

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.

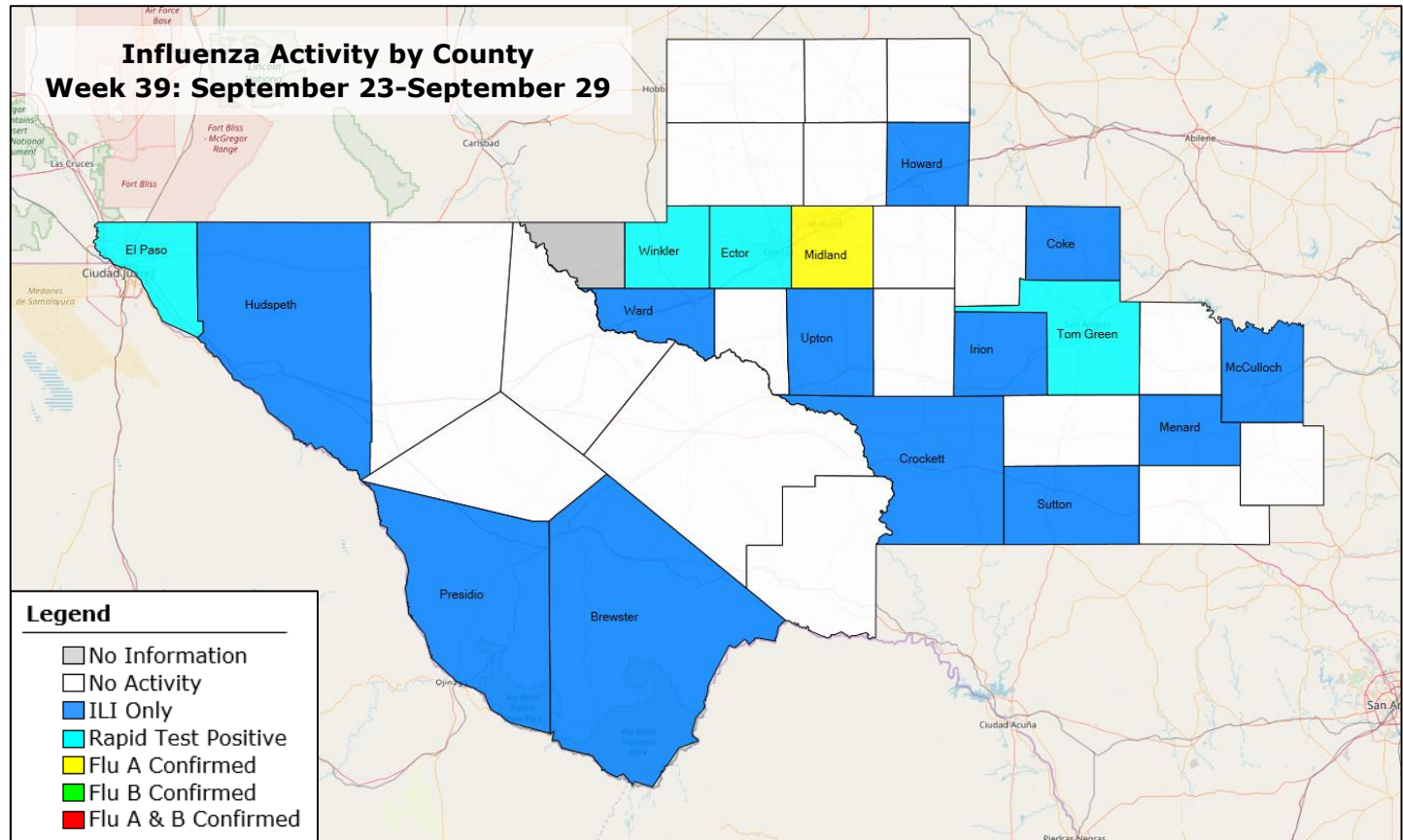
ILI: Influenza-like Illness. A fever at or above 100°F, a cough or sore throat, and no other known cause of the illness.

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 was essentially the same as last week (2.66% vs. 2.65%). There was one confirmed case of Flu A (subtyped as H1) in Midland, but altogether ILI remained low across the region.

The Numbers



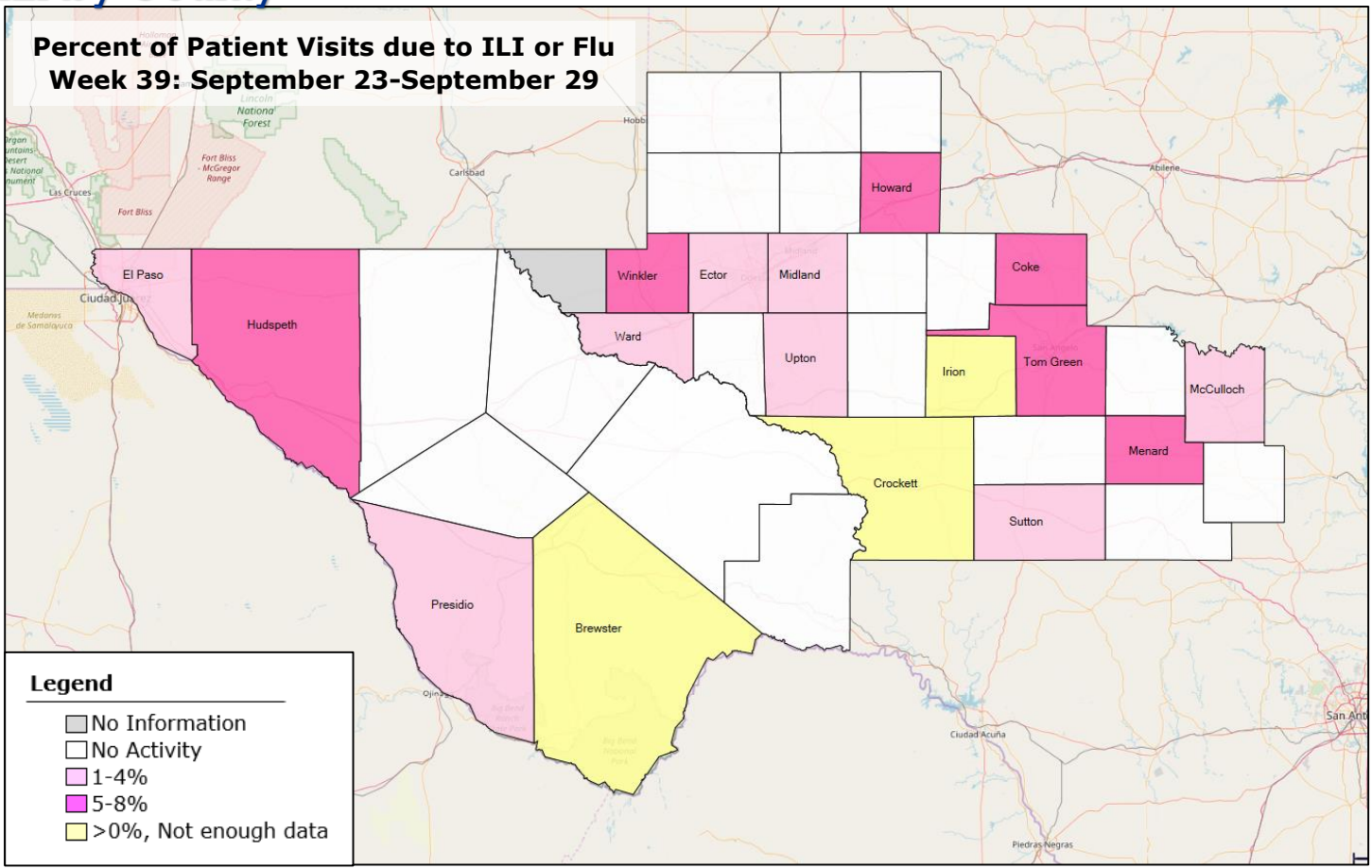
County-By-County

The information presented below aggregates all active and passive surveillance reports from the week of September 23-September 29 in Region 9/10.

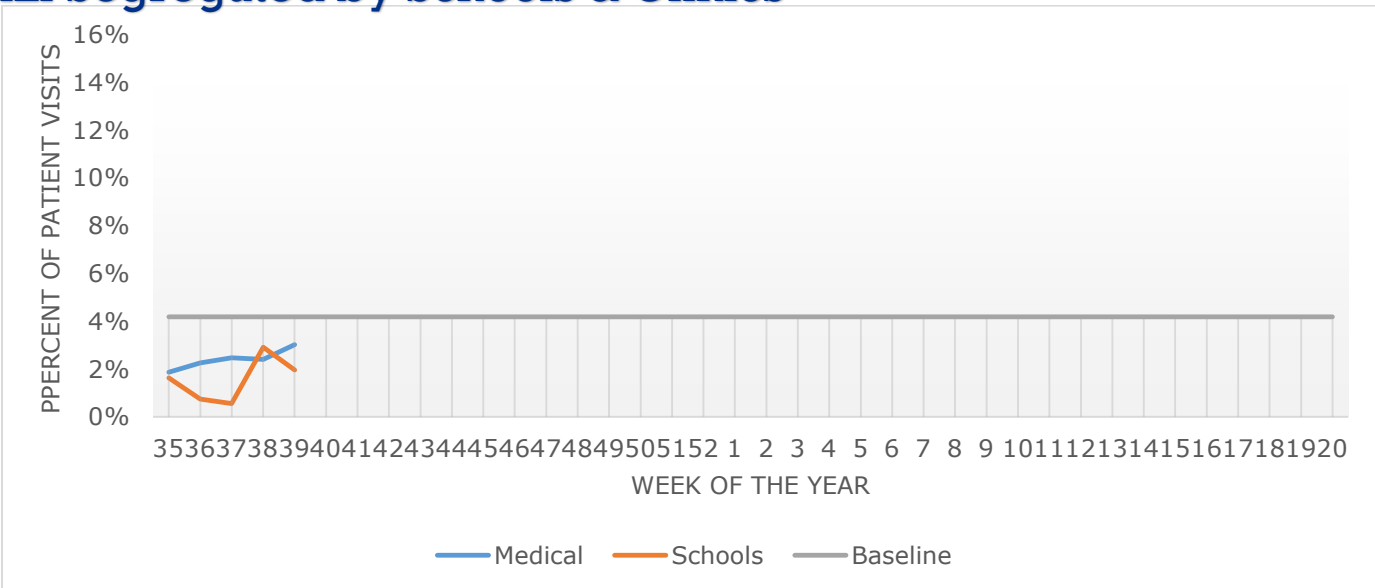
County of Patient Residence	Total Patients or Students Seen for Any Reason	# with ILI	# Rapid Test Positive	# Culture or PCR Type A	# Culture or PCR Type B	% of Patients and Students with ILI or Flu
Andrews	415	0	0	0	0	0%
Borden	3	0	0	0		0%
Brewster	7	1	0	0	0	>0%, Not enough data
Coke	54	3	0	0	0	6%
Concho	27	0	0	0	0	0%
Crane	2	0	0	0	0	0%
Crockett	20	2	0	0	0	>0%, Not enough data
Culberson	7	0	0	0	0	0%
Dawson	129	0	0	0	0	0%
Ector	3,327	91	4	0	0	3%
El Paso	12,100	284	2	0	0	2%
Gaines	18	0	0	0	0	0%
Glasscock	25	0	0	0	0	0%
Howard	58	3	0	0	0	5%
Hudspeth	20	1	0	0	0	5%
Irion	21	2	0	0	0	>0%, Not enough data
Jeff Davis	3	0	0	0		0%
Kimble	185	0	0	0	0	0%
Loving	No Information Reported					
McCulloch	747	11	0	0	0	1%
Martin	20	0	0	0	0	0%
Mason	39	0	0	0	0	0%
Menard	16	1	0	0	0	6%
Midland	1,403	42	0	1	0	3%
Pecos	11	0	0	0	0	0%
Presidio	100	2	0	0	0	2%
Reagan	27	0	0	0	0	0%
Reeves	8	0	0	0	0	0%
Schleicher	11	0	0	0	0	0%
Sterling	9	0	0	0	0	0%
Sutton	160	1	0	0	0	1%
Terrell	5	0	0	0	0	0%
Tom Green	2,319	121	5	0	0	5%
Upton	72	2	0	0	0	3%
Ward	613	7	0	0	0	1%
Winkler	290	18	1	0		7%
Total	22,271	592	12	0	0	2.66%

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

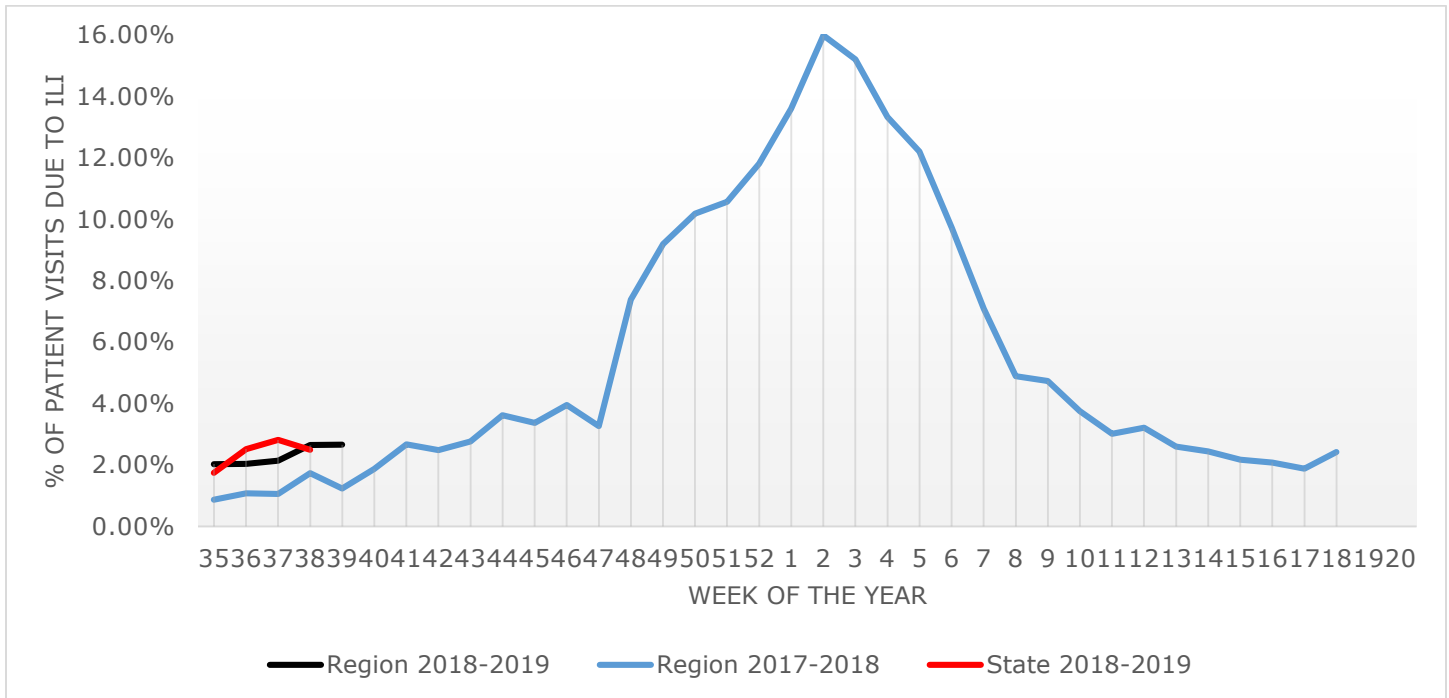


ILI Segregated by Schools & Clinics



The blue line shows the percent of all patient visits at a medical facility due to ILI while the orange line shows the percent of all nurse visits at a school due to ILI per week. 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 **black** 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	2.03	1.0
36	09/02-09/08	16,274	263	5	↑ 2.04	↑ 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	↑ 2.66	= 1.1
40						↑ 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

WHERE TO GET THE FLU SHOT

Flu season has officially started and the best way to protect yourself from it is to get your flu shot! The flu does not discriminate and can impact anyone whether healthy or unhealthy. With that said, use [this website](#) to find the nearest location to get your shot. With many insurances, the flu shot is covered (\$0). If you don't have insurance, some clinics may waive the fee, but you should always call in advance to check. In any event, if you are charged for the flu shot, it generally runs between \$30-\$40.



EXPERTS PREDICT HIGHER VACCINE EFFICACY THIS SEASON

While it is still too soon to know, some experts are expecting this season's flu vaccine to reduce more illness than last season's. This does not mean that the severity of the flu will be less or that it won't be as common, but there is a belief that the strains in this season's flu vaccine may more closely match circulating strains. Last season, the vaccine reduced the number of people who got sick by approximately 40%. That number may be higher this season. So, get your flu shot. Protect you and those around you!

