

Texas Influenza Surveillance Report 2021-2022 Season/ 2022 MMWR Week 24

(June 12, 2022 – June 18, 2022)
Report produced on 6/24/2022

Summary

*Please note, some aspects of influenza surveillance may be affected by current COVID-19 response activities. For information about COVID-19 in Texas, please visit www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus.

Due to ongoing flu activity, the flu report in its entirety, will be continued into the summer season in place of the scaled down summer flu reports usually provided. Compared to the previous week, the percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by hospital laboratories has decreased. The percentage of patient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) has decreased. No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. No influenza-associated institutional outbreaks or school closures were reported.

Table 1: Summary of Texas Influenza (Flu) and Influenza-like Illness (ILI) Activity for the Current Week

Texas Surveillance Component	Change from Previous Week	Current Week	Previous Week [†]	Page of Report
Statewide ILINet Activity Indicator assigned by CDC (intensity of influenza-like illness)	No change	Minimal	Minimal	-
Percentage of specimens positive for influenza by hospital laboratories	▼0.30%	2.15%	2.45%	1
Percentage of visits due to ILI (ILINet)	▼0.12%	2.31%	2.43%	4
Number of regions reporting increased flu/ILI activity	▼1	0	1	6
Number of regions reporting decreased flu/ILI activity	No change	1	1	6
Number of variant/novel influenza infections	No cases reported	0	0	6
Number of ILI/influenza outbreaks	No change	0	0	6
Number of pediatric influenza deaths	No change	0	0	7

Laboratory Results

Influenza

Hospital laboratories across Texas voluntarily report influenza tests (antigen, culture, and PCR) to the National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). Providers throughout Texas also submit specimens for influenza testing (PCR) to Texas public health laboratories, including the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) state laboratory in Austin and the nine Texas Laboratory Response Network (LRN) laboratories. The results reported by Texas NREVSS participants and public health laboratories for the current week are summarized in the two tables below. Additional influenza test results (rapid tests, culture, PCR) and ILI activity were reported from providers and public health departments throughout the state (see county map at the end of this report).

Table 2: Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Hospital Laboratories for the Current Week

	Week 24	Season to Date Week Ending: June 18, 2022
Number of labs reporting flu tests	14	
Number of specimens tested	2924	275116
Number of positive specimens (%) [†]	63 (2.15%)	21213 (7.71%)
Percentage of total tests that were antigen detection tests	18.43%	
Positive specimens by type/subtype [n (%)]		
Influenza A	49 (77.78%)	20597 (97.10%)
Subtyping performed	1 (2.04%)	2451 (11.90%)
A (H1N1)	0 (0.00%)	24 (0.98%)
A (H3N2)	1 (100.00%)	2427 (99.02%)
Subtyping not performed	48 (97.96%)	18146 (88.10%)
Influenza B	14 (22.22%)	616 (2.90%)

Figure 1: Number and Percentage of Tests (Antigen, Culture, PCR) Positive for Influenza by Type and Subtype Reported by Texas Hospital Laboratories, 2021-2022 Season

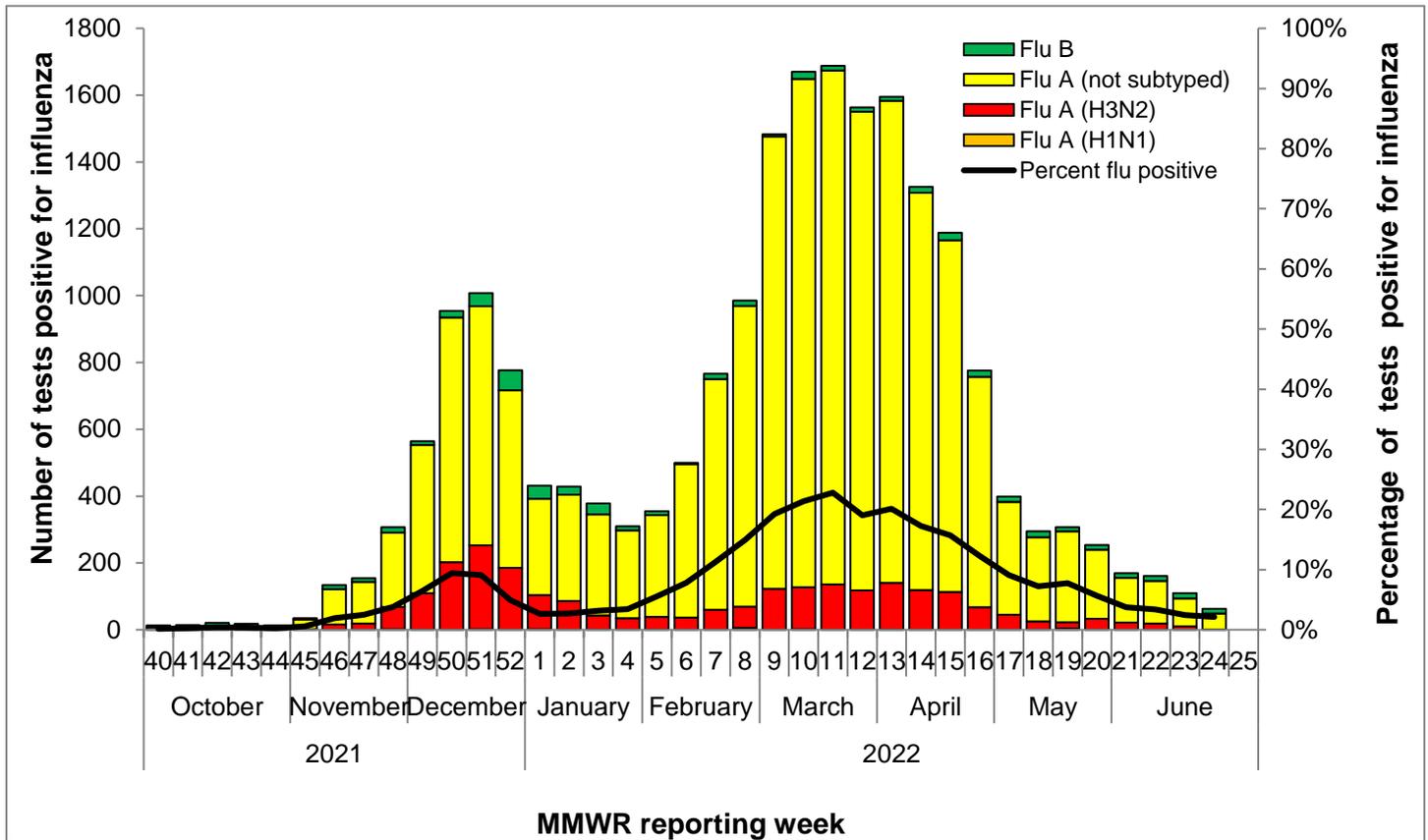
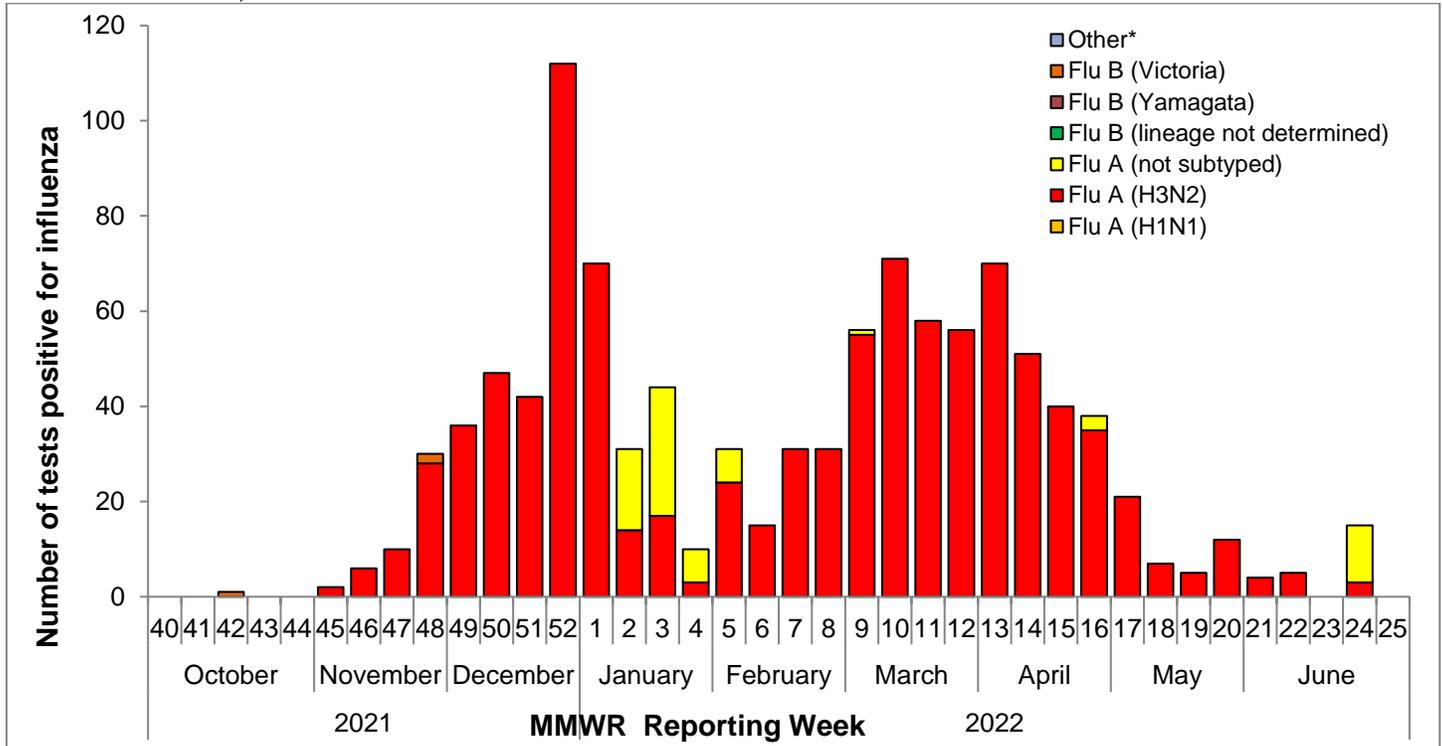


Table 3: Influenza Testing Performed by Texas Public Health Laboratories for the Current Week

	Week 24	Season to Date Week Ending: June 18, 2022
Number of labs reporting flu tests	2	
Number of specimens tested	108	16073
Number of positive specimens (%) [†]	15 (13.89%)	1058 (6.58%)
Positive specimens by type/subtype/lineage [n (%)]		
Influenza A	15 (100.00%)	1055 (99.72%)
Subtyping performed	3 (20.00%)	981 (92.99%)
A (H1N1)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
A (H3N2)	3 (100.00%)	981 (100.00%)
Subtyping not performed	12 (80.00%)	74 (7.01%)
Influenza B	0 (0.00%)	3 (0.28%)
Lineage testing performed	0 (0.00%)	3 (100.00%)
B/Victoria	0 (0.00%)	3 (100.00%)
B/Yamagata	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Lineage testing not performed	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Other	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)

[†]Other denotes specimens with coinfections (i.e. one specimen was positive for both influenza A (H1N1) and influenza A (H3N2))0

Figure 2: Number of Tests (PCR) Positive for Influenza by Type, Subtype, and Lineage Reported by Texas Public Health Laboratories, 2021-2022 Season



*Other denotes specimens with coinfections (i.e. one specimen was positive for both influenza A (H1N1) and influenza A (H3N2))

Other Respiratory Viruses

The NREVSS system collects information on a variety of respiratory viruses in addition to influenza including parainfluenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), rhinovirus, human metapneumovirus (HMPV), seasonal coronavirus, and respiratory adenovirus. The results for the current week are summarized below.

Table 4: Non-Influenza Respiratory Virus Testing Performed by Texas NREVSS Laboratories for the Current Week

Virus	Number of Laboratories Testing	Tests Performed	Positive Tests	Percentage of Tests Positive
Adenovirus (respiratory)	10	1145	59	5.15%
HMPV	10	1145	18	1.57%
Parainfluenza virus	10	1145	94	8.21%
Rhino/enterovirus	9	1134	305	26.90%
RSV ^{†^}	14	2356	387	16.43%
Seasonal coronavirus (does not include MERS-CoV or COVID-19)	8	771	17	2.20%

[†]RSV tests displayed in the table are a combination of antigen detection, PCR, and culture tests. Some non-NREVSS reporters also contribute to the RSV data.

[^]Numbers and percentage may differ from the weekly RSV report. The weekly RSV report may be accessed at <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/RSV/disease/rsv-Data.aspx>.

Antigenic Characterization

No antigenic characterization data for Texas specimens are currently available. The DSHS Laboratory sends a representative sample of influenza viruses to the CDC throughout the flu season.

Antiviral Resistance

No antiviral resistance testing data for Texas specimens are available presently.

U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet)

Table 6: Texas ILINet Reporting and Patient Visit Summary for the Current Week

Week 24	
Number of providers reporting	63
Number of providers reporting patient visits	62
Number (%) of providers with at least one ILI case	55 (88.71%)
Percentage of all visits due to ILI	2.31%
Texas ILINet baseline [‡] , 2021-2022	4.57%

[‡]The baseline is the mean percentage of patient visits for ILI during non-influenza weeks for the previous three seasons plus two standard deviations. A "non-influenza week" is defined as a week that accounted for less than 2% of the season's total number of specimens that tested positive for influenza

Special Note: The case definition was changed to capture respiratory pathogens causing illness, including CoVID-19, through the ILINet. The Influenza-like Illness (ILI) case definition for the 2021-2022 Season has changed to fever ($\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$, 37.8°C) AND cough and/or sore throat. There is no longer a restriction on the cause.

Table 7: Percentage of Visits for Influenza-like Illness Reported by Texas ILINet Providers (as of 6/23/2022 9:51 AM)

Week	Providers Reporting	Number of ILI Cases by Age Group (Years)					Total ILI (all ages)	Total Patients	% ILI
		0-4	5-24	25-49	50-64	65+			
202140	76	452	490	223	77	41	1283	53474	2.40%
202141	72	392	429	206	80	50	1157	52473	2.20%
202142	77	417	442	179	76	36	1150	51810	2.22%
202143	60	446	421	140	41	41	1089	47456	2.29%
202144	72	452	549	188	61	40	1290	51930	2.48%
202145	74	486	633	198	66	60	1443	56512	2.55%
202146	73	563	874	231	88	55	1811	53435	3.39%
202147	71	559	470	234	90	51	1404	44711	3.14%
202148	73	426	536	228	84	57	1331	53354	2.49%
202149	74	544	673	243	105	98	1663	54075	3.08%
202150	71	538	746	347	119	83	1833	49403	3.71%
202151	75	611	603	374	114	99	1801	48133	3.74%
202152	67	1001	873	919	389	196	3378	63588	5.31%
202201	69	745	1247	1032	353	152	3529	59690	5.91%
202202	74	594	1364	906	336	213	3413	59275	5.76%
202203	73	491	891	689	249	171	2491	51241	4.86%
202204	72	377	622	390	166	111	1666	49631	3.36%
202205	69	249	426	195	79	74	1023	40096	2.55%
202206	74	242	403	216	68	72	1001	45228	2.21%
202207	72	329	549	207	64	50	1199	47969	2.50%
202208	74	300	594	199	64	49	1206	48068	2.51%
202209	69	310	755	246	69	45	1425	46118	3.09%
202210	69	384	850	268	85	55	1642	48941	3.36%
202211	70	439	610	374	91	62	1576	48800	3.23%
202212	70	379	737	294	81	56	1547	51083	3.03%
202213	71	370	805	281	88	54	1598	54691	2.92%
202214	78	379	723	285	70	41	1498	59829	2.50%
202215	77	367	682	213	84	48	1394	57657	2.42%
202216	76	388	657	235	70	50	1400	57624	2.43%
202217	74	678	900	361	123	91	2153	92558	2.33%
202218	75	378	598	237	65	52	1330	58311	2.28%
202219	75	676	846	360	85	86	2053	88042	2.33%
202220	74	477	553	224	75	50	1379	61472	2.24%

Week	Providers Reporting	Number of ILI Cases by Age Group (Years)					Total ILI (all ages)	Total Patients	% ILI
		0-4	5-24	25-49	50-64	65+			
202221	72	806	710	338	92	67	2013	95673	2.10%
202222	69	509	420	273	100	54	1356	54101	2.51%
202223	66	467	377	279	136	48	1307	53771	2.43%
202224	63	514	319	241	102	57	1233	53491	2.31%

Figure 3: Percentage of Visits Due to Influenza-like Illness Reported by Texas ILINet Participants, 2021-2022 Season

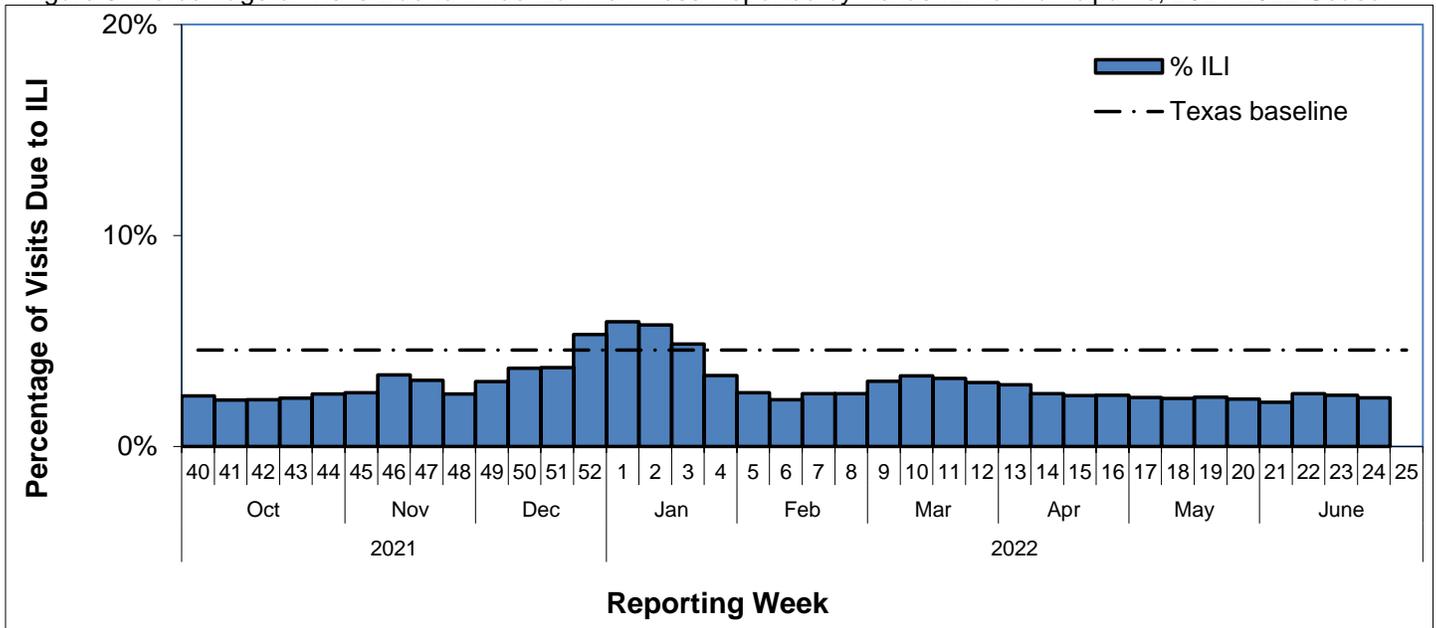
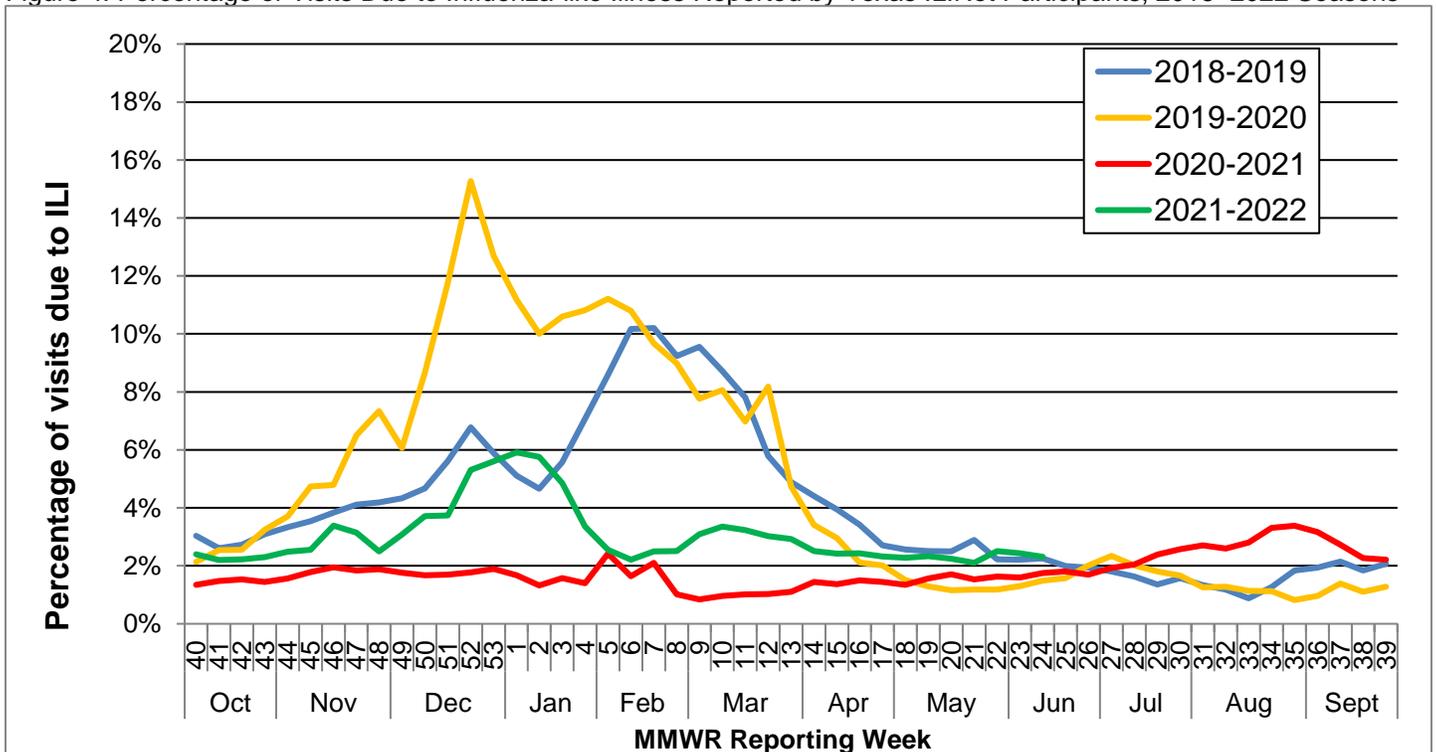


Figure 4: Percentage of Visits Due to Influenza-like Illness Reported by Texas ILINet Participants, 2018–2022 Seasons



Note: The 2020-2021 Flu Season contains MMWR week 202053. For graphical display compatibility with seasons containing 52 weeks, average values were generated using MMWR week 52 and 1 for Seasons: 2018-2019, 2019-2020, and 2021-2022.

Reports from Health Service Regions

Reports were received from five Health Service Regions (HSRs) during week 24.

Table 8: Influenza Activity compared to week 23 by Health Service Region (HSR)

Influenza Activity Comparison	
Increased	
Same	1, 2/3, and 11
Decreased	7
Unsure	6/5S

Variant Influenza Viruses

No variant or novel influenza viruses have been detected in Texas during the 2021-2022 season.

Institutional Outbreaks and School Closures

No outbreak was reported in week 24.

P&I Mortality Surveillance Data

***Deaths due to COVID-19 may be classified as pneumonia deaths or influenza deaths (deaths due to “flu” or “flu-like illness”) in the absence of positive SARS-CoV-2 test results.**

Pneumonia and influenza (P&I) death data are obtained from death certificates of Texas residents whose underlying or contributing cause(s) of death is reported as pneumonia or influenza. P&I deaths are identified based on ICD-10 multiple cause of death codes. P&I deaths are based on ICD-10 pneumonia and influenza mortality codes.

Six thousand nine hundred and two (6,902) P&I deaths have been reported in Texas during the 2021-2022 influenza season.

Table 8: Texas P&I Deaths Occurring October 3, 2021 – June 18, 2022* by Age

Age Category (years)	Number of P&I Deaths ⁺	Mortality Rate (per 100,000)
0 - 4	32	1.47
5 - 17	18	0.33
18 - 49	482	3.56
50 - 64	1222	23.39
65 +	5148	121.43
Overall	6902	22.51

*NOTE: Data are provisional and subject to change, errors, and duplicates

⁺ If the cell count is less than 10, the number of P&I deaths is suppressed and <10 is written in the cell.

Table 9: Texas P&I Deaths Occurring October 3, 2021 – June 18, 2022* by Health Service Region (HSR)

HSR	Number of P&I Deaths	Mortality Rate (per 100,000)
1	288	30.36
2/3	1967	22.01
4/5N	637	41.03
6/5S	1554	18.78
7	785	21.03
8	726	22.35
9/10	373	22.94
11	571	24.29
Unknown	1	-
Overall	6902	22.51

*NOTE: Data are provisional and subject to change, errors, and duplicates

⁺ If the cell count is less than 10, the number of P&I deaths is suppressed and <10 is written in the cell.

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality

No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported during week 24.

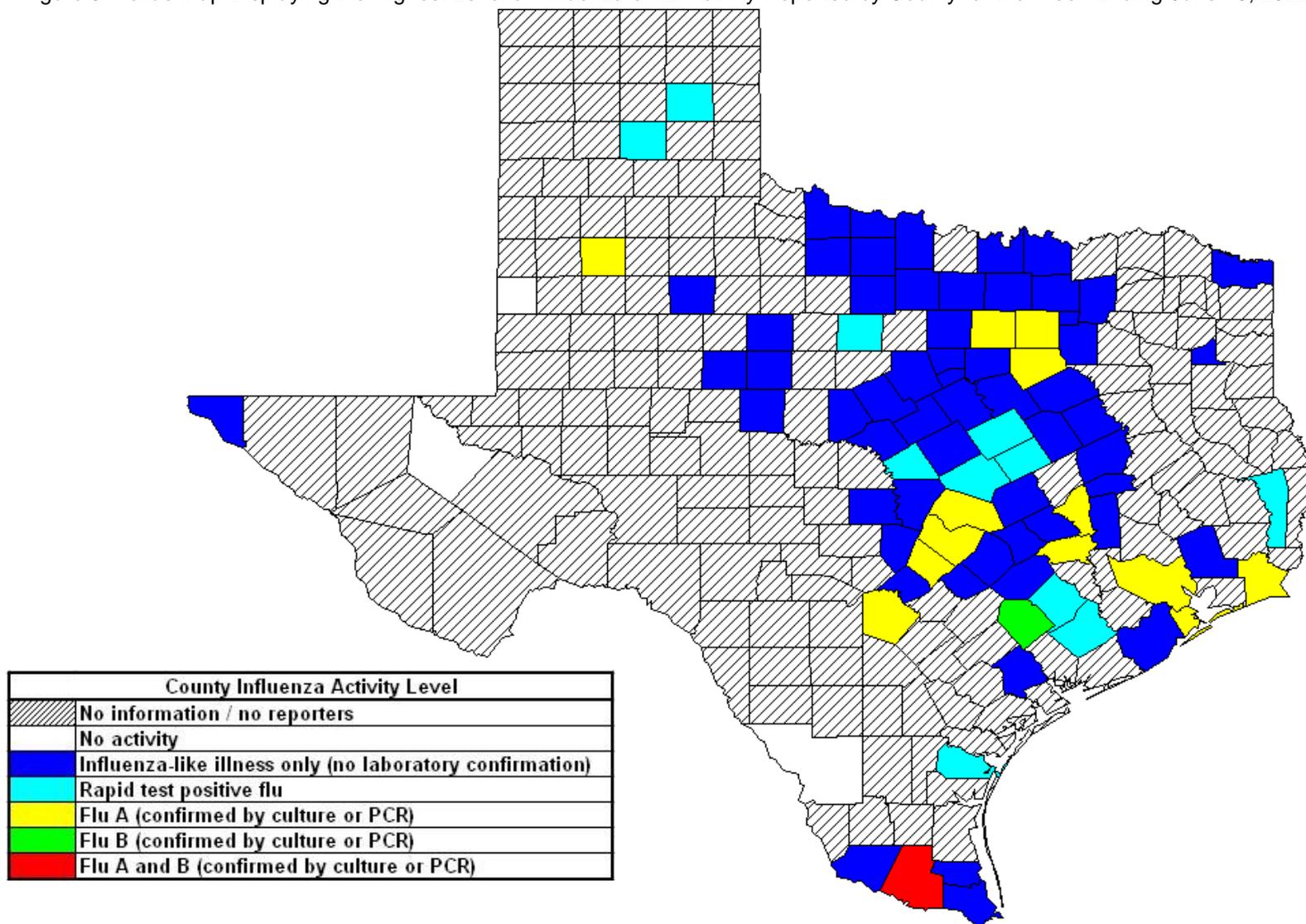
No influenza-associated pediatric mortalities have been reported in Texas during the 2021-2022 influenza season. Cases of influenza-associated pediatric mortality (children <18 years of age) are reportable year-round by law in Texas.

Table 10: Influenza-Associated Pediatric Deaths Reported in Texas during the 2021-2022 Season

Month of Pediatric Death	Influenza A (H1N1)	Influenza A (H3N2)	Influenza A (Not Subtyped)	Influenza B	Influenza, Not Typed / Not Differentiated	Influenza virus co-infection: A (not subtyped) and B	Total, All Influenza Types / Subtypes
2021							
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
December	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022							
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Statewide Influenza Activity Map

Figure 5: Texas Map Displaying the Highest Level of Influenza or ILI Activity Reported by County for the Week Ending June 18, 2022 (MMWR Week 24)



Please note: The majority of influenza cases are not reportable by law in Texas. This map contains data from sentinel sites and only displays influenza and ILI cases that were reported to public health. Positive laboratory results are reported according to specimen collection date, or date received in the laboratory if the former is unknown.

Texas Influenza Surveillance Components and Measures

Activity codes (see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>)

Statewide influenza activity level

A code reported weekly by states and territories to CDC indicating the geographic spread of influenza in the state. Levels are no activity, sporadic, local, regional, and widespread.

ILINet Activity Indicator

A statewide level of influenza-like illness intensity (on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being the lowest level) assigned to each state weekly by CDC based on data reported through ILINet.

Morbidity

Novel/variant influenza

Thorough investigations are performed on all cases of novel/variant influenza. *This condition is reportable by law in Texas.*

Texas ILINet

Providers voluntarily report weekly to CDC's ILINet system on the number of outpatient visits for ILI and total outpatient visits. Providers may submit up to 5 specimens per month for influenza testing. See <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/ILINet/> for information on how to become an ILINet provider.

ILI activity

Non-ILINet providers report ILI or influenza data weekly to local or regional health departments.

Outbreaks

Healthcare, schools, childcare, and correctional facilities report ILI and influenza outbreaks to health departments in Texas. *This condition is reportable by law in Texas.*

Mortality

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality Surveillance

The DSHS Vital Statistics Unit collects death certificate information for all deaths on Texas residents from various partners such as funeral homes and local registrars around the state. The death certificates are then sent to the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) where the cause of death and underlying causes of death on the death certificates are coded with ICD-10 mortality codes. Once death certificates are coded, the information is sent back to DSHS Center for Health Statistics (CHS). CHS produces a Weekly Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Death Report and sends it to the State Influenza Surveillance Coordinator for inclusion in the Texas Weekly Flu Report. P&I deaths are identified based on ICD-10 multiple cause of death codes, and in particular, pneumonia and influenza mortality codes. Delays inherent in death reporting and coding practices may cause the number of reported P&I deaths to vary considerably each week.

Influenza-associated pediatric deaths

Deaths that are associated with influenza in children < 18 years of age are reported to health departments in Texas. *This condition is reportable by law in Texas.* <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/IAPM/>

Laboratory

DSHS Austin laboratory

Providers voluntarily submit specimens to the DSHS Austin laboratory for influenza PCR testing throughout the season. Providers sign up for this program through their local health departments.

Laboratory Response Network (LRN) laboratories

Providers voluntarily submit specimens to one of the 9 Texas LRNs for influenza PCR testing throughout the season. Providers sign up for this program through their local health departments.

NREVSS

Laboratories voluntarily report influenza and other respiratory virus data weekly through the CDC's online NREVSS reporting system. **Laboratories sign up for this program by contacting DSHS.** <http://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/nrevss/>

Recommended Resources

Texas Department of State Health Services

DSHS influenza page: <http://www.texasflu.org/>

Influenza surveillance data and reports: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/>

Map of Texas Health Service Regions: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/regions/state.shtm>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National FluView weekly flu report: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Variant influenza viruses: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/variant.htm>

Avian influenza viruses: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/index.htm>

Swine influenza viruses: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/index.htm>

Infection Control in Healthcare Facilities: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/infectioncontrol/>

Seasonal Flu Information for Schools and Childcare Providers: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/index.htm>

World Health Organization

Influenza page: <http://www.who.int/topics/influenza/en/>

Disease Outbreak News: <http://www.who.int/csr/don/en/>