Texas Department of State Health Services, HSR 2/3

Community Preparedness Section

Epidemiology Branch

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE REPORT: HEALTH SERVICE REGION 2/3

Week 50 (December 13 - 19, 2015)

INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVEL, HSR 2/3

* See page 6 for activity level determination

Minimal
Sporadic
Local
Regional
Widespread

WEEKLY OVERVIEW

Health Service Region 2/3

- **2% of patients presented with influenza-like illness (ILI), which is below the HHS Region 6 baseline of 3.6%.**
- **The overall school absenteeism rate was 4.2%, of which 2.8% was attributable to ILI.**
- **1.8% of tests performed were positive for influenza.**
- **No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. None have been reported this season.**
- **No influenza outbreaks were reported this week.**

Texas

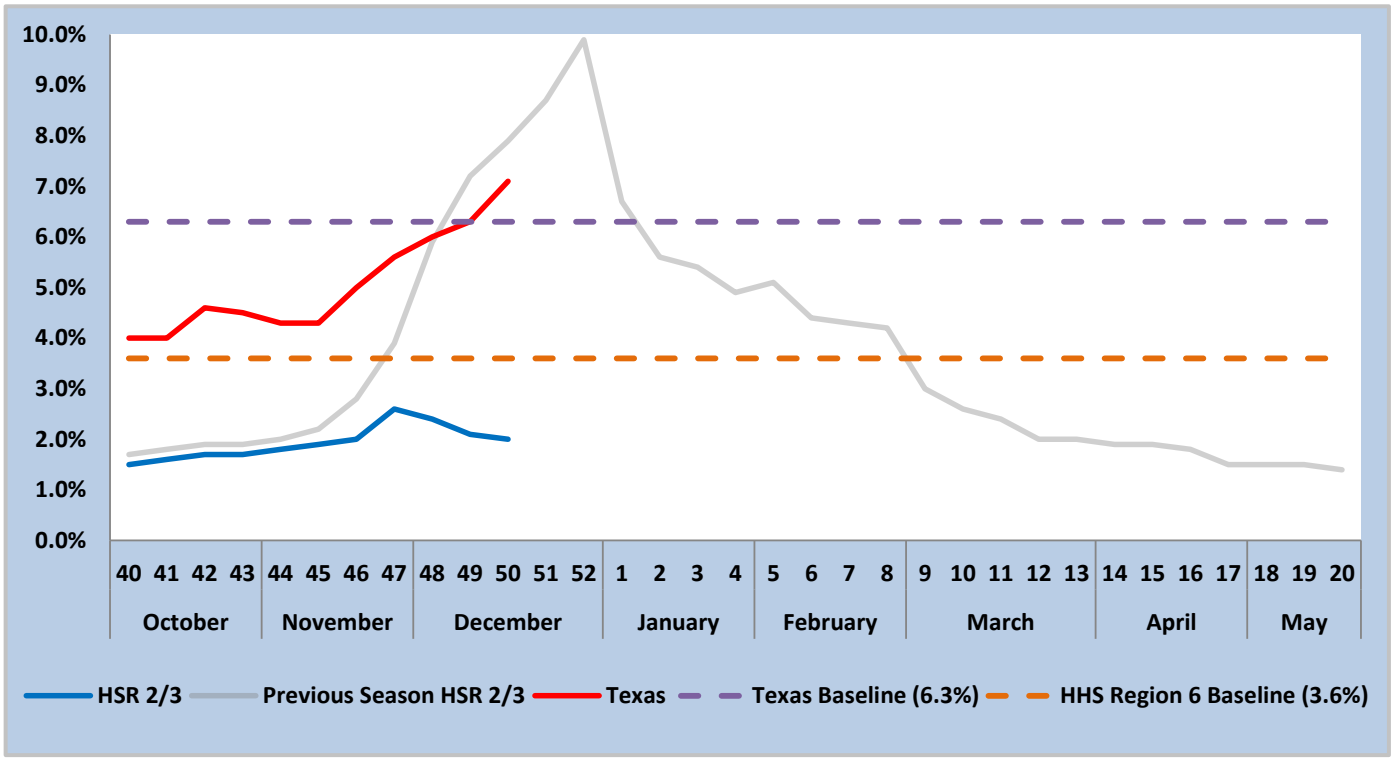
- **7.1% of patients presented with ILI, which is above the statewide baseline of 6.3%.**
- **16 out of 1,572 specimens (1%) reported to the state were positive for influenza.**
- **No influenza-associated outbreaks were reported this week.**
- **No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. None have been reported this season.**

United States

- **Influenza activity rose slightly. 2.2% of patients presented with ILI, which is above the baseline of 2.1%.**
- **6.3% of deaths were due to pneumonia and influenza, which is below the epidemic threshold of 6.8%.**
- **372 out of 12,890 (2.9%) tests reported to WHO and NREVSS laboratories were positive for influenza.**
- **Influenza B represented 43.3% of positive influenza tests reported.**
- **1 influenza-associated pediatric death was reported this week. 4 have been reported this season.**

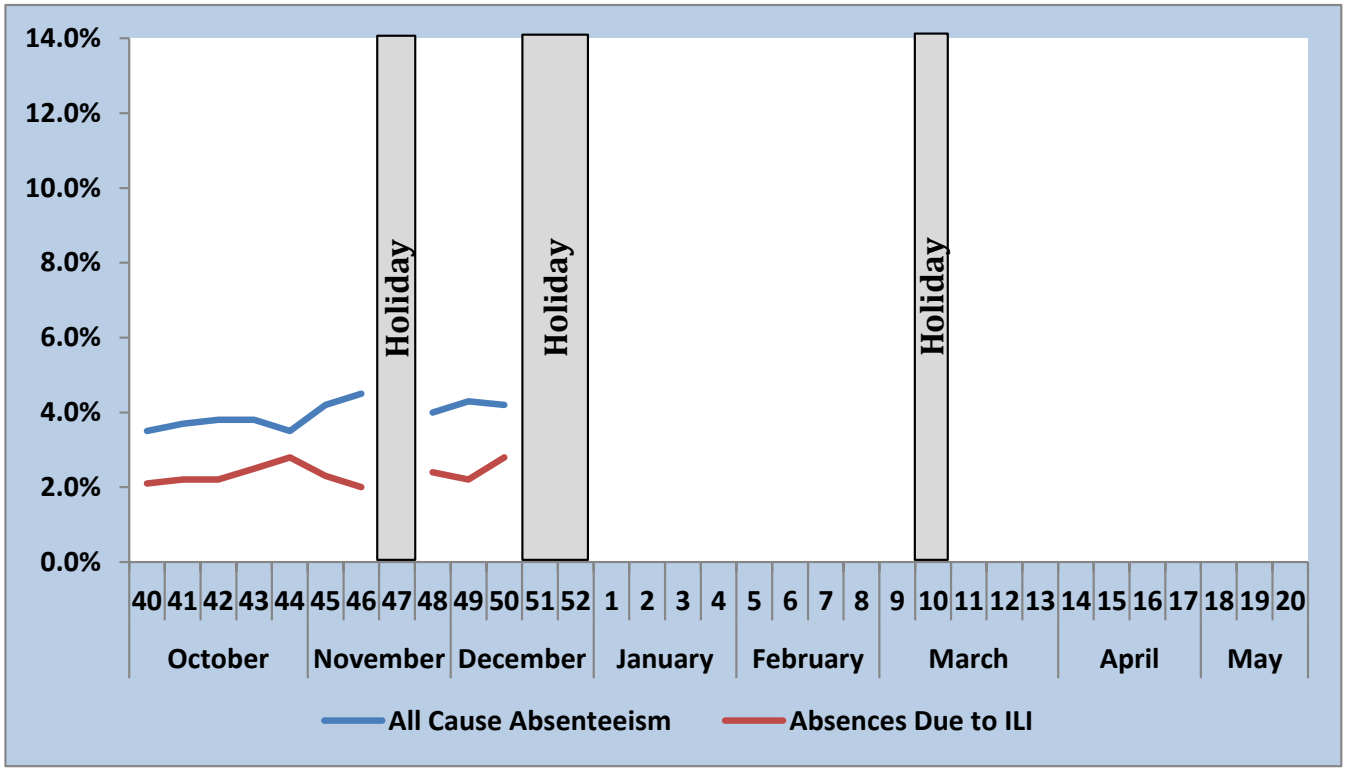
NOTE: Variability in expected influenza activity between regions exists and therefore different baselines are established at the national, state, regional, and local levels. DSHS HSR 2/3 has not established a baseline and will utilize the HHS Region 6 baseline as an approximation.

GRAPH I. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS, PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL PROVIDER VISITS



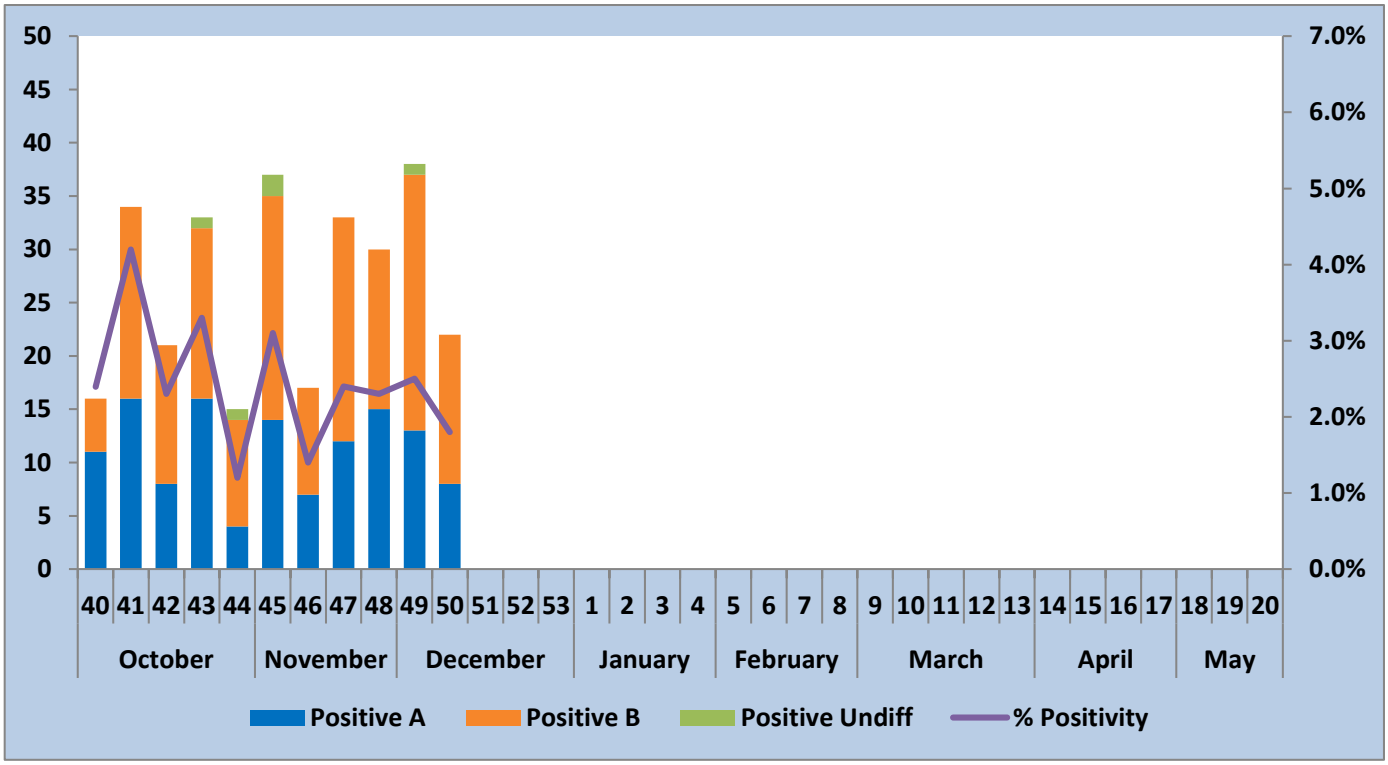
During week 50, 26 healthcare facilities and 7 health departments reported data to DSHS HSR 2/3 which included a total of 70,659 patients and 1,433 patients with ILI.

GRAPH II. PERCENTAGE DAILY ABSENTEEISM DUE TO ILI



Absences due to ILI accounted for 2.8% of all reported school absences during week 50.

GRAPH III. INFLUENZA TEST RESULTS, TYPE AND OVERALL POSITIVITY



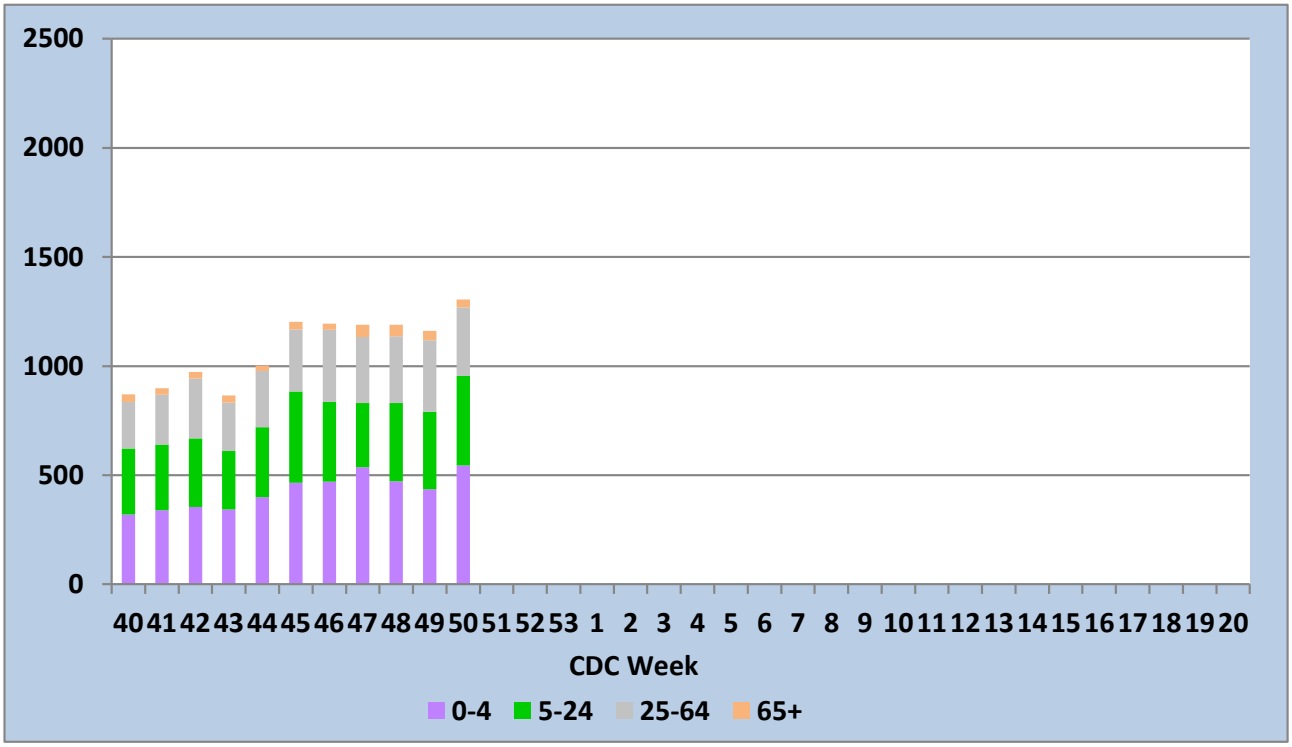
During week 50, influenza was detected in 38 of 1,533 specimens tested. None were confirmed by PCR or culture.

TABLE I. INFLUENZA TEST RESULTS, NUMBER AND PERCENT BY TESTING METHOD

	Season to Date	Week 50	Week 49
Total Tests Performed	12,406	1,236	1,533
Total Positive	296 (2.4%)	22 (1.8%)	38 (2.5%)
Rapid Type A	118 (39.9%)	8 (36.4%)	10 (26.3%)
Rapid Type B	163 (55.1%)	14 (63.6%)	24 (63.2%)
Rapid Undifferentiated	5 (1.7%)	0 (0%)	1 (2.6%)
Confirmed Type A	6 (2.0%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)
A H1N1 (2009)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
A H3N2	5 (83.3%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)
Not Subtyped	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Confirmed Type B	4 (1.4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

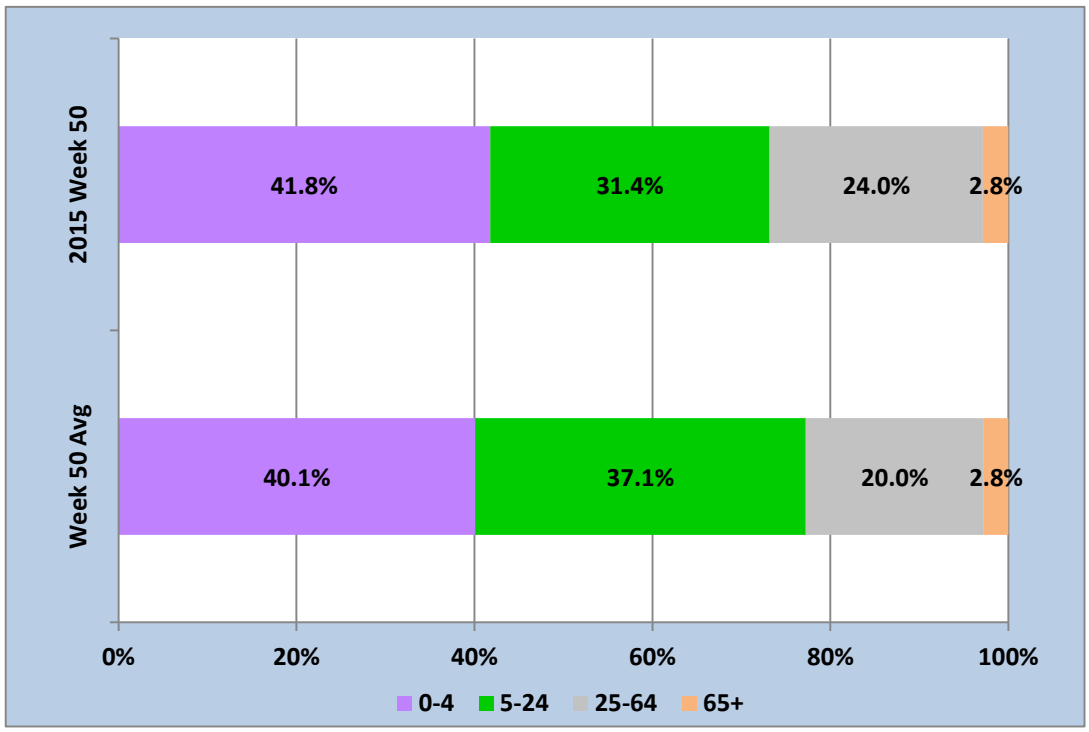
The percentage of influenza A H1N1 (2009), A H3N2, and type A not subtyped are calculated as a percentage of all reported tests confirmed positive for influenza type A. Confirmed represents a positive PCR or culture.

GRAPH IV. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS HOSPITAL VISITS BY AGE GROUP



Data captured from ESSENCE syndromic disease surveillance system representing the percentage of emergency room visits that were due to ILI for each age group. During week 50, there were 1,305 emergency room visits due to ILI in ESSENCE participating facilities.

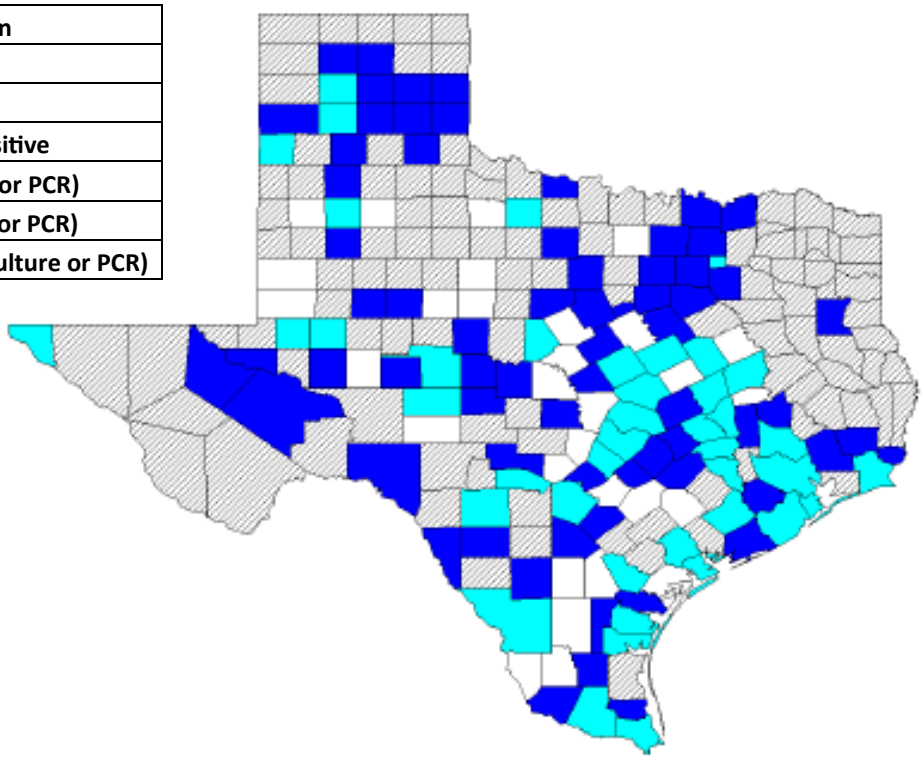
GRAPH V. AGE COMPOSITION OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS HOSPITAL VISITS



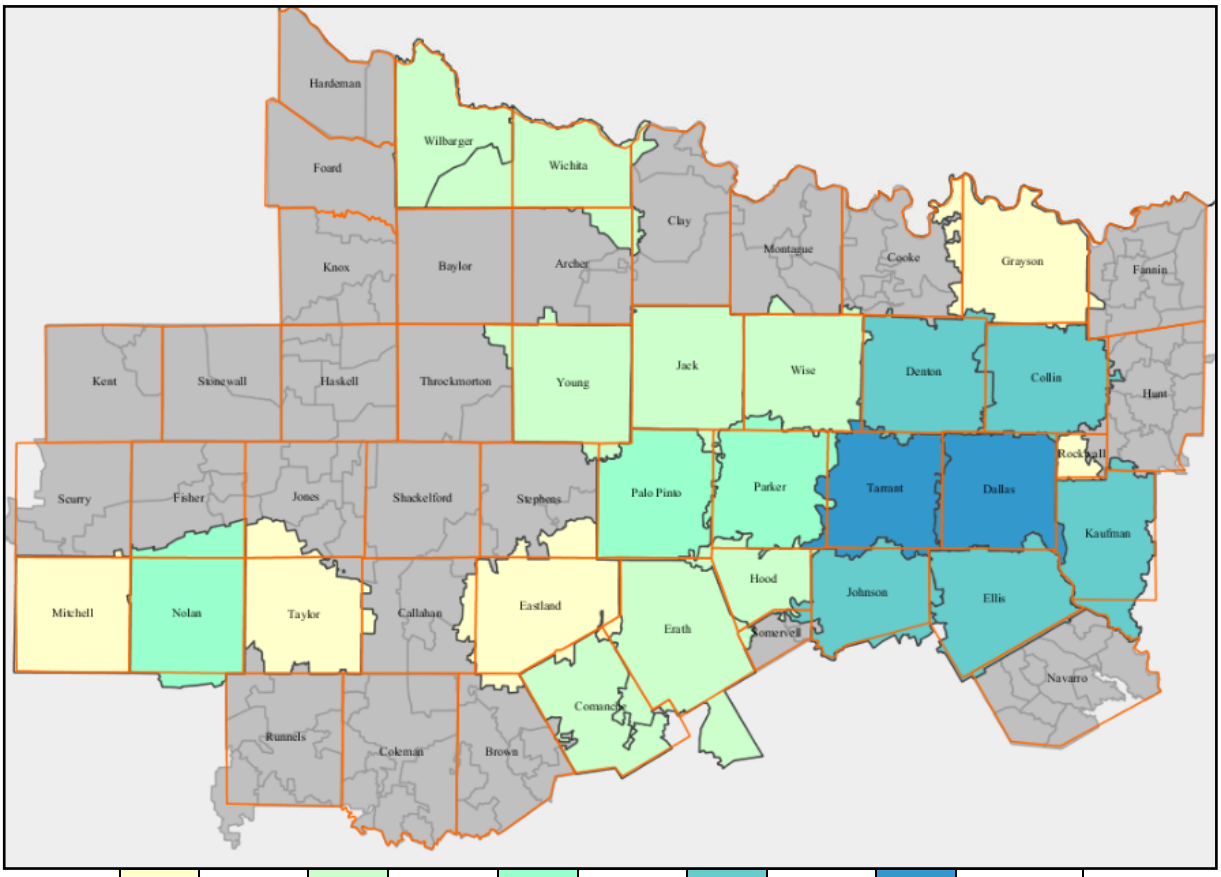
The week 50 average is an average of ESSENCE reported ILI visits during week 50 in the previous 5 influenza seasons.

MAP I. INFLUENZA ACTIVITY, TEXAS WEEK 50

	No Information
	No Activity
	ILI Only
	Rapid Test Positive
	Flu A (Culture or PCR)
	Flu B (Culture or PCR)
	Flu A and B (Culture or PCR)



MAP II. INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS COUNTS (ESSENCE), HSR 2/3 COUNTIES



	1-2		3-6		7-12		13-66		67-540

Data gathered from facilities submitting syndromic surveillance information to ESSENCE.

The Texas Department of State Health Services, Health Service Region 2/3 Influenza Surveillance report is distributed Friday of each week.

HSR 2/3 current and past influenza reports: https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/region2-3/influenza/

Texas influenza activity can be accessed at: http://www.texasflu.org/

National influenza activity can be accessed at: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report or would like to become an influenza surveillance participant, please contact:

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***HSR 2/3 ACTIVITY LEVEL DETERMINATION**

Minimal

No laboratory confirmed flu A or B detected in region 2 OR 3 **AND** little or no ILI activity in region 2 OR 3 **AND** no outbreaks of lab confirmed /QT flu in region 2 AND 3.

Sporadic

Influenza rapid A or B detected in region 2 OR 3 **OR** Laboratory confirmed A or B detected in region 2 OR 3 **AND** low ILI activity in region 2 AND 3 **AND** no outbreaks of lab confirmed /QT flu in region 2 OR 3.

Local

Laboratory confirmed flu A or B detected in region 2 OR 3 in current or previous two weeks **AND** moderate ILI activity in region with confirmed flu A or B in current week or previous two weeks **OR** one or more outbreaks of lab confirmed /QT flu in region with confirmed flu A or B in current week or previous two weeks.

Regional

Laboratory confirmed flu A or B detected in 2 or more counties in region 2 OR 3 in current or previous two weeks **AND** elevated ILI activity in region with confirmed flu A or B in current week or previous two weeks **OR** two or more outbreaks of lab confirmed /QT flu in region with confirmed flu A or B in current week or previous two weeks.

Widespread

Laboratory confirmed flu A or B detected in 2 or more counties in region 2 OR 3 in current week **AND** significant ILI activity in region 2 AND 3 in current week **OR** two or more outbreaks of lab confirmed /QT flu in region 2 AND 3 with confirmed flu A or B in current week or previous two weeks.