



Texas Department of State Health Services

## Week 6

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## 2004-2005 Texas Influenza Surveillance Information

[2004-2005 Season Summary](#)

The weekly flu activity level for CDC week 6 ending 2/5/05 remains widespread. Reports were received for all 11 regions.

Seven of the eleven regions report increased flu activity this week, with the regions representing East Texas (HSR 4/5N) and the Dallas/Fort Worth area (HSR 3) reporting about the same (high) level of activity as last week. The region representing South Texas (HSR 11) was unable to discern a trend from the data available at the time.

### A map of Health Service Regions

Data from the Sentinel Provider Surveillance Network (SPSN) indicate an increase in the level of Influenza-like illness (ILI) activity over last week, with levels almost six times the baseline level.

Schools around the state have continued to report increased absences due to ILI, and a few schools in North and East Texas have chosen to close their schools for a day or two during peak absence levels.

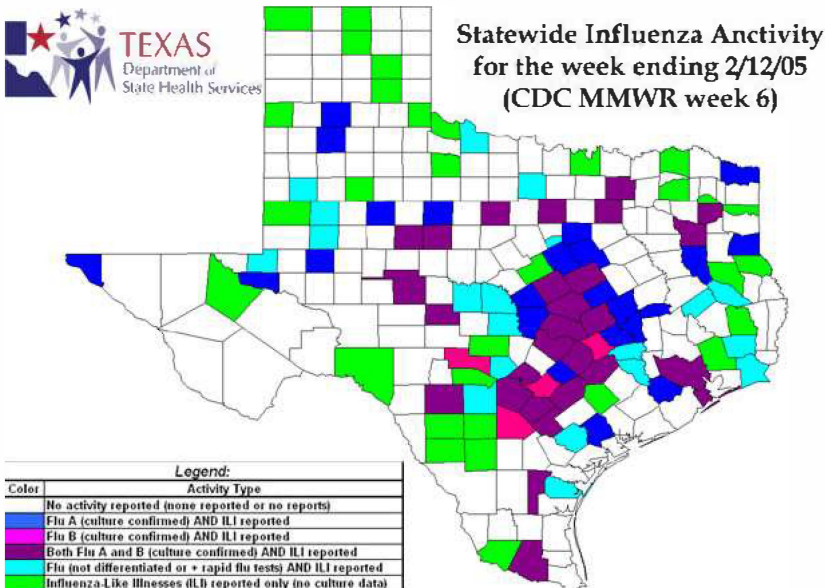
Culture confirmed flu has been identified in all regions of the state, with high specimen levels again this week.

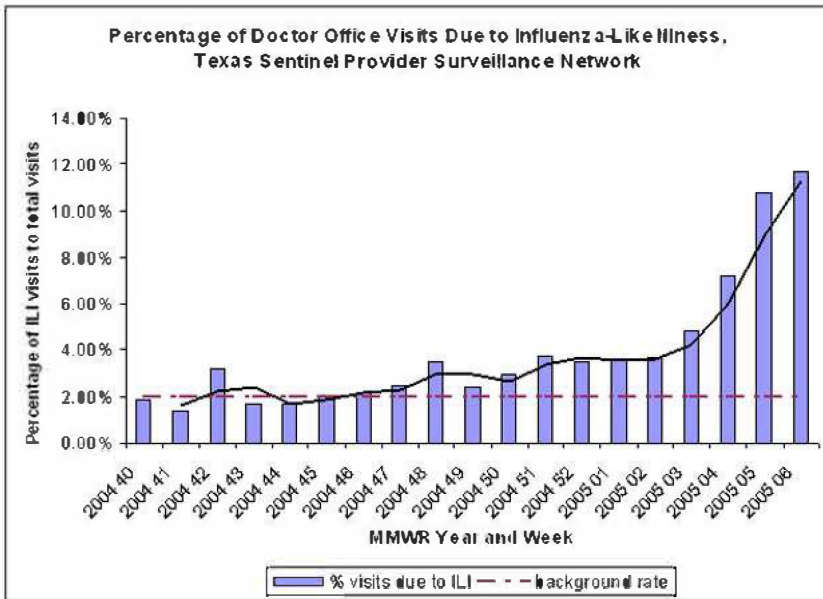
Counties with culture confirmed flu include Dallas, Tarrant, Harris, Bexar, Wichita, Bell, Travis, El Paso, Potter, Wichita, and Lubbock.

The majority of culture confirmed flu remains A. Flu B activity seems to be centered in central Texas near the I-35 corridor between Waco and San Antonio.

A new strain of flu has been identified in California (dubbed A/California). This strain, while still H3N2, is different enough that the vaccine may not provide protection against it. **However, there have been no reports of this strain in our state.**

There remains a good match between circulating flu strains and vaccine strains in Texas.





### 2004-2005 Texas Influenza Surveillance Information - Flu Reports

For the week ending:

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