

This report covers flu surveillance activities for the 28 counties that comprise Public Health 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 25 counties this week.
Two counties reported flu by PCR.
Ten counties reported flu by rapid test.
Ten counties reported influenza-like illness.
Three counties reported no flu or ILI activity.
Compared to week 12, flu activity in Region 8 decreased during week 13.

Variant Influenza Viruses

None this season.

Pediatric Influenza Mortality

None in Region 8.

Institutional Outbreaks and School Closures

None reported this week.

Statewide Summary

Influenza activity continues to decrease across the state of Texas. It appears that influenza activity peaked in late January. The percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by hospital laboratories has marginally decreased. In addition to flu, other respiratory viruses—especially rhinovirus/enterovirus—were detected in Texas during week 13. One influenza-associated pediatric death was reported in an 11-year-old resident of HSR 2/3. A second death was reported in a 6-year-old resident of HSR 7. Fourteen influenza-associated pediatric deaths have been reported in Texas during the 2017-2018 influenza season.

