

Surveillance

En Español

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 42**

The influenza (flu) activity level for Texas for the week ending October 18, 2008 was "sporadic." Sporadic activity indicates that isolated reports of lab-confirmed influenza along with influenza-like illness have been reported. During week 42, one (2.5%) specimen tested by NREVSS laboratories in Texas was positive for influenza; the first positive culture of the season was also reported. Flu is occurring in the state at a very low level.

Reports from Health Service Regions

Reports were received from all Health Service Regions (HSRs) for week 42. HSR 7 reported an increase in flu activity compared to week 41; all other HSRs reported the same level of flu activity compared to week 41. 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 42, four hospital laboratories across Texas reported conducting a total of 40 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). Thirty-two antigen detection tests for influenza were performed; one test in Nueces County was positive for influenza A/not subtyped. The first positive flu culture of this season was reported by Scott & White Memorial Hospital in Temple during week 42. The specimen, obtained from an unvaccinated (for influenza), 14-year-old Bell County resident, was positive for influenza A/not subtyped. The isolate will be forwarded to the DSHS lab in Austin for subtyping. No positive PCR results were reported. Positive point-of-care rapid tests for influenza were reported by providers throughout the state (see county map below).

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality

No influenza-associated pediatric fatalities were reported during week 42.

School Closures and Institutional Outbreaks

No school closures or institutional outbreaks were reported during week 42.

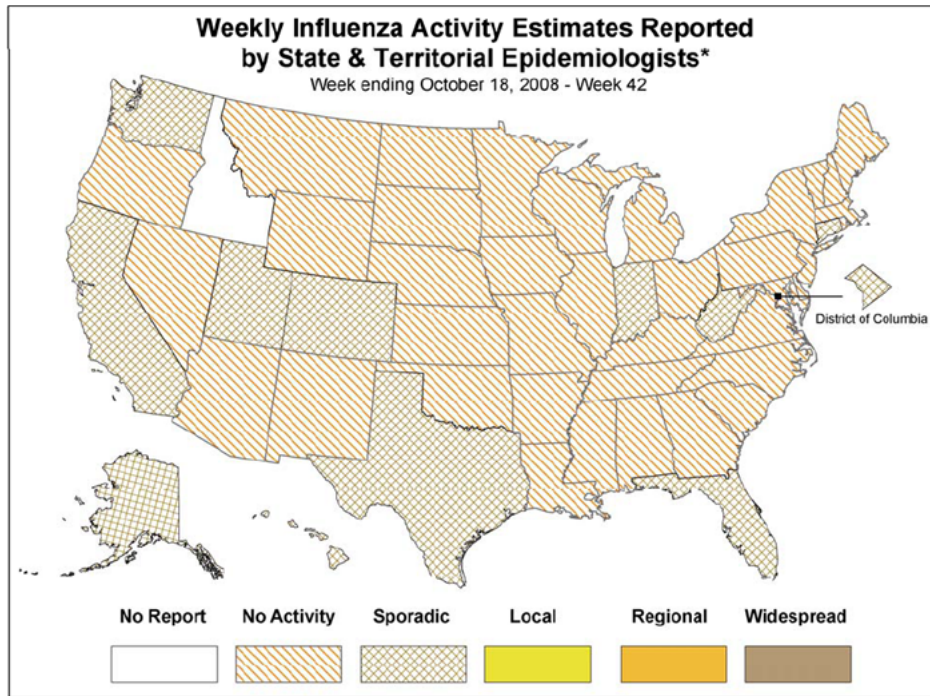
Sentinel Provider Surveillance Network

Forty-nine 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 42; nineteen (39%) of those providers saw at least one patient with ILI. Of all patient visits during this week, 1.84% were due to ILI.

Percentage of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reported by Sentinel Providers in Texas (10/24/2008 12:48:31 PM)								
Week	# Reporting	Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-64	Age over 64	Total ILI	Total Patients	% ILI
2008-40	58	79	122	123	22	346	16680	2.07
2008-41	54	85	120	112	17	334	16055	2.08
2008-42	49	75	122	81	5	283	15391	1.84

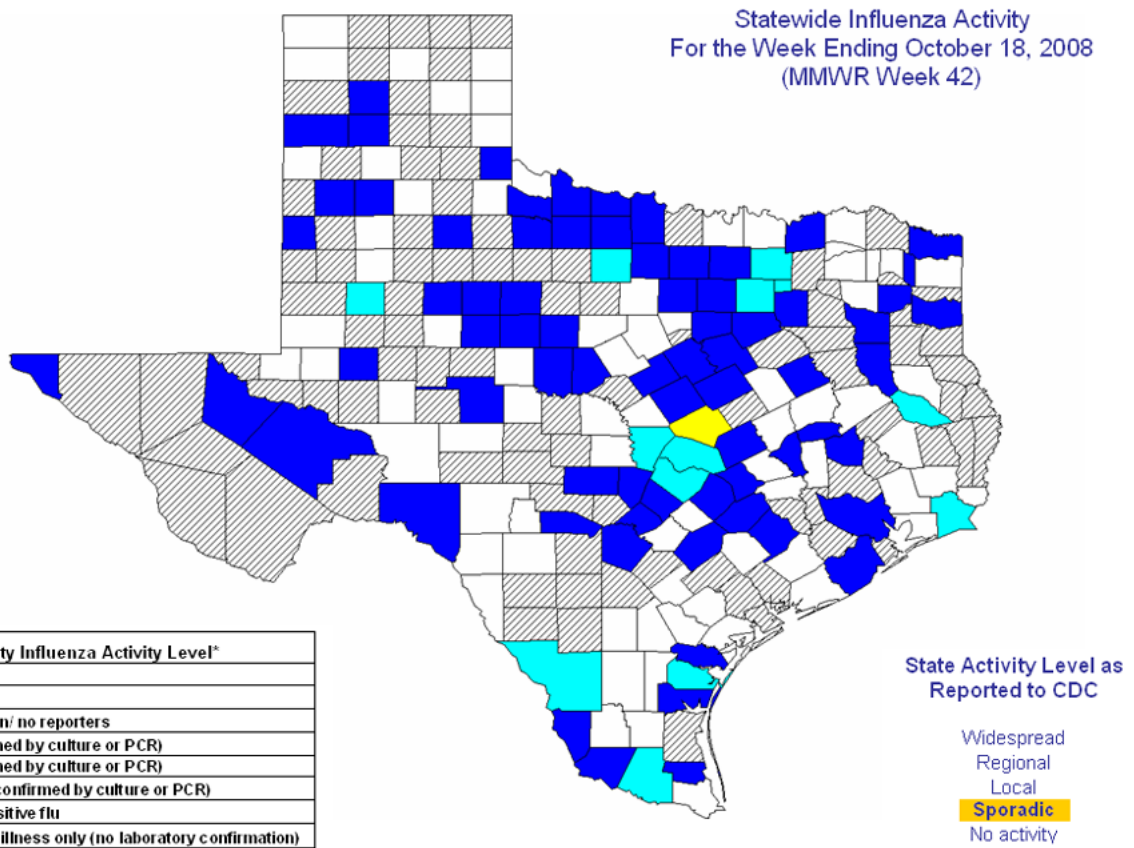
National Influenza Activity Map

The map showing influenza activity in the United States for MMWR week 42 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.

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