

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](#)**2008 - 2009 Texas Influenza Surveillance Information****Influenza Surveillance Report for MMWR Week 44**

The influenza (flu) activity level for Texas for the week ending November 1, 2008 was "sporadic." Sporadic activity indicates that isolated reports of lab-confirmed influenza along with influenza-like illness have been reported. During week 44, seven (1.4%) specimens tested by NREVSS laboratories in Texas were positive for influenza. Flu is occurring in the state at a very low level.

Reports from Health Service Regions

Reports were received from all Health Service Regions (HSRs) for week 44. HSR 1 reported an increase in flu activity compared to week 43; HSR 7 reported a decrease in flu activity. All other HSRs reported the same level of flu activity compared to week 43. 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 44, ten hospital laboratories and public health agencies across Texas reported conducting a total of 500 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). Four hundred and sixteen antigen detection tests for influenza were performed; five tests in Bexar and Nueces counties were positive for influenza A/not subtyped. No positive PCR results were reported. Two specimens collected from a 1-month-old child and a 14-year-old child, both residents of Bexar County, were positive by viral culture for influenza A/H1. Positive point-of-care rapid tests for influenza were reported by providers throughout the state (see county map below).

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality

No influenza-associated pediatric fatalities were reported during week 44.

School Closures and Institutional Outbreaks

No school closures or institutional outbreaks were reported during week 44.

Sentinel Provider Surveillance Network

Sixty-two 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 44. Twenty-eight (45%) of these providers saw at least one patient with ILI. Of all patient visits during this week, 2.12% were due to ILI.

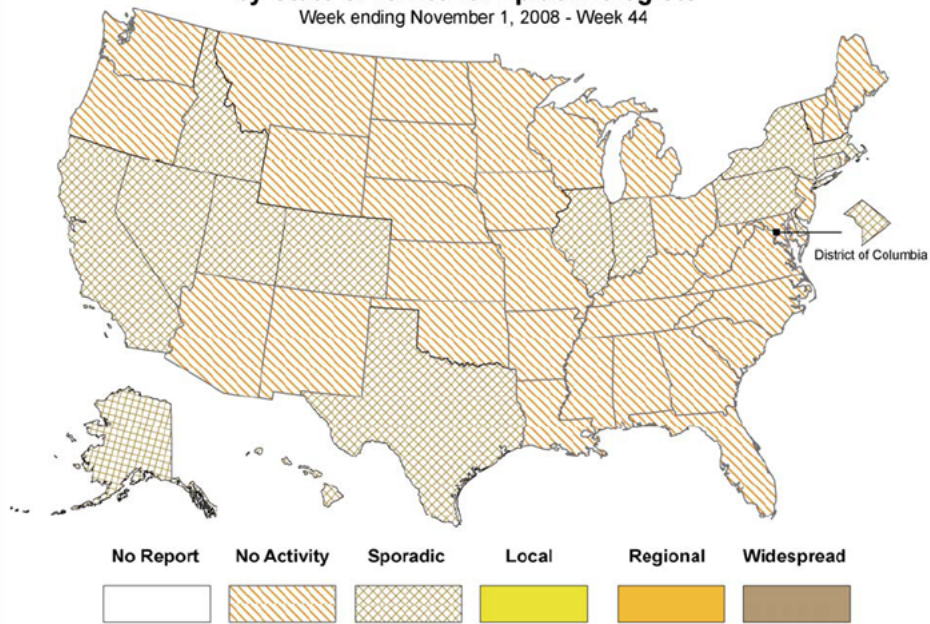
Percentage of Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reported by Sentinel Providers in Texas (11/7/2008 3:51:18 PM)								
Week	# Reporting	Age 0-4	Age 5-24	Age 25-64	Age over 64	Total ILI	Total Patients	% ILI
2008-40	75	84	133	127	22	366	19907	1.84
2008-41	75	114	163	124	19	420	19716	2.13
2008-42	74	99	151	90	7	347	18993	1.83
2008-43	73	103	139	96	18	356	18899	1.88
2008-44	62	104	166	95	24	389	18383	2.12

National Influenza Activity Map

The map showing influenza activity in the United States for MMWR week 44 is displayed below. The current U.S. flu weekly report may be found at: [here](#).

Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State & Territorial Epidemiologists*

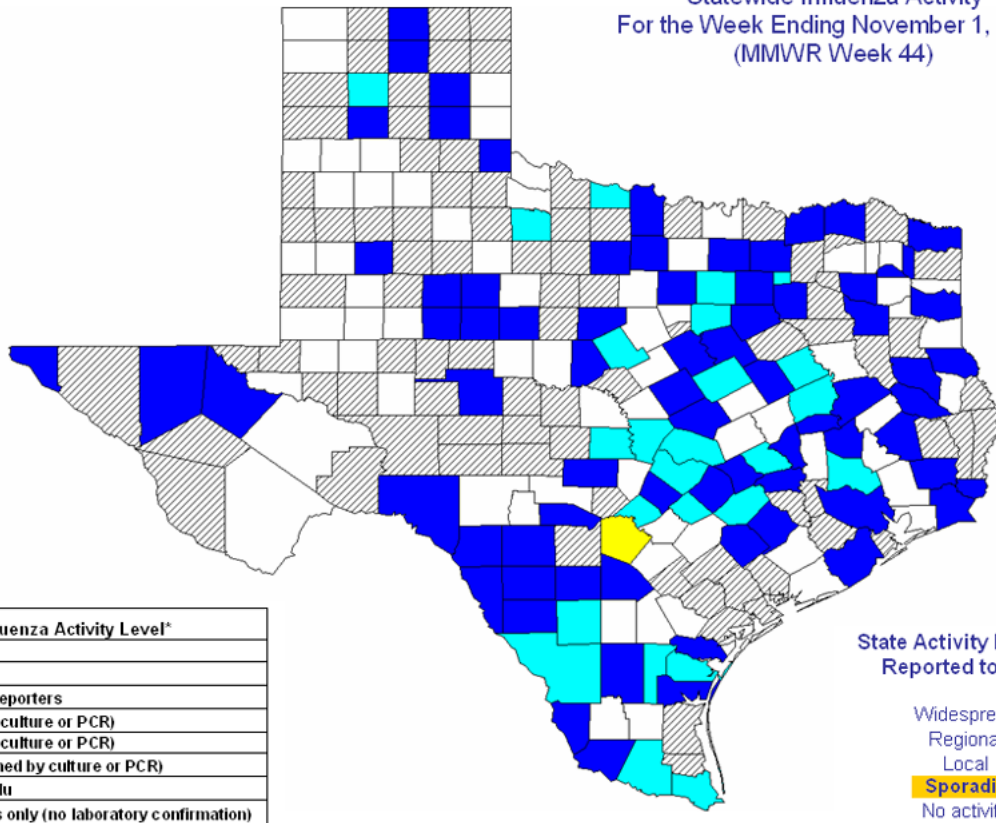
Week ending November 1, 2008 - Week 44



*This map indicates geographic spread and does not measure the severity of influenza activity.

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 November 1, 2008 (MMWR Week 44)



County Influenza Activity Level*	
White	No activity
Diagonal lines	No report
Cross-hatch	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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