

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 24 counties this week. Two counties reported flu by PCR. Eight counties reported flu by rapid test. Ten counties reported influenza-like illness. Four counties reported no flu or ILI activity. Activity for week 16 was decreased from week 15.

Variant Influenza Viruses

None this season.

Pediatric Influenza Mortality

None in Region 8 this week. However, one influenza-associated pediatric death was reported in a 16-year-old resident of HSR 2/3 with underlying health conditions. A specimen collected from the child was positive for influenza B.

Institutional Outbreaks and School Closures

None in Region 8 this week.

Statewide Summary

Influenza activity continues to decrease across the state of Texas. It appears that influenza activity peaked in late January. Compared to the previous week, the percentage of patient visits due to influenza-like illness (ILI) and the percentage of specimens testing positive for influenza reported by public health and hospital laboratories has marginally decreased. In addition to flu, other respiratory viruses were detected in Texas during week 16.

