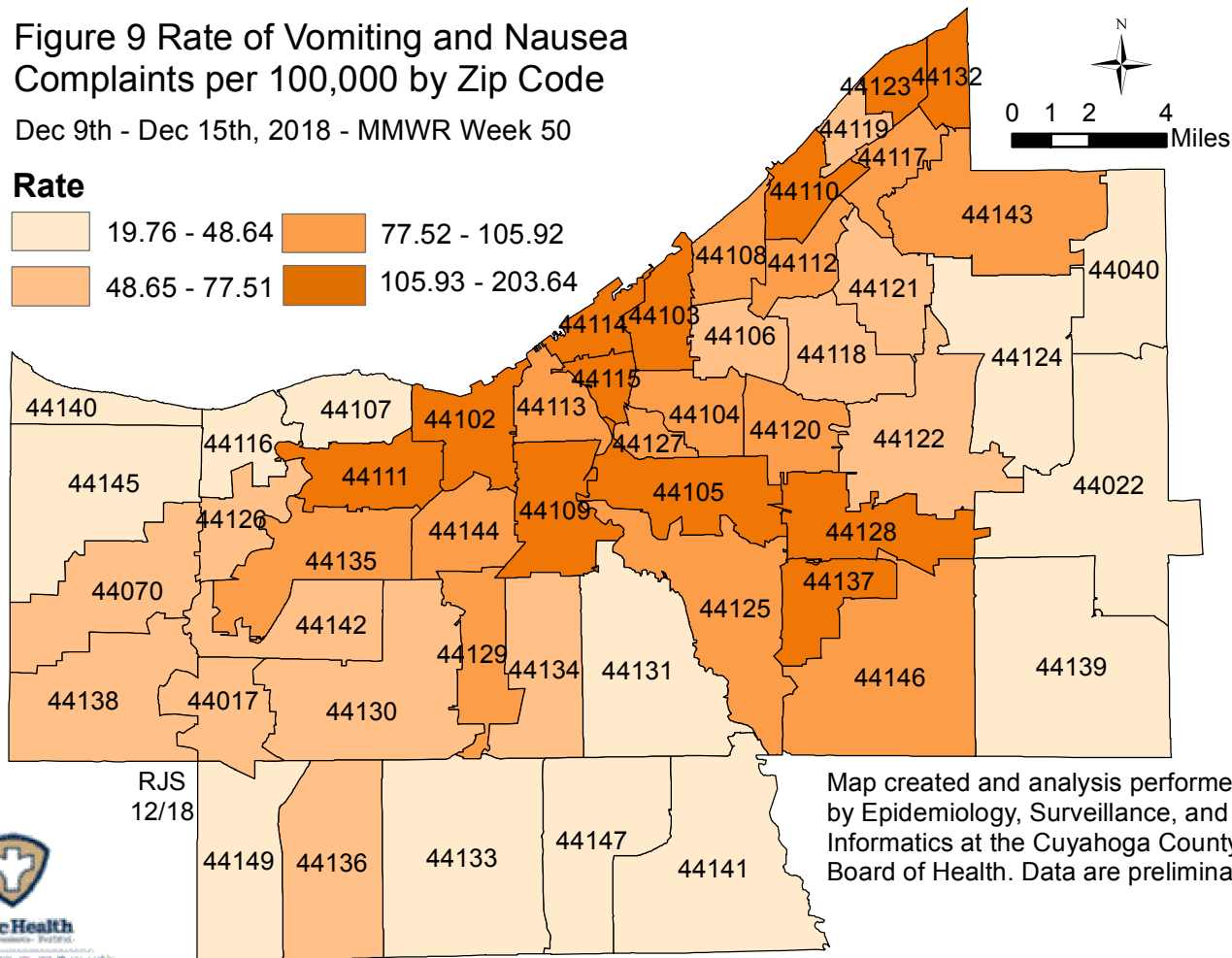
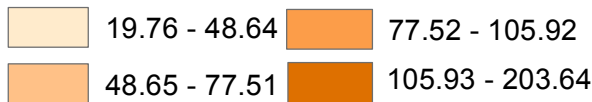




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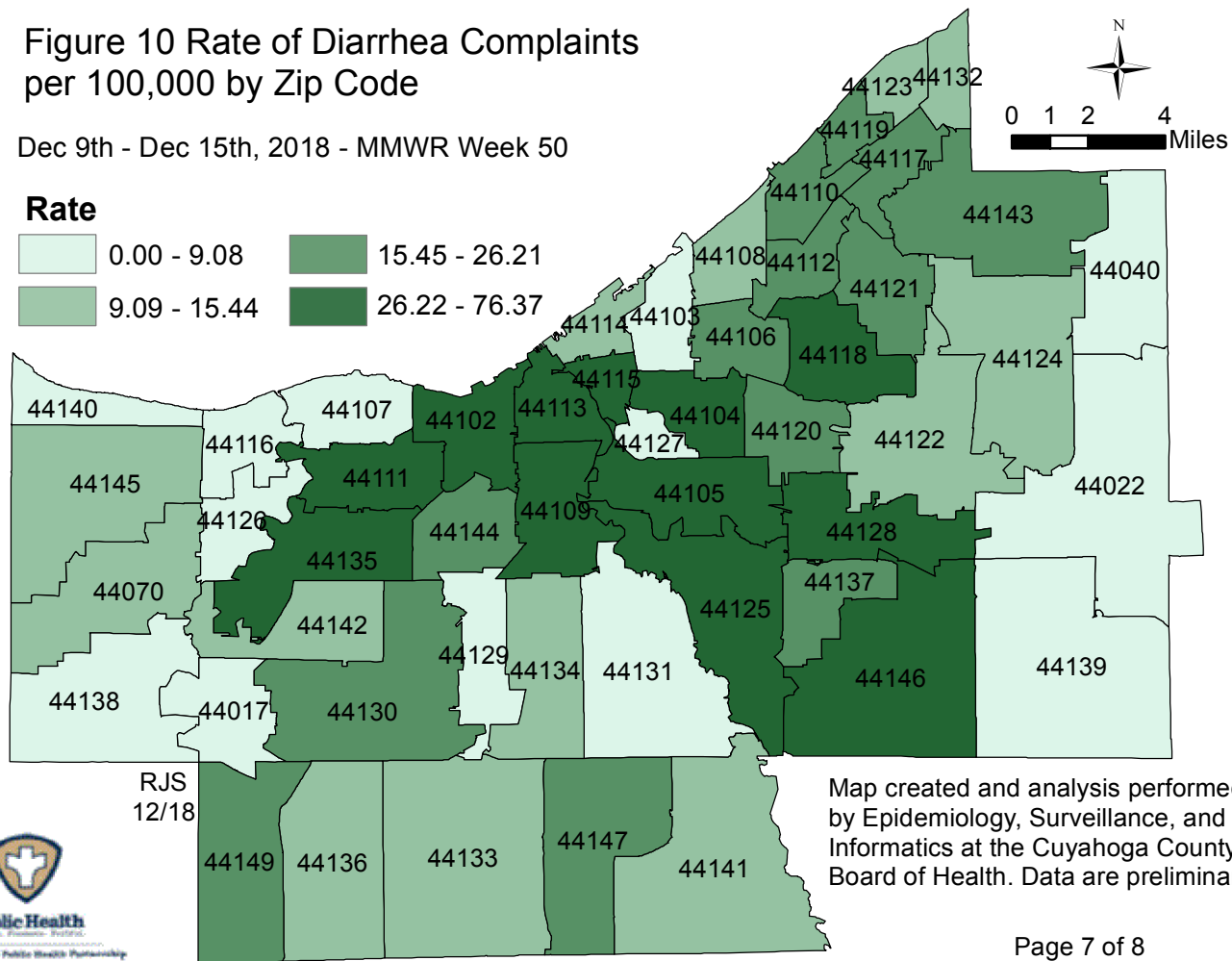
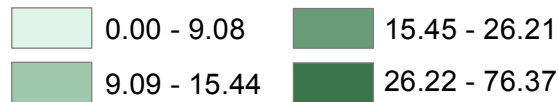


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