

Health Service Region 8 Influenza Activity Report MMWR Week 20 Week Ending 05/19/2017

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.
10 counties reported ILI activity only.
7 counties reported flu by rapid test.
1 county reported flu confirmed by PCR.
In Region 8, activity in week 18 was about the same as week 18.

Antiviral Resistance

No antiviral resistant flu reported in Region 8.

Variant Influenza Viruses

None

Pediatric Influenza Mortality

None in Region 8. However, one influenza-associated pediatric death was reported in Region 11 during week 20, but occurred during week 11 (March). The unvaccinated 4-year old child tested positive for flu A H3N2 and had underlying medical conditions.

Institutional Outbreaks and School Closures

None.

Summary

Influenza (flu) activity has decreased the past few months 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 and public health laboratories and patient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) slightly decreased. In addition to flu, other respiratory viruses—especially rhino/enteroviruses—were detected in Texas during week 20.

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

