

# Health Service Region 8 Influenza Activity Report MMWR Week 17 Week Ending 04/28/2017



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

20 counties submitted reports this week.  
12 counties reported ILI activity only.  
8 counties reported flu by rapid test.  
In Region 8, activity for this period was about the same as week 16.

## Antiviral Resistance

No antiviral resistant flu reported in Region 8.

## Variant Influenza Viruses

One human infection with an influenza A variant virus was reported in Region 8 during week 17. A child under the age of 5 became ill with mild respiratory symptoms in February 2017, was not hospitalized, and recovered from illness. Contact with swine at an agricultural event was reported in the week prior to illness onset. When an influenza virus that normally circulates in swine is isolated from a human, it is called a variant influenza virus. Key facts about variant viruses and information on how to prevent human infection with variant viruses can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/index.htm>

## Pediatric Influenza Mortality

None this week for Region 8. However, one pediatric influenza death was reported in Region 9/10 this week. The 4-year old patient tested positive for influenza A 2009 (H1N1) and was not vaccinated for flu. For the 2016-2017 season, five influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Texas.

## Institutional Outbreaks and School Closures

None this week.

## Summary

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) slightly decreased. One influenza-associated pediatric death was reported. In addition to flu, other respiratory viruses—especially rhino/enteroviruses—were detected in Texas during week 17.

HSR 8 Conducts flu surveillance year-round. Thank you for continuing to submit flu reports, even during summer months when activity is low. Contact Connie Alaniz at 830-401-5723 or Elise Rush at 210-949-2095 if you need information on flu reporting, or contact [r08epiinfo@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:r08epiinfo@dshs.texas.gov)

