

Surveillance

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Influenza
(Flu)

ICD-9 487; ICD-10 J10,11

Related Topics: [Protecting Yourself During the Cold and Flu Season](#), [Avian Flu](#), [Vaccine Preventable Diseases and SARS](#)

2008 - 2009 Texas Influenza Surveillance Information

Influenza Surveillance Report for MMWR Week 1

The influenza (flu) activity level for Texas for the week ending January 10, 2009 was "local." Local activity indicates that a single region of the state is experiencing an increase in influenza-like illness (ILI) and has recent laboratory-confirmed influenza. During week 1, 99 (9.5%) specimens tested by NREVSS laboratories in Texas were positive for influenza. The percentage of visits for influenza-like illness as reported by ILINet providers in Texas was below the regional baseline.

Reports from Health Service Regions

Reports were received from all Health Service Regions (HSRs) for week 1. HSRs 9/10 and 11 reported the same level of flu activity compared to week 53. All other HSRs reported an increase in flu activity compared to week 53. For a map of Health Service Regions, please visit the following website:

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/regions/state.shtm>

Laboratory Results

During week 1, ten hospital laboratories and public health agencies across Texas reported conducting a total of 1,037 influenza tests (antigen, culture, and PCR) to the National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Of the 932 antigen detection tests that were performed, 80 were positive for influenza A/not subtyped and 15 were positive for influenza B. The positive results were reported from Bexar, Dallas, Harris, Hunt, Lubbock, and Tarrant counties. One positive PCR test for influenza A/not subtyped was reported in both Maverick and Medina counties. A total of 30 reports of culture-confirmed influenza were received for the following counties:

Influenza A/H1	Influenza A/H3	Influenza A/not subtyped	Influenza B
Brazos County	(none)	Dallas County (6)	Brazos County
Brooks County (2)		Harris County (7)	Harris County (4)
Cameron County (3)			Tarrant County
Dallas County (2)			
McLennan County (2)			
Medina County			

Additional positive results from point-of-care rapid flu tests were reported by providers throughout the state (see Texas map below).

Antigenic Characterization

CDC has reported antigenic characterization results from 21 influenza isolates [11 influenza A/H1, 0 influenza A/H3, and 10 influenza B viruses] received from the DSHS Laboratory since the beginning of the 2008-09 flu season.

Influenza A/H1 [11]

- Eleven (100%) of the eleven viruses were characterized as A/Brisbane/59/2007, the influenza A/H1 component of the 2008-09 influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere.

Influenza A/H3 [0]

- No influenza A/H3 viruses from Texas have been characterized yet this season.

Influenza B (B/Victoria/02/87 and B/Yamagata/16/88 lineages) [10]

Victoria lineage [10]

- Two (20%) of the ten viruses were characterized as B/Ohio/01/2005-like viruses.
- Eight (80%) of the ten viruses showed somewhat reduced titers with antisera produced against B/Malaysia/2506/2004 and B/Ohio/01/2005.

Yamagata lineage [0]

- The influenza B component for the 2008-09 influenza vaccine is a B/Florida/4/2006-like virus, belonging to the B/Yamagata lineage.

The national antigenic characterization results may be found in the CDC weekly flu report at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>. The DSHS Laboratory sends a representative sample of influenza viruses to the CDC throughout the flu season.

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality

One influenza-associated pediatric fatality occurred during MMWR week 1. The child was a 16-year-old resident of Health Service Region 8 who had a significant underlying medical condition. The child was not vaccinated for influenza for the current season. The patient was culture positive for influenza B. This is the first influenza-associated pediatric fatality reported in Texas in the 2008-09 influenza season.

School Closures and Institutional Outbreaks

No school closures or institutional outbreaks were reported during week 1.

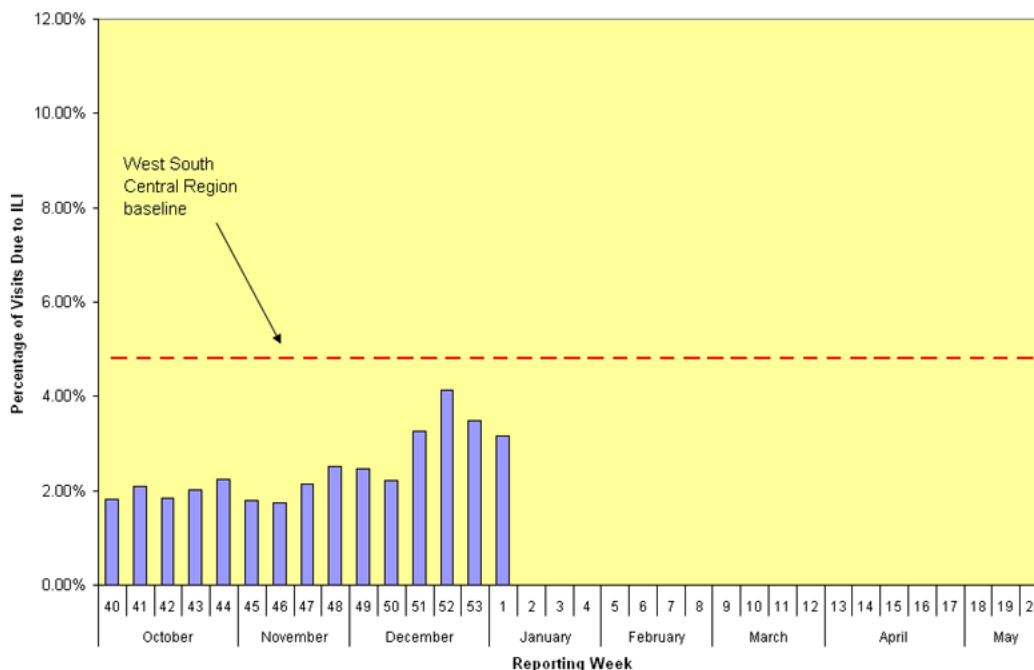
U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network

Sixty-seven sentinel providers in Texas reported data to the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) (formerly known as the U.S. Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System) on patients with influenza-like illness (ILI) and total patients seen for any reason during week 1. Of the 65 providers who saw patients during week 1, 35 (54%) saw at least one patient with ILI. Of all patient visits during this week, 3.15% were due to ILI. The ILI baseline for the West South Central Region (Arkansas,

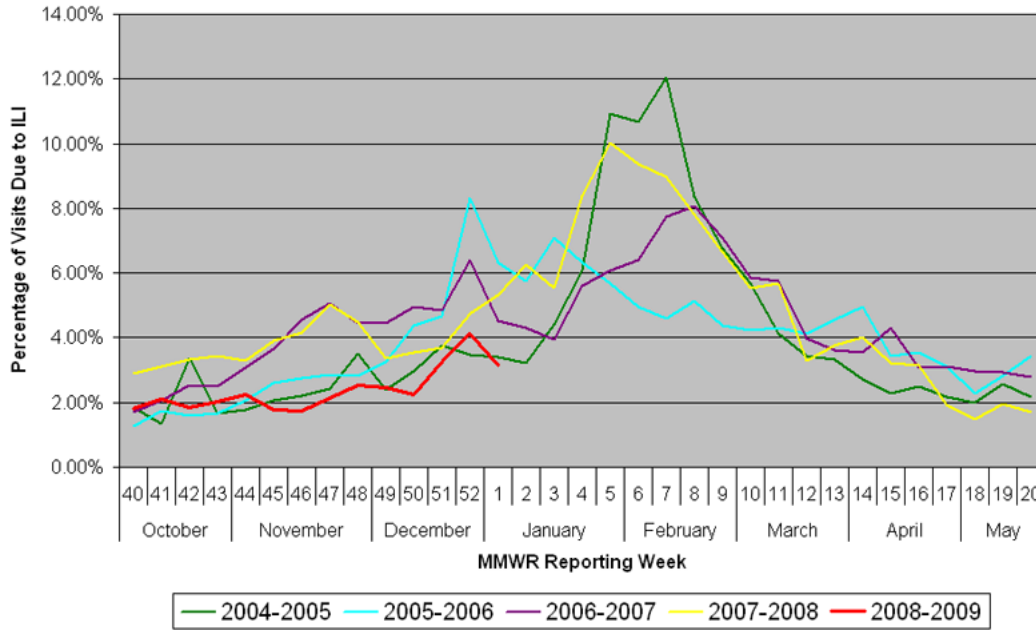
Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) of the United States is 4.8% for the 2008-2009 season. The baseline is the mean percentage of patient visits for ILI during non-influenza weeks for the previous three seasons plus two standard deviations.

Percentage of Visits for Influenza-Like Illness Reported by the US Outpatient Influenza-Like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) in Texas as of 1/16/2009 4:04:46 PM								
Week	# Reporting	Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-64	Age over 64	Total ILI	Total Patients	% ILI
2008-40	77	84	133	127	22	366	20231	1.80
2008-41	77	114	163	124	19	420	20000	2.10
2008-42	78	107	156	90	7	360	19658	1.83
2008-43	78	120	152	106	20	398	19654	2.03
2008-44	79	136	199	103	26	464	20653	2.25
2008-45	77	110	111	122	27	370	20737	1.78
2008-46	72	110	106	103	23	342	19684	1.74
2008-47	74	137	143	122	19	421	19722	2.13
2008-48	78	131	132	125	37	425	16835	2.52
2008-49	74	143	159	153	24	479	19487	2.46
2008-50	72	133	146	107	28	414	18587	2.23
2008-51	66	172	177	173	24	546	16766	3.26
2008-52	72	194	153	154	34	535	12960	4.13
2008-53	73	167	137	165	46	515	14804	3.48
2009-01	67	155	174	177	35	541	17172	3.15

Percentage of Visits Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI), Texas Providers in the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network, 2008-2009



Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Data
Texas Providers in the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network
Flu Seasons 2004–2009



National Influenza Activity Map

The map showing influenza activity in the United States for MMWR week 1 is displayed below. The current U.S. flu weekly report may be found at: [here](#).

*This map indicates geographic spread and does not measure the severity of influenza activity.

For more information on flu surveillance activities in the State of Texas, please visit our main [surveillance](#) page.

*Influenza activity level corresponds to current MMWR week only and does not reflect previous weeks' activity.

Last Updated: Friday, January 16, 2009

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