

Health Service Region 8 Influenza Activity Report MMWR Week 11 Week Ending 03/17/2017

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

19 counties submitted reports this week.
3 counties reported no flu activity.
5 counties reported ILI activity only.
9 counties reported flu by rapid test.
2 counties reported both flu A and B confirmed by PCR.
In Region 8, activity for this period was about the same as week 10.

Antiviral Resistance

No antiviral resistant flu reported in Region 8.

Variant Influenza Viruses

No variant or novel influenza viruses have been detected in Texas.

Pediatric Influenza Mortality

None this week.

Institutional Outbreaks and School Closures

None this week.

Summary

Influenza (flu) activity has slightly decreased the past few weeks in Texas; it appears to have peaked in mid-February. Compared to the previous week, the percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by hospital laboratories and patient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) marginally decreased while the amount of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by public health laboratories slightly increased. Ten outbreaks due to influenza were reported. All but two of the outbreaks concluded in previous weeks. No influenza-associated pediatric deaths were reported. In addition to flu, other respiratory viruses—especially rhino/enteroviruses—were detected in Texas during week 11.

Your flu report can be submitted by email, fax, or through the weekly survey link. Please remember to submit only the information requested on the form/survey, and do not provide individual patient data.

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