

# Health Service Region 8 Influenza Activity Report MMWR Week 9-10 Week Ending 03/04/16 – 03/11/16



This report covers flu surveillance activities for the 28 counties that comprise Health Service Region 8: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Calhoun, Comal, De Witt, Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Jackson, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Kinney, La Salle, Lavaca, Maverick, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Victoria, Wilson, and Zavala.

### Flu Activity:

Reports were received from 23 counties for this two-week period. Only one county reported no flu or ILI activity. Two counties reported ILI activity only. Seventeen counties reported flu by rapid test. Three counties reported flu by PCR. In Region 8, activity in weeks 9-10 was about the same as week 8.

**Antiviral Resistance-** No antiviral resistant flu reported.

**Variant Influenza Viruses-** No variant or novel influenza viruses have been detected in Texas.

### Institutional Outbreaks and School Closure

During week 10, four ILI/influenza-associated outbreaks were reported in schools in different regions of the state. A reported influenza-associated outbreak occurred in a school located in HSR 8. There were 11 people (10 students and 1 staff) associated with this outbreak. Of the 11 people associated with this outbreak, five people were positive for influenza B via rapid test and one person was positive for influenza A (unknown subtype) via rapid test. In addition, there were three ILI/influenza-associated outbreaks reported in schools located in HSR 6/5S. One outbreak reported in a school located in HSR 6/5S was due to influenza-like illness. At least 94 students were absent from this school with the school reporting some students having ILI. The second reported outbreak in a school located in HSR 6/5S involved at least 16 people (14 students and two staff). Of the 16 people involved in this outbreak, 15 were positive for influenza (unknown type) via rapid test and one person was positive for influenza B via rapid test. The third influenza-associated outbreak located in HSR 6/5S involved at least 14 students. Of the 14 students associated with this outbreak, four students were positive for influenza (unknown type) by rapid test and three were positive for influenza B by rapid test. All ILI/influenza-associated outbreaks are still being investigated. During week 10, a school located in HSR 1 was closed for a couple of days due to high absentee rates that was attributed ILI or influenza (unknown type).

