



Texas Department of State Health Services, HSR 2/3

Community Preparedness Section

Epidemiology Branch

## INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE REPORT: HEALTH SERVICE REGION 2/3

Week 8 (February 21 - 27, 2016)

### INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVEL, HSR 2/3

\* See page 6 for activity level determination

Minimal
Sporadic
Local
<b>Regional</b>
Widespread

### WEEKLY OVERVIEW

#### Health Service Region 2/3

- 3.7% of patients presented with influenza-like illness (ILI), which is above the HHS Region 6 baseline of 3.6%.
- The overall school absenteeism rate was 3.8%, of which 10.2% was attributable to ILI.
- 18.6% of tests performed were positive for influenza.
- No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. None have been reported this season.
- 1 influenza-associated outbreak was reported this week in a long-term care facility.

#### Texas

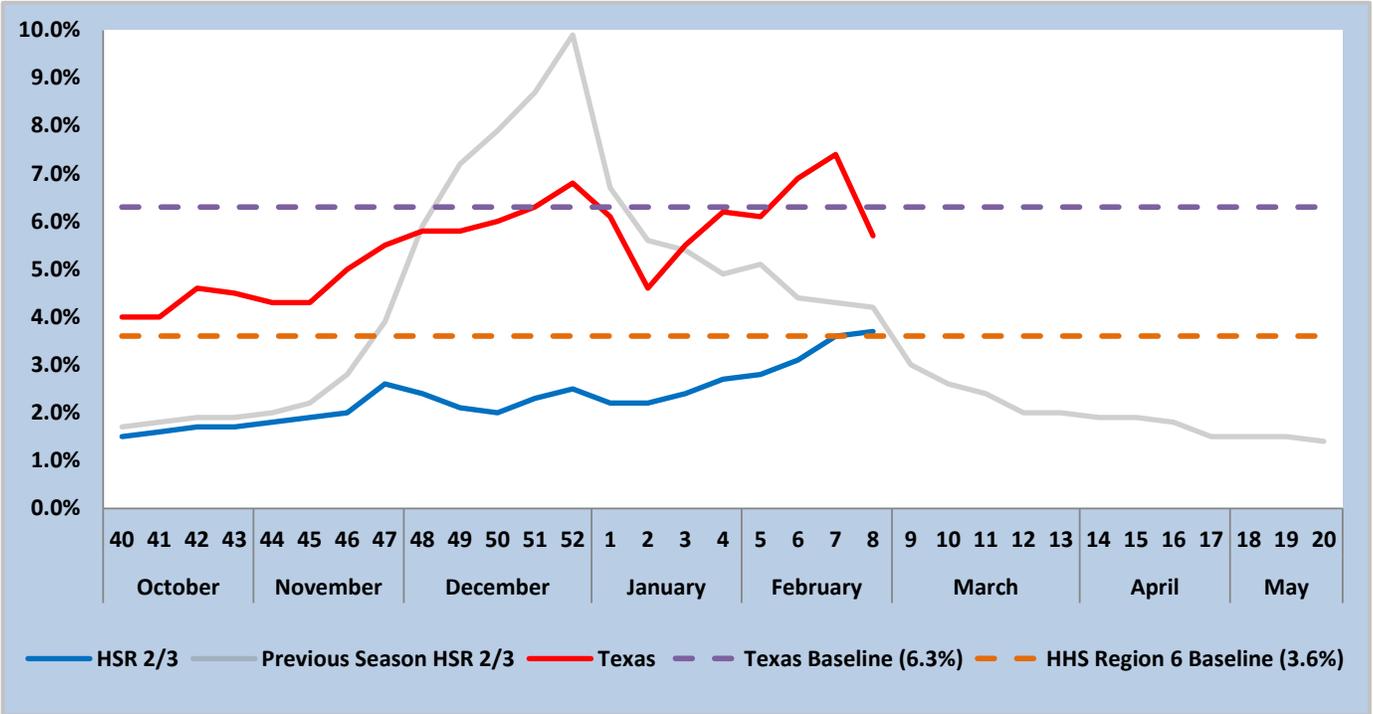
- 5.7% of patients presented with ILI, which is below the statewide baseline of 6.3%.
- 556 out of 2,901 specimens (19.2%) reported to the state were positive for influenza.
- 4 influenza-associated outbreaks at schools in HSR 6/5S were reported this week.
- No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. None have been reported this season.

#### United States

- Influenza activity remained elevated. 3.2% of patients presented with ILI, which is above the baseline of 2.1%.
- 7.4% of deaths were due to pneumonia and influenza, which is above the epidemic threshold of 7.2%.
- 3,803 out of 21,615 (17.6%) tests reported to WHO and NREVSS laboratories were positive for influenza.
- Influenza B represented 21.7% of positive influenza tests reported.
- 4 influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported this week. 18 have been reported this season.

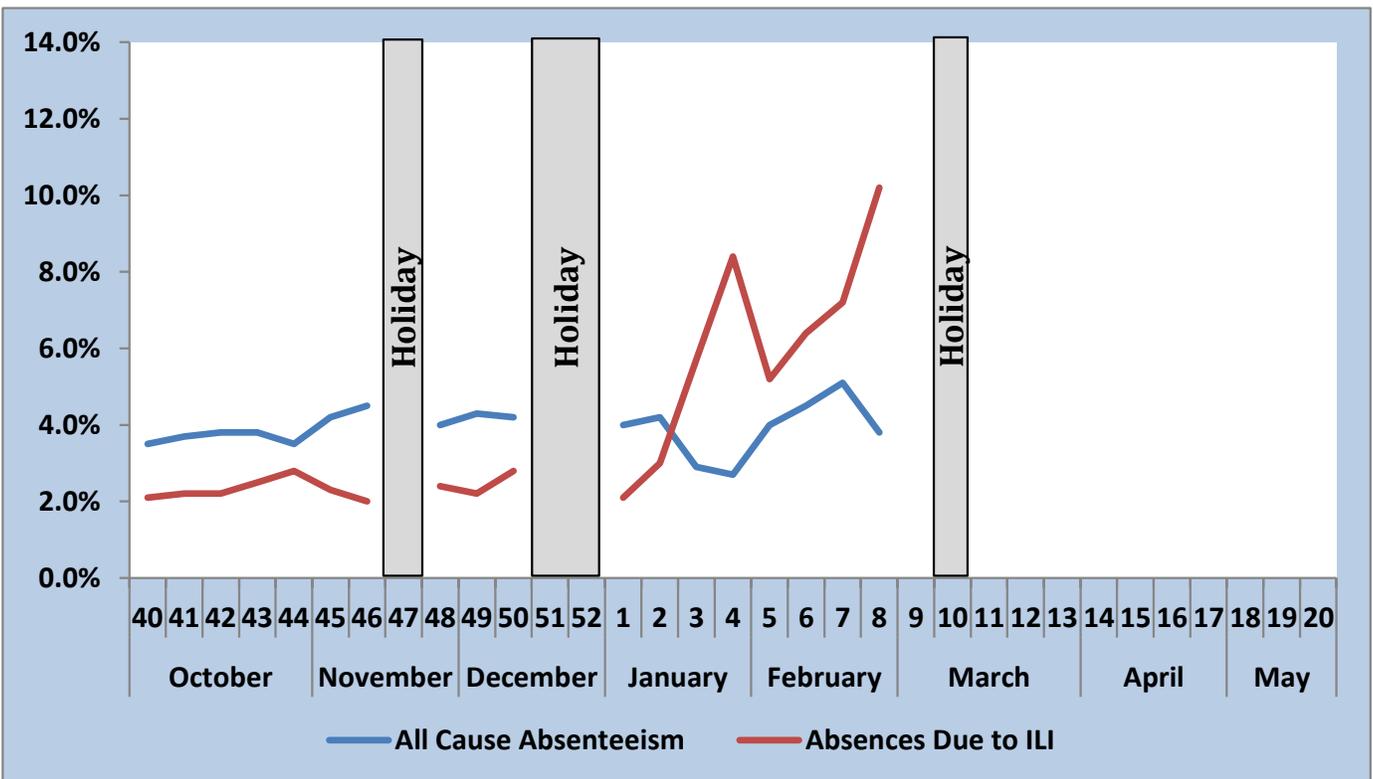
NOTE: Variability in expected influenza activity between regions exists and therefore different baselines are established at the national, state, regional, and local levels. DSHS HSR 2/3 has not established a baseline and will utilize the HHS Region 6 baseline as an approximation.

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



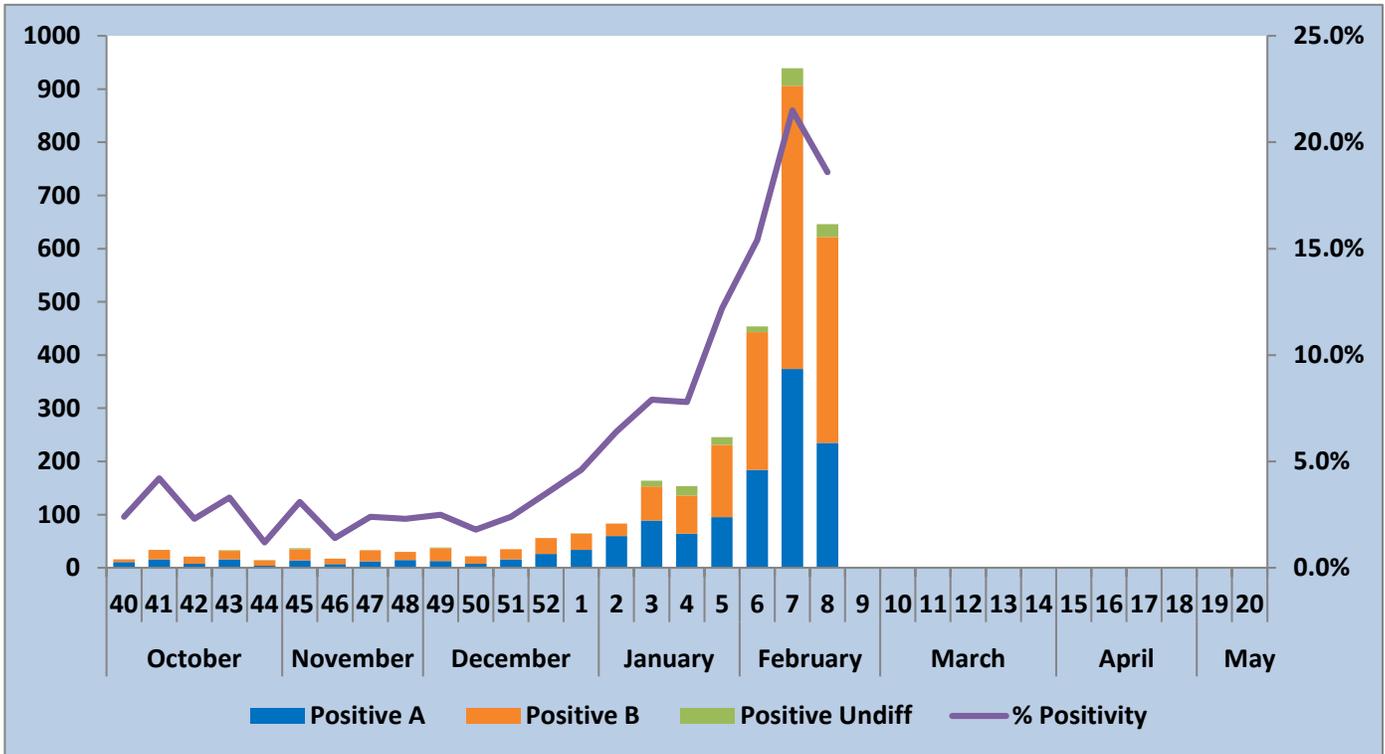
During week 8, 29 healthcare facilities and 7 health departments reported data to DSHS HSR 2/3 which included a total of 75,696 patients and 2,768 patients with ILI.

GRAPH II. PERCENTAGE DAILY ABSENTEEISM DUE TO ILI



Absences due to ILI accounted for 10.2% of all reported school absences this week.

GRAPH III. INFLUENZA TEST RESULTS, TYPE AND OVERALL POSITIVITY



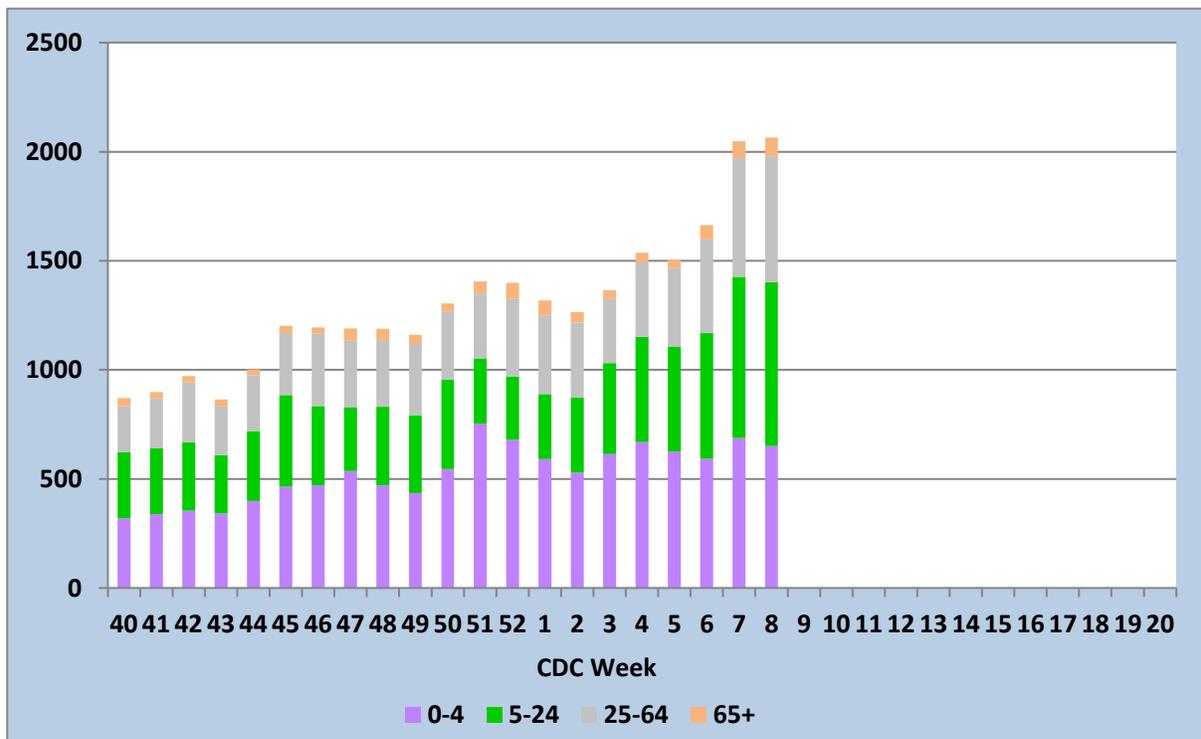
During week 8, influenza was detected in 646 of 3,467 specimens tested. 29 were confirmed by PCR or culture.

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

	Season to Date	Week 8	Week 7
<b>Total Tests Performed</b>	<b>34,973</b>	<b>3,467</b>	<b>4,371</b>
<b>Total Positive</b>	<b>3,130 (8.9%)</b>	<b>646 (18.6%)</b>	<b>939 (21.5%)</b>
<b>Rapid Type A</b>	<b>1,215 (38.8%)</b>	<b>219 (33.9%)</b>	<b>335 (35.7%)</b>
<b>Rapid Type B</b>	<b>1,657 (52.9%)</b>	<b>374 (57.9%)</b>	<b>500 (53.2%)</b>
<b>Rapid Undifferentiated</b>	<b>118 (3.8%)</b>	<b>24 (3.7%)</b>	<b>33 (3.5%)</b>
<b>Confirmed Type A</b>	<b>86 (2.7%)</b>	<b>16 (2.5%)</b>	<b>39 (4.2%)</b>
<b>A H1N1 (2009)</b>	<b>57 (66.3%)</b>	<b>13 (81.3%)</b>	<b>23 (59%)</b>
<b>A H3N2</b>	<b>18 (20.9%)</b>	<b>1 (6.3%)</b>	<b>7 (17.9%)</b>
<b>Not Subtyped</b>	<b>11 (12.8%)</b>	<b>2 (12.5%)</b>	<b>9 (23.1%)</b>
<b>Confirmed Type B</b>	<b>62 (2%)</b>	<b>13 (2%)</b>	<b>32 (3.4%)</b>

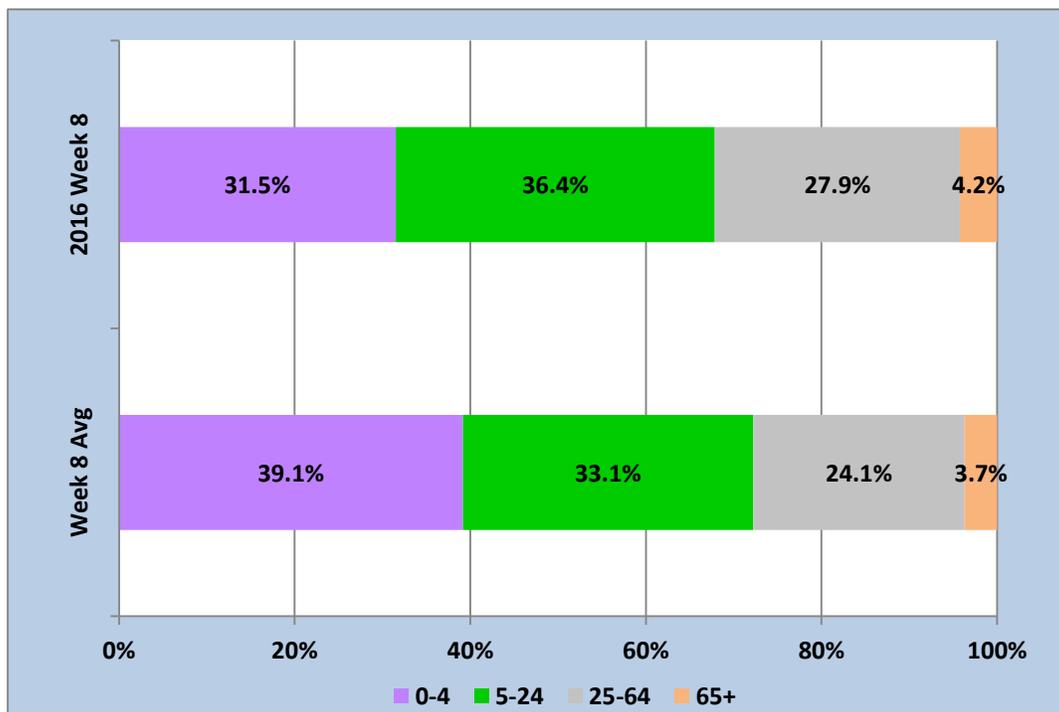
The percentage of influenza A H1N1 (2009), A H3N2, and type A not subtyped are calculated as a percentage of all reported tests confirmed positive for influenza type A. Confirmed represents a positive PCR or culture.

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 8, there were 2,066 emergency room visits due to ILI in ESSENCE participating facilities.

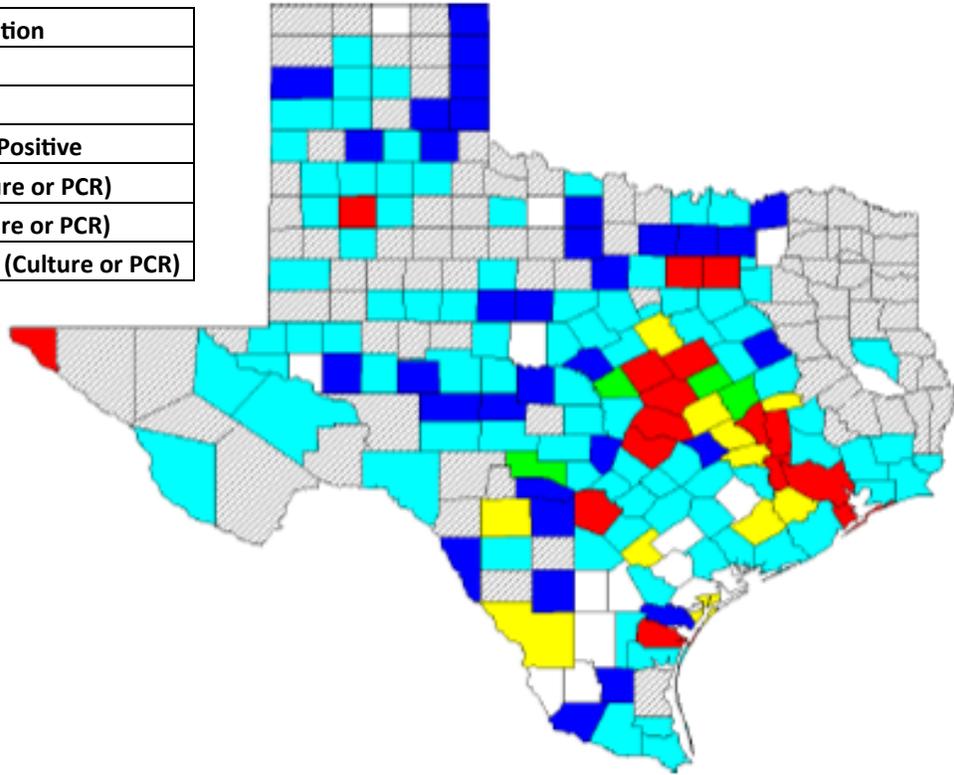
GRAPH V. AGE COMPOSITION OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS HOSPITAL VISITS



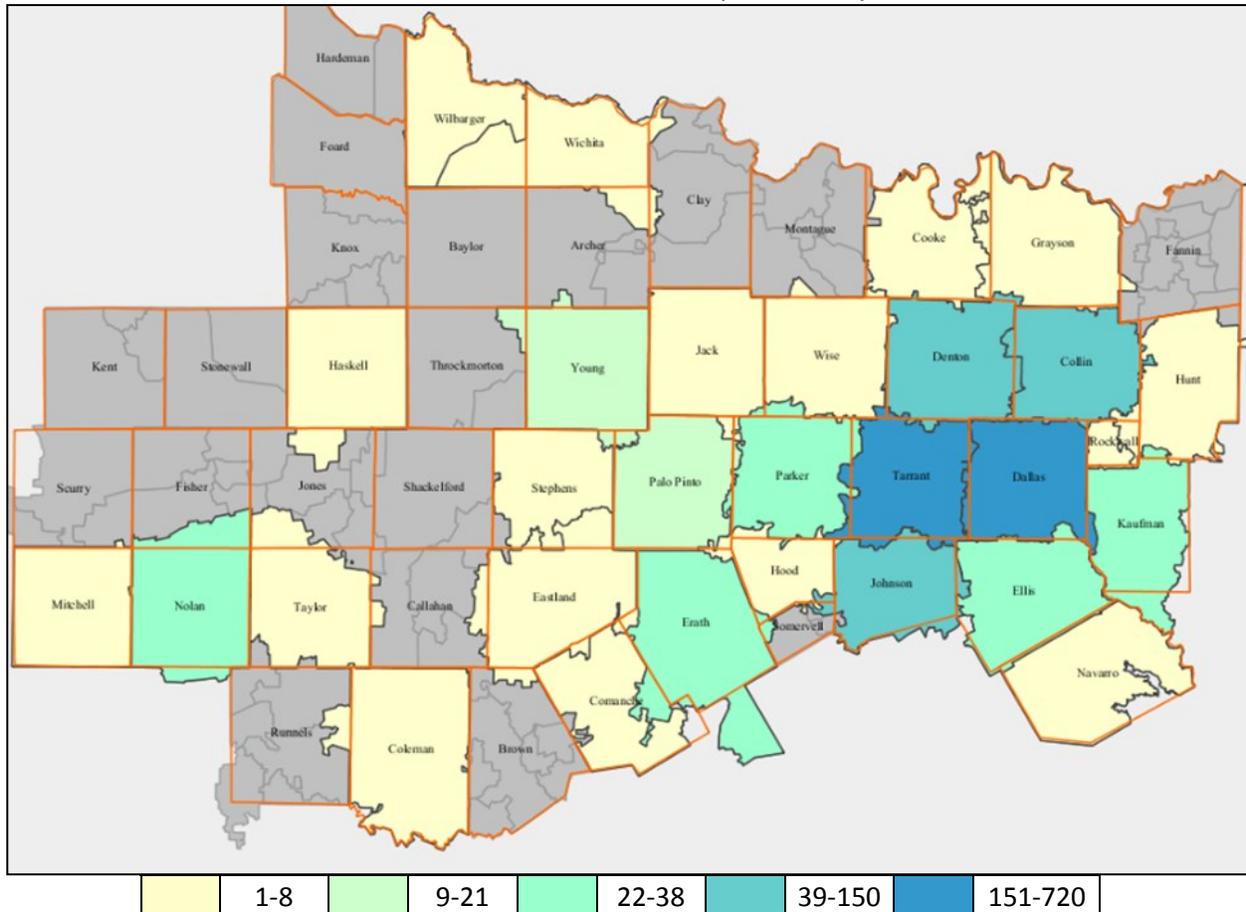
The week 8 average is an average of ESSENCE reported ILI visits during week 8 in the previous 5 influenza seasons.

MAP I. INFLUENZA ACTIVITY, TEXAS WEEK 8

	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



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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**Influenza Surveillance Coordinator**  
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[Scott.Mize@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Scott.Mize@dshs.state.tx.us)

**\*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.