

Health Service Region 8 Influenza Activity Report MMWR Week 2 Week Ending 01/15/2016



This report covers flu surveillance activities for the 28 counties that comprise Health Service Region 8: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Calhoun, Comal, De Witt, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Jackson, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, La Salle, Lavaca, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Victoria, Wilson, and Zavala.

Flu Activity:

Reports were received from 20 counties this week.

Five counties reported no flu or ILI activity.

Eight counties reported ILI activity only.

Six counties reported flu by rapid test.

One county reported flu by PCR.

In Region 8, activity in weeks 1 was about the same as the previous week.

Pediatric Deaths:

No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported during week 37. Seventeen influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Texas during the 2014-2015 influenza season. Cases of influenza-associated pediatric mortality (children <18 years of age) are reportable year-round and by law in Texas.

Institutional & School Outbreaks- No outbreaks reported during this period.

Antiviral Resistance- No antiviral resistant flu reported.

Variant Influenza Viruses- No variant or novel influenza viruses have been detected in Texas.

Summary

Influenza activity continues to be low in Texas, but it appears to be increasing. Compared to the previous week, the percentage of specimens positive for influenza and the percentage of patient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) slightly increased. No ILI/influenza-associated outbreaks or influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. In addition to flu, other respiratory viruses were detected in Texas during week 52.

