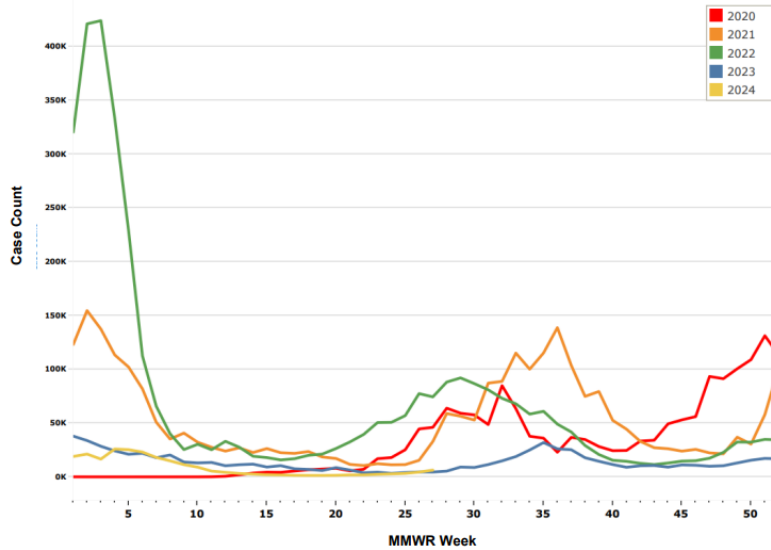


UPDATES to the Regions PCC Report 15 JULY 2024

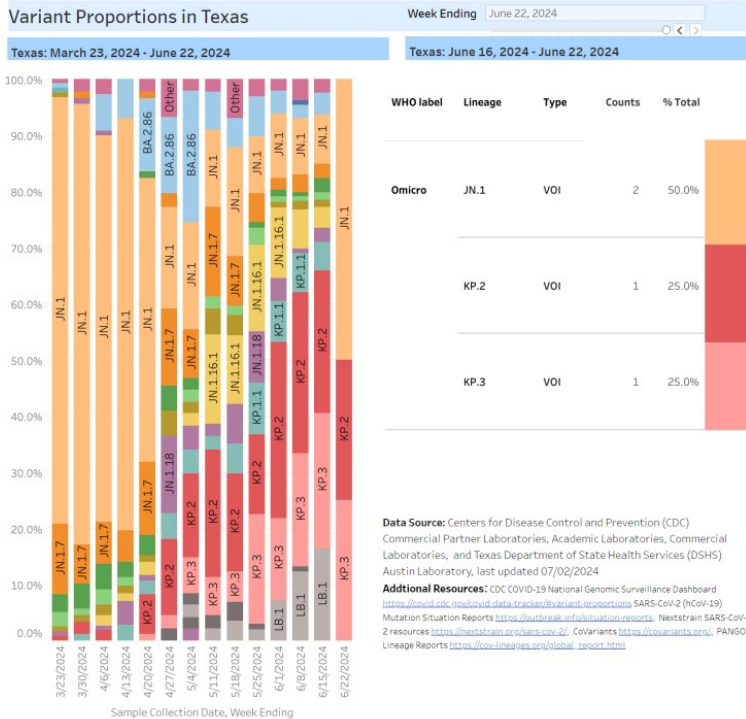
Figure 6. Cases of COVID-19 by MMWR Week, Texas, 2020 to Current Report Week (N = 9,223,430)



Note: The COVID-19 pandemic reported the first locally acquired SARS-CoV-2 case in Texas during the MMWR Week 10 in 2020. Prior to MMWR Week 10 in 2020 there were no locally acquired cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection reported among Texas residents. Case counts are reported based on all MMWR weeks as they are provided.

COVID-19 Sequencing and Variant Surveillance

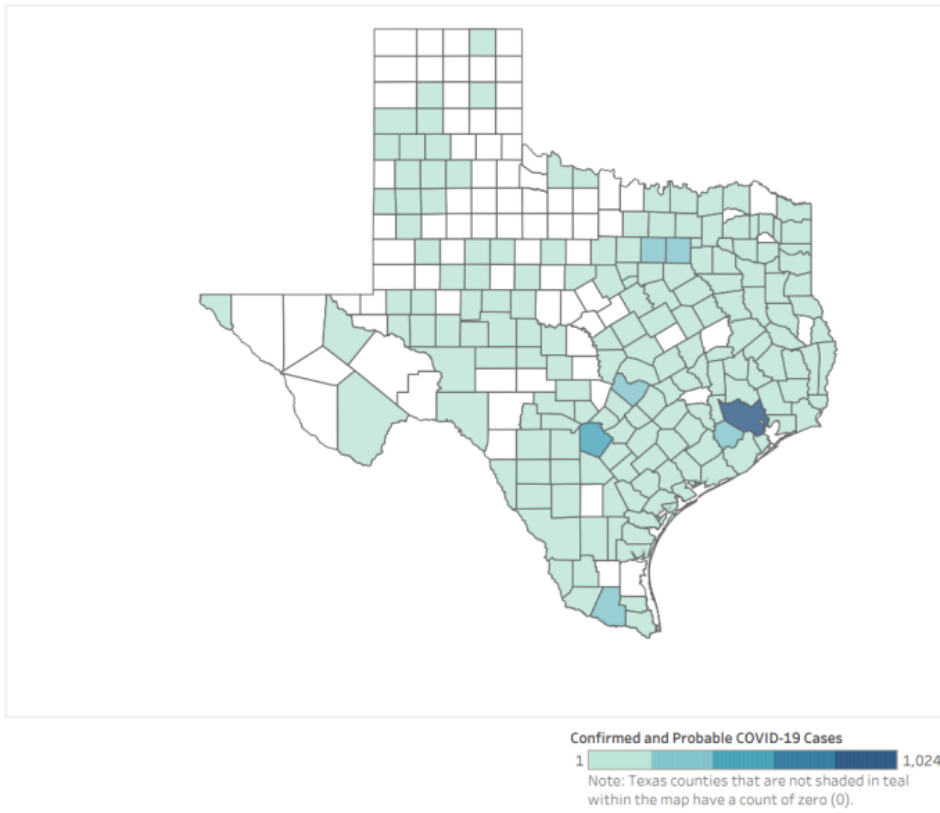
An interactive version of the DSHS COVID-19 variant dashboard, updated weekly, can be viewed at: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/covid-19-coronavirus-disease/sars-cov-2-variants-and-genomic-surveillance-texas>



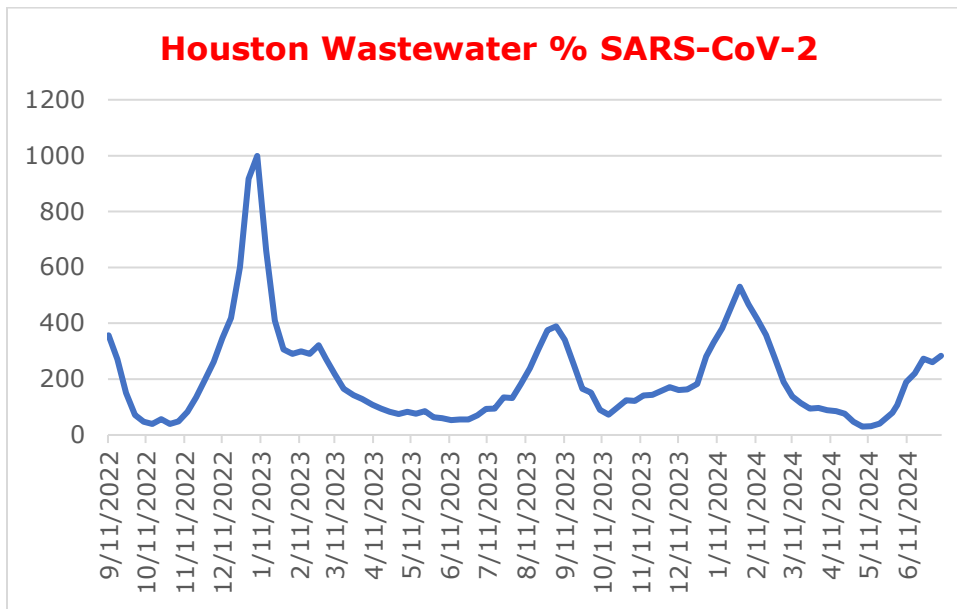
Weekly COVID-19 Case Map

A map of weekly confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases by county can be viewed below.

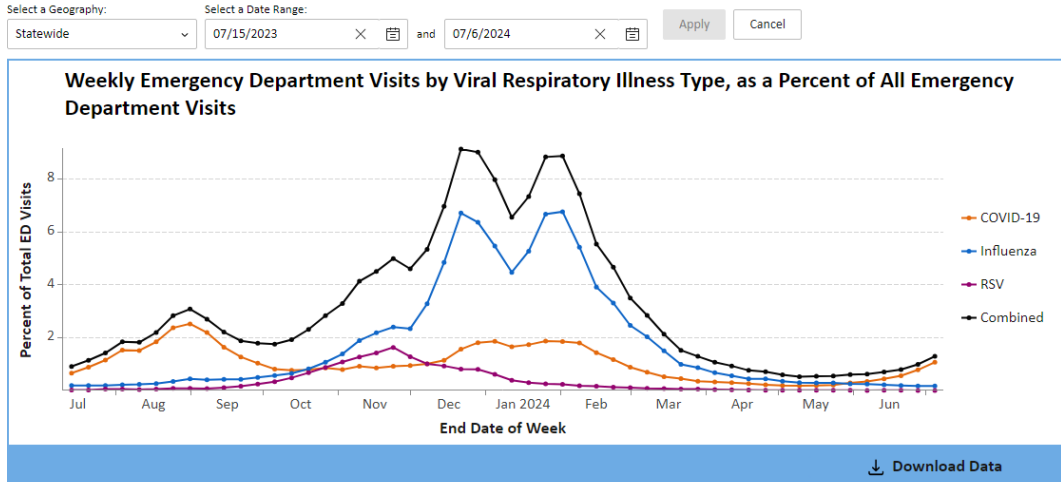
Figure 5: Texas Map Displaying COVID-19 Case Counts by County for the Current Reporting Week.



[Texas DSHS | Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report | 07.12.24 | Week 27](#)



283% currently

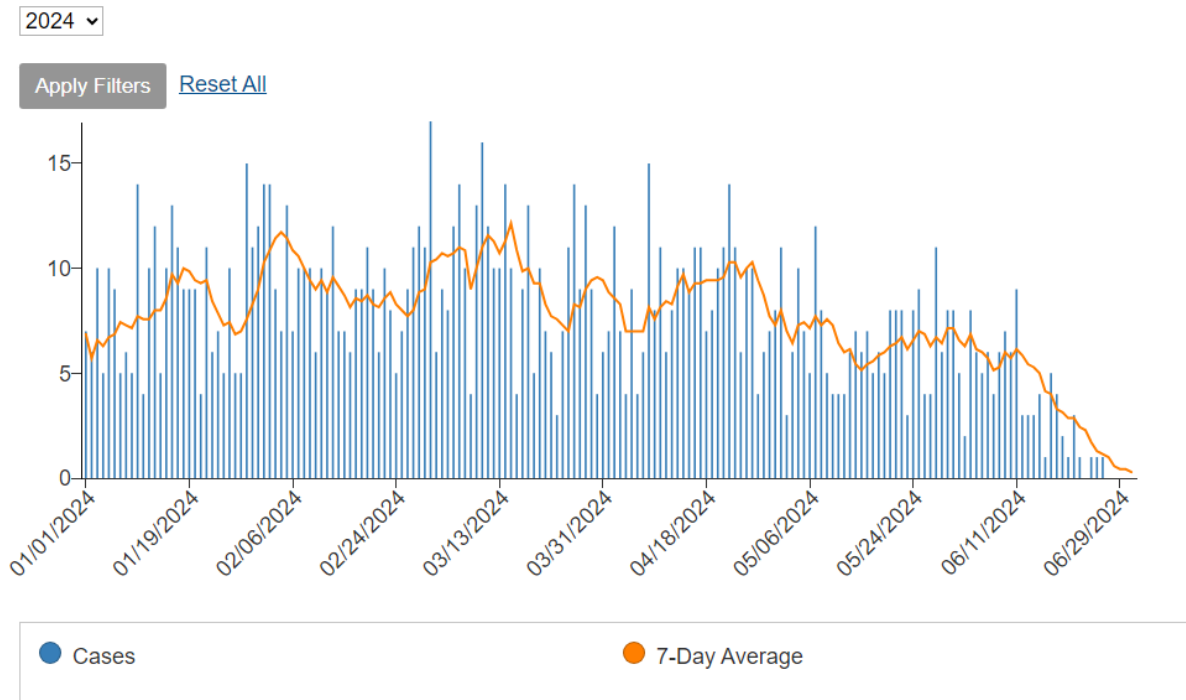


Emergency department visits associated with COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, presented as a percent of all emergency department visits.

[Texas Statewide Emergency Department Visits for Respiratory Illnesses | Texas Respiratory Illnesses Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](#)

U.S. Mpox Case Trends Reported to CDC

Data as Reported to CDC as of 01 Jul 2024 2:00 PM EDT



[U.S. Mpox Case Trends Reported to CDC | Mpox | Poxvirus | CDC](#)

A **fourth human case** of highly pathogenic H5N1 bird flu virus has been identified, this time in **Colorado**, following a previous case reported in Texas and two cases in Michigan.

Each case involves a worker on a dairy farm where cows tested positive for the H5N1 virus. In the most recent case, the person reported **eye symptoms only**, received oseltamivir treatment and has recovered.

[4th human case of bird flu reported; CDC to discuss outbreak on July 16 call with clinicians | AAP News | American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

Based on the information available at this time, this infection does not change CDC's current H5N1 bird flu human health risk assessment for the U.S. general public, which the agency considers to be low. However, this development **underscores the importance of recommended precautions in people with exposure to infected animals.**

[CDC Reports Fourth Human Case of H5 Bird Flu Tied to Dairy Cow Outbreak | CDC Online Newsroom | CDC](#)

Recommendations for the Public

Avoid unprotected (not using respiratory or eye protection) exposures to sick or dead animals, as well as to animal feces, litter, or materials contaminated by birds or other animals with suspected or confirmed HPAI A(H5N1) virus infection.

[Personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#) should be worn when in direct or close contact (w/in 6 feet) with sick or dead animals, animal feces, litter, or materials potentially contaminated with HPAI A(H5N1) viruses. PPE includes

- a properly fitted unvented or indirectly vented safety goggles,
- disposable gloves, boots or boot covers,
- a NIOSH-Approved particulate respirator
- disposable fluid-resistant coveralls, and
- disposable head cover or hair cover.

[Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A\(H5N1\) Virus in Animals: Interim Recommendations for Prevention, Monitoring, and Public Health Investigations | Bird Flu | CDC](#)

Hurricane Beryl Response:

- Most of the Region 6/5S staff was affected by power outages and intermittent comms. Many lost water or had damage to their homes. Many also had vulnerable family members at risk in heat indices of near or over 100. In spite of this, most maintained a positive attitude and performed their jobs virtually to the extent possible. They are truly amazing, committed public health professionals.
- The RHMOC was already in alert status prior to Beryl's arrival. After ten days continuous response, at times including 24-hour coverage, the Preparedness teams of Regions 7, 8 & 11 organized a Relief RHMOC that provided 6/5S much needed and highly appreciated respite. These three regions worked skillfully and competently to assure a smooth transition. They went above and beyond in assuring shelters were surveyed and all EMC's in counties without health departments were contacted to identify any unmet needs.
- Polk street offices lost power and generators were turned off. Staff removed Rabies biologicals from the building and transferred these for safe keeping.
- Servers also went down and staff were unable to access files most of the week following landfall.
- Beginning Monday, July 15, two PHR 7 sanitarians are assisting PHR 6/5S in support of food safety checks. In addition, PHR 6/5S sanitarians will be conducting in-person assessments of Youth camps that remain open.
- We are receiving STARs for mosquito abatement. Austin and 6/5S Zoonosis Control are partnering with Preparedness & Response to assist jurisdictions.
- Staff are finding innovative ways to respond in spite of the challenges and have displayed remarkable resiliency.