Texas Department of State Health Services, HSR 2/3

Community Preparedness Section

Epidemiology Branch

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE REPORT: HEALTH SERVICE REGION 2/3

Week 51 (December 20 - 26, 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

- **2.3% of patients presented with influenza-like illness (ILI), which is below the HHS Region 6 baseline of 3.6%.**
- **School ILI absenteeism data is unavailable this week, but will resume in week 1 of 2016.**
- **2.4% 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

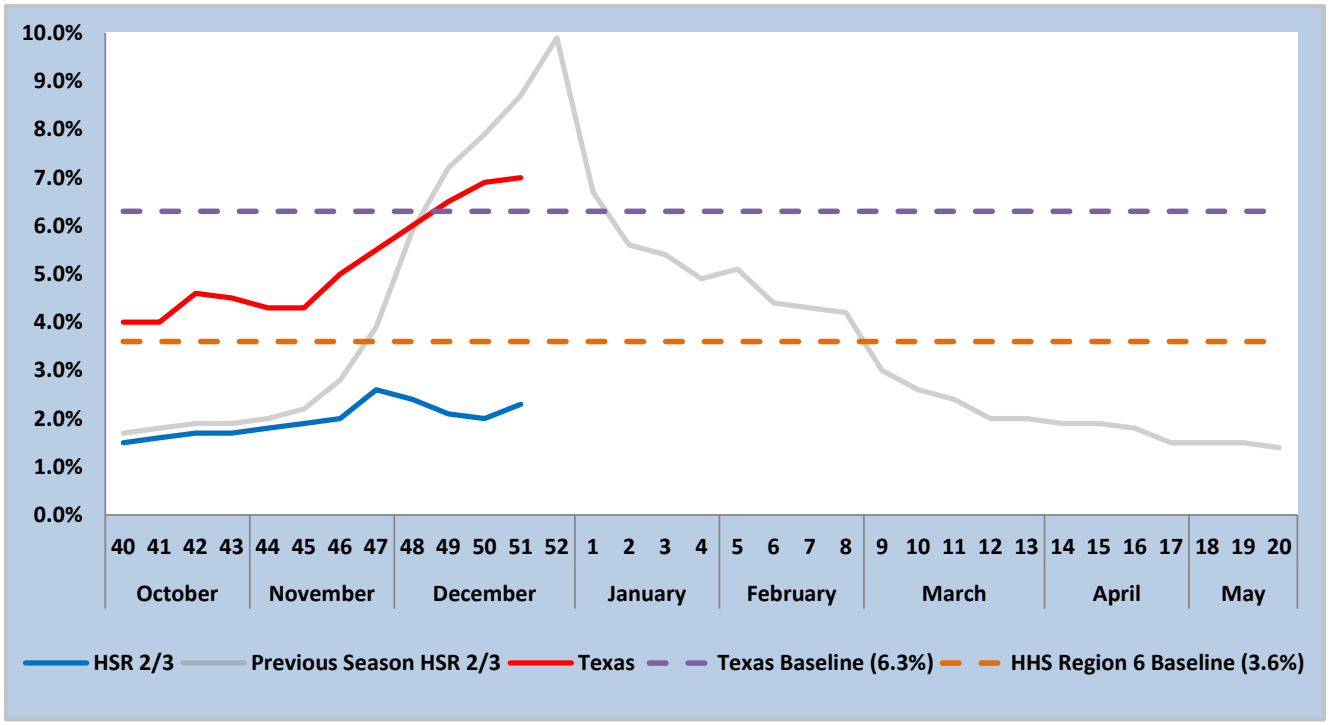
- **6.9% of patients presented with ILI, which is above the statewide baseline of 6.3%.**
- **21 out of 1,814 specimens (1.2%) reported to the state were positive for influenza.**
- **No influenza-associated outbreaks were reported this week.**
- **No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. None have been reported this season.**

United States

- **Influenza activity rose slightly. 2.6% of patients presented with ILI, which is above the baseline of 2.1%.**
- **5.8% of deaths were due to pneumonia and influenza, which is below the epidemic threshold of 6.9%.**
- **282 out of 11,448 (2.5%) tests reported to WHO and NREVSS laboratories were positive for influenza.**
- **Influenza B represented 44.3% of positive influenza tests reported.**
- **No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. 4 have been reported this season.**

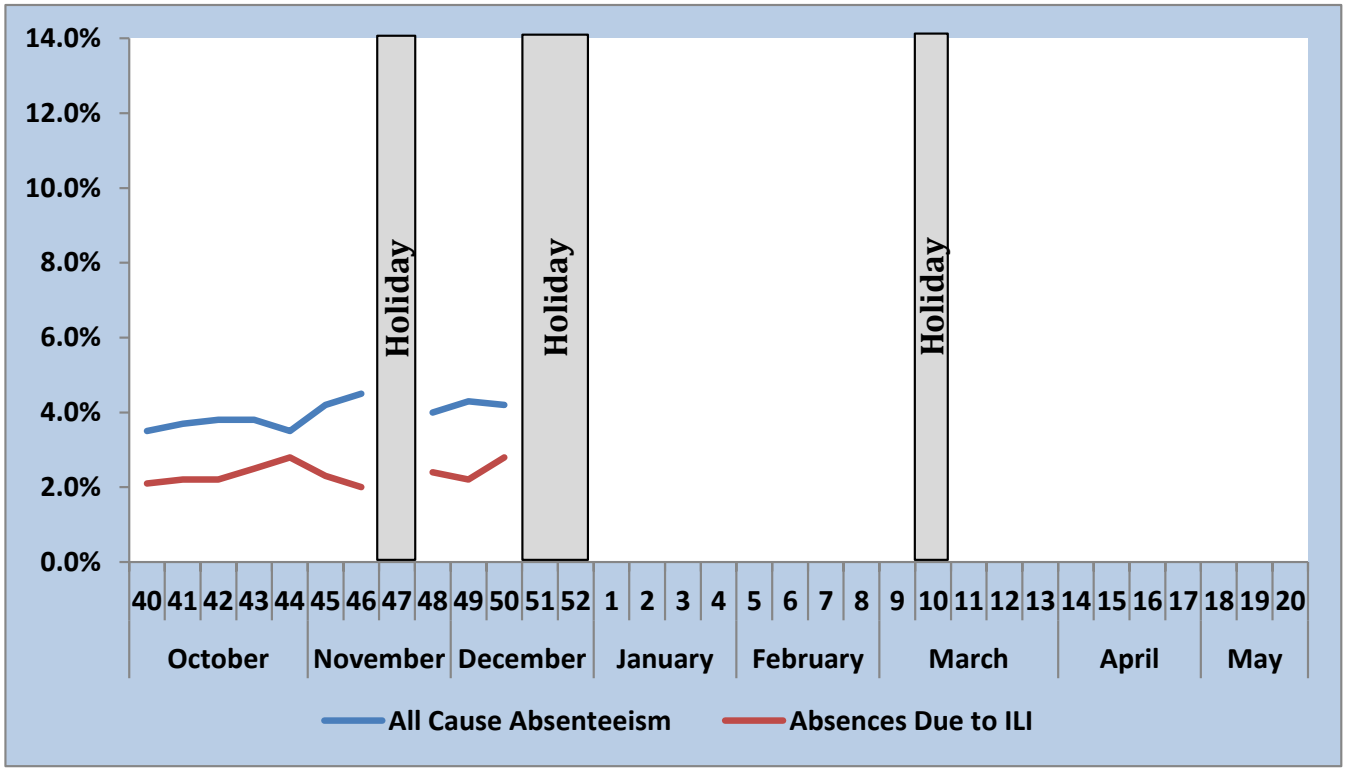
NOTE: Variability in expected influenza activity between regions exists and therefore different baselines are established at the national, state, regional, and local levels. DSHS HSR 2/3 has not established a baseline and will utilize the HHS Region 6 baseline as an approximation.

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



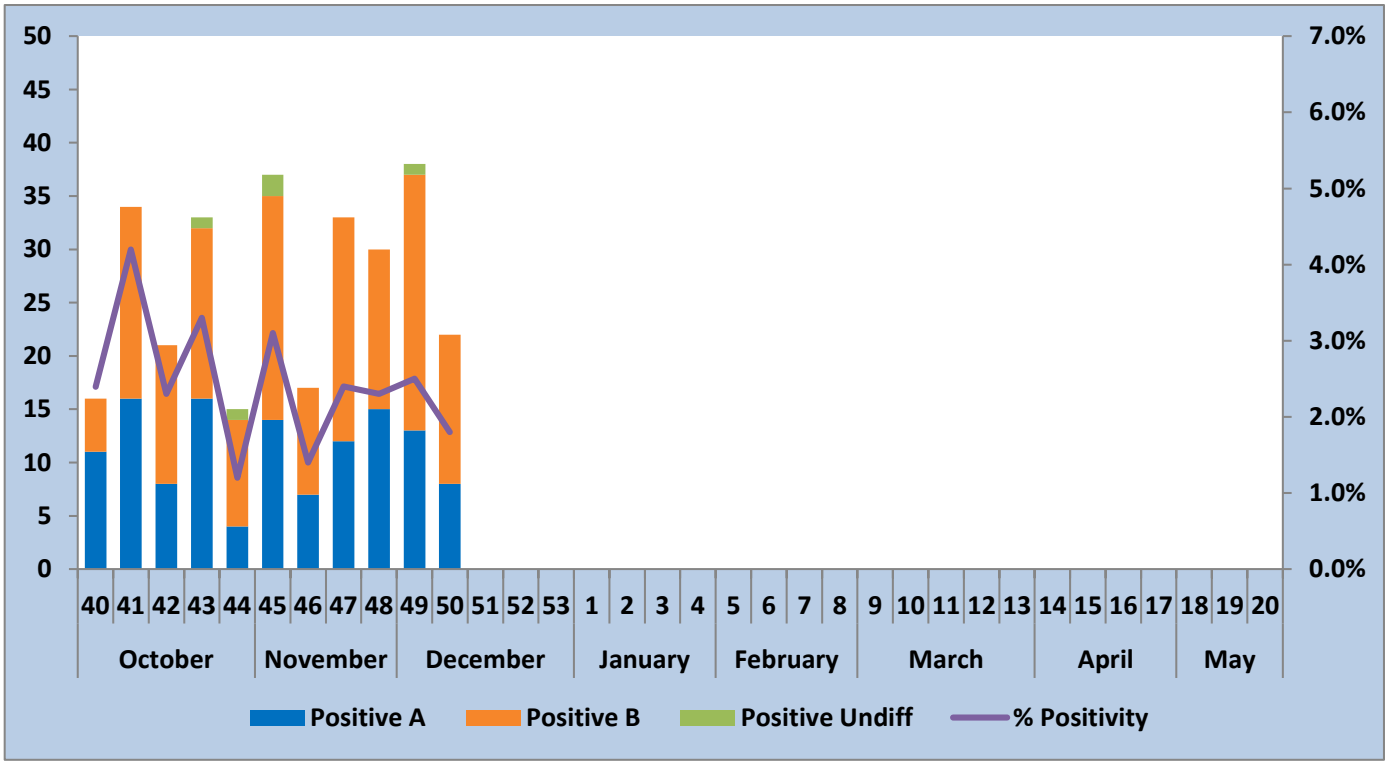
During week 51, 27 healthcare facilities and 7 health departments reported data to DSHS HSR 2/3 which included a total of 60,456 patients and 1,417 patients with ILI.

GRAPH II. PERCENTAGE DAILY ABSENTEEISM DUE TO ILI



School ILI absenteeism data will resume week 1 of 2016.

GRAPH III. INFLUENZA TEST RESULTS, TYPE AND OVERALL POSITIVITY



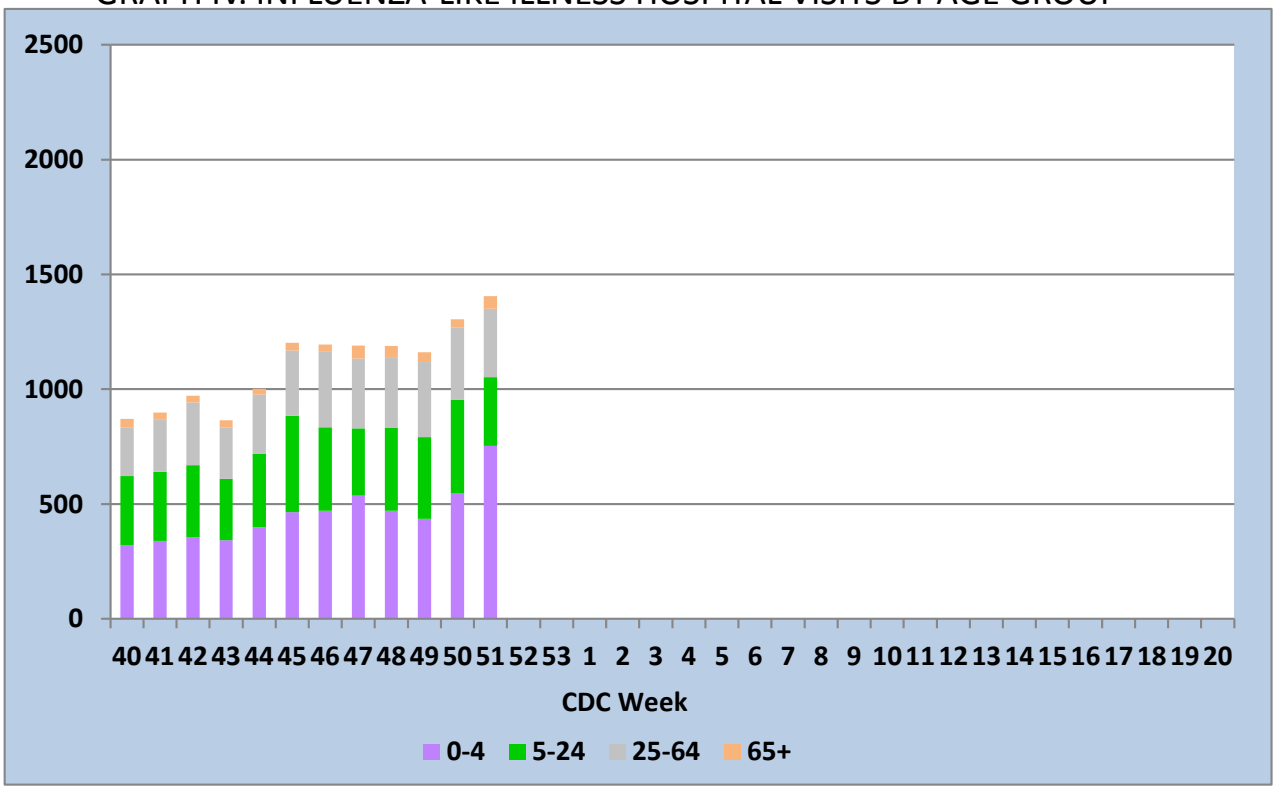
During week 51, influenza was detected in 35 of 1,467 specimens tested. 1 was confirmed by PCR or culture.

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

	Season to Date	Week 51	Week 50
Total Tests Performed	11,170	1,467	1,236
Total Positive	274 (2.5%)	35 (2.4%)	22 (1.8%)
Rapid Type A	110 (40.1%)	16 (45.7%)	8 (36.4%)
Rapid Type B	149 (54.4%)	18 (51.4%)	14 (63.6%)
Rapid Undifferentiated	5 (1.8%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Confirmed Type A	6 (2.2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
A H1N1 (2009)	1 (16.7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
A H3N2	5 (83.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Not Subtyped	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Confirmed Type B	4 (1.5%)	1 (2.9%)	0 (0%)

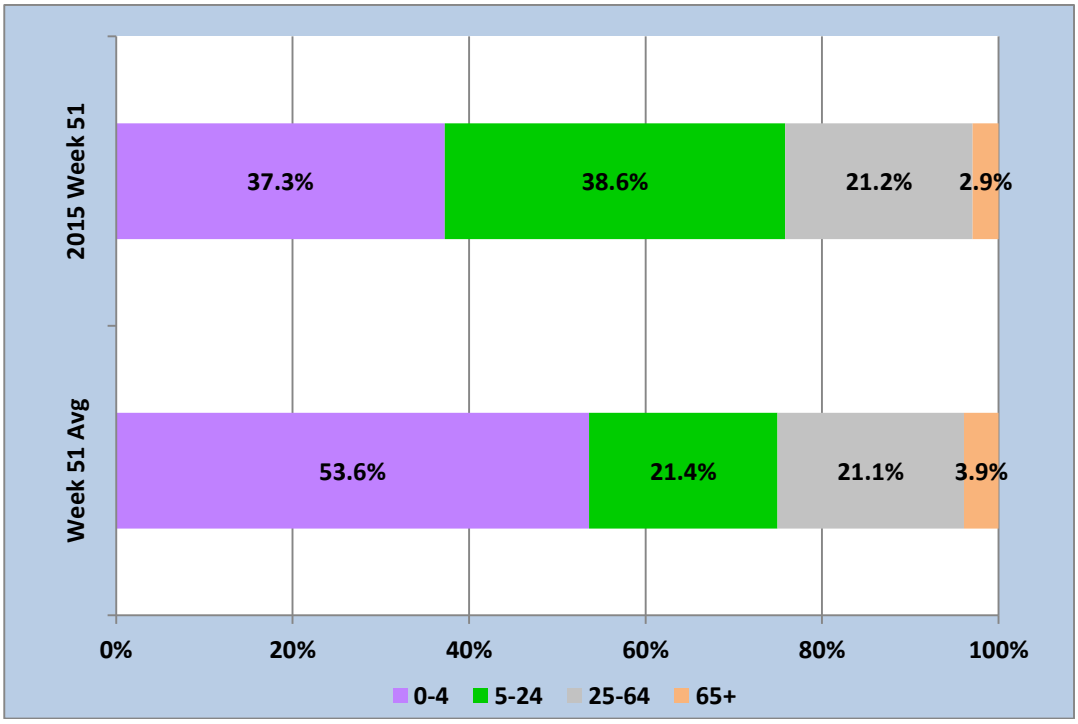
The percentage of influenza A H1N1 (2009), A H3N2, and type A not subtyped are calculated as a percentage of all reported tests confirmed positive for influenza type A. Confirmed represents a positive PCR or culture.

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



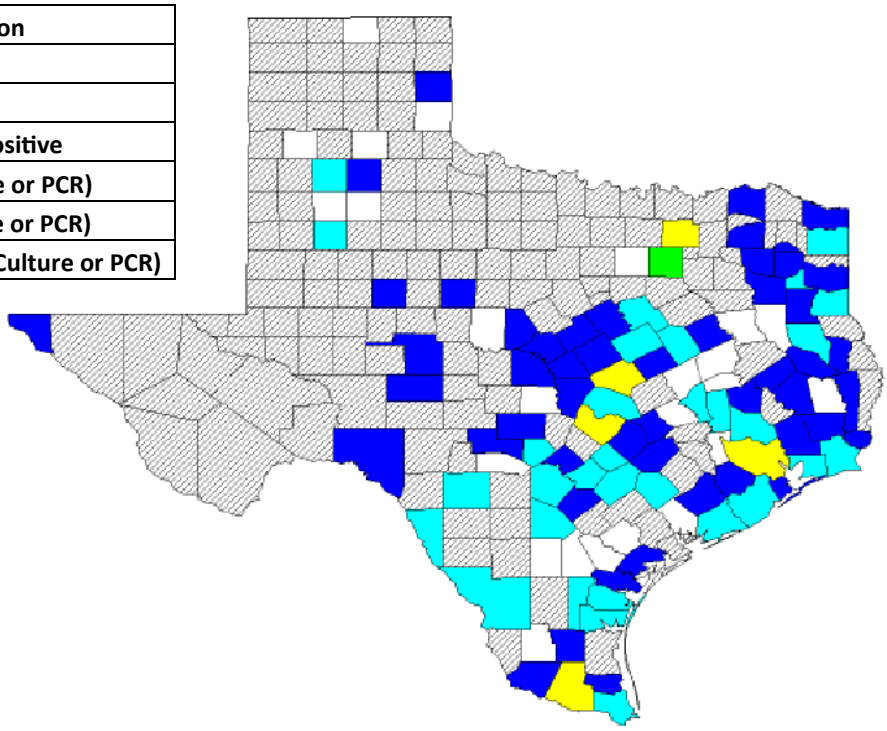
Data captured from ESSENCE syndromic disease surveillance system representing the percentage of emergency room visits that were due to ILI for each age group. During week 51, there were 1,405 emergency room visits due to ILI in ESSENCE participating facilities.

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

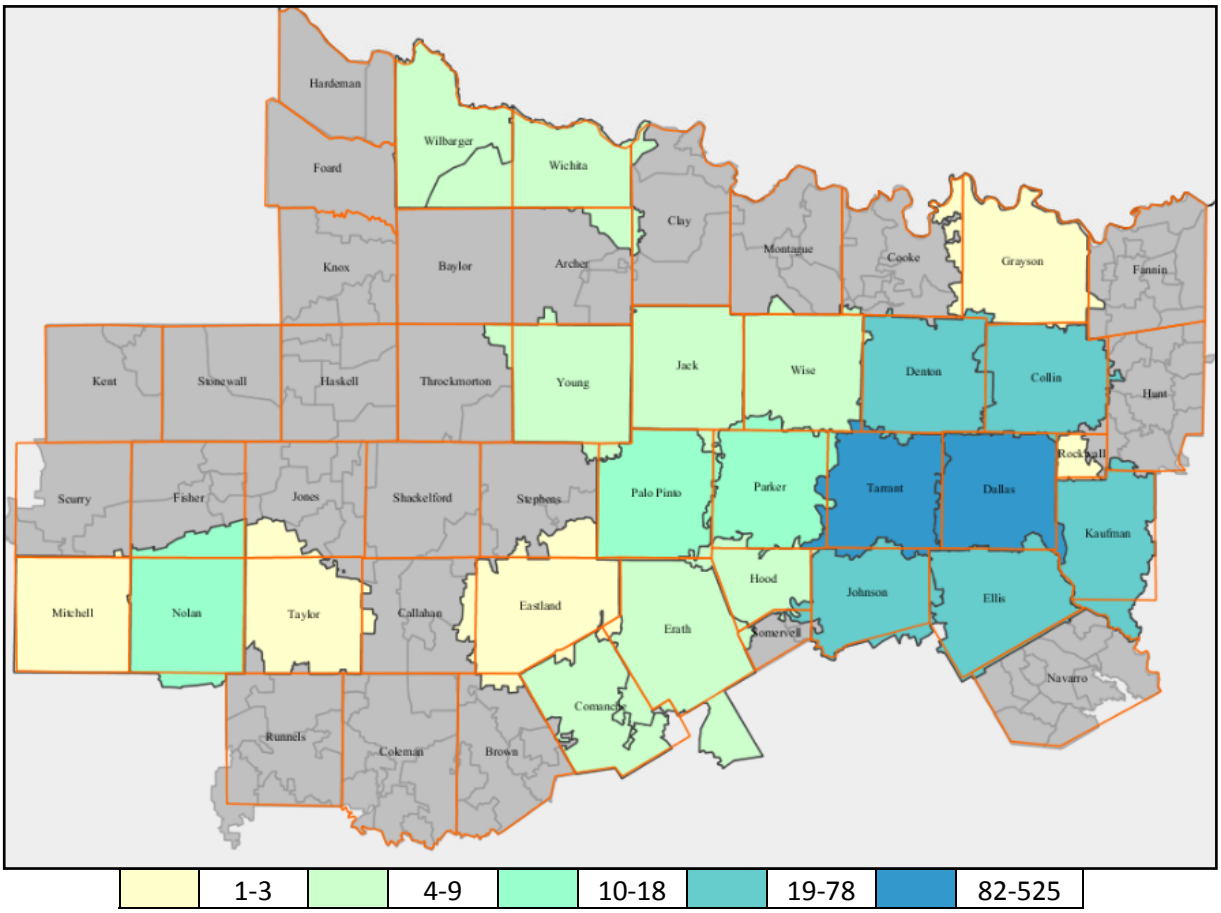


The week 51 average is an average of ESSENCE reported ILI visits during week 51 in the previous 5 influenza seasons.

MAP I. INFLUENZA ACTIVITY, TEXAS WEEK 51



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



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.