

Health Service Region 8 Influenza Activity Report MMWR Week 1 Week Ending 01/06/2017



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

26 counties submitted reports this week.
5 counties reported no activity.
Four counties reported ILI activity only.
14 counties reported flu by rapid test.
3 counties reported flu A confirmed by PCR.
In Region 8, activity for this period is about the same as week 52.

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

Three outbreaks are still under investigation. Two are within correctional facilities and one is in a nursing home. Two hospitalizations have been reported in association with one of these outbreaks.

Summary

Statewide, Influenza activity remained about the same in Texas. Compared to the previous week, the percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by hospital laboratories slightly increased, while the percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by public health laboratories and the percentage of patient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) marginally decreased.

Regional Update to Reporting

Exciting news! Flu reporting just got easier. Region 8 distributed its first ever electronic reporting tool this week. Flu reporting can be done by simply responding to the survey sent to your email. Responding to the survey eliminates the need to fax or email flu reports. If you did not receive the survey link, please contact us by phone or email so that you can be added to the distribution list. If you are unable to complete the survey by email, you may still fax or email your report to us. If you have any questions about the survey or reporting, please feel free to contact us at:

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