

## Disclaimer

Most influenza cases are not reportable in the state of Texas. The information in this report contains data submitted from sentinel sites around the region along with emergency department data.

## Definitions

Before reading through the report, familiarize yourself with the following terms.

**ILI: Influenza-like Illness.** A fever at or above 100°F, a cough or sore throat, and no other known cause of the illness.

**PCR/Culture:** These are lab tests used to confirm whether a patient truly has influenza.

## Findings

The percentage of patient visits to the doctor and student visits to the school nurse due to ILI continued to slowly increase this week (3.09% vs. 2.70%). Although ILI did increase in this first week of the 2018-2019 flu season, no confirmed cases of flu were reported.

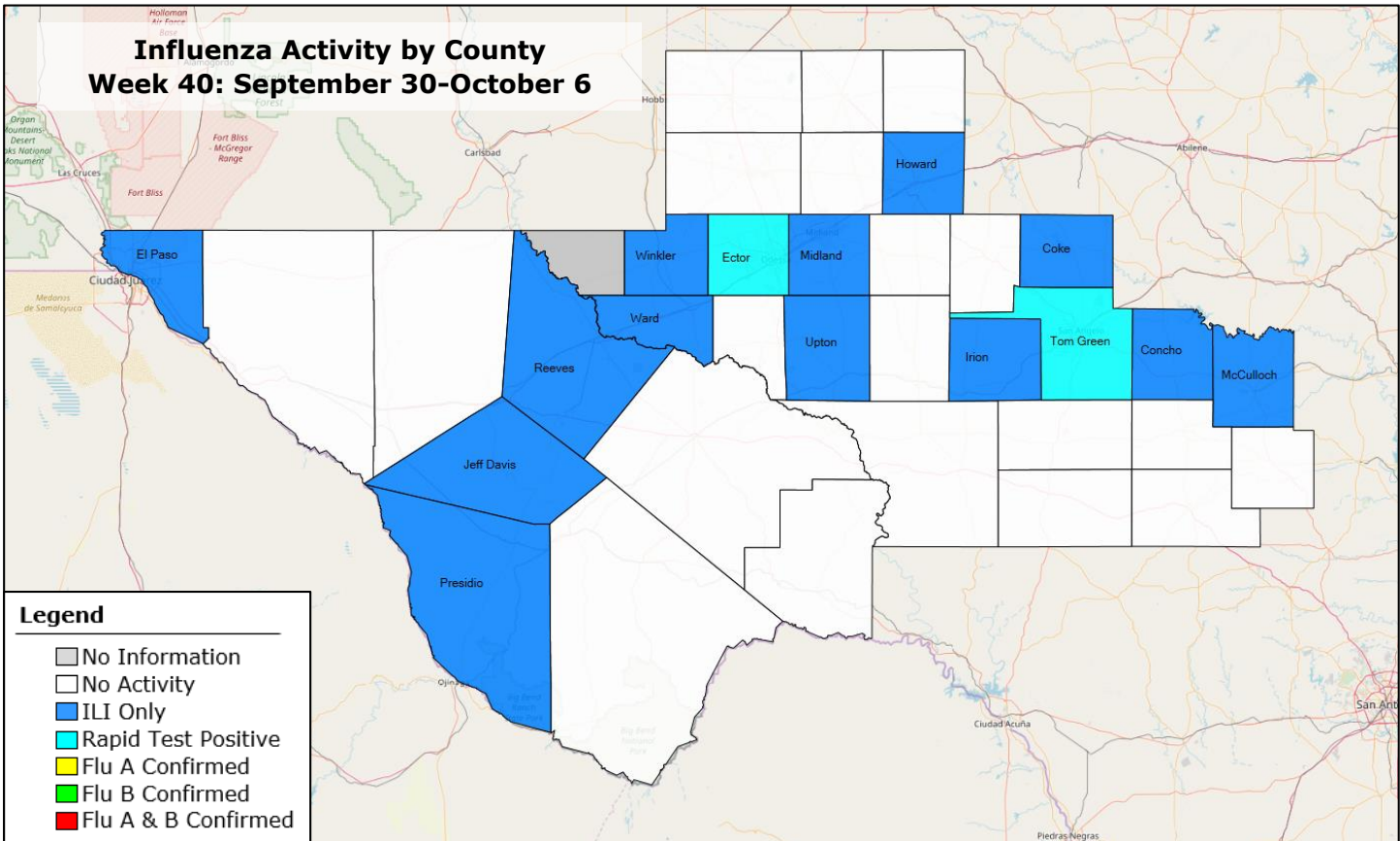
## The Numbers

**2** ↓ 2  
counties reported  
positive rapid flu  
tests

**13** ↑ 1  
counties reported  
ILI only

**20** ↑ 1  
counties reported  
no activity

**1** ↑ 0  
county reported  
no information



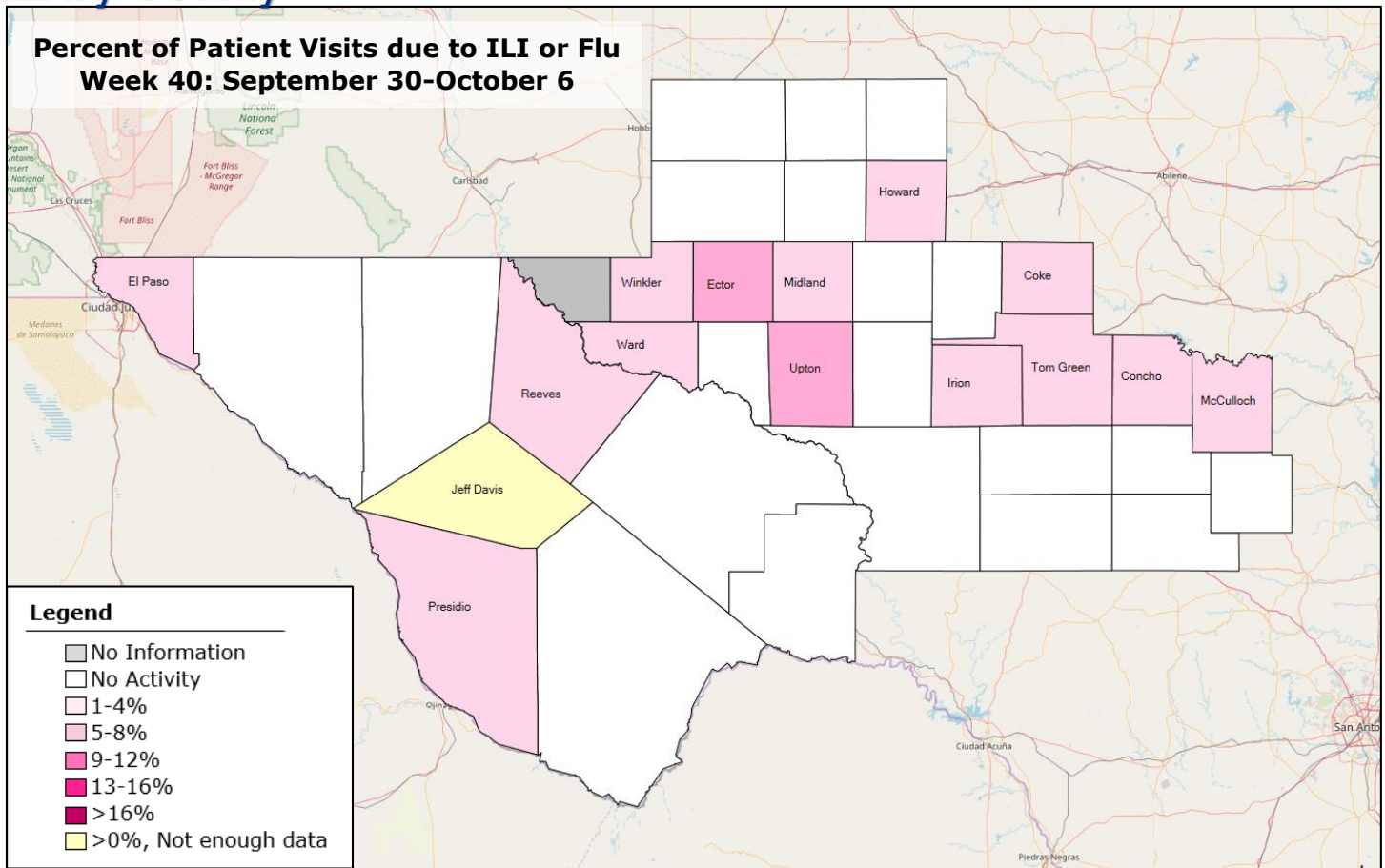
## County-By-County

The information presented below aggregates all active and passive surveillance reports from the week of September 30-October 6 in Region 9/10.

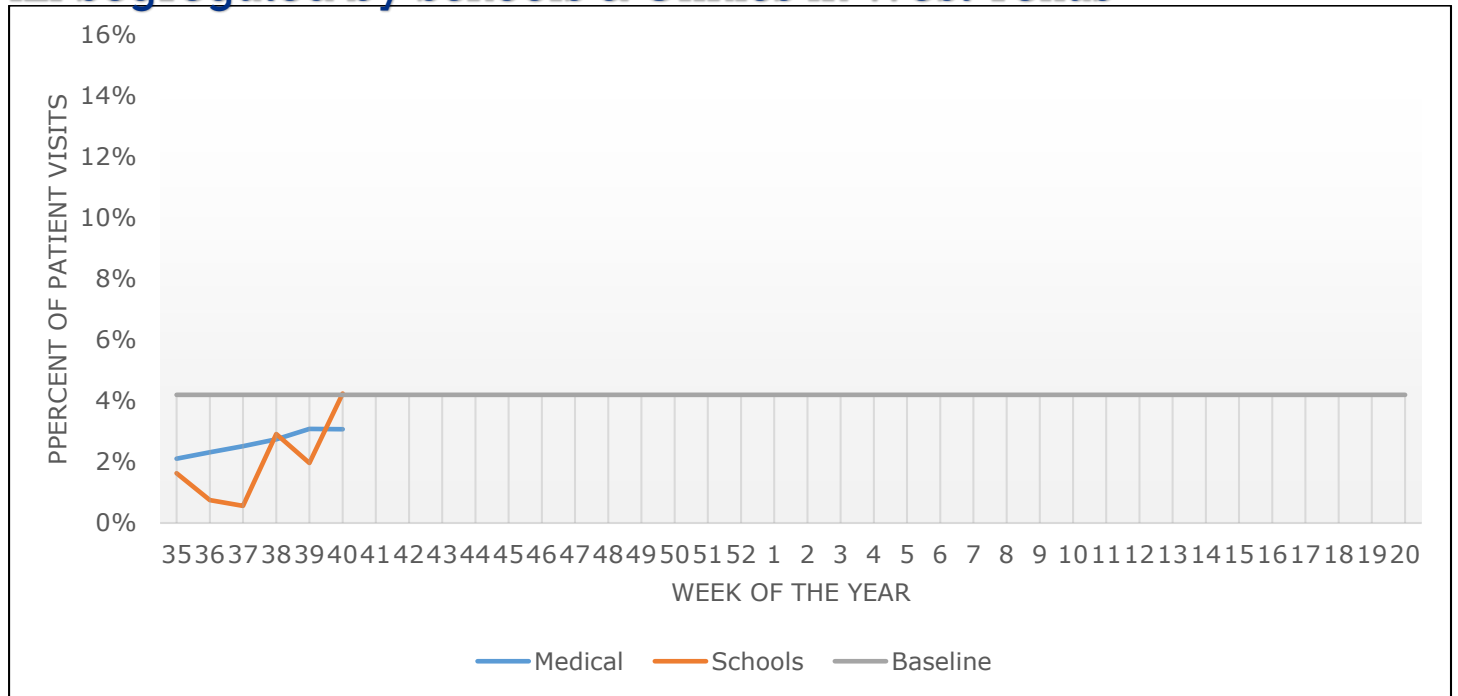
County of Patient Residence	Total Patients or Students Seen for Any Reason	# with ILI	# Rapid Test Positive	# Culture or PCR Type A	# Culture or PCR Type B	% of Patients and Students with ILI or Flu
Andrews	422	0	0	0	0	0%
Borden	3	0	0	0	0	0%
Brewster	2	0	0	0	0	0%
Coke	38	1	0	0	0	3%
Concho	93	2	0	0	0	2%
Crane	6	0	0	0	0	0%
Crockett	18	0	0	0	0	0%
Culberson	5	0	0	0	0	0%
Dawson	126	0	0	0	0	0%
Ector	4,638	212	9	0	0	5%
El Paso	6,351	146	0	0	0	2%
Gaines	30	0	0	0	0	0%
Glasscock	1	0	0	0	0	0%
Howard	103	2	0	0	0	2%
Hudspeth	13	0	0	0	0	0%
Irion	62	2	0	0	0	3%
Jeff Davis	2	1	0	0	0	>0%, Not enough data
Kimble	269	0	0	0	0	0%
Loving	No Information Reported					
McCulloch	90	3	0	0	0	3%
Martin	4	0	0	0	0	0%
Mason	15	0	0	0	0	0%
Menard	16	0	0	0	0	0%
Midland	1,562	64	0	0	0	4%
Pecos	12	0	0	0	0	0%
Presidio	42	1	0	0	0	2%
Reagan	28	0	0	0	0	0%
Reeves	233	3	0	0	0	1%
Schleicher	8	0	0	0	0	0%
Sterling	21	0	0	0	0	0%
Sutton	208	0	0	0	0	0%
Terrell	2	0	0	0	0	0%
Tom Green	3,323	120	8	0	0	4%
Upton	21	1	0	0	0	5%
Ward	715	10	0	0	0	1%
Winkler	295	12	0	0	0	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,777</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3.09%</b>

**Please note:** The majority of influenza cases are not reportable by law in Texas. This map contains data from sentinel sites and only displays influenza and ILI cases that were reported to public health. Positive laboratory results are reported according to specimen collection date, or date received in the laboratory if the former is unknown.

# ILI by County

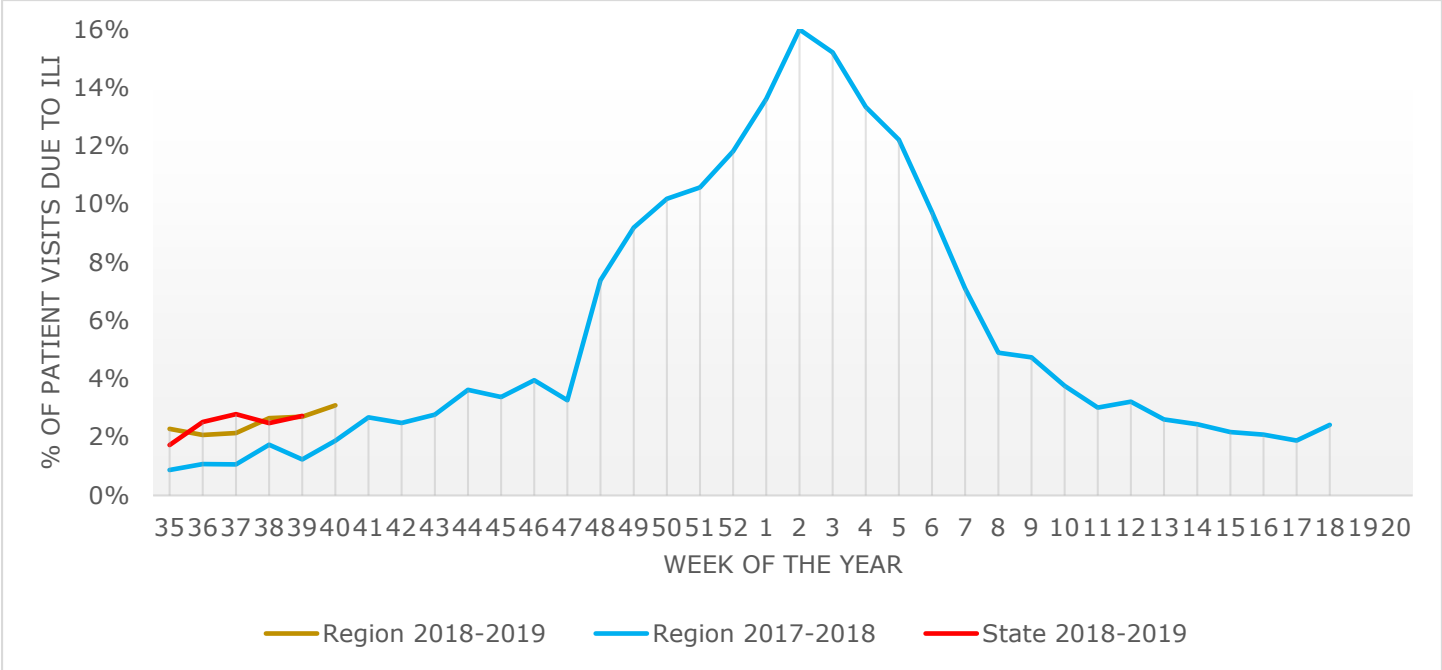


# ILI Segregated by Schools & Clinics in West Texas



The blue line shows the percent of all patient visits at a medical facility due to ILI in Region 9/10 while the orange line shows the percent of all nurse visits at a school due to ILI per week in Region 9/10. The grey line shows the percent of visits to the doctor that we expect to see when it is not flu season.

## All Patient Visits due to ILI or Flu



The **gold** line shows the percent of all hospital or school nurse visits due to ILI during the current season in our region (West Texas). The **blue** line shows the percent of all hospital visits due to ILI last season in our region (West Texas). The **red** line shows the percent of all hospital visits due to ILI during the current season statewide.

## Week-by-Week Info

Week	Dates	Total Visits	Total ILI	Total Flu	%ILI 18-19	%ILI 17-18
35	08/25-09/01	11,089	217	6	2.28	1.0
36	09/02-09/08	16,274	263	5	↓ 2.08	↑ 1.6
37	09/09-09/15	16,031	289	13	↑ 2.14	↓ 0.9
38	09/16-09/22	27,466	670	4	↑ 2.65	↑ 1.1
39	09/23-09/29	22,271	592	13	↑ 2.70	= 1.1
40	09/30-10/06	18,777	580	17	↑ 3.09	↑ 1.7
41						↓ 1.2
42						↑ 1.9
43						↑ 2.7
44						↓ 2.5
45						↑ 2.8
46						↑ 3.6
47						↓ 3.4
48						↑ 4.0
49						↓ 3.3
50						↑ 7.4
51						↑ 9.2
52						↑ 10.2
1						↑ 10.6
2						↑ 11.8
3						↑ 13.6

## In the News & Other Information

### **65 AND OLDER GOT THE FLU EARLIER IN THE SEASON**

Data from the 2017-2018 flu season indicates that hospitalization rates for those 65 years of age and older peaked three weeks earlier than it did for children. Some suggest that visiting family on or around Christmas or traveling for New Year's may expose those 65 and older at a higher rate than they would be otherwise. In light of this information, it is all the more important for individuals to get their flu vaccine and to get it early, especially for those 65 or older.



### **168 MILLION VACCINES AVAILABLE**

Given the troubling number of illnesses last year due to influenza, vaccine manufacturers are ensuring the population that there are plenty of vaccines to go around! At least 168,000 million vaccines are available for people to protect themselves this season. Last year alone, estimates show that nearly 1 million people were hospitalized because of the flu, most of whom were not vaccinated.



### **I'M PREGNANT. IS THE FLU VACCINE SAFE?**

A recent study suggested that over 80% of all pregnancies overlap with the flu season in some way, meaning most pregnant women will be exposed to the flu during their pregnancy. The CDC showed that pregnant women who got their flu vaccine reduced the likelihood of hospitalization due to complications from the flu by about 40%. The flu vaccine is safe during any trimester of the pregnancy and can even protect newborns, who are not able to get the flu vaccine, for several months following birth.

