

## Surveillance

[En Español](#)


Influenza

(Flu)

ICD-9 487; ICD-10 J10,11

 Related Topics: [Protecting Yourself During the Cold and Flu Season](#), [Avian Flu](#), [Vaccine Preventable Diseases](#) and [SARS](#)

### 2007 - 2008 Texas Influenza Surveillance Information

#### Influenza Surveillance Report for MMWR Week 9

The influenza (flu) activity level for Texas for the week ending March 1, 2008 is "widespread." Widespread activity indicates that at least half of the regions in the state are experiencing an increase in influenza-like illness (ILI) and have recent culture-confirmed influenza.

#### Reports from Health Service Regions

Reports were received from all 11 Health Service Regions (HSRs) for week 9. HSR 6/5S reported the same level of flu activity as the previous week. All other regions reported a decrease in flu activity compared to the previous week. Flu activity in Texas remains widespread overall, but activity continues to decrease slightly in many regions. For a map of Health Service Regions, please visit the following website:

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/regions/state.shtm>

#### Laboratory Results

During week 9, ten hospital laboratories and public health agencies across Texas reported conducting a total of 1,702 influenza tests (antigen, culture, and PCR) to the National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Of the 1,670 antigen detection tests performed, 242 were positive for influenza A/not subtyped and 179 were positive for influenza B. These results were reported from Bexar, Collin, Dallas, Harris, Nueces, Tarrant, Webb, and Wilson counties. Positive PCR results were reported in Coryell (influenza A/not subtyped) and Tarrant (influenza A/not subtyped and influenza B) counties. A total of 52 reports of culture-confirmed influenza were received from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Laboratory, Scott and White Hospital Laboratory, Texas Children's Hospital Laboratory, NREVSS, and other sources for the following counties:

Influenza A/H1	Influenza A/H3	Influenza A/not subtyped	Influenza B
Dallas County	Nueces County (3)	Bell County (8)	Bell County (2)
	Travis County	Bexar County	Bexar County (2)
	Williamson County (2)	Brazos County	Brazos County (5)
		Harris County	Dallas County (3)
		McLennan County (5)	Falls County
			Hansford County
			Harris County (6)
			Kaufman County
			McLennan County (3)
			Nueces County (3)
			Tarrant County

Additional positive results from point-of-care rapid flu tests were reported by providers throughout the state (see Texas map below).

## Antigenic Characterization

CDC has reported antigenic characterization results from 34 influenza isolates [7 influenza A/H1, 24 influenza A/H3, and 3 influenza B viruses] received from the DSHS Laboratory since the beginning of the 2007–08 flu season.

### Influenza A/H1 [7]

- Seven (100%) of the seven viruses were characterized as A/Solomon Islands/3/2006, the influenza A/H1 component of the 2007–08 influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere.

### Influenza A/H3 [24]

- Two (8%) of the 24 viruses were characterized as A/Wisconsin/67/2005–like, the influenza A/H3 component of the 2007–08 influenza vaccine for the Northern Hemisphere.
- Twenty-one (88%) of the 24 viruses were characterized as A/Brisbane/10/2007–like. A/Brisbane/10/2007 is a recent antigenic variant which evolved from A/Wisconsin/67/2005–like.
- One (4%) of the 24 viruses showed somewhat reduced titers with antisera produced against A/Wisconsin/67/2005 and A/Brisbane/10/2007.

### Influenza B (B/Victoria/02/87 and B/Yamagata/16/88 lineages) [3]

#### Victoria lineage [0]

- The influenza B component for the 2007–08 influenza vaccine is a B/Malaysia/2506/2004–like virus, belonging to the B/Victoria lineage.

#### Yamagata lineage [3]

- Three (100%) of the three viruses were identified as belonging to the B/Yamagata lineage of viruses.

These results are very similar to national antigenic characterization results. The national results may be found in the CDC weekly flu report at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>. The DSHS Laboratory sends a representative sample of influenza viruses to the CDC throughout the flu season.

It is not too late to get a flu vaccine for the current season. Although this season's flu vaccine strains do not appear to be optimally matched to circulating strains, the flu vaccine may reduce the severity and duration of illness and the risk of serious complications and death due to influenza.

## Influenza–Associated Pediatric Mortality

No influenza–associated pediatric fatalities occurred during MMWR week 9. As of week 9, Texas has reported five influenza-associated pediatric deaths in the 2007–08 influenza season.

## School Closures and Institutional Outbreaks

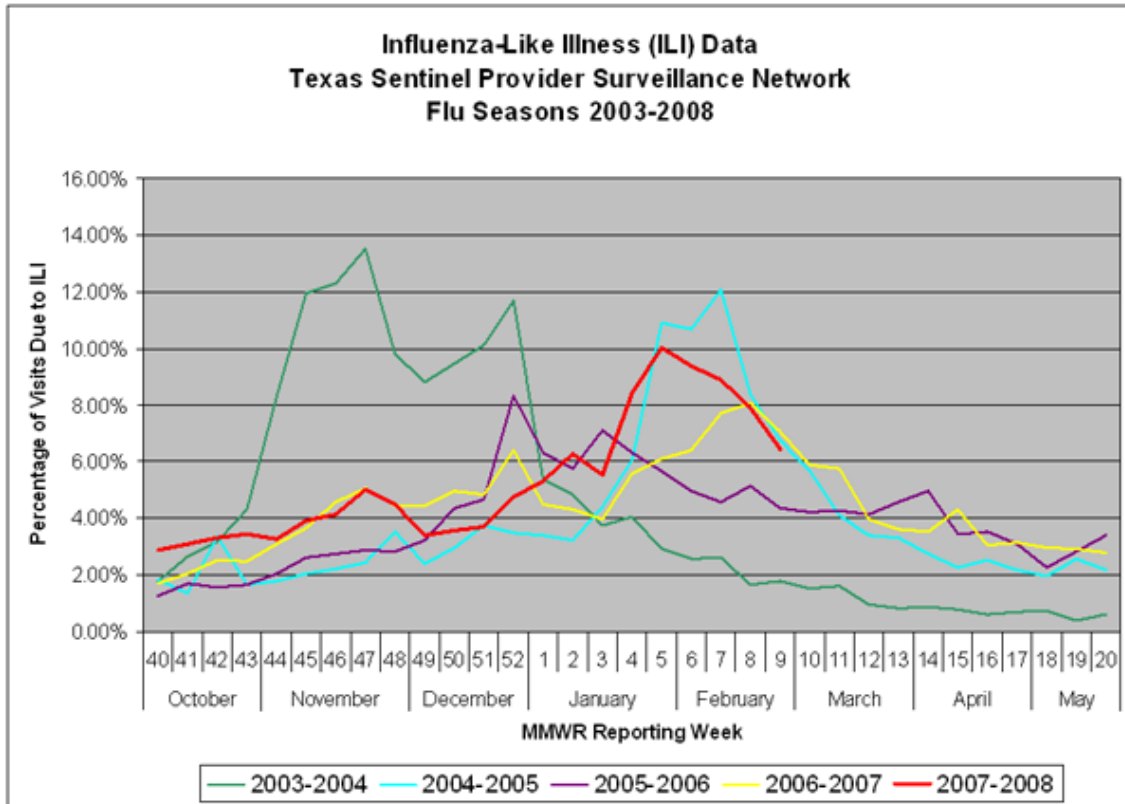
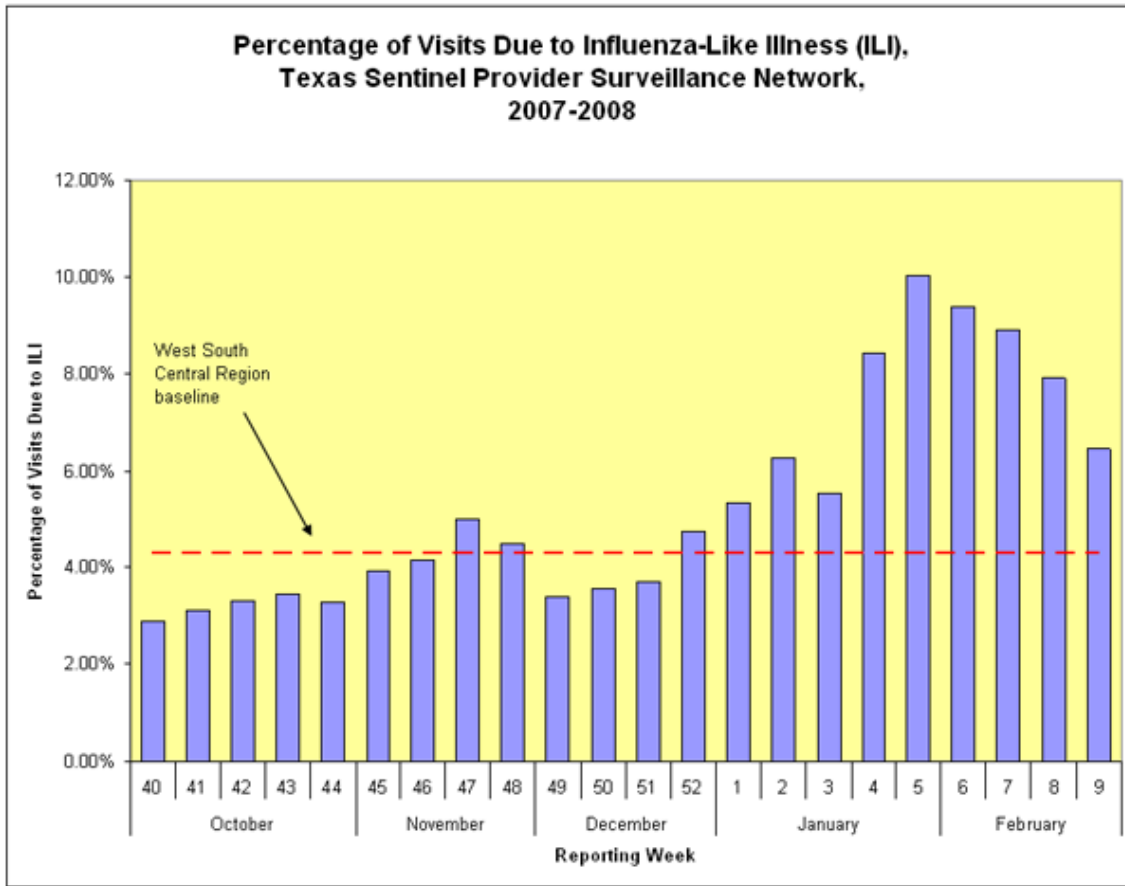
No school closures or institutional outbreaks were reported in week 9.

## Sentinel Provider Surveillance Network

Eighty sentinel providers in Texas reported data to the U.S. Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance System (SPSN) on patients with influenza–like illness (ILI) and total patients seen for any reason during week 9. Sixty-six (85%) of the seventy-eight providers who reported seeing patients for any reason saw at least one patient with ILI. Of all patient visits during this week, 6.44% were due to ILI. The ILI baseline for the West South Central Region (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) of the United States is 4.3% for the 2007–2008 season. The baseline is the mean percentage of patient visits for ILI during non–influenza weeks for the previous three seasons plus two standard deviations.

Percentage of Influenza–Like Illness (ILI) Reported by Sentinel Providers in Texas as of (3/10/2008 12:02:33 PM)								
Week	# Reporting	Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-64	Age over 64	Total ILI	Total Patients	% ILI

2007-40	84	256	163	151	49	619	21410	2.89
2007-41	88	264	255	207	58	784	25255	3.10
2007-42	86	274	270	261	50	855	25776	3.32
2007-43	85	368	290	208	47	913	26428	3.45
2007-44	95	391	276	206	55	928	28213	3.29
2007-45	87	411	314	243	39	1007	25665	3.92
2007-46	79	442	306	215	65	1028	24713	4.16
2007-47	91	478	317	272	73	1140	22748	5.01
2007-48	84	506	298	299	74	1177	26193	4.49
2007-49	84	232	290	162	16	700	20713	3.38
2007-50	80	256	265	128	16	665	18711	3.55
2007-51	68	169	197	186	26	578	15597	3.71
2007-52	77	176	201	191	22	590	12436	4.74
2008-01	90	217	302	332	29	880	16520	5.33
2008-02	97	373	500	630	117	1620	25891	6.26
2008-03	81	289	518	370	36	1213	21940	5.53
2008-04	87	369	886	650	54	1959	23306	8.41
2008-05	96	601	1208	954	158	2921	29106	10.04
2008-06	96	557	1128	951	112	2748	29337	9.37
2008-07	98	527	1031	786	124	2468	27722	8.90
2008-08	95	413	779	747	89	2028	25673	7.90
2008-09	80	377	508	592	81	1558	24198	6.44



### National Influenza Activity Map

The map showing influenza activity in the United States for MMWR week 9 is displayed below. The current U.S. flu weekly report may be found [here](#).

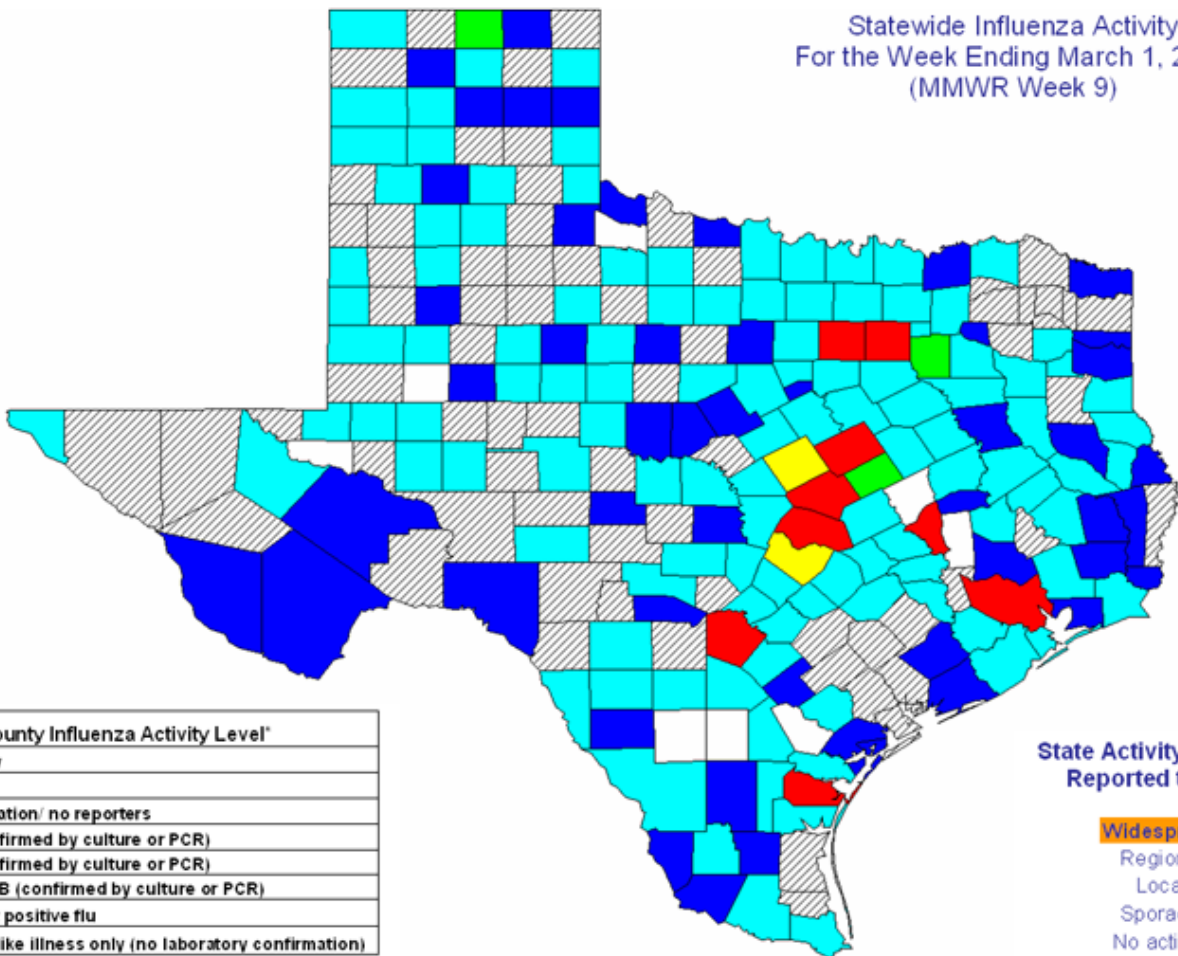
**National Influenza Activity Map**

The map showing influenza activity in the United States for MMWR week 9 is displayed below. The current U.S. flu weekly report may be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>



For more information on flu surveillance activities in the State of Texas, please visit our main surveillance page.

Statewide Influenza Activity  
For the Week Ending March 1, 2008  
(MMWR Week 9)



County Influenza Activity Level*	
[White]	No activity
[Hatched]	No report
[Hatched]	No information/ no reporters
[Yellow]	Flu A (confirmed by culture or PCR)
[Green]	Flu B (confirmed by culture or PCR)
[Red]	Flu A and B (confirmed by culture or PCR)
[Cyan]	Rapid test positive flu
[Blue]	Influenza-like illness only (no laboratory confirmation)

State Activity Level as Reported to CDC

- Widespread
- Regional
- Local
- Sporadic
- No activity

\*Influenza activity level corresponds to current MMWR week only and does not reflect previous weeks' activity.

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*Last Updated: Monday, March 17, 2008*

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