

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.

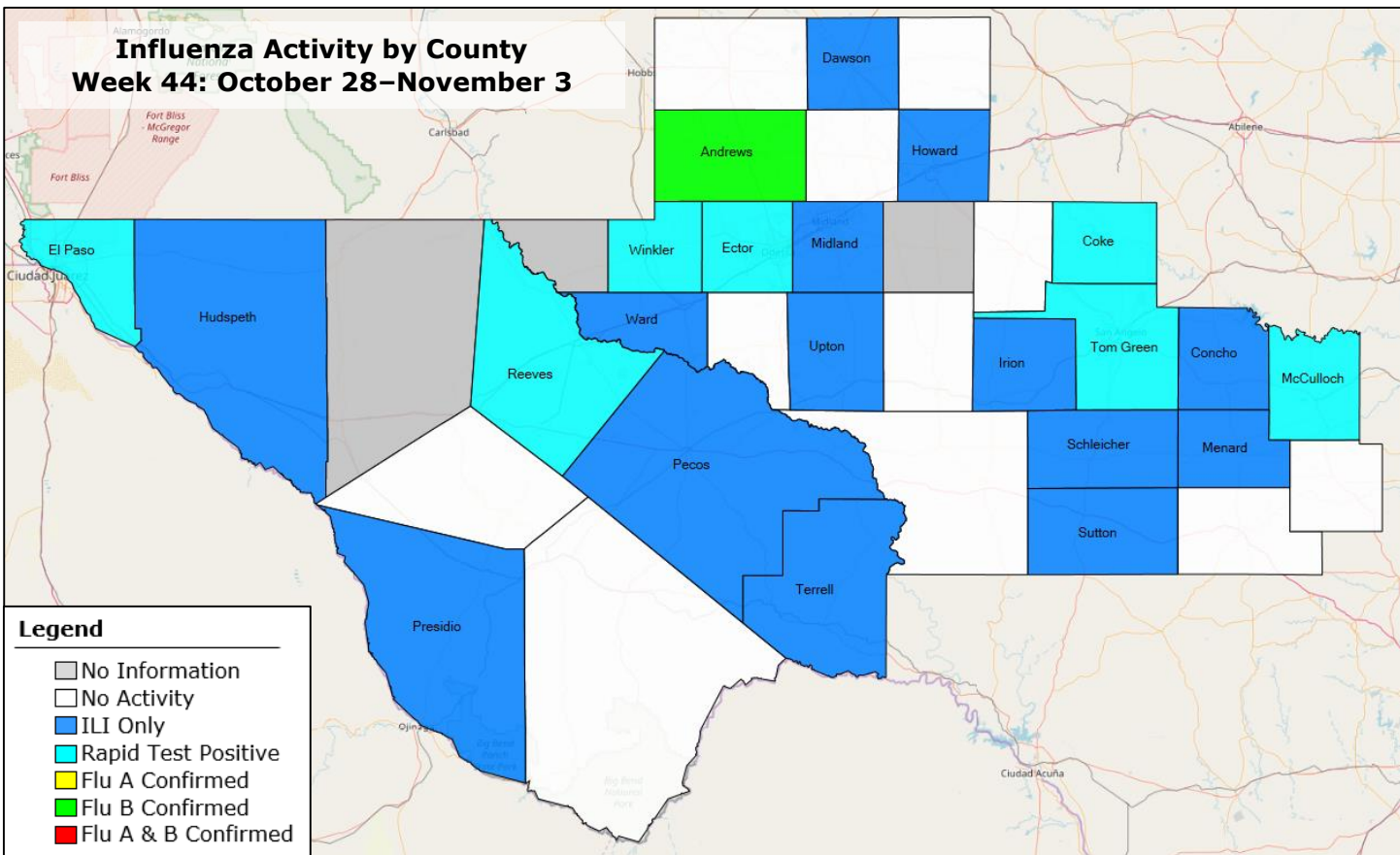
PCR/Culture: These are lab tests used to confirm whether a patient truly has influenza.

Findings

The percentage of patient visits to the doctor and student visits to the school nurse due to ILI increased from 3.09% to 3.68%. 22 of the 36 counties in West Texas are reporting ILI, rapid flu tests, or PCR confirmed flu tests, which is a significant increase from last week.

The Numbers

<p>1 ↑ 1</p> <p>county reported confirmed Flu B</p>	<p>7 ↑ 2</p> <p>counties reported positive rapid flu tests</p>	<p>14 ↑ 2</p> <p>counties reported ILI only</p>	<p>11 ↓ 7</p> <p>counties reported no activity</p>	<p>3 ↑ 2</p> <p>counties reported no information</p>
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County-By-County

The information presented below aggregates all active and passive surveillance reports from the week of October 28-November 3 in Region 9/10.

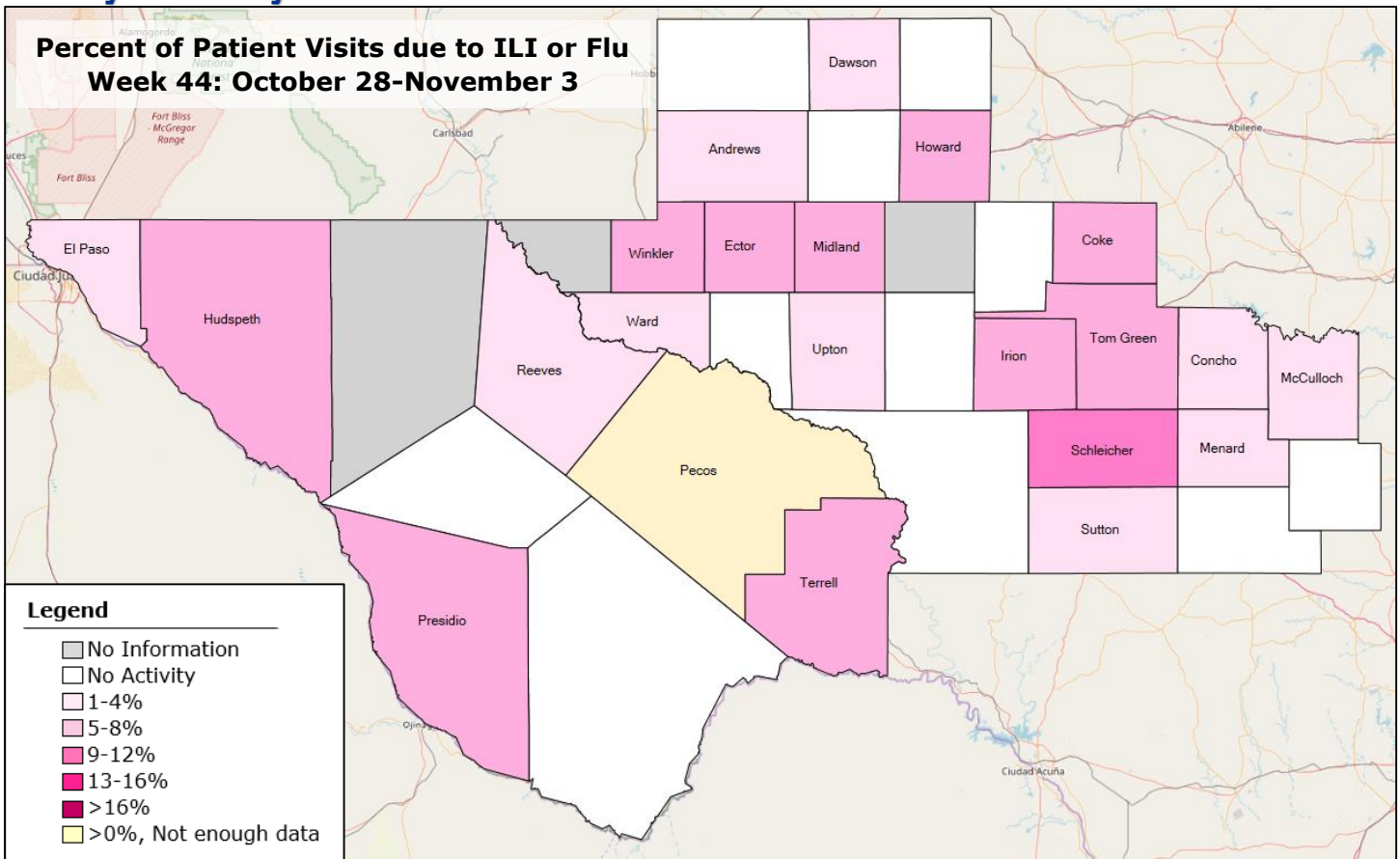
County of Patient Residence	Total Patients or Students Seen for Any Reason	# with ILI	# Rapid Test Positive	# PCR or Culture A	# PCR or Culture B	% of Visits due to ILI (Week 44)	% of Visits due to ILI (Week 43)
Andrews	470	5	0	0	5	2%	0%
Borden	2	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Brewster	7	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Coke	45	2	1	0	0	7%	3%
Concho	60	1	0	0	0	2%	4%
Crane	3	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Crockett	17	0	0	0	0	0%	>0%*
Culberson	No Information Reported					N/A	0%
Dawson	147	2	0	0	0	1%	0%
Ector	6,820	303	12	0	0	5%	4%
El Paso	12,094	289	4	0	0	2%	2%
Gaines	24	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Glasscock	No Information Reported					N/A	4%
Howard	66	3	0	0	0	5%	0%
Hudspeth	17	1	0	0	0	6%	0%
Irion	19	1	0	0	0	5%	0%
Jeff Davis	1	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Kimble	9	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Loving	No Information Reported					N/A	N/A
McCulloch	530	10	1	0	0	2%	2%
Martin	4	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Mason	23	0	0	0	0	0%	3%
Menard	34	1	0	0	0	3%	4%
Midland	1,499	97	0	0	0	6%	6%
Pecos	15	1	0	0	0	>0%*	0%
Presidio	89	7	0	0	0	8%	0%
Reagan	39	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Reeves	760	24	1	0	0	3%	3%
Schleicher	22	2	0	0	0	9%	>0%*
Sterling	12	0	0	0	0	0%	0%
Sutton	187	1	0	0	0	1%	0%
Terrell	22	1	0	0	0	5%	0%
Tom Green	3,525	164	11	0	0	5%	5%
Upton	68	2	0	0	0	3%	8%
Ward	606	9	0	0	0	1%	1%
Winkler	360	16	2	0	0	5%	3%
Total	26,622†	942	32	0	5	3.68%	3.09%

*There were not enough patient visits reported to determine an accurate representation of the percent of visits due to ILI.

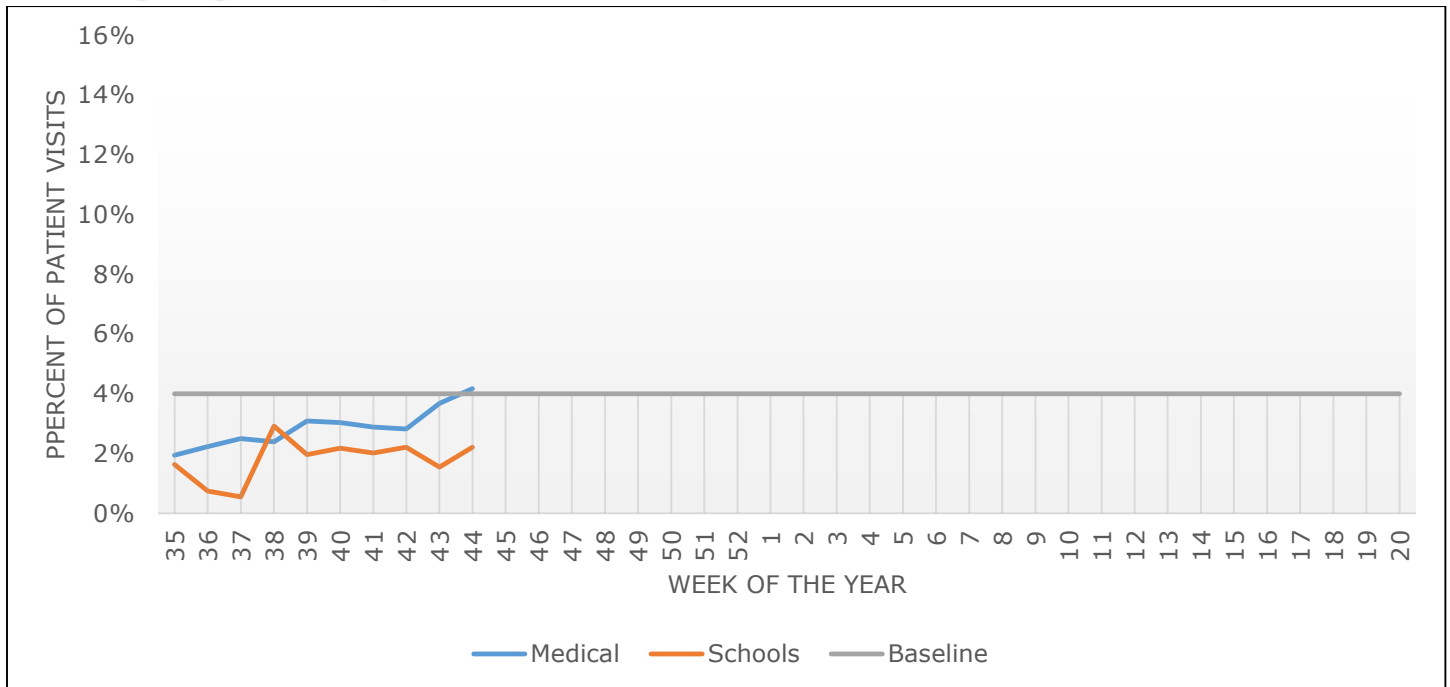
†Total Patient count does not include reports that did not include ILI counts.

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

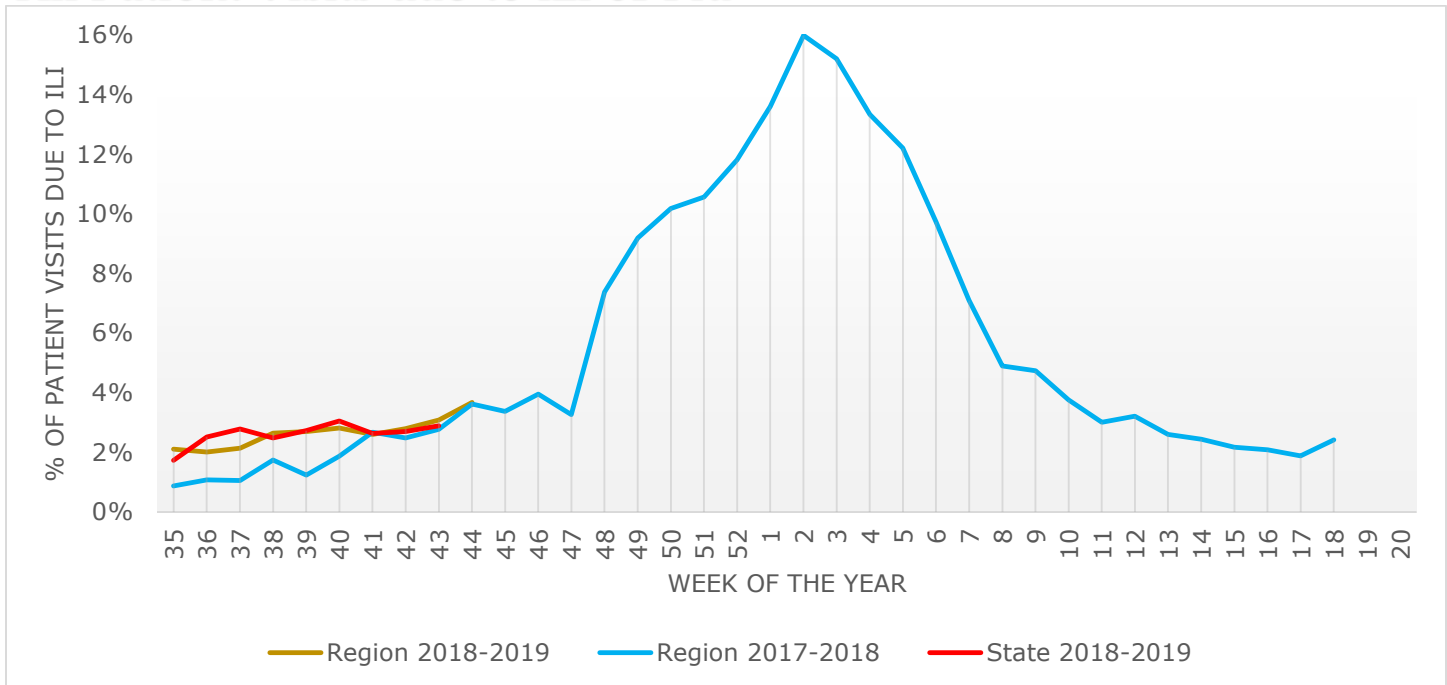


ILI Segregated by Schools & Clinics in West Texas



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.

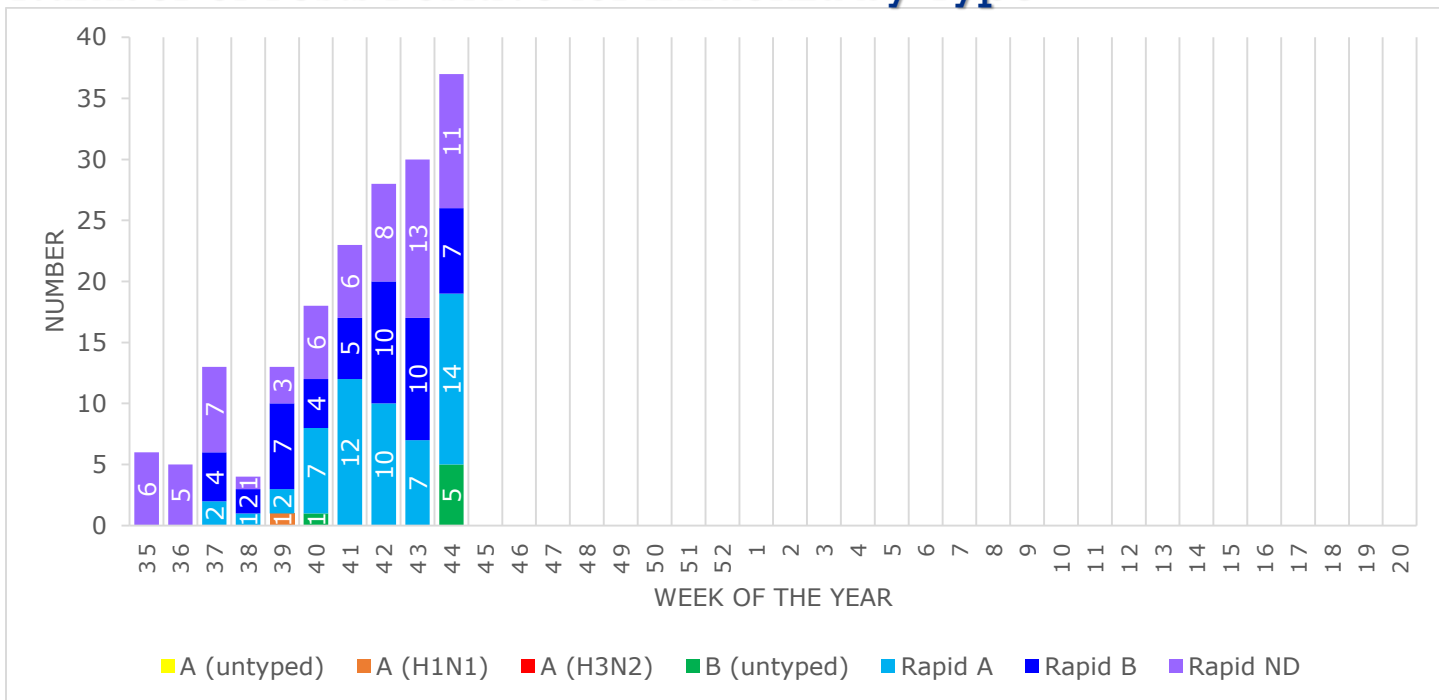
Week-by-Week Info

Week	Dates	Total Visits	Total ILI	Total Flu	%ILI 18-19	%ILI 17-18
35	08/25-09/01	11,089	217	6	2.11	1.0
36	09/02-09/08	16,274	263	5	↓ 2.05	↑ 1.6
37	09/09-09/15	16,031	289	13	↑ 2.16	↓ 0.9
38	09/16-09/22	27,466	670	4	↑ 2.63	↑ 1.1
39	09/23-09/29	22,271	592	13	↑ 2.70	= 1.1
40	09/30-10/06	18,777	580	17	↑ 2.82	↑ 1.7
41	10/07-10/13	26,009	692	15	↓ 2.60	↓ 1.2
42	10/14-10/20	22,405	596	28	↑ 2.79	↑ 1.9
43	10/21-10/27	27,637	823	30	↑ 3.09	↑ 2.7
44	10/28-11/03	26,622	942	32	↑ 3.68	↓ 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

Outbreaks and Pediatric Deaths

No outbreaks were reported in Region 9/10 during Week 43.
 No pediatric deaths were reported in Region 9/10 during Week 43.

Number of Tests Positive for Influenza by Type



In the News & Other Information

VACCINE EXPECTED TO BE GOOD MATCH THIS SEASON

While it is still far too early in the flu season to know how severe it will be experts are predicting this year's flu vaccine to significantly protect individuals from the flu and its complications. November is when most parts of the country begin to see increases in ILI which may last through March. If you have not already gotten your flu vaccine, now is the time to get it.



WHAT DO LLAMAS, ANTIBODIES, AND THE FLU HAVE IN COMMON?

Researchers are tying four different types of llama antibodies together and testing how they respond to influenza A and B viruses. Llama antibodies are being used because they are simpler than human antibodies and are easier to use when conducting research. Preliminary findings show that these combined-antibodies may be able to target specific sites on the influenza virus, thus protecting the host from infection. This type of research is still its early phases, but scientists are hopeful that this finding may be a stepping stone on the path to universal protection from the flu.