

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](#)

2007 - 2008 Texas Influenza Surveillance Information

Influenza Surveillance Report for MMWR Week 11

The influenza (flu) activity level for Texas for the week ending March 15, 2008 was "regional." During week 11, 116 (12.5%) specimens tested by NREVSS laboratories in Texas were positive for influenza. Of all specimens positive for influenza, 92 (79.3%) were positive for influenza B. The percentage of visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) as reported by SPSN providers in Texas was elevated. Flu activity in Texas in week 11 continued to decrease in most regions.

Reports from Health Service Regions

Reports were received from all 11 Health Service Regions (HSRs) for week 11. HSRs 6/5S and 8 reported the same level of flu activity as week 10. All other regions reported a decrease in flu activity compared to week 10. 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 11, nine hospital laboratories and public health agencies across Texas reported conducting a total of 930 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 858 antigen detection tests performed, 21 were positive for influenza A/not subtyped and 78 were positive for influenza B. These results were reported from Bell, Bexar, Collin, Dallas, Ellis, Harris, and Lubbock counties. Positive PCR results for influenza A/not subtyped and influenza B were reported from Tarrant County. A total of 56 reports of culture-confirmed influenza were received from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Laboratory, Scott and White Hospital Laboratory, Texas Children's Hospital Laboratory, NREVSS, and other sources for the following counties:

Influenza A/H1	Influenza A/H3	Influenza A/not subtyped	Influenza B
(None)	Fannin County	Bell County (2)	Bell County (7)
	Nueces County	Bexar County (2)	Bexar County (13)
		Dallas County	Dallas County (6)
		Harris County	Harris County (16)
		Wichita County (2)	McLennan County (3)
			Wichita 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 34 influenza isolates [7 influenza A/H1, 24 influenza A/H3, and 3 influenza B viruses] received from the DSHS Laboratory since the beginning of the 2007–08 flu season.

Influenza A/H1 [7]

- Seven (100%) of the seven viruses were characterized as A/Solomon Islands/3/2006, the influenza A/H1 component of the 2007–08 influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere.

Influenza A/H3 [24]

- Two (8%) of the 24 viruses were characterized as A/Wisconsin/67/2005–like, the influenza A/H3 component of the 2007–08 influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere.
- Twenty-one (88%) of the 24 viruses were characterized as A/Brisbane/10/2007–like. A/Brisbane/10/2007 is a recent antigenic variant which evolved from A/Wisconsin/67/2005–like.
- One (4%) of the 24 viruses showed somewhat reduced titers with antisera produced against A/Wisconsin/67/2005 and A/Brisbane/10/2007.

Influenza B (B/Victoria/02/87 and B/Yamagata/16/88 lineages) [3]

Victoria lineage [0]

- The influenza B component for the 2007–08 influenza vaccine is a B/Malaysia/2506/2004–like virus, belonging to the B/Victoria lineage.

Yamagata lineage [3]

- Three (100%) of the three viruses were identified as belonging to the B/Yamagata lineage of viruses.

These results are very similar to national antigenic characterization results. The national 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 11. The death occurred in a 7-year-old resident of DSHS Health Service Region 6/5S with significant underlying medical conditions. The child tested positive for influenza A/not subtyped by enzyme immunoassay (EIA). The child had not been vaccinated for the current flu season. As of week 11, Texas has reported six influenza–associated pediatric deaths in the 2007–08 influenza season.

School Closures and Institutional Outbreaks

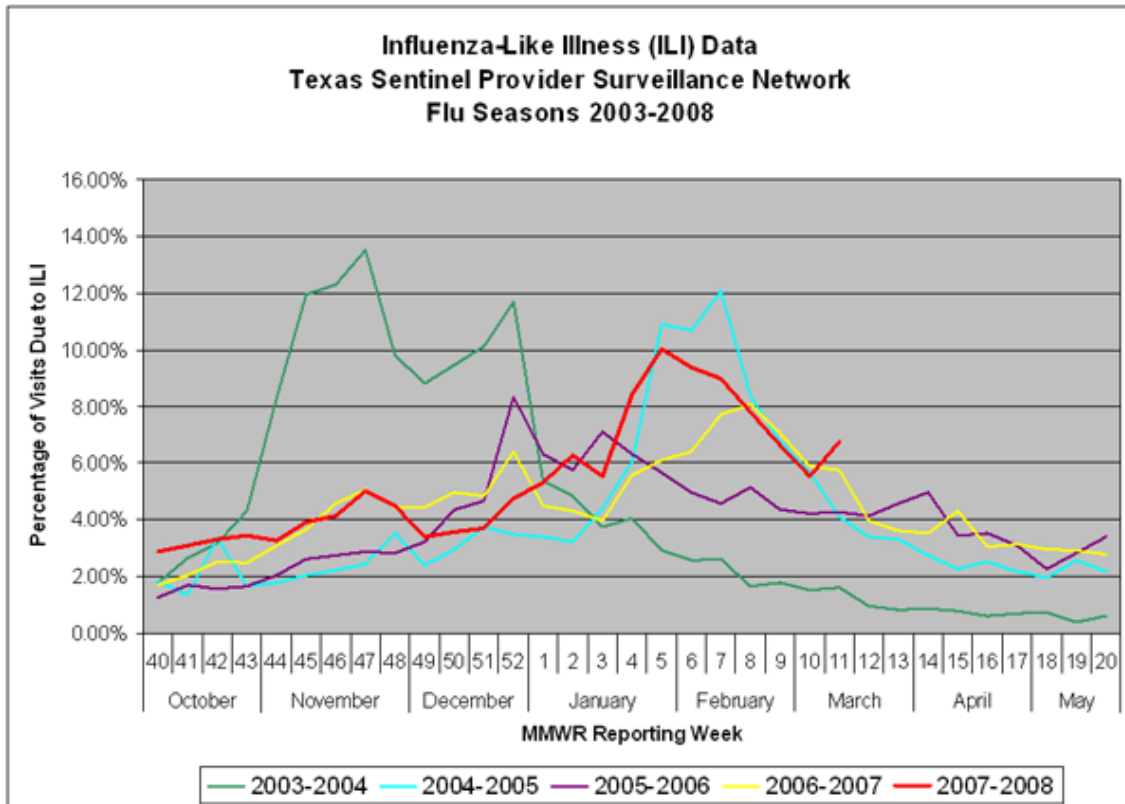
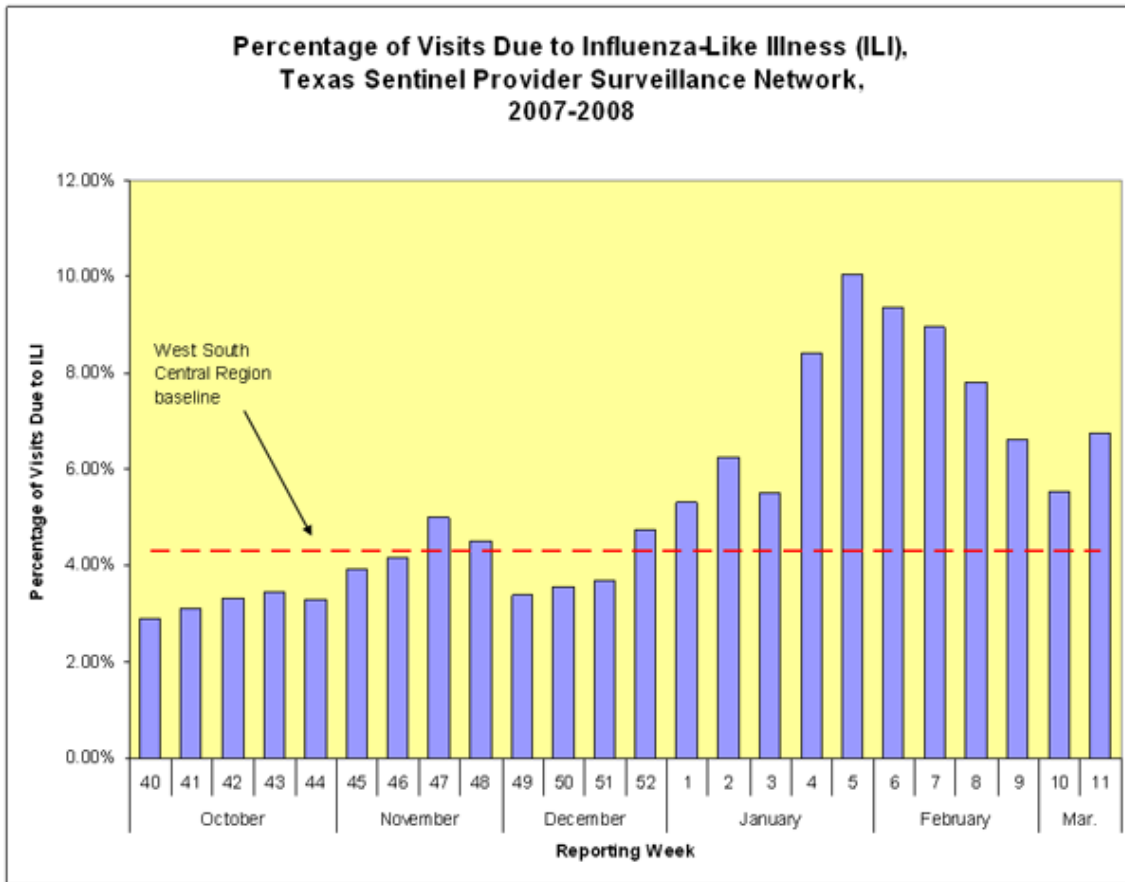
No school closures or institutional outbreaks were reported in week 11.

Sentinel Provider Surveillance Network

Sixty-four sentinel providers in Texas reported data to the U.S. Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System (SPSN) on patients with influenza–like illness (ILI) and total patients seen for any reason during week 11. Of the 63 providers who reported seeing patients during week 11, 47 (74.6%) saw at least one patient with ILI. Of all patient visits during this week, 6.74% were due to ILI. The ILI baseline for the West South Central Region (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) of the United States is 4.3% for the 2007–2008 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.

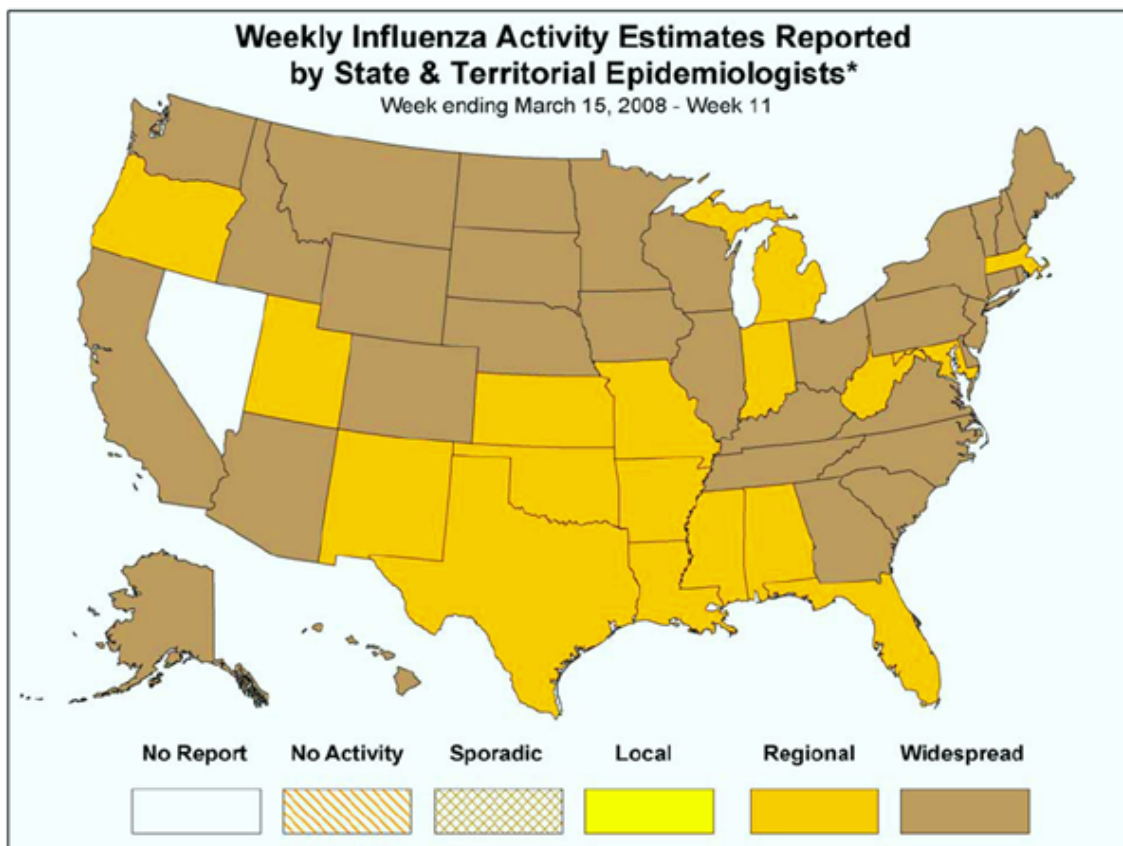
Percentage of Influenza–Like Illness (ILI) Reported by Sentinel Providers in Texas as of (3/24/2008 10:33:59 AM)								
Week	# Reporting	Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-64	Age over 64	Total ILI	Total Patients	% ILI
2007-40	84	256	163	151	49	619	21410	2.89
2007-41	88	264	255	207	58	784	25255	3.10
2007-42	86	274	270	261	50	855	25776	3.32

2007-43	85	368	290	208	47	913	26428	3.45
2007-44	95	391	276	206	55	928	28213	3.29
2007-45	87	411	314	243	39	1007	25665	3.92
2007-46	79	442	306	215	65	1028	24713	4.16
2007-47	91	478	317	272	73	1140	22748	5.01
2007-48	84	506	298	299	74	1177	26193	4.49
2007-49	84	232	290	162	16	700	20713	3.38
2007-50	80	256	265	128	16	665	18711	3.55
2007-51	68	169	197	186	26	578	15597	3.71
2007-52	77	176	201	191	22	590	12436	4.74
2008-01	90	217	302	332	29	880	16520	5.33
2008-02	97	373	500	630	117	1620	25891	6.26
2008-03	81	289	518	370	36	1213	21940	5.53
2008-04	87	369	886	650	54	1959	23306	8.41
2008-05	96	601	1208	954	158	2921	29106	10.04
2008-06	96	557	1128	951	112	2748	28337	9.37
2008-07	99	528	1035	808	124	2495	27815	8.97
2008-08	98	423	787	768	92	2070	26537	7.80
2008-09	90	421	575	687	83	1766	26598	6.64
2008-10	90	343	466	492	79	1380	24925	5.54
2008-11	64	216	333	356	31	936	13896	6.74



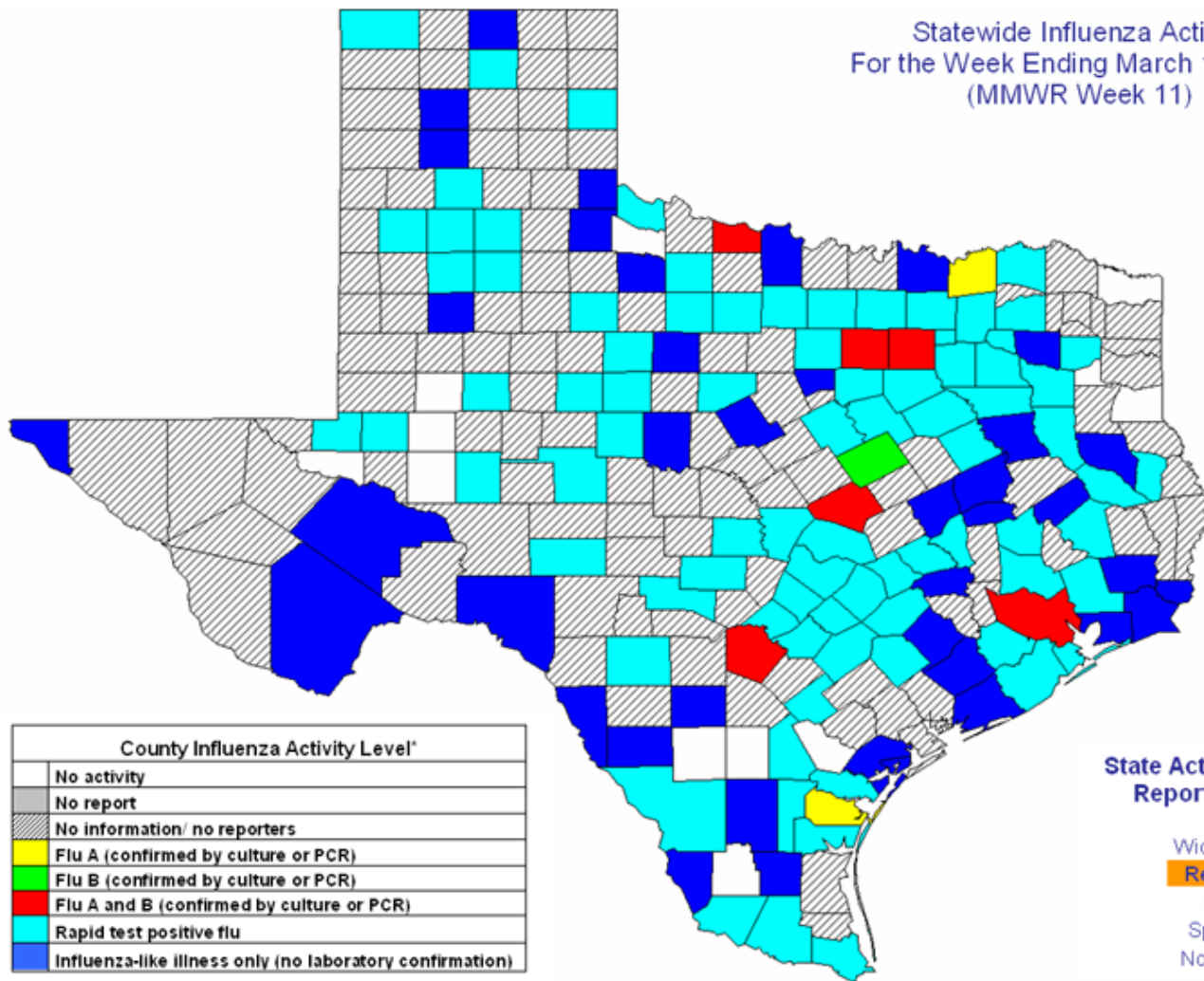
National Influenza Activity Map

The map showing influenza activity in the United States for MMWR week 11 is displayed below. The current U.S. flu weekly report may be found [here](#).



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

Statewide Influenza Activity
For the Week Ending March 15, 2008
(MMWR Week 11)



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

Last Updated: Monday, March 24, 2008

Texas Department of State Health Services - Infectious Disease Control Unit
1100 West 49th Street, Suite T801, Mail Code: 1960 PO BOX 149347 - Austin, TX 78714-9347
(512) 458-7676 - Fax: (512) 458-7616 - E-Mail

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